



NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hospital staff and community physicians celebrated at annual award ceremony

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Friday, May 18th, 2012 – Included in the strategic directions set out in NHH's 2010-2014 Strategic Plan is a commitment to health, teamwork and learning summed up as "Our Team, Our Strength." Staff accomplishments in the areas of education, innovation and long service are formally celebrated each year at NHH in a popular award ceremony.

Hosted by President and CEO Robert Biron, the May 17th evening event opened with the announcement of awards to six physicians, celebrating a combined total of 145 years of service to NHH and its legacy hospitals.

Invited to say a few words about **Dr. David Broderick**, who passed the 15-year mark this year, Board Chair John Hudson shared details of the support Dr. Broderick has given to NHH since moving to the community in 1996. In addition to the in-hospital support he provides on the clinical side, Dr. Broderick accepted the duties of Chief of Staff of NHH in 2004, a role he continues to hold today. Thanking Dr. Broderick for his active participation at the Board table, area physician recruitment and at a regional level through committee service with the Central East Local Health Integration Network, John Hudson concluded with a reference to Dr. Broderick's first career as a pilot, noting: "In many respects, David has kept us in the air here at NHH as well, and we thank him for his 15 years of dedicated service."

Taking his turn at the podium, Dr. Broderick delivered NHH's thanks to five of his physician colleagues who passed a special milestone in their service to the local hospital in the past year.

Dr. Haig Basmajian, general surgeon, was recognized for 15 years of service, as was family physician **Dr. Michael Bayer**, characterized by Dr. Broderick as "an academic physician" and a go-to person to many in the profession, for his depth of knowledge and professionalism. **Dr. Michael Green**, a local Obstetrician-Gynecologist, was thanked for his 30 years of service to NHH, many of which, Dr. Broderick noted, "included one-on-one coverage for obstetrics and ultrasound, when he was the sole practitioner in the area," and **Drs. Paul Caldwell** and **Ari Haukioja** were thanked for each providing a remarkable 35 years of hospital support.

In the staff category of long service, 32 health professionals were recognized, ranging from 10 years of service to 35, while education awards were presented this year to eleven individuals. For every recipient present, the appropriate program director or manager shared details with the audience about the individual's unique contribution to

NHH's core values of integrity, quality, respect, collaboration and compassion and commitment to exceptional patient care.

A highlight of the annual ceremony is the announcement of the recipient of NHH's Outstanding Innovation Award.

Presented to a member, or members, of the hospital team who has demonstrated a new approach to a problem or situation, a concept or procedure that builds internal knowledge, and an exceptional initiative focused on providing quality service, the Award was presented this year to the project team responsible for successfully implementing a new electronic medication administration record and bedside verification process.

Known internally as the eMAR and BV project, the new system brings together the familiar barcode technology used in retail settings with hand-held scanners and mobile drug carts equipped with computers. Broadly recognized for building new patient safeguards into medication administration while making the task less time consuming and stressful for staff, it's referred to by some health-care experts as a safety net for patients, doctors and nurses. Rolled out on a unit-by-unit basis in the past year, every patient admitted to NHH is now assigned a unique encrypted bar code worn on a band on their wrist. The purpose of the barcode is simple: to ensure that the right patient receives the right medication at the right time, and results are already being documented.

Recognized for their role in the eMAR and BV project were: **Mike Donoghue, Janet Burn, Kristina Maguire, Becky Cressman and Pam Garratt.**

The final award of the evening recognized excellence in leadership. Presented this year to two individuals, the NHH Outstanding Leadership Award went to **Sharon Tripp** and **Amy Miedema**, Registered Nurses from NHH's Maternal/Child Care Unit.

Both RNs took advantage of projects they were each required to complete for the practicum element of their Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees to research and develop new policies and procedures for the NHH Birthing Unit.

Sharon Tripp developed a new policy for managing newborn *hypoglycemia* while Amy Miedema chose a project that enhanced the management and care of infants with *hyperbillirubinemia*, or jaundice.

Their work required extensive literature reviews into the latest best practices in each area, policy research, collaboration and development as well as staff and patient training and communication. Both RNs have since chosen to move forward with their academic careers and are registered in Athabasca University's Nurse Practitioner/Master's of Nursing program. Thanking both women for their exceptional effort, Robert Biron said: "Congratulations Amy and Sharon. We are very fortunate at NHH to have such dedicated and hard-working team members who take a personal interest and turn it into improved care at the bedside."

For more information please contact Jennifer Gillard at 905-377-7757 or jgillard@nhh.ca. For a complete list of this year's award recipients, please see below.

Education Awards

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Helena Boot

Karen Bruton *(in addition to her degree, Karen was also recognized for completing her Certificate in Leadership for Nurses)*

Registered Pharmacy Technician

Becky Cressman

Kim Doucette

Candace Haalstra

Maria O'Grady

Dialysis Attendant Certificate

Denise Beaudoin

Food Service Worker Certificate

Lori Giroux

Fellow of the Association of Healthcare Philanthropy Certificate

Rhonda Cunningham

Accredited Business Communicator, International Association of Business Communicators

Jennifer Gillard

Long Service Awards**Physicians**

15 years - Dr. Haig Basmajian

15 years - Dr. Michael Bayer

15 years - Dr. Dave Broderick

30 years - Dr. Michael Green

35 years - Dr. Paul Caldwell

35 years - Dr. Ari Haukioja

Staff**10 Years**

Mary Allan

Heidi Auger

Carole Butterworth

Elizabeth Gardner

Judith Harper

Tanya Herman

Ann Hoffman

Christine Kloosterman

Sharon Leroux

Anne Marie Losell

Anne Nielsen

Mariette Pelletier

Cathy Rylott

Karalyn Temple

Cheryl Usher

Kelly Walker

15 Years

Sarah Cowin

20 Years

Don Cholmondeley

Marlene Dorsman

Lori Giroux

25 Years

Ava Boucher
Deborah Davis
Whitney Lake
Kenneth Lamey
Heather Miller
Jane Peters
Karen Sherwood-Lindsay
Deborah Taylor
Jamie West

30 Years

Brenda Eakins
Adele Hazlitt

35 Years

Heather Brooking

Innovation and Leadership Awards

Outstanding Innovation Award - Mike Donoghue, Janet Burn, Kristina Maguire, Becky Cressman and Pam Garratt for successfully implementing a new electronic medication administration record and bedside verification process.

Outstanding Leadership Award - Sharon Tripp and Amy Miedema for their work developing new policies and protocols for managing newborn hypoglycemia and hyperbillirubinemia, respectively.

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.