



# YOUR BACK TO SCHOOL UPDATE

Dear [NAME],

I can't believe it's September. I hope everyone has had a great summer and you are enjoying these last warm days.

I'm happy to report that, thanks to our generous donors, tireless volunteers and relentless staff, our virtual summer events have been major successes. As you know, we turned Canada's premier charity golf tournament — St. Michael's Urban Angel Golf Classic — into a public auction. As for Angels Den Virtual, our scientists, celebrity judges and production crew gathered at Koerner Hall two weeks ago to tape the program. Our jurors Zoomed in live to watch and vote, with special commentary by Dr. Bob Howard. Finally, our PUSH THE LIMITS Summer Challenge continues through Labour Day in support of the hospital's most pressing needs.

I know there is concern right now about what will happen to COVID-19 rates this fall as students return to classes, the weather turns colder and we can't spend as much time outdoors. So we've recorded another episode of <u>Facts from the Frontlines</u> that deals with a possible second wave. Dr. Matthew Muller, medical director of Infection Prevention and Control at St. Michael's, explains how we can keep students and their families safe once school begins, and discusses the anticipated challenges for the hospital and plans for protecting patients and the community.

Finally, mark your calendars for the next edition of the <u>Powerhouse Speaker Series</u>, on September 23. See below for details on all our events.

As always, on behalf of everyone at the Foundation, we thank you for your continuing support of St. Michael's Hospital. A special thanks to those of you who have made it possible for the hospital to ramp up our weekly COVID-19 testing capacity from 300 in March to nearly 5,000 in August. We are grateful.

Please stay healthy and safe this fall.

Yours sincerely,

Lili Litwin President, St. Michael's Hospital Foundation

#### DONATE >>

## FACTS FROM THE FRONTLINES



# LOOKING AHEAD & STAYING SAFE

**Dr. Matthew Muller** Medical Director, Infection Prevention and Control, St. Michael's Hospital

In the latest installment of St. Michael's Facts from the Frontlines podcast series, hosted by Dr. Bob Howard, Dr. Matthew Muller, medical director of Infection Prevention and Control at St. Michael's Hospital, tells us what to expect in the next phase of the COVID-19 pandemic. He's optimistic that we'll get a vaccine, but likely not see it until next year. Opening schools will increase risk, so maintaining social distancing and increasing testing and contact tracing will be crucial. The good news is that St. Michael's is ready, with stockpiled PPE and new training and protocols informed by what we've learned during the pandemic.

#### LISTEN TO EPISODE >>

# **EVENTS**

# PUSHTHELIMITS ST. MICHAEL'S SUMMER CHALLENGE

#### **PUSH THE LIMITS Summer Challenge**

We're down to the wire for St. Michael's Summer Challenge, which winds up on Monday, September 7. Be sure to make the most of the last few days in your quest to win prizes and raise funds for St. Michael's, and stay tuned to find out how many participants reached their fundraising and fitness goals.

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#### St. Michael's Urban Angel Golf Classic

With the help of our corporate sponsors and all those who contributed in memory of our friend, Mike Thompson, we raised an unprecedented \$1.9 million to help St. Michael's battle COVID-19. The website received 33,000 visits over two weeks, with more than 7 million total media and social impressions, as well as coverage on *Breakfast Television*, Newstalk 1010, Global News and *NOW* magazine. We ran an ad in the *Toronto Star* on August 28 thanking all our sponsors.Thanks so much to Mike's family, and to everyone who bid on the auction items.

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# POWERHOUSE

#### **POWERHOUSE Speaker Series**

The latest edition of our online Powerhouse series happens September 23 at 11 A.M. Dr. Irfan Dhalla, VP Physician Quality and Director, Care Experience Institute at St. Michael's, and Dr. Carolyn Snider, Chief of Emergency Medicine at St. Michael's, will speak about the urgent need to reinvent Canada's health-care experience — and St. Michael's is leading the way. The discussion will be moderated by St. Michael's physician Dr. Seema Marwaha and hosted by Dr. Tim Rutledge, President and CEO of Unity Health Toronto.



#### **Angels Den**

Canada's hottest medical research competition is going online this year. Tune in on September 30 to watch six teams of St. Michael's top scientists pitch to our celebrity judges and jurors for two prizes: the Keenan COVID-19 Research Award and the Odette Innovative Health Award — and find out which teams are awarded funding for their game-changing projects. You can also vote online for the People's Choice Award, presented by Canada Life. The show is now in post-production, and we're in full promotional mode. Join us when the show airs on September 30th, 7-8 P.M.

#### **REGISTER >>**

## IN THE NEWS





#### Learning from the First Wave

Dr. Tim Rutledge, President and CEO of Unity Health Toronto, explains how using what we've learned from the way COVID-19 spreads could lessen a second wave of infections. Important tools include masks and physical distancing, sharing information among health-care institutions and improving care for vulnerable populations.

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A New Treatment for Cystic Fibrosis

In the wake of a study released by St. Michael's Hospital and others, Cystic Fibrosis Canada is urging Health Canada to fast-track the release of a medication that could significantly improve outcomes for cystic fibrosis patients. Study co-author Dr. Anne Stephenson, a clinician-scientist at St. Michael's, says the drug is currently only available through compassionate access programs.

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#### NHL Coach "Couldn't Have Asked for Better Care"

After experiencing chest pains during an NHL playoff game last month, Montreal Canadiens coach Claude Julien came to St. Michael's Hospital, where health-care teams inserted a stent in his coronary artery. Julien says he's back to feeling "100 percent" and credits the "awesome" care he received at St. Michael's Hospital.

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#### We Can End the HIV Crisis — If We Have the Political Will

Dr. Sean Rourke, a scientist at St. Michael's MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions who has helped develop an instant self test for HIV, says the HIV/AIDS epidemic could be stopped if governments applied the same resolve they've shown for COVID-19.

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# STAY UPDATED

Follow our social channels (<u>@stmichaelsfdn</u>) and visit our <u>COVID-19 information page</u> and <u>unityhealth.to</u> for regular updates on how St. Michael's is responding to COVID-19.

#### CONTACT US >>



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