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## DISTRICT OF PARRY SOUND

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56 ONTARIO STREET  
PO BOX 533  
BURK'S FALLS, ON  
POA 1C0

(705) 382-3332

(705) 382-2954

Fax: (705) 382-2068

Email: [rward@armourtownship.ca](mailto:rward@armourtownship.ca)

Website: [www.armourtownship.ca](http://www.armourtownship.ca)

### *Mayor's Report – Governance of Family Health Teams*

To: Members of Council  
From: Rod Ward, Mayor  
Date: August 12, 2025

#### **Subject: Support for Standardized Governance Models for Family Health Teams**

Family Health Teams are a vital part of Ontario's healthcare system, particularly in rural and underserved communities like ours. These teams provide collaborative, team-based care that improves patient outcomes and relieves pressure on hospitals and emergency services.

Our municipality, like many others across the province, continues to invest local taxpayer dollars to support healthcare delivery — through physician recruitment efforts, infrastructure, and other community health initiatives. However, despite this investment and our community's reliance on these services, municipal and community voices are often underrepresented on the boards that govern Family Health Teams.

Currently, there is no mandatory governance framework for these boards, which has led to inconsistent representation and, in some cases, governance structures that do not reflect the communities they serve. This can lead to decisions being made without sufficient local input, oversight, or accountability.

The attached resolution calls on the Province of Ontario to implement a standardized and mandatory governance model for Family Health Teams, requiring that at least 50% of board members be community representatives. This would help ensure local interests are considered in decision-making, and strengthen transparency and trust in our healthcare system.

I recommend Council's support for this resolution and the forwarding of it to the appropriate provincial bodies and municipal partners.

Sincerely,

*Rod Ward*

Rod Ward  
Mayor