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## RVH welcomes new family medicine residents

Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) continues its important work of training new family doctors as another group of family medicine resident physicians begin their final two years of training at the health centre's Family Medicine Teaching Unit (FMTU). The program, which welcomed nine new residents, helps ease the shortage of family physicians in the area as many stay and open their own practices.

As RVH, a University of Toronto teaching hospital, welcomes the new group of physicians, another eight doctors graduated at the end of June. Since the program began in 2009, 45 family medicine residents have trained at RVH, with 28 staying in the area to set up their own practices, provide temporary coverage for area physicians or work in the health centre's Emergency and Hospitalist departments.

"It's no surprise this region has suffered from a shortage of family physicians for many years now due to its explosive population growth," says Janice Skot, president and CEO, RVH. "Many physicians who have completed their training at RVH have gone on to establish practices in the area which has helped meet some of the demand for physicians. As we focus our efforts on increasing the teaching and research opportunities available at RVH, we plan to continue growing, and hopefully keeping, exceptional physicians in this region."

RVH welcomes Drs. Michael Borchuk, Joshawa Elliott, Eunice Kim, Patrick Lavoie, Shafiq Mohamed, Eldon Ng, Nikki Quinn, Shannon Reid, and William Stuart as they begin the last leg of their journey to become family physicians.

In addition to welcoming the new residents, RVH also extends congratulations to the eight residents who graduated from the program this year including Drs. Dennis Fiddler, Mahdad Raad, Kyle Lee, Tanya Nadon, Willy Phan, Mina Salama, Eric Traficante, and Kaitlyn Whelan.

"Our program has far exceeded our expectations," says Dr. Stuart Murdoch, program director, FMTU. "We have seen some exceptional new doctors come through the FMTU's doors and as faculty, we are so proud to play a part in shaping their careers, passing along our knowledge and skills. And the residents bring such enthusiasm and passion for their patients and their work - it is contagious and they remind us of why we became physicians."

**Cutline: Nine new family medicine residents joined the Family Medicine Teaching Unit (FMTU) at Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre to complete the final two years on their journey to becoming family physicians. Front row, from left – Drs. Nikki Quinn, Eldon Ng, Eunice Kim, Shannon Reid and Patrick Lavoie. Back row, from left – Drs. Mike Borchuk, William Stuart, Shafiq Mohamed and Joshawa Elliott.**

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