



McGLENNON, A. Duncan - Peacefully at this home with his family by his side on Sunday March 6th, 2016 in his 90th year. Beloved husband of Betty McGlennon (née Taylor). Loving father of David McGlennon (Jen). Dear grandfather of Gage, Matthew and David. Friends are invited to call at the **MACCOUBREY FUNERAL HOME**, 11 King, St., W., Colborne on Tuesday from 6 - 8 pm. A funeral service will be held in Old St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Wednesday March 9th at 2 pm. Cremation with interment in Lakeport Cemetery. If desired donations may be made to Old St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Condolences received at www.MacCoubrey.com

NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY
MAR. 8/16

Committee's challenge: replacing eight doctors who will retire in next four years

By John Campbell *BRIGHTON INDEPENDENT FEB. 25/16*

Colborne - The West Northumberland Physician Recruitment Committee says its challenges include serving a population that's growing as well as aging, which is increasing demand for family physicians at a time when doctors are retiring, creating shortages.

"We have reason to believe eight family doctors in West Northumberland will retire within four years," and they have a combined roster size of about 12,000 patients, project manager Tracy West said in a presentation she and committee co-chair Lynda Kay made to Cramahe Township council Feb. 16.

The committee is working with many of these doctors "to make sure a succession plan is in place," she said, because "it can sometimes take up to two years to recruit a doctor, so planning is really imperative," to provide "continuity of care" for all patients.

Currently 30 per cent of West Northumberland's doctors are over the age of 60 and half of them are over the age of 55, West said.

The committee, funded entirely by Cobourg, Port Hope, and the townships of Cramahe, Hamilton and Alnwick-Haldimand, is considered "one of the most successful recruitment models in Ontario," Kay said.

It has "a very high retention rate," West said, because "when we recruit we really recruit to make sure the fit is right for the community."

The recruitment of two physicians, including Dr. Steven Waring in Colborne, and the creation of three succession plans were among the committee's "key accomplishments" in 2015, she said.

Getting Waring to return to the area after working in the United States for about 25 years, was "quite a success story."

It ensured continuity of care for more than 1,300 patients of a doctor who was retiring.

"Over the past year there's been a recognized increase in the number of residents looking for a family physician," West said, and the committee has responded by launching an awareness campaign to direct residents to Health Care Connect. It's a government program that helps Ontarians without a doctor or nurse practi-

tioner find one in their community who is accepting new patients.

West and Kay attended council to argue the need for continued funding by the township. Cramahe's contribution, roughly \$5,565, the same as last year at less than one dollar per resident, is the smallest among the five municipalities; Cobourg's is the largest at \$17,065. Their level of support is based on population.

The committee's operating budget is about \$53,500, largely for the project manager's salary.

West said most of her work right now is helping new doctors with their transition plans in taking over a retiring doctor's practice.

"It's a lot of time and effort," and includes helping doctors' spouses find employment.

West Northumberland's doctors "don't want to leave a practice without having a new doctor come in," West said, and "it makes them feel really good" to hand it over before they retire.

The committee's funding request will be dealt with when Cramahe council begins its budget deliberations in March.

Pontiac County Women's Institute invites community in from the cold for information day

EQUITY FEB. 24, 2016

DAVID TULLOCH

SHAWVILLE Feb. 17, 2016

It's no secret that winter can be a tough season to weather—the cold temperatures, early darkness and piles of snow can make for a

dreary atmosphere.

To help thaw the hearts of the community, the Pontiac County Women's Institute (PCWI) organized an information day at the United Church of Shawville, invit-

ing everyone to enjoy an afternoon of guest speakers, socializing and a delicious lunch.

"Today is ... a gift to people," said PCWI President Elaine MacPhee. "It's an

information day in the middle of winter to help people get through their winter."

Andrew Simms was one of the guest speakers invited to the event. Describing himself as a "reluctant farmer", Simms told the story of how got his start in sheep farming and the experiences he's had along the way.

Simms got his start in the business of farming with a few cows, but was advised to diversify. At first he didn't expect he would ever be a sheep farmer—"when pigs fly," he said—but after much research and discussion, Simms and his wife Donna settled on Dorper sheep.

Even after settling on the breed of sheep, Simms was expecting to start with just a few, maybe between six and 10. So when he asked Donna to purchase some Dorper sheep while he was busy setting up the Shawville Fair one year, he was quite surprised to learn she had returned with about 90.

"Now we're in the sheep business and we're learning

as we go," he said.

He shared the ups and downs of the business, from learning half of his flock had contracted a disease to being forced to upgrade the barn to dealing with recurring coyote troubles.

"I'm a pretty 'live and let live' guy, but when you start killing my sheep, I start killing coyotes," he said wryly. "We're never going to beat the darn coyotes."

Throughout his lecture, Simms praised the women who had helped him over the years, noting their intelligence, ambition and work ethic.

"I guess that's the trick," he said. "Get a competent woman to help you out."

Simms' story was well-received; his dry sense of humour frequently eliciting hearty laughter from the crowd. He fielded many questions when he was finished, the audience's interest having clearly been piqued.

Other guest speakers included Villa James Shaw Committee President Albert

Armstrong who spoke about the Villa James Shaw, Pontiac Continuing Education Centre employee Susanne Poirier who spoke about the centre's nursing program and local musician Ursula Schultz who entertained guests with her fiddle. Past events have seen doctors, notaries and firefighters speak as well.

Although the annual event is organized by a women's institute, MacPhee emphasized that it isn't strictly for women, saying she hoped more men would come.

The Women's Institute is a worldwide organization formed in Canada in 1897. Initially aimed at improving rural communities, the institute has since expanded its focus and is now helps women everywhere.

The PCWI often organizes local fundraisers, such as their Summer Supper in June, and donated to both community cornerstones such as the hospital and schools as well as individual families in need.



David Tulloch, THE EQUITY

The Pontiac County Women's Institute (PCWI) organized an information day, complete with guest speakers, to provide the community an interesting opportunity to come in from the cold. From left: Villa James Shaw Committee President Albert Armstrong, PCWI President Elaine MacPhee and local livestock farmer Andrew Simms.