

Media Release

June 10, 2008

STEGH Archives on the Move

St. Thomas, ON – St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital is taking steps to preserve its history. The Hospital has donated a variety of archival items including Nursing School yearbooks, text books, outdated medical equipment, photos, and numerous other items, to the Elgin County Archives and the Elgin County Museum for proper storage and cataloguing.

The archival records will be processed under the general title 'St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital Archives fonds' and transferred to acid-free storage media in climate controlled record vaults. Detailed records describing the materials will be included in the Archives' online database <http://citrix.elgin-county.on.ca/descr> and made accessible to the public.

The Hospital's archive project has been led by Meghan Grant, a summer intern student in the Human Resources department at STEGH. Grant says, "Having sorted through the multiple boxes firsthand, it became very apparent that STEGH had a great many resources, but nobody to maintain or preserve its historical integrity."

Although STEGH's archived items have been donated they are in no part lost from the Hospital. The Archives regularly prepares displays featuring transferred records, and are happy to extend this service to STEGH.

Paul Collins, STEGH President and CEO recognizes the importance of preserving STEGH's history. "This hospital has been a vital part of our community for over 100 years. We are very pleased that our history will be preserved in the Elgin County Archives and Elgin County Museum."

The public is encouraged to contact Elgin County Archives directly if they have any archival items to contribute to STEGH's collection. Tours can also be arranged by contacting the Elgin County Archives.

"I am happy to know that the St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital archives will be kept for posterity and will be well taken care of at the Elgin County Archives," Elgin-Middlesex-London MPP Steve Peters said. "Remembering our past is key to moving forward for the future and our local hospital's history is a vital part of that process."

-30-

Photo Opportunity

Representatives from the Elgin County Archives and the Elgin County Museum will be at STEGH removing the remaining archives.

When: Wednesday June 11th @ 9:45 a.m.

Where: Human Resources – First Floor, near East Entrance

For more information contact:

Cathy Fox, Communications and Public Relations

St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital

519 -631-2030 Ext. 2191, cfox@stegh.on.ca