


Do you have a local  
doctor?

Some things you  
should know.



*You don't have  
to struggle in  
silence...*

*Mental Health help  
is just a call away*

- \* The Healthcare and Wellness Coalition has been lobbying for doctors since our inception.
- \* We have learned that the responsibility for adding more doctors to our service area, lies with the existing doctors in the medical clinic. This has been true for a very long time.
- \* The medical clinic is a private business. HAWC, IH, local and provincial and federal politicians do not have a say in how this is done, how many physicians we have, how the clinic runs, what patients they accept, what patients they refuse, how they transfer patients when one leaves and another comes.
- \* What we are doing about the situation.
- \* Lobby the Ministry of Health, IH, Divisions of Family Practice (a physician support organization funded by the province).
- \* Working on a plan to go to the community to talk about a new healthcare model, see page 2 

## In This Issue

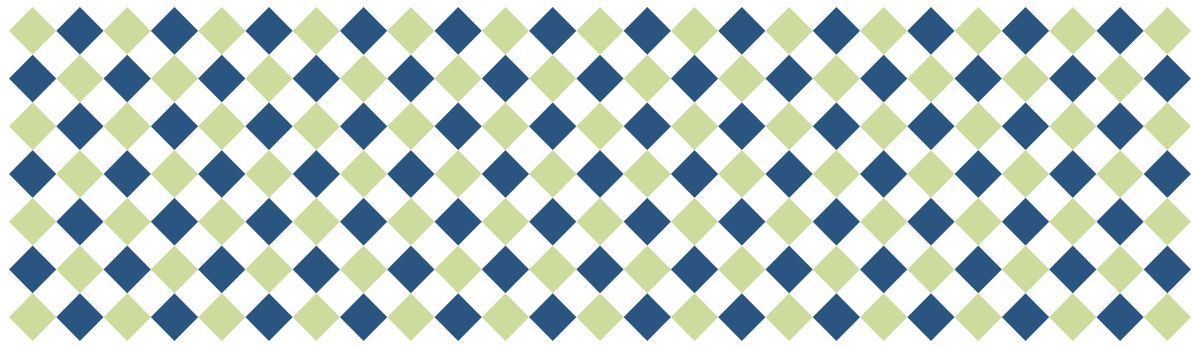
- Imaging / Xray update
- COVID vaccine update

Do you need a local doctor—continued . . .



- \* We feel the current physician medical clinic , physician recruitment, number of physicians retained to cover our catchment area is not working, and is at the foundation of what is the problem with the current healthcare model.
- \* The current emergency department model also doesn't work, and it should be noted it is the responsibility of the doctors in the medical clinic to ensure a physician is available to work in the ER when it is open currently 6:00 PM Friday until 8 AM Monday. Lately the track record has been poor.
- \* We want to engage members of the community in meaningful discussions with Interior Health and other community members to identify what we do need for healthcare, what is missing, what we must have and what would be nice to have.
- \* It doesn't take much effort to research the current plight in all areas of healthcare regarding shortages of all medical professionals.
- \* So as a community, we need to work towards having these discussions and having input into the next model, we / they can do better.
- \* What we won't do:
- \* Weigh in on social media healthcare conversations, we are happy to engage with the communities in conversations either at our meetings or in person or by private message / telephone etc.
- \* IF YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE CONTACT US DIRECTLY.





## Laboratory and Xray department Updates

We have had discussions with department heads for each of these areas and have developed a good network to answer questions in the future.



Xray department successfully hired a replacement for the vacant position and so we have the department back at full staff including coverage on the weekends.



Laboratory outpatient services Monday to Friday excluding statutory holidays is covered and has extended their hours of access to

8:00 AM to 2:30 PM

These services are critical to the communities, without them, can't diagnose in the clinic or in the ER. We continue to watch these services as well.



## COVID VACCINE NEWS

Interior Health continues to work towards providing vaccines for those who haven't yet completed their full course of vaccines, as well as to ensure youth who qualify for the vaccine can get access.

We are not getting good updates and information, and are not able to provide updates regularly, and we notice communication for people looking for vaccines is not always accurate, causing frustration.

If we can help in any way, let us know, we were unable to volunteer for the last mobile drop in clinic as we received very short notice.

We have told IH we think they can do better in communicating the clinics, and we are told there are more ongoing.

Please reach out if you are having problems.