



NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL

APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Inaugural Executive Director Named for Central East Regional Specialized Geriatric Services entity

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Thursday, June 14th, 2012 -- Northumberland Hills Hospital, in its role as Host Agency for the Central East Regional Specialized Geriatric Services (CE RSGS) entity, is very pleased to announce the appointment of **Victoria van Hemert** to the position of **Executive Director for the CE RSGS entity**, effective July 12th, 2012.

Currently the Senior Director, Planning, Integration and Community Engagement for the Central Local Health Integration Network (Central LHIN), Victoria van Hemert is an experienced health care professional who brings a broad range of skills acquired through her leadership positions in a variety of health care settings. In this role, Victoria provided leadership to teams developing and implementing key provincial health priorities including the primary care strategy, the Excellent Care for All quality strategy and the seniors' strategy.

As Vice-President Planning, Quality and Human Resources with Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket, Ontario from 2005 to 2007, Victoria led the planning, financing and construction of a new 192-bed long-term care facility. In addition she has served as a Senior Consultant with Agnew Peckham Consultants, and as a surveyor for Accreditation Canada, during which time Victoria traveled across Ontario identifying and acknowledging best practices in a variety of health care settings.

With an ongoing commitment to continuing education, Victoria holds a Master's degree in Health Sciences from the University of Toronto as well as a Master's of Public Policy, Administration and Law from York University. She is currently pursuing, on a part-time basis, doctoral studies in health policy and equity.

As the inaugural Executive Director for the RSGS entity, Victoria will be working with the entity's Governance Authority as they move forward with developing and implementing a regional model for specialized geriatric services.

This works arises from a Central East LHIN Board of Directors motion in 2011 to implement a regional model for the organization, coordination and governance of specialized geriatric services. Since that time, the Northumberland Hills Hospital, which was selected as the host agency for the entity, has established the governance structure, recruited staff and will be providing office space and back office support at its site at 1000 DePalma Drive, Cobourg. The RSGS Governance Authority, formed in

January, 2012, has been meeting with stakeholders as it begins developing the regional model to build on investments the LHIN has already made in areas such as the Geriatric Assessment and Intervention Network (GAIN) clinics in the region's larger hospitals, nurse practitioners providing consultation to teams in long-term care homes (NP STAT) and the Geriatric Emergency Management (GEM) programs in place in emergency departments.

Quotes

"The Governance Authority's successful recruitment of an Executive Director represents a significant step forward in the evolution of this innovative regional model for specialized geriatric services," said Helen Brenner, Host Agency liaison to the Central East RSGS Governance Authority. "Victoria will bring a collaborative approach in working with key stakeholders in the planning and implementation of an integrated system of care for frail seniors in the Central East LHIN."

"We are pleased to welcome Victoria as the inaugural Executive Director of the Regional Specialized Geriatric Services entity," says Glenna Raymond, Chair, Central East LHIN RSGS entity Governance Authority. "She brings a wealth of expertise in planning and service delivery and has a proven track record in leading regional collaborative initiatives. The experience Victoria brings to the RSGS table will be invaluable in both our planning and implementation to ensure better health outcomes for frail seniors across the Central East LHIN."

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.

To learn more about the Central East LHIN RSGS entity, please see <http://www.centraleastlhin.on.ca/Page.aspx?id=20426>. For more information on this appointment, please contact Jennifer Gillard at 905-377-7757 or jgillard@nhh.ca