Northumberland Hills Hospital unveils orange crosswalk installation in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

On September 1, Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) introduced a new orange crosswalk installation at its main entrance in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30. This permanent installation aims to honour residential school survivors and remember the children who never returned home.

In years past, NHH has flown an Every Child Matters flag, which recommenced at the beginning of the month.

Throughout September, NHH staff, physicians, midwives, and volunteers have been given opportunities to expand their knowledge and awareness of truth and reconciliation through interactive webinars and educational messaging shared on behalf of the hospital’s Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee (EDIAC). Members of the NHH team were also encouraged to purchase and wear orange t-shirts on September 30 through vendors who support Indigenous organizations and residential school survivors.

Beyond the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, NHH will remain committed to learning from the stewards of the land on which NHH stands.

NHH would like to extend thanks and gratitude to Alderville First Nation Chief Dave Mowat for sharing his approval and support of the orange crosswalk and through conversations with NHH President and CEO, Susan Walsh, recommendations for future opportunities to listen, learn, and grow as an organization.

NHH reminds visitors of universal masking policy as COVID-19 outbreak continues

NHH is continuing to require masking amongst visitors after another COVID-19 outbreak was declared on its Restorative Care Unit on Tuesday, September 20.

“Despite NHH’s universal masking policy, we continue to see some visitors taking a relaxed approach to masking while inside the hospital, either removing the mask after entry, letting it drop down around their chin, or removing it once in a patient room. Unfortunately, we believe that this has contributed to some patients contracting COVID-19,” said Ellen Douglas, Manager of Infection Prevention and Control at NHH.

“For our care teams, it is extremely hard to enforce masking when some visitors simply do not acknowledge the risk for themselves, the loved ones they are visiting, and other vulnerable patients around them when masks are not worn in high-risk settings like hospitals. Masks work. If you are visiting a loved one at NHH, please wear a mask, and please wear it properly and consistently throughout your stay to help us minimize the risk of further outbreaks in the future.”

NHH’s universal masking policy continues to remain in place throughout the hospital and Community Mental Health offices. No eating or drinking is permitted by visitors in patient rooms, due to the fact that masks would need to be removed. Mask dispensers are available at public entrances to the hospital and Community Mental Health.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month!

As Breast Cancer Awareness Month approaches, NHH is proud to support the Ontario Health Team of Northumberland (OHT-N)’s Breast Cancer Screening Campaign!

Throughout the month of October, NHH and partners across the OHT-N will be sharing helpful tips on breast cancer screening, including how to schedule a mammogram and tips for early detection and prevention.

For more information, please see the OHT-N website, www.ohtnorthumberland.ca or follow NHH and the OHT-N on social media.

The NHH Foundation’s Gala returns!

The NHH Foundation’s annual fundraising Gala is returning in person on Saturday, November 5 with a theme of, ‘A Black Tie Evening.’

Featured as part of the event is the ‘Should I Stay or Should I Go’ Raffle, which offers prizes of a unique trip for two to New Milton, England or a $5,000 gift card to Home Hardware.

Visit www.NHHFoundation.ca/Events for more information on this year’s Gala and Raffle, and to purchase tickets while supplies last!

You do not have to attend the Gala to purchase raffle tickets.