



NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL

inspiring strength, dignity and compassion

NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Call for directors of the Board, corporation members, Northumberland Hills Hospital

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Thursday, February 28, 2008 – At the February 28 meeting of the Board of Directors of the Northumberland Hills Hospital, Heather Sculthorpe, Chair of the Nominations Committee, invited nominations for the Northumberland Hills Hospital Board of Directors.

Opportunities exist in each of the hospital's three wards.

In ward 1, representing the Municipality of Port Hope, two of four seats are open. The two incumbents (Bob McInnes and Heather Sculthorpe) have confirmed that they will both stand for re-election, but this does not preclude other nominees from ward 1 from stepping forward.

In ward 2, representing the Town of Cobourg, one of the available four seats is open. Director Bill Smith has confirmed that he will not seek re-election following the conclusion of his term this year.

Finally, in ward 3, representing the townships of Hamilton, Cramahe and Alnwick/Haldimand, two of four seats are open for nominations. Director Nick Hathway will resign for personal reasons; Director Dean Pepper's term concludes this year; and Director David Cuthbertson will complete, in June, his third three-year term on the board—the maximum term permitted under the board bylaws. Dean Pepper has confirmed that he will stand for re-election in ward 3 but, again, this should not preclude other community members from this Ward from putting their names forward as well.

Board members are elected for a three-year term. The elections will take place at the hospital Annual General Meeting, scheduled for June 19, 2008, and they are effective from that date.

Directors of the Board are responsible for three major roles:

- development of hospital policy;
- decisions regarding the hospital's future (including its strategic plan); and
- monitoring operational and financial performance.

Many priorities will require the Board's involvement in the coming year. These include:

- compliance with accountability agreements with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care through the Central East LHIN;
- continuous improvement of operating and financial performance;
- anticipation of and response to the changing health needs of our community; and
- ongoing development of partnerships with other health service providers.

Candidates from all areas of west Northumberland are encouraged to apply. Interviews are conducted with all those who meet the identified skills requirements. Upon review of all nominees, the Nominations Committee will present a slate of candidates to the Board for consideration. The Board will make recommendations for each of the identified vacancies and the final decision is put to the members of the Corporation by vote.

The model of the NHH Board is to recruit directors who best fit the needs identified in the skill and experience matrix. Following its recent review, the Nominations Committee concluded that there will be a need for additional financial expertise on the NHH Board, following the departures this season.

Those with the necessary skills and experience and an interest in being an active participant in continuously improving hospital services for the community are asked to visit the hospital Web site at www.nhh.ca for more details. The deadline for applications is May 20th at 4:00 PM.

Memberships for the year ending June 2008 are now on sale at the hospital's Finance Office at 1000 DePalma Drive in Cobourg for a cost of \$10. Anyone over the age of 18 who has resided in the ward/community for more than three months is eligible to purchase a membership. A tax receipt will be issued at the time of purchase. **In order to have full voting privileges at the AGM on June 19, including the election of the hospital's Board of Directors, local residents must purchase their current hospital membership by 4:00 PM on Wednesday, March 19, 2008.**

For more information, please contact Jennifer Gillard at 905-377-7757 or jgillard@nhh.ca.

About Northumberland Hills Hospital – The Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) is located approximately 100 kilometres east of Toronto. The 137-bed acute care hospital delivers a broad range of core services, including medical/surgical care, complex/long-term care, rehabilitation, palliative care, obstetrical care and intensive care. NHH also sponsors a Community Mental Health Centre and an Assertive Community Treatment Team. The hospital serves the catchment area of west Northumberland County. A mixed urban and rural population of approximately 60,000 residents, west Northumberland is comprised of the Town of Cobourg, the Municipality of Port Hope and the townships of Hamilton, Cramahe and Alnwick/Haldimand. NHH employs over 500 people and is an active member of the Central East LHIN. For more information, please visit www.nhh.ca.

