



NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL

inspiring strength, dignity and compassion

NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NHH welcomes new President and CEO, Robert Biron and bids a fond farewell to Joan Ross

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Wednesday, November 12, 2008 – Northumberland Hills Hospital's new President and CEO received the key to his new office on Monday, November 10, but he's had little time to settle into the space. Meetings scheduled with staff, community physicians, hospital committees and others were—at his request—booked back to back for week one, as he worked to maximize the week of overlap with outgoing President and CEO, Joan Ross.

“I’m very grateful for the opportunity to spend this week with Joan,” said Robert. “We’ve been quite busy touring through the various units in the facility. She’s introduced me to as many people and processes as possible prior to her departure this Friday. Though I’ve only been here for three days, I can already see that NHH is as I had hoped: a great team with very talented and enthusiastic people.”

Formerly a Vice-President with a broad portfolio at Guelph General Hospital (GGH), Robert is well prepared to take on the leadership role of President and CEO at NHH.

“I am looking forward to the challenge,” says Robert. “There are many shared issues among hospitals today, however each is different in terms of culture and community support. What I’ve seen to date at NHH has really been inspiring.”

With only two weeks between his former role and his new one, Robert and his wife Doris have also been busy on the home front. They have already relocated to the Town of Cobourg.

“We like to be able to walk to local shops and stores, and along the lake, so this is a great fit for us,” says Robert. “We’re looking forward to getting to know the community over the months ahead, and settling in.”

While introducing Robert to representatives of the local media earlier today, Sid Trevail, Chair of the NHH Board of Directors, welcomed the new CEO and his wife to NHH and west Northumberland, and thanked Joan Ross for ensuring a smooth transition from her leadership to Robert's.

"Just down the hall, on the wall outside our Boardroom, a sign reading 'the Joan Ross Boardroom' is about to be installed. Our Board was unanimous in its agreement that this was a fitting tribute to the exceptional contribution Joan has made to this hospital and this community. I am confident that, in Robert, we have found an excellent match with NHH's values core values of teamwork, respect, integrity, compassion and excellence and we look forward to ongoing success under his leadership in the years ahead."

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 services, including emergency and intensive care, medical/surgical care, complex/long-term care, rehabilitation, palliative care and obstetrical care. A variety of ambulatory care clinics are also offered at NHH. In addition to these, 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 close to 600 people and relies on the additional support provided by physicians and volunteers. NHH is an active member of the Central East LHIN. For more information, please visit www.nhh.ca.