

...proudly announces the Physician, Midwife or Nurse Practitioner of the month for

June 2023:



Dr. Jay Fourie, Emergency Medicine

The VJHPS is pleased to announce **Dr. Jay Fourie as June's 2023 Medical Staff Member of the Month**. We salute Dr. Fourie for exemplifying the qualities of an excellent practitioner, and we are pleased to have him as a respected member of our medical staff community since 2008.

Nominator's Comments (Dr. Adam Weathermon, Radiologist):

Dr. Jay Fourie hails from South Africa, having trained in Pretoria and graduating from the University of Pretoria in Family medicine in 1999. He chose to immigrate to Canada and initially settled in Saskatchewan, where he stayed for five years, practicing part time in Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, and also undertaking additional training as a critical care associate in the Intensive Care Unit. He moved further west in 2006, settling in Vernon. Initially, Jay worked in the ER in Salmon Arm. In 2008, Jay began working in the ER at VJH, and he has been on staff since that time.

Jay chose medicine after an aptitude test identified engineering and medicine as possible pursuits and Jay decided a career in medicine would be a better way to make a difference. He humbly considers himself a “jack of all trades, but master of none”, which is a perfect fit for the breadth of practicing emergency medicine in Vernon.

Jay says he couldn't do without all members of the ER team, including nurses, patient care coordinators, specialists, phlebotomists and even custodial staff who work together to deliver high quality care in the emergency department. He sees himself as a part of that team and values the contributions of all members. Jay says he enjoys going to work every day and feels fortunate to be given the opportunity to improve patient's lives and make a difference.

Outside of his work, Jay can often be found pursuing his passion for running, both on road and trail. He also enjoys bike riding as well on various terrain, and also likes to hit the lake on his surf ski. He also occasionally develops a green thumb in the garden. He is known to be an avid reader and enjoys classics of literature, listing Dostoyevsky's 'The Brothers Karamazov' as a favorite novel. Favorite movies include the science fiction action classic “The Matrix” and the “Lord of the Rings” film adaptations.

Jay's wife Annerie is also a local family physician and they have three children. The children seem to drawn to a similar path, as their daughter is pursuing a career in nursing, and their elder son is embarking on a degree in science at Trinity Western University. The couple's younger daughter is in Grade 9 at Vernon Christian School.

Jay's compassionate approach and procedural skills are a tremendous asset to care in the community and we are fortunate to have him on our medical staff in Vernon!