



Apsley Lions

December 2017

By Brenda Lenson

On Saturday, November 25th, the Lions Club was very happy to once again sponsor the Annual Christmas Parade. The weather also played a factor again this year. We had rain during the day, then sunshine and a little bit of snow at the start of the parade. We were very happy to see some new businesses take part in the parade; Bowes & Cocks; Ball Real Estate and Lakeview Marina put in entries in the parade. The floats that we had were brightly lit up. Thanks very much to everyone who participated in the parade and thanks very much to all who came out to watch it.

After the parade, everyone was welcomed back to the NKCC for hot chocolate; tea; coffee and goodies. There was a visit from Santa and all kids were welcomed to come up to sit on his knee, including the kids from the Fire Department, and plenty of them had their pictures taken with Santa. (See **picture below** by Jim O'Shea.) Loot bags were given to all kids 10 and under. Every year, this event just keeps getting bigger and better!

Thanks to all the Lions who came out and helped with both events. Special thanks to Lions Merle Post; Una Warner; Carolyn Evans and Joe McCauley for their help. We would also like to thank Doug Clear; John & Janet Kemp; Mark Kemp; Tucker's Marine and Lion Keith Warner for the wonderful tree that is decorated and up in front of the bank. It truly takes a village!

On behalf of the Apsley & District Lions Club, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Community of North Kawartha for all their support in the year 2017 and wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and all the very best for 2018!

The last night of bingo for 2017 will be on Wednesday, December 13th at 7:00 pm at the NKCC. Come out and have some fun! Save Sat. January 27th for the **Winter Carnival!**



On November 21, 2017, the Peterborough Family Health Team (PFHT) and NK Council provided this update on healthcare in Apsley:

The residents of Apsley continue to wait for a new family doctor to establish a medical practice since the retirement of Dr. Wagdy Rayes. The Peterborough Family Health Team (PFHT) is pursuing a temporary solution to support these folks through a telemedicine approach; however, there are still many pieces of this plan that need to be worked out.

"We continue to search for a permanent family doctor to take over the primary care for patients, but in the meantime we need a solution. People cannot go without access to care." states Lori Richey, Executive Director for the PFHT.

A telemedicine service would provide a virtual family doctor to patients. This temporary clinic would also enroll patients and smoothly transition them over to a new family doctor once recruited and that practice is up and running.

"The Peterborough Family Health Team has supported our community in terms of providing basic primary care to our residents," says Mayor Rick Woodcock of the North Kawartha Township. "I have no doubt that once the pieces are aligned for the telemedicine service, our town will once again have access to the care we require."

In the current situation, those living in Apsley who require care can access Telemedicine via the Lakefield VON Nurse Practitioner Clinic: open Wednesdays + Thursdays at 150 Strickland Street in Lakefield. Please book an appointment by calling (705) 651-4866.

The Nurse Practitioner Hub in Apsley can only provide care to patients that are enrolled with them as they are currently at capacity. The hub was created when patients could not join the established family practice. However, once a new family doctor is recruited, the nurse practitioner and all enrolled patients will be absorbed by this doctor and it will once again become a wholesome practice.

Editor's Note: *To summarize, there is still no doctor and since the Nurse Practitioner is full, if you need help, make plans to go to Lakefield or the hospital in Peterborough.*

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