

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT 6-2005

The Municipal Council of the Regional Municipality of Niagara met in Committee of the Whole in the Council Chamber, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Thursday, November 24, 2005, commencing at 4:20 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Council: Regional Chair Partington; Councillors Almas; Bailey; Baty; Bentley; Bodner; Brock; Burroughs; Casselman; Gabriel; Goulbourne; Harry; Hildreth; Hodgson; Leavens; Marshall; Martin; Mastroianni; Redekop; Rigby; Salci; Saracino; Smeaton; Timms, Trombetta.

Staff: Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services; Lockyer, Acting Commissioner, Corporate Services Department; Nicol, Commissioner of Human Resources; Cambray, Commissioner of Planning Services; Dr. Williams, Medical Officer of Health and Commissioner of Public Health; Neville, Commissioner, Public Works; Ms. Gilroy, Regional Clerk; Ms. Hepplewhite, Acting Deputy Clerk.

Staff:
(Other): Mr. Kyne, Director of Legal Services.

44. Regional Chair Partington called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

RESOLVE INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

45. Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That this Council do now resolve into Committee of the Whole.

Carried.

PUBLIC HEALTH GOVERNANCE IN NIAGARA

46. Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That the Council of the Regional Municipality of Niagara supports the recommendations as stated below, **(excluding the highlighted items below, as there is no relevance to the Niagara Region)**, of the alPHa Board of Health Section of the alPHa Position Paper, having given consideration to the recommendations from alPHa and the recommendations from the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health:

- Introduce a package of governance standards for local Boards of Health
- Introduce a universally-applicable framework of standards for local service delivery with enough flexibility to ensure that boards of health can develop the most appropriate policies to respond to local priorities.
- Put resources in place to ensure effective orientation and on-going development of Boards of Health.
- Ensure Boards of Health that are working well now continue with their current structures.
- **Continue the current model of blended membership on boards of health.**
- **Keep provincially appointed representatives on boards of health to a minority, regardless of the size of the provincial funding share.**
- A budget model must be developed that takes into consideration the geographic, demographic, socio-economic, and community-specific optional factors for each health unit.
- Programs that are 100 percent funded by the province must ensure that the funding includes program administration.

- Funding for public health should be shared by the province and local municipalities to ensure local decision making, central guidance, and a larger resource base.
- The current Ministry direction to 75/25 should be continued.
- The Mandatory Programs and Services Guidelines have not been reviewed in almost a decade, and a thorough examination of their effectiveness is needed.
- Develop legislated, enforceable, results-oriented standards for boards of health and health units.
- Require by law the regular monitoring and auditing of local health units.
- Public presentations and newsletters should include full disclosure of health units' performance against mandatory standards.
- Standardized data collection tools are needed to support the requirement for health units to be accountable to the province and to the people they serve. Data should be captured as part of the everyday work of the health unit.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee of the Whole adjourned at 5:40. to reconvene at 7:00 p.m. for the regular session of Council.

Peter Partington
Regional Chairman

Anne Hepplewhite
Acting Deputy Clerk

Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk