



Subject: Physician Recruitment Activities Update

To: Council

From: Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Report Number: 2023-92

Meeting Date: June 27, 2023

Recommendation:

That Chief Administrative Office Report 2023-92 be received.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Council on Physician Recruitment for the City of Port Colborne in partnership with the Niagara Region Physician Recruitment Specialist.

Background:

Since January 2021, as directed by the CAO, the City's Economic Development Officer (EDO) has been tasked with managing the Physician Recruitment file and related outreach and partnerships. The City has been working in tandem with Niagara Region's Physician Recruitment Specialist, Jill Croteau, and meeting prospective new physicians along with additional outreach and recruitment efforts.

Discussion:

The Physician Recruitment Specialist hosts regular meetings with Economic Development Officers from across the Region including the City's EDO. In addition, the City and CAO meet with Ms. Croteau as part of the City's Family Physician Incentive Agreement with the Niagara Region regarding the provision of Family Physician Recruitment services.

The City, through Ms. Croteau, is currently in discussions with a family physician to relocate to Port Colborne with a practice opening in the 2nd Quarter of 2024. A formal announcement and introduction will be made at a later date.

The Physician Recruitment Specialist will present to Council to give a fulsome update on recruitment outcomes and activities and to answer any questions that Council may have.

Internal Consultations:

The EDO, CAO, Director of Corporate Services, and Manager of Strategic Initiatives meet to discuss the program and other family healthcare items on a regular basis.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications to this report. Currently the City budgets \$10,000 annually for recruitment and outreach activities and provided funding for the Niagara South Memory Clinic Port Colborne Site and Pathstone Mental Health Port Colborne Site Walk-in Clinic at Bridges Community Health Centre.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

The initiative contained within this report supports the following pillars of the strategic plan:

- Attracting Business Investment and Tourists to Port Colborne
- City-Wide Investments in Infrastructure and Recreational/Cultural Spaces

Conclusion:

Economically vibrant communities where citizens can live, work and play are healthy communities and physician recruitment is an important part of the economic development mix of successful communities. The City of Port Colborne continues to work with Niagara Region's Physician Recruitment Coordinator and neighbouring municipalities on joint initiatives to support this process and unique singular City initiatives to support goals and objectives.

Appendices:

- a. Presentation by Niagara Region Physician Recruitment Specialist

Respectfully submitted,

Bram Cotton
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Report Approval:

All reports reviewed and approved by the Department Director and also the City Treasurer when relevant. Final review and approval by the Chief Administrative Officer.