



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NHH welcomes addition of new SPECT-CT, newest diagnostic imaging equipment enabled by local donor support

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Thursday, March 5, 2026—Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH), together with our partners in the NHH Foundation, are pleased to announce the completion of renovations to the Nuclear Imaging area of the Diagnostic Imaging (DI) department and the successful introduction of new SPECT-CT (Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography) equipment.

SPECT-CT is a non-invasive hybrid technology which combines the anatomical information of Computed Tomography (CT) with the functional information of Nuclear Medicine. By injecting a tracer, it maps 3D metabolic activity (such as blood flow) while the CT provides detailed anatomical images to pinpoint exact locations of disease. The result is a more comprehensive image, improving diagnostic accuracy and localization of abnormalities and enhancing the quality of clinical reporting to support patient care.

The introduction of the SPECT-CT to NHH's Diagnostic Imaging department will complement the existing services already provided at NHH and enhance access to advanced diagnostic procedures for local providers and patients close to home. A key component of the hospital's long-term capital equipment strategy, and the NHH Foundation's *Exceptional Community, Exceptional Care* campaign, the new SPECT-CT replaces original Nuclear Medicine equipment installed when the hospital opened at 1000 DePalma Drive in 2003 while, at the same time, offering alternate options to the hospital's Computed Tomography equipment.

"I am excited about the improvements ahead and the positive impact this renovation and expanded testing capacity will have in supporting the continued growth of Diagnostic Imaging at NHH. Together these efforts will ensure that NHH remains well-positioned to continue to deliver high-quality care to our patients well into the future," says Dr. Ketov, NHH Chief of Staff.

"I sincerely thank our referring providers and NHH's Diagnostic Imaging team for their patience while we completed the necessary renovations and installation of our new equipment. We worked hard to minimize the disruption to patients, with support from area partners. Thank you also to our Project Management Office, Facilities team and Environmental Services, whose coordination, expertise and

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support have been instrumental in advancing this work,” says Dr. Karkhanechi, NHH’s Chief of Radiology.

“We are so grateful to all those who came together to make this 100% donor-funded project possible,” says Rhonda Cunningham, CEO, NHH Foundation. “Thank you to everyone who supported the campaign and helped us strengthen healthcare close to home.”

“This is what teamwork looks like,” says Susan Walsh, NHH President and CEO. “Growth and continuous enhancement of NHH services would not be possible without it. The SPECT-CT is one of many growth projects undertaken at NHH in the past year, and I congratulate the team on completing this project on time and on budget while also juggling many other competing priorities. A very special thank you to the many donors who answered the call for support. Many members of this community will benefit from their generosity.”

Training on the new equipment is complete, and the team is now accepting patients. Referring providers are encouraged to use the direct e-referral process for nuclear imaging services to submit their referrals. Referral forms will also be found on the NHH website at nhh.ca in the Patient Services tab under Diagnostic Imaging.

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About Northumberland Hills Hospital – Located approximately 100 kilometres east of Toronto, NHH delivers a broad range of acute, post-acute, outpatient and diagnostic services. Acute services include emergency and intensive care, medical/surgical care, obstetrical care and palliative care. Post-acute specialty services (PASS) include restorative care and rehabilitation. Mental health care, cancer and supportive care, dialysis and other ambulatory care clinics are offered on an outpatient basis through partnerships with regional centres and nearby specialists. NHH offers a full range of diagnostic services, including magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computed tomography (CT) and mammography. The hospital serves the catchment area of west Northumberland County. A mixed urban and rural population of approximately 67,000 residents, west Northumberland comprises the Town of Cobourg, the Municipality of Port Hope, Alderville First Nation and the townships of Hamilton, Cramahe and Alnwick/Haldimand. NHH employs more than 850 people and relies on the additional support provided by physicians, midwives and volunteers.

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NHH is an active member of Ontario Health (East)—formerly the Central East Local Health Integration Network—and the Ontario Health Team of Northumberland. For more information, please visit nhh.ca or follow us on Facebook [@northumberlandhillshosp](https://www.facebook.com/northumberlandhillshosp) and LinkedIn [Northumberland Hills Hospital](https://www.linkedin.com/company/northumberland-hills-hospital).

About the Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation – The mission of the Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) Foundation is to inspire generous giving to support exceptional patient care at NHH. With a dedicated team of enthusiastic volunteers and staff, the NHH Foundation is passionately committed to improving health care and the quality of life for people living in west Northumberland. Since 2002, the NHH Foundation has raised over \$88.5 million to build and equip NHH. This support comes from generous community support through a variety of programs including major gifts, planned giving, signature and third-party events, direct mail and commemorative giving. For more information, visit: www.nhhfoundation.ca or follow us on Facebook [@NHHFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/NHHFoundation) or Instagram [@NHHFoundation](https://www.instagram.com/NHHFoundation)