

## North East LHIN Meets with Future Docs to talk Health Care



**Emery Nelson (left), a medical student from Elliot Lake, and Bridget Jaunzarins, a medical student from Espanola, ask Terry Tilleczek, a Senior Director with the North East LHIN, and Jennifer Michaud, Chronic Disease Officer, questions about the way health care is planned and funded in the North East. The two second year students with the Northern School of Medicine spent the day at the North East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) in late December meeting with staff and learning about priorities for the region. As part of its strategic plan the North East LHIN is working to shift care to home and community providers, improve transitions of care and access, and access to mental health and addictions services.**

December 23, 2014 – Two students from the Northern Ontario School of Medicine spent a day in December at the North East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) to hear first-hand from system planners about health care priorities in the region.

Both second year students, Emery Nelson, from Elliot Lake, and Bridget Jaunzarins, from Espanola, plan to practice medicine in the North East once they graduate.

The North East LHIN is responsible for planning, integrating, and providing funding to 150 health service providers in the region, overseeing \$1.4-billion in local health care investments on behalf of the 565,000 residents of Northeastern Ontario.

The students heard that over the next 20 years, the population of seniors aged 65 and over in the North East will increase from today's 19% to more than 30% and about the work being done to shift more care to community to better support seniors so that they can remain independent at home for as long as possible.

Besides asking questions of senior staff, the students also received presentations on key files including palliative hospice care, diabetes, and behavioural supports for those with dementia and their caregivers.

This is the fourth year that the North East LHIN has partnered with NOSM to facilitate learning sessions for its students. The North East LHIN partners with many post-secondary institutions to encourage skilled health professionals to consider careers in the region. Earlier this fall, North East LHIN staff spent two days at Canadore College speaking with social service worker students.

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