



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

### **Service, education and leadership awards presented at NHH**

**NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Friday, May 1st 2015**—Northumberland Hills Hospital's annual recognition ceremony for staff achievements in service, education and leadership was held last evening in the hospital's Education Centre.

80 individuals were recognized at the event, hosted by Linda Davis, NHH's President and CEO, with the 10-year pin recipients forming the largest group. This year, 38 individuals were honoured for a decade of service to NHH, while 15 individuals achieved 15 years, 12 were recognized for a full quarter century of service and two and five received 30-year and 35-year pins respectively.

Jack Russell, Chair of NHH's volunteer Board of Directors, thanked all of the 2015 award recipients for their commitment to NHH, noting that it takes the sum of many professionals and support providers to make it all work. Sharing the specific contributions of four physicians who earned long-service awards this year, Russell thanked them for their 45 years of service combined.

**Dr. Roger Woodward** was recognized for 15 years of service to NHH. A GP-Anesthetist since September 1999, Dr. Woodward began his work with NHH providing anesthesia support in the Surgical Suite while also working regular shifts in the NHH Emergency Department (ED).

"Dr. Woodward continues to provide integral support to NHH's surgery, epidural and emergency services," said Russell, "supporting our patients' airway and pain management needs."

Three physicians were recognized for 10 years of service each.

**"Dr. Kathy Barnard-Thompson** is a community physician affiliated with the Northumberland Family Health Team and the Cobourg Medical Centre Practice Group," said Russell. "A well-respected general practitioner, Dr. Barnard-Thompson provides in-patient support at NHH, labour and delivery services and support to our ED through her regular shifts in the Blue Zone. She holds a key leadership role as the Department Chief of our Maternal Child Services program and is an active member on our Medical Advisory Committee."

Also recognized was the considerable effort Dr. Barnard-Thompson puts into supporting the community's medical trainee program.

"These relationships with young physicians completing their training have proven to be a very successful recruitment tool for NHH and our community," said Russell. "They help to put our community top-of-mind with new grads looking for communities in which to set up their family practice."

**Dr. Crawford Dobson**, an orthopedic surgeon, was thanked for his 10 years of service to NHH.

“With the opening of this hospital in 2003 and the opportunity to enhance the surgical program in our community, NHH was very fortunate to have Dr. Dobson join our medical staff and provide orthopedic services closer to home for the residents of west Northumberland County. His qualifications, surgical skill, personality and overall contribution to the hospital over the past decade have proven to be a significant asset for NHH and our community,” said Russell.

The third ten-year pin recipient among the medical staff was Internist **Dr. Rajesh Krishnan**.

“Previously a senior resident in internal medicine with Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto, Dr. Krishnan has been a constant and committed asset to NHH and the patients we serve, providing strong general medicine expertise to the Department of Medicine,” said Russell.

Dr. Krishnan was thanked for his leadership support on multiple hospital committees including, most recently, a four-year term as Department Chief, Internal Medicine Service.

“It takes a large team to run a hospital,” noted Russell, “but there is no question: we wouldn’t be the hospital we are without the outstanding commitment and support of physicians. Thank you, all of you, for all you do.”

Education awards were presented to hospital staff members who juggled the responsibilities of work and family to reach new personal goals of academic achievement in the past year. Among the learning achievements recognized were three degrees and five certifications in health-related specialties ranging from diabetes to emergency nursing and dialysis.

Announcement of the 2015 recipients of NHH’s Leadership and Innovation Awards concluded the evening ceremony.

Nurse Practitioner (NP) **Beverly Ryan-James** is this year’s Outstanding Leadership Award recipient. Presented annually to a member of the hospital team who has demonstrated an outstanding ability to take command of a project or situation, the peer-nominated award recognized Beverly’s work in expanding the NP role on the medical/surgical units in the hospital and, in that capacity, initiating two key hospital projects: the development of a patient whiteboard at the bedside and patient bedside rounding to enhance care and co-management.

The first nurse practitioner to work on NHH’s medical floors, Ryan-James was recognized as a true leader who “has not only applied her learning as a new graduate in the position but has mentored others about her role and scope of practice,” said Linda Davis.

Partnering with NHH’s hospitalists—physicians who care exclusively for in-patients during their stay—Beverly supports patient care by providing comprehensive assessments and plans of care.

“Beverly’s approach to care as an NP is unique as it not only focuses on the medical illness of her patients but the treatment of the person as a whole and ensuring supports are in place to move from the hospital back home, safely,” said Davis. “By assessing, diagnosing, ordering and interpreting certain diagnostic tests, as well as prescribing medications and performing certain procedures, Beverly has become indispensable in co-managing the hospitalists’ large patient lists and, most important, facilitating safe, efficient patient flow in our very busy hospital.”

Access and Patient Flow Improvement Specialist **Joanne Jury** received NHH’s 2015 Outstanding Innovation Award, in part for her work to establish processes to manage the hospital’s rising in-patient volumes.

The lead in improving and streamlining NHH's surge procedures, Joanne has significantly assisted in helping to normalize surge activity (when more patients require admission than is typically expected), turning what was previously a very disruptive experience to one that is much more effectively and efficiently managed for all staff and, in turn, the patients served," said Davis.

"Joanne has a wealth of clinical and leadership expertise which she applies in her daily work," said Davis. "Her peers describe her as efficient and fast-paced and she anticipates patient flow trends with effective strategies. A natural collaborator, Joanne gains buy-in from the team and involves the team on decisions affecting the safe discharge of patients home."

With NHH since August 2013, Joanne has built strong external links through a Community Partners Committee which meets quarterly to share information on services available in the region and discuss challenges and opportunities for patients.

Under her leadership, the hospital has introduced in-house staff information and networking sessions for front-line staff, further building the linkages with community agencies and NHH to help smooth the transition from hospital to home.

"Joanne works closely with all of our community partners," noted Davis, "particularly the Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) to ensure the safe discharge of patients back home and—where possible—to help prevent unnecessary admissions."

For a complete listing the 2015 recipients, please see below. For further information, contact Jennifer Gillard at [jgillard@nhh.ca](mailto:jgillard@nhh.ca) or 905-377-7757.

#### **10 Years**

Michelle Annis  
Jennifer Bevan  
Helena Boot  
Heather Brimacombe  
Sarah Carman  
Jennifer Case  
Loraine Cheer  
Chuck Cudmore  
Karen Cummins  
Alice Cunningham  
Tara Deline  
Kelly Douglas

Colin Eaton  
Jennifer Fudge  
Wendy Girard  
Jennifer Kozusko  
Kathryn Lackey  
Paula Leone  
Carrie Martin  
Jhaneeta Massey  
Sarah Meringer  
Marie-Rose Meunier-  
Westcott  
Candace Minifie

Maria O'Grady  
Mike Purdy  
Amy Robertson  
Lou Serio  
Doris Sims  
Sebastien Sparling  
Michelle Taylor  
Angela Thomas  
Sharon Tripp  
Toni Walker  
Jane Watt  
Brenda Woolsey

#### **15 Years**

Crystal Adams  
Jill Bebee  
Paula Burke  
Lesley Cooper  
Heather Dingwall  
Andrea Doyle-Philp  
Lisa Foreman  
Wendy Garrison  
Teresa McCormack  
Julie Morgan  
Cynthia Payne  
Angela Schwantz  
Barbara Shaw  
Gwen Watson

#### **25 Years**

Julie Bick  
Alan Brockwell  
Barbara Ellis  
Kelli Giroux  
Lisa Kostoff  
Patricia Ley  
Suzanne O'Rourke  
Karen Phillips  
Darlene Smith  
Peggy Smith  
Linda Stevenson  
Sandra Ward

#### **30 Years**

Pamela Bates  
Kim Baxter

#### **35 Years**

Donna Bickle  
Patricia Busch  
Catherine Ferguson  
Tammy Minifie  
Linda Moore

### **Physicians**

15 years – Dr. Roger Woodward  
10 years – Dr. Kathy Barnard-Thompson  
10 years – Dr. Crawford Dobson  
10 years – Dr. Rajesh Krishnan

### **Education Awards**

Krista Hay – Hospital Nursing Unit Certificate  
Gloria Hobart – Dialysis Attendant Certificate  
Denise Kearsey – Master of Science, Nursing  
Rebecca Kellert – Hospital Nursing Unit Certificate  
Whitney Lake – Bachelor of Science  
Cristina Montoya – Certified Diabetes Educator  
Michelle Taylor – Emergency Nursing Certificate  
Nicole Watson – Master of Business Administration/Master of Health Management

**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](http://www.nhh.ca) or follow us on Twitter [@NorHillsHosp](https://twitter.com/NorHillsHosp).

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