

MEDIA RELEASE



April 9, 2008

“JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED!”

Barrie Area Physician Recruitment welcomes FIVE new Doctors!

Today's good news is just what the doctor ordered!

The Barrie area's doctor crisis is not unique as many areas in the province continue to grapple with the "doctor drought." What is unique, however, is the introduction of **five new Family Doctors** to our community at once. All five will be opening a family practice and accepting new patients. This is an amazing accomplishment for our *Task Force* and fantastic news for our residents.

"There are over 315 communities in Ontario actively competing for Family Doctors," remarks Christie Cadotte, Coordinator Barrie Area Physician Recruitment. "While some communities offer large financial incentives to entice doctors to their area, the Barrie Area Physician Recruitment *Task Force* has successfully branded our area as one where professional and personal goals can be met. We promote our exceptional work/life balance, our collegial medical community and our state-of-the-art hospital. Many young physicians are excited about the opportunities that Barrie has to offer."

The *Task Force* has made great strides in bringing Family Physicians and Specialists to the area but there is still a significant amount of work to be done. Effective recruitment and retention strategies are key to alleviating the hardships caused by the physician shortage.

The *Task Force* was created in 2001 to lead the Family Physician recruitment efforts for Barrie and surrounding area. The work of the Task Force would not be possible without the significant support and contributions from the City of Barrie, Royal Victoria Hospital, Town of Innisfil, the Townships of Springwater and Oro-Medonte, Greater Barrie Chamber of Commerce, Federal and Provincial Members of Parliament and many community leaders.

Since 2001 the Barrie Area Physician Recruitment Task Force is not only pleased but very proud to announce that we have successfully attracted:

143 New Physicians (90 Specialty Physicians & 53 Family Medicine Physicians)

Please join us in welcoming the newest additions to our medical community:

Dr. Christopher Lalik, MD CCFP

Dr. Robert Gabor, MD CCFP

Dr. Edward Lee, MD CCFP

Dr. Laura Chan, MD CCFP

Dr. Kian Khatami, MD CCFP

For more information:

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