

Northumberland Hills Hospital to receive \$3.79 million in additional funding

Northumberland-Peterborough South MPP David Piccini has announced a close to \$4 million investment in NHH to support the province's continued effort to tackle hallway healthcare. This announcement, made November 1st in the Hospital Bistro, received a standing ovation from the many staff, volunteers and community members present.

"This announcement is a turning point in the evolution of Northumberland Hills Hospital," said Hospital President and CEO Linda Davis. "We know all too well what our priority needs are. We have—until now— been unable to fully invest in them. At the top of our to-do list is the redistribution of medical-surgical inpatient beds across both 2B and 2A units. In 2016 NHH made the difficult decision to consolidate medical/surgical inpatient care onto the 2B side in order to gain needed efficiencies. Shortly thereafter patient volumes surged and what was envisioned as a manageable 36-bed 2B unit swelled dramatically to a 52-bed unit. This has not been ideal for patients, their families or NHH staff, but with our previous funding, we were unable to re-open 2A. Today's announcement will allow us to do this, and return our 2B and 2A medical/surgical units to appropriate sizes better able to care for the high volumes of patients that we are now seeing while still—and this is key—maintaining a balanced budget. It will also permit us to plan for much needed improvements in our ED, mental health and ambulatory care programs, all of which will contribute to easing hallway healthcare for our community."

For full details, please see the related news release at nhh.ca.



2B Charge Nurse Penny Baird (left) with MPP David Piccini, NHH Chief of Staff Dr. Mukesh Bhargava and President and CEO Linda Davis following the November 1st funding announcement.

Explore the benefits of farm-to-table eating at the November PACE talk with Paul Burnham

The next Northumberland PACE conversation will take place at the Community Health Centres of Northumberland (99 Toronto Road, in Port Hope) on **Wednesday, November 20th at 5:30 PM** with guest speaker Paul Burnham exploring the topic of *Farm-to-Table Eating*.

Lasting an hour in length, each PACE event consists of a talk, a question-and-answer period with the guest speaker and a moderator summary. Held monthly on the third Wednesday of each month, the PACE series rotate between Cobourg (at NHH, 1000 DePalma Drive) and Port Hope (at the Community Health Centre of Northumberland, 99 Toronto Road).

PACE talks are FREE, but pre-registration is required to manage room capacity. Register at pacetalks.com, where you'll also find a listing of the 2019/20 line-up along with downloadable video and audio recordings from recent talks!



NHH celebrating the growing role of Nurse Practitioners



(L-R) Beverly Ryan-James, Karen Truter and Sheena Nelson are Nurse Practitioners supporting inpatient care at NHH

The growing role of Nurse Practitioners (NPs) in the health care system in Ontario is being celebrated during NP Week from November 10-16, 2019. There are over 3,700 NPs licensed to practice in Ontario today, and eight of them are currently providing patient care here at NHH.

"For the general public, the full scope of the NP role might not be known before becoming a patient, but this profession is instrumental to the health care sector as a whole and, increasingly, to the delivery of care at NHH," explains Susan Walsh, NHH's Vice President of Patient Services and Chief Nurse Executive. "NPs play a key role improving access to primary care, decreasing appointment wait-times, providing patient-centered care, and more," she adds.

NPs are registered nurses with advanced education and training that allows them to provide primary, acute, and specialty health care in a variety of settings.

The NP role is expanding not only across the province, but at NHH, where NPs now work in both outpatient care in the Emergency Department (ED), and inpatient care in the Medical/Surgical Unit, Inpatient Rehabilitation and Restorative Care. Having NPs working in these departments fills a need for both patients and staff.

For more on the role of NPs at NHH today, please see the related news release at nhh.ca.