



NEWS & UPDATES

Fall 2026 Vaccines in Ontario



FLU VACCINE

Who is eligible?

Everyone 6 months of age and older who lives, works or attends school in Ontario.



How often?

Once every fall.



COVID-19 VACCINE

Who is eligible?

Everyone 6 months of age and older who lives, works or attends school in Ontario.



How often?

Once every fall.
Wait at least 3 months (84 days) after your last COVID-19 dose.



RSV VACCINE (Adults)

Who is eligible?

Adults 75 years and older
Publicly funded.

Adults 60–74 years

May be eligible if you have certain high-risk medical conditions.



How often?

One dose (not annual).
If you have already received an RSV vaccine, you do not need another dose at this time.



These vaccines can be given at the same appointment

Flu, COVID-19 and RSV can be provided at the same visit when you are eligible for each vaccine.

GETTING READY FOR FLU SEASON

With fall here, flu season and other seasonal respiratory illnesses are just around the corner. Flu, COVID-19 and RSV vaccines will be available this season based on Ontario eligibility and Public Health recommendations.

BCFHT plans to offer seasonal vaccine clinics; however, we will not be scheduling clinics until we have vaccine in hand from Public Health. Waiting until our supply has arrived helps prevent appointments from having to be cancelled or rescheduled due to unexpected vaccine delivery delays.

Once vaccine is available and clinic dates are confirmed, we will share eligibility, booking information and clinic dates with our patients.

Please watch our Facebook page and BCFHT updates for the latest information. We appreciate your patience as we prepare for the upcoming respiratory illness season.

AVAILABLE GROUP SESSIONS



OPEN GROUPS & CLASSES

- SMART Recovery
- Heart Health
- Healthy You
- Prediabetes
- Tools for Weight Management



REFERRAL BASED PROGRAMS



Cardiac Rehabilitation



Pulmonary Rehabilitation



Diabetes Activity Program



ADDITIONAL SUPPORT



Mon

RAAM Drop-In

12:00 PM – 3:00 PM



Tue

RAAM Drop-In

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

 SMART Recovery

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM



Wed

RAAM Drop-In

1:00 PM – 5:30 PM

RESPIRATORY THERAPY WEEK — OCTOBER 25–31, 2026



Current Learners – BCFHT



Learner	Program	Placement Dates
 Dr. Erin Parna Gile	PGY3 Resident	Aug. 25 – Oct. 19, 2026
 Jane Porter	MS3 Medical Student	Sept. 14 – Dec. 18, 2026
 Rhea Saini	MS3 Medical Student	Sept. 14 – Dec. 18, 2026
 Dr. Ahmad Abubasheer	PRO Physician	Aug. 24 – Nov. 13, 2026
 Dr. Oghenebrume “Brume” Bekibele	PRO Physician	Aug. 24 – Nov. 13, 2026
 Erica Atfield	NP Student	Sept. 15 – Dec. 15, 2026

WELCOMING OUR 1ST YEAR NURSE PRACTITIONER STUDENT



"My name is Erica Atfield, and I am a Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner (MN-NP) student at Queen's University. With more than 23 years of nursing experience across a diverse range of clinical, community, and leadership roles, I have had the privilege of working alongside individuals, families, and communities in a variety of health-care settings

I began my nursing career working in HIV/AIDS care in Cambodia before joining Trent University Student Health Services, where I served as a nurse, Clinical Team Lead, and Clinical Instructor and Preceptor in the BScN program. My husband and I later moved to the Madawaska Valley to raise our family and establish roots in rural health care. There, I provided primary care and managed our Primary Care Clinic. I also served as Community Health Nurse with the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation and worked at Rainbow Valley Community Health Centre in Killaloe.



ERICA ATFIELD, RN

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we chose to relocate back to Peterborough to be closer to my family. I subsequently served as Manager of Child Health and COVID-19 Operations at Peterborough Public Health, provided clinical consulting at the Rapid Access Addiction Medicine (RAAM) Clinic, and returned to primary care at The Peterborough Clinic.

Throughout my career, I have been particularly passionate about women's health, sexual and reproductive health, mental health, and addictions. These interests, combined with my commitment to accessible, compassionate, and comprehensive care, continue to shape my practice and inspire my journey toward becoming a Nurse Practitioner.

Outside of nursing, I love spending time outdoors. I enjoy running, swimming, road and mountain biking, paddling, and cross-country skiing. In the winter, you may also find me nervously chasing my two children down the slopes! Our family has a cottage on Round Lake in Killaloe, so I am often making the familiar drive through Bancroft.

I am delighted to be returning to rural nursing at the Bancroft Community Family Health Team. I am grateful for the opportunity to learn alongside the team, build meaningful relationships with patients, and contribute to meeting the health-care needs of the community in my role as an NP student. I look forward to being part of a team that is dedicated to providing thoughtful, patient-centred care close to home."

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION - ORANGE SHIRT DAY



On September 30, the Bancroft Community Family Health Team recognized National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day.

Staff wore orange to honour the children who never returned home, Survivors of residential schools, their families, and their communities. Orange Shirt Day serves as an important reminder that Every Child Matters and encourages all of us to learn more about the history and ongoing impacts of the residential school system.

As a Family Health Team, we recognize the importance of listening, learning, and creating a healthcare environment where everyone feels respected and welcome.

We were proud to stand together in recognition, reflection, and continued commitment to reconciliation.

BCFHT AT THE BANCROFT SENIORS FAIR



On September 11th, BCFHT was pleased to take part in the Bancroft Seniors Fair, hosted by CARE North Hastings at the Bancroft Curling Club.

Carrie Sararas represented the Family Health Team, connecting with community members and sharing information about the many programs and services available through BCFHT.

Community events like the Seniors Fair are a great opportunity to connect with local residents, answer questions and help people learn more about the healthcare supports and resources available close to home.

Thank you to CARE North Hastings for hosting a great community event and to everyone who stopped by to chat with Carrie!

Our Providers and Locations

Family Physicians, Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants provide care at the following clinic locations:

19 Oak Street

Family Physicians

Dr. Steven Griffin
Dr. Melissa Fransky
Dr. Jennifer Gerasimoff
Dr. Eric Blanchard

Nurse Practitioners

NP Jordana Bain
NP Shari Comerford
NP Jordanna Fenato

16 Billa Street

Family Physicians

Dr. Dayna Noltie
Dr. Micayla Ahearn
Dr. Ahmed Negm
Dr. Saad Mirza

1 Manor Lane

Family Physician

Dr. Parambir Keila



Physician Assistants

Mark McLennan and Kevin Penney work across 19 Oak Street and 16 Billa Street.



WORK ANNIVERSARY

Celebrations

OCTOBER 2026



FAMILY HEALTH TEAM



Gabe Hunt

• 1 Year



Amanda Wadsworth

• 9 Years



Amanda Card-Genrick

• 15 Years



Marilyn Jones

• 20 Years

PATIENT WAITING LIST UPDATE



Effective **August 19, 2026**, the Bancroft Community Family Health Team will no longer be accepting new applications for our internal patient waiting list.



Already on our list?

If you are already on our waiting list, you do not need to take any action. You will remain on our existing list while we continue the process of attaching patients to a provider.



Looking for a family doctor or primary care provider?

Please register with
Health Care Connect
Ontario's program that helps connect people to available doctors or nurse practitioners.



You **do not** have to give up your current doctor or nurse practitioner to register for Health Care Connect.



What's next?

Once we have worked through our existing internal waiting list, we will transition to accepting new patients through the **Health Care Connect** list.



Thank you for your patience and understanding as we make this transition.

HOW TO CONTACT Health Care Connect

Ontario's free service that helps you find you a family doctor or nurse practitioner **close to home**.



ONLINE

Register or update your information online.

healthcareconnect.ca



BY PHONE

Call Health Care Connect toll-free.

1-800-445-1822
TTY: 1-866-797-0007



You can also dial **811** and ask to speak to Health Care Connect.



BY MAIL

Complete the paper registration form and mail it in.

Health Care Connect
P.O. Box 1448
Stn. Main
Kingston, ON K7L 5P9



BY FAX

Fax your completed registration form.

1-866-253-0707



IMPORTANT TO KNOW

- You must live in Ontario to register.
- You do not have to give up your current doctor or nurse practitioner to register.
- Keep your information up to date to help us reach you when a provider becomes available.



Once registered, you will be matched with a provider when one is available in your area.



REGISTER TODAY!

Don't wait. Register now and take the first step toward connecting with a primary care provider.



**Health Care
Connect**
ONTARIO