



Municipality
of Durham

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Pat M. Madill, A.M.C.T., CMM I
Regional Clerk

March 3, 2006

Association of Municipalities of Ontario
393 University Avenue
Suite 1701
Toronto, ON M5G 1E6

**RE: REMOVAL OF BARRIERS TO FAMILY PHYSICIANS,
OUR FILE: P00-00**

At their meeting held on February 15, 2006, the Council of the Regional Municipality of Durham adopted the following resolution:

"WHEREAS presently, there are thousands of family physicians treating patients in provinces outside of Ontario. These physicians have the ability to move between provinces, and open practices to see Canadians immediately in other provinces, except Ontario.

AND WHEREAS Canadian family physicians, currently practicing in other parts of Canada, and seeing Canadian patients, wishing to move their practice to Ontario, cannot do so immediately. They must first receive medical licensure through one of the following criteria:

- 1) receive certification by examination of the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC);
- 2) apply for a restricted license to practice with the understanding that certification by examination of the CFPC will be achieved within 3 years; or
- 3) apply for registration through practice assessment.

AND WHEREAS each of these criteria can take up to one year before the physician is able to open a medical practice in Ontario.

AND WHEREAS in this time of a critical shortage of family physicians in Ontario, the Council of the Region of Durham, believes that Ontarians, including the half million living in Durham Region, are being prejudiced by these regulations. Family physicians, currently practicing in other provinces in Canada, are meeting unreasonable barriers to practice medicine in Ontario.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Region of Durham requests the Government of the Province of Ontario to take immediate action to remove these barriers to family physicians who wish to relocate their medical practices to Ontario from other provinces; and

THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario, the Opposition Parties of the Province of Ontario, the Federal Ministry of Health and the Ontario College of Physicians."

Would you kindly forward this correspondence to all Ontario Municipalities, as per Council's recommendation. Thank you.

P.M. Madill, A.M.C.T., CMM I
Regional Clerk

PMM/dt

- c: Ontario College of Physicians
Mr. Howard Hampton – Leader, New Democratic Party
Mr. John Tory – Leader, Ontario Progressive Conservative Party
The Honourable Tony Clement – Minister of Health and Minister for Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario