



Durham Muslim Youth Partner with Canadian Blood Services

Blood drive held by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Youth Association in Oshawa as part of nationwide initiative

On December 20, 2025, members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Youth Association donated blood in Oshawa to support Canadians in critical need. Muslim youth attended the blood drive which took place at the Canadian Blood Services at 1304 Harmony Rd N Oshawa, ON. These types of initiatives by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Youth Association are part of an ongoing effort to serve Canadians and demonstrate the true spirit of Islam.

Continuing its long-standing partnership with the Canadian Blood Services, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Youth Association is undertaking a nationwide initiative through which Muslim youth will donate blood in various locations across Canada.

Blood and plasma donors asked to wrap up 2025 with a donation

Canadian Blood Services is calling on people across Canada to book appointments to donate blood or plasma in the final two weeks of December — a time when donations traditionally drop as Canadians get busy with year-end

activities and statutory holidays. Many don't realize that donor centres are open during the holidays and that patients continue to rely on donations every single day. Giving as a group is especially meaningful at this time of year. Canada needs more new donors, and many first-timers come through the doors with someone they know. Donating with colleagues, teammates, friends, or family can turn a holiday gathering into something memorable.

Whether you give as a group or individually, you will walk away with a deep sense of purpose and fulfillment knowing you've helped

patients right here in Canada. Think of it as a meaningful gift to yourself and to your community as you wrap up 2025. Visit blood.ca, download the GiveBlood app, or call 1 888 2 DONATE (1-888-236-6283) to find a donor centre or mobile event near you, and book an appointment to experience what you get when you give.

Canadian Blood Services is a not-for-profit charitable organization. Regulated by Health Canada as a biologics manufacturer and primarily funded by the provincial and territorial ministries of health, Canadian Blood Services operates with a

national scope, infrastructure and governance that make it unique within Canadian healthcare. In the domain of blood, plasma and stem cells, we provide services for patients on behalf of all provincial and

territorial governments except Quebec. The national transplant registry for interprovincial organ sharing and related programs reaches into all provinces and territories, as a biological lifeline for Canadians.

Trent University Co-Launches First Canadian Association for the Philosophy of AI

Country-wide network of experts led by Trent University, University of Lethbridge professors examining and informing ethical, social, and human implications of AI

As the federal government makes headway on its Pan-Canadian Artificial Intelligence Strategy focused on commercialization, standards, and talent, two Canadian scholars have launched the first and only Canadian Association for the Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence (CAPAI) to address a longstanding gap in Canada's AI landscape: a coordinated, national forum for philosophers working on artificial intelligence.

"While Canada has strong communities of researchers working on AI from technical and policy perspectives, there was no dedicated space for philosophers of AI to connect. Networking and collaboration that once happened in isolation can now take place in a more organized, systematic, and efficient way," says Dr. Martina Orlandi, a co-founder of CAPAI and an assistant professor in the new AI degree programs at Trent University Durham Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

Co-founded alongside Dr. Nicholas Dunn, assistant professor of Philosophy at the University of Lethbridge, CAPAI brings together scholars and their work examining both foundational questions, such as the nature of intelligence, cognition, and decision-making, and urgent ethical and social concerns, including AI's impact on labour, healthcare, bias, surveillance, and democracy.

"AI is accelerating faster than institutions and policies can keep up, and philosophers have an important role to play in helping articulate the values and principles that should guide how these technologies are designed and deployed. Without that clarity, we risk allowing innovation to outpace reflection," said Dr. Dunn.

While much of the interest in AI applications has been focused on efficiency and automation, both scholars emphasize that the increase in AI adoption and the ways platforms are being used are raising deeper questions about human identity and well-being. Researchers are increasingly focused more on how AI is implemented in the social sphere.

"Our jobs, our struggles, and our decision-making are deeply tied to how we understand ourselves. As AI systems begin to replace or reshape these activities, we're forced to ask whether a life made easier by technology is necessarily a more fulfilling one," says Professor Orlandi. "When we see people using AI chats as therapists or entering into relationships with AI personas, what does that say about our well-being today and do we fully understand the consequences of those interactions?"

Since launching earlier this fall, CAPAI has 14 members and has introduced a national website and online speaker series, with plans for in-person meetings and public engagement. The association also aims to make Canadian research in the philosophy of AI more accessible to students, policymakers, and the broader public through its website, ensuring philosophical insight becomes a foundational part of Canada's AI conversation rather than an afterthought.

Trent University Durham GTA's interdisciplinary approach to teaching and research has made it a natural home for CAPAI, particularly following the launch of its Artificial Intelligence programs, offering both a Bachelor of Arts (another Canadian first) and Bachelor of Science degrees. These degrees reflect Trent's broader commitment to examining AI as a technical and science field, as well as a relevant field in the humanities.

In the classroom, this approach translates into critical engagement with real-world questions. Prof. Orlandi's research examines the ethical implications of outsourcing decision-making in healthcare contexts, including organ transplantation, while student discussions increasingly focus on emerging concerns such as deepfakes and the societal value (or lack thereof) of certain AI applications.



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