

**The Town of Saugeen Shores
Committee of the Whole Report
August 12, 2024**

Present: Mayor Luke Charbonneau
Deputy Mayor Diane Huber
Vice Deputy Mayor Mike Myatt
Councillor John Divinski
Councillor Cheryl Grace
Councillor Bud Halpin
Councillor Dave Myette

Absent: Councillor Justin Duhaime
Councillor Rachel Stack

To the Mayor and Members of Council:

We, your Committee, wish to recommend the following:

Whereas the state of health care in Ontario is in crisis, with 2.3 million Ontarians lacking access to a family doctor, emergency room closures across the province, patients being de-rostered and 40% of family doctors considering retirement over the next five years; and

Whereas it has becoming increasingly challenging to attract and retain an adequate healthcare workforce throughout the health sector across Ontario; and

Whereas Ontario municipal governments play an integral role in the health care system through responsibilities in public health, long-term care, paramedicine, and other investments; and

Whereas the percentage of family physicians practicing comprehensive family medicine has declined from 77 in 2008 to 65 percent in 2022; and

Whereas per capita health-care spending in Ontario is the lowest of all provinces in Canada, and

Whereas a robust workforce developed through a provincial, sector-wide health human resources strategy would significantly improve access to health services across the province.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Town of Saugeen Shores urge the Province of Ontario to recognize the physician shortage in the Town of Saugeen Shores and Ontario, to fund health care appropriately and ensure every Ontarian has access to physician care; and

Further That this resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Health Sylvia Jones, MPP Lisa Thompson, the Ontario Medical Association, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

The AMO/OMA Joint Health Resolution Campaign letter is attached for background information.

All of Which is Respectfully Submitted
by Chair Mayor Luke Charbonneau