



February 23, 2011

Family Medicine Residencies Initiative Announcement

University of Ottawa's Skills and Simulation Centre

Opening Remarks: Dr. Jack Kitts, Chair, Health Council of Canada



Minister Aglukkaq announced the Family Medicine Residencies Initiative at 11:30 am at the University of Ottawa's Skills and Simulation Centre. This initiative will see more than 100 residency positions added across several jurisdictions to improve access to medical services in rural and remote communities. Opening remarks by Dr. Jack Kitts, Chair, Health Council of Canada, follow:

[Watch full announcement here](#)

- Bonjour, et bienvenue au Centre des compétences, et de simulation de l'Université d'Ottawa.
- C'est un grand plaisir pour moi, de vous remercier d'être venu ce matin.
- I want to welcome Dr. Jacques Bradwejn and Mr. Royal Galipeau, two strong proponents for better medical education and health services in Canada.
- Dr. Jacques Bradwejn, Dean of the University of Ottawa's Faculty of Medicine, is a tireless advocate for medical students, and an invaluable partner for TOH.
- The simulation centre where we stand today is a wonderful example of that collaboration and partnership.
- Royal Galipeau, is also a strong voice for health care. He has served on the Ottawa-Carleton Regional District Health Council, and as Chair of The Ottawa Hospital's Advisory Board.
- As Chair of the Health Council of Canada, I also want to commend our Federal Minister of Health, the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, for demonstrating the leadership to support this very important health human resource initiative.
- The need to increase our health system's capacity for post graduate medical training could not be addressed by one province, acting alone. Thanks to the participation of the federal government in this initiative, we can celebrate a win for all of Canada.

- Today's announcement will serve two key objectives:
 - First, by providing additional training opportunities to our medical graduates, and
 - Secondly, by strengthening health care services for all Canadians – including our rural and remote communities.
- As CEO of The Ottawa Hospital, I know how important that is. Part of our mandate within the Champlain Local Health Integration Network is to help ensure access to healthcare services within our region's rural communities. This program, through our partnership with the University of Ottawa, the Province and – now – the Federal Government, will help us do just that.
- Minister Aglukkaq knows firsthand how valuable such collaborative initiatives can be. Thanks to our partnership with the Government of Nunavut, our physicians and nurses provide high quality care in Nunavut and when patients require more complex care, they receive it right here at TOH.
- Ladies and gentleman, it is my privilege to welcome today the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq.
- Thank you/Merci

[Watch full announcement here](#)