



For immediate release  
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### **High local rates of dental decay initiate new clinic service**

Dryden, September 6, 2018 – The Dingwall Medical Clinic and the Northwestern Health Unit (NWHU) have partnered to improve the oral health of children in Dryden. Due to the high rates of severe dental decay that local physicians have seen, fluoride varnish is now offered at no cost to all preschool aged children who visit the clinic.

By increasing access to this valuable service for the infant to preschool age group, it is hoped that future dental decay will be reduced. “In addition to regular brushing and flossing, fluoride varnish is a great way to prevent cavities. Clinic nursing staff can apply the varnish as soon as baby teeth start to appear in the mouth”, says Dr. Bruce Cook, Physician at the Dingwall Medical Clinic.

Fluoride varnish is a safe and quick process, where the teeth are painted with a small brush. “It strengthens teeth by making the enamel harder and more able to resist tooth decay. Children should receive at least two applications each year to help prevent cavities”, explains Dawn Sauvé, Manager of Dental Services at the Northwestern Health Unit.

Children who don’t have a need to visit their health care provider are encouraged to stop by the health unit for a free fluoride varnish. The health unit offers this treatment to anyone under 17 years old.

For more information about fluoride varnish and oral health, please contact:

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