

# Doctor settling in in Cremona

BY Craig Lindsay, MVP Staff

**CREMONA** – Although it's been two months since Dr. John Le Roux started to offer medical services in the Village of Cremona, word is getting out slowly. Le Roux, a doctor based in Airdrie, is coming out on Fridays as needed.

"The response has been decent," said Sonya Falez, clinic manager for Le Roux. "We hope to be able to hold clinics every Friday in the future but so far the need is not there."

Patients can call 403-560-1606 to book appointments or to see which Fridays Le Roux will be in Cremona. The clinic also accepts walk-ins when open. Residents can also check out the clinic's Facebook page.

"We definitely would love to come to Cremona more, if the need is there,"

said Falez. "For now we will continue to schedule on an as-needed basis. We hope there will continue to be a need for this service but if we do not have enough patients it may not be sustainable."

Falez said that patients do not need to give up their regular family doctors.

"They can see Dr. Le Roux as well as their regular doctor, if they wish," she said. "As we know some people may be leery of leaving their regular family doctor."

Coun. Joseph Shi told the Gazette he would like to see the doctor in Cremona more often.

"He's only one doctor and sometimes he's on vacation and there is no doctor for a couple of weeks," said Shi. "Like during Christmas and New Year's."

Shi said the feedback from residents



Dr. John Le Roux is working in Cremona on Fridays.

*Photo submitted*

has been quite positive.

"People have come up to me

and said it's really good," he said. "Especially in the winter we don't have to travel far away. At last we have a local doctor. So people are happy."

Shi said that he would still like to see some funding from the provincial government for doctors in the community.

"Before 2016 we had provincial funding to cover the (doctor's) administrator costs but no more," he said. "I am continuing to lobby for that but so far no luck. We only have doctor come once a week and when he's on vacation there's no doctor at all. There's no incentive for any doctor to come here because the province took away the funding."

Still, Shi is grateful for having Le Roux come out to the village after having no doctor service there for almost a year.