

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 1-2008

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, January 29, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Baty, Co-Chair; Casselman, Co-Chair; Partington, Regional Chair; Cordiner; Goulbourne; Greenwood; Henderson; Katzman; Marshall; Rigby; Timms.

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

Staff

Part-time: Community Services Dept.: Ms. Heidebrecht, Director, Children's Services; Ms. Horner, Manager, Children's Services.
Public Health Dept.: Ms. Bradley, P.H.N. Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention; Ms. DiPietro, Manager, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention; Dr. Feller, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Mr. Jones, Director, Administration, P.H.; Dr. Klooz, Associate Commissioner of Health; Ms. Rix, Manager, Tobacco Control.

Others: Monica Valente, Denis Morris School, Peer Leader, R.E.A.C.T.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. Procedure to Select Committee Co-Chairs
CSD 01-2008

Peter Partington, Regional Chair, called for nominations for the position of Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Public Health Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That Councillor Casselman be nominated for the position of Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Public Health Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee for a one year term.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That nominations for the position of Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Public Health Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee, be closed.

Carried.

There being no other nominations, Regional Chair Partington, with the agreement of Councillor Casselman, declared her Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Public Health Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee for a one year term.

Councillor Casselman commented that should Council decide to form a Public Health Services Committee of the Whole, as previously discussed at CORC, that she would step aside as Chair so that a new election could take place at that time.

Peter Partington, Regional Chair, called for nominations for the position of Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Community Services Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Councillor Baty be nominated for the position of Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Community Services Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee for a one year term.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That nominations for the position of Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Community Services Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee be closed.

Carried.

There being no other nominations, Regional Chair Partington, with the agreement of Councillor Baty, declared him Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Community Services Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee for a one year term.

Regional Chair Partington vacated the Chair and Councillors Baty and Casselman, Co-Chairs, assumed the Chair.

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report CSD 01-2008, January 8 and 9, 2008, respecting Procedure to Select the Committee Co-Chairs, be received.

Carried.

Councillor Baty inquired as to whether the Committee would like the Chairing of the Committee to continue as is or should the Co-Chairs consider Chairing an entire meeting on a rotating basis. Committee recommended to continue Chairing as before.

2. Public Health Agency of Canada Grant Funding Safe Physical Activity:
Where You Live, Learn, and Play
PHD 03-2008

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report PHD 03-2008, January 29, 2008, respecting Public Health Agency of Canada Grant Funding Safe Physical Activity: Where You Live, Learn, and Play, be received and approved **as amended**; and

That the Regional chairman be authorized to sign the agreement letter between the Public Health Agency of Canada and the Regional Municipality of Niagara to provide 12 months of funding, totalling \$76,500 for the period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008; and

That a letter of gratitude be sent to the Federal M.P.s for their support to this project.

Carried.

3. Community Services Strategic Plan 2008 – 2011
COM 01-2008

Mr. Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services, provided a brief presentation on the Community Services Strategic Plan for 2008 - 2011. He advised that the Vision and Mission of the Department have not changed but incorporates the Niagara Region's Shared Values: Respect; Serve; Honesty; Choice and Partnerships. The Commissioner advised that the result of the planning process involving the various stakeholders was the creation of four priority strategic directions.

Mr. Hutching highlighted the following directions and associated objectives.

- Increase Collaboration with Stakeholders
 - 1.1: Enhance Informed Decision Making
 - 1.2: Provide Evidence-Based Advocacy
 - 1.3: Support Community in Developing Human Service Plans

- Enhance Individual and Family Centered Service
 - 2.1 Improve Alignment of Services to Achieve Shared Outcomes
 - 2.2: Seek Regular Input and Feedback

- Enable Staff to Provide Great Services
 - 3.1: Foster a Supportive and Responsive Workplace
 - 3.2: Promote Organizational Values through Actions

- Strengthen Responsible Use of Resources
 - 4.1: Deliver Effective and Efficient Services
 - 4.2: Create Strategies for Maximization of Resources

Mr. Hutchings commented that the Operational Plan is a work plan that operationalizes the department's Strategic Plan for the next four years and will be communicated to all staff within each program and service area.

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That Report COM 01-2008, January 29, 2008, respecting Community Services Strategic Plan 2008 – 2011, be received and approved.

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests.)

4. 2007 Children's Services Funding Contract with Ministry of Community and Social Services and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services
COM 03-2008

Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That Report COM 03-2008, January 29, 2008, respecting 2007 Children's Services Funding Contract with Ministry of Community and Social Services and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, be received; and

That this Committee recommends to Regional Council that the Regional Chairman and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into the 2007 Children's Services Contract with the Ministry of Community and Social Services and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services.

Carried.

ITEMS FOR DEBATE

5. **Advocacy for Effective Federal Acton on Contraband Tobacco**
PHD 01-2008

Monica Valente, Denis Morris School, Peer Leader, R.E.A.C.T. attended to apprise Committee of the Youth Action Alliance's campaign to encourage youth throughout Niagara to write letters on the issue of tobacco contraband.

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That Report PHD 01-2008, January 29, 2008, respecting Advocacy for Effective Federal Action on Contraband Tobacco, be received and approved **as amended**; and

That the Regional Chairman send a letter to all Niagara Region Members of Parliament to urge that effective action be taken on contraband tobacco; and

That the appropriate agencies be invited to Committee to provide a presentation on the legality and issues pertaining to contraband tobacco; and

That the amendments be made to the report as discussed by Committee.

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests.)

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6. Oral Report
Ontario Public Health Standards and Protocols

Dr. Williams, Medical Officer of Health, highlighted the Ontario Public Health Standards – Consultation Process. Copies of the revised Standards and the eight Phase 1 Protocols are now posted on the Public Health Transformation site on SHERPA.

<http://sherpa/C8/Mandatory%20Program%20Guidelines/default.aspx?Mode=Edit&PageView=Shared>

Members of the Board of Health are invited to attend a meeting to be held on February 14, 2008 2-4:00 p.m. in the Library/EOC in the Medical Division on the third floor of Campbell East. The Protocol Leads will present highlights of their response recommendations for their protocol areas at this meeting. Submissions will then be forwarded to the Ministry of Health on February 15, 2008.

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That the oral report by Dr. Williams, Medical Officer of Health, regarding the Ontario Public Health Standards and Protocols, be received.

Carried.

7. Provincial Legislative Changes to
Financial Eligibility for Child Care Update
COM 02-2008

Moved by Councillor Katzman
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That COM 02-2008, January 29, 2008, respecting Provincial Legislative Changes to Financial Eligibility for Child Care Update, be received for information.

Carried.

MINUTES

8. Report 8-2007

Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report 8-2007, being the minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Ontarians with Disabilities Act meeting of November 6, 2007, be received.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

9. Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Goulbourne

That Communication PHSS 1-2008 from Pat M. Madill, Regional Clerk, Region of Durham (December 14, 2007) respecting its Council's resolution regarding Employment Insurance Eligibility and Links to Increased Poverty, be received and supported.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Goulbourne

That Communication PHSS 2-2008 from Bill James, Human Resources and Social Development Canada (December 11, 2007) regarding Eligibility Requirements for the Employment Insurance (EI) Program, be received.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

10. Business Education Council
Annual Partners Breakfast
Committee was apprised of the Business Education Council Annual Partners Breakfast which is being held on February 15, 2008 at 7:30 a.m. at the Sheraton Fallsview in Niagara Falls. "Child Poverty" will be the topic of discussion.

COUNCILLOR INFORMATION REQUESTS

- (i) Prepare a further report on initiatives and programs available, including Child Play and Pro-Kids, that provide funding and assistance to children of low income families to participate in sports and other activities that they cannot afford on their own. Staff was asked to also provide information on a communications process to ensure families are made aware of the opportunities available. (Committee members) Refer to Minute 3.
- (ii) Amend Report PHD 01-2008, Page 2 under "Background" to add the word "not" to read "Low taxes on regulated tobacco products are "not" the primary reasons for increase in contraband cigarettes" and to remove the sentence "Niagara's proximity to" (Committee members) Refer to Minute 5.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3:16 p.m., to meet again in Committee Room 4 on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

Brian Baty
Co-Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Judy Casselman
Co-Chair

Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk