

THIS NEWS RELEASE IS SENT ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY
PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION COMMITTEE

**WEST NORTHUMBERLAND TO CELEBRATE FIRST ANNUAL
DOCTOR APPRECIATION WEEK**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WEST NORTHUMBELAND COUNTY, Tuesday May 25, 2010- The Community
Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee (CPRRC) announced the first annual
Doctor Appreciation Week, May 31 to June 4, 2010.

West Northumberland is fortunate to have an outstanding group of skilled and dedicated
physicians that profoundly improve the lives of our residents. They play a critical role in
caring for the sick, promoting good health, performing surgeries, saving lives in the
emergency department and delivering babies. It is also important to recognize that in
addition to treating patients that many doctors have taken on leadership roles within our
community.

“West Northumberland Doctor Appreciation Week was designed to let doctors know that
our community is thankful for their outstanding contributions and that they are vital to the
health and well-being of our community”, said Tracy West, CPRRC Project Manager.

The Doctor Appreciation Week, will begin with physicians and community members
being invited to a Doctor Appreciation Coffee Morning on Monday May 31st from 7:30
am to 9:30 am in the Bistro at Northumberland Hills Hospital. The Town Crier will be at
the Coffee Morning to “kick off” the week at 8:00 am. Other activities organized by the
CPRRC include: cards of appreciation, delivery of sweets and treats and a Doctor
networking event.

**Doctor Appreciation Week is a time for the residents of our community to be
thankful for the care that they have received and to thank our doctors for all that
they do. Patients and their families are encouraged to take time to express their
appreciation . Please join us by saying “Thank you” to your doctor today!!**

“With the continued shortage of physicians across Canada and Ontario it is important that
the community acknowledges that retention is just as important as recruitment in
maintaining an adequate physician base in west Northumberland,” said Tracy West.
“Doctor Appreciation Week is our opportunity to let the doctors know that our
community appreciates that they have chosen to live and practice medicine in west
Northumberland.”

Although the CPRRC has been very successful in recruiting new physicians over the past few years the work of the committee must continue in order to meet the primary health care needs of our community. Future challenges such as an aging population, including an aging physician workforce will impact the recruitment needs in our community. For residents looking for a family physician the following Doctors are accepting new patients:

Dr. Erin Pepper (905) 373-8333, Dr. Colin Dahle (905) 373-1280, Dr. Rina Daskalopoulos (905) 373-1280 and Dr. Kirk Haunts (905) 373-1282

About the Community Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee

Formed in 2001, the Community Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee (CPRRC) is a volunteer group of citizens representing community agencies and businesses, municipalities, physicians and the Northumberland Hills Hospital. Chaired by local resident Dave Hughes, the Committee's mandate is to attract new family physicians to the area and to lead efforts helpful in retaining the excellent family physicians working in our communities today. For more information about the CPRRC please visit www.northumberlanddocs.com.