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Mel Lloyd parking to grow with medical services

Despite common beliefs that Shelburne Centre for Health (SCH) is running out of space, Dufferin Oaks management has extended a physiotherapy clinic's space at the Mel Lloyd Centre for an additional three years.

?The Shelburne Physiotherapy Centre has been occupying space in the upper level of the Mel Lloyd Centre since April of 2004. The clinic occupies 2075 square feet. The current lease agreement expired December 31, 2012.

?The proposed three year lease is based on a 3% increase retroactive to January 1, 2013 and an annual increase thereafter of three per cent,? Dufferin Oaks report to the Community Services Committee says.

The clinic is on the same level of the Mel Lloyd as is the SCH, which occupies what was formerly the Mel Lloyd Family Health Team (FHT). The FHT was designed to accommodate at least seven health-care professionals.

The SCH now has four physicians with five to come by September, a telemedicine terminal and several specialist clinics.

Although there might have been a political preference for the centre to be at the former hospital, funding hadn't become available from the province view Central West LHIN, and it became evident that there never would be a restoration of full hospital services in Shelburne.

Now, the centre is viewed as something that the town had not had within the reach of many memories.

Whether as a result of the medical expansion or of some other cause, however, parking has evidently become a problem at the Mel Lloyd Centre.

Based on what was seen by the committee in March as a serious issue, Dufferin Oaks staff has decided that staff vehicles and the vans of Community Support Services would henceforth use the McKelvie Burnside Village parking lot instead of the Mel Lloyd one, thereby freeing up 15 parking spaces.

This is the short-term solution. For the long haul, the staff is proposing the addition of 15 spaces at the east side of the centre, which might solve the problem of parking but would encroach on town property. ?An agreement would need to be reached with the Town of Shelburne as it would be slightly over the lot line to accommodate these stalls,? reads the recommendation.

Several additional spaces would be found at the south side of the centre by eliminating a turn-around no-parking space in the centre of the parking lot.

The recommendations, along with other proposals for the Simon Street Apartment parking are expected to be accepted by the committee tonight.

By Wes Keller