



The Rural News

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'Keeping the Rural Doctor Informed'

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\$5m for NOSM Bursaries

The Ontario government has invested in a new bursary program at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM). The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) has committed up to \$5 million to the Northern Ontario School of Medicine Bursary Fund to help students from northern, rural and remote communities defray the costs associated with attending medical school and help them avoid significant debt at the end of their medical undergraduate training. Studies have shown that students who come from and train in rural settings are more likely to become rural physicians. The bursary fund is a collaborative effort among Lakehead and Laurentian universities, the school of medicine and donors. The partners have a \$5-million fund raising campaign and are seeking support from individuals and communities from across Northern Ontario in establishing the fund. The NOHFC will match eligible donations as they are received by NOSM, to a total of \$5 million. In photo, Minister Rick Bartolucci is joined by new med school student Lyndsay McFadgen from Kirkland Lake.



Dentists Win Portability!

ST JOHN'S- Nine Newfoundland dentists with clean licenses but foreign trained, have been successful in Supreme court to uphold a human rights tribunal ruling that ordered the dental board to make them eligible for license portability. This ruling may have significant implication for a doctor who is refused a licence in a Canadian province jurisdiction or offered expensive testing when "grandfathered" physicians with equal qualification are practising in the jurisdiction. The dental board has no further avenue to appeal and will be complying. While the dentists have been practising in rural Newfoundland for over twenty years now and have no intention of moving to the city, they feel that it is important for them to have this right of mobility. Human Rights Commission

NOSM funds NOMP

THUNDER BAY- As part of the ongoing preparation of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine residency program, funding for the Northwestern Ontario Medical Programme (NOMP) has been transferred to the school as of October 1st. For the past 30 years, NOMP has supported medical education to students and postgraduate residents who have a special interest in northern and rural health care. NOMP continues to offer learning experiences for all levels of learners in unique practice settings across Northwestern Ontario. NOSM has recently admitted its inaugural class and between admissions and curriculum will be the most rural and northern community focused medical school in Canada.

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