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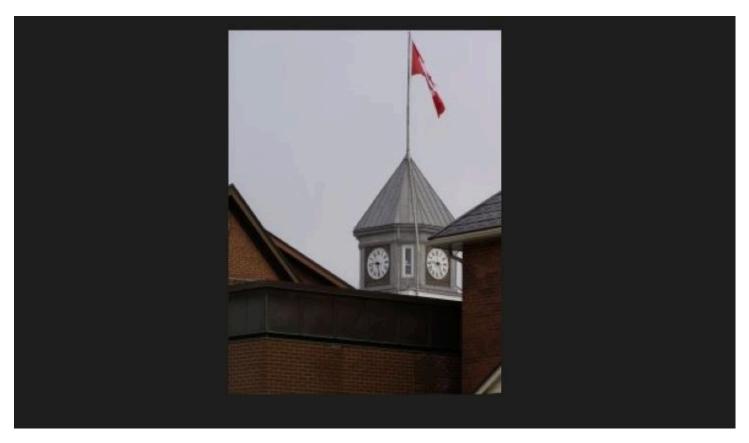
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You are here: Home / News / Huntsville Councillors to vote on whether to implement a \$60,000 signing bonus to attract doctors



## × rille Councillors to vote on whether to implement a \$60,000 signing bonus to attract doctors

BY DOPPLER ONLINE ON APRIL 2, 2024

**NEWS** 



At a special April 3, 2024 Huntsville Council meeting, councillors will vote on whether to offer family physicians who move their practice to Huntsville a \$60,000 signing bonus.

On March 25, 2024, Council directed Huntsville Councillors Bob Stone and Scott Morrison to work with staff to create an incentive program to attract family physicians to the community and report back to council for approval. However the incentive program is not yet in place and according to the motion going before council, "there are currently several physicians imminently exploring relocation options for their family practice, one location being the Town of Huntsville..."

If the resolution is approved, it would allow the municipality to offer the \$60,000 signing bonus to up to six physicians for the remainder of the 2022-2026 term of council. The motion does not provide details about the signing bonus other than that the parameters of the signing incentive to be outlined in an agreement ought to be to the satisfaction of the Chief Administrative Officer.

If approved by council, the funds would come from the Municipal Accommodation Tax reserve.

With three Huntsville physicians expected to retire in the next six months, the number of people without a family physician in Huntsville is expected to grow to an estimated 6,600, Stone told fellow councillors on March 25, 2024.

**UPDATE:** 

Council votes in favour of pulling all the stops to attract physicians to Huntsville

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