

2024

Honourable Everett Hindley
Minister of Health
Government of Saskatchewan
Room 204, 2405 Legislative Drive
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4S 0B3
He.minister@gov.sk.ca

Honourable Tim McLeod
Minister of Rural and Remote Health
Government of Saskatchewan
Room 208, 2405 Legislative Drive
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4S 0B3
ministerrrhe@gov.sk.ca

Re: Physician Stabilization and Recruitment
Fort Qu'Appelle and Surrounding Area including the All Nations Healing Hospital

I am writing as a concerned citizen in the community of RM North Qu'Appelle 187, regarding the urgent need to address physician recruitment to the Fort Qu'Appelle catchment area and supporting the All Nations Healing Hospital (ANHH).

It is my understanding that the Touchwood Qu'Appelle Primary Healthcare Collaborative is projecting the potential loss of four of their eight existing physicians and another Fee for Service physician in the fall 2024. In total a loss of 5 of nine physicians. This news has begun to be publicly disclosed by the physicians themselves who are advising patients that they will need to seek health care services from another physician. The loss of this many physicians in a short time frame is of deep concern and I would like to understand what measures are being taken immediately to address this crisis.

Physicians are critical to the overall wellbeing of my community and are essential in maintaining operations of ANHH. While I have had very positive interactions with the health care providers, it is clear that overall capacity, particularly in terms of accessing both primary care and emergency services, has been negatively impacted during and after the Pandemic. I am very concerned that the further loss of physician access may impact the overall viability of the Hospital. The absence of access to quality medical care, and especially a lack of access to a doctor, will significantly affect the well being of my family and ultimately will affect the choices I make about where I choose to work and live.

I understand that the ANHH, and the SHA, together with local leadership from my community, are seeking to work with the Ministry of Health in the coming months to implement a long-term solution to this urgent crises. I strongly encourage the Government of Saskatchewan to do everything it can to help restore sustainability to our local health care system.

Respectfully,

Name and Address

cc: Nik Whalen, Reeve