



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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New Digital Mammography Unit for the Clay & Elaine Elliott Women's Health Centre arrives at NHH

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY- The latest, most advanced technology for performing mammograms continues to be available at Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH), thanks to continued support from generous community donations.

The new GE Healthcare Senographe Pristina mammography unit was delivered to NHH's Clay & Elaine Elliott Women's Health Centre in late June and is already in use for patient exams.

The digital mammography unit was funded by the NHH Foundation through the ***Equipped to Care Program***. In 2015, the Foundation set a goal to raise a minimum of \$12 million by 2020 through the ***Equipped to Care Program*** to support the Hospital's high priority capital equipment purchases in the Diagnostic Imaging Department.

"To date, we have raised 85% of our goal - \$10,200,000 in leadership gifts and community support," says Tyler Hathway, Chair of the NHH Foundation's Board of Directors. "It's so rewarding to see donations immediately put into action and begin serving the patients who turn to our hospital for their care."

The NHH Foundation was able to support the purchase of this new unit with a capital equipment contribution of \$475,000. Funding came from many different donors and events such as Northumberland's Biggest Coffee Morning in 2017, which raised over \$50,000, and Betsy Miller's art exhibition and sale, which raised over \$3,000. It truly is a community effort that has come to fruition.

At the Clay & Elaine Elliott Women's Health Centre, the main concern is to understand the distinct issues related to women's health. Designed with privacy in mind, the centre provides access to state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment. Among the services offered in the Women's Health Centre are bone density testing, ultrasound, needle biopsy and mammography. From April 1, 2017- March 31, 2018 over 6,100 mammograms were performed. NHH's mammography program is accredited by the Canadian Association of Radiologists (CAR). The CAR Accreditation is the gold standard for mammography.

"We are so grateful to the community for funding this new mammography unit and technology," says Wendy Scott, Senior Mammography Technologist. "Early detection and diagnosis of breast

diseases in women is our top priority and this new unit will allow us to continue to provide diagnostic accuracy.”

“It is this commitment to women's imaging that has generated so much interest from accomplished sub-specialty radiologists in this area,” says Dr. Matthew Vaughan, Chief of Radiology.

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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 Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation is a dedicated team of enthusiastic volunteers and staff who are passionately committed to improving health care and the quality of life in our communities.

Our mission is to foster philanthropic support to benefit the patients of Northumberland Hills Hospital.

For more information, visit: www.nhhfoundation.ca