



NEWS RELEASE

from Halton Healthcare Services

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Halton Healthcare Services: New Affiliated Clinical Training Site for McMaster University

Halton Healthcare Services (HHS) is now formally affiliated with McMaster University to train medical residents and students at its three hospitals – Georgetown Hospital, Milton District Hospital and Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital. The announcement was made by Dr. Lorne Martin, HHS Chief of Staff, at Halton Healthcare Services' Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony.

"We have a great working relationship with McMaster University - and have been providing positive mentorship and training experiences for a number of its medical students and residents at our hospitals since 2007," explains Dr. Martin. "This agreement formally recognizes our mutual desire to take our partnership to the next level."

"We are very proud to be affiliated with McMaster University's Faculty of Health Sciences, which has a world-class reputation for innovation in teaching," adds Denise Hardenne, HHS Senior Vice President. "This is a very positive move for all of HHS and its communities."

Through this partnership, McMaster University provides funding as well as resources to support medical training while HHS affords the medical learners with the opportunity to gain hands on experience by training at one of its community hospitals alongside its physicians.

"This partnership recognizes the calibre of our HHS physicians across our three community hospitals," notes John Oliver, HHS President and CEO. "We have a very progressive team of dedicated specialists and family doctors who are very committed to teaching, training and mentoring medical students. These skilled professionals are constantly raising the bar - by introducing new technologies, procedures and improved ways of delivering care. We have a lot to offer and a great track record."

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McMaster Affiliation

HHS and McMaster will collaboratively develop a Clinical Education Center (CEC) to increase clinical learning opportunities for all levels of medical trainees including medical students and residents. The CEC will serve as a hub to develop, organize and coordinate clinical rotations through HHS' three community hospitals.

The agreement is based on up to 60 placements across HHS' three hospitals annually. Placements will initially start within the Obstetrics, Paediatrics and Primary Care disciplines and expand into other areas in the future. HHS physicians and specialists who take on a teaching role will be granted academic faculty appointment with McMaster University.

Dr. John Kelton, Dean and Vice-president of the Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster, said medical students and residents gain valuable experience by working in community hospitals.

"The majority of our graduates spend their career as physicians working in the community, not the large tertiary hospitals. We appreciate the warm welcome they receive at the Halton Healthcare Services' hospitals," noted Dr. Kelton.

"Many of the students who have trained in our hospitals to-date have already set up practices in our communities and have joined our hospitals. Our involvement in this initiative will help attract new physicians to our areas and will boost our recruitment efforts," noted Dr. Martin.

"Becoming a recognized affiliated clinical training site supports HHS' mission to constantly improve and seek innovations in providing care and service," noted Ms. Hardenne. "Being a clinical training centre will make for a more educationally stimulating collegial environment and drive us to continually improve the quality of care we provide."

"This affiliation comes at a very exciting and opportune time as we start building the New Oakville Hospital which has been designed to include a wide array of learning spaces that will help accommodate and enhance the medical training," concludes Mr. Oliver.

"We look forward to working with McMaster and taking on key roles in training medical professionals."

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Caption: Dr. Lorne Martin, HHS Chief of Staff (centre) welcomes medical students and residents from McMaster University to Halton Healthcare Services.

(l to r) Adele Nguyen, Obstetrician/Gynaecologist Resident, Koyelle Papneja, Medical Student, Dr. Lorne Martin, HHS Chief of Staff, Pete Anderson, Family Medicine Resident, and Sandeep Gill, Family Medicine Resident.