

Please join me in congratulating Dana and Misty at the Wahta Health Hub. As we all know they are incredibly dedicated and try their best to meet the needs of their patients. After attending their community forum in the first part of October it was easy to see how much their patients appreciate their time and effort.

Below is a direct excerpt from MuskokaRegion.com

"Muskoka's community health hubs received an unprecedented honour from the province in October.

Donna Kearney, co-ordinator for the [Muskoka Community Health Hub demonstration project](#), told staff from the Dorset, Port Carling, Wahta and mobile health hubs, during a presentation in Bracebridge on Oct. 24, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care had just named the project to the Minister's Medal Honour Roll.

"We feel very proud of each of you and the work you've done," said Kearney. "Without staff, this model would mean nothing. You bring it alive each and every day with the excellent care you give patients."

The hubs, facilitated by the District of Muskoka, funded by the province and meant to enhance access to primary care and community programs and services in rural and remote communities in Muskoka over a three-year trial period, employ 10 staff, including nurse practitioners.

Dana Strength, nurse practitioner with the Wahta Health Hub, had been a nurse for 24 years and a nurse practitioner for 10 years, working in home care, public health and primary care.

"My whole life has been dedicated to primary care and rural care," Strength told muskokaregion.com after the announcement. "It's huge to be recognized by the ministry and the minister because I've been striving for that quality of care, patient participation and respect for the patient as equal partners."

She said without the hub in Wahta, for example, patients would have to travel 65 to 70 kilometres one way for health services.

And they offered flexibility in meeting with patients.

"Part of the quality care for me is spending enough time with a patient," she said. "If I have somebody that is having trouble with depression, anxiety or schizophrenia, I'm spending an hour with them." (Alison Brownlee – MuskokaRegion.com)



Dana and Misty have been through many trials and tribulations to make the Wahta Health Hub a success! So please don't hesitate to acknowledge their achievement!