



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF THESSALON

187 Main Street. P.O. Box 220 Thessalon, ON. P0R 1L0

Phone: (705)842-2217

Email: townofthess@thessalon.ca

Mayor: Jordan Bird

Fax: (705)842-2572

Website: www.thessalon.ca

Clerk-Treasurer: Debbie Rydall

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Town of Thessalon Launches Community-Led Physician Recruitment Initiative

Local Businesses Invited to Support Long-Term Healthcare Stability

Thessalon, ON — February 2, 2026 — The Town of Thessalon, in partnership with the North Shore Health Network, the Huron Shores Family Health Team and the Municipality of Huron Shores, is proud to launch a new physician recruitment initiative. This collaborative effort aims to strengthen access to local healthcare and ensure the long-term stability of medical services in Thessalon and surrounding communities.

Thessalon has faced ongoing challenges in securing full-time physicians, with all contract physician positions vacant since 2022. This initiative leverages the Touchstone Practice Ready Ontario (PRO) program, which provides an opportunity to recruit qualified physicians trained outside of Canada who are ready to practice medicine in Ontario communities.

While Thessalon meets many PRO program requirements, physicians need additional local supervision at the start of their practice. For Thessalon this includes clinic and emergency care for all contracted physicians. In response, regional healthcare partners and neighbouring physicians have developed a collaborative supervision model enabling sustainable and responsible recruitment.

Securing a full-time physician will restore consistent access to primary care in Thessalon, reduce the risk of emergency department closures, strengthen the stability of the local clinic and hospital, support healthcare capacity across the broader North Shore region, and encourage long-term physician retention within the community.

The Town of Thessalon invites local businesses and organizations to support this initiative. Your participation demonstrates a shared commitment to community well-being and helps Thessalon remain a healthy, vibrant place to live, work, and invest.

Healthcare access is a cornerstone of economic resilience. Reliable medical services support workforce retention, attract new families and professionals, and contribute directly to the long-term sustainability of local businesses.

This initiative reflects a broader vision of community-led healthcare solutions. By working together—municipal leaders, healthcare partners, businesses, and residents—Thessalon can move from short-term fixes toward a more stable and systematic approach to physician recruitment.

The Mayor and Council encourage interested businesses to connect with the Town office to learn more about how they can be involved and support this critical initiative.

For more information please contact:

Lindsay MacFarlane, Deputy Clerk
Town of Thessalon
lindsay@thessalon.ca
705-842-2217



North Shore
Health Network



Réseau Santé
Rive Nord

