

The following is a special notice at the top of a letter received at the West Colchester Community Health Centre, providing an update on activities relating to continuance of medical services following the retirements of Doctors Rowe and Ewing.

Bass River Notice to Patients – November 9, 2020

With the retirement of Drs. Rowe and Ewing, the Nova Scotia Health Authority has been actively seeking a permanent physician replacement for the Bass River area. This recruitment process is ongoing at the present time. As such, there is no clear start date for a permanent physician in the Bass River area.

As an interim solution, the Nova Scotia Health Authority has approved a full-time Nurse Practitioner. Recruitment for this Nurse Practitioner is actively underway at present. To assist the establishment of this Nurse Practitioner, a number of Family Physicians from the Truro area have offered to provide interim patient care in the Bass River area.

Nurse Practitioner Coming

Continued from page 1

Throughout the various twists and turns, the Nova Scotia Health Authority ruled the paperwork submitted by the UK doctor was out of date and had to be resubmitted. The frustrated medical society committee was ready to throw its hands in the air, when it was learned their UK prospect was still interested and would be resubmitting the paperwork.

Last week, sources told the Shoreline Journal, the UK doctor is still interested; paperwork has been submitted, and approved. The source said everything is approved, and set to go, but the duration of CoVid-19 is all that is holding up his relocation, because UK is being devastated by the pandemic.

The letter received by WCCCHC on November 9th started off by stating:

"With the retirement of Drs. Rowe and Ewing, the Nova Scotia Health Authority has been actively seeking a permanent physician replacement for the Bass River area. This recruitment process is ongoing at the present time. As such, there is no clear start date for a permanent physician in the Bass River area."

As an interim solution, the Nova Scotia Health Authority has approved a full-time Nurse Practitioner. Recruitment for this Nurse Practitioner is actively underway at present. To assist the establishment of this Nurse Practitioner, a number of Family Physicians from the Truro area have offered to provide interim patient care in the Bass River area".

The letter went on to outline the procedures which will be in place while a group of six, Truro area physicians will work with the health centre to offer appointments and med-

ical services until a permanent physician has relocated. Meanwhile the search is on to hire a full-time nurse practitioner, who will be the front line for

the visiting physicians. (The entire text of the November 9th letter is published on page 4 of this issue). Several photos showing the success of a drive-thru vaccine clinic held on October 24th are also included below.



All modes of advising the public about the "drive thru" vaccine clinic were used including the roadside Bass River Plaza sign. Approximately 300 people showed up on October 24th to receive a vaccination. (Submitted)



Todd MacKinnon, owner/pharmacist, Bayside Pharmacy, Bass River, vaccinates one of 300 people, who showed up for the drive-thru vaccination clinic on October 24th. (Submitted)



It took a large number of willing volunteers to handle over 300 people who wanted vaccinations at the October 24th vaccine drive thru at Bass River Plaza. Vaccinations were administered by Todd MacKinnon, owner Bayside Pharmacy. Shown above are the volunteers before they sprung into action. (L-R): three medical students from Dalhousie medical school, Dalhousie industrial engineer student (unidentified), Dr. AJ, Todd MacKinnon, Beth Vandenhoek, (volunteer), Jennifer Welton (MOA), Miranda McIntosh (MOA), Industrial engineer Sandra MacAulay, Charlene Fletcher (volunteer). Tom Beaton & Larry Faulkner were volunteers but not in photo. (Submitted)



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