



NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL

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NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2009-2010 Board of Directors welcomes new chair, members at first meeting following June 18 Annual General Meeting – Outgoing chair Sid Trevail recognized for three years of NHH Board leadership

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Friday, June 19, 2009 – Northumberland Hills Hospital held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Thursday, June 18. The financial results of the fiscal year ended March 31, 2009 were shared, together with published reports on the year's activities from Hospital leaders.

Standing for re-election were three individuals: Nick O'Nians, representing Ward 1 (the Municipality of Port Hope); John Farrell, representing Ward 2 (the Town of Cobourg); and Sid Trevail, representing Ward 3 (the townships of Hamilton, Cramahe and Alnwick/Haldimand). All three were acclaimed and return to serve their next three-year term on the Hospital Board.

Two Board openings were also filled at last night's AGM. The first opening, in Ward 3, required a nomination to replace Tom McLean, who completed his second term and did not stand for re-election. The second opening, also in Ward 3, related to the Board seat left vacant when Director Nick Hathway passed away in December.

Candidates presented for the two Ward 3 openings were Jack Russell and Henry Pankratz. As announced by the Hospital in a March news release, Henry Pankratz assumed Nick Hathway's role earlier this year, following a temporary nomination from the Board pending official election at the June AGM. Both Jack Russell and Henry Pankratz were acclaimed at the June 18 AGM.

Two new ex-officio members were also welcomed to the NHH Board of Directors on June 18. Dr. David Moorsom replaces Dr. Bill Cross as Vice President of the Medical Staff, and Jan Boycott replaces Julie Thompson as Chair of the NHH Foundation Board.

Dr. Roger Chafe, a scholar and researcher noted for his expertise in the areas of public engagement, health care decision-making and health policy, delivered the keynote address. Titled "Public Engagement: What, Why and How," the presentation defined public engagement as "the activities organizations take to involve the communities they serve in directing policies, priorities or corporate strategy."

Dr. Chafe outlined the potential uses for community engagement in the health-care setting, the argument for taking proactive steps to incorporate community perspectives into key decisions before they are made, and some preliminary advice on how a program might be designed.

Appreciation was expressed to the outgoing Board members for their dedication to the Hospital and the community served.

Sid Trevail, Board Chair from June 2003, received a standing ovation for his contribution to the Hospital. The work he achieved in three consecutive one-year terms as the volunteer leader of NHH's Board of Directors was summarized by incoming Chair John Hudson, who congratulated his predecessor on his tireless dedication to the Hospital, and active involvement in the negotiation of the Hospital's Accountability Agreements with the Central East Local Health Integration Network. Trevail will remain on the Board in 2009-2010 as a Director.

Tom McLean, an active Rotarian and financial planner for the local offices of TD Waterhouse, was thanked for six years of service to the Board. Tom served as the Chair of the Ad Hoc Professional Building Committee and the Quality Patient Safety Committee, as well as a member of the Audit Committee, the Operations Committee and the Executive Compensation Committee of the Board.

Julie Thompson, outgoing Chair of the NHH Foundation, formally completed her ex officio role on the NHH Board on June 18. Julie, who represented the Foundation on the Hospital Board since June 2006, served as a member of the Quality and Patient Safety Committee and the Planning, Governance and Communications Committee.

In recognizing Julie Thompson's contributions, Sid Trevail also paid tribute to the Foundation as a whole: "Julie, the NHH Foundation's exceptional contribution to this Hospital cannot be overstated. Not only do you sustain impressive annual contributions from year to year, you have responded to a particular need in the past year to meet the significant capital equipment requirements in our Diagnostic Imaging department.

Despite a very challenging economy, the Foundation has successfully achieved a \$6 million capital campaign. That is an amazing accomplishment and, on behalf of the Board, I want to thank you and all the Foundation volunteers and staff for all the hard work."

Thompson is succeeded as Chair of the NHH Foundation by Jan Boycott, who will also represent the Foundation on the Hospital Board.

Dr. Bill Cross, who also served on the Board in the past year in an ex officio capacity as Vice President, Medical Staff, was also recognized for his participation. Dr. Cross served as a member of the Planning, Governance and Communications Committee of the Board.

The contributions of the late Nick Hathway were also recognized at the AGM. “Nick’s service to this Hospital is well known by Board members, Hospital staff and volunteers,” noted Sid. “A thoughtful and dedicated contributor to both our Hospital and Foundation Boards, Nick passed away in December of last year, literally days away from the passing of another well-known NHH proponent, Bob MacCoubrey. Despite his illness, Nick remained actively engaged in Hospital business until the very end, contributing via email with suggestions and input. We are grateful for his service.”

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

About Northumberland Hills Hospital – 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.