



NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NHH hosts community information sessions on Hospital Improvement Plan in Port Hope, Cobourg

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Wednesday, February 24, 2016—Northumberland Hill Hospital (NHH) held community information meetings last week in Port Hope and Cobourg to discuss the multi-year Hospital Improvement Plan (HIP) approved by the Central East Local Health Integration Network (Central East LHIN) in January.

Approximately 70 local residents attended the two sessions combined, including staff, hospital Board members and local media. The first, an evening session held February 17 at the Port Hope Public Library, attracted approximately 35 attendees; the second session, held February 18 at 2:00 PM, received similar participation at the Cobourg Public Library.

In addition to a presentation outlining the highlights of the multi-year HIP and the Central East LHIN's expectations of NHH, both sessions provided opportunities for attendees to pose questions to representatives of the hospital management team (President and CEO, Linda Davis) and Board (Vice Chair, Beth Selby). Priorities confirmed by community members at both sessions were: palliative care, and the need to retain it at NHH; the importance of retaining access to the services provided at NHH today; the importance of retaining quality patient care, even in the face of financial challenges; and, an interest in more detail on the role of the Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) in Ontario's health-care system.

Exit surveys affirmed attendees' appreciation for the opportunity to learn more about the local health-care system and the NHH Hospital Improvement Plan specifically.

In addition to the progress reporting required by the Central East LHIN, NHH committed to providing regular community updates on the progress of the Hospital Improvement Plan's implementation. The first update will be delivered this spring.

For those unable to attend the February sessions, a copy of the presentation delivered by President and CEO Linda Davis and Board Vice Chair Elizabeth Selby is now available on the hospital's website, www.nhh.ca. Also available on www.nhh.ca is the full Hospital Improvement Plan and a summary of its highlights in a related media release, published January 18, 2016.

Those with questions, an interest in obtaining information regarding the Hospital Improvement Plan in hard copy form, or an interest in requesting a presentation from NHH on the Hospital Improvement Plan are asked to contact the hospital's Communications office at 905-377-7757.

Media contact: Jennifer Gillard, jgillard@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 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).

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