

HEALTH RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

TELECONFERENCE

MARCH 8, 2021

8:35 a.m. The meeting convened with Councillor L. Baldwin-Sands, Chair, presiding.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Councillor L. Baldwin-Sands, Chair, City of St. Thomas
Councillor G. Jones, County of Elgin
Dr. C. Egbujuo, Family Physician
Dr. K. Scott, Family Physician

Officials

Wendell Graves, City Manager, City of St. Thomas
Julie Gonyou, C.A.O., County of Elgin
Cheryl Fish, Health Recruiter
Matt Smale, Corporate Administrative Clerk, City of St. Thomas

Absent

Dr. W. Chehadi, St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil.

MINUTES

Motion by Dr. Scott - Councillor Jones:

THAT: The minutes of the February 8, 2021 meeting be confirmed.

Carried.

Activity Report and Recruitment Projects - Health Recruiter - Appendix "A"

Ms. Fish provided an overview of activities and recruitment projects from February 2021.

Ms. Fish advised that discussions were progressing with new physicians to replace two retiring physicians at the Elgin FHO.

The members discussed potential methods to recognize new physicians at the Elgin FHO once the transition was complete.

Councillor Jones inquired whether physicians seeking to build new facilities had noted any construction delays.

Ms. Fish advised that no concerns regarding construction delays had been brought to her attention.

NEW BUSINESS

Privileges for Community Physicians at St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital

Dr. Scott advised that St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital no longer has a Department of General Practice. Physicians interested in applying for privileges at STEGH would be assigned to the department in which they would be working such as the Department of Surgery if providing a surgical assist or if not working in the hospital could be assigned to the Department of Hospital Medicine with courtesy privileges.

Dr. Scott further added that Physicians inquiring about hospital privileges should be directed to speak to Patty Aldrich, Medical Affairs or Dr. Chehadi, Chief of Staff and that she would follow up with hospital administration on any other potential impacts of this change.

CONFIRMED _____ CHAIR

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

St. Thomas and Area Homebuilders' Association Membership

The City Manager advised that no correspondence had been received from the St. Thomas and Area Homebuilders' Association.

St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital Membership

The City Manager advised that no correspondence had been received from the St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital.

NEXT MEETING

The members agreed that the next meeting would be held on April 12, 2021 at 8:30 am.

ADJOURNMENT

8:58 a.m. The meeting adjourned.

Appendix "A"

St. Thomas-Elgin Health Recruitment Partnership Committee

Update Report

February 2021

Activities:

- 1) One of the retiring physicians from the Elgin FHO has progressed to the stage of a letter of intent from the new grad who wants to take over his practice come September 2021. The other physician has narrowed it down to two applicants. Discussions continue with the hopes to have this finalized by late fall.
- 2) Unfortunately Patty Aldrich advised that the general orientation for March has been once again cancelled at the STEGH due to the pandemic. She will be forwarding me the contact information for the Residents attending in March so I can reach out to them while they are here in St Thomas doing a placement.
- 3) I continue to have contact with all 3 organizations interested in constructing new medical facilities here in St Thomas. The timing of the construction varies for each group. Two groups want to turn the soil this spring with their completion dates ranging from 12-24 months. Ads were posted for 2 of the medical centers on Health Force Ontario noting the practice opportunities for 6-8 physicians. A few emails have been received with expressions of interest.
- 4) In February I spoke with 7 physicians/residents to review the practice opportunities we have available now and what is coming in the future. Follow up information was sent and I will continue to have contact with them.
- 5) Since new FHO's require a lead physician and most new grads are reluctant to take on this position I have requested the assistance of Dr. Melissa Tenbergen. She has agreed to reach out to potential residents to review her experience in forming a new FHO and clarify what is required as a lead to continue to manage a FHO. I appreciate her willingness to share her experience.
- 6) This month I followed up with 5 of our past scholarship recipients to keep them updated on the opportunities we have available in the next couple of years and with the hopes they are planning to return to their home town to practice.

- 7) Dr. Rob Black reached out to me to request data that he could share when participating in a teleconference on March 11th with Dr. Gary Tithecott, Vice Dean of Medicine at Schulich. Dr. Black is looking for up to date stats and requests as they discuss the Health Care Needs Assessment in each of the Academic Directors academies. As in the past I will prepare a brief report for Dr. Black to present on our behalf.

- 8) On March 3rd I will be participating in a telephone call with Phil Martin, Chief Executive Officer for the company "Physicians and You". Phil is the top medical recruiter in Canada. I'm looking forward to discussing his successful recruiting and retention program in B.C. and hopefully utilizing some of the strategies he shares to help us enhance our recruitment efforts.

Submitted by:

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