



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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A New Generation Decorates Courtyard at Northumberland Hills Hospital

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY – The Rotary Club of Cobourg Courtyard at Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) was lit up for the holiday season last evening as an extension of the Town of Cobourg's *Christmas Magic*.

Patients and their families were invited to join staff, physicians, midwives and volunteers as the new decorations and twinkling lights came to life, illuminating the space at the heart of the hospital with a festive glow.

For a number of years, thanks to a dedicated group of NHH Foundation volunteer 'elves', the Courtyard has been decorated each winter to brighten the days of patients, staff, volunteers and visitors to the hospital throughout the season. Earlier this year, these elves alerted the Foundation to their retirement – after years of hard work as Santa's helpers, they were ready to hang up their tools and enjoy a well-deserved break.

It was at this time that the next generation stepped in – Rick Cromlish, son of long-time elf, Dave Cromlish, and Natasha Jacobs, daughter of long-time elf, Basil DeMattos, raised their hands to carry on the tradition their parents started.

As they started planning, they decided to take it one step further. Rick, an employee of the Town of Cobourg, helped to strike a new partnership and extend Cobourg's popular outdoor light festival, *Christmas Magic*, to include the hospital as an additional location.

"On behalf of the Hospital, I want to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who played a role in bringing the spirit of the holiday season to life at NHH again this year," shares Susan Walsh, NHH President and CEO. "A heartfelt thank you to all of our former elves who began this special tradition – their years of service and the joy they brought to our hospital will always be remembered. We also extend our sincere appreciation to the NHH Foundation's new volunteer team, and the Town of Cobourg's dedicated *Christmas Magic* crew, who have proudly taken up this tradition and ensured that this cherished tradition continues to brighten the days of many. This is a beautiful display of community support for NHH and it is much appreciated."

The bright and festive display includes pieces hand-crafted by former Courtyard elves intermingled with new additions and beautiful lights coordinated under the guidance of Jackie Chapman-Davis, Manager of Culture, Events, Tourism and Waterfront for the

Town of Cobourg and supported by the hospital's own Maintenance team. It will remain lit each evening into the new year.

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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, cancer and supportive care, dialysis and 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 67,000 residents, west Northumberland comprises the Town of Cobourg, the Municipality of Port Hope, Alderville First Nation and the townships of Hamilton, Cramahe and Alnwick/Haldimand. NHH employs more than 850 people and relies on the additional support provided by physicians, midwives and volunteers. NHH is an active member of Ontario Health (East)—formerly the Central East Local Health Integration Network—and the Ontario Health Team of Northumberland. For more information, please visit nhh.ca or follow us on Facebook [@northumberlandhillshosp](https://www.facebook.com/northumberlandhillshosp) and LinkedIn [Northumberland Hills Hospital](https://www.linkedin.com/company/northumberland-hills-hospital).

About the Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation – The mission of the Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) Foundation is to inspire generous giving to support exceptional patient care at NHH. With a dedicated team of enthusiastic volunteers and staff, the NHH Foundation is passionately committed to improving health care and the quality of life for people living in west Northumberland. Since 2002, the NHH Foundation has raised over \$88.5 million to build and equip NHH. This support comes from generous community support through a variety of programs including major gifts, planned giving, signature and third party events, direct mail and commemorative giving. For more information, visit: www.nhhfoundation.ca or follow us on Facebook [@NHHFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/NHHFoundation) or Instagram [@NHHFoundation](https://www.instagram.com/NHHFoundation).