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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

February 22, 2018

### **THERE IS A NEW DOCTOR IN TOWN FOR APSLEY RESIDENTS**

*Peterborough Family Health Team recruits a new family doctor to the Township of North Kawartha*

**APSLEY, ON** - There is a new doctor in town for the residents of Apsley: Dr. Paul Hasson. Starting February 28, 2018, Dr. Hasson will join the Peterborough Family Health Team model of care, opening his practice in the North Kawartha Health Centre. The family doctor will be working part-time, on Wednesdays and Fridays, until he is able to transition to full-time.

Residents looking for a family doctor must either go to the North Kawartha Health Centre to complete registration forms, or visit [www.apsleymedicalcenter.ca](http://www.apsleymedicalcenter.ca) to download the forms. We advise patients to bring their health card at that time. For those visiting the clinic, it will be open during the following days to sign-up as a patient:

- Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

To make an appointment or to have questions answered, residents can call the health centre at (705) 656-3330.

Patients who were under the care of the previous family doctor, Dr. Rayes, and those who wish to transition their care back to Apsley will need to visit the clinic during the times mentioned to be put on the list. The Nurse Practitioner (NP) Hub has been an incredible asset during the last 20 months, and patients under the NPs care will automatically be absorbed into Dr. Hasson's practice when he becomes full-time. All will benefit from the care given by the NP, MD and other allied health professionals.

"Since graduating from medicine at Dalhousie in 1991, my medical career has taken me down many paths. Starting off my career I served as medical officer in the Canadian Armed Forces, which provided me an opportunity to serve my country as a proud Canadian. It is with equal pride that I am being accepted into the community of Apsley to open another exciting chapter in my medical career," explains Dr. Paul Hasson. "I have been coming to the area for the past several years, enjoying the natural beauty and friendly people of the area. I have enjoyed the Paudash Snowmobile trails in the winter, and ATV trails and lakes in the summer. I look forward to serving the medical needs of the Apsley community for years to come, and hope that I can live up to Dr. Rayes distinguished service to the area."

"We worked really hard, and for a very long time to recruit a new doctor to the Township of North Kawartha as we understand the importance of family medicine to a small community," says Lori Richey, executive director of the Peterborough Family Health Team. "For the last year our NP Hub has supported patients, and we are so proud of the work they do and the care they

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give. The hub, including NP Lorie and receptionist Joanne, will be integrated into Dr. Hasson's practice, but we will forever be grateful for their hard work in the interim. ”

“This is wonderful news and a huge success for North Kawartha,” states Mayor Rick Woodcock of the Township of North Kawartha. “Recognizing that there is a significant shortage of family physicians in Ontario, especially in rural communities, with approximately 8,500 people having no access to primary care in Peterborough County, great gratitude is extended to the Peterborough Family Health Team for their hard work and support.”

Peterborough Family Health Team was prepared to launch a virtual care clinic as an interim solution that would provide care to unattached patients; however, with Dr. Hasson joining the team, this initiative will no longer be moving forward.

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**For more information, please contact:**

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