

56 Queen Street Port Hope, ON L1A 3Z9

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2025 Donation Request Form

Please complete the below 2025 donation request form. Any questions that have a red *asterisk are considered mandatory fields. Completed hard copy applications can be mailed, hand delivered or placed in our drop-box at Town Hall, 56 Queen Street, Port Hope, L1A 3Z9.

Organization Information

Organization Name: *

Northumberland Oral Health Coalition

Address (Including Postal Code): *

26 Meredith Crescent, Cobourg, ON K9A 4M9

Contact Information

First and Last Name of Contact Person: *

Sue Hochu

Title of Contact Person: *

Chair, Northumberland Oral Health Coalition

Phone Number: *

905-375-2095

Alt. Phone:

905-372-6484

Email: *

suehochu@hotmail.com

Donation Request Information

1. Total Request (Up to \$2,500) : *

\$2,000.

Date of Your Organization's Event: *

1/2/2025

2. Please provide your reasoning for the requested donation and description of how the funds will be utilized: *

The Northumberland Oral Health Coalition (NOHC) was formed in 2005 to help local residents who were having difficulty obtaining oral health care, mainly due to the cost. We are a non profit, non partisan volunteer group whose mission is to advocate for equitable access to affordable oral health care for residents of Northumberland County. We also promote that in order to have good overall physical health and wellbeing, a person must have good oral health - a healthy mouth is necessary for a healthy body!

NOHC is requesting a Municipality of Port Hope (M of PH) donation for 2025 so we can continue with our Community Oral Hygiene Supplies Initiative. While oral health advocacy has always been our primary focus, in 2017 we began to offer various oral hygiene items - toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, denture cleaning supplies, tongue scrapers, toothbrush caps, etc. at NO COST to economically vulnerable residents of the Municipality of Port Hope (M of PH) and the Town of Cobourg (T of C), to assist them in trying to maintain their own oral health. While the COVID 19 pandemic greatly impacted on our ability to provide these supplies within the community, we were able to continue and are still doing so at this time. We believe that by providing the oral hygiene items that enables a person to clean their mouth, it not only benefits the individual physically, mentally as well as socially but also benefits our communities by improving the health of the residents, which in turn helps reduce costs and burdens on our health care and social support systems.

In light of the ongoing economic and social struggles many people in our community are experiencing, we have seen the need for our supplies increasing. We anticipate that this will likely continue as many vulnerable residents find it difficult to purchase oral hygiene items for themselves and their family. As well, the need to have the items we distribute be available is ongoing, as the majority of the items we offer are either single use, such as dental floss, or are short term use, such as toothbrushes that need to be replaced every 2-3 months. This projected demand for oral hygiene supplies is reflected in the increase in the amount of our request for 2025.

Despite our financial limitations, NOHC - a volunteer, 'grass roots' group, has continued to expand the number of agencies where our supplies are distributed and the items we offer. To date, we have distributed oral hygiene items to:

- St. Peter's Anglican Church Outreach Programs (as well as the warming room located onsite), Cobourg
- Community Health Centres Northumberland (CHCN) and their Outreach Programs, Port Hope
- Transition House Emergency Shelter, Cobourg
- Cornerstone Family Violence Prevention Centre, Cobourg
- St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Outreach Program Weekly Luncheon, Cobourg
- Northumberland County Social Services for distribution to the unsheltered residents living in the tent encampment in Cobourg.

While the majority of these agencies are physically located in Cobourg, in discussion with staff, many of these agencies support M of PH residents too.

We are partnered with the CHCN and two of their staff are NOHC members. If we are successful in receiving a M of PH Donation in 2025, 100% of the donation will go towards purchasing supplies that will be designated for M of PH residents only. The money will be administered by the CHCN - a registered charitable organization - the same as it has been for the 2023 and 2024 M of PH donations we received.

Other Financial Information

3. Please indicate financial support you are expecting to receive from other organizations in 2025: *

NOHC plans on applying for a 2025 Town of Cobourg Municipal Community Grant to be used for purchasing oral health supplies to hand out free of charge to vulnerable town residents. If we are successful in receiving this grant, the money will be designated to be used for T of C residents only.

Of note, in April 2024, while presenting to town council for a 2024 grant, Cobourg mayor Lucas Cleveland enquired if we had approached the County of Northumberland for funding, which we replied we had not, as we were not aware that they offered this. At a follow-up meeting, Mayor Cleveland contacted county council informing them of our initiative and about possible funding but we have not received any reply from them to date.

4. If Council approves your Donation Request, please indicate how the Municipality of Port Hope would be given recognition for this donation: *

We are the recipients of a 2023 and 2024 M of PH donation and we want to sincerely thank the council for their support of our initiative. If we are approved for a 2025 donation, we will continue to recognize the Municipality for this as we have been doing the last two years.

In the past we did a media release in Northumberland Today regarding our supplies being distributed in Port Hope at the CHCN and acknowledged the Municipality and plan to do another one in 2025.

<https://todaysnorthumberland.ca/2023/08/30/local-oral-health-advocacy-group-continues-to-distribute-oral-hygiene-supplies-free-of-charge-to-area-residents/>

To date in 2024, there has been no 'in person' distribution of our supplies by our members in Port Hope as we were doing prior to the COVID 19 pandemic. We continue to work closely with the CHCN staff to have our items made available to M of PH residents and have requested that management at the CHCN inform all of their staff about the Municipality's donations. As well, there is signage acknowledging the M of PH's donation set up at various sites where the CHCN staff distribute our supplies, such as the Good Food shelf and distribution area at the CHCN building and when staff attend at the Greenwood Coalition location, so attendees can be made aware of the Municipality's contribution shown in the media release noted above. The CHCN is also working towards having information about the partnership with the NOHC, and in turn mentioning the donation from the M of PH, on its various social media outlets.

We also inform staff at all of the other agencies that we have or currently supply who provide support services to M of PH residents about the donations from the Municipality.

5. Any additional information you find necessary:

NOHC consists solely of volunteers and we receive no regular 'formal' funding for this initiative. Our members include oral health professionals - both practicing and retired, a public health health promoter, an employment

counsellor, as well as being concerned citizens who are working to improve the quality of life for all residents living in our community. If we are successful in receiving a 2025 M of PH donation, we are planning on expanding where we offer our oral hygiene supplies in person by our members in Port Hope by periodically attending the Port Hope Fare Share Food Bank. This is a great opportunity that allows our members who are oral health professionals to not only be able to offer general oral hygiene information but to offer discuss the various government oral health treatment financial programs for which the attendee or a family member may be eligible for - including the new Canadian Dental Care Plan

(<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/dental/dental-care-plan.html>) or about possible local options where they may be able to receive lower cost treatment such as the CHCN's dental clinic in Port Hope.

Also, our members who are oral health professionals 'shop around' with the various suppliers to try to get the best value for our limited funds. Due to the philanthropic nature of this initiative, we work to purchase products at a reduced cost while using our expertise to choose items that are necessary to maintain a clean mouth. Our costs are impacted by the need to have our inventory be available for residents of all ages since proper oral care depends on items such as toothbrushes and toothpaste being age/size specific for people who have natural teeth as well as for those who have dentures.

We have also evolved to attempt to offer items that are the most 'helpful' to residents. For instance, we now provide toothbrush caps/covers to help residents who are housing insecure as they may move frequently or find themselves in places where it is difficult to keep a toothbrush clean. We are also offering lip balm to help residents who are repeatedly exposed to weather conditions to help improve their wellbeing. In addition, we have recently added sample size tubes of denture adhesive for those who say they have issues with loose dentures.

The 2024 donation from the M of PH that NOHC received enabled us to purchase the following items to add to our inventory of items we distribute free of charge to local residents:

- 100 Child size Toothbrushes
- 12 Infant Toothbrush and Gum Massagers
- 200 packages of Adult Flosser Piks - each package contains 5 piks
- 25 packages of Child Flosser Piks – each package contains 5 piks
- 50 Denture Brushes
- 50 Denture Baths
- 100 Lip Balms
- 40 sample size tubes of Denture Adhesive

Receiving a M of PH donation in 2024 has greatly improved on our ability to be able to provide oral hygiene items so far this year to Municipality residents however we will only be able to continue with this initiative as long as we have funds to purchase new supplies. As previously mentioned, if we are successful in receiving a 2025 donation from the M of PH, the money will be designated for M of PH residents only, as has been done for the 2023 and 2024 donations we gratefully received.

While we have indicated that the preferred date to receive a donation is January 2, this initiative is not a 'one time' event and will continue throughout 2025 as long as our supplies last.

Should Council approve your Donation Request please indicate the following:

Special instructions (optional):

First and Last Name of authorized individual: *

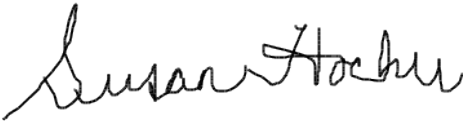
Sue Hochu

Please provide the date you are signing this document: *

9/23/2024

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Please provide the signature of the authorized individual: *



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