



## Council Report

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**Report Number:** CAO2025-006  
**Meeting Date:** August 26, 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 CAO2025-006, **Physician Return of Service Funding Request**, be received; and

**That** payment of \$100,000.00 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. Fraser Barratt. Dr. Barratt will be joining the Kawartha North Family Health Team in Fenelon Falls in November 2025. Dr. Barratt has recently completed his medical training in Scotland and is looking to settle in Canada. Dr. Barratt has signed a 4-year Return of Service Agreement.

## **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 Fenelon Falls 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 \$275,000. With this payment and the commitment to fund the Family Health Team \$25,000 per month until May 2026 (CR2025-154) the reserve has a projected 2026 balance, at the end of May 2026, of \$50,000.

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