

Northumberland Hills Hospital gets more beds and increased funding

On Friday, August 25, NHH was pleased to host Member of Provincial Parliament, David Piccini and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health, Dawn Gallagher Murphy for a provincial funding announcement.



On hand at the announcement were staff, physicians, members of NHH's Board of Directors and Community Members, government representatives from across Northumberland County, and local media.

"The government's ongoing commitment to NHH and the community we serve is greatly appreciated," said NHH President and CEO, Susan Walsh. "Maintaining

consistent revenue is critical to the smooth delivery of high-quality services today, and to future planning. This funding announcement builds further on previous good news from the government and will help to strengthen our ability to meet the needs of a growing and aging population here in west Northumberland. Of particular note...is the \$2,190,000 in net new base funding for the current 2023/24 fiscal year. This is indeed welcome news. Notwithstanding additional pressures related to inflationary and other costs, the government's commitment to this much needed funding will allow us to better match funded capacity to actual operations and be better prepared for growth."

For additional information, please see the full news release available on our website at nhh.ca.

New Hospitalist and Emergency Physician joins NHH medical team – Welcome to Dr. Bryce Chen

NHH is pleased to announce the recent recruitment of Dr. Bryce Chen who will be joining the Hospitalist team in addition to supporting the hospital's Emergency Department (ED) as an Emergency Physician.

"We are very happy to welcome Dr. Chen back to NHH as both a new member of our Hospitalist team and in the Emergency Department," said Susan Walsh, President and CEO. "Dr. Chen completed a portion of his medical training at NHH several years ago. We are thrilled that, after completing his residency, he chose to return to NHH and share his skillset with the community of west Northumberland County."



"Hospitalists were introduced to NHH's medical model of care in 2012 and have become a critical part of our care team. Today, they oversee care for more than 60 per cent of all admitted patients with the balance being cared for by a mix of General Practitioners from the community and Nurse Practitioners. Recruiting Dr. Chen to our growing Hospitalist team, which also includes Drs. Knackstedt, McGarry, Rys, and, most recently, Everdell, further expands this critical team and builds much needed capacity into a pivotal part of our medical team," said Dr. Mukesh Bhargava, Chief of Staff. "We are also grateful to add Dr. Chen to our Emergency Department physician roster to support the delivery of high-quality care for patients requiring emergency medical care."

For more information, please see the related news release at nhh.ca.

Every Child Matters flag to fly at NHH throughout the month of September

Ahead of the National Truth and Reconciliation Day on September 30th, NHH will recommence flying the Every Child Matters flag, beginning on September 1st for the entire month, to honour residential school survivors and remember the children who never returned home.

Throughout September, NHH staff, physicians, midwives, and volunteers will also be given opportunities to build knowledge and awareness of truth and reconciliation through an interactive lunch and learn session and educational messaging shared on behalf of the hospital's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee (EDIAC).

Members of the NHH team are also encouraged to purchase and wear orange t-shirts on September 30 through vendors who support Indigenous organizations and residential school survivors.

"While recognizing that there is still much work to be done as an organization, NHH remains committed to continuing our efforts towards increased awareness and education around truth and reconciliation," said Susan Walsh, President and CEO. "We're still in the early stages of this journey and are grateful to work in collaboration with Alderville First Nation to better our own understanding of what reconciliation truly means, not only at NHH, but across the broader healthcare system."

"Beyond the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, NHH will remain committed to learning from the stewards of the land on which NHH stands. September provides another opportunity for us all to reflect and renew efforts towards genuine truth and reconciliation" said Lola Obomighie, Chair of NHH's Equity Diversity Inclusion Advisory Committee (EDIAC). "As in years past and following the recommendation from our EDIAC, we will be flying the Every Child Matters flag throughout the month of September, in addition to several other internal and external initiatives geared towards increasing awareness of our shared obligations as visitors on the lands that we occupy."