

## **One-Time Funding Allows MAHC to Balance 2014-15 Budget**

*(Friday, March 27, 2015, Muskoka, ON)* – Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare (MAHC) is pleased to announce that the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, through the North Simcoe Muskoka Local Health Integration Network (NSM LHIN), has provided MAHC with \$1.5 million in one-time hospital funding for the current year that ends March 31, 2015.

In October 2014, MAHC and the NSM LHIN began discussing a \$2.4 million reduction in revenue and it quickly became evident that without additional financial support, MAHC would not be able to balance the budget by fiscal year-end.

“Since October the leadership team at MAHC has been working very closely with the NSM LHIN and Ministry staff around the additional financial support,” explains Natalie Bubela, Chief Executive Officer for MAHC. “MAHC has achieved great things amidst operational funding challenges and with this approval of one-time hospital funding for the current fiscal year, we are projecting a balanced budget.”

“On behalf of the LHIN board and staff, I want to congratulate MAHC for receiving this additional funding. This is good news for the hospitals and residents of Muskoka and area that rely on quality care and services provided by staff, physicians and volunteers at the MAHC sites,” says Robert Morton, Chair of the North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN Board of Directors.”

The health care environment and how it is funded continues to change, adds Bubela. “It is more important than ever that we continue to work together to understand these changes, how they impact ongoing hospital operations, and to always ensure that we continue to provide high-quality and safe care.”

“News of this one-time \$1.5 million in operating funding is greatly appreciated,” says Charles Forret, MAHC’s Board Chair. “By working together, a critical deficit position has been averted. On behalf of the organization, I would like to thank the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care as well as the NSM LHIN for their support throughout this process. I would also like to recognize all of the MAHC staff, physicians and volunteers for their steadfast commitment to our patients throughout this journey. It is through everyone’s efforts that we are able to proudly serve our communities and deliver best patient outcomes with high standards and compassion.”

*Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare (MAHC) is a multi-site health care organization providing acute care services at the Huntsville District Memorial Hospital and South Muskoka Memorial Hospital in Bracebridge. Find out more about Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare by visiting [www.mahc.ca](http://www.mahc.ca).*

*As one of 14 LHINs across Ontario, the North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN plans, integrates and funds local health services including hospitals, community care access centres, community health centres, long-term care homes, mental health and addiction programs and a variety of community support services agencies.*

**For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:**

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