

Health Care Career Symposium attracts eighty-five local high school students for a day at NHH



Opportunity, opportunity, opportunity. That was the message students from nine area high schools took away from a day-long career symposium at the hospital earlier this month.

A partnership between Northumberland Hills Hospital and the Workforce Development Board's Passport to Prosperity Program, the fifth annual event attracted another full house in 2008. Combining presentations, question and answer sessions and tours, the November 25 symposium permitted the students to hear first-hand from professionals representing a range of disciplines. Speakers included registered nurses, an occupational therapist, a respiratory therapist, a physiotherapist, a dietitian, a registered laboratory technologist, medical radiation technologists, a speech language pathologist, a pharmacist and a family physician.

Asked why he finds the nursing profession so rewarding, registered nurse John Hobart replied: "I love it! I get

everything. I use my head, I use my heart and I use my hands. Every day."

Born and raised in the community, Hobart—a critical care nurse at NHH who shared the podium with fellow RN Karen Bruton, a clinical resource nurse—didn't miss the opportunity to pitch the benefits of working close to home. "There is a phenomenal comfort value to working where you've lived," said Hobart. "You're born here, you're raised here: what a great opportunity to make your community a better place by providing care to those when they need it most."

"NHH believes very strongly in the benefit of introducing career options to students in our immediate community. The attendance at our Career Symposium again this year tells us there's a great appetite for these sorts of information sessions," said Elizabeth Vosburgh, NHH Director of Human Resources. "Students and teachers from across Northumberland were very quick to register. The goal is to offer an overview of a range of options, and an opportunity to ask questions. Thanks to the many professionals who donated their time, we were able to introduce these students to almost all of the professions represented here at NHH: whether they are interested in becoming an RN, a pharmacist or a physician, there was something for every student to take away."

"We're very pleased," added Anne Castle, Passport to Prosperity Program Coordinator. "The room was full, the presenters were inspiring and we had a lot of questions. This session clearly got a lot of local students thinking about their options in the years ahead, and that's what it's all about."

For information on how to register for next year's event, please contact Elizabeth Vosburgh at evosburgh@nhh.ca.

A message from

Sid Trevail, Board Chair

Earlier this week, I had the opportunity to attend an information session organized by the Central East Local Health Integration Network (CE LHIN) on the Clinical Services Planning Project (CSP).

Currently focused on five clinical specialties (cardiac, maternal child youth, mental health and addiction, thoracic and vascular), the high-level objective of the CSP is to develop "one acute care network" within our LHIN. It is the LHIN's intention that the CSP will lead to an integrated hospital system for all nine hospitals within its jurisdiction and—most important—that patients will receive improved, equitable access and a higher level of care. The CE LHIN stretches from Scarborough in the west, north to Haliburton and east beyond Cobourg into Cramahe Township.

In keeping with the LHIN's mandate to improve the integration of health-care services among all health service providers, representatives from all nine community hospitals in our LHIN are participating in the CSP project, together with the Central East Community Care Access Centre.

The CSP report is scheduled to be presented to the CE LHIN Board of Directors in February 2009. Defined by the LHIN as "the beginning of a journey," the report is expected to outline how the CE LHIN will plan for and fund services in the five clinical specialties noted above based on the location of the patients and their need for access to the best medical care, equipment and providers. The exact impact of the CSP on patients of Northumberland Hills Hospital will not be known until this report is released.

While still early in the process, NHH and west Northumberland are well represented in the advisory group discussions. Further updates will follow as the CSP project progresses.

In the meantime, should you wish to read more about the project, the Clinical Services Plan page on the Central East LHIN website www.centreastlhin.on.ca is the best source for the latest information. If you wish to contact the LHIN's CSP leaders directly, please contact:

Susan Plewes, CSP Project Manager Central East LHIN
Susan.plewes@lhins.on.ca 905-427-5497 ext. 215
OR

James Meloche, CSP Project Lead Senior Director, Planning, Integration and Community Engagement Central East LHIN
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Career opportunities at your hospital

Medical Radiation Technologist, Mammography
– part-time

Registered Nurses
– various, full- and part-time, including: shift team leaders, ICU nurses, Emergency nurses and RNs for Complex Continuing Care

Pharmacists
– full- and part-time

Many more opportunities available. For more information and a full listing, go to the Careers section of the hospital website, www.nhh.ca

Feedback on our hospital communications?

Please email or call
Jennifer Gillard,
Director of
Communications,
at: jgillard@nhh.ca
or 905-377-7757

Upcoming NHH Foundation events

December 10 - Light Up a Life Ceremony

Please join campaign chair Dr. Kathy Barnard-Thompson on Wednesday, December 10, at 7:00 PM to celebrate the annual lighting of NHH's Rotary Club of Cobourg Courtyard. Community members will have the opportunity to meet the hospital's new President and CEO, Robert Biron. Everyone is welcome. Refreshments and live entertainment will be provided.

For more information call 905-377-7767.

Upcoming NHH Auxiliary events

February 22 – Annual Polar Bear Dip, Heritage Harbour, Cobourg

For information please contact the Auxiliary office at 905-372-6811, ext. 4630.