

Fredericton Chamber Hosts its Annual Medical Resident Reception

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FREDERICTON, NB – The Fredericton Chamber of Commerce is hosting its annual summer reception for medical residents on July 23, 2015 at Brewbaker’s Restaurant. The event is meant to introduce residents to the city to get them to start thinking about the Fredericton area as place to practice medicine in the long-term. It also highlights the efforts of the chamber’s Physician Recruitment & Retention Committee, which can help ease the transition to the city or to the business side of practicing medicine - something not thoroughly covered in medical training.

“We want the province’s medical residents to know that the Fredericton business community is very interested in primary healthcare and having them practice in the city once their residency is completed,” said Stephen Hill, chamber president. “Right now there are more than 10,000 individuals on the Patient Connect NB waiting list in the Fredericton area. That not only costs the system more money, but also makes it more difficult to attract skilled workers or even new businesses to the area.”

In its third year, the summer reception is expanding to include residents from across the province, not just at the Dr Everett Chalmers Hospital.

“Because of the interest from both businesses and other partners, as well as the residents themselves, we’ve been able to increase the scope of the reception this year,” added Krista Ross, chamber CEO. “Residents from the Moncton and Saint John programs will also be in attendance this year. That’s a big opportunity for us to make an impression on new physicians from across the province. For example, Moncton currently does not have any vacant billing numbers, so there are no positions available for those graduates. With a strong bilingual community in Fredericton, we are a great choice for these young physicians. We’re also adding a tour of the Saint John River immediately after the reception.”

Support from the business community has also grown over the three years.

“We are only able to expand the event because of the generosity of the business community,” added Hill. “Trius Group is donating chartered buses to pick-up the residents outside of Fredericton, the Crowne Plaza has donated rooms from them to stay in that night. Grant Thornton is sponsoring the boat tour; Matthews McCrea Elliott is sponsoring the wine; Wood Gundy, the food. In all, we have more than 60 local businesses and organizations providing donations of cash, food, prizes and gifts for the event. It demonstrates how much of an issuing primary care is for our community.”

Also supporting the event financially are the Department of Health, Horizon Health Network, the City of Fredericton, the New Brunswick Medical Society, the Capital Region Medical Society and Centre communautaire Sainte-Anne.

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*With more than 950 members, the **Fredericton Chamber of Commerce** is one of Atlantic Canada’s largest chambers of commerce. A dynamic business organization, the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce is actively engaged in policy development that affects the competitiveness of our members and of the Canadian business environment.*



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