

Schreiber/Terrace Bay has third doctor



Dr. David Hurst in his office at the hospital last week.

by Darren MacDonald
The News

Schreiber/Terrace Bay has a third full-time physician, and one that plans on staying for quite some time.

Joining Dr. Rohani and Dr. Wilkes is Dr. David Hurst, a physician who's originally from Thunder Bay.

"I'm pretty familiar with this area right now," says Hurst, who has purchased property in Rosspart. "I've travelled through here quite a bit on my way to and from Thunder Bay."

Hurst says he joined the military in 1983, and later graduated from the University of Manitoba. He did his internship at the University of Toronto, and has spent the last five years as a physician in the military, travelling around Canada. He's spent the last year in Edmonton.

Last October, Hurst travelled from Edmonton to Toronto to take a course when he met up with a recruiting team from the McCausland Hospital.

"They were quite convincing," he says. "They sold the area well, and seemed like reasonable people. Plus, I wanted to get closer to Thunder Bay."

Once his course was completed, Hurst drove back to Edmonton, stopping here on his way to look the area over.

"I found some property in Rosspart that I thought would be suitable for a house," he

says. "So I am planning to stay here for awhile."

While his house is being built, he's living in the locum apartment in Terrace Bay.

Hurst says he plans to split his practice up between the two townships.

"I'm not quite sure about the patient demographics, but there's certainly not enough patients in Schreiber to support two full-time doctors," he says.

"But there's probably enough to support one and a third physicians. And in Terrace Bay, there's probably enough patients for one and two thirds."

And since most people don't like the thought of commuting between the communities to see their doctor, Hurst says he will continue to split his time between Schreiber and Terrace Bay.

"I'm also looking at getting

away from the banker's hours and maybe setting up some evening hours," he says. "I might even open up a Saturday clinic, just to vary the times that are offered."

In addition to making it

more convenient for people to see a doctor, Hurst says that after hours clinics help reduce health care costs.

"These days people are taking a harder look at the way health care money is being spent," he says. "And it's much more cost effective to have patients come to an after hours clinic than to have them going

to emergency. With overhead and what have you, emergency (services) are very expensive to operate."

And on the non-medical side of things, Hurst says the area suits him well.

"I'm into water sports, I like boating and sailing and scuba diving, so this area is perfect for me," he says.



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Thank You

We would like to thank the Township of Terrace Bay for the bar proceeds from the Canada Day Dance. We would also like to express our appreciation to Birchwood Terrace, the Moose Hall, Cathy Main, Thane Walton, the Lions, and all other volunteers who helped us with the bar and cooking, for all their help.

Terrace Bay Boy Scouts