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## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

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### **HOSPITAL AWARDED THREE-YEAR ACCREDITATION**

Deep River, ON, January 11, 2010- Accreditation Canada was recently awarded the Deep River and District Hospital with a three-year Accreditation Certificate.

The Accreditation Award followed an intensive three day on-site visit by two external healthcare surveyors that included interviews with staff, physicians, patients, community and healthcare partners as well as observing all parts of the operation. The report concluded that there is strong evidence to suggest the Hospital is well on its way to achieving its vision of every client's healthcare experience being exceptional. The report also highlighted the Hospital and Board's commitment to a safety culture particularly in patient safety and in recognizing the value of stronger partnerships within the community.

"Our voluntary commitment to, and participation in, this accreditation process is a visible sign that this organization takes very seriously its commitment to providing the highest possible quality of patient care," Larry Schruder, CEO says of the recent status award. "It is a voluntary decision on the part of the leadership team and the Board to invite external specialists in to assess our organization and our performance against a rigorous set of quality standards that apply to all Hospitals, large or small, both in Canada- and around the World. Our award is an indication of the continuous hard work and dedication to excellence by all staff at this institution."

According to Lianne Wheeler, the Hospital's CNO who lead the organization through the Accreditation process, the purpose of this exercise is to ensure the Hospital is meeting approximately 800 documented quality and patient safety standards to guarantee that the best possible care is provided to the community and our reputation as an innovator and key component of integrated healthcare delivery is maintained.

"We are extremely proud of this external validation of our standards of care and management practices. This demonstrates that we are well on our way to achieving our vision by living our values each day," Mrs. Wheeler said. "Our team has worked extremely hard to achieve this status and will continue to refine and grow our quality programs especially with our revived leadership and renewed sense of excellence from the front-line up to the Board of Governors."



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Accreditation Canada also noted that recommendations made in 2006 as part of the last accreditation survey were all undertaken and brought to full completion in all existing programs and by way of new developments throughout the past three years.