

NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local students' achievements recognized with 2014 Health Professions Scholarships from NHH

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Thursday, May 8th, 2014 — The recipients of Northumberland Hills Hospital's annual Health Professions Scholarships were announced at the Board's May meeting earlier this evening. Jessica Cable, of Cobourg, and Breanna Haig, of Colborne, were both recognized with awards for \$1,000.

Introduced by Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) in 2003, the Scholarship Program has been recognizing local students for their academic achievements and community service for 11 years.

"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 Doug Mann.

"Jessica and Breanna demonstrated a very inspiring combination of commitment to their community and academic skills," said Mann. "They're smart, they're hard working and they're kind—characteristics I think any parent would love to hear about their child. On behalf of the Board and the entire hospital team, I congratulate you on your achievements thus far. We wish you all the best as you work toward your goals."

Below are excerpts from the information shared about each recipient. Full details on the scholarship program, including the application form, are available on the NHH website at <u>www.nhh.ca</u>. The deadline for applications for 2015 scholarships is February 15, 2015. For more information please contact Jennifer Gillard at 905-377-7757 or <u>jgillard@nhh.ca</u>.

Jessica Cable

Jessica, who will enter her second year of university this September, is pursuing her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing at Nipissing University in North Bay.

A graduate of Cobourg District Collegiate Institute West, Jessica was on the honour roll ever year, finishing her high school studies with an 89% average.

Jessica is very committed to her community and tells us that she thoroughly enjoys showing her thanks for her own good fortune through volunteering.

An active volunteer with her church, she has supported many Cobourg Alliance fundraisers and served as an active youth leader for various children's ministries while also participating in mission events for the homeless in Toronto.

At the West, Jessica volunteered for the school's Christmas dinners for the homeless, the Halloween for Hunger event and school fundraisers. She was also the Executive Designer for her prom in 2013. Somehow she also found time to work part time and play an active role in the girls' rugby team among other sport interests.

Despite the demands of university life Jessica has carried her commitment to community with her to North Bay, participating in the local Run for the Cure to raise money for cancer research, Shinerama to raise money for cystic fibrosis research and The Color Run, which raised money for the Global Poverty Project.

Very enthusiastic about her current studies, Jessica is looking forward to entering the nursing profession and, possibly, building on it further down the road with post-graduate studies.

Jessica's written references, from her principal Laina Andrews, at CDCI West, and Rhonda Cunningham, Executive Director of the NHH Foundation, spoke very highly of her work ethic, her commitment to her community and her team spirit.

Breanna Haig

Breanne is also entering her second year of university. She is studying at Trent University in Peterborough where she is working toward her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

Breanna was born and raised in Colborne and attended high school at the East Northumberland Secondary School in Brighton. Breanna had a unique opportunity to gain insight into the healthcare profession through her mother, a nurse in Dr. Trevor Hearnden's practice in Colborne, and she certainly didn't waste that opportunity.

As Dr. Hearnden shared with NHH in his letter of recommendation, Breanna was an almost constant presence in his clinic, before and after school, since her bus stop was located outside the clinic door.

She volunteered over 300 hours of community service at Dr. Hearnden's clinic, introducing herself through experience to the healthcare sector.

Remarkably, she did this while maintaining an above 90% average in high school, and volunteering for a range of other school and community efforts, many with a focus on children and adolescents faced with disabilities.

Said Dr. Hearnden: "I have watched Breanna grow and mature into a young woman who demonstrates the attributes essential to working in the health care field today. Breanna is a very smart, compassionate and dedicated ... individual....She is an exceptional, community oriented student with unlimited potential."

Like Jessica, Breanna hopes to one day expand on her training as a registered nurse to become a nurse practitioner serving the needs of her own community here in Northumberland County.

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 <u>www.nhh.ca</u> or follow us on Twitter <u>@NorHillsHosp</u>.