

Orillia clinic becomes training centre

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Special

The world is beating a path to Orillia's door thanks to Blade Tiessen's DermaPen3 certified training centre, teaching advanced micro-needling to physicians and medical aestheticians.

In 2001, after almost 15 years serving Yorkville and Toronto clients with innovative techniques, Tiessen established his Anti-Aging Clinic & Dispensary, the first full time medical spa in Northern Ontario offering procedures such as derma-brasion and non-surgical lifting.

He said the city is a fantastic location. "The only challenge was in educating the public. It's easy to open a spa, people understand manis and pedis, but we're talking stem cells, lasers and needling. It's different. Initially we took a lot of flack from the community, but it didn't take long to educate them. Bringing the metropolitan beauty industry to a small area was a good thing."

Clientele comes from across the region, and beyond. I have many Muskoka clients and we're on the way en route to their cottage. I didn't lose my city clientele with the move."

Always on the leading edge of new product development, Tiessen was the first to offer micro-needling in Ontario.

Now after a decade, Tiessen has taken that a step further thanks to his experience with the technique and new technology like the DermaPen that's available. "I was ap-



Blade Tiessen has been teaching needling for Dermature across Canada and has now opened an education centre at his Orillia Anti-Aging Clinic & Dispensary to teach physicians and aestheticians from around the world.

proached several years ago to start teaching and was hired as an educator travelling all over Canada and now I'm a global educator." Although not a physician, Tiessen teaches physicians and advanced aestheticians.

"Not being a doctor isn't a hurdle, if you're good at what you do it really doesn't matter where you are from. I was asked by DermaPen to start a school, the first dedi-

cated micro-needling school in the world."

The company wanted the training centre close to an international airport, but Tiessen said, "We insisted on Orillia, it's where we live and work."

His business plan showed the significant savings of coming to Simcoe County for a week, compared to downtown Toronto hotels as well as the improved lifestyle experience.

"The cost is half the price right off the top," Tiessen said. "It's cheaper to park the car, restaurants are cheaper, you're two blocks to the Millennium Trail here. Europeans would rather get out of the city to learn."

He said they've already hosted many international clients at the education centre. "We're beyond thrilled and honoured. It really solidifies the decision by us to put the school where we live. Our clients appreciate coming to Canada, to our community."

Along with the DermaPen school, Tiessen is also thrilled to be launching another new business with his associate of eight years Dr. Nadir Aljazrawi.

OPlasma harnesses platelet rich plasma for new procedures in the medical cosmetic and wellness market.

Tiessen said the procedure is sometimes called the vampire face lift as blood is removed, centrifuged down and re-injected.

"It's natural, with your own body's stem cells," he explained. A follow-up home-care regime has been developed. The products, process, researching and testing were all done in Orillia and Tiessen said their new OInstitute will educate doctors and support staff on the process.

Tiessen isn't just passionate about his business, but his community as well and said it's important to give back.

"We're vegan and a portion of the education money goes to the local OSPCA."

The Anti-Aging Clinic & Dispensary is at 33 Mississaga St. E. Call 705-325-6265 for information.



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