

## Hospital opens new Learning Centre

Julie Slack, The Mississauga News  
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**Opening day.** The Trillium Health Centre unveiled its new Learning Centre today. The centre contains a clinical learning centre, the Brayley Health Sciences Library, a computer training room and a 200 seat auditorium. Occupational Therapist Melanie Blake will conduct patient education along with Clinical Educator Michael Lawrence in the new addition to the hospital. *Staff photo by Fred Loek*

Staff at Trillium Health Centre can now receive on-site training in the latest medical practices, thanks to a new Learning Centre which opened today at the Mississauga hospital.

The centre, made possible by THC donors, features state-of-the art audio visual equipment in a clinical learning laboratory, where staff can benefit from ongoing training and education. They can even practice their skills in a simulated patient room.

A library and internet lab provides access to 4,000 online medical journals offering the latest news in medicine and treatment.

The auditorium can seat 200 people or be broken down into smaller rooms for more hands-on teaching.

Trillium's president and CEO Janet Davidson said the community will be the direct beneficiary of the centre as staff immediately pass on their knowledge and skills to patients. It also cuts costs for training as staff can stay on-site, drop into sessions before or after work, or even during their meal breaks.

The centre is located on the lower floor of the inpatient wing that opened in the spring.

"To see a facility be able to help staff on their learning journey is great," Davidson said. "Learning

helps staff provide better health care in our hospital. It allows us to deliver the highest quality, and safest care, to those we serve.”

Michael Lawrence, Trillium's clinical educator, was thrilled the facility is officially up and running. Gone are the blackboards of classrooms of the past. Now he uses a touch-operated, big-screen monitor mounted on the wall to deliver his lectures.

"The lab takes away the stress of actually working on a patient by practicing new skills here," he said. "Things like safe patient transfers, mock cardiac arrests or practicing team skills: they can all be done here in a non-threatening way."

Nurse manager Kathy Elliott said all pre-operative education classes for patients will take place in the centre.

"This is awesome...so great for our patients," she said.

Patti Cochrane, Trillium vice-president of patient services and quality, echoed her sentiment. "Prior to the centre's opening, education took place in (little) corners of the hospital," she said. "This builds team work amongst doctors, nurses and the whole health-care team."