

# NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

A Message to Our Community  
in Response to COVID-19

April 9, 2020



I'll be honest with you, it's been a long few weeks and with the predictions that the battle against COVID-19 will be more of a marathon than a sprint, we have more long days ahead of us.

With these challenging times, it is more important now than ever that we check in on each other and that we remember we are in this together. **Our actions will impact the outcomes of this battle.**

I want you to know that we on the Foundation team are thinking of you, our supporters, volunteers, donors, fundraisers, and friends. **You are more than our community; you are our extended family.** As family, we are here for each other during happy and hard times.

**Together, we have done incredible things.** We have built and equipped a hospital we can be proud of – one that reflects our community's spirit and treats visitors and patients as friends. We have continuously invested in medical equipment and technology to serve our community, and we've made it a priority to invest in the education of our NHH staff team.

Over the years, I have heard countless comments about how caring staff and volunteers at NHH are. **This crisis has shone a light on how caring our community is, and how much we all care about our hospital and the team working so hard to help.** It's good for the soul to be reminded that hard times such as this have a way of bringing out the best in so many.

I know that like me, many of you will be wanting to celebrate this upcoming holiday weekend with your loved ones. Family meals and traditions hold a special place in my heart, and I am sad that I will not be able to gather with those who do not live in my house this long weekend.

**As difficult as it is, we must come together again for the hospital and community that means so much to us – this time by staying apart. By staying home.**

I look forward to future gatherings, to celebrating with my loved ones, and to celebrating with you when this is all over. And trust me, there will be a celebration!

In the meantime, I am grateful for the technology that allows us to so easily remain connected. In these unprecedented times we are excited to be hosting our **first ever virtual fundraiser next month and also want to extend an invitation to you to participate in a virtual 'Town Hall' meeting with members of NHH's Senior Management Team, including the President and CEO and Chief of Staff** (check below for more info on this).

Though we cannot physically gather right now, we can still come together to support one another, spread accurate information, listen and learn, and do our part to help our NHH family by flattening the curve.

For more information on how you can make a financial gift to support NHH, visit: [NHHFoundation.ca](http://NHHFoundation.ca). If you have questions about other ways to support NHH's response to COVID-19, visit [NHH.ca/COVID-19](http://NHH.ca/COVID-19).

Please continue to read on below for a **message from NHH's President and CEO, an official invitation to our first virtual 'Town Hall,' highlights of how our community is coming together, and ways to stay informed.**

Keep safe and healthy,



**Rhonda Cunningham**

Executive Director, NHH Foundation

## Virtual Town Hall Invitation

On Tuesday, April 14 at 4:00p.m., you're invited to join a virtual 'Town Hall' meeting with some of NHH's Senior Management Team, including:

- **Linda Davis**, President and CEO
- **Dr. Mukesh Bhargava**, Chief of Staff
- **Susan Walsh**, Vice President, Patient Services, and Chief Nursing Executive
- **Elizabeth Vosburgh**, Senior Vice President, Operations, Chief Human Resource Officer

To attend, please visit: [webcast.otn.ca/mywebcast?id=176576246](http://webcast.otn.ca/mywebcast?id=176576246) and enter Login: *foundation* and Password: *foundation* at 3:45p.m. on April 14. We recommend signing in 15 minutes in advance to account for any buffering.

If you have questions you'd like to see addressed during this webcasted Town Hall, please submit them in advance to: [rcunningham@nhh.ca](mailto:rcunningham@nhh.ca).

If you can't make it, please don't fret, a digital recording of this meeting will be available after.



## A Message from Linda Davis, NHH President & CEO

“Your NHH team has been working as hard as it possibly can to prepare and respond to the evolving situation of COVID-19. None of us knows what it will be like for Ontario or Northumberland, but we are all committed to doing our very best. Without a doubt, we are all in this together and we must meet this challenge as a community. If any one of us fails to recognize COVID’s significance, and not act, the rest of our actions will be weakened. We are certainly not alone, and we want to thank all of our community partners and community members for their efforts and support.”

### [Read The Latest News from NHH](#)

## They’re Here for You – Stay Home for Them

The incredible team at NHH continues to work around the clock to respond to COVID-19 and keep our community safe. Like all of us, many of these brave folks on the frontlines wish they could spend the long weekend with their families and friends. Instead, they will show up for their shifts and continue to be there for us if, and when, we need them – as they are 365 days a year.

**This is our community, we are in this together, and we are here for you. Stay home for us.**



## This is Community – This is Family

If you follow us on Facebook and/or Twitter already, you've probably noticed we've recently shared an array of thank you messages to community partners, local businesses, municipalities, and more. We have been truly overwhelmed by the support that has come from across our community to help Northumberland Hills Hospital in the fight against COVID-19.

The way this community has come together as more than simply a place we all reside, but as a family who truly cares about the well-being of our neighbours, friends, and essential workers, is inspiring. We cannot thank all of you enough for every act of kindness that has been done – whether it is sharing messages of support for staff, donating personal protective equipment (PPE) for frontline workers, offering to make or source supplies, or making financial contributions to the response.

**Thank you for your continuous efforts to MAKE CARE BETTER!**

### NHH Foundation Staff

The NHH Foundation staff are doing everything we can to support NHH and flatten the curve. This includes practicing social distancing by working remotely.

Though the physical Foundation office is closed until further notice, we are always open to accept donations online at [www.NHHFoundation.ca](http://www.NHHFoundation.ca) and you can reach any one of us at the following:

- **Rhonda Cunningham**, Executive Director – [rcunningham@nhh.ca](mailto:rcunningham@nhh.ca)
- **Wendy Bridgman**, Executive Assistant – [wbridgman@nhh.ca](mailto:wbridgman@nhh.ca)
- **Adrienne Burns**, Leadership Gifts Officer – [aburns@nhh.ca](mailto:aburns@nhh.ca)
- **Natasha Jacobs**, Special Events Officer – [njacobs@nhh.ca](mailto:njacobs@nhh.ca)
- **Jen Gilmer**, Communications Specialist – [jgilmer@nhh.ca](mailto:jgilmer@nhh.ca)



## Stay Connected with Us

At times like this, we are so thankful for the technology that allows us to stay connected to you. Advances in technology allow us to connect even from afar, to stay informed, and to check in on one another. We hope you are all staying safe and healthy, and would encourage you to further connect with us if you have not already done so.

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## Stay informed with the latest news from NHH and get answers to FAQs

[Follow NHH on Twitter](#)

[Visit NHH's Dedicated COVID-19 Webpage](#)