

October 7, 2021

Northumberland County  
555 Courthouse Road  
Cobourg, ON K9A 5J6

**Attention: Jennifer Moore, Chief Administrative Officer**

Dear Jennifer and members of Northumberland County Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to participate virtually in Northumberland County Council's special meeting on September 29, 2021. We appreciate the Council's openness to continue their deliberation of our important request, and its willingness to consider a revised appeal for County support.

Twenty years ago, visionary leadership and community support made Northumberland Hills Hospital a reality, and Northumberland County residents and communities have benefited three-fold. A new horizon is now presenting itself, one where the County can make the difference, and be included in the multi-leveled partnership of government, corporate, and individual support giving rise to a more prosperous and well-cared for Northumberland County.

Included in the Appendices is information based on the collective research of our respective Foundations and a demonstration of the economic impact of hospitals to their community.

Although our stated needs and the costs of these remain unchanged from our original submission, we recognize and acknowledge the expressed concerns raised by Council at the September 29 Council meeting. **As an alternative, we ask Council to consider a commitment equal to 1% of the levy for a period of eight years.** (Based on the 2021 budget, this would amount to approximately \$604,000 annually.)

Our original proposal identified three critical areas for investment.

1. A transformation of the patient, caregiver, and provider experience with the introduction of a new clinical information system.
2. The replacement of critical Diagnostic Imaging equipment to bring the most advanced, cutting-edge technologies to our community.
3. Ongoing renewal of lifesaving and life-changing equipment.

Our number one priority for funding is the investment in the new clinical information system (EPIC). With the introduction of EPIC, we will bring world-class care to Northumberland County. Our patients will soon have access to one of the most powerful health care information systems that will fundamentally change the delivery of care, and provide the residents of Northumberland with information and access to be active partners in their care. The clinical transformation project provides our hospitals with many key benefits related to patient safety,

elimination of duplicate and unnecessary testing. Improved communication within and across the entire Central East region and beyond. This is all driven by the powerful information engine that will allow us to monitor and manage performance and outcomes of care. Quality hospitals fuel economic growth for a community.

Your commitment to our joint request is about more than just money. It's about building on the legacy of our leaders. It's an investment in the health of all people of Northumberland, who no doubt, will require the services of our hospitals at some point in their lives.

We are asking Northumberland County to stand together with us as collaborative partners committed to supporting the delivery of the best health care services for the people of Northumberland County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'S. Walsh'.

Susan Walsh, President and CEO  
Northumberland Hills Hospital

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Beatty'.

Margaret Beatty, President and CEO  
Campbellford Memorial Hospital

## APPENDIX A - Investing in Hospitals & Comparisons

More and more, we are seeing local government play an important leadership role in supporting health care in their community whether it is for a new build, redevelopment, or equipment campaigns.

As requested, we are providing an ad hoc assessment of comparably sized counties across Ontario and the recent support afforded their hospitals.

Elgin County		
Population	Number of hospitals	County support of its hospitals
50,069	1 hospital	<i>As per Jennifer Ford, Manager of Finance &amp; Deputy Treasurer</i> <b>\$3.5M</b> towards a \$20M redevelopment project, payable over 11 years (2012-2023)

Lanark County		
Population	Number of hospitals	County support of its hospitals
59,918	2 hospital corporations representing 4 hospitals	<i>As per Kevin Wills, Treasurer</i> <b>1% of levy</b> (2019; 2020; 2021; and under consideration for 2022) A commitment valued at approximately \$350,000/yr. <b>Reasoning:</b> support because 1) of the importance of the local hospitals who needed help with the purchase of capital equipment, and 2) showed great leadership and vision by the Council <i>"Every municipality and resident in Lanark County pays the same amount to the hospital for capital infrastructure upgrades, so this allows us all to be treated the same and our tax dollars spent the same."</i> Warden Richard Kidd

Wellington County		
Population	Number of hospitals	County support of its hospitals
90,932	3 hospitals	<i>As per Ken DeHart, Dir. Of Finance</i> <b>\$9.4M</b> in 2014 in support of its three hospitals of which: - \$5M to the construction of the new Groves Memorial Hospital (debt financing) - \$2.2M X 2 from reserve contributions to each of its other two hospitals. <b>Reasoning:</b> recognizing the economic development impact the hospitals bring to the County. <i>"In retrospect, now that the commitments have been fully funded, it was the smart thing to do, very forward thinking, and we are now reaping the benefits of this decision. There was absolutely zero backlash from taxpayers on this decision."</i> Ken DeHart

Grey County		
Population	Number of hospitals	County support of its hospitals
93,830	3 hospital corporations representing 5 hospitals	<i>As per Kimberly Wingrove, CAO</i> <b>0.5 % of levy</b> This is an ongoing commitment valued at approximately \$360,000/annually. It has been in place for 6+ years.



## APPENDIX B - Growth and Economic Impact

Northumberland County is seeing rapid growth as a result of more people leaving cities and urban centres, changes to the workforce as well as the way people work. Our County is growing at an unprecedented rate and our hospitals must be well-equipped to meet this growth and care for Northumberland residents.

This recent growth is illustrated by the large number of residential projects currently underway across Northumberland. Retail growth is also impacted by hospitals. This is illustrated with the number of retailers choose to co-locate in the area since the opening of Northumberland Hills Hospital.

### Growing Community

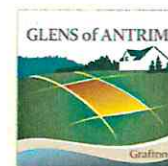
New Residential Development since 2003



HAVEN  
ON THE RIVER



Orchard Hill  
COUNTRY TOWNHOMES



### Growing Community

DePalma Drive Area New Retail Growth Since 2001



WINNERS



Coming Soon



Coming Soon



Coming Soon



Medical Centre Coming Soon