

“I’m really impressed with how welcoming everyone has been,” said Kelly, noting it’s “taken a lot of stress away from setting up my practice.”

Growing up, Kelly had always had his sights set on a medical career.

His father was a psychiatrist with the Canadian Armed Forces and Kelly knew early on that he wanted to get into the medical field and help others.

He graduated from the University of Ottawa and found his focus during medical rotations.

“I just fell in love with the anatomy of it all ... and the fact that, with surgery, it’s an opportunity to fix people’s problems quickly. That doesn’t mean that it’s not stressful and there can be complications, but with today’s training and technology, we can deal with a lot of illnesses more effectively.”

The term general surgeon is a bit of a misnomer, and some might think Kelly can do any type of procedure.

However, it’s actually a surgical specialty that focuses on abdominal contents, including the esophagus, stomach, small intestine, large intestine, liver, pancreas, gallbladder, appendix and bile ducts, and often the thyroid gland. General surgeons also deal with diseases involving the skin, breast, soft tissue, trauma, peripheral artery disease and hernias and perform endoscopic procedures such as gastroscopy and colonoscopy.

After completing training, Kelly moved to Northern Ontario with his wife Cynthia and three sons, and then headed to British Columbia in 2017.

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While there, Kelly enjoyed skiing, fossil hunting and continuing his passion for wildlife photography.