

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 11-2007

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Health and Social Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, 2201 St. David's Road, Thorold, Ontario, on Tuesday, August 7, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Baty, Co-Chair; Casselman, Acting Co-Chair; Partington, Regional Chair; Collins; Forster; Greenwood; Henderson; Marshall; Rigby; Timms.

Staff: Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Mr. Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Gilroy, Regional Clerk; Ms. Reilly, Legislative Assistant.

Staff

Part-time: Community Services Dept.: Ms. Horner, Manager, Children's Services; Ms. O'Hagan Todd, Manager, Children's Services; Ms. Pennisi, Director, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities.
Public Health Dept.: Mr. Christensen, Director, Environmental Health; Dr. Feller, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Mr. Jones, Director, Administrative Services; Ms. Roach, Manager, Infant Education and Parent Teaching Program; Ms. St. John, Chief Nursing Officer/Director, Clinical Services; Ms. Wodchis, Director, Chronic Disease;
Others: Mr. Macklem, Coordinator, Properties; Mr. Nicol, Commissioner, Human Resources; Mr. Roberts, Acting E.A., Regional Chair's Office.

PRESENTATION

170. Fluoridation

Dr. Klooz provided Committee with an overview of the Fluoridation presentation he made at the recent Public Information Sessions. The presentation highlighted the trends in dental disease; the effectiveness of fluoridation in controlling decay; the effects on health other than dental fluorosis; arguments for and against fluoridation focused on health, socioeconomics, freedom of choice, ethical and human rights issues; fluoride use, sources (including food) and intake; local fluoridation and local dental decay and general conclusions and issues to consider.

(A copy of Dr. Klooz's presentation is attached to the Public Health and Social Services Committee minutes behind the PHSS Tab in the Blue Book.)

Moved by Regional Chair Partington
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That the oral report from Dr. David Klooz, Associate Commissioner of Public Health, and Reports 1-2007 and 2-2007 Public Information Sessions regarding Fluoridation, be received; and

That staff explore further options or solutions that may be more cost effective to address the public health issue related to Fluoridation and provide a further report to Committee.

Carried.

(Refer to staff direction.)

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

171. Best Start Update for Francophone Community
And Children's Services Funding Contract with
French Language School Boards
COM 36-2007

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report COM 36-2007, August 7, 2007, respecting Best Start Update for Francophone Community and Children's Services Funding Contract with French Language School Boards, be received for information.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into a contract with each of the French language school boards, Conseil Scolaire De District Du Centre-Sud-Quest (CSDCSO) and Conseil Scolaire De District Catholique Centre-Sud (CSDCCS) for classroom renovations for the expansion of francophone licensed child care services.

Carried.

172. 2007 Service Contract – Homelessness
Ministry of Community and Social Services
(Consolidated Homeless Prevention Program
Emergency Energy Fund)
COM 37-2007

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Report COM 37-2007, August 7, 2007, respecting 2007 Service Contract – Homelessness, Ministry of Community and Social Services (Consolidated Homeless Prevention Program, Emergency Energy Fund), be received.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into the 2007 Service Contract with the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) regarding funding through the Emergency Energy Fund (EEF), (100% of Provincial Subsidy=\$175,557/Regional Contribution=\$0), and the Consolidated Homeless Prevention Program (CHPP) (100% Provincial Subsidy=\$472,905/Regional Contribution=\$0).

Carried.

173. 2007 Ontario Works Service Contract Enhanced
Family Support Initiative (EFSI)
COM 38-2007

Moved by Councillor Henderson
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Report COM 38-2007, August 7, 2007, respecting 2007 Ontario Works Service Contract Enhanced Family Support Initiative (EFSI), be received.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into the 2007 Ontario Works Enhanced Family Support Initiative (EFSI) Service Contract with the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS), (100% Provincial Subsidy=\$125,000/Regional Contribution=\$0).

Carried.

174. Infant Education and Parent Teaching Program (IEPT):
2007/2008 Service Contract Amendment A3
2007/2008 Service Description Schedule
PHD 50-2007

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That Report PHD 50-2007, August 7, 2007, respecting Infant Education and Parent Teaching Program (IEPT): 2007/2008 Service Contract Amendment A3 2007/2008 Service Description Schedule, be received.

That approval for the Infant Education and Parent Teaching (IEPT) Program Service Description for 2007/2008 be granted, and that the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk be authorized to sign the schedule document; and

That approval for the 2007/2008 Service Contract Amendment A3 submission for the Infant Education and Parent Teaching (IEPT) Program be granted, and that the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk be authorized to sign the Contract document.

Carried.

175. Infant Education and Parent Teaching Program (IEPT)
2006/2007 Annual Report
PHD 51-2007

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PHD 51-2007, August 7, 2007, respecting Infant Education and Parent Teaching Program (IEPT) 2006/2007 Annual Report, be received for information.

Moved by Councillor Greenwood
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That the Regional Chair send a letter to the Ministry of Children and Youth Services requesting an increase in funding for the Infant Education and Parent Teaching Program (IEPT) as the Ministry funding does not fully match the increase in demand for this service in Niagara.

Carried.

Upon a vote being taken, the original motion, ***as amended***, was carried.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

176. 2007-2008 Provincial Changes to Child Care System,
Licensing and Funding Allocation
COM 39-2007

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report COM 39-2007, August 7, 2007, respecting 2007-2008 Provincial Changes to Child Care System, Licensing and Funding Allocation, be received for information.

Carried.

177. Emergency Energy Fund
COM 40-2007

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That Report COM 40-2007, August 7, 2007, respecting Emergency Energy Fund, be received for information.

Carried.

178. Ontario Public Health Association and the Association for Local Public Health Agencies Joint Conference in Niagara – October 2008
PHD 46-2007

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Report PHD 46-2007, August 7, 2007, respecting Ontario Public Health Association and the Association for Local Public Health Agencies Joint Conference in Niagara – October 2008, be received for information.

Carried.

179. Community Services Variance Analysis of Budget to Actual for the Second Quarter 2007
COM 41-2007

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report COM 41-2007, August 7, 2007, respecting Community Services Variance Analysis of Budget to Actual for the Second Quarter 2007, be received for information.

Carried.

180. Liaisons/External Committees Inventory for Niagara Region Public Health Department (NRPHD)
PHD 47-2007

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report PHD 47-2007, August 7, 2007, respecting Liaisons/External Committees Inventory for Niagara Region Public Health Department (NRPHD), be received for information.

Carried.

ITEMS FOR DEBATE

181. Application to Service Canada to become the
Community Entity regarding the Homelessness Partnership Strategy
COM 35-2007

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report COM 35-2007, August 7, 2007, respecting Application to Service Canada to become the Community Entity regarding the Homelessness Partnership Strategy, be received: and

That Community Services be authorized to submit an application to Service Canada to become the Community Entity related to federal homelessness prevention initiatives.

Carried.

(Refer to staff directions.)

OTHER BUSINESS

182. Request for Public Health & Social Services Committee
Representative to aPHa Board of Directors

Councillor Timms apprised Committee of the request by aPHa for a Public Health and Social Services Committee representative to replace him on the Board.

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That Councillor Casselman, Acting Co-Chair, Public Health and Social Services, be appointed to serve on the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aPHa) Board.

Carried.

183. Report Titling
Councillor Collins reiterated his concerns on the wording "A Matter of the Security of the Property" and asked that this wording be replaced with "A Property Matter".

(Refer to staff direction.)

184. Signage at Headquarters

Councillor Collins inquired as to whether there will be new signs erected at Regional Headquarters indicating where the various departments are located. The Councillor also requested that signs be put in place to show accessibility entrances and parking for those with disabilities.

Mr. Trojan, CAO, advised that signs are currently being made by the Region's Sign Shop for those purposes.

CLOSED SESSION

185. Moved by Councillor Collins
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

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

Carried.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Councillor Timms declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to PHD 52-2007/CSD 136-2007 A Matter of the Security of the Property of the Municipality – City of Welland, as his family owns a business that may be subject to development charges, and he therefore vacated Committee Room 4 and took no part in the discussion of, or voting on, this matter.

Councillor Forster declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to HR 28-2007 Ratification of Collective Agreement CUPE Local 1757 – Public Health Department and Status of Collective Bargaining Negotiations, as she is employed by the Ontario Nurses Association, and she therefore vacated Committee Room 4 and took no part in the discussion of, or voting on, these matters.

186. Update - A Matter of the Security of the
Property of the Municipality, City of Welland
PHD 52-2007 (CSD 136-2007) Confidential

Moved by Councillor Henderson
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Confidential Report PHD 52-2007, August 7, 2007 (CSD 136-2007, August 8, 2007) respecting Update - A Matter of the Security of the Property of the Municipality – City of Welland, be received for information.

Carried.

187. Oral Report
Re: HR 28-2007 Ratification of Collective Agreement
CUPE Local 1757 – Public Health Department and
Status of Collective Bargaining Negotiations

Mr. Nicol, Commissioner, Human Resources, provided an overview of Report HR 28-2007 respecting Ratification of Collective Agreement – CUPE Local 1757 – Public Health Department and the status of the Collective Bargaining Negotiations.

Moved by Councillor Collins
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That the oral report from Mr. Nicol, Commissioner, Human Resources, respecting Report HR 28-2007, Ratification of Collective Agreement – CUPE Local 1757 – Public Health Department and the status of the various Collective Bargaining Negotiations, be received.

Carried.

188. Legal Matter – Public Health Department

Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health, provided an update on a legal matter of its Chronic Disease/Injury Prevention Division.

189. Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

STAFF DIRECTIONS

Staff was directed to:

- (i) Develop a strategy to identify children at risk. (Refer to minute 170.)
- (ii) Circulate Report COM 35-2007 to area municipalities. (Refer to minute 181.)
- (iii) Change the titling of reports from “A Matter of the Security of the Property” to “A Property Matter”. (Refer to minute 183.)

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 4:04 p.m., to meet again in Committee Room 4 on Tuesday, August 28, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.

Brian Baty
Co-Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Judy Casselman
Acting Co-Chair

Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk