



Northumberland



NEWSLETTER

PATH News. Issue 10. July 2015
Let's walk the PATH together.

NORTHUMBERLAND PATH enters transitional phase as partnership awaits word on new funding for proposed Phase 2

While the generous funding from The Change Foundation has now concluded and the Foundation's focus has turned to analyzing and sharing results (a full report is planned for release to the community and system influencers this fall), work on many elements of our Northumberland PATH project continue as we shift into what is being referred to by the PATH partners as the "Transition Support Phase."

PATH Volunteer Transition Coach program continues

During this phase—expected to last through the summer and into early fall—each patient/caregiver participant involved in the pilot testing phase will remain connected to PATH, supported by a Volunteer Transition Coach.

PATH technology tools/human resources remain accessible

QOC, our technology partner, will continue to support the tools developed here in Northumberland. These include the innovative smartphone technology highlighted in PATH News Issue #4, October 2014 (see <http://www.changefoundation.ca/path-project-archives/> for this and all previous PATH News updates), the related PATH portal for area health care providers and our popular www.PATHwaytoagingwell.com website.

PATH's Volunteer Transition Coach Coordinator, Kelly Robinson, remains in her full-time role, supporting the Volunteer Transition Coaches while PATH Patient/Caregiver Lead Gayle Einarsson and PATH Gerontology Specialist Maryanne Brown will remain in their roles supporting PATH on reduced but regular schedules. Following the conclusion of her PATH contract earlier this month, PATH Project Manager Wendy Kolodziejczak is now enjoying a much deserved return to retirement! Wendy has not said "farewell" to PATH just yet, as she will continue to advise us over the summer months on an ad hoc basis.

The central PATH office, located at Northumberland Hills Hospital, will not be staffed on a full-time basis through the summer months, but the central PATH office phone/email (see below) will be monitored and all messages will be returned. PATH's communications channels (Twitter feed and PATH News) will also continue.

Interest in PATH Phase 2 encouraging

Northumberland PATH's Transition Support Phase will remain in place pending further discussions and feedback from the Central East Local Health Integration Network and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. The merits of the PATH pilot have been very widely recognized. Positive meetings have been held with the Ministry and our LHIN, the latter being a key partner in the PATH project from the start. Based on those discussions and at the LHIN's request a refined

proposal was submitted on July 9th for PATH Phase 2. The proposal envisions the continuation of PATH in our community, expanding it as appropriate within Northumberland and permitting additional patient, caregiver and health/social care participants.

Local celebration of PATH planned for September, plus final report on key learnings

Given the wide support that we've recently seen, we anticipate more definitive news on this in the coming days. We hope to be in a position to make a formal announcement by the fall, when a local celebration is also being planned to thank our many PATH participants and share advance highlights of The Change Foundation's final report on PATH phase 1, scheduled for release in October.

In the meantime, please know that PATH work continues in our region and—with the continued support of all our PATH partners and the many generous volunteers who have supported the work to date—we are hopeful that we can build on this even further in the months ahead.

Thank you for the support and interest you've shown in PATH over the past three years of its progression. Further updates will follow.



PATH Project Manager Wendy Kolodziejczak, (second from left) is now enjoying a much deserved return to retirement! Before she left earlier this month the team presented her with a print from local artist Katherine O'Mally Greer as a memento of her exceptional work leading Northumberland PATH.

Wendy will remain connected through the Transition Support Phase and assist as her time permits. Shown with Wendy are (from left) former PATH Project Element Coordinator Angie Gammage, Executive Lead Helen Brenner (VP, Patient Services and Chief Nursing Executive at NHH) and (right) PATH Gerontology Specialist Maryanne Brown.

Want to learn more? Click changefoundation.ca/projects/path, phone 905.377.7791, email pathinfo@nhh.ca or follow on Twitter [@NorthlandPATH](https://twitter.com/NorthlandPATH)