
NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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**PETERBOROUGH FAMILY HEALTH TEAM SEEKS ALL AVENUES
TO SUPPORT PRIMARY HEALTHCARE IN APSLEY**

PETERBOROUGH, ON – The residents of Apsley continue to wait for a new family doctor to establish a medical practice since the retirement of Dr. Wagdy Rayes. The Peterborough Family Health Team (PFHT) is pursuing a temporary solution to support these folks through a telemedicine approach; however, there are still many pieces of this plan that need to be worked out.

“It is Peterborough Family Health Team’s responsibility to ensure all residents of the City & Country of Peterborough have access to adequate primary healthcare services,” states Lori Richey, Executive Director for the PFHT. “We continue to search for a permanent family doctor to take over the primary care for patients, but in the meantime we need a solution. People cannot go without access to care.”

A telemedicine service would provide a virtual family doctor to patients. This temporary clinic would also enroll patients and smoothly transition them over to a new family doctor once recruited and that practice is up and running.

“The Peterborough Family Health Team has supported our community in terms of providing basic primary care to our residents,” says Mayor Rick Woodcock of the North Kawartha Township. “I have no doubt that once the pieces are aligned for the telemedicine service, our town will once again have access to the care we require.”

In the current situation, those living in Apsley who require care can access it through the following means:

- **The Lakefield VON Nurse Practitioner Clinic:** open Wednesdays and Thursdays and located at 150 Strickland Street in Lakefield. Residents are encouraged to book an appointment by calling (705)651-4866.

- **Peterborough Regional Health Centre:** if you urgently require health care services, we advise you to go to our local hospital at 1 Hospital Drive in Peterborough.

The Nurse Practitioner Hub located at 183 Burleigh Street can only provide care to patients that are enrolled with them as they are currently at capacity. The hub was created when patients could not join the established family practice. However, once a new family doctor is recruited, the nurse practitioner and all enrolled patients will be absorbed by this doctor and it will once again become a wholesome practice.

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