



Heartland Health Region

*Healthy People, Health Communities and Service Excellence in an
Enduring Health System*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 18, 2012

Expansion of Telehealth to the Community of Eston

Heartland Health Region is pleased to announce the expansion of the Telehealth Saskatchewan Program into the community of Eston.

Telehealth Saskatchewan is a Saskatchewan Health program endorsed by The Action Plan for Saskatchewan Health Care as an effective approach to improve access to health services for the residents in our province's communities.

Telehealth allows patients to attend appropriate clinical appointments, consultations or follow-ups via videoconferencing with a Physician/Specialist that is outside of your home community. This is done by using communication and information technology that allows two way communications between the Physician and the patient. It is enhanced by the utilization of the latest in tele-diagnostic instruments which may include digital stethoscopes, patient examination cameras, and digital imaging. Telehealth enables a remote patient to 'visit' an out-of-town health care provider while remaining in their home community, health region or province.

Telehealth is also used to provide professional education sessions for Health Care staff, Physicians, and the general public in their home communities as well as offering various administrative services to members of regional health authorities in the province. These services include health care administration meetings that help to reduce travel and increase participation in regional and provincial meetings.

The new Telehealth equipment will be located in the Eston Health Center. The purchase of the required equipment for Telehealth was made possible by generous donations from the Town of Eston, the RM of Snipe Lake and the Eston Caring Hands. Telehealth is currently providing videoconferencing in Heartland Health Region in the communities of Kindersley, Rosetown, Unity, Biggar, Davidson and Outlook.

For more information, please contact Adrienne Wendt, Regional Telehealth Coordinator, at 463-6150 ext 304.

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Media: To arrange interviews contact LeAnne Paproski, Communications Coordinator, (306) 882-4111, ext. 233

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