

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Medical students spread out across southwestern Ontario for Discovery Week

Discovery Week will see 168 first year medical students from Western University's Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry spread out to more than 30 communities throughout southwestern Ontario to receive a hands-on learning experience in rural and regional communities.

The experience offers a unique learning opportunity for these students by providing an intimate understanding of the diverse experiences which impact health and wellness in the centres within Schulich Medicine & Dentistry's Distributed Education network.

This year's Discovery Week takes place during one of two weeks, May 22 to 26 or May 29 through June 2. The participating communities extend from St. Thomas to Owen Sound. This year 28 first year medical students will shadow physicians and visit patients across the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) to gain a better understanding of how patient care is delivered in this community.

"Discovery Week is an important learning opportunity for our students, introducing them, for the first time, to the opportunities and challenges of living and working in a rural or regional community," said Dr. George Kim, assistant dean, Rural and Regional Community Engagement at Schulich Medicine & Dentistry. "Students will be intimately involved in patient care while developing an **understanding** and appreciation for rural regional medicine."

To arrange interviews with Dr. Kim, please contact Crystal Mackay. For information on Discovery Week in your community please contact Laurie Roberts, Corporate Lead Medical Staff at HPHA.

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ABOUT WESTERN

Western University delivers an academic experience second to none. Since 1878, The Western Experience has combined academic excellence with life-long opportunities for intellectual, social and cultural growth in order to better serve our communities. Our research excellence expands knowledge and drives discovery with real-world application. Western attracts individuals with a broad worldview, seeking to study, influence and lead in the international community.

ABOUT THE SCHULICH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY*The Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at Western University is one of Canada's preeminent medical and dental schools. Established in 1881, it was one of the founding schools of Western University and is known for being the birthplace of family medicine in Canada. For more than 130 years, the School has demonstrated a commitment to academic excellence and a passion for scientific discovery.*

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