

NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

A Message to Our Community

May 7, 2020



Loyal: Giving or showing firm and constant support or allegiance to a person or institution.

-Oxford Dictionary

Over the last several weeks, **I have been reminded every day just how fortunate Northumberland Hills Hospital is to enjoy such a strong level of loyal support from our community.** While we appreciate this support all year round, it is especially evident and appreciated right now as we face particularly challenging times. The loyalty of our community – shown in the outpouring of messages of support, in-kind and financial donations, generous offers, creative parades, the banging of pots and pans, and so much more – means more than we can express.

The team at Northumberland Hills Hospital is always here for you and the rest of our community when needed, and this pandemic has truly highlighted how the opposite is also true. **Our community has been here for our hospital in every way.**

Those who have steadfastly invested in our hospital over the years were among some of the first to reach out – *yet again* – **to offer solutions; to support the staff; and to send messages of love and encouragement.**

Since 1993 – the same year this Foundation was created – both Vandermeer Toyota and Spoolon Manufacturing have been outstanding benefactors to our hospital, with twenty-seven years of consistent giving. Both of these companies were among the first to once again step forward and pledge their support as we respond to COVID-19.

Similarly, long-time individual donors like Gord Ley of Ley Wealth Management Group and Sharron Wharram-Spry of Baker Tilly were quick to step forward to sponsor several coffee breaks to keep staff fueled and spirits lifted.

These are just a few examples of those standing with us, and I assure you a much larger number have reached out. Many of our loyal supporters, like you, have continued contributing monthly donations, have made new donations online or by mail, and have reached out with messages of support.

It is not lost on us how privileged we are to enjoy your ongoing trust and loyalty. It is both energizing and humbling. THANK YOU!

During this time, we have also been encouraged by a number of new supporters and donors who we hope will continue to work alongside us in our common goal to be better and stronger together. **A strong hospital is the cornerstone of any community, but it does not stand alone. We have needed you now more than ever and you haven't let us down.**

Like any proud organization, we think our donors and community are simply the best!!!

Please continue to read on below for a message from the frontlines, the latest newsletter from NHH, a further look at the loyalty of event supporters, a highlight of local businesses who brought some beauty to NHH, and ways to stay informed.

Keep well,



Rhonda Cunningham

Executive Director, NHH Foundation

A Message from the Frontlines: Kathy Lackey, RN

“My name is Kathy Lackey and I have worked at NHH for the better part of 39 years. Before COVID-19 you would find me in the Operating Suites as a circulating nurse. However, for the last two weeks I have been working at the main entrance screening the public as they arrive for their medical appointments. I have always felt the community supported NHH to a very high degree, but in my post at the entrance I have witnessed just how amazing our community is. It has been overwhelming and I want to thank everyone who has made us feel so supported and safe. I do not even know how to express how truly grateful we are but please know your kind acts, donations, sewing items, and encouraging words are appreciated by us every day.”



[Read The Latest In Touch Newsletter from NHH](#)

Loyal Event Supporters

A Message from Natasha Jacobs, Special Events Officer

I would like to build on Rhonda's message and specifically highlight the incredible loyalty of our event supporters.

When we were first faced with the harsh reality that we would have to cancel several of our events, we didn't know what to expect. Both signature and third-party events play a major role in our fundraising strategy. As a team, we discussed the need to continue to connect with our community while raising critical funds for medical equipment fundamental to the care of patients.

We stepped outside our comfort zone and made the decision to take Northumberland's Biggest Coffee Morning to the virtual world. This was a scary decision for us as we were uncertain how the idea would be embraced, but our fears were short-lived. Immediately, three of our long-time event hosts, Reg and Joanne Marrison, Joan Moss and Terri Pamenter, and Brenda Zitzer, responded they were "in" and planned to rally support from their friends. Having these long-time supporters on board so quickly meant the world to us and highlights the deep connection that so many have for our hospital.

We are continually humbled by the caring spirit of Northumberland County and we thank you for everything you all are doing to support us – especially in these tough times. You keep us inspired!

Local Businesses Brighten the Day

Recently, staff at NHH had their day brightened with a little touch of spring in the form of flowers donated to Northumberland Hills Hospital. Staff members were invited to select and take home their favourite flower as a thank you for their commitment to caring for our community. These were donated by Holton Flowers, Metro & Food Basics and assembled and delivered by Joanne from Classy Creations. Thank you to all of these businesses for bringing a smile to so many faces!



Terri Pamenter and Joan Moss, long-time hosts of Northumberland's Biggest Coffee Morning



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 and you can reach any one of us at the following:

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