

Joint Municipal Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee - Key Messaging

The Town of The Blue Mountains' has a very urgent need to recruit and retain Family Physicians:

- We as a community need to make The Town of The Blue Mountains 'Physicians' Rural Community of Choice'
- It takes a community to recruit a Family Physician and their family, partner etc.
- Recruit 5+ Family Physicians for:
 - 5 Doctors for Community growth and upcoming retirements
 - 1 - 2 Family Physicians for orphaned patients
 - Additional long term care (nursing home beds) needs a Family Physician on call 24/7
 - PLUS for every 500 new dwellings, 1.5 Family Physicians are needed, development charges do not support the recruitment of new physician
 - Family Physicians' practices have averaging a size of 2-3,000 patients, however, now are averaging 1,000 patients
- Support our local Family Physicians' key leadership role in supporting Family Physician residents and medical students in experiencing rural medicine in our community
- Active engagement of our stakeholders
- Competition from neighbouring areas is 'Fierce'

Importance of Family Physicians

1. Family Physicians provide day-to-day healthcare.
2. Act as the first contact and principal point of continuing care for patients within our healthcare system, and coordinates secondary specialist care their patients may need.
3. One in five Emergency Department visits occur from lack of access to a Family Physician

Definitions:

CaRMS: The Canadian Resident Matching Service is a national, independent, not-for-profit, fee-for-service organization that provides a fair, objective and transparent application and matching service for medical residency training across all provinces in Canada.

CASPR: The Canadian Association of Staff Physician Recruiters is a professional organization from across Canada whose members primary role is to recruit physicians for their communities, local hospitals and other healthcare organizations.

LHIN: Local Health Integration Network - we are in the South West LHIN,
<http://www.southwestlhin.on.ca/> our neighbouring LHIN is North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN,
<http://nsmllhin.on.ca>

MoHLTC: Ministry of Health and Long Term Care

Nurse Practitioner: also known as Registered Nurses in the extended class, are registered nurses who have met additional education, experience and exam requirements set by the College. They are authorized to diagnose, order and interpret diagnostic tests except MRIs, and prescribe medication and other treatment. They are currently not able to bill OHIP.

OHIP: Ontario Health Insurance Plan

OHT: Ontario Health Team - new initiative by the Ontario PC government

ROMP: The Rural Ontario Medical Program coordinates medical rotations for future physicians from the six medical universities in Ontario. Located in South-Central Ontario, their mission is to alleviate the burden on communities caused by the national-wide physicians distribution problem and create learning opportunities outside the academic centres ad into communities.