

Roseway Hospital Community Update

“THANK YOU” Dr. John Keeler

Our friend Dr. John Keeler has been telling his patients he plans to close his family practice by the end of this year.

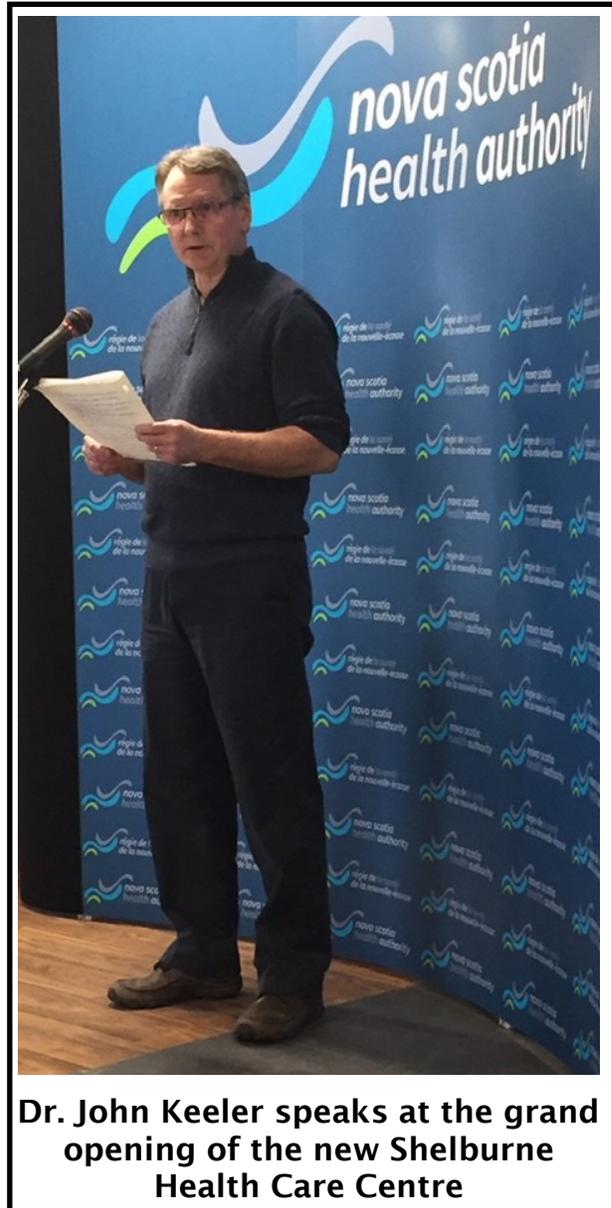
Dr. Keeler has been working very closely with Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) leadership on transition planning, and we look forward to continuing to work with Dr. Keeler even after he closes his practice.

We know the entire community wants to say a huge “THANK YOU” to Dr. Keeler, a dedicated provider for his patients, a skilled mentor for new doctors and a true leader for our health care team. Dr. Keeler’s enthusiasm for mentoring new doctors, and involvement in the Dalhousie Family Medicine Residency Program has helped Shelburne gain recognition as an area that warmly welcomes new health care providers.

At the same time, NSHA also wants to thank Dr. Ryan Pawsey who is leaving the area for other opportunities. Dr. Pawsey has been instrumental in working to establish the collaborative family practice along with Dr. Keeler, along with the other physicians, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and the rest of the family practice team.

What does this mean for patients & hospital services?

We know the departure of family physicians presents real challenges. This is why frequent meetings with NSHA zone and site leaders have been taking place to develop plans for supporting inpatient care, and to manage emergency department coverage.



Dr. John Keeler speaks at the grand opening of the new Shelburne Health Care Centre

Local physicians have been an active part of these meetings.

This planning team is looking at a number of options and other areas where different models and mixes of providers have been successfully implemented to support patients.

Recruitment Efforts Continue

Recruitment and retention of family doctors, nurse practitioners and other primary health care providers to Shelburne is a priority for NSHA.

There has been some promising activity on the recruitment front. We have had a number of site-visits over the past few months. This activity is encouraging, however we know recruitment takes time. What is key is that this recruitment activity is creating interest among providers, and certainly has helped raise awareness of opportunities in the Shelburne area.

We are grateful for the work of our community partners for their efforts to promote Shelburne as a welcoming place for professionals to practice. This includes the production of two excellent videos by Municipality of Shelburne, targeting Nurse Practitioners (NPs) and Family Physicians.

Our local partners played a significant role in helping new NP Maria Ceschiutti and her family get settled in the community and feel welcome.

The Shelburne area was identified for the new NP education incentive announced in July 2018. There has been a successful candidate from this area who was accepted into the program at Dalhousie University.

Roseway Hospital Emergency Department Update

The team at the Roseway Hospital Emergency Department is made up of nurses, advanced care paramedics and locum primary care physicians.

We are very grateful for the locum physicians from across the province who often travel several hours away from their own homes and practices to provide health care to our local community. We continue to recruit others to the locum team.

It is important to know emergency services are always available, even when an emergency department is closed. Please call 911 for medical emergencies. For health information and advice from a registered nurse (RN), Nova Scotians can call 811 any time.

All temporary Emergency Department closures are posted online: www.nshealth.ca/temporaryclosures. People can also call 811 for information on local closures.

Roseway Emergency Dept. closures over past six months (in hours):

May = 243 hrs (approx. 33%)

June = 300 hrs (approx. 42%)

July = 312 hrs (approx. 42%)

August = 356 hrs (approx. 48%)

September = 141 hrs (approx. 20%)

October = 132 hrs (approx. 18%)

Thank you to our locum physicians and emergency department team who have helped reduce the hours of closure over the past two months.

Shelburne primary care clinic for people without a family doctor or nurse practitioner

The Shelburne primary care clinic for people who do not have a family doctor or nurse practitioner sees patients each Friday at the Shelburne Family Practice. **Patients can now book appointments starting each Tuesday for the upcoming Friday clinic by calling the practice at 902-875-2321.**

Anyone without a primary care provider should please add their name to the Need a Family Practice Registry: needafamilypractice.nshealth.ca

Or Call 811, Mon to Fri, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.