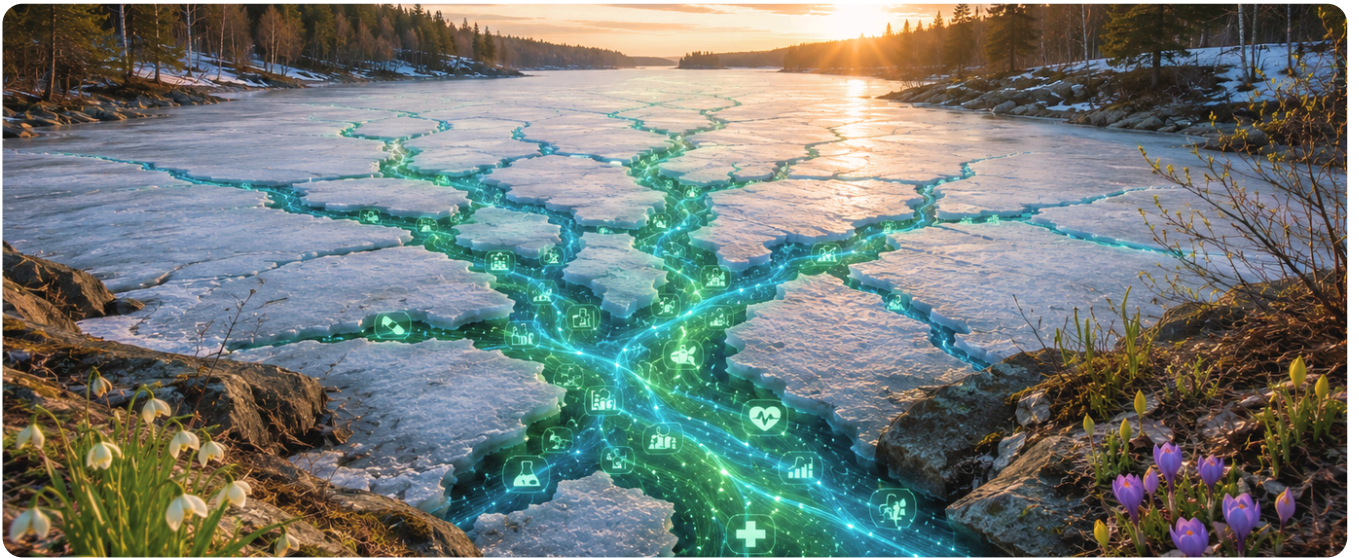


SPRING 2026

NEWSLETTER

June 4th, 2026



WELCOME TO OUR QUARTERLY UPDATE!

Welcome back to the Bridge Northwest Quarterly Newsletter. As we continue to build a unified health record across Northwestern Ontario, this publication serves as a source for updates, highlights, and key milestones as our region transitions to Meditech Expanse. Through stories, progress updates, and shared resources, we'll keep you informed and connected throughout every stage of this journey. Thank you for being part of this work as we shape the future of healthcare in our communities.

bridgenw.ca

TOP NEWS

Where We Are Today

What to expect during Stage 2: Build, Test, Train.

Available Resources

Instructions & overview of the supports / resources available to you.

Clinical Corner

News and testimonials from your clinical peers.

Program Progress

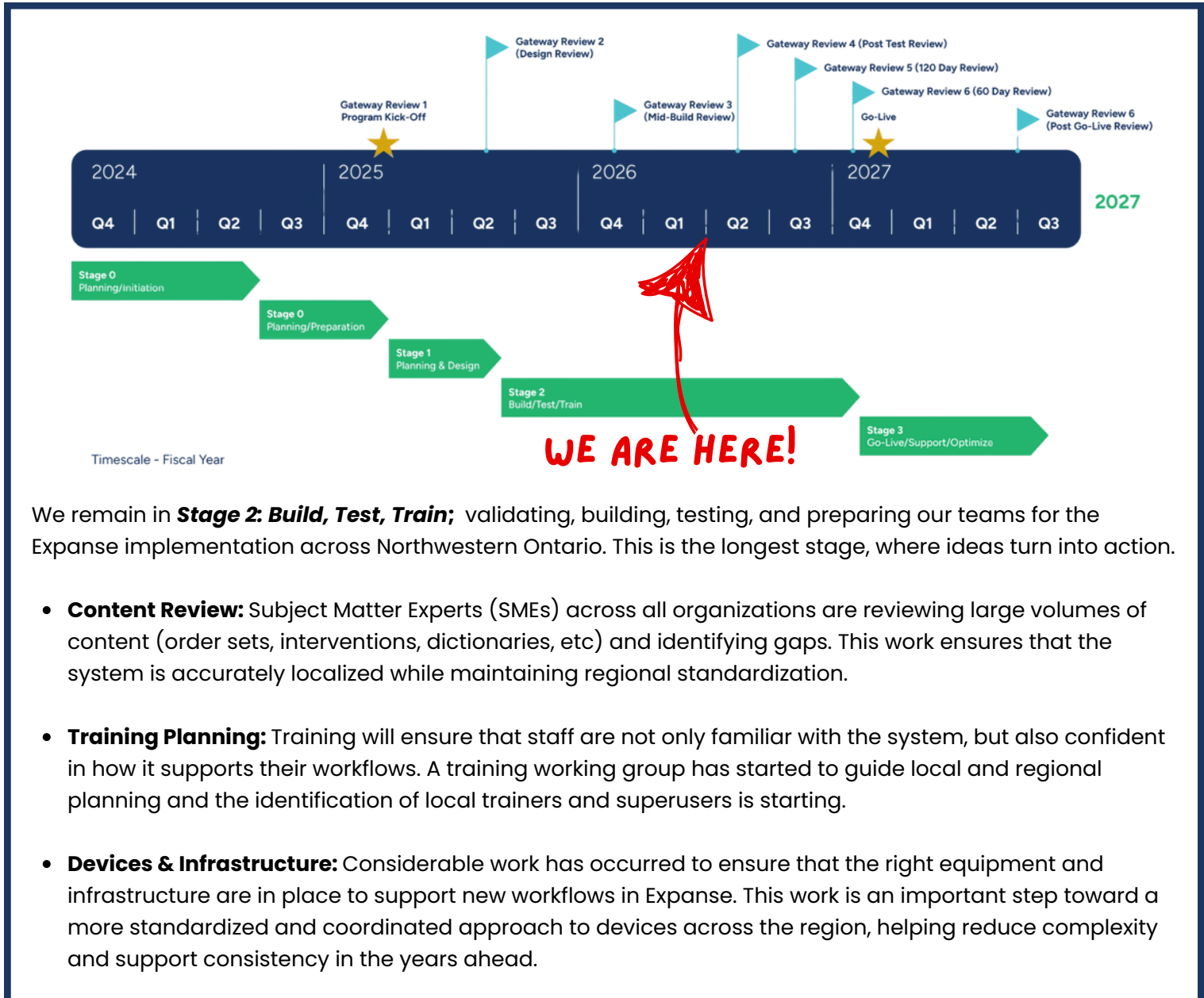
Progress highlights from several program workstreams.

Stay Connected

Best ways to stay informed & involved.

WHERE WE ARE TODAY

Stage 2 - Build, Test, Train



We remain in **Stage 2: Build, Test, Train**; validating, building, testing, and preparing our teams for the Expanse implementation across Northwestern Ontario. This is the longest stage, where ideas turn into action.

- **Content Review:** Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) across all organizations are reviewing large volumes of content (order sets, interventions, dictionaries, etc) and identifying gaps. This work ensures that the system is accurately localized while maintaining regional standardization.
- **Training Planning:** Training will ensure that staff are not only familiar with the system, but also confident in how it supports their workflows. A training working group has started to guide local and regional planning and the identification of local trainers and superusers is starting.
- **Devices & Infrastructure:** Considerable work has occurred to ensure that the right equipment and infrastructure are in place to support new workflows in Expanse. This work is an important step toward a more standardized and coordinated approach to devices across the region, helping reduce complexity and support consistency in the years ahead.

CLINICAL ENDORSEMENT

It's exciting to be involved with our regional Meditech Expanse implementation. This advanced health information system will provide an important foundation for transforming how we deliver care to patients across Northwestern Ontario.

How will Expanse strengthen care in our hospitals?

- Evidence-based, peer-reviewed order sets with embedded clinical decision support
- More complete and immediately accessible medical records for clinical care and research
- Opportunities to reduce harmful medication errors

What I'm most looking forward to; are the future innovations in patient care that this foundational work will enable.



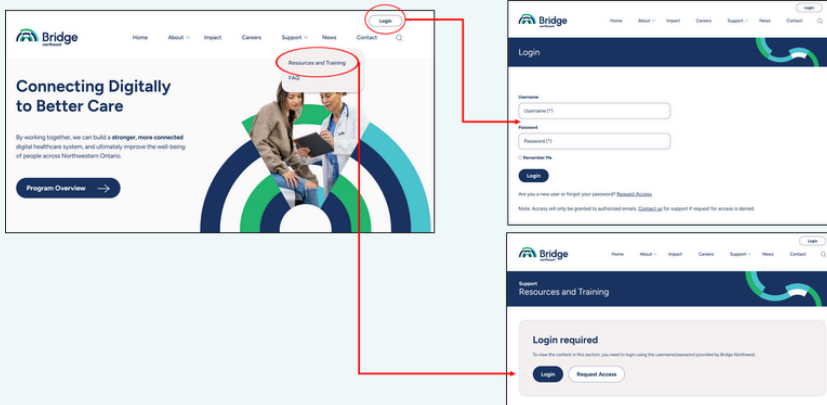
Dr. Stephen Viherjoki
Regional CMIO
Dryden, ON



RESOURCES AVAILABLE

RECORDINGS

Whether you missed a session or would like to revisit one, recordings are available through the Bridge Northwest Training & Resources Portal.



ACCESS INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1: Visit bridgenw.ca

Step 2: Login

- Username: bridgenw
- Password: expanse

Step 3: Navigate to Training & Resources

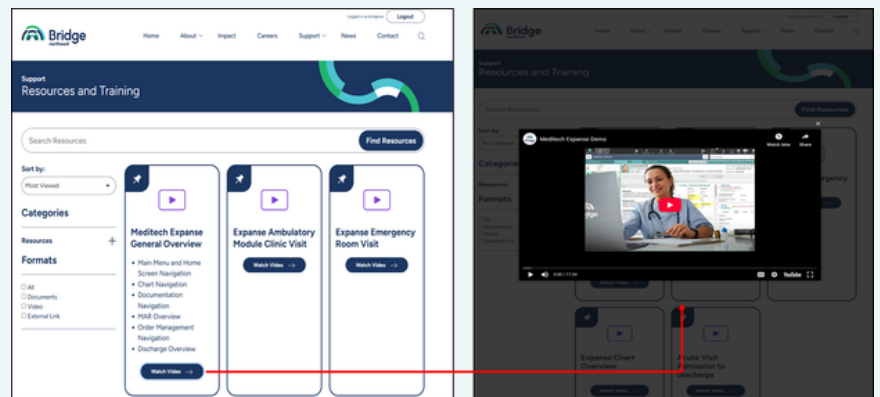
- (Under Support tab in Homepage ribbon)

Step 4: All set! Explore available resources.

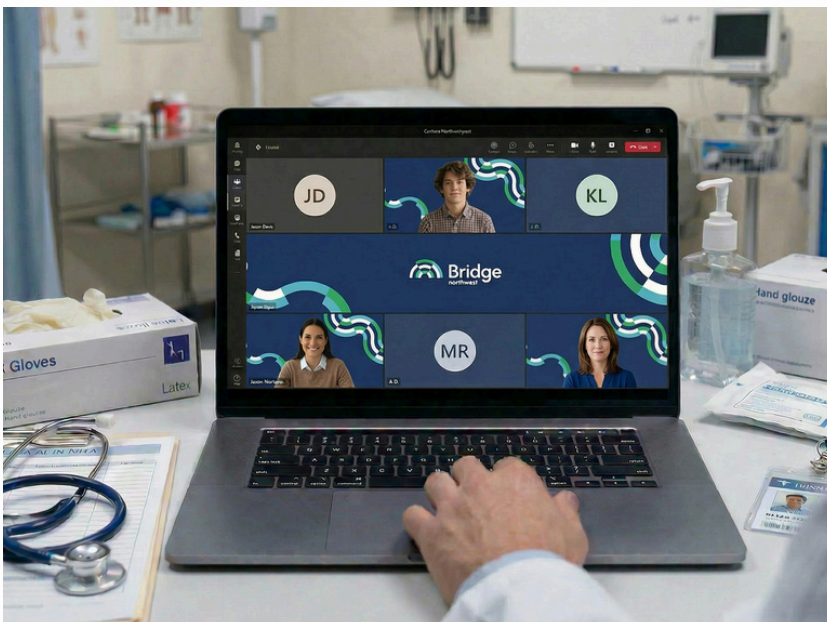
THE PORTAL

The Bridge Northwest Training & Resources Portal is a member-access platform built to support your transition to Meditech Expanse and related digital tools.

This portal ensures that employees & professional staff across Northwestern Ontario have on-demand access to practical learning materials—anytime, anywhere. Resources will continue to grow as the program evolves.



Change Specialist Virtual Office Hours



For Management & SMEs

The 1st & 3rd Thursday of every month
1pm - 2pm CT / 2pm - 3pm ET



For Professional Staff

Every Wednesday
7:30-8:30am CT / 8:30-9:30am ET
11:30am-1:30pm CT / 12:30-2:30pm ET

Contact your Change Specialist for the meeting links or follow on [Bridgenw.ca/events](https://bridgenw.ca/events)

CLINICAL CORNER



Exploring Bedside Medication Verification

We've been testing out the nursing workstation on wheels (WOW) to better understand how bedside medication verification will work in practice.

This includes exploring different workflows and identifying issues that may impact medication administration across your organization.

It's been a great opportunity to see how things come together in real-world scenarios—and where we may need to adapt to best support teams at the bedside.



Above: Simulation Lab, TBRHSC

CLINICAL TESTIMONIAL

Having begun working on the Expanse implementation in a single working group as a front-line staff member - to now, being involved in multiple working groups with a management lens, it's been incredible to see the thoughtful work happening behind the scenes on Meditech Expanse.

It's clear that front-line roles and workflows are being carefully considered through collaborative working groups and the variety of disciplines and unique perspectives brought from every organization, ensuring that our needs are considered in every decision.

This approach not only strengthens confidence among staff but also highlights the meaningful benefits Expanse can bring to efficiency, usability, and overall patient care.



Miguel DeRuiter, RN
Nurse Manager



NORTH OF SUPERIOR
HEALTHCARE GROUP

Computerized Provider Order Entry & Dictation

The introduction of Computerized Provider Order Entry (CPOE) means orders — such as medications, lab work, imaging, and treatments will be entered directly by professional staff into the electronic health record.

Alongside CPOE, new front-end dictation and ambient listening tools are being explored to allow professional staff to dictate directly into the system using speech-to-text technology trained on medical terminology.

These will be significant changes for many professional staff members. Training and support will be available in advance of go-live, including learning modules, reference materials, and on-site support from Super Users during the go-live period. Professional staff SMEs across Northwestern Ontario are already helping validate workflows and shape how the system will function in practice.



PROGRAM PROGRESS

CHANGE MANAGEMENT



Lots of People, Lots of Impact

Involvement is at an all-time high, with **600+** people involved in governance and working groups and many more jumping in to support validation of clinical content, order sets, and dictionaries.

Appreciation + What's Next

We're planning (well deserved!) SME appreciation events this spring and early summer across the region. Meanwhile, the team is gearing up for testing and training in order to become true system experts—ready to support sites every step of the way.

600+ People actively involved in the Program across the region through Working Groups, Governance, Local Boards & other Forums.

6,500+ Individual touchpoints to date – where our team has been able to share information about the Program.

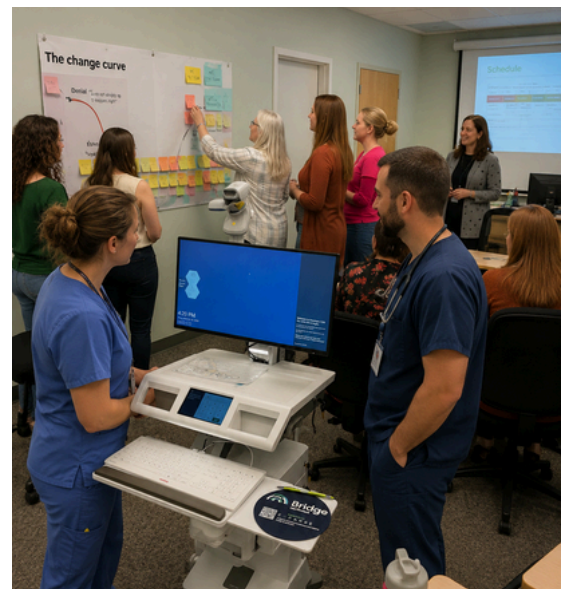
The Change Team is Available for Meetings & Events!

We're continuing to keep a pulse on how people are feeling about the change across the region. Change looks different for everyone, and that's okay!

If your team or site would like some support, we're always happy to connect. Whether that's a quick chat, or some interactive activities to help explore where you are on the change curve. We can:

- Join existing team or organizational meetings
- Make department visits
- Set-up a booth at special events
- Conduct virtual sessions

We are happy to help! Please reach out to your Change Specialist or bridge.nw@tbh.net.

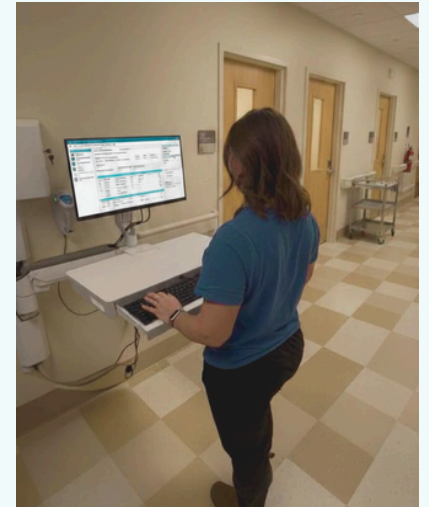


TECHNICAL READINESS

The Technical Readiness team is entering a pivotal phase where the efforts of the past year are coming together. While most devices will be configured and prepared during the summer months, deployments will primarily occur in the fall and into the new year, aligned with each organization's logistics plan.

Key progress

- Organizational walkthroughs
- Device selections endorsed by the Partnering Healthcare Organizations
- Wireless assessments and upgrade plans completed
- Identification of infrastructure requirements and upgrades
- Logistics planning



Upcoming activities

- Device orders (over 5600 items!) to begin later this spring
- First device deliveries expected later this summer
- Infrastructure upgrades progressing to support device deployment
- Wireless upgrades under way
- Simulation Lab (SIM Lab) established to begin integrated testing



STANDARDIZATION

It's not about control it's about:

- Patient safety
- Consistency
- System integration
- Reducing variation
- Reducing risks

Why Standardization Matters

Standardization ensures that care teams across Northwestern Ontario are working with consistent documentation, integrated tools, and devices to enable a seamless patient experience and use of the electronic health record.

What's Changing

- Paperless charting
- New devices and workflows
- Infrastructure, storage, workstations, etc.
- System training programs

VS

What's Not

- The focus on patient centered care
- Ownership of equipment
- Clinical judgment/ decision making
- Your organization's operations



MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The MIS team is responsible for the foundation of the new Meditech Expanse system. Their work helps connect clinical, technical, and administrative functions across the region—supporting things like user access, security and system settings.

While much of this work isn't visible day-to-day, it's essential to making sure everyone can access the system efficiently, and in a way that supports their role.

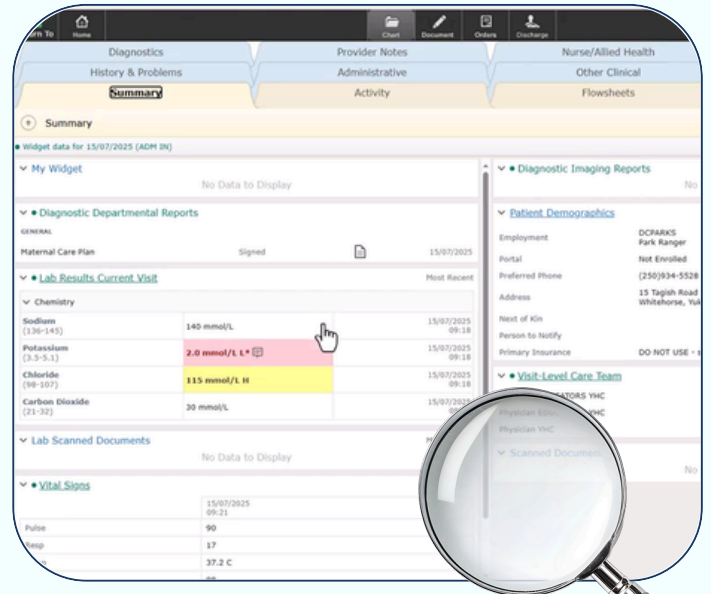
Right now, the Management Information Systems (MIS) team is focused on setting up how people will log-in, navigate, and use the system:

What you'll see: Standardized menus so that staff across Northwestern Ontario have a consistent experience when they log in—tailored to their role.

What you can access: Access is being tailored by role so staff can quickly find what they need—while keeping information secure.

What you can do: Permissions will match real workflows, ensuring staff can complete their tasks within the system while maintaining privacy and security.

At the same time, work is underway to map existing users into the new system. We are starting with professional staff and planning for all other staff groups to follow.



CLINICAL CONTENT VALIDATION

Content Validation Update

Clinical teams across the region have now completed a major step in reviewing and confirming how documentation like assessments and interventions will work in the new system in both acute and outpatient settings.

With that foundation in place, working groups are now focused on closing any remaining gaps and refining details to make sure the system supports real day-to-day workflows. Key areas like Emergency Departments and Surgical Services have made strong progress, confirming how tools and records will function, while also beginning more detailed work like preference cards for surgical procedures.

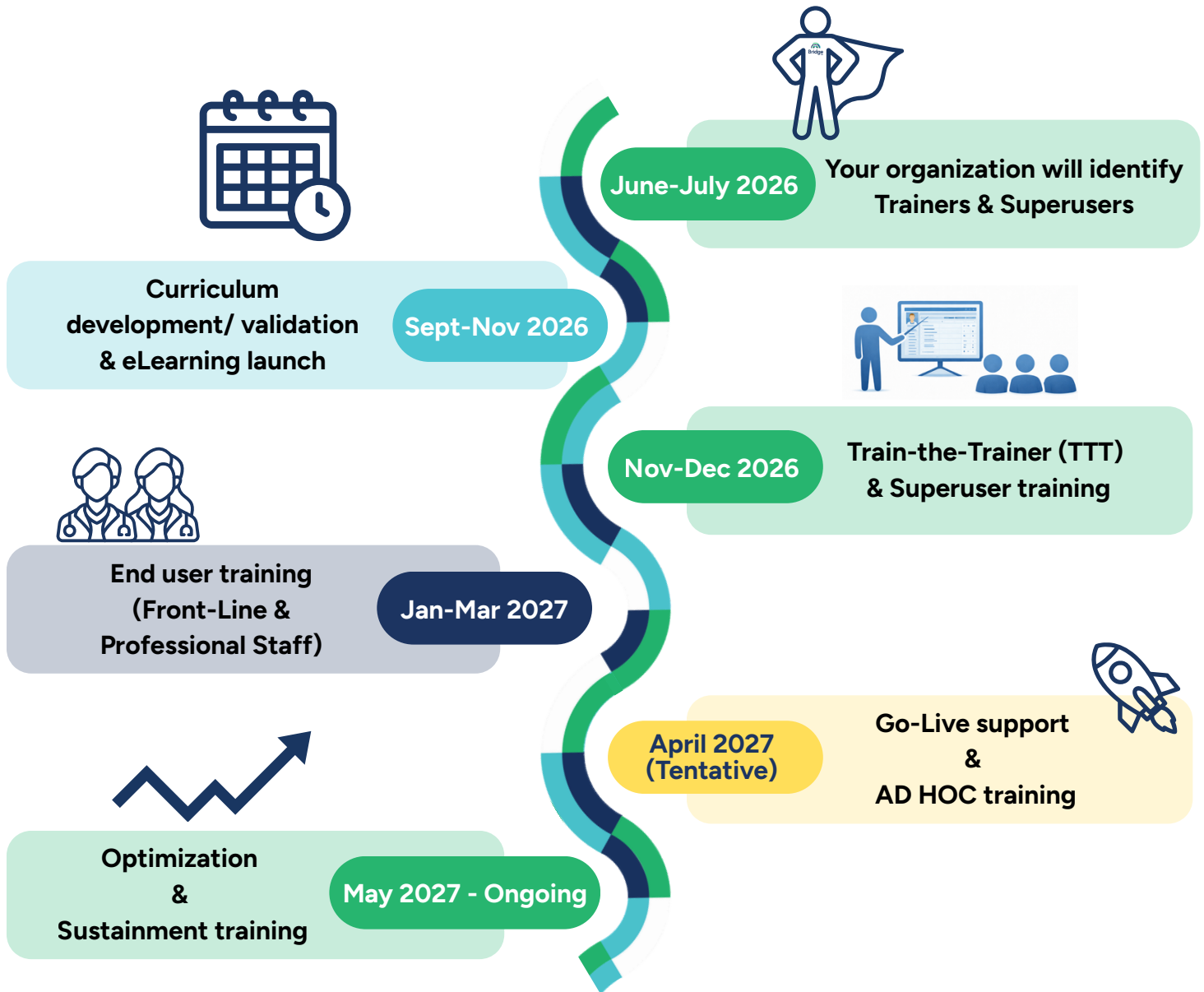
What's Next

As we move closer to testing, teams will start walking through real-life scenarios to make sure everything works as expected before go-live. This work is important because it helps ensure the system reflects how care is actually delivered—making documentation clearer, workflows smoother, and ultimately supporting better patient care.



TRAINING

Training Schedule



Training Delivery Strategy

Just in Time Training

- Training delivered for most staff in a 6–12 week window pre go-live to boost knowledge retention and user confidence.
- Includes a gap week for make-up training

Multifaceted

- Instructor-led classroom (hands-on)
- eLearning modules, manuals, quick reference guides, tip sheets, FAQs
- At-the-elbow (ATE) support (go-live)

Role-Based Training and Support

- Training includes end-user, trainer, and superuser preparation emphasizing role-based learning and post-go-live sustainment.
- Training targets specific roles ensuring learners master relevant workflows and avoid unnecessary information overload.

Minimizing Operational Disruption

- Training designed with class sizes and schedules to reduce impact on patient care and operations.

STAY CONNECTED

Website

The Bridge Northwest website acts as a centralized hub for all employees & professional staff across the region to stay connected through news, updates, and resources related to the Meditech Expense transition.



COMMUNICATIONS

Social Media

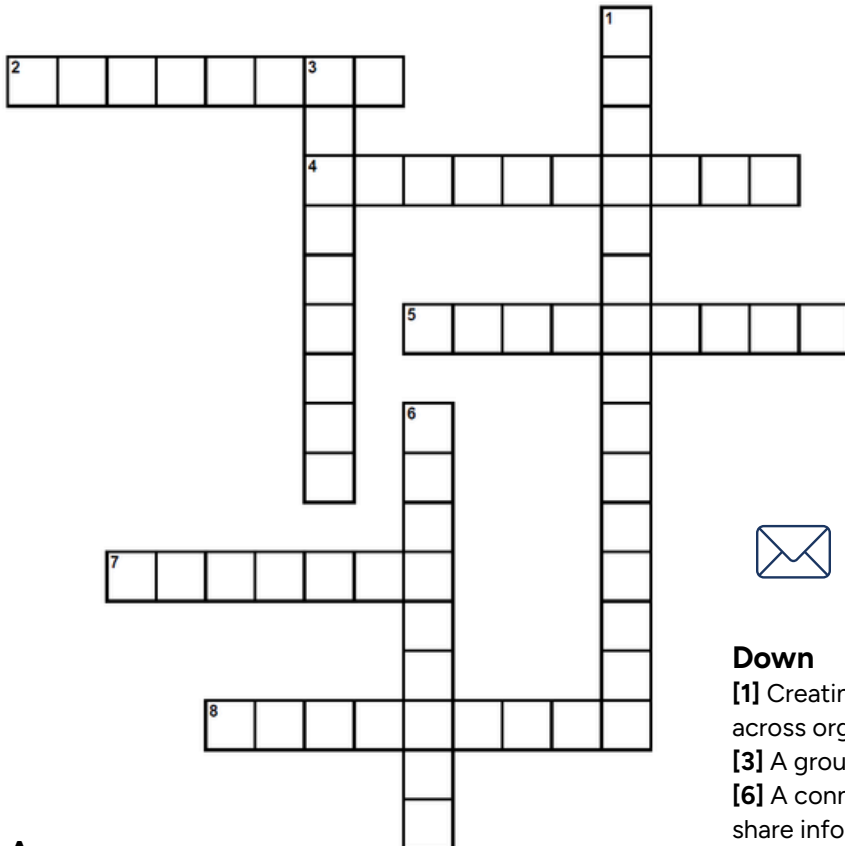
Follow Bridge Northwest social platforms to stay in touch with public facing announcements, highlights, career postings & more.



News Updates

Quarterly newsletters & bi-weekly "Bridge Bytes" serve as touchpoints to keep you informed, spotlight local efforts, and celebrate progress.

GIVE IT A TRY!



Across

- [2] A planned, coordinated way of completing tasks within your role
- [4] A shared system library where standardized terms are built to ensure info is used consistently
- [5] A trained staff member who helps support peers before and after activation
- [7] The point when the new system officially becomes active
- [8] The process of speaking notes into the system instead of typing or writing them

Down

- [1] Creating more consistent systems, workflows and practices across organizations
- [3] A group of pre-built clinical orders used to improve efficiency
- [6] A connection that allows different systems or technologies share information with "each other"

Newsletter Wall of Fame

Summer Newsletter 2025

Martina Agostino, Clinical Trials Compliance Officer, TBRHSC

Fall Newsletter 2025

Dwayne Hunking, Support Services Supervisor, GDH

Winter Newsletter 2026

Brad Arabia, MRT, TBRHSC



For a chance to win a prize, take a picture of your completed puzzle and submit to: bridge.nw@tbh.net