



# Northumberland



# NEWSLETTER

PATH News. Issue 8. March 2015

*Let's walk the PATH together.*

## Northumberland PATH project named one of Ontario's "Faces of Change"

Participants in the Northumberland PATH Project were delighted to be recognized on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> with a prestigious **20 Faces of Change Award**. The Awards—presented to 20 recipients, including Northumberland PATH—were announced by **The Change Foundation**, an independent health care think tank, at their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary Capstone Summit and Anniversary Celebration in Toronto. Many of the local seniors, caregivers and health service providers who have partnered in the pilot were on hand to receive the Award in person and participate in the related panel discussion on learnings now emerging from Northumberland PATH.

"The individuals and teams we honoured... have made outstanding contributions to patient and family-centred care in the province's healthcare system," said Cathy Fooks, CEO of The Change Foundation. "Their hard work, innovation and influence have had a true and meaningful impact on healthcare services and delivery for all Ontarians."



A diverse range of more than 80 teams, individuals and organizations submitted applications for the award from across Ontario, including Northumberland PATH. Nominations, evaluated for their impact at the local, organizational or provincial level based on each nominee's innovation, excellence, quality improvement and

influence, were reviewed by a specially appointed independent selection committee of health care leaders.

Further details on the **20 Faces of Change Awards** and a complete listing of the 20 winners are available now on The Change Foundation's website at [www.changefoundation.ca](http://www.changefoundation.ca). A five-minute video interpretation of the Northumberland PATH story was also screened at the event, as were videos of local physician participants Dr. Kaes Al-Ali and Dr. Mukesh Bhargava and local caregiver Marilyn Todd. Marilyn's husband, Jim, is among the 120 benefitting from the project's patient portal and smartphone prototype to store personal health information, monitor chronic health conditions and communicate with healthcare providers. All three videos will be available on The Change Foundation's website in the coming days.

## Northumberland PATH progress to date

Though it's a pilot project, and focused by nature, the Northumberland PATH initiative is touching many lives in Cobourg, Port Hope and the surrounding community, including:

- 120 seniors;
- 40 caregivers;
- 135 health care providers; and
- 13 physicians (10 family physicians, 3 specialist physicians).

To date, the team has:

- designed and launched a patient portal and smartphone application to store patients personal health story, monitor chronic health conditions and communicate with health care providers (a true first for Ontario);
- recruited, trained and assigned a team of Volunteer Transition Coaches to help support area seniors with the new technology and to

manage transitions across the healthcare system;

- developed and launched a new website, [www.pathwaytoagingwell.com](http://www.pathwaytoagingwell.com), offering information, planning tools and resources to minimize the health-related challenges of aging; and
- developed new models to help health care providers tap into and use input from patients and their caregivers.

With project funding wrapping up this June, work is now under way to incorporate PATH learnings into the operational practices of the organizational participants and, through a business case, propose new ways to sustain and carry the work forward in our region and beyond.



### Northumberland PATH Project representatives:

**Back row (left to right):** Sue Bhella (QoC Health), Sarah Sharpe (QoC Health), Linda Davis (Northumberland Hills Hospital), Kelly Robinson (YMCA Northumberland), Trish Baird (Community Care Northumberland)

**Middle:** Kim Lawn (PATH Innovations Coordinator, Northumberland Hills Hospital), Wendy Kolodziejczak (PATH Project Manager), Ralph Curtis (RISE Team), Chantelle Watt (PATH), Helen Brenner (Northumberland Hills Hospital)

**Front:** Laura Yontz (Northumberland Family Health Team), Genevieve Obarski (The Change Foundation), Gayle Einarsson (PATH Patient/Family Lead), Irene Johnston (RISE Team)

**PATH Partners missing from photo:** Central East Community Care Access Centre, Central East Local Health Integration Network, NHH Community Mental Health Services, Patients Canada, Palisade Gardens, Golden Plough Lodge, Health Systems Performance Research Network

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