



## **Nomination**

### **Expanding your reach**

**Harrow Health Centre Inc - A FHT  
Providing Healthcare on Pelee Island**



The Victorian Order of Nurses (VON), Ontario South West Region, has been providing healthcare on Pelee Island for six years. Their nursing station is open year-round and it is the only medical facility on the whole island. Although a nurse practitioner does visit the island monthly, Pelee Island residents did not have timely access to a primary care provider. The situation was worse in the winter months as Ferry services to the island cease between November and April, and the only access is by plane. Since 2014 Pelee Island residents now have the option to enroll with a family physician at the The Harrow Health Centre Inc.: A Family Health Team (HHC). Together the two agencies have developed processes using OTN technology to deliver primary care on Pelee Island 12 months of the year.

This initiative was a direct response to address the need for primary care on Pelee Island for residents. Residents provide their feedback to the nursing station staff and in turn they will provide us with feedback that is relevant to the work the HHC does. Patients were very willing to participate in the new system of providing primary care using technology as this eliminated the step of travelling by ferry or airplane to visit their primary care provider.