

Family Health Team

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**Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team Announces New Team Member
Friday, September 22, 2006**

The Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team is pleased to announce the addition of the first interdisciplinary team member of the Family Health Team. Doug Stewart BScPhm begins this week as the part-time FHT Pharmacist. Doug graduated from the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy program at the University of Toronto in 2004 and has been practising as a community pharmacist in Haliburton County since.

The Family Health Team (FHT) Pharmacist role is very different than the role of pharmacists working in drug stores. Most importantly, the FHT Pharmacist will not be dispensing any medications and will not be promoting one pharmacy over another. In planning this role, many of the community pharmacists were consulted and asked what they would like to see this team member do. Their input was used to develop the job description.

The FHT Pharmacist will work closely with family physicians, and other team members as they arrive, to ensure that the residents of Haliburton County remain as healthy as possible. In particular, the FHT pharmacist will:

- review individual cases that have been referred by a FHT family physician where the individual is on many medications or needs education on managing their medications;
- work with particular groups to educate about their medications and management (example: those living with asthma or diabetes);
- work with community pharmacists and other health professionals to meet the educational needs of the general public; and
- provide information and resources to other health professionals about existing and new medications on the market.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care approved funding for this position along with 2 Nurse Practitioners, 4 Registered Nurses, 1 Social Worker, a part-time Registered Dietitian and a part-time Chiropractist. Recruitment continues for these other positions.

For further information or to see job postings, please visit the FHT website:
www.hhfht.com or call (705) 286-2140 ext. 298