

North Hastings Health Team honours its founders



Board secretary Marg Nicholson presents Claude Robinson with a Tom Thomson print to honour his many years of service as board chair of the North Hastings Family Health Team.

By Tony Pearson

The North Hastings Family Health Team honoured founders Dr. Peter McEnery and Claude Robinson at its annual general meeting last week. McEnery, the first family physician at the community-based health team, was presented with a long-service appreciation award. His work dates back a decade to when he and a part-time assistant made up the entire staff. The staff now has over a dozen members.

McEnery announced he will work with two new doctors arriving next year for a two-year period, before sliding into a gradual retirement.

Robinson received a plaque featuring a Tom Thomson print. The award recognized Robinson's efforts to bring all community health and social agencies into partnership.

Large-scale changes are looming in health care delivery. Changes McEnery suggested, are both scary and challenging.

He noted the excellent work accomplished by the system navigator under the Health Link program. It ensures that patients receive the full spectrum of care they need, from all the appropriate agencies.

"Our patients are our best learning experience," said McEnery.

Long service awards were also given to nurse and diabetes educator Cheryl Williamson, and to office coordinator Kim Comrie.