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*For Immediate Release*

## **NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION ESTABLISHES TWO NAMED ENDOWMENT FUNDS IN HONOUR OF TWO EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN**

**Northumberland County** – The Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation is thrilled to announce that it has received not one but two \$1,000,000 bequests. The bequests were received from the Estate of Marjory Harris and from the Estate of Rosamond Comrie.

Ms. Harris passed away at the Northumberland Hills Hospital on December 6, 2007 – one day shy of her 78<sup>th</sup> birthday. Ms. Comrie passed away November 8, 2007 at the Northumberland Hills Hospital in her 86<sup>th</sup> year.

Even though each were well-known to the Hospital Foundation, the gifts they left through their Wills came as a complete surprise to Rhonda Cunningham, Executive Director of the NHH Foundation. “Both Ms. Harris and Ms. Comrie had a long history of support to the Foundation. I had the opportunity to visit with each of them on several occasions and they never shared their plans to provide for such gifts to the hospital. We were completely surprised and honoured by their generosity”, said Mrs. Cunningham.

### **About Marjory Jean Harris**

Ms. Marjory Harris, although born in Calgary, lived most of her life in Toronto, and worked in the medical profession. Both her grandfather and uncle were prominent Toronto surgeons. She retired to the Port Hope area, where her family had settled in 1793 and had always maintained a close connection, and cared for many years for her aging parents. In 1997, she moved to Cobourg and immediately established support for the NHH Foundation through an annual gift to the ***Caring for Generations Society***.

### **About Rosamond Comrie**

Ms. Rosamond Comrie and her family were long-time residents of Cobourg. Her parents (Fred and Edna) and brothers were in the construction industry, while Ms. Comrie worked her entire career as an executive assistant in Oshawa.

She was often generous to the hospital and recently purchased three electric beds to honour the memory of her parents and brothers.

Lynn Hardy, Chair of the Foundation's Planned Giving Committee, noted that these bequests present wonderful opportunities to give to several of the Foundation's fundraising programs.

"Our Board thought it was very important to steward these legacy gifts to ensure that we honoured these two extraordinary women. To this end, we will establish the **Marjory Jean Harris Endowment Fund** and the **Rosamond Edna Comrie Endowment Fund**. By doing so, this provides a substantial annual gift in perpetuity, reflecting their interest in providing support to the hospital.

"In addition to this, we are also able to allocate a portion of their estate to the hospital's current medical equipment needs through gifts to both the annual core equipment program and the ***Care Close to Home... Diagnostic Imaging Equipment Campaign***" continued Hardy.

The Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation is extremely grateful and very fortunate to be the recipient of these gifts.

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**For more information, please contact:**

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**About the Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation** – The Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation is a dedicated team of enthusiastic staff and volunteers passionately committed to raising the funds necessary to support the Northumberland Hills Hospital's capital equipment needs. By growing and sustaining donor support, the NHH Foundation helps to improve health care and the quality of life in west Northumberland. For more information please visit the Foundation section of the Northumberland Hills Hospital Web site at: [www.nhh.ca](http://www.nhh.ca)