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Report 2025-115

Report Title: Family Medicine Student Ride Outs

Committee Name: Community Health

Committee Meeting Date: June 3, 2025

Prepared by: Susan Brown
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Northumberland Paramedics

Approved by: Jennifer Moore, CAO

Council Meeting Date: June 18, 2025

Strategic Plan Priorities: ☒ Innovate for Service Excellence
☐ Ignite Economic Opportunity
☒ Foster a Thriving Community
☒ Propel Sustainable Growth
☐ Champion a Vibrant Future

Information Report

That the Community Health Committee receive Report 2025-115 'Family Medicine Student Ride outs' for information; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council receive this report for information."

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to highlight the opportunity to collaborate with Queens-Lakeridge, Health MD Family Medicine Program (MDFM), and the University of Ottawa with Campbellford Memorial Hospital (CMH) Medical Affairs Coordinator. These requests are facilitated through the Rural Ontario Medicine Program (ROMP).

Background

In March of this year, Northumberland Paramedic Service was approached by CMH inquiring about the possibility of offering family medicine students the ability to ride out with the Paramedics of both the Community Paramedicine (CP) Program, and the emergency 911 side.

The timing and short placement cycle will allow the first opportunity to take place June 2-6, involving a 4-6 hour ride out with the CP program. This opportunity will allow five (5) first year family medicine students from the University of Ottawa to learn about the role CPs play in the healthcare system and how we can help reduce ED visits and hospital admissions while helping individuals age safely and independently at home.

Consultations

N/A

Legislative Authority / Risk Considerations

Medical students will meet the Ambulance Act and all the regulations regarding observer ship and ride outs, Communicable Disease Standards,

WSIB coverage under their educational institution.

Discussion / Options

This unique program offers second-year medical students a four-week, immersive placement in a smaller community setting, allowing them to consolidate and apply their foundational medical knowledge while gaining invaluable exposure to the varied and essential roles of a rural family physician. Many of these students have already experienced our community through previous placements and are eager to return to deepen their learning and understanding of rural medicine. In addition, this opportunity:

- Plays a pivotal role in shaping the next generation of family physicians;
- Displays the diverse and fulfilling aspects of rural family medicine;
- Helps students develop essential clinical skills through observation, supervised patient interactions, and exposure to interdisciplinary care; and
- Fosters a meaningful connection between future physicians and our community, potentially influencing their long-term career choices.

Northumberland Paramedics' priority for ride outs and preceptorship will remain Paramedic students. We will ensure we are providing the preceptorship and ride outs of our Paramedic students, and schedule efficiently not to overlap.

Financial Impact

N/A

Member Municipality Impacts

Professional multi-disciplinary exposure and collaboration of healthcare providers with Northumberland Paramedics within Northumberland County.

Conclusion / Outcomes

Northumberland Paramedics recommend the continued opportunity, collaboration and support of family medicine student ride outs in the realm of Community Paramedics and evolve to the exposure of emergency -911 calls.

Staff recommend that the Committee / Council receive this report for information.

Attachments

N/A