

September 11th, 2012

Mayor Lehman and Members of Council c/o City of Barrie Clerk's Office City of Barrie 70 Collier Street, P.O. Box 400 Barrie, ON, L4M4T5



Dear Mayor Lehman and Members of Council,

On behalf of the Barrie Area Physician Recruitment Task Force I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Council of the City of Barrie for their ongoing support of the recruitment and retention initiative in our community.

We have made significant progress in bringing much needed Family Physicians and Specialists into the area; however, there is still a tremendous amount of work to be done. Health care human resources will be a significant issue facing all residents of the area in the coming years and recruitment will be the key initiative to alleviate the hardships of the physician shortage.

The Task Force also focuses on the various needs of incoming physicians. For instance; we tour visiting physicians throughout the catchment area as well as ensure a unique support system is in place for both the physician and their families should they choose to start a practice in Barrie or elsewhere in the Barrie Area. The Task Force also ensures a structured retention plan is in place to maintain physician satisfaction within the Barrie Area community in years to come.

In order to continue to be successful in the recruitment and retention of family physicians and specialists into the area we kindly request your financial support, in the amount of \$110,000 to help further our initiatives. As you are aware your financial contribution allows for your representatives, currently Doug Shipley, Alex Nuttall and Stephannie Schlichter, to hold a seat on the Task Force, which will ensure that your input and accountability needs are met.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at any time, or if you prefer to meet I am available at your convenience. I can be reached directly at 705-728-9090 ext. 42313 or by e-mail at BellJa@rvh.on.ca

Thank-you for your continued support.

Sincerely, Jaclyn Bell

Physician Recruitment Coordinator