



The Change Foundation awards Northumberland Community Partnership \$3-million project to improve seniors' healthcare transitions and use patient input to drive redesign

Message from Robert Biron, President and CEO

After an intensive, year-long competitive selection process, last Tuesday, June 5th The Change Foundation announced the Northumberland Community Partnership as the winner of its **\$3-million research grant** into a new and innovative project. The Northumberland proposal was selected from among 26 other communities, highlighting the collective strengths in our region.



Representatives of the Northumberland Community Partnership together with The Change Foundation leaders at last week's funding announcement in the NHH Bistro. From left to right: Don Ford, CEO, Central East Community Care Access Centre; Sheila Jarvis, Chair, The Change Foundation Board of Directors; Gayle Einarsson, caregiver; Cathy Fooks, President and CEO, The Change Foundation; Robert Biron, NHH President and CEO; and John Hudson, Chair, NHH Board of Directors.

Titled **PATH - Partners Advancing Transitions in Healthcare**, the project is the centerpiece of The Change Foundation's strategic plan, which seeks to improve people's health care experience as they move in, out of, and across Ontario's health care system. More specifically, it focuses on the transition problems experienced by seniors with chronic health conditions and their caregivers, because they frequently use a wide range of health services.

Led by Northumberland Hills Hospital, the Northumberland Community Partnership brings together 12 service providers and health agencies along with patients and caregivers who will identify health care transition problems. Together we will spend the next two years co-designing new approaches and processes with the ultimate goal of improving patient experiences. The knowledge gained and lessons learned from this pilot project will be shared with other communities in Ontario.

PATH is the first system-wide provider and patient co-design venture of its kind in Ontario. As my counterpart at the Central East Community Care Access Centre Don Ford said at the launch announcement here at NHH, PATH might just as easily have stood for "patients at the heart." PATH is perfectly aligned with NHH's strategic priority of "Patients First" and our goal to become a centre of excellence in seniors' care.

Given feedback received from our own patients, improving the transitions of care is one of our most pressing quality improvement goals. We know we can and must do better, and with The Change Foundation's support, Northumberland will once again lead by example.

Background on this exciting project, and further details regarding last week's announcement, are available on www.nhh.ca and www.changefoundation.ca

Who is the Northumberland Community Partnership?

Together with the individual participants representing the patient and caregiver perspective, the 12 following organizations formed the Northumberland Community Partnership to prepare and submit The Change Foundation's winning proposal for the \$3-million research grant.

- Central East Community Care Access Centre
- Central East Local Health Integration Network
- Community Care Northumberland
- Golden Plough Lodge
- Health System Performance Research Network
- Northumberland Family Health Team
- Northumberland Hills Hospital
- NHH Community Mental Health Services
- Palisade Gardens Retirement Residence
- Patients' Association of Canada
- QoC Health (mobile health solution provider)
- YMCA Northumberland

NHH shows its pedal power



NHH's 2012 Big Bike team, outside the Bike's Cobourg departure point at Victoria Hall. This year's effort brought the hospital's year-over year contribution to just under \$20,000.

Hospital staff celebrated Cobourg's Bike Week with two tests of their cycling fitness this June! The first was participation in the Heart and Stroke Foundation's annual Big Bike for Heart and Stroke on Wednesday, May 30th, followed one day later by NHH's second annual Ride Your Bike (or Walk) to Work Day.

This year's Big Bike effort brought NHH's year-over-year contribution to just under \$20,000. Riders from departments across the hospital sported green scrubs and climbed on the Big Bike alongside a team from Cameco for a loud tour around downtown Cobourg.

Congratulations to NHH's Infection Control Practitioner Denise Kearsey (back row, with hat), who was the hospital's top Heart and Stroke fundraiser in 2012. She was rewarded with a seat in the Big Bike's easy chair for her efforts.

The following day NHH staff pedaled once again. With participation in NHH's second annual Ride Your Bike (or Walk) to Work Day up over last year, the event diverted fossil fuel consumption from 206 KM --- slightly under last year's combined total of 250 KM. NHH looks forward to building further on Bike to Work Day in the years ahead as one of many programs under way to support a healthy hospital culture promoting physical fitness and environmentally responsible choices.

Upcoming Foundation Events

16th Annual Golf for Health Tournament, Wednesday, July 18th, at Dalewood Golf and Curling Club. Registration now open!

Bob Smoke Memorial Golf Tournament, Saturday, August 25th, 2012. All proceeds go towards the Speechley Palliative Care Unit at NHH. \$80/person.

5th Annual Chris Mansey Memorial Golf Tournament

Sunday, August 26th, 2012.

For more information please visit the Foundation section at nhh.ca or call Adrienne Barrie in the Foundation office at 905-372-6811, ext. 3068.



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