



## News Release

September 19, 2008

### Ontario's Physician Shortage

#### *New policy removes significant practice barriers for North American physicians*

The HealthForceOntario Marketing and Recruitment Agency welcomes the new policy enabling licensed doctors in other parts of Canada and the U.S. to practise in Ontario without further training or additional examinations.

The announcement is a major step in solving Ontario's physician shortage and heralds a new era of career mobility for physicians throughout North America.

Doctors who are licensed to practice in the U.S. can move to Ontario and practice medicine if they have completed U.S. post graduate training and examinations. The policy takes effect December 1.

"From our travels throughout North America, we know Ontario is a preferred destination for numerous practice-ready physicians," said Brad Sinclair, Executive Director, HealthForceOntario Marketing and Recruitment Agency. "We believe The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has removed a significant barrier."

Since its launch in June 2007, the HealthForceOntario Marketing and Recruitment Agency has been helping to:

- Recruit practice-ready physicians into Ontario
- Assist internationally educated health professionals living in Ontario to become qualified to practise here
- Retain Ontario's domestically trained health care professionals

#### **About the HealthForceOntario Marketing and Recruitment Agency**

The HealthForceOntario Marketing and Recruitment Agency is the government agency specifically responsible for the development and execution of required marketing, recruitment and retention activities. HealthForceOntario is an initiative designed to make the province the "employer of choice" in health care and to ensure that Ontario has the right number and mix of health care providers, when and where they are needed.