



Celebrate Doctor Appreciation Week in Northumberland – April 30th to May 4th

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Monday, April 30th, 2018 – Every day, more than 335,000 patients across Ontario are treated and cared for by a doctor. Whether it's in a hospital, a family practice clinic, a long-term care home, or in a patient's home, Ontario's doctors are making a positive difference in the lives of patients by providing high-quality care when it's needed most.

Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) is pleased to join west Northumberland's Community Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee (CPRRC) and the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) to recognize the fantastic work of local physicians on **Doctors' Day, May 1st, 2018, and through the first week of May.**

Doctors' Day was officially proclaimed by the provincial government in 2011 to celebrate the province's 26,000+ physicians and to mark the birthday of Canada's first female physician, Dr. Emily Stowe.

From April 30th until May 4th, local patients and their families are encouraged to sign one of the thank you cards provided in their doctor's office and in the hospital by the CPRRC or simply say THANK YOU to their doctor directly to let them know how much their efforts are appreciated.

The OMA will also be sharing physician stories throughout the month of May through a special series called Defining Moments at www.OntariosDoctors.com and across their social channels. Northumberland residents are encouraged to participate by recognizing their own 'defining moments' with their doctors via social media by tweeting their own personal stories using the hashtags #LoveMyMD and #DefiningMoment or sharing a story on the OMA's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ontariodoctors

"Thank you for all you do, here at the hospital and in the broader community, to put patients first," said Linda Davis, NHH President and CEO. "We are extremely fortunate to have such a strong and active community of physicians in west Northumberland."

"On behalf of the physician recruitment committee and the residents of west Northumberland we would like to thank you for all your hard work and dedication," said Gerald Blackstock, CPRRC Chair. "We know that all of you go above and beyond on a daily basis and we appreciate your commitment to health care in our community."

Fast Facts about Ontario's Doctors (from the Ontario Medical Association)

- Number of practicing physicians in Ontario: approximately 30,600

- Number of specialists: 15,000
- Number of General and Family practitioners: 12,000
- Number of specialty areas of medicine: 47 ranging from medical oncology to public health
- Average number of years to complete medical education: 8-12 years, plus ongoing, mandatory continuing professional development courses
- Ontario's doctors treat approximately 335,000 patients each day and approximately 6.3+ million in emergency departments each year
- Average hours of work (excluding on call): 50 hours/week + 22 hours/week on call

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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, chemotherapy, dialysis and 16 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 60,000 residents, west Northumberland comprises the Town of Cobourg, the Municipality of Port Hope and the townships of Hamilton, Cramahe and Alnwick/Haldimand. NHH employs approximately 600 people and relies on the additional support provided by physicians and volunteers. NHH is an active member of the Central East Local Health Integration Network. For more information, please visit www.nhh.ca or follow us on Twitter [@NorHillsHosp](https://twitter.com/NorHillsHosp).

About the Community Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee – Formed in 2001, the Community Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee (CPRRC) is a volunteer group of citizens representing community agencies and businesses, municipalities, physicians and the Northumberland Hills Hospital. Chaired by local resident Gerald Blackstock, the Committee's mandate is to attract new family physicians to the area and to lead efforts helpful in retaining the excellent family physicians working in our communities today. For more information about the West Northumberland Community Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee please visit www.northumberlanddocs.com

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