

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS

HEALTH RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP

ROOM 204
CITY HALL

7:30 A.M.

Sept. 12, 2017

1. Approval of Minutes – June 13, 2017
2. Activity Report and Recruitment Projects: Cheryl Fish, Health Recruiter
3. Funding Request : Dr. Aric Sudicky
4. Update : Francis Osih
5. New Business
6. Unfinished Business
7. Next Meeting
8. Adjournment

Health Recruitment Partnership Committee

Update Report

June- Aug 2017

Activities

- 1) On June 16th several members of the St Thomas Health Recruitment Partnership Committee attended a wine & cheese hosted by Dr. Haruta. The following day we also attended the grand opening ceremonies of the Elmdale Medical Center. Dr. Haruta and his team are very pleased to see the culmination of their work over the last two years. The event was well attended and everyone is very appreciative of Dr. Haruta's dedication to the project and support of this community.
- 2) On June 19th I responded to a request from Kelda Yuen from CTV London for an interview. Kelda has suggested that I contact her directly in the future if we have physician and recruitment information we want to get coverage on.
- 3) On June 21st I made contact with Dr. Elsie Osagie and her husband Moses. They were referred to me by Dr. Kodi a physician who had tried very hard to take over a retiring physicians practice here in Elgin unsuccessfully. I reviewed all the opportunities that we have available in Elgin County and then organized tours and introductions to the facilities that Dr. Osagie felt were her priorities. I have been working with Dr. Osagie throughout the summer and I'm pleased to advise that she will be joining the Elgin FHO and is in the final negotiating stages with one of our retiring physicians to commence taking over his practice starting Nov. 1st.
- 4) Several months ago Dr. Sharman from Dutton began discussing the possibility of him joining the Elgin FHO. His application has been submitted and he is waiting processing by the Ministry.
- 5) On June 26th I spoke with Dr. Ahmed Kamar a physician who trained and practiced in Egypt and is presently working in Saskatchewan. This fall Dr. Kamar's daughter will be attending UWO and Dr. Kamar would like to practice closer to her. I've sent him information on all the opportunities we have available in Elgin County and after careful review Dr. Kamar has decided to join the Dutton Medical Centre and practice with Dr. Sharman. His references I obtained were excellent and the lead of the Elgin FHO has sent out notice to the other members advising them of Dr. Kamar's desire to join the Elgin FHO and practice in Dutton. The Ministry will be receiving his application to join the Elgin FHO within the next 10 days and the Elgin FHO members will ratify his membership at their annual general meeting in Oct. Dr. Kamar will commence practicing in Dutton on January 2, 2018.
- 6) In February I began working with Dr. Afiza Elahi she would be graduating from UWO in June of this year and wasn't sure what model of practice she was looking for. After several meetings

and reviewing information on all the opportunities we had available Dr. Elahi began to lean towards a Family Health Team. She has met with Dr. Bryans on several occasions and has recently reached an agreement to join the Windemere Family Health team. She has submitted her request to the Ministry and is awaiting their approval. She hopes to start practicing in October and until her approval is finalized Dr. Elahi was willing to provide locum coverage. Presently she is working temporarily at the Central Community Health Centre while she waits for her paperwork to be approved by the Ministry. We are looking forward to welcoming Dr. Afiza Elahi as a permanent full time physician in Elgin County.

- 7) We have been interacting with Dr. Aric Sudicky a young man who grew up in Rodney. Aric has been evaluating his options in Elgin County for over 3 years and will be graduating in June of 2018. Over the summer Dr. Sudicky has made a decision on where he is going to practice and is looking forward to joining us in Elgin County upon graduating.
- 8) I introduced Dr. Bilawski an experienced physician who relocated to Elgin County from Barrie Ontario to the opportunities we have available. Dr. Bilawski is discovering that rural communities can be very different in their approach to family medicine, practice models and recruitment. She has been looking for the right fit for numerous months while providing locum coverage for several physicians. I'm happy to advise that she has recently joined the Central Community Health Centre in St Thomas and will be working part time on their team.
- 9) I continue to participate on the New Physician Orientation working group. We have made excellent progress and will have a draft for the LHIN requesting a pilot project submitted by the end of September.
- 10) Jane Tillmann from Health Force Ontario advised that she has submitted to the LHIN recommendations that the same communities within Elgin County remain on the High Physician Needs list for another term. This has been approved for 6 more months.
- 11) On Aug 15th I met with Sarah Hoffer a local girl from Springfield who recently graduated from the Physician Assistance program at McMaster University. Sarah would like to find employment in Elgin County. Since the Physician Assistant program is relatively new I have been approaching the subject with our local physicians to get their opinion and rate their knowledge and degree of support for the position. I have reached out to the Associate Dean at McMaster, Kristin Burrows to request a presentation to our committee meeting in the future and requesting them to prepare a comparison between the role/duties of a Nurse Practitioner compared to a Physician Assistant which would help us begin the education process on this new program/role. More information will follow at a future meeting.

Submitted by: Cheryl Fish, Health Recruiter