

## HEALTH RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

### TELECONFERENCE

JUNE 13, 2022

8:44 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  
S. Nolan, St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital

#### Officials

Sandra Datars Bere, City Manager, City of St. Thomas  
Cheryl Fish, Health Recruiter  
Taylor Mooney, Strategic Initiatives Manager  
Matt Smale, Corporate Administrative Clerk, City of St. Thomas

#### Regrets

Dr. K. Scott, Family Physician  
A. DeVries, St. Thomas Elgin Home Builders Association  
Julie Gonyou, C.A.O., County of Elgin

### DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil.

### MINUTES

Motion by S. Nolan - Councillor Jones:

THAT: The minutes of the May 2, 2022 meeting be confirmed.

Carried.

### NEW BUSINESS

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

Ms. Fish provided an overview of activities and recruitment projects for May 2022.

Ms. Nolan advised that she would provide surveys completed by the medical students attending Medical Discovery Week to the members in the near future.

The members discussed changes proposed by the Province to Family Health Organization (FHO) models noting that Elgin covered a large geographic area and that many of the current FHOs in the area did not have a complement of 6 physicians.

Ms. Fish advised that there were no Family Health Networks (FHN) operating in Elgin-St. Thomas at this time.

Councillor Jones inquired whether other health professionals such as dentists could be considered as part of a FHO's complement.

Ms. Fish advised that the complement was to include family physicians and that some FHOs currently lacked the physical office space to accommodate additional physicians.

Dr. Egbujuo stated that the Ministry of Health was considering changes and that grandfathering in of existing practices may be considered.

The City Manager advised that she was in contact with Elgin's Chief Administrative Officer regarding this matter and once the impact of changes on Elgin-St. Thomas physicians was known, a joint plan would be developed by the County and City.

CONFIRMED\_\_\_\_\_CHAIR

**HEALTH RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE - 2**

2022 Summer Medical Bursary Program

Ms. Nolan advised that two students had been selected for the 2022 Summer Medical Bursary program for a 6 week rotation at the hospital and that the criteria for assessing applications had been amended to consider only applications from St. Thomas Elgin residents.

**NEXT MEETING**

The members agreed that the next meeting would be held on August 8th, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

9:05 a.m. The meeting adjourned.

## Appendix "A"

### St. Thomas –Elgin Recruitment Committee

#### Update Report

May 2022

#### Activities:

- 1) Discovery Week plans and events went well with 10 first year medical students joining us to job shadow our physicians and attend evening events from May 30<sup>th</sup>- June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Many thanks to Sheri Nolan and Cindy Bratt for their assistance and support. We would also like to extend our appreciation to Angela DeVries and the St. Thomas-Elgin Home Builders Association for hosting an evening and providing a venue for Dr. Tran to make a presentation about the role of “Public Health” along with delicious stone oven pizza. The St. Thomas Public Art Center with support from Sherri Howard and Julianne Bryans provided excellent hands on event which brought the week to a close with the students applying their creative side to producing a water colour painting. A special thanks goes out to Andy and Carol Gaites for once again providing excellent service and food at the dinner the Committee hosts at G.T’s. We had 30 participants. The students completed surveys on their last day and I’m sure we can look forward to receiving a recap of the student’s comments from Sheri .
- 2) On May 11<sup>th</sup> I accompanied Dr. Gregori and represented Dr. Toth at an Ontario Medical Association (OMA) retirement event in London. It was very well attended by physicians who wish to retire, however the number of Residents looking to take over a retiring physicians practice was about 3-1. Regardless, information about our physician’s practices was shared and we are hoping to hear back from these Residents if they are interested in taking over these practices.
- 3) In May I had the opportunity to speak with 4 Residents about the practice opportunities available in Elgin County now and what will be coming available in the near future. We will stay in touch and move forward if our opportunities are the right fit.
- 4) On Friday May 6<sup>th</sup> I participated in the virtual Elgin Orientation session for Dr. Ikafia and Dr. Wu. Both are new physicians to Elgin County taking over retiring practices.
- 5) I updated the list of Family Physicians in Elgin County and shared it with Jane Tillmann at Ontario Health.
- 6) On May 24<sup>th</sup> Ontario Health provided an educational session on how the new “Physician Services Agreement .” from the Ministry of Health will impact recruiting Family Physicians. A recap follows:
  - a) All FHN models and there are 18 in the province need to move to become FHO’s
  - b) Any area in the province can add to FHO’s

- c) To start a new FHO you must have 6 physicians now instead of 3
- d) No FHO can have less than 6 physicians.
- e) New FHO's must be co-located or within mileage restrictions.
- f) An online booking for patient must be created –Financial support provided.
- g) After hours clinic coverage will increase “No exceptions”
- h) Patient access guidelines have been introduced.

Some of these changes are immediate and some will be implemented over the next year. I'm Arranging meetings with our physicians to determine how they will be impacted. More information will be provided to the committee as it becomes available.

- 7) I assisted Daniel Black our local first year medical student with his desire to provide a mentoring program to our high school students. I contacted all 6 high schools in Elgin County to discuss the possibility of Daniel making a presentation to students to share his experience & his willingness to assist them with essay writing, interview preparation and general support and advice as they work towards preparing their applications to medical schools. We have heard back from Central Elgin High School and a presentation has been arranged for June 1<sup>st</sup>. I will follow up with the other schools in the hopes they will also see the benefits of Daniel's support to his community and the value of encouraging students to pursue a career in medicine.
- 8) As a result of the new Physician Services Agreement, Mike McMahon from the Thames Valley Family Health Team has decided that he must place on hold temporarily his plan to provide support for admin and allied health care providers until he gets a better feel for how the changes are going to impact his ability to provide a program.
- 9) This month I did receive several requests from Physicians for locum coverage. Emails were sent out noting this opportunity to 10 Residents asking them to contact the requesting physician if they are interested in providing this coverage.

Submitted by Cheryl Fish – Health Recruiter.