

HOUSEKEEPING PROFESSIONAL TODAY

The Official Publication of the Canadian Healthcare Housekeepers Association (CHHA) 

**Inaugural
CHHA Leadership
Committee Meeting**
— September 8 at 1:30 p.m.

A new chapter for the Canadian Healthcare Housekeepers Association (CHHA) begins this September with the inaugural meeting of the CHHA Leadership Committee on **Tuesday, September 8** at 1:30 p.m.

The committee brings together frontline healthcare environmental
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Celebrating the People Behind Safe Healthcare Environments

International Housekeeping & Environmental Services Appreciation Week

Every day, healthcare housekeeping and environmental services (EVS) professionals work behind the scenes to create the clean, safe, and welcoming environments that patients, residents, families, visitors, and healthcare professionals depend on. September 13 to 19, 2026, is International Housekeeping & Environmental Services Appreciation Week — a time to recognize these essential frontline professionals and celebrate the difference they make every day.

International Housekeepers and Environmental Services Week has been celebrated during the second full week of

September for more than four decades. The recognition week was established in 1981 by the International Executive Housekeeping Association (IEHA), a division of ISSA, to recognize the important contributions of housekeeping professionals. IEHA has remained the official sponsor of the week since its founding, and the celebration has grown into a global opportunity to recognize cleaning and EVS professionals in healthcare, hospitality, education, and other facilities.

For healthcare housekeepers / EVS professionals, the work goes far beyond keeping a facility looking clean. Housekeepers

and EVS teams are an essential part of the healthcare team, contributing to infection prevention and control, patient and resident safety, comfort and dignity, and the overall healthcare experience.

Their work often happens without recognition. Yet every cleaned room, disinfected surface, serviced washroom, prepared patient area, and carefully maintained environment contributes to a safer place for care. EVS professionals are on the frontline every day, helping protect patients, families, visitors, and fellow healthcare workers.

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• Nominate a Healthcare Housekeeping or Environmental Services Champion!

Every day, behind the scenes and at the heart of patient care, healthcare housekeeping and environmental services professionals make an extraordinary difference.

They clean, disinfect, prepare and maintain the spaces where patients heal, residents live, staff work, and families visit. Their dedication helps reduce risk, support infection prevention and create safe, welcoming environments throughout hospitals, long-term care centres, and other healthcare facilities.

During *International Housekeeping & Environmental Services Appreciation Week*, the Canadian Healthcare Housekeepers Association (CHHA) is proud to celebrate the individuals and teams whose commitment, professionalism and hard work often go unnoticed — but should never go unrecognized.

This is your opportunity to shine a spotlight on the people who go above and beyond every day.

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Celebrating the People Behind Safe Healthcare Environments

That is why Appreciation Week is so important. Its goal is not simply to say, “thank you” but to shine a light on the profession, recognize excellence, raise awareness of the vital role EVS plays in healthcare, and celebrate the people whose work makes a difference every day.

The Canadian Healthcare Housekeepers’ Association (CHHA) is proud to make International Housekeeping & Environmental Services Appreciation Week a national celebration of the people who keep Canada’s healthcare facilities clean, safe, and welcoming.

This year, CHHA is putting the spotlight firmly on its members and the incredible work being done by housekeeping and EVS teams across the country. Through communications, social media, recognition initiatives, and member-focused activities, CHHA will help share the stories and accomplishments of the professionals who make such an important contribution to healthcare.

A major highlight will be the CHHA HSK/EVS Frontline Award of Excellence, part of CHHA’s expanded Member Recognition Awards Program. The program provides an opportunity to recognize outstanding individuals and teams for their excellence, leadership, innovation, dedication and impact. Winners will be announced and celebrated during Appreciation Week.

CHHA is also encouraging healthcare organizations, managers, colleagues, patients, and families to take the time to recognize their EVS teams. A simple thank-you, a team celebration, a personal note of appreciation or sharing a frontline success story can make a meaningful difference.

Appreciation also means investing in the continued growth and development of our profession. During International Housekeeping & Environmental Services

Appreciation Week, CHHA will be offering special discounts on membership and educational offerings, making it an ideal time for both individuals and organizations to become more involved with CHHA and take advantage of professional development opportunities.

From education and certification to resources, networking, and industry information, CHHA is committed to helping today’s EVS professionals build their knowledge, strengthen their skills, and prepare for the future of healthcare environmental services.

International Housekeeping & Environmental Services Appreciation Week is ultimately about people.

It is about recognizing the housekeeper who starts their shift before most people arrive. The EVS worker who carefully prepares a room for the next patient. The team that responds when infection prevention challenges arise. The supervisor who supports their staff. The leaders who champion excellence. And every professional who takes pride in doing a job that is essential to quality healthcare.

To every housekeeping and Environmental Services professional across Canada: **THANK YOU!** Your work matters. Your expertise matters. Your commitment matters.

This September 13 to 19, CHHA invites healthcare organizations, industry partners and stakeholders across Canada to join us in celebrating the people who work every day to keep healthcare environments clean, safe and ready for care.

Let’s recognize our frontline teams, celebrate their achievements and elevate the vital role of Environmental Services in Canadian healthcare.

NOTE: A special *International Housekeeping & Environmental Services Appreciation Week Toolkit* is available for download on the CHHA website for members ONLY.

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Inaugural CHHA Leadership Committee Meeting

services professionals to help shape the future direction of CHHA. By sharing their experiences, perspectives, and insights, members will help ensure the Association’s educational opportunities, resources, programs, and initiatives remain practical, relevant, and responsive to the evolving needs of the profession.

The inaugural meeting will provide an opportunity for members to connect, discuss the committee’s role, and begin identifying priorities for the months ahead. Together, the group will explore ways to strengthen CHHA and better support the professionals who work every day to help keep healthcare environments safe, clean, and healthy.

The future of CHHA is stronger when frontline voices are heard—and the Leadership Committee will help ensure those voices help shape the path forward.

If you are interested in participating on the new CHHA Leadership Committee, please [click here](#).

Steam Cleaning Drains – Why It Matters!

Join the Canadian Healthcare Housekeepers Association (CHHA) on **September 23** at Noon for the next *Lunch & Learn* featuring **Elle Robillard** of Intersteam Technologies.

Discover why steam cleaning drains matters, how to recognize when drains need attention, and what a healthy drain system means for your healthcare facility.

Register today and don’t miss it!

Nominate a Healthcare Housekeeping or Environmental Services Champion!

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Do you know an EVS team that consistently demonstrates exceptional teamwork? A housekeeper whose compassion and attention to detail make a difference to patients and residents? A supervisor, manager or frontline professional who leads by example, supports colleagues and takes pride in creating a safer healthcare environment?

Nominate an individual or team that deserves recognition for their dedication, professionalism, innovation, teamwork or

commitment to excellence. Whether their contribution is large or small, every act of care helps strengthen the healthcare environment and supports the people who depend on it.

Help CHHA celebrate the champions of clean, safe and healthy healthcare environments.

Submit a nomination and give a deserving individual or team the recognition they have earned.



CHHA
A DIVISION OF ISSA

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