



## Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee Minutes Municipalities of Brockton and South Bruce

January 8, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.  
Meeting held by Zoom Media Communications

**Attendees:** Kelly Fotheringham, Jeff Goetz, Brian Currie, Kym Hutcheon, Lindsay Nelson, Kyle Scheuerman, Stephanie Pegelo, Taylor Holdsworth, Trish Serratore, Ryan Fullerton, Christine Brandt, Dr. Paul McArthur

**Regrets:** Elaine Stirrat, [REDACTED]

**(Acting) Secretary:** Sarah Johnson, Municipality of Brockton Deputy Clerk

### 1. Call to Order

Chair Kelly Fotheringham called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

### 2. Adoption Of Agenda

**Motion:**

Moved by: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded by: Brian Currie

That the Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee hereby accept the agenda for the meeting on January 8, 2025 as presented.

**Carried.**

### 3. Disclosure Of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

None.

### 4. Adoption Of Minutes

#### 4.1 Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee Minutes from November 20, 2024

**Motion:**

Moved by: Stephanie Pegelo

Seconded by: Kyle Scheuerman

That the Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee hereby adopt the minutes from November 20, 2024 as presented.

**Carried.**

### 5. Business Arising from the Minutes

Dr. Paul McArthur entered the meeting at 4:02 p.m.

### 6. Physician's Report

Dr. Paul McArthur noted the excitement surrounding Dr. Mitchell Currie's new patient sign up on January 15, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Walkerton Legion.

Lindsay Nelson described the process involved in the sign up, noting that the event will be a first come first served sign up for 500 patients, and additional patients will be registered to [REDACTED] (Physician #24).

It was noted that [REDACTED] (Physician #19) will not likely take patients right away. As of February 1<sup>st</sup> they will start anesthesia and become involved with the obstetrics groups as well. Their patient roster will be decided soon. [REDACTED] (Physician #19) will start as a locum and regular anesthesia prior to opening their practice.

A call schedule will be determined by March. There have been discussions with the Hanover and District Hospital who may require physicians at each birthing centre at the same time, or back-up physicians on call.

The Committee discussed Dr. Currie's patients sign up and whether a public statement should be released to take a more encouraging approach to welcome Dr. Currie back home to the community.

Ms. Nelson noted that the new location was advertised on social media, and signage will be posted at the South Bruce Grey Health Centre Walkerton notifying residents of the change in location. If a resident is unable to attend the event, they can have someone stand in line on their behalf as long as they have a valid health card available.

Dr. Scheuerman encouraged the Committee to make a statement supporting Dr. Currie, highlighting the positives of his return to the community as a new physician.

The Committee discussed public feedback that was currently being received surrounding the patient sign up and possible misunderstanding on the process.

Dr. McArthur acknowledged challenges that Ontario is facing while trying to access a primary care provider, and points to consider in a public statement to sympathize with the public while acknowledging the gratitude of having a new physician come to the area and register new patients.

Ms. Nelson discussed contact information for Healthcare Connect, and described the plan for the event, including ways to efficiently enroll new patients.

It was noted that the South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment will be requested to be in attendance to control the congestion and increased crowds.

The Committee discussed the requirement CPSO catchment area for the Family Health Team Organization.

Dr. McArthur will draft a statement which can be shared on social media.

Dr. Scheuerman suggested the benefits of having the South Bruce Grey Health Centre offering support for the event.

Taylor Holdsworth will work on a joint communication from the South Bruce Grey Health Centre.

The Committee noted that [REDACTED] (Physician #19) is welcome to attend Committee Meetings but does not have an obligation to join the Committee.

## **7. Recruitment Report**

No update.

### **7.1 Update on renovations in the Walkerton Clinic**

No update.

## **7.2 Onboarding Plans for Physicians**

No update.

## **8. Website Update**

No update.

## **9. Family Health Team Update**

No update.

## **10. Finance Report**

Kelly Fotheringham presented the 2025 Budget to the Municipality of South Bruce on November 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Brian Currie will be presenting the 2025 Budget to the Brockton Council on January 13<sup>th</sup>.

The Committee had a surplus of \$13,000 in 2024, and Reserves in the amount of \$101,000 for future signing bonuses for physicians.

## **11. New Business**

Elaine Stirrat reported that Exploration Health Week will occur at the Hanover high school campus, and Discovery Week has been set up for May.

## **12. Next Meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled for March 12, 2025 or at the call of the Chair.

## **13. Adjournment**

### **Motion:**

Moved by: Kym Hutcheon

That the Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee meeting adjourn at 4:39 p.m.

**Carried.**