

Red Deer Advocate

Sylvan clinic diversifies

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BY ADVOCATE STAFF

A Sylvan Lake medical clinic is diversifying into cosmetic and related services.

Horizon Family Medicine will open Horizon Vein & Cosmetic Centre at its 65 Hewlett Park Landing premises early next month. The new centre will be headed by Dr. Raymond Comeau, who has practised family medicine at Horizon Family Medicine since it opened in September 2011.

Comeau started Red Deer's first full-service cosmetic clinic in 2000. He sold that business in 2008, but remained interested in the field.

"It's very interesting and gratifying to be able to treat people who are having real problems with their skin," he said.

Procedures to be performed at Horizon Vein & Cosmetic Centre will go much deeper than the skin. It will offer sclerotherapy, and Botox treatments for both cosmetic purposes and medical problems like headaches, TMJ (temporomandibular joint) pain and excessive sweating, said Comeau. Another service will be platelet-rich plasma (PRP) joint injections for muscular skeletal conditions like tennis elbow, golfer's elbow and plantar fasciitis.

"This is a procedure which is really quite new but really excellent, and being used by many of the sports medicine specialists and physiatrists," he said, describing PRP as a great alternative to cortisone.

Other procedures at the clinic will include travel medicine and vaccinations, and professional skin care like biopsies, skin cancer removal and treatment of warts and acne.

Comeau said demand for these types of services is growing.

"It's gone up dramatically as people become more aware of what's available. They're not really wanting to suffer with things that they had to suffer with 30 or 40 years ago."

Horizon Vein & Cosmetic Centre will celebrate its grand opening on May 9, with profits from the treatments provided that day to be donated to international development organization A Better World. Comeau and other staff at Horizon Family Medicine have been active supporters of A Better World, and recently travelled to Haiti to help at a medical clinic there.

Horizon Family Medicine also has a clinic in Red Deer, with 13 doctors working at the two locations.