



## **NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Future RN and MD recognized with 2013 Health Professions Scholarships from NHH**

**NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Thursday, May 2nd, 2013** — The recipients of Northumberland Hills Hospital's annual Health Professions Scholarships were announced at the Board's May meeting early this evening. Katelyn Wallace and Jenna Dickson were both recognized with cheques 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 a decade.

"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 Doug Mann, NHH Board Chair, before sharing details about the recipients' accomplishments.

"We received 30 scholarship applications this year—our highest number yet—from a wide variety of very impressive applicants from right across our catchment area," said Doug Mann. "This year's recipients demonstrated a very inspiring combination of intelligence, commitment and sense of community service. We congratulate them on their respective achievements and we wish them all the best as they work toward their goals."

#### **Katelyn Wallace**

Katelyn is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) in Oshawa. A graduate of St. Mary Catholic Secondary School in Cobourg, Katelyn achieved high honours throughout high school while working two part-time jobs and playing volleyball.

Katelyn was given an opportunity to experience hospital work first hand during a co-op placement here at NHH in her senior year of high school. In her application for the Health Professions Scholarship she wrote about the value of that co-op experience in NHH's chemotherapy clinic—a satellite of the Durham Regional Cancer Centre at Lakeridge Health—and the important role the experience played in developing her interest in nursing and in the field of oncology in particular.

In September 2011 Katelyn took this interest to UOIT, where she was one of a small group of students selected to the oncology placement stream in her nursing program.

Her supervisor described Katelyn as "a very dedicated student nurse with strong leadership qualities. It is easily noted that [Katelyn] will surely be successful in her chosen profession."

Katelyn's interest in "paying forward" the support that has been given to her is demonstrated in her keen support of UOIT's Helping Hands mentorship program. Helping Hands is a tutoring program that brings upper level nursing students in contact with those just beginning their studies.

Through her involvement in this program at UOIT Katelyn has had an opportunity to help numerous students adjust to university life and, specifically, the nursing program in particular.

More recently Katelyn took her mentor role a step further by earning the designation of second year nursing executive at UOIT.

Katelyn looks forward to the continuous learning opportunities offered by nursing. She hopes to take advantage of the flexibility of her nursing degree to explore its many specialties later in her career, particularly oncology and chemotherapy, while “remaining in the local community”.

### **Jenna Dickson**

Jenna holds a Bachelor of Science degree with Honours from Acadia University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia and she is just completing her first year of Medicine at Queen’s University in Kingston.

Born and raised in Cobourg, Jenna pointed out in her application that she chose Queen’s in part because of its close proximity to her home town which is now Grafton, Ontario. In July of this year Jenna will be observing Dr. Mark Essak and his colleagues at NHH for four weeks through the Rural Ontario Medical Program.

A graduate of Trinity College School (TCS) in Port Hope, Jenna’s application was strongly endorsed by her academic advisors at both TCS and Acadia.

Active in her community throughout her high school years and undergraduate years, Jenna’s contributions have earned her numerous awards. At TCS Jenna was Head Girl from 2007-2008 and received the F. A. Bethune Scholarship for Academic Excellence. At Acadia she received several awards for academic skill and leadership including, in her final year, the Golden ‘A’ Award for significant contribution to Acadia University and the Jack A. Scholz Award for Leadership.

“Jenna, it is my pleasure to present you with this cheque, and the best wishes on behalf of the Northumberland Hills Hospital Board of Directors for your continued success. We have noted your interest in practicing medicine in rural settings and we sincerely hope you will consider this community and this hospital when your academic work is complete,” said Doug Mann.

Applicants for the NHH Health Professions Scholarship must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a full-time study program. Full details, including the application form, are available on the Hospital’s website at [www.nhh.ca](http://www.nhh.ca). The deadline for applications for 2014 scholarships is February 15, 2014. For more information please contact Jennifer Gillard at 905-377-7757 or [jgillard@nhh.ca](mailto:jgillard@nhh.ca).

**About Northumberland Hills Hospital –** Located approximately 100 kilometres east of Toronto, Northumberland Hills Hospital (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](http://www.nhh.ca).