



NEWS RELEASE

from Halton Healthcare Services

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Halton Healthcare Services Cafeterias Awarded *Eat Smart! Award of Excellence* for the Third Consecutive Year

Halton Healthcare Services' (HHS) cafeterias at Georgetown Hospital, Milton District Hospital and Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital have once again been awarded the *Eat Smart! Award of Excellence* by the Halton Region Public Health Department. This award recognizes Ontario workplaces that meet exceptional standards in nutrition, food safety and safe food handling practices.

"This award is a credit to all our staff and their persistent exemplary efforts to provide our customers with a variety of appealing nutritious meals and snacks," explained Elma Hrapovich, HHS Director of Clinical Nutrition and Food Service.

"At Halton Healthcare Services our cafeterias serve both our workforce and our patients as well as their families and hospital visitors," added Marianne Katusin, HHS Manager of Retail Food Services. "Therefore, it is all the more important that we provide smart food choices and provide a healthy dining environment."

New this year to the *Eat Smart!* Workplace program is the addition of vending machines to the established evaluation criteria. HHS worked with its vending partner to ensure that the required criteria is met in all of the vending machines across its three hospitals. Those food items that meet the guidelines are easily identifiable with an *Eat Smart!* sticker.

"In addition to providing a variety of healthy food options at all three of our hospitals, 100 per cent of all our full-time and part-time staff are certified safe food handlers and our students receive on the job training," noted Ms. Katusin. "We have also made quite an effort to provide our customers - which include our workforce - with a wide range of nutritious and appetizing foods with a variety of menu choices at all three of our hospitals. This includes a number of trendy gourmet options and the conveniently packaged 'grab and go' meals, sandwiches, salads and a variety of healthy snacks."

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HHS Cafeterias Awarded *Eat Smart!* Award of Excellence

“Getting the *Eat Smart! Award of Excellence* three years in a row speaks volumes. Our staff have been very resourceful and creative and have made some very positive changes over the past three years at our hospital cafeterias to provide a more inviting and welcoming dining experience for our workforce, patients and visitors,” noted Lilian Scime, HHS VP Corporate and Diagnostic Services. “Congratulations to all our Clinical Nutrition and Food Services Department on this outstanding accomplishment!”

This award is just one of a number of recognitions that HHS has received over the past year. HHS was recently Accredited with Exemplary Standing by Accreditation Canada and it was also the first Canadian hospital to be awarded "Exemplar" status for its NICHE (Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders) Program. In addition, HHS was recognized as one of six finalists for the 2013 ECRI Health Devices Achievement Award by the ECRI Institute, an independent watchdog organization that promotes the highest standards of safety and quality in the healthcare industry.

Eat Smart! is a program supported by the Nutrition Resource Centre of Ontario, an initiative of the Ontario Public Health Association and is run by the local public health units across Ontario.

About Halton Healthcare Services

Halton Healthcare Services (HHS) is comprised of Georgetown Hospital, Milton District Hospital and Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, and serves over 300,000 residents. HHS was recently Accredited with Exemplary Standing, which is the highest status Accreditation Canada can award. For more information, please log on to www.haltonhealthcare.com.

Media Contact:

Zita Taksas-Raponi
Public Relations Officer
Halton Healthcare Services
905-845-2571, 6774