

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 1-2005

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Health Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on January 10, 2005, commencing at 12:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Timms, Chair; Partington, Regional Chair; Almas; Angelone; Baty; Brock; Casselman; Harry; Redekop; Trombetta.

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

Staff

Part-time: Ms. Biscaro, Director, Population Health; Mr. Jones, Director, Administrative Services, P.H.; Dr. Klooz, Associate Commissioner of Health; Ms. Loewen, Manager, Sexual Health; Ms. Rix, Manager, Chronic Disease Prevention; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Mr. Spencer, Manager, Sexual Health Program; Ms. Wodchis, Director, Chronic Disease Prevention.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1. Congratulations to Paramedics

Councillor Timms apprised Committee of the activities of Niagara's Paramedics who participated on their own initiative, in the relief efforts for Tsunami disaster victims. They collected \$8,500 in funds, through displays in the malls, and \$20,000 in medical supplies. A small contingent, working through Global Medics, will be leaving for Sri Lanka today (January 10th) and will be there for approximately seven days to provide assistance to the disaster areas.

Regional Chair Partington advised that a notice went out to employees advising that the Niagara Region is monitoring the situation through the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Province of Ontario, and the Red Cross and that employees will be kept informed of developments and recommendations from these organizations as they deal with the long-term effects of the disaster. Employees were encouraged to support relief work in South Asia by donating funds to the organization of their choice.

Mr. Trojan, C.A.O., advised that the Region has requested the Federal government to extend their deadline for matching contributions and for providing tax receipts for 2004.

Dr. Williams, M.O.H., advised that Public Health Agencies have developed a data base source of skilled health professionals to assist in the relief efforts should a request come forward. To date there has only been a single request for a team (5 persons) to assist.

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That a letter be forwarded to the paramedics congratulating them for their participation and contributions in aiding the tsunami relief efforts.

Carried.

2. Smoke-Free Ontario Act

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Brock

That Report PHD 01-2005, January 10, 2005, respecting Smoke-Free Ontario Act, be received for information.

Carried.

3. 2005 Quit Smoking Contest

Ms. Rix, Manager, Chronic Disease Prevention, advised that the Ontario Quit Smoking 2005 Contest begins on February 1 of this year, with prizes that add some extra incentive to help kick the habit. The Quit Smoking 2005 Contest is open to all Ontario residents who have been smoking daily for at least one year and are 19 years of age or older. Entries must be received by midnight January 31, 2005 and participants must quit smoking by February 1 and remain smoke-free until February 28 to qualify for the contest prizes. The grand prize, sponsored by Pfizer, is a 2005 Ford Mustang with seven secondary prizes of Sony 'Theatre in a Box' systems. In the Niagara Region, White Oaks is donating a weekend spa package. The Corporate Workplace prize is a week's stay in a condo in Myrtle Beach donated by Councillor Angelone.

4. Smoke-Free Ontario Campaign
Expansion of the Ontario Tobacco Strategy (OTS)

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That **Report PHD 02-2005**, January 10, 2005, respecting Smoke-Free Ontario Campaign – Expansion of the Ontario Tobacco Strategy (OTS) be received for information; and

That staff be authorized to proceed with the submission of their funding application forms to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

Carried.

CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

5. Closure of Capital Projects

Moved by Councillor Brock
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That **Report CSD 165-2004**, December 8, 2004, respecting Closure of Capital Projects, be received for information.

Carried.

ACCOUNTS

6. Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Angelone

That Accounts Payable Expense Summary for the period ending November 30, 2004 in the amount of \$658,393.81 be approved.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

7. Budget Information

Moved by Councillor Brock
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That the 2005 Budget Information be received.

Carried.

8. Meeting with Barbara Hall

Members of Council have been invited to attend a meeting with Barbara Hall to learn about the Local Health Integration Networks (LHIN) Proposal and how it affects Niagara. The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 19, 2005 at 11:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Four Points Sheraton, Schmon Parkway, Thorold. This invitation has been extended to all members of Regional Council, the Niagara District Health Council, the Hospital Boards and the Integrated Planning Network. Please confirm your attendance to Florrie Neufeld, Office of Corporate Strategy.

9. Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alpha)

The alpha All Members Meeting is scheduled for April 21 and 22, 2005 at the Holiday Inn Toronto Yorkdale. This information was previously sent by email and the Legislative Assistant will provide a hard copy to all members of Council for information. Councillors should contact Gail Reilly if they are interested in attending this meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

10. 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.

11. Lease Renewal – Char-el Developments
Sexual Health Centre
277 Welland Avenue
City of St. Catharines

Moved by Regional Chair Partington
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That **Report PHD 03-2005**, January 10, 2005 (PWA 03-2005, January 11, 2005) respecting Lease Renewal – Char-el Developments, Sexual Health Centre, 277 Welland Avenue, City of St. Catharines, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved and referred to Council for decision.

Carried.

12. Lease Extension and Purchase
Smithville Ambulance Station
Township of West Lincoln

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Angelone

That Report PHD 04-2005, January 10, 2005 (PWA 10-2005, January 11, 2005/CSD 12-2005, January 12, 2005) respecting Lease Extension and Purchase, Smithville Ambulance Station, Township of West Lincoln, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved and referred to Council for decision.

Carried.

13. Ambulance Station – Ontario Street

Committee received an update on the Ambulance Station, Ontario Street matter.

14. Moved by Councillor Angelone
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee adjourned at 1:10 p.m. to meet again on Monday, January 24, 2005, at 12:30 p.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

Bruce Timms
Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk/
Associate Director of Corporate Strategy