



## **Celebrating World Family Doctor Day on May 19!**

Dear colleagues,

We're writing to wish you a happy World Family Doctor Day, an event that becomes increasingly significant every year.

In preparation for May 19, the Primary Health Care team at AHS gathered several patient and family advisors and asked them about their experiences with their own family doctors.

We expected to hear positive comments, but those conversations were startling in their warmth, passion and empathy. One advisor spoke of going in to see his doctor for an injured thumb, only to have his doctor notice a lump on his neck, which led to a leukemia diagnosis.

Another remarked on her doctor's ability to listen closely, noting his habit of swiveling his chair so he was facing her and giving her his full attention. "We have these wonderful conversations," she said with a smile.

That same advisor went on to talk about the significance of the primary care responsibility, and its effect on family doctors. "I have also seen the burden that they carry if one of their patients doesn't do as well as they expected," she said. "They do carry that."

We would like to join our patient and family advisors in thanking you for all you do every day—for helping to ease the weight of each patient's journey.

Happy World Family Doctor Day! You can watch the advisors' [celebratory video here](#).

Sincerely,

**Dr. Linda Slocombe**

Senior Medical Director, Primary Health Care  
and PHCIN

**Dr. Peter Jamieson**

Vice President, Quality and Chief Medical Officer