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## MEDIA RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

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**Yvonne Lambert**

Board Chair

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### ***MHA Board Appoints new Chief of Staff for Strathroy Middlesex Site***

The Middlesex Hospital Alliance (MHA) is pleased to announce that it has appointed Dr Paul G. Ferner as the new Chief of Staff at its Strathroy Middlesex Site.

After a careful selection process, which included endorsements by doctors, staff, and the Chief of Staff Selection Committee, Dr Ferner was recommended to the MHA Board of Directors by Board Chair Yvonne Lambert. A motion was made to accept Ms Lambert recommendation at the Board meeting held May 30, 2007 and was passed unanimously.

Prior to completing his medical degree, Dr Ferner completed his degree in Honors Health Science at the University of Western Ontario. He received his medical training from the University of Toronto, graduating in 1984. After starting his career in Timmins, he came to Strathroy and began practicing family medicine in 1989. Since that time he has been heavily involved with the hospital, working on both the inpatient floors and in the Emergency Department.

He is actively involved with the Ontario Breast Screening Program, is a regional resource for Palliative Care, and is also an Adjunct Professor at the University of Western Ontario, Department of Family Medicine.

Dr Ferner has also held a number of administrative positions, both within the hospital in Strathroy and externally. As President of the Medical Staff (1996), and Chief of Medicine (1998 – 2004), he gained the respect of his peers on the medical staff. This experience has prepared him well for the challenges associated with being Chief of Staff.

“I am excited to take on this new challenge,” said Ferner. “I am pleased by the recent expansion of services offered in Strathroy with the new CT Scanner and expanded surgical programs. I am looking forward to working with the Board to maintain and improve hospital services in the future.”