



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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\$1 Million Donation Made to Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation funds new fluoroscopy unit

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY- After two years of planning, the new Canon Ultimax-1 fluoroscopy unit and accompanying TIMS Medical digital recording system has arrived and is already in use serving patients at Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH). This \$1 million project was **fully funded** by the generosity of an anonymous bequest to the NHH Foundation.

Arriving in many different pieces, the unit was assembled on site over the course of several weeks. Visitors to the Hospital's 15th Anniversary Open House held October 18th were some of the first to be treated to a "behind the scenes" look at this impressive new addition, which produces helpful and painless images to support the diagnosis or treatment of an illness.

NHH's Diagnostic Imaging Department continues to stand out as one of Canada's most technologically advanced for a community hospital of this size. Ongoing financial support to the NHH Foundation from the community has made this all possible. In 2008 a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) suite was established, and the hospital's Computed Tomography (CT) scanner was replaced for the first time--two projects which, alone, cost \$4.2 million and were funded by community support.

The fluoroscopy unit and TIMS Medical system is the department's newest addition. "This new system makes it possible to perform multidirectional x-ray imaging and plays a critical role for the pain management of our patients with spinal and joint discomfort," says Ian Moffat, NHH's Director of Diagnostic Imaging and Laboratory Services. "Fluoroscopy allows for an area of the body to be filmed, and studied, in motion, rather than as a still, snapshot image. Think of it as a video, versus a photograph, and you can begin to get a sense of how powerful it can be from a diagnostic perspective!"

"Along with pain management, the new fluoroscopy unit and TIMS system has greatly improved our accuracy for swallow assessments. The TIMS unit is a digital recording device that captures images that helps to assess the patient's swallowing mechanism. This leads to better therapy to get our patients from the feeding tube to the dinner table faster," says Katie Beitle, Speech Language Pathologist at Northumberland Hills Hospital. "With this donation, we'll see a significant improvement in the quality of life for patients in our community."

Bequests in personal Wills provide much needed financial support to help the NHH Foundation's relentless pursuit of investing in new medical equipment and technology.

“The new fluoroscopy unit is an excellent example of how one person’s generosity has made a lasting impression on the care patients will receive for decades to come,” says Adrienne Burns, Leadership Gifts Officer, NHH Foundation. “We are extremely grateful to this donor for thinking of NHH and are excited to see their legacy come to life to serve patients of west Northumberland.”

If you are interested in learning more about leaving a bequest in your Will, please visit the Foundation website at www.nhhfoundation.ca under Ways to Give or call the Foundation office directly at 905-377-7767.

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About Northumberland Hills Hospital – Located approximately 100 kilometres east of Toronto, NHH delivers a broad range of acute, post-acute, outpatient and diagnostic services. Acute services include emergency and intensive care, medical/surgical care, obstetrical care and palliative care. Post-acute specialty services (PASS) include restorative care and rehabilitation. Mental health care, chemotherapy, dialysis and 16 other ambulatory care clinics are offered on an outpatient basis through partnerships with regional centres and nearby specialists. NHH offers a full range of diagnostic services, including magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computed tomography (CT) and mammography. The hospital serves the catchment area of west Northumberland County. A mixed urban and rural population of approximately 60,000 residents, west Northumberland comprises the Town of Cobourg, the Municipality of Port Hope and the townships of Hamilton, Cramahe and Alnwick/Haldimand. NHH employs approximately 600 people and relies on the additional support provided by physicians and volunteers. NHH is an active member of the Central East Local Health Integration Network. For more information, please visit www.nhh.ca or follow us on Twitter [@NorHillsHosp](https://twitter.com/NorHillsHosp).

About the Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation – The mission of the Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation is to inspire generous giving to enable exceptional patient care at Northumberland Hills Hospital. With a dedicated team of enthusiastic volunteers and staff, the NHH Foundation is passionately committed to improving health care and the quality of life for people living in west Northumberland. Since 2002, the NHH Foundation has raised over \$51 million to build and equip Northumberland Hills Hospital. This support comes from generous community support through a variety of programs including major gifts, planned giving, signature and third party events, direct mail and commemorative giving. For more information, visit: www.nhhfoundation.ca or like us on Facebook.