



December 2011



City of Lakes | Ville de lacs
Family Health Team
Équipe de santé familiale

Teamrecord

All the news that's FHT to print

Health Minister Visits Sudbury



From the left: Sarah Crichton, Nurse Practitioner, Dr. Paul Gibb, Dr. Tom Crichton, Minister Deb Matthews, MPP Rick Bartolucci, David Courtemanche, Executive Director

On June 23, Minister Deb Matthews, Ontario Minister of Health and Long-term Care, made a 'house call' to the City of Lakes Family Health Team. Several of our family physicians, interdisciplinary healthcare providers and administrative team were on hand to participate in an informal dialogue with the Minister. Although her visit was at the Sudbury clinic, she was able to engage members of our team in Walden and Val Caron via the Ontario Telemedicine Network.

It was a very enthusiastic and productive discussion as Minister Matthews shared her vision for primary care in Ontario and conveyed a genuine interest in the work of our team. Much of the discussion was related to how the team provides quality care to its patients, the advantage of utilizing electronic medical records and the implementation of new programs and group patient information sessions.

Upcoming Events



Patient Information Sessions

Upcoming sessions include:

- Craving Change Workshop
- Healthy Weights
- Osteoporosis and Dental Health
- Hypertension Class
- Pain Management

For information on dates, times and locations, visit our website:

www.yourfamilyhealthteam.com

Team Planning Retreat

On January 13th, the team will gather together for a full day of planning and prioritizing for 2012 - 2013.

Northeastern Ontario FHT Conference

FHT Directors across northeastern Ontario are organizing a conference in mid-April. The conference will take place in Timmins.



*Happy
Holiday!*



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new Faces



Vicky Lafond
Executive Assistant

Vicky joined our team in August as our new Executive Assistant. She brings a wealth of administrative expertise from her years of service at the United Way/Centraide.



Dr. Katie Richardson

Dr. Katie Richardson is a family physician and 2010 graduate of the family medicine program at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine. She began seeing her new patients in April at the Walden clinic.



Dr. Liisa Levasseur

Dr. Liisa Levasseur is a family physician and recent graduate of the family medicine program at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine. She recently opened her practice at the newly renovated clinic in Walden.

Preventing Narcotics Abuse



Nancy Tripodi, Pharmacist and Constable Ken Birtch

Constable Ken Birtch of Greater Sudbury Police Services made a presentation to our clinical team regarding the increased and illegal use of prescription narcotics in the community. His presentation offered local statistics on the abuse of prescription pain killers such as Oxycontin and presented information regarding the criminal and social impact of this abuse across the community. He also shared many stories about local abusers and how this has affected their lives and those of their families. Constable Birtch complimented the City of Lakes FHT on the policies and procedures currently in place to prevent the abuse of prescription narcotics.

Partnering with Public Health



The City of Lakes Family Health Team and the Sudbury & District Health Unit have forged a new partnership this flu shot season. Special flu shot clinics were scheduled every Friday throughout October and November. The FHT promoted the clinics and scheduled appointments for FHT patients.

Two public health nurses provided the immunizations throughout the day. By the end of November, six flu shot clinics provided immunizations to approximately 1,000 patients.

Our thanks to the Sudbury & District Health Unit!

Walden Clinic Celebrates Grand Opening



From left: Andrew Dale, Mayor Matchuk, Dr. Katie Richardson, MPP Rick Bartolucci, Dr. Monica Susil, Dr. Chris McKibbin, David Courtemanche

On May 25, 2011 the new Walden clinic officially opened its doors. Local dignitaries, community partners and team members were on hand to celebrate the milestone. Speakers included MPP Rick Bartolucci, Mayor Matchuk, Dr. Chris McKibbin and Dr. Katie Richardson.

Once fully operational, the clinic will be home to four family physicians, a nurse practitioner, registered nurse, dietitian, social worker, pharmacist, as well as clerical staff. The team will provide primary care services to up to 6,000 patients- most of whom were orphan patients prior to joining the team.

Orphan patients who are still looking for a family physician are encouraged to register with the Ontario Healthcare Connect program by calling 1-800-445-1822.

notices

1. Christmas Holidays

Christmas is upon us once again. Our clinics will be closed on **December 26th, 27th** and **January 2nd**. Check our website for specific details regarding the holiday schedule.

2. Simply Accounting

We are in the process of bringing all of our accounting systems in-house. Since 2007, Health Sciences North has generously provided us with in-kind accounting and payroll services.

3. Practice Solutions 5.1

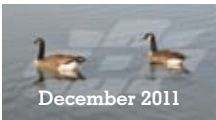
On September 12th, 2011, our electronic medical record system was upgraded to Practice Solutions 5.1. This upgrade provides a higher level of functionality as well as new features for our providers.

Key Facts

Did you know...

There are 200 family health teams in Ontario?

2,049 family physicians and 1,718 interdisciplinary health care providers work at these FHTs and provide primary care services to 2.6 million Ontarians.



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Above and Beyond: Recognizing Staff Accomplishments

Risto Laamanen



The late Risto Laamanen was a founding member of our Board of Directors. In recognition of his contribution, the Walden Clinic education room has been named in his honour.

Lori Schatzler



Lori successfully completed her exams and is now certified in Infection Control and Epidemiology.

Congratulations Lori!

Dr. Jack Ceaser



Jack recently returned from China where he served as a physician at the World University Games. He is a sports medicine specialist who also serves as the team physician for the Sudbury Wolves.

From the Archives:

Health-care Change Coming



Dr. Tom Crichton (left), David Courtemanche and Frank Taylor check on the progress of the Pioneer Manor site of the City of Lakes Family Health Team. Pioneer Manor is one of four sites for the team, and it should be renovated by June. The other sites will be in Val Caron, Chelmsford and Walden.

Thousands of patients of primary care physicians in Sudbury may not know it, but they are about to join a new team. By virtue of who they see when they have a sore throat, the flu or something more serious, they will soon belong to the City of Lakes Family Health Team, one of more than 150 such teams in the province. Eight family doctors will begin seeing patients at two sites of the City of Lakes FHT this summer. And both they, and the people who visit them, can expect to benefit from the new arrangement.

Dr. Tom Crichton, lead physician for the FHT and vice-chair of its Steering

Committee, says many of the FHT's announced by the province in 2005 were the re-branding of multi-disciplined clinics staffed by doctors, nurses, dietitians and other health professionals. Crichton is one of the first doctors to join the team, but he won't be leaving without the people for whom he cares. "My practice will follow me into this family health team," he says. But the formation of the team is good news for Sudburians who don't have a family doctor. The City of Lakes FHT will operate at four sites in the City of Greater Sudbury, with an emphasis on providing primary care in areas where it is needed most.

Dave Courtemanche, Project Manager for the City of Lakes FHT, has been involved since the team was announced in April 2005 when he was Mayor of the City of Greater Sudbury, one of three sponsors of the FHT. The municipality partnered with the Sudbury Regional Hospital and the Northern Ontario School of Medicine to launch the team that will epitomize the definition of the word synergy: the level of primary care it will provide will be greater than the sum of its parts. Crichton says it's a model today's doctors are more comfortable with, and which will benefit patients.

FHT's are a key component of the Ministry of Health's plan to reform health care in the Province of Ontario. The health care providers in FHT's will emphasize education and disease prevention, and encourage people to take an active role in their own health.

Dr. Chris McKibbin is the Chair of the FHT's Steering Committee and its chief architect. When the formation of the team was announced three years ago, McKibbin said it would result in fundamental change in the way health care is delivered in Sudbury. "We can do together what no one can do alone".

All doctors with the City of Lakes FHT will have hospital privileges and be able to follow patients to hospital should they require acute care. Something as simple as electronic medical records in the FHT will benefit health care practitioners and patients.

Excerpt from Sudbury Star, March 28, 2008



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