

# Lack of funds holding up the new Schreiber Medical /Dental centre

by Darren MacDonald  
The News

Overall cuts in ministry funding is basically what's holding up Schreiber's new medical/dental centre, says a Ministry of Northern Development and Mines spokesperson.

"The real crunch here is the availability of capital funding," says Katie Heikkinen. "We're short of funds this year like never before."

Heikkinen says that Schreiber's application has been sent back to the township to have a few matters clarified. Once that's done, the application moves to the next stage.

"And that stage is looking at the funding viability of the proposal—what they are looking at for the total cost of the building, does the ministry have funding for the project this year or next year, that kind of thing," says Heikkinen.

"After that would be the actual working drawing and tendering, and finally, minister approval."

When determining

whether or not a community is eligible for funding, she says a number of factors are taken into consideration.

"First of all, does the area have a full complement of health professionals," she says. "The Ministry of Health has guidelines, that there be one physician for every 900-1,200 people."

"Then we examine whether or not the area has trouble in attracting or retaining medical professionals—often communities seem to change doctors about once a year."

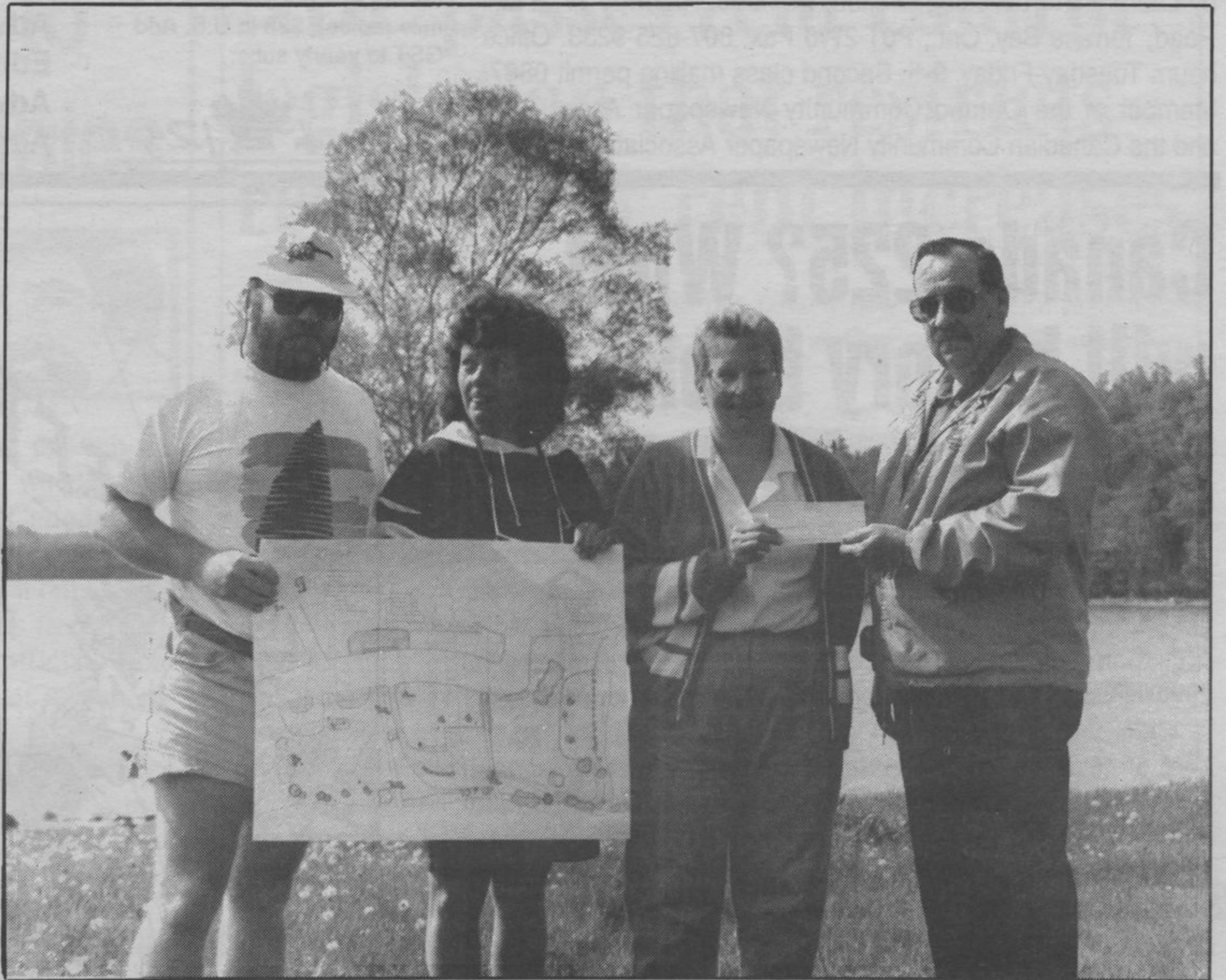
Other factors, such as the condition of the existing medical facilities and whether or not a new facility would help the community attract health care professionals, are also considered says Heikkinen.

"In many northern Ontario communities there are what we call 'turn-key' facilities," she says.

"That means that when a new doctor comes, they don't have to start building bricks or mortar. They can go right

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# Support for Wardrope Park



From left, Wardrope Park Planning Committee members Bill Collinson, Colleen Kenney and Rose Marie Renaud accept a donation of \$8,000 from Community Futures Chairperson Mike Cosgrove in the future park site in Rosspoint.

The donation is to the Rosspoint Island Services Board to help fund their Wardrope Park project. The money will be put toward

the purchase of playground equipment. The development is aimed at both promoting tourism and encouraging local employment. The committee hopes to have the park finished within a couple of years. Committee members missing from the photo include Lynne McGrath, Alison Collins, Dave Tamblyn, Linda Trapp and Dave McCullough.

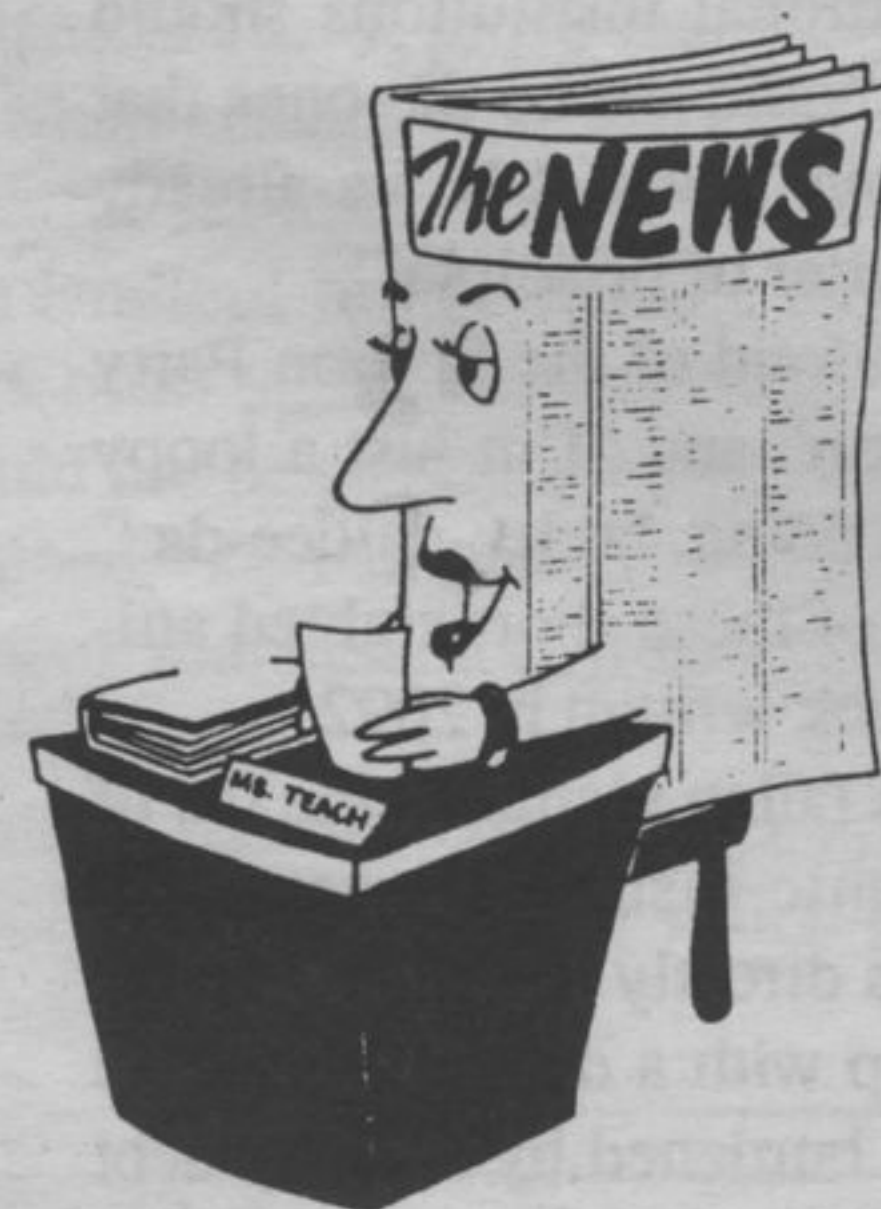
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## RETIREMENT

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all of the friends, family and co-workers who have made the occasion of my retirement from the Lake Superior Board of Education so overwhelming. To the students of Schreiber Public School for "Russ Baxter Day", you are all so special.

To my fellow custodians from Schreiber and Terrace Bay for the luncheon, to the staff of S.P.S., my family, and all who attended the dinner in my honour. I thank you all for your gifts and good wishes, and I will always remember this occasion.

**Russ Baxter**



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