

NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

An important notice to our community about mammography services at Northumberland Hills Hospital

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Tuesday, May 14th, 2013 — A new Cancer Care Ontario research study has found digital direct radiography (DR) and screen film to be more effective at detecting breast cancer than digital computed radiography (CR).

Patients who come to NHH for mammography examinations can be confident that they are receiving the highest quality of care with the best technology currently available.

Thanks to the support of generous donors in our community, Northumberland Hills Hospital's Clay & Elaine Elliott Women's Health Centre has been providing digital direct radiography (DR) mammography since February 2006. Prior to this, NHH used screen film technology. Digital computed radiography (CR) has never been offered at NHH.

To learn more about mammography services at NHH, including the Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) service, please visit the <u>Diagnostic Imaging area of our website</u> under the Patients tab at www.nhh.ca.

OBSP is a province-wide initiative designed to ensure Ontario women receive the benefits of regular breast screening. Free of charge to eligible women between the ages of 50 and 74, the program is operated by Cancer Care Ontario (CCO) and funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. No doctor's requisition is required to access OBSP. Eligible women, including those without a local family physician, may self-refer. The program is offered in more than 150 locations throughout the province, including NHH.

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.