

# MEDIA ADVISORY



April 9, 2008

## “QUICK FACTS”

- [www.barriedoctors.ca](http://www.barriedoctors.ca)
  - Anyone wishing to access one of the new Family Physicians is invited to complete a Questionnaire which can be found at [www.barriedoctors.ca](http://www.barriedoctors.ca)
  - [www.barriedoctors.ca](http://www.barriedoctors.ca) will be the only site offering access to the Questionnaire.
  
- **Health Care Human Resources**
  - The recruitment of family doctors is the most challenging task in health care recruitment today. It is estimated that over 1,000,000 Ontarians do not have access to a primary care physician.
  - Ontario has another problem – about 2500 doctors are 55 years or older, and will soon be retiring. To bring the reality closer to home:
  - Barrie area population is growing by approximately 6300 per year
  - At 1700 patients per doctor (the provincial average is 1380 patients) we need to recruit an average of 3.7 doctors per year to keep up with growth
  - The average age of our Family Physicians is 51
  - Over the next 20 years 60% of Barrie’s current Family Physicians will retire, which is an average of 2 per year
  - We attract an average of 3 to 4 Family Physicians each year. Just enough to cover growth
  - **Retirement, Turnover and the current gap are not being covered**
  - At this rate in 10 years we will have a gap of 70 Family Physicians
  - We have a current shortage of 20 Family Doctors and 24 Specialty Doctors
  
- **Family Practice Training**
  - In Ontario we have 5 Medical Universities (University of Ottawa, Queens University, McMaster University, University of Toronto & University of Western Ontario) which graduate approximately 326 family medicine doctors.
  - 315 communities in Ontario are currently designated as underserved
  - There is a current shortage of over 750 family medicine doctors in Ontario
  - We do not have enough doctors to now and were not producing enough to fill the void.
  - There are simply not enough doctors to go around!

For more information:

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