

For Immediate Release:  
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## Media Release

### York Central Hospital Celebrates the Dedication and Commitment of its Nurses

**Richmond Hill, ON** – This week, York Central Hospital is proud to celebrate National Nursing Week in tribute to our nurses and the vital role that they play in caring for patients and helping us create the best possible patient care experience. Our hospital is extremely fortunate to have a strong and vibrant workforce of over 1,000 nurses, whose unwavering commitment improves the health and quality of life of our patients.

National Nursing Week facilitates awareness among professions, the public, policy-makers and governments, of the diverse ways in which nurses, the largest group of health care providers in Canada, are working collaboratively with health professionals to improve health care and change the depth and breadth of the nursing profession.

Nurses from our community and beyond are improving clinical care, leading advocacy work and advancing technological innovation in health care. Nurses are leaders, innovators and pioneers in all areas of care from best practice research and clinical excellence to compassion and advocacy. They are improving the health of Canadians by charting a course for a stronger and more vibrant health system for all.

“On behalf of all staff, physicians and volunteers at York Central Hospital, I would like take this week as an opportunity to express a heartfelt thank you to all of our nurses for their unique contributions and unwavering commitment towards improving the health and quality of life of our patients,” said Jo-anne Marr, Acting President and CEO. “I’d like to thank them for putting clients’ and families’ needs first, for their compassion, advocacy and most of all, care. I’d like to thank them for making a difference.”

Every day in our hospital, nurses actively engage, inform and support our community about important health issues, provide information and support needed to make decisions about their health and promote a healthy community. This multi-faceted and invaluable role is most appropriately reflected in this year’s theme for National Nursing Week: Nursing – You Can’t Live without It!

2010 is also the International Year of the Nurse, marking the centennial year of the death of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing and a woman who lead by example and still inspires us today. York Central Hospital is happy to honour two of its nurses, Dana Evans and Kendra Peacock, who were nominated for the Toronto Star Nightingale Award.

Our hospital is celebrating National Nursing Week with a full agenda of events and activities designed to celebrate, educate and express our sincere appreciation for the unique contributions of both the nursing profession and individual nurses. Some of the activities include:

- Take Your MPP to Work Day, A guided tour with MPP Reza Moridi;
- The Integrated Partnership for Seniors (TIPS) Fair;
- Bursary Awards ceremony;

- Recognition of nominees for the Toronto Star Nightingale Award;
- A variety of educational opportunities;
- Vendor sale to support the Hospital Foundation.

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For more information, contact:

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**About York Central Hospital**

[www.yorkcentral.on.ca](http://www.yorkcentral.on.ca) - Opened in 1963, York Central Hospital is a large community hospital (472 beds) located in Richmond Hill providing Emergency, Inpatient, Ambulatory, Continuing and Long-Term Care services to a community of over 500,000 residents in Southwest York Region. Last summer the hospital completed Phase One of its major expansion and renovation project, significantly expanding its treatment facilities and inpatient beds. In addition to the services it provides locally, York Central Hospital is the District Stroke Centre for York Region and is home to a number of regional services including: the York Region Chronic Kidney Disease Program, York Region Domestic Assault and Sexual Assault Care Centre, and the York/Simcoe Behaviour Management and Autism Programs.