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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Deep River and District Hospital Pleased to Offer Ontario Breast Screening Program Again

Deep River, ON, October 19, 2011- The Deep River and District Hospital is pleased to announce the Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) is available again as of November 1, 2011. After a brief period of stoppage DRDH has realigned the OBSP program through a partnership with the Pembroke Regional Hospital (PRH).

“We’re excited to be offering OBSP locally again,” said Lianne Wheeler, Chief Nursing Officer. “and we are thankful to PRH for agreeing to work with us.”

The partnership with PRH is a natural alignment for this service as patients whose results appear abnormal are sent to PRH for follow-up.

“We are pleased to remind people that the mammography program is now digitized enabling us to provide an even higher quality of service,” said Larry Schruder, CEO.

Letters are being mailed to those who should have been recalled prior to the brief stoppage. Women between the ages of 50 and 74 of DRDH’s communities are being reminded to take advantage of the Ontario Breast Screening Program available for free – women can also self-refer.

Research shows that regular screening in women age 50 to 69 can reduce deaths from breast cancer by at least 30%. Breast cancer death rates for Ontario women in this age range decreased 29% between 1989 and 2002, as a result of increased screening with mammography and better treatment.

The OBSP is funded by the Ministry of Health and delivered by Cancer Care Ontario. It provides comprehensive, organized screening services to Ontario women age 50 and over. The goal is to screen 70% of Ontario women aged 50 to 69 by 2010 and 90% by 2020. All OBSP services are accredited by the Canadian Association of Radiologists, ensuring a high level of quality in the equipment and the screening procedures.

To book an OBSP appointment at the Deep River and District Hospital, please call 1-800-916-6277.