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NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Henry J. Pankratz appointed to the NHH Board of Directors

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Wednesday, March 4, 2009 – At their last monthly meeting, held Thursday, February 26, the Directors of the Northumberland Hills Hospital Board unanimously passed a motion to appoint a replacement for long-time Board member Nick Hathway. Hathway passed away late last year, while a member of the NHH Board. Now joining the NHH Board as a new representative of Ward 3* is Henry J. Pankratz of Hamilton Township.

Currently President of CavanCore Capital, a personal investment and corporate advisory company, Pankratz had a long and distinguished career with Ernst and Young prior to his retirement in 1999. He was a senior executive with the firm, with forty-two years of experience providing professional services to a wide spectrum of clients in various industries across Canada. In addition to terms as Managing Partner of Ernst and Young's offices in Ottawa and Vancouver, Pankratz also served as the firm's Director of Financial Planning and Control Consulting Services. His career at Ernst and Young culminated in national leadership roles as Chair of the firm's Management Consulting Services and, ultimately, Deputy Chair of Ernst and Young Canada.

In addition to his new role at NHH, Pankrantz holds a number of board and advisory positions in the financial services sector. While only a partial listing of his many community and professional leadership contributions, Pankratz has contributed his time as Chair of the Canadian Association of Management Consultants, Chair of the National Ballet of Canada and Chair of the Wilfred Laurier University National Campaign.

An FCA (Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario) and an FCMC (Fellow of the Certified Management Consultants of Ontario), Pankratz also holds an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from Wilfred Laurier University. He is married to Julia and together they have six children.

In welcoming Henry Pankratz to the Board, Vice Chair Robert McInnes congratulated the Nomination Committee on its research in securing such a distinguished individual. "As per Board bylaws, Mr. Pankratz's term will last until the next annual general meeting on

June 18, at which time it is my understanding that he intends to stand for election to serve as a Ward 3 Director. On behalf of Board Chair Sid Trevail, and the Directors of NHH Board, it is my pleasure to welcome Henry Pankratz to Northumberland Hills Hospital."

For more information please contact Jennifer Gillard at 905-377-7757 or igillard@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.

^{*} NHH Board members are currently drawn from a balance of three wards representing the catchment area of the hospital. These are: Ward 1 (Municipality of Port Hope); Ward 2 (Town of Cobourg) and Ward 3 (Townships of Hamilton, Cramahe and Alnwick/Haldimand).