

Call for Interest – NHH Patient and Family Advisory Council Opportunities Currently Available for Advisors with Experience in Surgical Services and Maternal/Child Care

If you or your family member has been a patient at Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) in the past three years, and you're over the age of 18, the hospital would like you to consider joining its growing Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC).

Now in its third year, the 10-member Council is active in all core patient care areas, providing valued input to NHH staff, managers, physicians and the Board on a variety of hospital activities, projects and program-focused quality committees.

NHH PFAC volunteers currently serve for a minimum of one and maximum of three years. Specific opportunities exist for Patient and Family Advisors in two key areas:

- Surgical Services; and
- Maternal/Child Care (two opportunities, one focused on NHH's Maternal/Child service and one on a regional Baby Friendly Initiative involved in enhancing breast feeding supports across Ontario).

Candidates with direct experience either as a patient and/or the family member or caregiver to a patient who received care in these areas at NHH are invited to apply before **June 7th, 2019**. Applications from those with experience in other areas are welcome at any time, for consideration in future PFAC opportunities.

How to apply:

Interested in these unique volunteering roles? Please review the **Terms of Reference and Role Description** for the **NHH Patient and Family Advisory Council** and complete the **NHH Patient and Advisory Council - Expression of Interest Form** available on the Patient and Family Advisory Council Page under the Patients tab of the hospital website at nhh.ca/AboutNHH/Accountability/patient-and-family-advisory-council. The Expression of Interest form and background information is also available in print form on request.

Time commitment:

The Council meets as a group for quarterly meetings lasting two hours each for a minimum of four times per year. In addition to attending these quarterly Advisory Council meetings, Patient/Family Advisors are also expected to participate—as experience/interest directs—on the specific committee and/or project to which they are assigned, requiring additional background reading and meetings ranging between 6-10 times a year.



Please see the related news release at nhh.ca for further information. Questions? Contact Jennifer Gillard, Senior Director, Public Affairs and Strategic Partnerships (905-377-7757 or jgillard@nhh.ca).

“The PFAC is one way we are working together with patients and caregivers to continuously enhance the quality of care we can provide. We're grateful to the generous volunteers who have stepped forward to share their experience and their wisdom in this capacity. The PFAC's impact in less than three years has been significant and continues to expand.”

- Linda Davis, President and CEO

Health system stakeholders partner on a readiness assessment to form an Ontario Health Team for Northumberland

Building on a strong history of collaboration to deliver coordinated care for the community, health system stakeholders in Northumberland have partnered on an application to form an Ontario Health Team (OHT).

The provincial government recently introduced OHTs as a new model of health care delivery, intended to improve the coordination of care and services. The government's vision is to better connect the health system by bringing together patients/residents, families, communities, providers and system leaders as one team, to deliver a coordinated continuum of care to people in a defined geographic area. The members of this team, even if in different organizations or physical locations, will work together toward common goals for strengthening local services.

In response to the government's April 2019 call for applications, local health system stakeholders established an Ontario Health Team of Northumberland Collaborative Planning Committee to submit the required self-assessment by May 15th. The local Planning Committee currently includes:

- Local patients/caregivers
- Local primary care physicians
- Alderville First Nation
- Campbellford Memorial Hospital
- Community Care Northumberland
- Community Health Centres of Northumberland
- Northumberland County
- Northumberland Family Health Team
- Northumberland Hills Hospital
- The Bridge Hospice
- Trent Hills Family Health Team

Based on a review of all submissions, the Ministry of Health will be inviting teams that demonstrate a high level of readiness to move forward with a more detailed application, due by mid-July. Should the initial application to form an OHT for Northumberland be successful, the Planning Committee will engage the broader local health and social care community, and the people served, to carry the process forward together.

The first OHTs are expected to be announced in the fall of 2019, with the province continuing to accept applications and evaluate interested groups over time. It is expected that all communities will ultimately adopt the Ontario Health Team model.

Background information about OHTs is available from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care at health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/connectedcare/oht/default.aspx. For more on the local submission of interest, including comments from individuals and groups currently involved, please see the related news release posted at the participating organization's websites. The release will be found on the NHH website here: nhh.ca/nhh-main-news/health-system-stakeholders-partner-on-a-readiness-assessment-to-form-an-ontario-health-team-for-northumberland