

HEALTH RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP

ZOOM

8:30 A.M.

October 3, 2022

- 1. Disclosures of Conflict of Interest
- 2. Confirmation of Minutes : September 12, 2022
- 3. Activity Report and Recruitment Projects : Cheryl Fish, Health Recruiter Pages 2-3
- 4. New Business
 - Health Recruitment Incentive Funding to Dr. Anthony Ezepue. Pages 4-10
 - Schulich School Medicine Admission Process. Pages 11-12
- 5. Unfinished Business
 - 2023 Health Recruitment Scholarship Program Report. Pages 13-16
 - Physician Recruitment and "Wait List" Website Costs No Action Taken to Date
- 6. Next Meeting
- 7. Adjournment

St. Thomas-Elgin Recruitment Committee

Update Report

September 2022

Activities:

- 1) I'm pleased to advise that Sandra and my meeting with Mike McMahon from the Thames Valley Family Health Team (TVFHT) went very well on Sept. 7th. As Mike confirmed only 30% of Elgin Residents are provided with "Team Based Primary Health Care." After a lengthy discussion Mr. McMahon confirmed that TVFHT can assist Members of a FHO with "Team Based Care." And could assist the lead of a new FHO with "Business Administrative Support." Both of these new support mechanisms will be of great assistance when discussing with new physicians or new grads the practice opportunities available in St. Thomas and Elgin County.
- 2) Following a discussion with Cindy Bratt the Executive Director of the East Elgin Family Health Team (EEFHT) regarding entertaining the possibility of committing to internationally trained physicians; I reached out to Ontario Health and organized an educational session for Sept. 29th. This zoom session will include details on the licensing and Immigration requirements for a clinic to participate in this program. We are also hoping that during this presentation Ontario Health will be able to share what progress has been made by them to "Fast Track " physicians so they are able to work while waiting for their license similar to what is happening in the Nursing profession. More info will be shared with the committee once the EEFHT has had an opportunity to better understand the program and make a decision on their ability to commit.
- 3) On Sept 12th I had an extensive conversation with Teresinha Medeiros, the communications lead at Middlesex London, Ontario Health. Ms. Medeiros had been given my contact information by Rachel LaBonte. Middlesex London is in the initial stages of considering creating a position for a Physician Recruiter. She was interested in hearing about how our committee operates our programs, challenges and successes. I have offered to provide her with any documentation that might be helpful as they pursue this new endeavour.
- 4) Initial contact emails were sent to six physicians doing placements at the STEGH in the month of Sept., requesting to set up telephone calls to review what practice opportunities are available in St. Thomas and Eglin County now and what is coming in the near future.
- 5) I have received two requests for locum coverage for various durations in 2023. I sent this information out to the 4 physicians I have on the list who would like to provide coverage and I'm awaiting their responses.

- 6) Follow up emails were sent to 6 physicians that had expressed an interest in opportunities in Elgin County to see if they required any additional info or if they wanted to arrange an introduction and tour.
- Final details are being arranged in order to confirm the Elgin Orientation date of Friday Oct 7th for our two new physicians.
- 8) Sandra Datars Bere and I met with Dr. Ezepue to discuss his request for the incentive fund as he is taking over the practice of Dr. Ajogwu on Oct. 1st. 2022. Once Dr. Ezepue has transferred the rostered patients from Dr. Ajowgu he intends to take on several hundred more patients; hopefully starting as early as the New Year. Dr. Ezepue provided us with a tour of his new clinic at 19 Elgin Street. St Thomas. They have done a wonderful job of re-purposing this building for both physicians to carry on their various models of practice.
- 9) On Monday Sept., 26th I attended the McMaster Physician Recruitment fair in Kitchener. Forty first and second year Residents attended. I have 14 Residents interested in continuing to communicate with us to discuss practice opportunities that will be available when they graduate starting in July 2023 and 2024. I will follow up with them to see if they have additional questions once they've had the opportunity to review the information I provided. I will also be offering to arrange tours of the clinics and the area at their earliest convenience.
- 10) On Tuesday, Schulich School of Medicine in London arranged a meeting for the Administrators who hosted their Learners for "Discovery Week". The meeting included a recap of Discovery Week events. Group discussions were held on accommodations, travel, timelines and duration. We were asked for input on Faculty engagement & support. Attendees shared what evening events they hosted and ideas the students and hosts felt were most appreciated and successful. It was an excellent day and a great sharing and learning opportunity.

Submitted by: Cheryl Fish- Health Recruiter

Subject:	Recommendation- Health Recruitment Incentive Funding to Dr. Anthony Ezepue	
	Health Recruitment Partnership (HRP), Elgin St. Thomas	
Report to :	Committee Members	
September 2	9, 2022	

Through the efforts of Cheryl Fish, Health Recruiter, Dr. Anthony Exepue has been recruited to assume the family medicine practice of Dr. Chamberlain Ojogwu, who will be starting a pain management practice.

Dr. Exepue is assuming Dr. Ojogwu's practice and roster of patients on October 1, 2022. He will work closely with Dr. Ojogwu to ensure a smooth transition for all patients within the practice. Both doctors will be co-located in their new offices at 19 Elgin Street, St. Thomas. Dr. Chamberlain has previously had an office in Port Stanley. The doctors have been acquainted with each other for several years and have indicated they are quite excited to be able to work together at their renovated core area office building, which will also include a pharmacy.

Ms. Fish and I met together with Dr. Ezepue earlier this month. At that time, he indicated great interest in assuming the practice, supporting the current roster and adding new patients. Dr. Ezepue has requested access to Health Recruitment Funds in order make improvements to his new practice including completing office updates. Dr. Ezepue has submitted the required practice transfer documentation to the Ministry of Health.

A draft Incentive Funding agreement has been established and reviewed and signed by Dr. Ezepue. A copy of this draft agreement is attached for information. It will be executed once HRP and City Council approvals are in place.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Health Recruitment Partnership approve an allocation of \$33,000 in Health Recruitment Incentive funding to Dr. Anthony Ezepue, pending the approval by St. Thomas City Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Datars Bere City Manager City of St. Thomas

THIS PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT AGREEMENT (this "**Agreement**") IS MADE IN TRIPLICATE ON THE DAY OF , 2022

BETWEEN:

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS

(hereinafter called the "**Corporation**")

- and -

Dr. Anthony Chukwuemeka Ezepue

(hereinafter called "Dr. Ezepue")

(hereinafter collectively called the "**Parties**" and individually a "**Party**")

WHEREAS:

- 1. A shortage of family physicians exists in the County of Elgin, including the City of St. Thomas;
- 2. To address this need the Corporation and the County of Elgin have agreed to co-operate in an informal alliance known as the Health Professional Partnership;
- 3. The Health Professional Partnership wishes to initiate a recruitment method that will involve local physicians in attracting their peers to join them in the practice of medicine within Elgin County;
- 4. The Health Professional Partnership has authorized the Corporation to act as the administering municipality for the physician recruitment project;
- 5. The Health Professional Partnership finds that Dr. Ezepue is an appropriate candidate to participate in this recruitment method and Dr. Ezepue wishes to enter this Agreement with the Corporation for these purposes;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the payments and respective covenants hereinafter set forth, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

A. TERM OF AGREEMENT

- 1. This Agreement shall commence on the date it is fully executed and, if not otherwise terminated hereunder, shall continue in full force and effect until:
 - a. all the covenants herein are fulfilled, or

b. the eighth anniversary of the commencement date, whichever of these two events shall be the earlier to occur, (hereinafter called the "**Term**").

B. OBLIGATIONS OF DR. EZEPUE

- 1. Under this recruitment project Dr.Ezepue will be establishing a family medical practice in Elgin County.
- 2. Dr. Ezepue will assume the practice of Dr. Chaberlain Ajogwu and practice out of the premises at 19 Elgin Street, St. Thomas.

3. Dr. Ezepue will provide to the Corporation at regular intervals throughout the Term written reports summarizing the actual medical service that has been provided and, if requested, the amounts of the loan that have been expended and retained on hand.

Such reports will be forwarded to the Corporation, to the attention of the City Clerk, as follows:

- a. when 12 months have elapsed from the advance of the funds to Dr. Ezepue, an initial summary;
- b. each year, within 30 days after the anniversary date of this Agreement;
- c. reports at such further and other times as the Corporation may reasonably request information relating to this recruitment project or the loan under this Agreement.
- 4. Subject to Section C3, Dr. Ezepue agrees to repay the \$33,000.00 loan in full together with interest where applicable under the terms of this Agreement and will accordingly enter into a promissory note in form substantially similar to the promissory note set forth on Schedule A hereto, subject to the terms of this Agreement.
- 5. In addition to the above-mentioned reports provided by Dr. Ezepue under this Agreement, once the conditions in Section C3(c) are satisfied Dr. Ezepue will submit to the Corporation a specific claim with respect to the loan deduction for which he may qualify under Section C4 of this Agreement. The claim will briefly list the facts supporting the claim for the deduction.

C. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CORPORATION

- 1. In consideration of Dr. Ezepue fulfilling his covenants herein, the Corporation will lend to Dr. Ezepue the sum of Thirty-three Thousand dollars (\$33,000.00).
- 2. Re-payment of the loan shall be subject to deduction as hereinafter set out but the loan shall otherwise be due and payable as follows:
 - a. for so long as Dr. Ezepue is not in default under any of the terms of this Agreement the loan shall be interest free for the first 5 years of the Term. If any part of the loan remains outstanding on the 5th anniversary of this Agreement, interest shall be payable thereafter unless waived by the Corporation;
 - b. the annual interest rate to be charged on the outstanding balance after the 5th anniversary shall be set and determined at the discretion of the Corporation but shall in no case be a rate greater than 3% above the variable reference interest rate per year declared by the Bank of Nova Scotia (the "**Prime Rate**") from time to time to be its prime rate for Canadian dollar loans made by Bank of Nova Scotia in Canada in effect as at the interest commencement date;
 - c. in the event of default at any time by Dr. Ezepue which he fails to remedy in accordance with this Agreement within 30 days of receipt of notice of such default from the Corporation, interest shall thereafter be payable at a rate which is 5% above the Prime Rate in effect as at the date the default is confirmed;
 - d. the entire balance of principal and interest, if any, shall be due for immediate repayment to the Corporation upon any termination of this Agreement before the end of the Term or in any case any balance that remains outstanding on the 8th anniversary of this Agreement shall thereupon be due and payable in full to the Corporation.

- 3. Deductions from the loan:
 - a. the original loan amount (\$33,000.00) shall be forgiven when Dr. Ezepue confirms that he has successfully fulfilled the terms of this agreement.
 - b. for further specificity, the Corporation and Dr. Ezepue agree that the loan shall be forgiven once all the following conditions have been verified by Dr. Ezepue with respect to the claim that he is submitting:
 - i. Dr. Ezepue is carrying on a family medicine practice, and is accepting patients, at a location within Elgin County;
 - ii. Dr. Ezepue has continuously carried on such practice on a full-time basis for a period of forty-eight (48) consecutive months commencing on October 1, 2022;
 - c. No later than 30 days after receiving from Dr. Ezepue a proper claim to forgive the loan, or no later than 30 days after receiving further particulars required by the Corporation, acting reasonably, for verification of such claim, the Corporation shall execute and provide to Dr. Ezepue a formal release of indebtedness and waiver effectively and permanently forgiving the original loan advanced to Dr. Ezepue under this Agreement.
- 4. Furthermore, the Corporation shall at any reasonable time(s) upon request from Dr. Ezepue provide to Dr. Ezepue a current accounting of his outstanding loan obligation including principal and interest, if any;
- 5. The Corporation agrees to provide reasonable feedback to Dr. Ezepue regarding the Health Professional Partnership's satisfaction or dissatisfaction with Dr. Ezepue performance under this Agreement and if the Corporation or other members of the Health Professional Partnership have concerns, questions or requests for further information arising from any report submitted by Dr. Ezepue under Section B herein, the Corporation will respond to Dr. Ezepue within 30 days after receiving such report.

D. FURTHER AGREED PROVISIONS

- 1. Throughout this Agreement references to Elgin County include the City of St. Thomas and all other municipalities and communities geographically located within Elgin County.
- 2. To fulfill Dr. Ezepue obligations under this Agreement it is not necessary that he continue to practice at 19 Elgin Street, St. Thomas, if he practices from a location(s) within Elgin County for the duration of the Term.
- 3. Nothing shall preclude Dr. Ezepue from repaying the outstanding balance of the loan in full to the Corporation at any time, thereby terminating this Agreement, provided that in such event interest shall be payable on the outstanding balance from the date of advance at the rate described in paragraph C.2 (b) herein.
- 4. Dr. Ezepue acknowledges that the Corporation operates as a municipal government and agrees that this Agreement may be disclosed and made public at any time;
- 5. Dr. Ezepue agrees to faithfully repay the loan, to the full extent required under the terms of this Agreement and specifically Section 3 above.
- 6. Nothing herein precludes the absence of Dr. Ezepue during the term of this Agreement by reason of illness or maternity or parental leave in which case he shall use his commercially reasonable efforts to provide an

alternative family physician to cover his practice during the absence to facilitate the continued care of his patients.

- 7. If during the Term of this Agreement Dr. Ezepue dies or becomes incapacitated by illness or injury to such an extent that it prevents him from fulfilling his obligations to practice medicine under this Agreement, then this Agreement shall terminate and the requirement for repayment of the loan shall be limited to such portion of the loan as had been retained by Dr. Ezepue and not yet expended for the purposes related to establishing and operating his family medical practice at a location within Elgin County. Notwithstanding Section C.2 d. of this Agreement and if proof of such expenditure is submitted if requested by the Corporation, no repayment of the outstanding balance of the loan shall be required save and except for any portion of loan not yet thus expended.
- 8. Any fraudulent, dishonest, or deliberately misleading acts or criminal activity in connection with the subject matter of this Agreement shall be cause for immediate termination of this Agreement. Where any other breach or default arises hereunder the Party alleging such default shall give notice to the other Party, including details of the specific breach or default claimed. If, within 30 days of thus receiving Notice of the alleged act or omission, there has been no remedy of the breach or default, nor satisfactory explanation disproving the allegation, this Agreement shall thereupon be terminated unless the Party which gave the notice elects not to so terminate.
- 9. Any notice or communication to be given by one party hereunder to the other shall be deemed to be well and sufficiently given and served if faxed / e-mailed or handed to the designated representative of either party or, if mailed, by prepaid registered mail addressed to the following addresses or such other address as a party may provide in writing to the other

In the case of the Corporation The Corporation of the City of St. Thomas 545 Talbot Street City Hall, P.O. Box 520 St. Thomas, Ontario N5P 3V7 Phone Number: (519)631-1680 Fax Number: (519) 633-9019 ATTENTION: City Clerk In the case of Dr. Ezepue Dr. Anthony Chukwuemeka Ezepue 19 Elgin Street St. Thomas, ON N5R 3L7

10. This Agreement shall not be assignable by the Corporation and Dr. Ezepue's rights or obligations under this Agreement cannot be

- assigned by him, except if:
 - a) upon the specific written consent of the Corporation;b) the proposed successor is, or is controlled by, a family medical
 - practitioner; and
 c) if the proposed successor is a corporation, consent of the Corporation will not be forthcoming, unless the principal owner(s) of the Corporation is/are an individual(s) who agree(s) to personally guarantee the performance and obligations described in this Agreement.

- 11. This Agreement shall enure to the benefit of and, be binding upon the Parties and the respective heirs, executors, trustees, personal representatives, permitted assigns or successors of the Parties.
- 12. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision or covenant in this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision or covenant herein and any such invalid or unenforceable provision or covenant shall be deemed to be separate.
- 13. Dr. Ezepue is an independent provider of services and is not an employee, partner or agent of the Corporation. Dr. Ezepue shall perform his obligations under this Agreement as an independent contractor of the Corporation. Nothing herein shall be deemed to constitute Dr. Ezepue and the Corporation or one of the participants in the aforementioned "Health Professional Partnership" as partners, joint venturers, or principal and agent. Dr. Ezepue has no authority to represent the Corporation as to any matters, except as expressly authorized in this Agreement. In no event will either Party's employees be considered agents or employees of the other Party. The Corporation is not responsible for withholding and paying for Dr. Ezepue any income taxes, employment insurance, or other amounts required by applicable laws to be deducted from payments made to employees.
- 14. This Agreement, along with the executed promissory notes constitutes the entire understanding, contract and agreement between the parties.
- 15. This Agreement cannot be amended or modified except by further written agreement mutually acceptable to and signed by both Parties.

EXECUTED at the City of St. Thomas, Province of Ontario, this _____ day of , 2022

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS

Witness

Per:

Joe Preston, Mayor

Witness

Per:

Maria Konefal, City Clerk

EXECUTED at the City of St. Thomas, Province of Ontario, this _____ day of , 2022

Witness (Signature) Mrs Vivienne Ezepue

Dr. Anthony Chukwuemeka Ezepue

Schedule A

Promissory Note

For value received, Dr. Ezepue (the "**Borrower**") hereby promises to pay to or to the order of The Corporation of the City of St. Thomas (the "**Corporation**") the principal sum of Thirty-three thousand dollars (\$33,000.00) in lawful money (the "Principal") together with interest in accordance with the following:

- (a) for so long as the Borrower is not in default under any of the terms of the Physician Recruitment Agreement of even date with the Corporation (the "Agreement") this loan shall be interest free for the first 5 years of the Term. If any part of the loan remains outstanding on the 5th anniversary of the Agreement, interest shall be payable thereafter unless waived by the Corporation;
- (b) the annual interest rate to be charged on the outstanding balance after the 5th anniversary shall be set and determined at the discretion of the Corporation but shall in no case be a rate greater than 3% above the variable reference interest rate per year declared by the Bank of Nova Scotia (the "**Prime Rate**") from time to time to be its prime rate for Canadian dollar loans made by Bank of Nova Scotia in Canada in effect as at the interest commencement date; and
- (c) in the event of default at any time by the Borrower which he fails to remedy in accordance with the Agreement, interest shall thereafter be payable at a rate which is 5% above the Prime Rate in effect as at the date the default is confirmed.

The Borrower agrees that the entire balance of principal and interest, if any, shall be due for immediate repayment to the Corporation upon any termination of the Agreement before the end of the Term of the Agreement or in any case any balance that remained outstanding on the 8th anniversary of the Agreement shall thereupon be due and payable in full to the Corporation.

The balance due under this Promissory Note shall be calculated in accordance with all applicable terms of the Agreement

Rider A

Reference is made to the Agreement for a full description of the terms and conditions upon which this Promissory Note is issued, all to the same effect as if the provisions of the Agreement were herein set forth. To the extent the provisions of this Promissory Note are inconsistent with the provisions of the Agreement, the Agreement shall govern. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this Promissory Note shall have the meanings specified in the Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Borrower has executed this promissory note this _____ day of _____, 2022.

Dr. Anthony Chukwuemeka Ezepue

September 28, 2022

Report to:	Health Recruitment Partnership Committee	
Subject:	Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry (Western University) Medicine Admission Process – Volunteers sought.	

This report is being provided to HRP members for information purposes and to advise that volunteers are being sought by **Western University** to support the **Schulich Medicine Admission** process.

From: Schulich Recruitment and Admissions <recruit@uwo.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 11:41 AM
Subject: Participate in the Schulich Medicine Admissions Process – Register Today

You are invited to **participate in the admissions process for applicants to Medical School** at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry (Western University). Regardless of your location or whether you have participated in past, you are encouraged to be part of this important process.

This is your opportunity to help choose future physicians and health care leaders!

Click the link Register to Participate by Friday, October 7

https://www.schulich.uwo.ca/med_dent_admissions/medicine/invitation_medicine_admissions.html

File Reviewer

File reviews will take place **mid-November 2022** and will require **12-15** hours of your time. Files will be **distributed**, **reviewed**, **and scored electronically** so reviews can be completed anywhere, and at your own pace, over a 2-week period.

Interviewer

Virtual interviews will be held on Saturday, March 4 and Sunday, March 5, 2023. Interviews will require a one (1) day commitment from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. during which time you cannot be on-call or attend other meetings or engagements.

Thank you in advance!

Eller M Brown (she/her) Admissions & Recruitment Officer, Admissions Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University



Further information from Ms. Brown advised that Schulich would welcome participation from all individuals " who are interested in participating in the assessment of applicants to medical school at Western. Feel free to click the link in the email below and/or share the body of the email with your colleagues, to learn more about the File Reviewer and Interviewer roles and participation timelines".

It is understood that Interested parties will /can volunteer as individuals and will not / are not required to specifically represent any organization with which they may be affiliated.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sandra Datars Bere City Manager

September 28, 2022

Report to:	Health Recruitment Partnership Committee
Subject:	2023 St. Thomas- Elgin County Health Recruitment Partnership Scholarship Program

In previous years, the Health Recruitment Partnership (HRP) has sponsored a scholarship program for medical school students from the Elgin County and St. Thomas community. The program has been successful, providing support for local medical students, enhancing the profile of the Health Recruitment partnership and increasing knowledge about family medicine practice opportunities and related medical practices in the community.

It is recommended that a 2023 HRP Scholarship initiative be implemented. A copy of the proposed 2023 scholarship program including the application form, has been created and is appended to this report. It is recommended that the HRP support the implementation of the initiative and the allocation of up to 5 scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each for eligible students. Applications will be due by November 30, 2022, and will be evaluated, with recommendations for funding being made to the HRP in December/ January 2023. Sufficient funding is available within the HRP program budget to cover scholarship costs.

HRP support is being sought to support implementation of the 2023 HRP scholarship program.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sandra Datars Bere City Manager





October 2022

St. Thomas-Elgin County Health Recruitment Partnership Scholarship

Scholarship Purpose

The scholarship awards \$1,000 per year for up to 5 individuals who are enrolled in a Canadian medical school with emphasis placed on the pursuit of a career as a physician in family medicine.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must:

- Be a resident of the County of Elgin, within any county municipality or the City of St. Thomas;
- Be enrolled in a Canadian medical school;
- Agree to have his or her name and photograph publicized.

Supporting Documentation

Applicants must provide the following documentation to be considered;

- Completed application form (available on the City of St. Thomas and County of Elgin websites);
- Resume outlining past employment and/or extra-curricular activities, with a focus on community involvement;
- Proof of enrollment in a Canadian medical school;
- Written statement explaining how your roots in Elgin County, or the City of St. Thomas continue to be important, as you pursue a career in medicine (approximately 250 words)

Application Deadline

Applications are to be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on November 30th, 2022 for awards to be distributed.





Selection Procedure

- Applications will be reviewed by the St. Thomas-Elgin Health Recruitment Partnership Committee.
- The decision of the Committee is final and reasons for the selections are strictly confidential.
- The Committee reserves the right not to award scholarships in any given year.
- Direct family members of the Health Recruitment Partnership and St. Thomas and Elgin County Councils are ineligible to apply.

Payment

The scholarship will be paid directly to the recipient upon the City of St. Thomas receiving a receipt stating tuition has been paid. Successful applicants are eligible to receive awards annually during their enrollment in medical school to a maximum of 5 years. Applicants must apply for the award annually.

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St. Thomas-Elgin County Health Recruitment Partnership Scholarship Application Form

Applicant Name:	
Mailing Address:	
Phone Number:	
E-mail Address:	
Current Post Secondary Program and Fut	ure Career Plans:
 List of Supporting Documentation (please Resume Proof of acceptance or enrolment Statement explaining your roots v My home address in Elgin County 	at a Canadian medical school vithin Elgin County or the City of St. Thomas
Applications are to be submitted by 4:30	p.m., November 30 th , 2022 to:
City Clerks Office City of St. Thomas 545 Talbot Street, P.O. Box 520 St. Thomas, ON N5P 3V7	Phone: 519 631-1680 ext. 4121 Fax: 519 633-9019 E-mail: <u>msmale@stthomas.ca</u>
	n Recruitment Partnership to publicize my name and photograph gnify that the information included with this application is

Signature:_____

Date:_____