

# HEALTH RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

## TELECONFERENCE

AUGUST 9, 2021

8:30 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  
P. Benfeito, St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital  
Dr. C. Egbujuo, Family Physician  
Dr. K. Scott, Family Physician  
A. DeVries, St. Thomas Elgin Home Builders Association

### Officials

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

The Chair welcomed Ms. Angela DeVries as representative from the St. Thomas Elgin Home Builders Association to the Board.

## DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil.

## MINUTES

Motion by Dr. Scott - Councillor Jones:

THAT: The minutes of the July 5, 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 July 2021.

Dr. Scott advised that there may be some locum opportunities available for physicians waiting for FHO positions to be approved.

Ms. Fish advised that Dr. Balsdon had provided correspondence to patients regarding Dr. Sherazadishvili taking over his practice following his upcoming retirement.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Funding Request - Dr. Colin Bolzon

The City Manager advised that Dr. Bolzon would be taking over Dr. Morrison's practice upon his retirement and would like to complete some office and equipment modernization.

The City Manager advised that available recruitment funds for 2021 had been committed and that a request for additional funds could be made to Elgin and St. Thomas Councils respectively.

Motion by Councillor Jones - Dr. Egbujuo:

THAT: Funding of \$33,000 for one physician position be recommended for the request received by Dr. Colin Bolzon subject to approval from St. Thomas Council and the execution of an agreement with Dr. Bolzon.

Carried.

CONFIRMED \_\_\_\_\_ CHAIR

**HEALTH RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE - 2**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

St. Thomas and Area Homebuilders' Association Membership

**NEXT MEETING**

The members agreed that the next meeting would be held on September 13th, 2021 at 8:30 am.

**ADJOURNMENT**

8:45 a.m. The meeting adjourned.

St. Thomas –Elgin Health Recruitment Partnership Committee

Update Report

July 2021

Activities:

- 1) Everything has been finalized and all the paperwork has been submitted to the Ministry for Dr. Alexsi Sherazadishvili to take over Dr. Balsdon's practice on October 1, 2021. At the time of this report Dr. Morrison and Dr. Bolzon were completing the signing of the paperwork for this transfer to take place by the middle of October. Dr. Connie Robinson and Dr. Meghan Robinson have submitted their paperwork for Meghan to assume this practice also in late October.
- 2) Dr. Emil Grigore a fee for service physician with a solo practice in West Lorne has contacted me requesting assistance with his succession planning. Dr. Grigore would like to make plans to retire in the summer of 2022. I met with him and his wife to discuss the details. I have drafted an ad for posting on Health Force Ontario and have reached out to a couple of physicians asking them if they would be interested. I will continue to work with Dr. Grigore to find a suitable replacement.
- 3) Jane Tillmann will be making a presentation by zoom to several of the new grads and to the new physicians who have committed to the new FHO and must wait for the building to be constructed and the FHO application to be submitted. This presentation will take place on Aug. 10<sup>th</sup> and will cover options they can consider during the wait time.
- 4) I arranged two telephone conversations with Residents doing placements at the STEGH during the month of July to share with them what opportunities exist in Elgin County now and what is coming up in the future.
- 5) My first contact with this physician in training took place back in Dec. of 2020. She was originally from Toronto who did her Doctor of Medicine in St. Kitts and her residency in Pennsylvania. Her home town is Mt. Brydges and she would very much like to practice in South Western Ontario. She has completed her exams and is waiting for her license to be able to start practicing in October 2021. We met and discussed the opportunities that are available in Elgin County. She will be participating in the zoom meeting on Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>. I hope one of our opportunities will be the right fit for her.
- 6) I had a good conversation with both Asher Frydman and Corina DeKraker the STEGH summer bursary recipients. I think they were pleasantly surprised to hear about the practice opportunities that exist in Elgin County. We have agreed to stay in touch.

Submitted by: Cheryl Fish