



## Council Report

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**Report Number:** CAO2025-005  
**Meeting Date:** June 24, 2025  
**Title:** Physician Return of Service Funding Request  
**Description:** Request from Kawartha Lakes Health Care Initiative (KLHCI) for physician recruitment incentive funding.  
**Author and Title:** Ron Taylor, CAO

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### Recommendation(s):

**That** Report CAO2025-005, **Physician Return of Service Funding Request**, be received; and

**That** payment of \$50,000.00 to the Kawartha Lakes Health Care Initiative (KLHCI) be authorized from the Primary Care Recruitment and Retention Reserve (1.32278) to support one Doctor Return of Service agreement.

**Department Head:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Financial/Legal/HR/Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chief Administrative Officer:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Background:**

The City maintains a Primary Care Recruitment and Retention Reserve. A portion of this reserve is committed to provide funding to the Kawartha Lakes Health Care Initiative (KLHCI) to support the cost of Return of Service agreements with newly recruited physicians.

## **Rationale:**

The City has been advised by the KLHCI that they have recently signed a Return of Service Agreement with one family physician, namely, Dr. M. Van Der Leden. Dr. Van Der Leden began practicing at the Kinmount and District Medical Centre in February of this year. She has also signed a Return of Service contract with the County of Haliburton for \$50,000 (as KLHCI and Haliburton County agreed to split the incentive). Dr. Van Der Leden will be accepting a minimum of 375 City of Kawartha Lakes patients.

## **Other Alternatives Considered:**

Council could choose not to support this funding request. That is not recommended as funding is established and committed to through agreement with KLHCI. This recruitment incentive has resulted in one family physician providing needed service to Kinmount and surrounding area.

## **Alignment to Strategic Priorities**

The City's Strategic Plan identifies within the strategic priority area of "An Exceptional Quality of Life" the goal to "improve the health and well-being of residents".

This goal is to be accomplished by, among other things, collaborating for recruitment and retention of health care professionals. Providing this funding for doctor recruitment efforts directly contributes to this goal.

## **Financial/Operation Impacts:**

The Primary Care Recruitment and Retention Reserve supports KLHCI recruitment efforts, and was established by Council to support investments in primary care practitioner retention and recruitment, including these Return of Service incentives. The uncommitted balance of this Reserve (1.32278) is currently \$350,000.

The 2026 Operating Budget will replenish this reserve as part of the annual contributions to reserves.

**Consultations:**

Director of Corporate Services  
City Treasurer  
Kawartha Lakes Health Care Initiative

**Attachments:**

n/a

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**Department Head:** Ron Taylor, CAO