

## Ontario Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund supporting roof repair and replacement underway at Northumberland Hills Hospital



At a press conference held outside the main front entrance of Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) on Monday, October 12, the Ontario government confirmed it is investing \$1,005,000 this year to support critical health care infrastructure upgrades, repairs and maintenance at NHH. This funding is part of the government's \$182.6 million investment provided through the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund (HIRF).

"Creating a better physical environment for patients is critical to their recovery and care experience," said MPP David Piccini. "This funding will ensure that patients can continue to access the care they need in safe, comfortable environments."

"Maintaining a hospital's infrastructure is critical to its ability to sustain and grow high-quality patient care," said Susan Walsh, NHH President and CEO. "As an 18-year-old structure, it is not surprising that our infrastructure needs are increasing each year. As such, our team relies on the annual Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund (HIRF) to support critical improvements. We prioritize these carefully and this year we

prioritized a much-needed repair of our roof, which is now under way. On behalf of our team and our Board of Directors, and all those who rely on NHH for care, thank you for the continued investment made in NHH through the HIRF and a particular thanks for the investment announced today for 2021/22. We will be applying these dollars to the \$2.5-million dollar repair and replacement now under way. These dollars will directly help to sustain a safe and dry hospital for this community for years to come."

More details on the announcement and the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund are available in the related media release at [nhh.ca](http://nhh.ca). Weather and supplies permitting, the roof project is expected to be completed by late fall.

### Virtual PACE speakers' series is back!

The popular Northumberland PACE speakers' series resumed earlier this month for the 2021-22 season with a panel discussion exploring the *Physician-Patient Interaction, the changing landscape for better care!*

Panelists Dr. Jackie Gardner-Nix and Dr. Kaes Al-Ali led the October 20 discussion which was facilitated by NHH Patient and Family Advisory Council volunteer William (Bill) Prawecki.

A team of students from Loyalist College are preparing a recording of the virtual conversation for those unable to attend in person. The PACE partners, including NHH, the NHH Foundation, the Northumberland Family Health Team, the Community Health Centres of Northumberland and IM Care, are grateful for the students' involvement. Watch for it to be posted in the coming days, together with a link to the pre-registration link for the November 17 conversation, at [www.pacetalks.com](http://www.pacetalks.com). Conversation topics are selected with input from past attendees. Join the PACE partners this season on the third Wednesday of each month for thought-provoking discussions about sleep, getting back to wellness and prevention, dieting and more.

## NHH Auxiliary volunteer Vera Wellman recognized for 50 years of service!

An outstanding personal achievement was recognized at a small ceremony earlier this month following the recent Annual General Meeting of the NHH Auxiliary. Long-standing hospital volunteer Vera Wellman was presented with her 50-year pin, celebrating a remarkable five decades of community service that is still going strong! Shown, centre, with NHH Volunteer Manager Brooke Galonski (left) and Brenda Worsnop (NHH Auxiliary Director of Volunteers) Vera has volunteered in over 20 unique roles within the Auxiliary, including the leadership of the organization itself as a past President.



"Volunteering has always been [a part] of my life. It's a great way to give back to your hospital and community," said Vera. "It's been a marvelous experience and more people should give it a try."

From all of us at NHH, congratulations on this achievement. THANK YOU to Vera and all the Auxiliary volunteers recognized with service pins this year. It has been said many times and bears repeating: NHH simply would not be the hospital it is today without the exceptional volunteers who support it every single day. For more on the NHH Auxiliary, please visit: [www.nhh.ca/Volunteers/NHHAuxiliary](http://www.nhh.ca/Volunteers/NHHAuxiliary).

## NHHF to host annual fundraising Gala

NHH Foundation is partnering with 11 restaurants across west Northumberland to present **Galalicious on November 6, 2021!** This is a chance to come together to both support priority medical equipment and technology at NHH, and also to celebrate some of the fabulous local businesses that help make our community the wonderful place it is. View participating restaurants as well as the special menus they've created for the evening and RSVP to participate at [www.Galalicious.ca](http://www.Galalicious.ca).

