

Update - NHH Operational Review

Message from Linda Davis, NHH President and CEO

Work is progressing on NHH's Operational Review announced by the Central East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) at their February Board meeting. We anticipate more information will be made available at the next LHIN Board meeting this Wednesday, March 25th, when the LHIN senior management team is scheduled to provide an update. Terms of Reference are being developed by the LHIN to guide the process and we expect recruitment of the review team to commence shortly. We will share further updates as they become available.

NHH patient volumes on the rise as community need increases

To the casual observer, there is no question. NHH is a very busy hospital. One need only stand in the front atrium at 1000 DePalma Drive on any given morning to get a sense of the activity as people flow in and out; likewise, NHH's community mental health offices on Elgin Street are also very busy. Numbers related to patient volumes at NHH in the past year tell an even clearer story.

Tracked for a variety of purposes, NHH patient volumes point to a rising demand for hospital services in our community. While the fiscal year is not yet complete the increases are significant. Below is a snapshot. These figures reflect year-to-date activity for 11 months, from April 1, 2014 to February 28, 2015.

- **Increased inpatient activity (by cases):** 6.5% more cases (people) so far this year versus last.
- **Increased inpatient activity (by patient days):** 5.6% more patient days.
- **Emergency Department visits:** 5.6% more visits to the NHH Emergency Department.
- **Community mental health visits:** 19.8% more
- **Total hospital occupancy:** 102.13%—5.6% higher than this time last year, and considerably higher than budget.

Figures such as these support management and Board decision making and are essential to helping us demonstrate to our funders that we are providing good value for the dollars invested.

Further details from the full fiscal year will be published in our Annual Report this June.

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Grade 12 Biology students tour Diagnostic Imaging department

NHH welcomed 17 St. Mary's Secondary School Biology students on Friday, March 5th for a guided tour of the hospital's Diagnostic Imaging Department.



In their final year of high school, many of the students are interested in pursuing careers in a health care profession. As they toured the services provided at NHH—including nuclear medicine, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Computed Tomography (CT), mammography, ultrasound and x-ray—the students used the opportunity to learn more about the various modalities and speak directly with practitioners working in the Diagnostic Imaging field.

Thank you to Nuclear Medicine Charge Technologist Andrew Rennicks, Diagnostic Imaging Department Chief Dr. Matt Vaughan and all the members of NHH's Diagnostic Imaging team for sharing their experience and expertise with the St. Mary's students. Thanks to teacher Drew Quemby for initiating the visit!

Call for NHH Board Community Members

NHH's skills-based Board is currently recruiting volunteers to work with the Board as Community Members. Thank you to those who have responded to our recent campaign.

If you're interested in the opportunity, and you're over the age of 18, and a resident or employee in one of the municipalities served by NHH, please see the advertisement on the hospital's website, nhh.ca or call 905-372-6811, ext. 4005 for details. Please note: applications must be received by end-of-day, March 27th, 2015.