

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 30, 2015

MEDICAL STUDENT SIGNS TO JOINT HASTINGS COUNTY – HIGHLANDS EAST AGREEMENT

Hastings County: In a press release issued today Hastings County Warden Rick Phillips announced that Megan Fitzgerald has signed on to practice family medicine under a joint agreement between Hastings County and the Municipality of Highlands East, in Haliburton County. Megan will be splitting her family medicine practice between Bancroft and Wilberforce, and will spend equal time at the two locations.

“I am extremely pleased that we have been successful in recruiting a family doctor to practice under this joint agreement,” said Warden Phillips. “Megan will be serving a great need for two communities under this agreement.”

“We are thrilled that Megan has signed this agreement,” stated Highlands East Reeve, Dave Burton. “This is a huge step for us in the right direction, in addressing the needs of our residents.”

“Having grown up in the area around Bancroft and Wilberforce, it’s a place that’s very special to me,” stated Fitzgerald. “To have this program available to me in my home area and serve some of the needs in this area, I am very thankful.”

“The signing of Megan Fitzgerald under this joint agreement shows how municipalities can work together for the common good of our residents” said Warden Phillips. “Both of our municipalities are benefitting under this agreement and our residents will be better served as a result,” echoed Burton.

The *Hastings County Family Physician Recruitment Program* provides a \$25,000 grant per year for six years to medical students while they complete their studies. In return, they agree to set up their practice in Hastings County for a minimum of five years. Under this joint agreement with Highlands East, the payments are equally split between the two municipalities, and the return-of-service is also split between the two locations equally.

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