



HUMBER

Centres of Innovation
Network

IMPACT REPORT

2021-2022



HUMBER



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▲ Indigenous Cultural Marker - Anishinaabeyaadziwin Miiikana located in the expansive Atrium of the Barrett CTI and represents the Anishinaabeg life path story.

Land Acknowledgement

Humber College is located within the traditional and treaty lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit. Known as Adoobiigok, the “Place of the Alders” in Michi Saagiig language, the region is uniquely situated along Humber River Watershed, which historically provided an integral connection for Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Wendat peoples between the Ontario Lakeshore and the Lake Simcoe/Georgian Bay regions. Now home to people of numerous nations, Adoobiigok continues to provide a vital source of interconnection for all.

► The historic cottages at Lakeshore Campus are now home to several classrooms and faculty offices. The restoration of the original buildings integrated new features with the site's architectural heritage.



Message from Gina

When we started Humber's Centres of Innovation Network (COI Network) in 2017, it was a natural evolution of what Humber had been doing since our college was founded in 1967 – giving learners the opportunity to succeed, enabling them to take the skills they've acquired and apply them in an environment where it really matters.

The COI Network provides students, faculty members, industry and community partners with the resources, technology and expertise they need to be innovators. We believe that innovation is a mindset that prompts us to create new ways of looking at the world, new ways to solve problems, and new ways of collaborating with one another.

Since its inception, the COI Network has generated success after success—even as we faced the challenges presented by a global pandemic. Our five Centres of Innovation support inter-disciplinary projects across all six of Humber's academic Faculties. With over 200 programs to draw from, our faculty members bring academic expertise and diverse industry experience to every COI project. Our industry and community partners ensure that our students are given access to leading-edge technology and emerging practices.

This is our first impact report that tells our success story. I hope that as you read, you're encouraged to learn more about the COI Network and the opportunities that it offers you. Because the COI Network is open to everyone—and we really mean that.

Whether you are a current student, a faculty member, alumni, a community partner, a small business or an established company, there is a place for you in the COI Network. We believe everyone has potential. And we know that when you succeed, so do we.

Sincerely,



Gina Antonacci
Senior Vice-President, Academic
Humber College



Executive Summary

Since the COI Network launched in 2017, we have given thousands of people access to the resources, technology and expertise they need to innovate.

At our core, the COI Network brings together interdisciplinary teams of faculty members, students, community and industry partners to solve complex, real-world problems. Our COIs work individually and collaboratively. The COIs provide an experiential learning environment for our students and help them become innovative and strategic problem-solvers. We also provide resources and opportunities for our faculty members, and we give our industry and community partners the ability to revolutionize their operations while shaping the minds of the next generation.

In short, we give you the room to succeed.

Despite the challenges presented by the global pandemic, our COIs have grown and adapted their operations, services, and programs to continue to support students, faculty members, and industry and community partners on their innovation journey.

Throughout this report, you will be able to learn more about what we have to offer students, faculty members and partners across the COI Network, as well as the impact we have had already. You will also learn more about our five COIs: the Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation, the Centre for Creative Business Innovation, the Centre for Innovation in Health and Wellness, the Longo Centre for Entrepreneurship, and the Centre for Social Innovation. This report introduces what each COI focuses on, some highlights of what they have achieved over the last year, and what they're going to do next.

◀ The Barrett CTI's expansive atrium is edged with floor-to-ceiling windows, providing natural light and views of the surrounding community.

What the COI Network offers Students, Faculty, and Partners

The COI Network helps **students** succeed by giving them the opportunity to use and apply the skills and knowledge they have learned in class in the real world, and the chance to master cutting-edge technologies and the latest processes used in industries. We also help students become entrepreneurs by giving them tools and resources to develop their entrepreneurial skills.

We are starting to see the impact of our work with students. Last year, the COI Network secured \$324,000 for student-led businesses and programs, reached more than 3,600 middle and high school students with our science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) workshops, and we had almost 1,300 students and alumni participate in COI projects and activities.

For **faculty** members, the COI Network can enhance their teaching with hands-on learning experiences for their students, provide them with resources to help design and facilitate assignments, applied research and capstone projects, or allow them to work beyond the classroom on exciting industry and community projects.

We help faculty members deliver more for their students by giving them access to more resources, time, and specific expertise. We give them the chance to go beyond the classroom and put their talents, experience, and networks to work developing innovative technologies and making a difference in communities through collaboration. The COI Network is beginning to make an impact with faculty members already, supporting more than 650 capstone projects and working with more than 80 of our expert faculty members on COI initiatives and projects last year.

The COI Network has provided great value for our industry and community **partners** as well. When groups partner with Humber's COI Network, they have access to our five COIs, along with the college's entire innovation ecosystem. This includes the six academic Faculties, the Office of Research and Innovation (ORI), the Centre for Innovative Learning (CIL), and the Continuous Professional Learning (CPL) team. With all these resources at our fingertips, we can create custom-made courses for their business and help them retrain or recertify their employees.



Partnering with us also grants access to the incredibly talented pool of Humber students, which currently totals more than 33,000 students from 130 different countries. By working with us, partners can help ensure students have the right skills and experience to succeed in the workforce. We offer all of this and more, including great opportunities to amplify our partners' brands, expand their influence and showcase their values.

We are already working with more than 60 established companies and organizations. Together, they provide more than \$1.7 million in donations and in-kind contributions to our COIs. Some of our partners are making the best possible use of the COI Network, with more than 30 collaborative projects taking place last year that involve more than one Humber COI or academic Faculty.

▲ The Barrett CTI's atrium features flexible layout options ideal for demonstrations, exhibitions and networking with students, colleagues and community members.

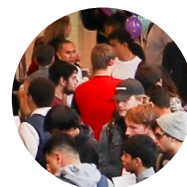
Our COI Network has accomplished so much—and we are just getting started

By the end of 2022, all five Centres in our Network will be fully launched, bringing together students, faculty members, and industry and community partners to supercharge innovation at Humber through collaboration. Each of our COIs has a different focus area, drawing on the expertise and resources Humber has to offer in five different areas to give everyone the room to succeed.

At the **Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation (Barrett CTI)**, students hone the skills they will need for the jobs of tomorrow, and businesses revolutionize their operations by experimenting with cutting-edge technologies. With advanced technology changing the way we work and live every day, the Barrett CTI brings people together entrepreneurs, SMEs, established companies, students and faculty members to grow and prosper by developing human-centred, technology-enabled solutions for businesses and communities.

Since opening their doors in 2019, the Barrett CTI has provided professional development opportunities for Humber faculty members and staff, facilitated STEAM workshops with thousands of middle and high school students, worked collaboratively on several innovative projects with other COIs in the Network, provided customized training on new technologies to established companies, and supported hundreds of research projects—including many successful NSERC grant applications.

The **Centre for Creative Business Innovation (CCBI)** encourages students and partners to think creatively and work collaboratively to drive innovation, applying outside-the-box ideas to solve stubborn problems. The CCBI provides a supportive, low-risk environment where businesses can bring their projects and collaborate with experienced advisors and professionals to solve problems, test concepts, improve user experiences and commercialize new products—or support social innovation to improve lives and help communities thrive.



◀ Faculty of Applied Sciences & Technology (FAST) Employer Appreciation and Open House.

The CCBI has had an incredible year. They have offered a suite of paid fellowship programs that bring together students from across multiple disciplines to put their creative skills to work on projects with community partners. The CCBI has also hosted design jams with students to come up with creative solutions to challenges faced by community organizations. We are excited to see them move into their new home once the first phase of the Humber Cultural Hub at the Lakeshore campus is finished in May 2023, and they have more collaborations with the other COIs in the Network and new partnerships on the horizon.





▲ Humber's Occupational Therapist Assistant & Physiotherapist Assistant (OTA and PTA) degree program blends classroom learning with hands-on experiences in leading-edge health care facilities.

The **Centre for Innovation in Health and Wellness (CIHW)** launched at the end of 2021. The CIHW aims to create a better, more equitable, and more inclusive healthcare system. By bringing together students, faculty members, healthcare experts, community organizations and industry partners, not to mention the other COIs in our Network, CIHW will propose new ideas and develop new technology to transform the healthcare system and bring that vision closer to reality.



▲ The Longo Centre for Entrepreneurship is located within the revitalized cottages at Lakeshore Campus, which feature multipurpose rooms ideal for public and private functions, lectures or workshops.

As our most established COI, the **Longo Centre for Entrepreneurship (Longo CfE)** has supported Humber students, faculty members, staff, alumni, and partners who want to explore the world of entrepreneurship for over three decades. No matter your passion, interest, or previous entrepreneurial experience, Longo CfE has specialized experiential learning opportunities that will stimulate new ways of thinking and support your unique goals. They add a unique contribution to the COI Network, providing interdisciplinary and experiential learning opportunities for students to become innovative and strategic problem solvers.

The Longo CfE has had an impressive year, now boasting more than 540 members. The Longo CfE also hosted innovate-a-thons and design thinking challenges with community partners and small businesses, letting students get hands-on experience in pitching creative solutions to problems faced by organizations in the GTA while also training them to refine their skills and ideas. In November, the Longo CfE celebrated a new partnership with BMO Financial Group, which is contributing \$110,000 annually for the next five years to support its Launch Me program, a Dragon's Den style pitch competition with categories for women, recent graduates and current students.

The **Centre for Social Innovation (CSI)** completes the COI Network and is scheduled to launch in 2022. The group working to refine the CSI's mandate has determined employment, education and training, reducing inequality, fighting poverty, building better housing, improving food security, and promoting good health and wellbeing are all areas in which Humber students and faculty members want to make a difference. Once the CSI's mandate is finalized and their director is appointed, they will work with the rest of the COI Network and the broader Humber community to tackle social problems both in our local community and around the world.

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The Room to Succeed for Students, Faculty and Partners

Students

WHAT HUMBER'S COI NETWORK OFFERS STUDENTS

Preparing for your career in today's workforce is challenging. Even when you find a steady job, you never know when new technology or a change in the economy will affect your role or business.

That is why you hear a lot about innovation—because in 2022, people have to keep adding skills and reinventing themselves if they want to succeed.

Humber's COI Network helps students meet today's challenges and become innovators.

We do that by giving them the room to succeed.

The COI Network enables students to apply the skills and knowledge they have learned in class and apply them to real-world situations—providing them with hands-on work experience to explore career options and bolstering their resumes in the process.

We also allow students to master cutting-edge technologies and the latest processes used within industries. The COI Network gives that same opportunity to alumni and those looking to retrain or upskill, whether they want to make a change in their careers or keep up-to-date with best practices in their industry.

And we help students explore the world of entrepreneurship, empowering them with mentorship and resources to be in-house innovators with an existing company or the mindset and support they need to launch their own business.

► Open concept gathering spaces is a key feature of the Barrett CTI.





◀ Students from different disciplines participated in the Tiny Town Fellowship to develop a prototype model that used augmented reality technology to enhance the presentation.

Student fellows from Humber's music and film programs planned and created a four-movement original music suite inspired by both the Museum's collection and their own life experiences. Each fellow was paid on a part-time basis, working under the mentorship of a Creative Producer and Project Lead. For 11 weeks, fellows worked virtually, composing the piece together, recording their musical parts, and producing, directing, and editing both a documentary about the experience and a music video of their final performance.

Master cutting edge technologies: Training for the cyber-physical factory

To keep up with a changing industry, it is essential to learn new skills and stay on-trend and up-to-date with best practices, while innovating in your career to make sure you set yourself up for success. The COI Network has many opportunities to try out cutting-edge technology and new ways of working. The Cyber-Physical Factory (CP Factory) at the Barrett CTI is a learning system to help students understand how Industry 4.0 is used in advanced manufacturing. The CP Factory shows students how intelligent sensors, RFID technology, and many more devices are revolutionizing the way the world makes things. This knowledge and experience give students a competitive advantage when they apply for jobs or try to advance their careers.

Launch a successful small business - BMO Launch Me Competition

Gaining real-world experience and mastering cutting-edge technologies are valuable for your career, but what about being your own boss? Though many Humber students have great business ideas, they may not have the experience, expertise, or funding they need to start their own business.

The BMO Launch Me Competition at the Longo CfE supports students with seed funding to get their startups off the ground. The first round of the competition is a business plan submission, followed by the chosen finalists making a five-minute pitch to a panel of judges, similar to Dragon's Den.

Students are well-supported throughout the competition. The Longo CfE offers mentorship with industry experts in addition to offering courses on how to write a business plan and pitch presentations to investors. Last year, \$135,000 in funding was made available to competition finalists thanks to \$5,000 from IGNITE, \$20,000 from the Longo CfE, and \$110,000 from BMO Financial Group, Humber student entrepreneurs will have ample resources to launch their dream business.



STUDENT SHOWCASE

Apply your skills in the real world: The Intercultural and Creative Music Fellowship

Having real-world project experience in your field can be a big help when making the transition from college to your first job. That's exactly what the CCBI and Aga Khan Museum collaboratively offered Humber students with the Intercultural and Creative Music Fellowship in the summer of 2021.



◀ Students participating in the Intercultural and Creative Music Fellowship performed their composition at the Aga Khan Museum.

WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING

"I found the Launch Me competition on Humber's Longo Centre for Entrepreneurship website. I registered for the business plan writing and pitch presentation classes, which were essential to the creation of my business, Glowvine Candles. I applied to the competition with my business plan and moved on to the finalist round, where we had to present our pitch to a panel of judges. It was highly nerve-wracking but worth it."

Xana Mills, Founder and Creator of GlowVine Candles, 2021 Launch Me Competition Winner

"It was an honour to be a part of this Fellowship. It not only provided each of us with professional experience and valuable education—it also gave us the opportunity to produce something that we can be truly proud of. Personally, this summer significantly changed my direction as a creative professional moving forward. I'd highly recommend this opportunity."

Peter Holbrook, ICMF 2021 Fellow

"The Cyber-Physical factory in the Barrett CTI is an incredible learning tool that helped me build an understanding of the various technologies and processes present in manufacturing today. It incorporates programming practices and techniques in a controlled environment, but gives me the freedom to explore the limitations of the various systems, and the flexibility to work around them."

David VanAmelsvoort, Research Assistant Barrett CTI



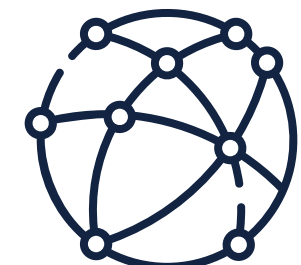
1211
Students participating in COI activities

◀ First place winners of the BMO Launch Me Competition.

BY THE NUMBERS



\$324,000
Funding received for student-led businesses and programs



3600
Middle and high school students impacted by STEM/STEAM outreach



76
Alumni engaged in COI projects/activities



◀ Professionals in academic quality assurance and enhancement gathered in the Barrett CTI for a national discussion about student involvement in their field.

Faculty Members

WHAT HUMBER'S COI NETWORK OFFERS FACULTY MEMBERS

Humber faculty members have an acute understanding of the challenges an uncertain economy and workforce means for students.

Our professors have substantial industry experience and work hard to prepare students for successful careers. They know how important it is for students to embrace an innovative mindset and be equipped with the skills and ability to learn and adapt to the infinite challenges in today's workplaces.

And when faculty members may not have the resources or specific expertise to deliver everything their students require, Humber's COI Network can help.

We offer hands-on experiences for their students with community and industry partners, cementing what faculty have taught students in the classroom with opportunities to apply their skills and gain valuable work experience.

The COI Network can provide resources to help design and facilitate assignments for students or provide opportunities for them to work on an applied research or capstone project.

Faculty members can go beyond the classroom and put their talents, experience, and network to use on a wide variety of our exciting projects, from developing innovative technologies to creating new collaborations to making a difference in local and global communities.

FACULTY MEMBERS SHOWCASE

Enhance your teaching with hands-on experiences: Virtual reality training for paramedics

While you can learn a lot in the classroom, it is real-life experience that solidifies what you have learned and prepares you to use it in the workforce. And if what faculty are teaching is dangerous, it can be a challenge to get that experience—a challenge the COI Network can help faculty overcome. Humber’s Teaching and Learning department worked with the CCBI to do just that for paramedic students. Working with faculty members and students in Media Studies and Information Technology, the CCBI developed a realistic, virtual reality simulation of the aftermath of a bomb explosion. The virtual reality environment fully immerses paramedic students in a high-stress, high-risk situation, and measures their skill and biometric reactions as they medically assess a patient.

Resources for your classroom: Capstone projects

For many Humber students, a capstone project in their final year is their chance to integrate and apply the skills and knowledge they have learned in the classroom to a real-world project. An increasing number of students are now working on their capstone projects in partnership with the COI Network. We can work with faculty members and students to design an incredible capstone project, sharing the load on consultation and helping faculty members evaluate the project. Last year, The COI Network worked on more than 650 capstone projects with students from Humber’s six academic Faculties.

Tackle challenging community problems: Affordable housing in South Etobicoke research project

While the unaffordability of housing in Toronto is not a new problem, it remains an important and complex one. Humber faculty member Salomeh Ahmadi is addressing part of the challenge by looking at how to make housing more affordable in Humber’s local community in South Etobicoke. Supported by Humber’s Community & College Social Innovation Fund (CCSIF), Ahmadi and her team are investigating cost-of-living issues and how to advocate for more affordable housing. Working with community partners like the LAMP Community Health Centre, the Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation, Lakeshore Affordable Housing Advocacy and Action Group, and Mimico Lakeshore Community Network, Professor Ahmadi’s work is already beginning to make an impact. Her team has hosted community workshops, formed an advisory group, and inspired a new push for investments that will benefit the community to be part of new housing developments.



▲ The Barrett CTI hosts the Mechatronics Skills Qualifying Competition, where students from the Electromechanical program compete to represent Humber College at Skills Ontario.

WHAT FACULTY MEMBERS ARE SAYING

"The Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation has been incredibly beneficial to the faculty and students in the Film and Television Production Program. The CTI facilities offer a wide range of resources, such as the multimedia Production Room, that have allowed faculty a greater range of possibilities in constructing hands-on learning opportunities across a range of courses in our program. In addition, the varied spaces in the CTI building have proven invaluable to students that require locations to film in when producing program-assigned film and documentary projects."

Eric Cator, Professor, Film & Television Production, Faculty of Media and Creative Arts (FMCA)

"I teach the Capstone project course for the Electromechanical program at Humber College. Working with the Barrett CTI has been a fantastic experience. The BCTI has supplied high-end automation equipment ranging from robots to vision systems that students are incorporating in their projects. They also provided significant technical expertise, which allowed students to build highly complex automated systems."

Tyler Clapperton, Professor, Humber College

"During our research project last year, the Barrett CTI team, with step-by-step planning, helped us to launch the project in a timely manner. This project was our first interaction with the Barrett CTI and we found the team very helpful and effective. Throughout the project, the Barrett CTI team, including the project coordinator and technicians, made themselves available each day to help in all areas so we could overcome our technical or software problems.."

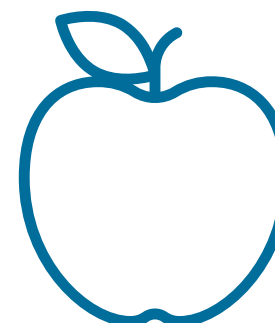
Hamid Dehkordi, Ph.D., P.Eng. Professor & Principal Investigator, Faculty of Applied Sciences and Technology (FAST)

► The Barrett CTI's Cyber-Physical Factory offers a unique combination of specialized technologies and expertise in advanced manufacturing.



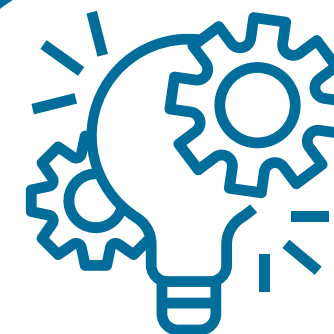
◀ DMU 50, 5-axis simultaneous CNC Machining Centre located within the Product Prototyping Facility in the Barrett CTI.

BY THE NUMBERS



82

Faculty involved in COI activities



658

Capstone projects supported by COI Network



Partners

WHAT HUMBER'S COI NETWORK OFFERS PARTNERS

Whether you are an established company, a new startup, or a non-profit organization making a difference, when you are working hard adapting to a challenging economy, it can be difficult to take risks or explore your potential.

Humber's COI Network gives all kinds of organizations the room to innovate and succeed, empowering them to meet the challenges of today's economy through innovation.

The COI Network can help partners modify their operations by testing cutting-edge technologies and introducing them to new ways of working.

Partners have access to all five Centres in the COI Network, along with the wealth of knowledge, resources and expertise that Humber has to offer across six academic Faculties, three campuses, and more than 33,000 students from over 130 countries. The COI Network works closely with partners to pull together the right students, faculty members, resources and expertise to meet partners' needs.

Funding doesn't have to be a barrier to partnering with Humber. The Office of Research and Innovation (ORI) supports industry and community partners by providing them with resources and helping them obtain funding. By doing so, ORI helps partners engage in applied research with faculty members and students, solving real-world problems and increasing innovation capacity.

Humber is also consistently named a top research college in Canada, including a high rank for research partnerships. Whether it's leveraging existing funding to apply for additional resources, filling skill gaps on teams, or finding ways to apply research to real-world problems, Humber brings together students and faculty with its business, SME, and community partners to supercharge their research.

We also work with Humber faculty members and staff to offer our partners custom-made courses so they can retrain and recertify their teams on the latest devices, updated standards and best practices being used in their sector. Drawing from our faculty members' expertise in delivering more than 220 programs and working with Humber's Continuous Professional Learning department, we can create retraining and upskilling programs that are tailor-made for each partner's business.



▲ Students work, meet and socialize in the Barrett CTI's central atrium.

By working with Humber students within the COI Network, our partners also help to shape the experience of their future workforce, ensuring that tomorrow's employees get the right skills today. Partners also have access to Humber's sought-after talent pipeline and our next generation of innovators.

The COI Network offers organizations an opportunity to amplify their brand positively, with partnership opportunities to showcase their values and highlight their community engagement initiatives.



◀ Students can build their professional experience in Humber's state-of-the-art Media & Performance Arts Labs.

Access to resources and support from Humber and the CCBI team changed the way the museum approached the project as well. For example, being able to spend the time to select students who were prepared to commit to the project and had an appreciation for the Aga Khan collection was quite important to the project's success.

Retrain and recertify your teams: Magna

Sometimes, it is best to do training and recertifications off-site. In June 2021, Magna International partnered with the Barrett CTI to develop a customized Fanuc robotics training program for one of their manufacturing divisions. The training took place at the Barrett CTI in one of the mock-up facilities, and Magna was so pleased that they expressed their interest in repeating training for their other divisions.

Shape your future workforce: Festo

Partnering with the COI Network is more than just a chance for organizations to retrain their teams—it is a chance to collaborate with us to make sure their future workforce has the skills partners need before they hire them. Many of our partners, including international manufacturer Festo, know that partnering with Humber allows them to be part of the discussions around what gets taught in the classroom. This helps to bridge the skills gap between colleges and businesses that pays big dividends down the road.

Amplify your brand: BMO funding

Humber students are always finding success in new and exciting ways, with incredible stories that make us proud of them every day. We have so many opportunities for partners to give our students the room to succeed by donating, sharing their expertise, and collaborating on new projects. Just last year, BMO Financial Group announced Humber College will receive \$750,000 over five years for the next generation of business leaders at our Longo CfE. The funding supports the BMO Launch Me Competition, which provides students with the opportunity to develop and pitch business ideas and receive critical resources to support their start-ups. The new money has allowed Longo CfE to provide better support to women, BIPOC, and disabled entrepreneurs and add three new pitch streams.

PARTNER SHOWCASE

Experimenting with new ways of working: Intercultural and Creative Music Fellowship

As a project born during the pandemic, the Intercultural and Creative Music Fellowship with the Aga Khan Museum and the CCBI had to be different from the outset. Students were hired part-time to collaborate to produce an original music composition and a short documentary-style video, inspired by the Aga Khan's vast collection of Islamic art, literature and history. Because the museum staff were freed of physical restrictions on who they could recruit to participate, they were able to reach outside of the Toronto area for an artist to mentor the students and guide their work.



◀ Students visited the Aga Khan Museum for inspiration.



◀ Intercultural and Creative Music Fellowship students had an appreciation for Aga Khan's vast collection of Islamic art, literature and history, contributing to the project's success.

WHAT PARTNERS ARE SAYING

"The nice thing about doing this virtually is that we could involve students that were not necessarily all in the same city. That was possible...then this idea of, 'Okay, we're putting all this work into this and really to test something out like this, to see what its impact is going to be so we can tweak it as we develop it?'"

Amirali Alibhai, Head of Performing Arts, Aga Khan Museum

"It's not just strictly about Festo, but it's also about our customer base. In order for us to be successful, we need personnel at these plants to be able to implement our technology into their automated processes."

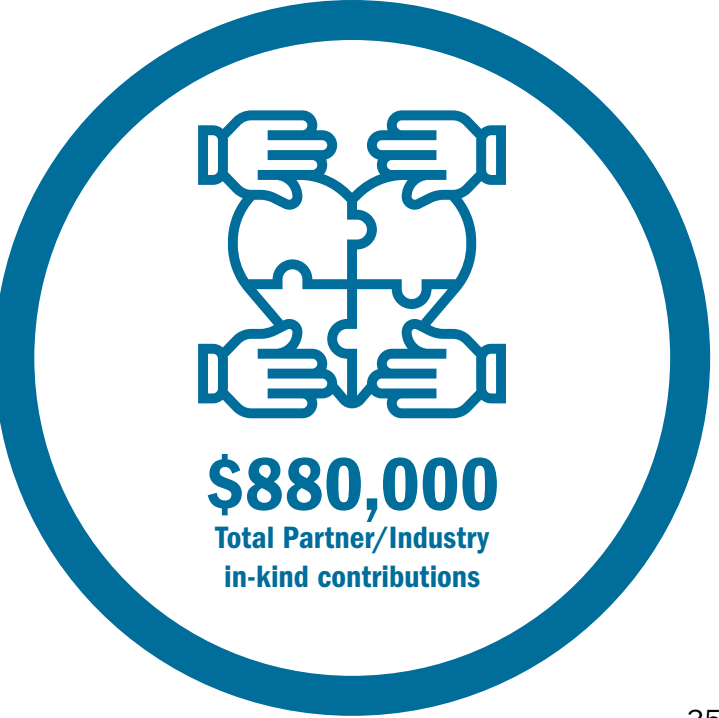
Greg James, Sales Manager at Festo Didactic

"By supporting the next generation of entrepreneurs, our partnership with the Launch Me competition at Humber will provide opportunities for students and new graduates from diverse backgrounds and disciplines to gain the skills to succeed as our future leaders."

Jamie Doolittle, Head, Business Banking, Central Region East, BMO Financial Group



BY THE NUMBERS



◀ Students sketching a new physical model of the City of Toronto for the Tiny Town Fellowship.



3

Our Centres of Innovation

Barrett Centre for Technology and Innovation

ABOUT THE BARRETT CTI

Intelligent robots, 3D printing, and Internet-connected devices are just a few of the breakthrough technologies that are disrupting traditional business operations and transforming the global economic landscape. Canada is not keeping pace. Government and industry leaders agree that Canada is being outperformed and economically disadvantaged by a persistent innovation gap. It is not just companies that can feel this gap. It is also being felt by students seeking the right set of skills and experiences they will need to succeed in their chosen careers.

At the Barrett CTI, students hone the skills they will need for the jobs of tomorrow, and industry partners have the opportunity to revolutionize their operations by experimenting with cutting-edge technologies.

They recognize that advanced technologies are dramatically changing the way people work and live. The Barrett CTI is a dynamic hub for innovative collaboration, focused on developing human-centred, technology-enabled solutions for businesses and communities. The Barrett CTI is helping to give all Canadians the room to succeed by creating the right conditions for entrepreneurs, SMEs, established companies, students and staff to grow and prosper.

THE BARRETT CTI FOCUS

The Barrett CTI is a hub for collaborative innovation. They are focused on developing tech-powered solutions for people, businesses, and communities. The Barrett CTI is helping to reshape Canada's economic future by creating the right conditions for entrepreneurs, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and established companies to grow and prosper. The Barrett CTI helps businesses:

- Increase their innovation capacity
- Generate new revenue streams
- Develop smart products and services
- Accelerate design cycles
- Expand into new markets
- Be more competitive in Canada and abroad
- Attract and retain top talent/access to a talent pipeline
- Connect with customers in engaging ways



▲ In keeping with Humber's sustainability commitment, the Barrett CTI is a net-zero building and LEED-Platinum Certified (2021).

Giving SMEs the Room to Succeed

The Barrett CTI has recently focused on helping SMEs innovate by providing access to state-of-the-art technology, expertise, and space so they can decide what investments will help their businesses thrive. Specifically, they give SMEs the room to succeed by offering access to:

- A research data centre, Festo Industry 4.0 Digital Cyber-physical Factory, automated guided vehicles, prototyping labs, and collaborative spaces
- A pipeline of skilled, innovation-ready talent/students for hire
- A business-friendly IP policy
- Opportunities to access grant funds and other sources of capital
- Unbiased evaluations of new technologies

The Barrett CTI also acts as an outsourced research and development department for companies, providing a supportive, low-risk environment where companies can collaborate with students and faculty members to experiment with leading-edge technologies, using innovation to transform their business.

► STEAM Outreach Team leads activities to engage elementary and high school students in science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM).

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2021

- **Professional development webinars for faculty and staff:** The Barrett CTI has offered many professional development sessions for Humber employees, including Intro to 3D scanning for design, engineering, and manufacturing, Deep Learning with Vision Technology, computer numerical control (CNC) powered machining, Cyber-Physical Factory, Emulate 3D Digital Twin Software, and 3D Structured Light Scanning.
- **STEAM Outreach:** In 2021, the Barrett CTI reached 3,600 middle and high school students through their STEAM Workshops, in collaboration with Community Outreach and Workforce Development. In addition, Barrett CTI led the STEM Education for Empowerment Program (STEEP) in collaboration with Humber International.
- **COI Network Collaborations Initiatives:** Barrett CTI is working with the other COIs in the Network on larger projects, including the Experience Venture Funds project with the CCBI and the Longo Centre for Entrepreneurship, and provided additive manufacturing support for the CCBI's Tiny Town fellowship.
- **Customized Corporate Training:** The Barrett CTI has begun providing tailor-made training programs for companies, starting with a customized Fanuc robotic training program for one of Magna International's manufacturing divisions. The program started June 7 and was so successful that Magna is interested in repeating the training with some of their other divisions.
- **Research Projects:** The Barrett CTI has supported many applied research projects in 2021, helping students, faculty members, and partners collaborate on innovative technologies. Those projects include a SEW Power Supply Development, a Harmonic Mitigating Device and Power Factor Corrector, Resonator Testing (an Electrochemical Device), and ElectroMagnetic Lenses for Millimetre-Wave Sensors. They also supported the Capstone Projects for 193 students last spring, including 49 Electrical Engineering students, 80 Mechanical Engineering students, and 64 Electrochemical Engineering students.
- **NSERC Grant Awards:** The Barrett CTI was honoured and excited that many of the projects they are involved with have secured NSERC grant funding from the federal government. The projects that were awarded funding are:
 - » Automated Gas Fueling and Shopping, with Circuit Energy Inc as partners
 - » Development of a Solid-State Catheter, with Mui Scientific as partners
 - » Automated Cell Inspection, with Nahanni Steel Products Inc. as partners
 - » Combining Ring Vac and Air Amplifier and optimizing hole sizes and Coanda effects, with NEx Flow Air Products Inc. as partners
 - » Indoor Navigation System-Wayfinding with Circuit Plus Inc as partners



WHAT'S NEXT

- **More STEAM Outreach:** The Barrett CTI is offering an Introduction to Mechatronics micro-credential course for middle and high school students in summer 2022.
- **More Research Project Support:** The Barrett CTI is excited to continue to support the capstone projects of Humber students, and the collaboration of Humber students, faculty members and partners in developing innovative technologies.
- **More COI Network Collaboration:** As the Centre for Innovation in Health and Wellness and Centre for Social Innovation ramp up their activities this year, the Barrett CTI is excited to work with them and the other Centres in the COI Network on collaborative projects with business and community partners.

Centre for Creative Business Innovation

ABOUT THE CCBI

Creativity is the fuel that powers innovation. Without it, innovation is little more than a game of chance. Breakthrough solutions come from ideas—both big and small—that are born when people take calculated risks and challenge conventional thinking.

Creative people think differently. They look at the world in new ways, ask new questions and generate new ideas that drive innovation and business growth. In the emerging “inspiration economy” creativity is a valuable currency and is rapidly becoming the key to competitive advantage.

The CCBI encourages students and their partners to think creatively and work collaboratively, applying outside-the-box solutions to stubborn and systemic problems.

The CCBI provides a supportive, low-risk environment where businesses can bring their projects and collaborate with experienced advisors and professionals to solve problems, test concepts, improve user experiences and commercialize new products.

The CCBI also helps businesses and communities reap the benefits of creativity-driven innovation. In an era of digital disruption and growing competitive pressures, creativity is a key driver of competitive advantage and business success.

THE CCBI FOCUS

The CCBI has a proven track record of developing unconventional strategies to solve business challenges. They are experts at helping companies evolve concepts swiftly, and pivot strategically to meet current and ever-changing needs.

Over the past two years, they have completed more than 180 industry-partnered projects in sectors as diverse as grocery, research analysis, marketing, healthcare, social service, gaming and music performance.

Humber and the CCBI have taken a leadership role in the rapidly evolving fields of virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and user experience (UX) testing. Humber has worked diligently to create one of the most well-respected and comprehensive business programs in Ontario. This prestigious ranking enables the CCBI to offer the skills and expertise of Humber’s staff and students to collaborate



▲ The CCBI leverages technology-enhanced solutions to solve real world problems.



with outside partners on projects. Building on these strengths, the CCBI re-frames the way that companies conduct business, generate new ideas, and engage with potential employees.

- **Usability testing:** Partners can access the CCBI’s expertise in usability testing, their proven ability to build emotional connections with people and their state-of-the-art usability lab to gather valuable insight into customer and employee behaviour and preferences. The CCBI generates high-quality data and analysis to help partners understand what their customers and employees value, and they help them create and enhance that value across all parts of their brand.
- **Multimedia production, virtual and augmented reality:** It has become increasingly obvious that digital media and AR and VR technologies are redefining the future of commerce. Currently, under construction, the CCBI facility will include a sophisticated interaction design studio and a new, professional-quality multimedia production studio, fully equipped with motion capture, AR, VR and high-performance sound capabilities. These studios will be powerful platforms for creating unique audience experiences that promote engaged interaction between companies and their customers and employees.
- **Business Expertise:** Turning creative ideas into marketable products and services is a major hurdle for most organizations. Drawing on the extensive expertise within Humber’s Faculty of Business, the CCBI gives their partners the support and guidance they need to successfully commercialize their products. Faculty members and students collaborate with their project teams, developing business plans and marketing strategies, helping businesses make informed decisions about technology purchases, reducing implementation risks, evaluating return on investment and integrating best practices to improve business management.

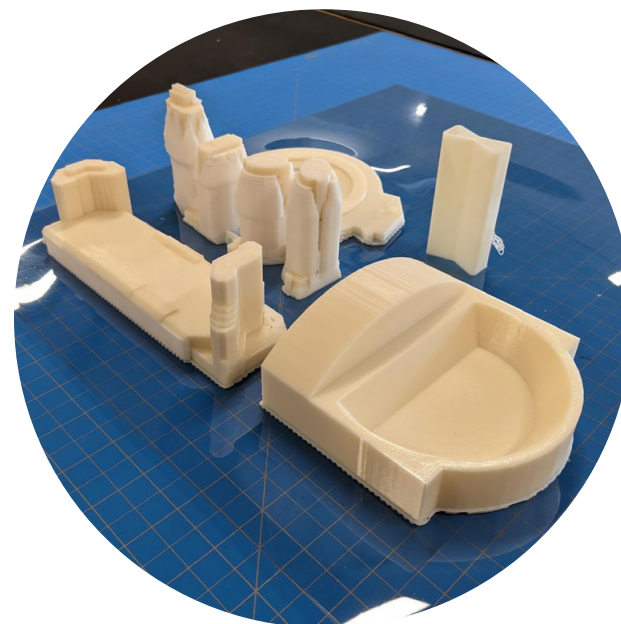
► Rendering of exterior south view of the new Humber Cultural Hub being constructed at the Lakeshore Campus.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2021

Fellowships: The CCBI's fellowships are paid, work-integrated learning opportunities for Humber students. Through working in a multi-disciplinary creative team under the guidance of a creative producer and a CCBI team lead, fellows gain real-world experience developing an original creative artifact based on applied research practices. These experiences develop students' key mindsets through inter-cultural, and creative systems thinking processes. Here are some of the fellowships they offered last year:

- » **Tiny Town Fellowship:** Tiny Town is a 30-year-old scaled model of the City of Toronto on display in the main foyer of City Hall. Humber is working with the City to re-imagine and update the physical model with a new concept, which could be 3D, 2D, virtual, movable or flexible. Seven Humber students from different disciplines participated in the fellowship, developing a prototype model that used augmented reality technology to enhance the presentation.
- » **Nuit Blanche:** Through Humber Galleries and Humber College Lakeshore Campus, this fellowship supports the City of Toronto's annual Nuit Blanche event. Under the supervision and mentorship of Humber staff, a team of multi-disciplinary students works together to produce an art project inspired by the annual Nuit Blanche theme. For last year's Nuit Blanche, seven student fellows created, coded and composed original music for a video game for the event.
- » **Cultures' Compass:** Culture's Compass is a free two-day conference showcasing a wide array of panellists, performers, and artists. It seeks to highlight themes that are relevant to the current arts and culture climate, as well as the accomplishments of industry professionals and artists. Five student fellows from CCBI helped organize and produce the conference, working to build the website and creating a mini docuseries. In the process, the CCBI's fellows also had the chance to network and work alongside cultural industry leaders.
- » **Indigenous and Transmedia Fellowship:** This fellowship is open to all Humber students who self-identify as First Nation, Métis, Inuit, or part of an Indigenous nation from around the world. The fellowship aims to encourage students to further develop their skills in visual culture, digital media, technology, design, and storytelling, and put those skills to the test. This year, three students worked together over the summer break to create and produce a documentary.
- » **Intercultural and Creative Music Fellowship:** This fellowship is offered in partnership with the Aga Khan Museum. The collaborative approach to this fellowship allows Humber students to conceive, plan and execute a multidisciplinary original music project inspired by the museum's collection. This year 11 fellows composed an original piece of music inspired by the collection and performed it live at the museum. They also created a documentary to showcase their efforts and the impact the project had on them.



▲ A multidisciplinary team of students created 3D models of the City of Toronto's iconic buildings and monuments for the Tiny Town Fellowship.



► Rendering of the view of Exchange Mainstreet, Indigenous Classroom and Radio Live Booth in the Humber Cultural Hub.

Collaboration with CivicLabTO: Collaborating on Renewal and Resilience was a two-day virtual event that provided partner faculty members, staff and students, City staff and government representatives the opportunity to join a series of free panel discussions featuring thought leaders from across academia and the Toronto area. These sessions highlighted how research collaborations generate a grounded theory framework that ultimately leads to stronger public policy development in our ever-changing urban environment.

WHAT'S NEXT

Here's what's coming up for the CCBI as it continues to grow and give students, faculty members and partners the room to succeed:

Fellowships: The CCBI is continuing to offer their fellowship programs this year, including the Nuit Blanche Fellowship, the Intercultural and Creative Music Fellowship, the Indigenous and Transmedia Fellowship, the Culture's Compass Fellowship, and the Tiny Town Internship. They're also excited to host a major part of Toronto's Nuit Blanche festival at Humber's Lakeshore Campus in Fall 2022.

Partnerships: The CCBI is looking forward to more collaborative partnerships this year, including the Siemens Art Call, in partnership with Humber Galleries; the Snake Bite Awareness Project (COIL), in partnership with Whitman College in the United States, the Asclepius Snake Bite Foundation, IRSEN Congo, and IRBAG Guinea; the Affect Design Challenge, in partnership with the Art Gallery of Ontario; and Building Cultural Sustainability: An Applied Research Model, in partnership with Mitacs: eCampus Ontario and the City of Toronto.

Cultural Hub construction: Phase 1 of Humber's Cultural Hub continues to progress since starting construction in November 2020. This phase of the Cultural Hub will be the CCBI's future home and includes a 250,200 square foot building with a 130-seat Recital Hall, specialty teaching spaces for arts and cultural programs, and a 300-space student residence addition. The building should be ready to use by May 2023. The second phase of construction will start in August 2023 and should finish by May 2025.



◀ For the CCBI's Intercultural and Creative Music Fellowship, a multidisciplinary team of students composed a series of musical compositions inspired by the Aga Khan Museum.

"Being able to participate in a project about culture was the highlight of my program at Humber, getting paid to create a project is a great opportunity and a very satisfying learning experience. My project coordinators went above and beyond to help us achieve our goals while mentoring us, it can't get better than that."

Juan, CCBI Fellowship



"Being able to collaborate with students in a professional manner is empowering and inspiring. Fellowships like this one give courage and boost the confidence in how you do your job."

Anastasiya, CCBI Fellowship

"It was an honour to be a part of this fellowship. It not only provided each of us with professional experience and valuable education - it also gave us the opportunity to produce something that we can be truly proud of. Personally, this summer significantly changed my direction as a creative professional moving forward. I'd highly recommend this."

Peter, CCBI Fellowship

Centre for Innovation in Health and Wellness

ABOUT THE CIHW

COVID-19 has put an enormous strain on the health care system in Canada. In addition to overwhelming the system, the pandemic has also put a spotlight on insidious problems that have existed for years.

At Humber’s Centre for Innovation in Health and Wellness, their vision is for a better, more equitable, inclusive health care system. By bringing together students, faculty members, healthcare experts, community organizations and industry partners, The CIHW will propose new ideas and develop new technology to transform the healthcare system and bring that vision closer to reality.

As a brand-new COI within Humber’s COI Network, the CIHW will take a collaborative approach, working with other COIs in the Network to supercharge its innovative ideas. New technologies, creative solutions, an entrepreneurial mindset, and other strengths of the COI Network will help the CIHW develop new strategies and practical solutions to contribute to a more advanced, equitable and inclusive health care system.

THE CIHW FOCUS

The CIHW was brought to life in a collaborative process, including Humber’s staff and faculty members, healthcare practitioners and community leaders. Working together, they created a vision for the CIHW to be a change agent in leading, developing and implementing new ideas in healthcare. The three key priority areas for the CIHW include:

- Exploring next-generation solutions and prevention strategies for improving health outcomes for those with **chronic diseases**, supporting behaviour change, and self-care.
- Delving into **alternate and traditional healing strategies** for well-being and resilience, working collaboratively with Humber’s Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioner program and incorporating Indigenous Ways of Being, Knowing and Doing.
- **Technology-enabled care**, including support for curriculum enhancements for healthcare programs at Humber while also providing hands-on experience and training with health technology such as virtual care, health apps, and wearable devices.



▲ Humber’s Clinical Simulation Learning Centre is a resource that provides a variety of clinical situations that enhance student learning.

Cross-collaboration with the other COIs in the Network is embedded in the CIHW’s framework to ensure students, staff and faculty members adopt a holistic approach to solving complex healthcare challenges which have been historically unsuccessful using a straightforward solution.



◀ The Tzu Chi Clinic of Traditional Chinese Medicine is a living laboratory that supports experiential learning through clinical placement opportunities.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2021

The Faculty of Health Sciences and Wellness hired a consultant to engage with internal and external stakeholders to develop the vision and focus for CIHW, which was unveiled in Fall 2021.

With its new director on board as of January 2022, the CIHW is ready to get to work.

WHAT'S NEXT

With the mandate and vision set for CIHW and a director to lead it, CIHW is preparing for its formal launch later this year. Many potential partners have already expressed interest in working with CIHW. Stay tuned for more news about the programs, collaborations, and projects.



Longo Centre for Entrepreneurship

ABOUT THE LONGO CFE

The Longo CfE is here to help anyone who wants to explore the world of entrepreneurship, providing you with the resources, expertise and support you need to take risks and bring your ideas to life.

Maybe you have a great idea for a business, but some challenges prevent you from getting started, like writing a business plan, getting more comfortable pitching your ideas, or knowing what rules and regulations you must follow. All those challenges are tough to deal with if you don't have any room to take risks.

That's where we come in.

The Longo CfE provides an opportunity for like-minded individuals to meet, collaborate, and create. No matter your passion, interest, or previous entrepreneurial experience, they have specialized experiential learning opportunities that will stimulate new ways of thinking and support your unique goals.

The Longo CfE believes in providing support to entrepreneurs, enabling them to innovate, creatively problem solve, and engage in entrepreneurial activities. The Longo CfE supports Humber students, alumni, faculty members and community members at their earliest stages of entrepreneurship: when they learn to recognize opportunities; develop, analyze and refine ideas; create plans; form teams; and pitch ideas. As part of Humber's COI Network, the Longo CfE provides interdisciplinary and experiential learning opportunities for you to become an innovative and strategic problem solver.

While every member may not choose to start their own business, the Longo CfE facilitates skills-based training programs that can support those who want to pursue their entrepreneurial dream or that can be used in whatever career path they decide to pursue.



▲ The Longo Centre for Entrepreneurship is located within the revitalized cottages at Lakeshore Campus, which feature multipurpose rooms ideal for public and private functions, lectures or workshops.



► The Longo Centre for Entrepreneurship provides various formal and informal spaces giving students flexible options for collaborative learning.

THE LONGO CFE FOCUS

The Longo CfE has a suite of programs that let students, faculty members, alumni and community partners learn the skills and get the advice they need to launch a business, become innovators in their current workplace, and build the experience they need to join the workforce:

- **Innovate and Create Entrepreneurship (ICE) Program:** Do you want to be your own boss or have an idea you are ready to work on? With Longo CfE's ICE program, you will bring your idea down to earth and get ready to launch in just 12 weeks. You will be introduced to the basics: innovation skills, marketing, finances, and more with the help of experts and experienced entrepreneurs who can guide your journey. Every session is practical, hands-on, and focused on taking your idea to the next level.
- **Experience Ventures:** Get paid to hone your entrepreneurial thinking skills. The Longo CfE's Experience Ventures enable students to make an impact alongside real-world innovators through placements where they get the chance to think like entrepreneurs. These paid placements help students make an impact on their careers by giving them work experience with innovative companies in Canada. The goal is to inspire your creativity, resiliency and future vision, giving you the tools to succeed after you graduate.
- **BMO Launch Me:** Prepare for Success! Launch Me is designed to help students and recent alumni prepare for success through a pitch competition. Participants complete a series of skill-building workshops to prepare their business idea for launch and then submit their work for a chance to win funds. The first round of the competition is a business plan submission, followed by a five-minute pitch presentation to a panel of judges for those who make it to the finals. Funds are available from three different categories: The Women Innovators Competition, the Groundbreaker Competition for current students, and the New Graduate Startup Competition for recent grads.
- **Be Your Own Boss:** This entrepreneurship training program is a seven-week workshop series that trains participants in ideation, marketing, promotions, sales, finance, funding and operations. At the end of the seven weeks, students and the Longo CfE members can put the skills they have learned to the test by entering the Be Your Own Boss Pitch Competition, creating a 2-minute video showcasing a business idea or a current business idea. It is a great chance to get the attention of investors and network with other entrepreneurs like you.
- **Women Entrepreneurs:** The Longo CfE Start my Business Boot Camp is for women in the Humber community thinking about starting their own business or venture. This intensive 16-module program supports women entrepreneurs in the early stages of ventures in a variety of industries. Through fostering leadership, the Longo CfE empowers women entrepreneurs of every age, stage and culture to achieve their business dreams, giving them the room to succeed by connecting them with the right people, skills and support to make it happen.
- **Entrepreneurship Modules:** Learn and discover the fundamentals of entrepreneurship through their 10-part Key to Entrepreneurship Modules. These modules will introduce you to a variety of topics that can help you get started on your business idea or entrepreneurial venture. The modules include videos, a quiz and resources to enhance your learning experience.

► Students and new grads presented their innovative ideas at the BMO Launch Me Competition.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2021

Innovate-a-thon: In October, the YMCA Academy partnered with us to provide an innovation challenge for college students across the Greater Toronto Area. Teams had 48 hours to come up with solutions to the challenge question: How might the YMCA Academy better support students as they transition from High School to Post Secondary? At the end of the weekend, the teams pitched their ideas in videos, sharing their ideas of how to offer students greater autonomy, support their independence, give them more access to resources, and give them a better understanding of the supports that they are entitled to once they transition to their post-secondary pathways.

Membership Growth and Participation in the Longo CfE Programs: The Longo CfE continues to attract more members from Humber students, faculty members, staff, alumni, and the local community, growing their membership to 570 members. There was sustained interest in their entrepreneurship and work-integrated learning programs as well, with 32 participating in the ICE program and 120 students participating in Experience Ventures Projects, including 17 in partnership with the Barrett CTI and the CCBI.

Design Thinking Challenges: An additional part of the Longo CfE's Experience Ventures Projects was the Design Thinking Challenge, where domestic students can get paid to learn Design Thinking and solve challenges for community partners. 30 students led a hands-on project tackling a genuine challenge for six different startups in our community. The Longo CfE supported them with a weekly workshop to introduce them to the steps of design thinking and to guide them on how to implement those principles in their work.

BMO Launch Me Funding: In November, the Longo CfE was excited to announce a new partnership with BMO Financial Group, which donated \$750,000 to support their Launch Me program. Thanks to BMO's donation, the Longo CfE now has three streams available for Launch Me: BMO Women Innovators Completion, which encourages women students and alumni to strengthen their entrepreneurial skills, and the BMO Groundbreaker Competition, which supports current students who want to launch their own businesses, and the BMO New Graduate Start-up Competition, which supports students who have graduated from Humber in the last two years and helps them get their start-up ideas off the ground. Humber students and alumni will also benefit from a suite of training and skills development opportunities through the introduction of the BMO Entrepreneurship Workshops that will be offered throughout the five years.



◀ Sarah White is a Longo CfE mentor and Founder of The Girl Floral, launching over four years ago, evolving from a side hustle, to a brick-and-mortar, and finally into a strong e-commerce brand.

WHAT'S NEXT

The Longo CfE is launching a Women's Entrepreneurship program, offering specialized training, resources, and expertise to Humber's women students and alumni who want to become business leaders. They are also developing an Arts Entrepreneurship program in partnership with Humber's Faculty of Media and Creative Arts.

Upcoming the Longo CfE specialty programs include their Indigenous Entrepreneurship program in partnership with Redbird Circle and Humber's Indigenous Education and Engagement department. This program will allow students who self-identify as First Nation, Métis, Inuit or are part of an Indigenous nation from around the world to learn entrepreneurial skills and explore their ideas for starting a small business.

The Longo CfE's planned partnership programs for this year include the HELIX Summer Institute in partnership with Seneca College. This is a no-cost, six-day intensive virtual "design jam" that provides participants with tools for collaborating and building solutions to pressing social or business challenges.

The Longo CfE is also working with the Seneca College's HELIX to review incubators using the Gender Smart Entrepreneurship Education and Training Plus (GEET+) framework and assess the status of equity, diversity, and inclusion in entrepreneurship events/activities/programs, and develop gender-smart materials and supports.

In partnership with Humber Libraries, the Longo CfE is bringing the IDEA Lab to the Lakeshore Campus this fall. Located on the 3rd floor of the Longo CfE (G Cottage), the IDEA Lab provides opportunities to explore and create digital media and new technologies. The Lab will feature studio spaces, including equipment for audio recording, video production, 3D printing and more. The IDEA Lab will also offer in-person and online support for faculty members looking to create digital, media-rich assignments and students working to complete them.

"Through the Longo CfE, I was able to find incredible student talent. Although our company is small, we are growing rapidly and really needed additional support. The Longo CfE connected us with funding opportunities and helped us find the right student. She has been an incredible asset as our Communications and PR coordinator, and has managed to get our company featured in 3 publications already!"

HOPE Pet Foods



"My experience at Longo Centre for Entrepreneurship events has been absolutely amazing. We have been given the chance to create/develop a solution that might actually make a positive change. I have practiced my leadership skills, communication skills, time management skills as well as creative problem-solving."

Longo Centre for Entrepreneurship member

"The Ideate and Create Entrepreneurship program is designed extensively with in-depth knowledge of business aspects, on a broad spectrum. Providing amazing mapping criteria to work on turning just a business idea into a real business opportunity is the best part, especially under the mentorship of amazing advisors and professors."

Anshika Na, Innovate and Create Entrepreneurship participant

"I was able to complete one of the three smart goals I set for myself. I was able to complete my pitch presentation for my business: and in my opinion, it went well! I learned a lot from the workshops and the various experts in the field. I also completed my business plan, and officially registered my business."

Amanda Glean, BMO Launch Me participant



Centre for Social Innovation

ABOUT THE CSI

The changing economy, global uncertainty and systemic barriers to equitable opportunities for individuals and communities create opportunities for our students and faculty members. This means we must create new and innovative solutions for the communities where we live, work and play.

Humber's Centre for Social Innovation will focus on tackling complex social problems both in Humber's local community and around the world, bringing together students from across all our Faculties, subject matter experts in every field, local community partners and outside experts to make a positive change.

THE CSI FOCUS

The CSI is hard at work refining its focus areas in anticipation of its launch later this year. Based on what they have discussed so far, the CSI knows that Humber students, faculty members, staff, and partners are interested in six different priorities:

1. Employment, Education and Training
2. Reduced Inequalities
3. Poverty Reduction
4. Housing and Local Facilities
5. Food Security
6. Health and Wellbeing

We expect that CSI will be one of the most collaborative COIs in the Network, leveraging the technology expertise of the Barrett CTI, the creativity and new media savvy from CCBI, innovative caregiving solutions from the CIHW, and the resourceful entrepreneurial mindset of the Longo CfE to make a difference in each of these areas and find innovative solutions to tackle systemic problems.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2021

While work continues to refine the mandate for the CSI, Humber students and faculty members continue to do incredible work in the social innovation space. Here are some of the highlights for 2021:

- **Affordable Housing Needs in South Etobicoke:** Sky-high rent, condo developments, no rent control, evictions and unstable housing are all issues standing in the way of affordable housing in South Etobicoke. Partnering with LAMP Community Centre, Lakeshore Affordable Housing Advocacy and Action Group, Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation, and Mimico Lakeshore Community Network, Principal Investigator Salomeh Ahmadi is working on this research project to develop a strategy to co-develop and share possible solutions for affordable housing and advocate to create more of it through policy change.
- **Engaging and Educating Young Adult Cannabis 2.0 Consumers:** To reduce potential harms and ensure a safe and positive experience for cannabis consumers aged 18-30 years old, Principal Investigator Daniel Bear is working with Canadian Students for Sensible Drug Policy and the Canadian Public Health Association to determine what methods of education and engagement with young people are the most effective. The project hopes to impact long-term cannabis consumption practices and improve public health and wellbeing for decades to come. As part of the project, a new campaign has been launched, Weed Out Misinformation, in cannabis retail stores across Canada.
- **Community Agency Partnerships: Best Practices for the Creation of Healthy Communities:** Aiming to reduce youth crime and gang violence in Canada, Principal Investigator Ann Wallington is working with The John Howard Society of Saskatchewan and Street Culture Project Inc. to examine how community agency partnership networks can be effective in preventing youth from entering the criminal justice system. The study is identifying best practices to create and maintain these partnerships between agencies and will evaluate existing programs to see if they are trauma-informed, culturally sensitive, free from systemic racism, and aligned with the agency's commitment to reconciliation.
- **Experiences of hope, self-compassion and authentic collaboration: Foundations for a consumer-informed compassion-based human services delivery framework in a Canadian context:** Working in partnership with Lutherwood, Juniper House, the Canadian Centre for Diversity & Inclusion, Heartache2Hope, Hope Resource Centre Association, Wellspring Cancer Support Foundation - National and London Region, Principal Investigators Tina Lackner and Cristina Guerrero are collecting stories from Canadians who have provided or received human services to help create a guiding framework to help Canadian Human Services organizations be more responsive to the aspirations and preferences of the people they serve.



◀ Principal Investigator
Salomeh Ahmadi



◀ Principal Investigator
Daniel Bear



◀ Principal Investigator
Ann Wallington



◀ Co-Principal Investigator
Tina Lackner



◀ Co-Principal Investigator
Cristina Guerrero



WHAT'S NEXT

The Centre for Social Innovation is just getting started. With their vision and mandate nearly done and a leader to join their team later in 2022, Humber's CSI will soon be another strong pillar of the COI Network. In the coming months, the CSI will offer students, staff and community partners the platform to explore innovative solutions to complex social issues.



The COI Network Team

Each of the Centres of Innovation (COIs) in the Network is led by a director that supports its execution of the strategic mandate and vision.



Tyler Charlebois

Director, Centres of Innovation Network and Partnership Development



Neal Mohammed

Director, Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation



Jennifer Gordon

Director, Centre for Creative Business Innovation



Cheryl Mitchell

Director, Longo Centre for Entrepreneurship



Vanita Varma

Director, Centre for Innovation in Health & Wellness



To be hired fall 2022

Director, Centre for Social Innovation





HUMBER
Centres of Innovation
Network



HUMBER

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ENVIRONMENTAL SAVINGS

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