

# New clinic can take in 10,000 new patients

Stouffville MD moves to teach at hospital facility

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Dr. Jane Philpott has left the Stouffville Medical Centre to head up a family medicine teaching unit at Markham Stouffville Hospital.

"I'm very excited about the new project," she said. "I think it's a huge asset to the hospital and to the community to become a teaching hospital. I think it brings a lot of new energy and (it's) great to have some new young, smart physicians who will be eager to learn and kind of spur the rest of us on to really practice the best we can."

She joined the Stouffville Medical Centre in 1998. Her last day was April 30.

"I love the group here and it's been a great experience working with them. Obviously I'll stay in close contact with them - we're still colleagues in family medicine," she said.

The Health For All Clinic is associated with the University of Toronto's department of family and community medicine and will be located in a five-storey building currently under construction beside the hospital.

The practice will initially have seven teaching physicians and four residents.

The residents, who join the clinic on July 1, will spend two years training to become family physicians. They will also take on new patients and go through clinical rotations at the hospital.

When the clinic opens in November, it will be equipped with a full family health team - nurses, a nurse practitioner, social worker, dietician, occupational therapist and pharmacist, according to Dr. Philpott.

More residents will be added to the program annually for a total of 18 in 2013.

In the meantime, the teaching



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Dr. Sheila Yuen checks her computer for appointments as Dr. Sumairah Syed and Dr. Jane Philpott, chief of the department of family medicine at Markham Stouffville Hospital, look on at the Health For All Clinic. It opened its doors Tuesday and will have new offices in the hospital once expansion is complete.

physicians joined Dr. Philpott, in a temporary location beside the hospital, Monday morning and opened the clinic.

All of the physicians, excluding Dr. Philpott, will be accepting new patients from Markham and Whitchurch-Stouffville.

*Dr. Janice Li, who had been in Stouffville for 24 years, left recently for a position in Markham Stouffville Hospital's oncology department.*

"We'll actually have the ability to roster up to 10,000 patients who currently don't have a family doctor," Dr. Philpott said, adding it is estimated that about 60,000 York Region residents don't have a family doctor.

Although Dr. Philpott will be

heading up the new clinic, she is not giving up her practise.

About 90 per cent of her patients have decided to follow her to the new clinic.

"About half my time (will be) spent in clinical care with patients, the other half of my time (will be) spent in administration and teaching," she said.

Teaching is not new to Dr. Philpott. For the past several years, the Stouffville Medical Centre has been a teaching practise.

"Medical education is a big interest of mine," she said.

Just last month, Dr. Philpott was in Ethiopia consulting on the development of a family medicine program there.

"I have a very strong interest in global health and intercultural health. It actually kind of all fits together in that our teaching unit at the hospital we are going to be specifically focusing on training excellent Canadian family physicians but at the same time physicians who look at health from a

global state of mind and looking at the cultural determinants of health and how your cultural background might impact your health and wellness," she said.

Dr. Philpott founded Give a Day to World AIDS day in 2004. Money raised goes to the Stephen Lewis Foundation and Dignitas International, which provides medication, services and support to Africans.

Dr. Philpott is the second physician in about a month to leave the Stouffville Medical Centre.

Dr. Janice Li, who had been in Stouffville for 24 years, left recently for a position in Markham Stouffville Hospital's oncology department.

Dr. Li's patients have been picked up by the clinic's Dr. Doug Wu, who joined the clinic this past March, and Dr. Nima Mirtorabi, who joined the practice last September.

The Health for All Clinic is located at 376 Church St, across from Markham Stouffville Hospital in the north parking lot and can be reached at 905-472-2200.

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### Market opens next week with additional vendors

When the Downtown Stouffville Farmers' Market opens for its second season next Thursday, there will be more vendors than ever, including one that specializes in natural pet food.

"Which I think is a great idea because they are part of people's families and they too should be eating healthy, natural food," said Anna Rose, downtown co-ordinator for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

At the beginning of the 2009 season, the market had 13 vendors but by season's end in October, there were 15. This year, there are 18.

"It'll be even bigger and better than last year," Ms Rose said, adding with construction in the area complete "it's just a nicer set-up this year. So the community will look forward to going to it even more."

The market will operate every Thursday from 2 to 7 p.m. until mid-October in the Park Drive parking lot across the street from Latcham Hall just south of Main Street in Memorial Park.

### Charges laid over ID

A 25-year-old Whitchurch-Stouffville man has been charged with personation to gain advantage and obstruction/resisting arrest peace officer.

The charges stem from a Feb. 12 traffic stop at about 10:15 a.m. at Main Street and West Lawn Crescent.

The driver provided verbal identification, however, after a follow-up investigation, York Region Police say the driver provided a false identity.

Charges were laid April 24.

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