

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 15-2004

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Health Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on September 27, 2004, commencing at 12:35 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Baty, Vice-Chair presiding; Almas; Angelone; Brock; Casselman; Harry; Redekop.

Staff: Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Dr. Williams, Medical Officer of Health; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Reilly, Legislative Assistant.

Staff

Part-time: Ms. Beyer, Health Promoter; Mr. Bousfield, Manager, Property and Facilities Management; Mr. Christensen, Director, Health Protection and Promotion; Ms. Coppola, Manager, Chronic Disease Prevention; Mr. Jones, Director, Administrative Services; Dr. Klooz, Associate Commissioner of Health; Ms. Loewen, Manager, Sexual Health Program; Ms. Middleton, Public Health Nutritionist; Ms. Ott, Manager, Chronic Disease Prevention; Mr. Spencer, Manager, Sexual Health Program; Ms. St. Johns, Director, Clinical Services; Ms. Wodchis, Director, Chronic Disease Prevention; Mr. Young, Manager, Health Protection and Promotion.

Others: Sgt. Brennan, Niagara Regional Police; Dr. Watson, Community Medicine Resident.

QUORUM

There being a lack of ordinary quorum at the meeting, the Committee Chair determined that the ordinary quorum for the meeting be reduced to five members, pursuant to Part 11, Section 11.7 of the Procedural By-law 7174-93.

AGENDA

162. Moved by Councillor Angelone
Seconded by Councillor Almas

That the Committee agenda be approved as amended, to include items regarding: Children's Water Festival; Elm St. Landfill Site Update; Detox Program and Update on the Hotel Dieu Ambulance Site.

Carried.

****A quorum was present at 12:45 p.m.***

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

163. "Help Yourself to Niagara's Harvest" –
A New Vegetable and Fruit Promotion Campaign

Ms. Middleton, Public Health Nutritionist and Ms. Coppola, Manager, Chronic Disease Prevention, provided an overview of the "Help Yourself to Niagara's Harvest" – A New Vegetable and Fruit Promotion Campaign. The campaign was launched to increase the number of Niagara residents consuming five or more servings of vegetables and fruit each day. Consumption patterns across Canada indicate that only about one-third of Canadians meet these recommendations and in Niagara, only 34% of Niagara residents consumed vegetables and fruit 5 more times daily. Ms. Ott highlighted the campaign activities that include: a worksite initiative in a pilot test at a local hospital; school activities involving over 6,400 children and the creation of resource materials for print and internet distribution.

Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Angelone

That Report PHD 62-2004, September 27, 2004, respecting "Help Yourself to Niagara's Harvest" – A New Vegetable and Fruit Promotion Campaign, be received for information.

Carried.

164. Regional Niagara Road Safety Committee Strategic Plan: A Community Partnership Approach

Ms. Ott, Manager, Chronic Disease Prevention, together with Ms. Beyer, Health Promoter and Sgt. Brennan, Niagara Regional Police, provided Committee with information on the Regional Niagara Road Safety Committee's five year strategic plan. The Public Health Department is working in partnership with key community organizations in the development and implementation of a plan to address the problem of serious injuries and fatalities due to motor vehicle collisions in the Niagara Region. This is in response to data collected that indicates that Niagara has a much higher rate of motor vehicle collision fatalities than other Ontario Regions. The development of a joint strategic plan will identify the factors causing this problem and develop effective and meaningful changes that will make Niagara's roads safer.

Moved by Councillor Brock
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 65-2004, September 27, 2004, respecting Regional Niagara Road Safety Committee Strategic Plan: A Community Partnership Approach, be received for information.

Carried.

(Refer to staff directions on page PHSC 78.)

165. Haines Inquiry-Report of the Meat and Regulatory and Inspection Review

Mr. Young, Manager, Health Protection and Promotion, provided a brief overview of the findings of the Haines Inquiry. The purpose of the Inquiry was to conduct an independent review of the existing regulatory standards governing the meat industry and to examine the roles of the regulators who enforce these standards. Mr. Young noted that overall, the meat industry in Ontario was found to be safe. As a result of the Inquiry, 113 recommendations were made and Mr. Young highlighted the recommendations and financial implications that may affect the Regional Niagara Public Health Department.

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Brock

That Report PHD 66-2004, September 27, 2004, respecting Haynes Inquiry – Report of the Meat Regulatory and Inspection Review, be received for information.

Carried.

166. Health Bus Service: Fall 2004 Schedule Change

Moved by Councillor Brock
Seconded by Councillor Angelone

That Report PHD 67-2004, September 27, 2004, respecting Health Bus Service: Fall 2004 Schedule Change, be received for information.

Carried.

167. Social Marketing in Health Promotion

Dr. Watson, Community Medicine Resident, presented a report outlining the ways in which social marketing strategy is used in health promotion. Social marketing strategies seek to create change and set new social norms within communities. Dr. Gaynor outlined the key features of community based social marketing strategies and highlighted examples of successful social marketing campaigns.

Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 68-2004, September 27, 2004, respecting Social Marketing in Health Promotion, be received for information.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

168. Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That the following communications be received and dealt with as directed by this Committee:

PHSC 23-2004 Connie Bryson, Chair, Thunder Bay District Board of Health to the Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long Term Care, (September 16, 2004) regarding 100% Provincial Funding of Vaccination Delivery Programs and Services.

--Received.

PHSC 24-2004 Connie Bryson, Chair, Thunder Bay District Board of Health to the Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long Term Care, (September 16, 2004) regarding Vaccine Delivery Funding.

--Received.

PHSC 25-2004 Connie Bryson, Chair, Thunder Bay District Board of Health to the Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario, (September 16, 2004) regarding Meat Safety in Ontario.

--Received.

Carried.

ACCOUNTS

169. Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Almas

That the Accounts Payable Expense Summary for the Period Ending August 31, 2004 in the amount of \$1,164,605.06, be approved.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

170. Children's Water Festival

Councillor Baty provided highlights of the activities that took place during the three day Children's Water Festival held in Balls Falls. While Public Health staff have been involved in the Festival, Committee recommended that the Public Health Department play a larger role in future festivals.

171. Elm St. Landfill, Port Colborne

Committee received an update on the Elm Street Landfill composting facility matter. The Public Health Department has been working closely with Public Works to reach a resolution to this problem.

172. Detox Program

Councillor Angelone expressed her concern regarding a recent announcement by the Minister of Health that funding for Detox Programs will be stopped for six weeks. Staff will look into this matter and report back.

CLOSED SESSION

173. Moved by Councillor Brock
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That this Committee do now meet in Closed Session for purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature relating to property matters.

Carried.

174. Accommodation Needs
Public Health Department

Moved by Councillor Brock
Seconded by Councillor Angelone

That Report PHD 70-2004, September 27, 2004 (PWA 173-2004, September 28, 2004) respecting Accommodation Needs Public Health Department, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

175. Update – Hotel Dieu Ambulance Site

Councillor Baty provided an update on the Hotel Dieu Ambulance Site matter.

176. Moved by Councillor Brock
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

STAFF DIRECTION

That staff be directed to:

- (i) Refer the matter of the Beaverdams Road recent motor vehicle fatality to the Regional Niagara Road Safety Committee for review and response. (Refer to minute no. 164.)
- (ii) Provide additional information on causes and types of motor vehicle collisions such as: number of collision, times or patterns of accidents, drugs or alcohol, speed, age of drivers (elderly vs. youths), specific environmental problems. (Refer to minute no. 164.)
- (iii) Refer the matter of cars traveling on bicycling paths for review and information from the Regional Niagara Bicycling as to whether Provincial legislation is in place to prohibit this and if not, whether the Committee could provide support to this matter. (Refer to minute no. 164.)
- (iv) Circulate Appendix I of Report DPD 105-2004 respecting Inter-municipal connections. (Refer to minute no. 164.)

ADJOURNMENT

Committee adjourned at 1:50 p.m. to meet again on Monday, October 18, 2004, at 12:30 p.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

Brian Batty
Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk