

Algoma Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic – Five Year Anniversary

Sault College, Friday November 4th, 2016

[AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY]

Good afternoon everybody. It is a great honour to be here today with all of you, as we celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Algoma Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic.

For five years now, the clinic has been serving the citizens of Sault Ste. Marie and Algoma, helping to provide quality, primary medical care to residents who don't have a family doctor. With a range of services that also include health promotion, immunization, lifestyle management and mental health support, the clinic has helped to close several gaps in our local health care system.

I had the privilege of being a member of the clinic's Board of Directors during the lead up to its opening. So it's immensely gratifying to me to be able to see how the clinic has positively impacted health care services in the community over these last five years. Being involved with its founding remains something that I am very happy to have had a role in.

Today, the clinic serves approximately sixteen hundred patients, and that number will grow further when a third nurse practitioner begins working here towards the end of the year.

It's important to remember that our local clinic was one of the first to be approved and established in the province. I'd like to thank the Province of Ontario and the Ministry of Health for their ongoing support, and of course, our Member of Provincial Parliament, the Honourable David Oraziatti.

I'd like to thank the team and the employees here at the clinic for their dedication, enthusiasm, and professionalism. This clinic's success is emblematic of your success, your efforts, and your commitment to delivering quality health care services. To have this facility is important, but it is the people who work within it who are the true difference-makers.

So once more, congratulations to everyone at the Algoma Nurse-Led Practitioner Clinic on reaching this fifth anniversary milestone. Our community wishes you much success in the years ahead. Thank you for inviting me and please enjoy today's celebration!