



NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NHH chemotherapy clinic renamed to reflect expanded local service

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Wednesday, April 30th, 2014 – The cancer and supportive services provided at Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) through the Cobourg Lions and Lioness Chemotherapy Clinic have expanded in recent years, thanks to a very fruitful partnership with the Central East Regional Cancer Care Program (CERCP).

Though chemotherapy was the initial focus of the clinic, local patients also now have the option to meet with a radiation oncologist for consultation and follow-up purposes at NHH, and to receive associated treatments, including the intravenous delivery of iron and blood products, sometimes related to cancer—but not necessarily. Chemotherapy continues to grow at NHH, with chemotherapy patient visits to the clinic increasing by 77% (from 2,929 to 5,005 patients) between 2009/2010 and 2012/13 alone. Referrals are accepted from anywhere in Ontario.

Acting on feedback from patients receiving care, NHH has changed the name of its chemotherapy clinic to better reflect its service mix. The new name—The Cobourg Lions and Lioness Cancer and Supportive Care Clinic—maintains the recognition of the unit's founding donors, while more accurately reflecting the broader scope of services delivered.

Patients, hospital and CERCP representatives, local donors and staff gathered in the unit April 30th for the renaming ceremony and a tour of the clinic's expanded footprint.

In attendance was Dr. Leta Forbes, the Chief Medical Oncologist with the Central East Regional Cancer Program and one of several oncologists serving at patients at NHH.

"Northumberland Hills Hospital plays a very important role in our regional health system," said Dr. Forbes, "in addition to providing the only local chemotherapy service, patients, as of December 2013, have access to radiation consultation and follow up."

"NHH's Cancer and Supportive Care Clinic is a satellite clinic of the [Durham Regional Cancer Centre at Lakeridge Health, Oshawa](#), and a participant in the Central East Regional Cancer Program. There's no doubt, our clinic has grown and expanded in recent years, and we welcomed our patients' recommendation to reflect that in its name," said [Helen Brenner](#), NHH's VP, Patient Services and Chief Nursing Executive.

For more information please contact: Jennifer Gillard, 905-377-7757 or jgillard@nhh.ca.

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).

About the Central East Regional Cancer Program - The Central East Regional Cancer Program (CERCP) is one of 14 regional cancer programs in Ontario. The CERCP provides access to cancer care for 1.6 million people in the Central East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN). Our network of hospital partners includes the R.S. McLaughlin Durham Regional Cancer Centre at Lakeridge Health's Oshawa site, the Scarborough Hospital, Rouge Valley Health System, Northumberland Hills Hospital and Peterborough Regional Health Centre.