



# Minister's Medal Honouring Excellence in Health Quality and Safety

*Team-Based Initiative*

## Fort Albany Specialized Geriatric Clinic

The objective of Fort Albany Specialized Geriatric Clinic is to assess and treat older adults with complex medical conditions in the isolated community on the Albany River that is home to 900 First Nations people. In collaboration with the North East Local Health Integration Network, the North East Specialized Geriatric Services developed the clinic and its geriatric screening tool to identify those who most need geriatric services.

With the Aboriginal-focused screening tool, which can be used anywhere, 33 seniors were identified as medically complex and likely to benefit from the Geriatric Clinic. Patients and their families were included in the development of each care plan along with the geriatrician, ensuring a patient-centred approach. The individualized care plans were tailored to fit the patients' needs and assisted the patients' involvement in their self-management.

In February 2015, the North East Specialized Geriatric Services held a geriatric clinic in Moosonee and Moose Factory. This clinic also included 2 other specialty clinics where patients were seen by a Chiropodist from the Sudbury Health Sciences North Centre for Complex Diabetes Care, and had the opportunity to meet with a Diabetes Specialty NP from the Kirkland and District Hospital. So far, 108 patients have received care at these three specialty clinics. A Geriatrician clinic was also held in Peawanuk in September of 2015. A small multi-professional team went to the community beforehand to connect with and provide training for the people in the community helped with this clinic.

Future plans include an extensive expansion of this Specialized Geriatric Clinic model to five other communities across the James Bay Coast. Central to its success has been the ability to leverage follow-up care through many partners and the use of technology, specifically OTN.

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*The information provided above is taken directly from 2014 Minister's Medal applications –  
Facts and information herein have been updated in 2015 but have not been verified for accuracy.*