



NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL

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NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Level of interest in health services building high - Deadline extended for completed expressions of interest at request of bidders

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Thursday, June 26, 2008 – The Board of Directors of the Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) held its first meeting today with prospective bidders on the health services building project. The meeting was set up following a high volume of inquiries from individuals and organizations interested in discussing the opportunity and obtaining further information.

Chaired by Bill Smith, a former member of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Board's Ad Hoc Building Committee, the early AM meeting attracted 19 individuals representing a range of potential bidders, including small organizations, individuals and larger operations based in Toronto.

"We're extremely pleased with the interest our press release and ads have generated," said Bill Smith. "There was a good exchange of ideas at this morning's meeting and I'm confident that we'll have a number of options from which to make our final decision."

In response to requests from a number of interested parties, the deadline for the completion of the formal submissions has been extended from Thursday, July 10 to Thursday, July 31.

In late May, NHH extended an invitation for written expressions of interest from qualified firms or individuals interested in developing a health services building. Advertisements ran in newspapers throughout Northumberland County and beyond in early June. The Board is inviting proposals from suitable partners to develop and/or manage the building on hospital land. Submissions expected include: ownership proposals where NHH provides required land only; development proposals for construction; and an operational model, where the hospital will commit to being a major tenant together with physician group practices.

The proposed location for the free-standing, 90,000 square-foot building is a two-acre parcel of land adjacent to the hospital.

“The building is intended to fill a growing need for medical professional offices as well as administration and outpatient program space. Retail space is also encouraged.”
said Joan Ross, NHH President and CEO.

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) approval is required for any building on hospital-owned lands. NHH will work with the developer, once secured, to obtain timely MOHLTC approval.

“There is an urgent need for NHH to address space pressures and to ensure the community remains competitive in physician recruitment efforts. We are projecting completion of the proposed building within 18 months of initial MOHLTC approval,” said Joan Ross.

For a copy of the Expression of Interest package, please contact the hospital at 905-372-6811, ext. 4004 or email klamont@nhh.ca

The revised deadline for the completed Expression of Interest package is now 4:00 PM on Thursday, July 31. The package must be returned to Northumberland Hills Hospital to the attention of Karen Lamont.

For further information, or to arrange an interview on the proposed health services building, 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 comprises 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.