

**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS**

**HEALTH RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP**

**ROOM 204**  
**CITY HALL**

**7:30 A.M.**

**May 31, 2016**

1. Approval of Minutes – April 26, 2016
2. Activity Report and Recruitment Projects: Cheryl Fish, Health Recruiter
3. Update : Nurse Practitioner Led Clinic
4. Elmwood Medical Centre (Dr. Haruta)
  - a) Dr. Melissa Tenbergen
  - b) Dr. Matthew Zajac
  - c) Dr. Kimberly Thompson
  - d) Dr. Anusha Perera
5. Funding request : Dr. Chamberlain Ajogwu
6. Discovery Week
7. New Business
8. Unfinished Business
  - a) Francis Osih
9. Next Meeting
10. Adjournment

## **Health Recruitment Partnership Committee**

### **Update Report May 2016**

#### **Activities :**

- 1) **Discovery Week will take place May 30-June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Once again twelve first year medical students from UWO will be joining us for job shadowing of physicians, various departments in the hospital and other allied health care providers to experience rural medicine. The City/County will be hosting an evening dinner event at G.T's in Port Stanley on Tuesday May 31<sup>st</sup>. To date we have received 30 RSVP's.**
- 2) **On Doctors' Day May 2<sup>nd</sup> I purchased and delivered 2 fruit baskets one to Dr. Bryans and the other for Dr. Richter, thanking them for their support and dedication to the community.**
- 3) **On April 18 & 19<sup>th</sup> I provided a tour to Dr. Chamberlain Ajogwu a physician from Saskatchewan looking to practice in Ontario. We met with numerous opportunities and just recently Dr. Ajogwu advised that he has decided to join the practice in Port Stanley. Dr. Green and Dr. Toth will be authorizing the paper work for Dr Ajogwu to join the Elgin FHO. He is planning on moving once his children have finished school for the summer and would like to start practicing in early August.**
- 4) **Dr. Tenbergen and I continue to meet with new grads and existing physicians to fill the positions with the new Elmdale FHO. To date 4 FTE's have signed on and the search for 2 more continues. An ad has been placed on the UWO Residents website. Dr. Tenbergen will be submitting the application for the new FHO to the Ministry by the end of May 2016. The construction has progressed well, the outside is almost complete and tenants have been selecting the interior finishes. Dr. Haruta advised that he is working with other allied health care providers about space requirements.**
- 5) **The opportunity that we thought had been filled to replace a retiring physician at the Windemere Family Health team unfortunately did not take place. This opportunity has been placed back on the inventory list and I will continue to make new grads and physicians aware that this physician wishes to retire.**

- 6) As you know a letter from the Partnership was sent to Phil Graham on March 15th advising of our plans to submit a proposal for a NPLC in St Thomas-Elgin County. Several follow ups resulted in a conference call with representatives from the Ministry of Health, Nadia Surani and Fernando Tavares with Mark McDonald and Chery Fish.

The end result of this conversation was that we could proceed to submit a business proposal as a satellite operation and that a budget did exist to allow this initiative to take place. The name of an inside Ministry staff person (Debbie Lora ) was provided to assist us with how to proceed and what the content of the proposal should include. Linda Chudiak from the Ingersoll NPLC and I had a conference call with this person on Friday May 6th.

Much to our surprise the message provided to us by Debbie Lora was not the same as provided from the earlier call. She told us not to proceed with a proposal as there was no money in the budget and no proposals would be considered by the Ministry until 2017/18. Linda Chudiak then contacted Theresa Agnew from the NP Association to request her opinion on why she thought we were getting mixed messages.

Theresa Agnew and I spoke on Tuesday May 17th. Theresa has suggested the following:

- She would like to continue to pursue this initiative on our behalf through her contacts at the Ministry.
- She feels that this is still possible and is the right thing to do.
- She feels that we should be submitting the proposal directly and not as a satellite.
- She has spoken with Phil Graham regarding the mixed messages we have received from the Ministry and he is open to discussing this.
- Presently Theresa has 3 communities that would like this model
- Theresa will support and recommend that St Thomas-Elgin County be considered for an NPLC.
- The approach that Theresa is going to take is a political one.
- Theresa is hoping to schedule a meeting with the Minister of Health Dr. Eric Hoskins next week and will provide us with notification when this meeting will take place.

Theresa requested that we sit tight and allow her to present this request on our behalf. She will advise ASAP if Minister Hoskins gives a green light and will also give us her honest opinion on proceeding with this initiative along with a realistic time frame.

I'm looking forward to Theresa's response from her meeting.

- 7) Info packages listing the opportunities as well as specific info about communities and practices were sent out to 6 physicians this month. Follow up has taken place. We are working on possible dates for tours/visits.

- 8) I arranged meetings for two family physicians who wish to retire with new physicians who are considering taking over their practices. Discussion are ongoing.
- 9) On May 18<sup>th</sup> Kimberly Boughner provided me the contact information for 13 residents that will be graduating in 2016 who have expressed an interest in St Thomas and Elgin County opportunities. Initial contact has been made and I'm waiting for their response.

Submitted by:

Cheryl Fish  
Health Recruiter  
City of St Thomas/County of Elgin.

**Graves, Wendell**

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**From:** Chamberlain Ajogwu [chamberlainajogwu@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** May 11, 2016 12:03 AM  
**To:** Graves, Wendell  
**Subject:** Application for financial grant

Hello Mr. Graves,

It was great meeting you during my site visit to Elgin County.

It will interest you to know that I have accepted to join the Bridge Medical Clinic in Port Stanley under the Elgin County FHO Group with my start date scheduled for August 2016.

Consequent to this, I would like to use this opportunity to apply for the \$33,000 financial grant. This will aid in covering the start-up cost for my practice including computers, laptop, office/medical equipment as well as updating and expanding my Electronic Medical Records (EMR). I also intend to establish a chronic pain management practice in the nearest future that will require more specific tools and equipment.

Thank you for your consideration, I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

**Chamberlain Ajogwu MD**

**MBBS, MCFP**  
**PgC Pain Mgt (Alberta)** *Postgraduate Certificate in Pain Management*  
**DAAPM (US)** *Diplomate American Academy of Pain Management*  
**DCAPM (Canada)** *Diplomate Canadian Academy of Pain Management*