



2nd IDDSI Canada Festival – October 22 and 23, 2024



The 2nd IDDSI Canada Festival took place in Toronto at Humber Polytechnic on October 22 and 23. This expanded event focused on the theme “A Day in the Life with Dysphagia”.

The first day featured advanced learning master classes. **Deborah Martinussen**, RD and **Amber Capotosto**, Certified Nutrition Manager, taught IDDSI implementation best practice techniques. **Peter Rick**, RD and **Jenni Cook**, Chef provided a culinary exploration of IDDSI for healthcare food services. **Ellen Andrews**, SLP, and **Peter Lam**, IDDSI Chair & RD, focused on integrating IDDSI into dysphagia practice by exploring oral processing disorders. Special thanks to Simply Thick who generously donated the cutting boards.



Learning gets up an appetite and no one was disappointed. Chef **Daryl Neamtu** and the Nutrition programs students with Humber Polytechnic prepared & served an array of dysphagia-friendly hors d’oeuvres featuring IDDSI levels 1, 5 and 6.





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The second day featured a morning of plenary learning. Family advocate **Laurie Kuipers** shared her family's journey in supporting her brother with dysphagia. She highlighted the need for education, support and appropriate menu offerings. Lawyer **Parmis Goudarzi-Malayeri** provided an overview of legal considerations when managing dysphagia in healthcare. **Khashayar Amirhossein, RD**, and **Natalie Noar, RD**, from the Toronto LTC homes shared their progress and challenges towards IDDSI implementation. **Marianne Katusin, NM**, from Halton Health highlighted some of the clever solutions her team has implemented to provide Soft and Bite-Sized (Level 6) menu offerings. **Declan Henderson, RD**, from apetito/HFS gave a behind-the-scenes look at considerations for IDDSI-friendly product development.



The morning of learning was followed by a vendor fair. Sixteen vendors featured foods, drinks and equipment to make modified texture diets easier to offer. Participants got to vote for their favourite products. Congratulations to our winners: **CMI/Castleview Wychwood Towers Long Term Care** (Best Sweet), **apetito/HFS** (Best Savoury) and **Simply Thick/CMI** (Best Drink).

This event would not be possible without our attendees, our exhibiting sponsors, and dedicated volunteers.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you at future IDDSI events.

If you would like more information to become involved please contact us at canada@iddsi.net.

