

## MEDIA RELEASE



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## St. Joseph's Care Group Partners with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine

The Northern Ontario School of Medicine and St. Joseph's Care Group (SJCG) have joined forces in the training of medical students in Northern Ontario. The two groups made their partnership official during a signing ceremony which took place at the regular meeting of St. Joseph's Care Group on April 20.

The Affiliation Agreement outlines the collaborative relationship between the two institutions. The Agreement will: provide Northern Ontario School of Medicine students with hands-on clinical and practical experience outside the classroom; strengthen respective research efforts; provide an opportunity to augment library and information services; and assist each institution in supporting each other's efforts in order to achieve and maintain excellence in teaching.

Northern Ontario School of Medicine Founding Dean, Dr. Roger Strasser notes that, "Affiliated teaching hospitals are an integral part of a medical student's course of study as they allow future health practitioners the opportunity to work and learn in a hospital setting. Partnerships like this provide a positive clinical learning experience and help to broaden a student's perception of delivering medical care to Northern Ontario residents."

St. Joseph's Care Group will involve medical students in the planning and review of procedures for client care and the delivery of health care. Tracy Buckler, President of St. Joseph's Care Group, views the collaboration as extremely positive for both institutions. "St. Joseph's Care Group is extremely pleased to partner with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine. We will make every effort to ensure the medical students receive a quality teaching experience during their placement with SJCG."

The Agreement was signed by Northern Ontario School of Medicine officials Dr. Fred Gilbert, Chair of the Board of Directors and Founding Dean Dr. Roger Strasser, and the Chair of the Board of St. Joseph's Care Group Dick O'Donnell and Acting President Tracy Buckler.

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