

## **MEDIA RELEASE:**

**For Immediate Release**

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November 24, 2017

### **NGH Director of Radiology Retires**

Steve Egan, Norfolk General Hospital's Director of Radiology is retiring after more than 37 years with the Diagnostic Imaging Department. Steve joined the Department as a full time Charge Tech in June of 1980 and eventually was appointed Chief Tech. "I had a lot of opportunities, but when I came here from Kitchener/ Waterloo for the interview I really liked it. It was small and I really thought it would be a good fit for me and it was." Egan noted that the equipment was painfully old and questioned how he was going to deal with this. Things changed dramatically after a very sizable donation to the hospital helped purchase state-of-the-art x-ray equipment. These were the days of x-ray film which was very expensive – 1 to 2 dollars per sheet. The department used hundreds of thousands of sheets per year plus this film had to be developed in a developer and those machines had to be cleaned weekly, usually by Egan. It was a slow process, one that he does not miss.

"Now, NGH is totally digital. It's great. It saves so much time and is so much better. The images are sharper and we can reduce patient exposure to radiation. The technologists of today are university educated and I must say the technologists that have been hired here are terrific. They are so well trained and I really enjoy working with them as a mentor."

NGH fully transitioned to digital imaging technology in 2005. "Steve provided leadership and a steady influence with the team that implemented the upgrade to Digital mammography and the CT scan" noted Kelly Isfan, NGH CEO. "He was involved with sourcing the right equipment and assisting with the physical design and layout of the space to provide the best patient flow and privacy." As with digital x-ray, "the new mammography suite has made things so much easier, faster and better for the patient. Patients used to pick up their films and take them to a surgeon in Hamilton. Now we just send them electronically" said Egan. The technology provides better images with which the surgeon can more accurately identify whether there is a tumor or not. "And, when the CT scanner came, that was the biggest thing ever" he added, "The doctors and internists were just so excited." In recent years NGH purchased 2 new ultrasound units and a new portable x-ray machine (the Giraffe) courtesy donations to the hospital Foundation. The versatility of the Giraffe makes it a favourite of Egan's. In 2011, he was proud to introduce the new x-ray room to the community replacing old and tired technology.

Being surrounded by so much amazing technology however does not mean that Steve Egan has embraced all of today's technological amenities. He freely confesses that he does not have "the curse" of email at home.



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CEO Kelly Isfan along with Senior Administration, the Leadership team, Hospital and Nursing Home staff and the Volunteer Association congratulate Steve Egan on a very long career with NGH. All wish him well as he looks forward to a very simple life in his retirement. "It's time to go" he said, "There's a lot of good talent here and they are all eager to step up and that's a good thing. I just want to be retired, take it easy, and get older." Steve Egan's last day at NGH will be November 30.

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