



NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local students' achievements recognized with Health Professions Scholarships

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Thursday, May 7th, 2015 — The recipients of Northumberland Hills Hospital's annual Health Professions Scholarships were announced at the Board's May meeting earlier this evening. **Charlotte Ley**, of Cobourg, and **Kelsey Elchuk**, of Campbellcroft, were both recognized with awards for \$1,000.

The scholarship program was introduced by Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) in 2003.

"By helping local students achieve their academic goals, we hope to encourage them to consider opportunities at NHH when the time comes to select an employer," said Board Chair Jack Russell, who presented the awards.

"Charlotte and Kelsey have demonstrated a very inspiring combination of commitment to their community and their studies," said Russell. "On behalf of the Board and the entire hospital team, I congratulate them on their achievements thus far. We wish them all the best as they continue their studies and we sincerely hope they will both consider this community and this hospital when they graduate from their chosen professions."

Below are excerpts from the information shared about each recipient's achievements. Full details on the scholarship program, including the application form, are available on the NHH website at nhh.ca. The deadline for applications for 2016 scholarships is February 15, 2016. For more information please contact Jennifer Gillard at 905-377-7757 or jgillard@nhh.ca.

Charlotte Ley

Charlotte, who is currently in her third year of university, is pursuing an undergraduate degree in Health Studies at Queen's University in Kingston.

A graduate of Cobourg District Collegiate Institute West, Charlotte finished her high school studies with a strong 83 per cent average. In their letter of endorsement, one of her former teachers described Charlotte as "an exemplary student, person and role model."

In addition to her commitment to her studies, Charlotte is very committed to her community.

While in high school, she volunteered her time in support of many school events and local fundraisers, including the Rotary Club of Cobourg Sportsman's Night Dinner and the NHH Foundation Gala.

As a summer intern with the Northumberland Family Health Team, and a member of the hospital's VIP program for students, Charlotte had the opportunity to shadow a variety of health professionals.

Charlotte credits her experience observing an NHH respiratory therapist for cementing her decision to pursue a career in the same field.

Very enthusiastic about her current studies at Queen's, Charlotte is looking forward to completing her undergraduate degree next summer and pursuing the additional studies necessary to achieve her goal of respiratory therapy.

Charlotte's written references spoke very highly of her work ethic, her commitment to her community, her strength and her integrity... they agree with NHH's conclusion, Charlotte is very deserving of this award.

Kelsey Elchuk

Kelsey also credits NHH with "being a large part of what influenced [her] desire to pursue a career in the health care field."

Also at Queen's, Kelsey is currently enrolled in her second year of the Nursing Science program.

Coincidentally, Kelsey—who hails from Campbellcroft—is a graduate of CDCI West as well. She graduated in June 2013 with a final average of 95 per cent.

Though only in her second year, Kelsey has already received three awards from Queen's, including the Alice J. Baumgart Outstanding Achievement Award and Queen's Appeal Undergraduate Scholarship.

An active volunteer in high school Kelsey continues to give back to her community, now volunteering at the Kingston Humane Society. She is a member of many university clubs and—somehow—she also finds time to tutor first-year nursing students.

Among Kelsey's local volunteer work was a stint at NHH, where she volunteered in the Emergency Department.

Kelsey plans to complete the nursing program at Queen's and write the certification test to become a Registered Nurse.

She then hopes to work for several years to strengthen her skills and gain experience, and eventually return to Queen's to become a nurse practitioner or a physician. Ultimately, she wants to work in the Emergency Room or Operating Room of a hospital.

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, and obstetrical care. Post-acute specialty services (PASS) include restorative care, rehabilitation and palliative care. 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).