



Dr. Erin Kelly, rural family physician, Sundre, AB

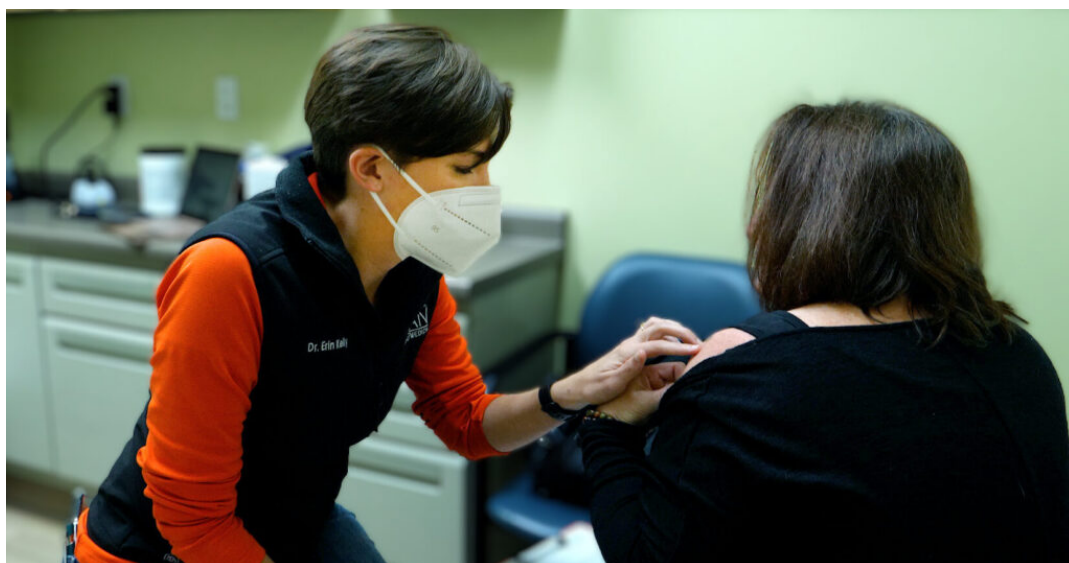
Dr. Erin Kelly never expected to build a career in rural medicine, but one experience changed everything.

Growing up in Lethbridge, she developed a love for physiology, which led her to study medicine at the University of Calgary. Initially, she envisioned a career in internal medicine in an urban setting—until a physician encouraged her to do her final-year of clerkship in Taber.

“I loved it,” she says. “It changed the course of my career.”

That experience led to rural residencies in Rocky Mountain House, Ponoka, and Whitecourt. She enjoyed every town she worked in, but choosing a permanent home came down to family.

Her partner, Dan, works remotely but occasionally commutes to Calgary, making [Sundre](#) the perfect place to put down roots.



Dr. Erin Kelly treats a patient at the Moose & Squirrel Medical Clinic in Sundre, AB

Now, as part of the [Moose and Squirrel Medical Clinic](#), Dr. Kelly is thriving in the diverse world of rural medicine.

“The people here are wonderful. Everyone teaches each other, and the variety of practice keeps things exciting.”

From family medicine to emergency care, obstetrics, and even assisting in the OR—rural medicine offers a breadth of experience few urban settings can match.

“We’re not city people. We love the quiet, knowing our neighbors, and having access to the backcountry.” - Dr. Kelly

### **A Passion for Teaching**

Beyond patient care, Dr. Kelly is a dedicated mentor.



Dr. Kelly assists second-year medical student Juliette Eshleman as she makes her first ever cast on an emergency patient at the Sundre Hospital.

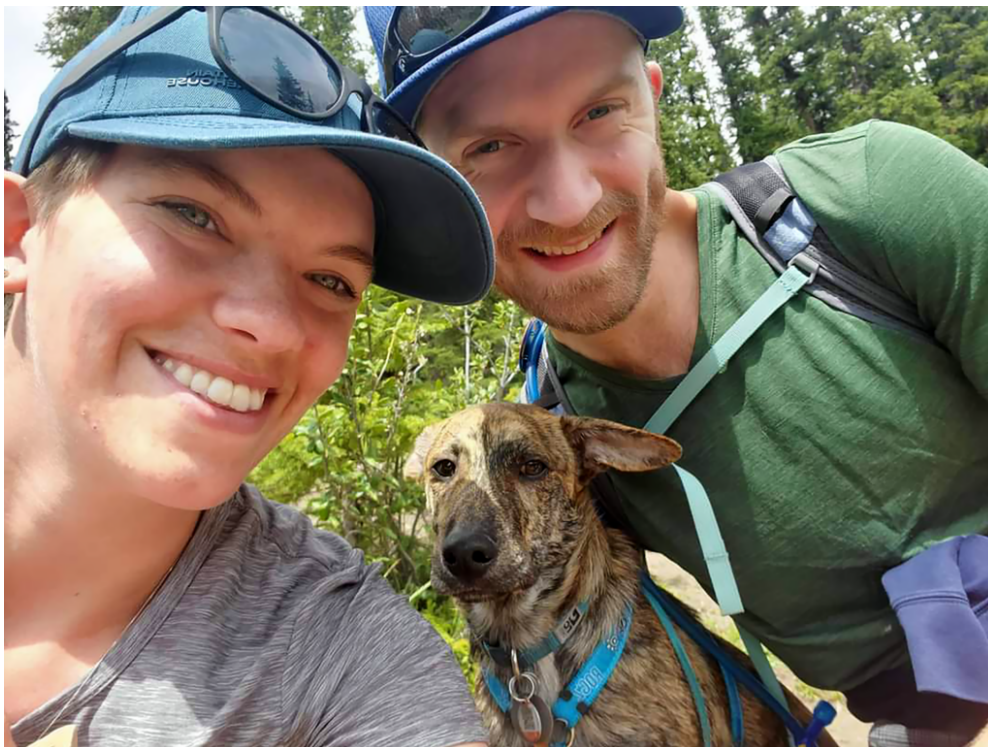
She serves as a preceptor for resident physicians and med students, and participates in [\*\*RhPAP's Rural Mentorship Program.\*\*](#)

"She's a great mentor," says Juliette Eshleman, a second-year med student. "A natural teacher who creates a safe learning environment."

Looking ahead, Dr. Kelly plans to expand her skills, including advanced [\*\*point-of-care ultrasound\*\*](#), to improve patient care.

## **Embracing Rural Life**

Outside of medicine, Erin, Dan, and their dog, Pippin, love life in rural Alberta.



Erin, Dan and Pippin

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Dr. Kelly’s story is a testament to the rewards of rural medicine—both professionally and personally.

Thank you, Dr. Erin Kelly, for your dedication to rural healthcare!

