

INFORMATION CAN BE THE BEST MEDICINE

## Beyond Breast Cancer

### FREE Community Information Event

**Prevention, screening, treatment and recovery!**

Join local and provincial health and social care experts for an evening of informative presentations, interactive discussion and information displays.

Hear from a local breast cancer survivor on her journey beyond breast cancer.

Learn about local supports. All welcome!

**WHEN:** Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
6:30 – 8:30 PM - Presentation at 7:00 PM

**WHERE:** Northumberland Hills Hospital  
Education Centre, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor,  
1000 DePalma Drive, Cobourg

**Free parking & door prizes!!**



INFO: email [jgillard@nhh.ca](mailto:jgillard@nhh.ca) or phone 905-377-7757

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and NHH is very pleased to be hosting a FREE community information event on Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. Join members of the hospital team as we come together with local and provincial health and social care experts for an evening of informative presentations, interactive discussion and information displays. Watch [nhh.ca](http://nhh.ca) and next month's In Touch for details.

#### Call for Interest - NHH Board Community Members

The Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) Board of Directors is currently recruiting individuals interested in working with the skills-based, volunteer Board as Community Members. **The deadline for applications is Tuesday, October 10, 2017.** For full details please see the related news release at [www.nhh.ca](http://www.nhh.ca).

#### Medical Assistance in Dying support expanded locally through new hospital team

The Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) Board of Directors has accepted the Medical Advisory Committee's process for the provision of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) at Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH).

MAiD describes a situation where a clinician provides or administers medication that intentionally brings about a patient's death, at the request of that patient. In order to be eligible, the patient must be a competent adult suffering from a "grievous and irremediable medical condition" that causes the person to endure intolerable suffering.

Following the Supreme Court of Canada's recognition of MAiD as a constitutional right, the Canadian Criminal Code was amended in June 2016 to exempt specific health care practitioners and others who help provide medical assistance in dying. There is now an obligation on the part of Canadian health service providers, including hospitals, to facilitate patient rights in this area.

To this point, NHH has been meeting its legal obligation to provide MAiD to eligible patients through partnership with our regional partner, the Peterborough Regional Health Centre. Patients may also access MAiD outside of the hospital setting in the local community through selected family physicians and nurse practitioners.

"Following demonstration of local and regional patient need, and confirmation of a core group of health care professionals trained and willing to provide the service, hospital-based MAiD will also be available at NHH," said Dr. Mukesh Bhargava, NHH Chief of Staff in a recent memo to staff.

"I'm pleased we'll now be able to offer this service in our local hospital, as well as in the community, to better meet the needs of our patients," said Dr. Kate Everdell, local family physician and a member of the MAiD Support Team at NHH. Dr. Everdell and Dr. Mark Essak, also a local family physician, were part of an interdisciplinary working group at NHH that developed the policies and processes for MAiD at NHH.

For background information on MAiD in Ontario please see the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care website at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/medical-assistance-dying-and-end-life-decisions>.

Patients at NHH who have questions about MAiD are encouraged to speak with their care team.