

NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Mukesh Bhargava, new Chief of Staff, appointed at NHH

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Wednesday, July 5th 2017—Further to the announcement at the recent Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) Annual Meeting on June 22nd, the Board of Directors is pleased to confirm that local physician **Dr. Mukesh Bhargava** has been appointed as NHH's new Chief of Staff.

Effective July 1st, 2017, Dr. Bhargava has taken over from Dr. David Broderick who served the Hospital in the COS role for the past 13 years.

"We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Bhargava into this important position," said Elizabeth Selby, NHH Board Chair. "As the former Chief of Medicine for NHH and a practicing internal medicine specialist at NHH, Dr. Bhargava has a strong understanding of our role as a community hospital. A member of the Steering Committee that oversaw the development of NHH's new 2017/18 – 2020/21 Strategic Plan, and, before that, NHH's Hospital Improvement Plan Steering Committee, Dr. Bhargava is a strong supporter of our shared purpose—*Exceptional patient care. Every time*—and a respected advocate for continuous quality improvement.

Dr. Bhargava has been practicing medicine in the community and at NHH since 2011. A general internist specialized in cardiology, cholesterol disorders and stroke prevention, he opened an internal medicine practice, IM Care, with his wife and business partner Dr. Anuja Sharma in that year. At NHH Dr. Bhargava provides care to patients in the Emergency, Intensive Care and Medical/Surgical Units. In addition to serving as the hospital's Chief of Medicine from 2015 to 2017, he has also held a variety of other administrative positions during his time at NHH, including terms as President of the Medical Staff and Chair of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.

Dr. Bhargava earned his medical degree in India in 1990, completed his residency in the United States (New York State) and practiced for 17 years in Maine.

As COS at NHH, Dr. Bhargava will provide medical leadership to the hospital's clinical programs. He will also provide administrative oversight, ensuring that physicians and physician learners are appropriately credentialed and in step with the necessary professional standards of practice, and that quality medical services are managed effectively, consistent with NHH's strategic and operational priorities and local/regional accountabilities.

Like NHH's President and CEO, Linda Davis, Dr. Bhargava reports to the hospital's volunteer Board of Directors. The COS role is a part-time position at NHH. Dr. Bhargava will continue his current internal medicine practice while committing two half-days to NHH administration.

"On behalf of the Board, it is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Bhargava in his new role," said Selby. "We are fortunate to have a large and very dedicated group of physicians supporting NHH and we look forward to his support as we continue to build on our strengths."

For further information please contact Jennifer Gillard at joillard@nhh.ca or 905-377-7757.

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