



**For immediate release: Friday, June 19, 2015**

**For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:**

Varouj Eskedjian  
President and CEO  
Haliburton Highlands Health Services  
Phone: 705-457-2527  
Email: veskedjian@hhhs.on.ca

## **Haliburton Highlands Health Services Improving Access to Physiotherapy Services**

### **NEWS:**

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) has improved access to publicly-funded physiotherapy services for Haliburton County and area residents and significantly reduced long wait times over the past several months. The recent recruitment of three Physiotherapists, two full-time and one part-time, has enabled HHHS to launch the newly funded Community Physiotherapy Clinic and increase the availability of physiotherapy at both its Minden and Haliburton Hospital sites.

Varouj Eskedjian, President and CEO of HHHS, stated “with the successful recruitment of Physiotherapists we have been able to reduce wait times to access the service to just a couple of weeks from times of greater than one year”. He added, “this improved access to physiotherapy and reduction in the wait times is one of the ways that we are trying to keep Haliburton Highlands residents healthy and able to stay safely in their homes longer”.

HHHS Chairman John Kay said “this wonderful news demonstrates how the Central East Local Health Integration Network’s funding investment in our community is helping HHHS to meet its commitment to quality and service excellence, core priorities in HHHS’ new Strategic Plan”. He added, “We are also pleased to be able to provide the services in both our Minden and Haliburton sites minimizing the travel time to access physiotherapy”.

Paul Stackhouse, the Senior Physiotherapist at HHHS and one of the new recruits, stated “I am pleased to be able to bring 30 years of experience to help Haliburton County and area residents address their mobility issues and improve physical limitations”. Mr. Stackhouse added, “with my colleagues Tulio Romanelli , Jan Gerrow and Amanda Hamilton, we are now able to accept and manage new patient referrals for acute and sub-acute conditions”. Referrals are required from physicians to access physiotherapy services at HHHS, on Tuesday and Thursday in Minden or every week day in Haliburton. The department can be reached at (705) 457-1392, ext. 2226, (705) 286-2140, ext. 3228 or by email at physio@hhhs.on.ca.