

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 4-2007

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, March 13, 2007 at 1:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillor Baty, Co-Chair; Casselman; Collins; Cordiner; Forster; Greenwood; Katzman; Marshall; Rigby.

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

Staff

Part-time: Community Services Dept.: Ms. Cousins, Director, Operational Support Services; Ms. Pennisi, Director, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities; Ms. Watson, Manager, Community Services.

Public Health Dept.: Mr. Bertleff, Program Manager, Emergency Management; Ms. Beyer, Health Promoter; Mr. Cunnane, Director, EMS; Ms. DiPietro, Manager, Chronic Disease Prevention; Dr. Klooz, Associate Commissioner, Public Health; Dr. Mackie, Community Medicine Resident; Mr. McKay, Cost Analyst; Mr. Roberts, Associate Director, EMS; Ms. St. John, Chief Nursing Officer; Mr. Van Valkenburg, Acting Training Supervisor, E.M.S.

Others: Mr. Askoul, Associate Director, IS; Mr. Bousfield, Manager, Property Management, P.W.

OTHER BUSINESS

49. Public Health and Social Services Events

Councillor Baty, Committee Co-Chair, apprised Committee of events he attended recently in Grimsby. One event was the opening of the West Niagara Adult Day Service office held on February 10, 2007. The other event was a ground breaking ceremony for McNally Hospice, a new Palliative Care Centre, which is being built on West Lincoln Memorial Hospital property.

Committee was also apprised of a session regarding Pandemic Planning which was held at Club Italia and included many key stakeholders from various employment agencies. Councillor Baty commended Public Health Staff for taking the initiative to undertake this planning.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

50. 2006 Service Contract with
Ministry of Community and Social Services
For Homelessness Programs
COM 12-2007

Moved by Councillor Collins
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That Report COM 12-2007, March 13, 2007, respecting 2006 Service Contract with Ministry of Community and Social Services for Homelessness Programs, be received.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into the 2006 Service Contract with the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) regarding the delivery of services and programs through the Consolidated Homeless Prevention Program and Energy Emergency Fund.

Carried.

51. 2006 Revised Ontario Works Service Contract
COM 13-2007

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That COM 13-2007, March 13, 2007, respecting 2006 Revised Ontario Works Service Contract, be received.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into the 2006 Revised Ontario Works Service Contract with the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS).

Carried.

52. Racing Against Drugs

Ms. Beyer, Health Promoter, extended an invitation to Committee members to attend the "Racing Against Drugs" event. This is a program for Grade 5 students to increase their awareness of healthy lifestyle choices. The event will take place on Tuesday, April 24, 2007 at 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m., at the Optimist Club, 4751 Dorchester Road, Niagara Falls. Members were asked to RSVP with Sandra Clyburn to confirm their attendance (905) 684-1897 or scllyburn@cogeco.ca.

53. Regional Niagara Road Safety Committee (RNRSC)
Think and Drive Road Safety Campaign Evaluation Report
PHD 05-2007 (PWA 33-2007)

Ms. Beyer, Health Promoter, circulated additional information regarding fatal motor vehicle collisions in Niagara. This information will be attached to the report.

Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PHD 05-2007, February 20, 2007 (PWA 33-2007, February 21, 2007) respecting Regional Niagara Road Safety Committee (RNRSC) Think and Drive Road Safety Campaign Evaluation Report, be received for information.

That approval be received for a two-year (2007-2008) comprehensive social marketing campaign targeting road safety in Niagara to reduce the number of serious injuries on Niagara roadways; and

That approval be received for Niagara Region Public Health Department (NRPHD) on behalf of the Regional Niagara Road Safety Committee (RNRSC) to receive funding of \$30,000 annually, for two years, from the Contingency Reserve, to fund the road safety social marketing campaign.

Carried.

(Please note that Report PHD 05-2007 (PWA 33-2007) can be found behind the JNT RPTS Blue Book Tab)

54. Niagara Emergency Medical Services (NEMS) Vehicle Branding
PHD 11-2007

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Report PHD 11-2007, March 13, 2007, respecting NEMS Vehicle Branding, be received and the recommendation that the prototype branding design for NEMS vehicles be adopted, **as amended**; and

That the new design be included in the purchase and outfitting of all new vehicles; and further

That the rebranding of all vehicles (where practical) be completed by 2011; and

That any changes that may arise with respect to legislative requirements/provincial standards that further enhance vehicle/operator safety be incorporated into the vehicle branding.

Carried.

55. Spread of Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA)
in Canada and Implications for the Niagara Region
PHD 15-2007

Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health, introduced Dr. Chris Mackie, a fourth year Community Medicine Resident, who provided an overview of Report PHD 15-2007 regarding Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA).

Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report PHD 15-2007, March 13, 2007, respecting Spread of Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) in Canada and Implications for the Niagara Region, be received.

That Regional Council request that the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care work with the Provincial Infectious Disease Advisory Committee to develop a province-wide strategy, including appropriate funding, to prevent the spread of hospital and community-acquired antibiotic resistant organisms in Ontario.

Carried.

(Refer to staff direction.)

ITEMS FOR DEBATE

56. Municipal Immigration Information On-line Program
COM 10-2007 (CSD 51-2007)

Moved by Councillor Collins
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report COM 10-2007, March 13, 2007 (CSD 51-2007, March 14, 2007) respecting Municipal Immigration Information On-line Program, be received.

That this Committee recommends to Regional Council that conditional upon approval from the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI):

- i) The Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to enter into an agreement to receive funding for the Municipal Immigration Information On-line Program.
- ii) That this report be distributed to local Niagara municipalities and economic development agencies.

Carried.

(Please note that Report COM 10-2007 (CSD 51-2007) can be found behind the JNT RPTS Blue Book Tab)

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

57. Procedural Issues
CSD 43-2007

Moved by Councillor Collins
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That Report CSD 43-2007, March 14, 2007, respecting Procedural Issues, be referred to the next cycle of Standing Committees (April 3 and 4, 2007) for further information.

Carried.

58. Nominations for Social Housing Services Corporation
- Board of Directors
CAO 4-2007

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report CAO 4-2007, March 14, 2007, respecting Nominations for Social Housing Services Corporation – Board of Directors, be received for information.

That the names of interested staff members and Regional Councillors be reported back to Council for final selection and nomination.

Carried.

59. Veterans Affairs Priority Access to
Long-Term Care Beds in Niagara
COM 11-2007

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report COM 11-2007, March 13, 2007, respecting Veterans Affairs Priority Access to Long-Term Care Beds in Niagara, be received.

Carried.

60. Draft Ontario Public Health Standards of February 19, 2007
MOH 1-2007

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report MOH 1-2007, March 13, 2007, respecting Draft Ontario Public Health Standards of February 19, 2007, be received for information.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

61. Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Communication PHSS 14-2007, memorandum regarding results of Poll taken to determine start time for the Public Health and Social Services Committee meeting, be received and that the Public Health and Social Services Committee meeting begin at 2:00 p.m., effective April 3, 2007.

Carried.

62. Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That Communication PHSS 15-2007 from Graham L. Pollett, Secretary-Treasurer, Middlesex-London Board of Health regarding the Thames Valley District School Board resolution respecting Violence in Hockey, be received.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS (continued)

63. Titles of Confidential Reports

Councillor Collins expressed his concerns regarding the use of the words "A Matter of Security" in the titles of confidential reports and how those words may be interpreted by the public and media. He commented that referring to the matters as "personnel", "property" or "legal" would be appropriate. The Clerk's Office was asked to address this issue with Legal Services and report back to Committee.

(Refer to staff direction.)

CLOSED SESSION

64. Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Collins

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.

65. A Matter of Security of the Property of the Municipality
Port Colborne
Confidential PHD 12-2007 (PWA 37-2007)

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Confidential Report PHD 12-2007, March 13, 2007 (PWA 37-2007, March 14, 2007) respecting A Matter of Security of the Property of the Municipality, Port Colborne, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

66. A Matter of Security of the Property of the Municipality
Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
Confidential PHD 12-2007 (PWA 43-2007)

Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That Confidential Report PHD 13-2007, March 13, 2007, respecting A Matter of Security of the Property of the Municipality, Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

67. Discussion – Report HR 14-2007
A Matter of Labour Relations: Status of ONA Local 9
Homes for the Aged) Interest Arbitration

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Forster declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Report HR 14-2007 A Matter of Labour Relations: Status of ONA Local 9 Homes for the Aged) Interest Arbitration, as she is employed by the Ontario Nurses Association, and she therefore vacated the Committee Room and took no part in the discussion of, or voting on, this matter.

A discussion ensued with respect to HR 14-2007, A Matter of Labour Relations: Status of ONA Local 9 (Homes for the Aged) Interest Arbitration, and staff was requested to provide additional information for the Corporate Services Committee.

68. Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

STAFF DIRECTION

That staff be directed to:

- i) Prepare a report on prevention strategies for control of the spread of Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus that could be circulated to local municipalities, given their roles re: parks and recreations services. (Minute item 55)
- ii) Provide information/clarification on the rationale for referring to confidential reports as "A Matter of Security of the Property of the Municipality". (The Clerk is to address this matter with Legal and report back.) (Minute item 63.)

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3:10 p.m., to meet again in Committee Room 4 on Tuesday, April 3, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.

Brian Baty
Co-Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk