

## THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

### PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

#### REPORT 5-2010

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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, April 13, 2010 at 2:05 p.m.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

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

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

Staff

Other: Community Services: Ms. Watson, Director, Social Assistance & Employment Opportunities; Mr. Ventresca, Director, Seniors Services.

Public Health: Ms. Brigantino, Manager, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention; Ms. Hague, Manager, Infectious Disease; Mr. Hudgin, Manager, Environmental Health; Dr. Jaeger, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Loewen, Manager, Sexual Health Program; Mr. McKay, Associate Director, EMS; Dr. Nassif, Manager, Medical Informatics; Ms. Peacefull, Director, Community Development and Surveillance; Ms. Ross, Acting Manager, Infectious Disease; Mr. Spencer, Manager, Sexual Health Program; Ms. St. John, Director, Clinical Services; Mr. Van Valkenberg, Associate Director, EMS; Ms. Wodchis, Director, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention.

Administration: Mr. Roberts, Executive Officer to Regional Chair.

Corporate Services: Ms. Casement, Manager, Employee Relations; Ms. Elliott, Director, Human Resources; Mr. Hagar, Manager, Employee Relations.

Others: Margaret Jarrell, Executive Director, Hospice Niagara; Sheryl Wherry, Past Chair and Board Member, Hospice Niagara.

**PRESENTATION**

58. Services from Hospice Niagara for Niagara Residents

Margaret Jarrell, Executive Director, Hospice Niagara, together with Sheryl Wherry, Past Chair and Board Member, Hospice Niagara, provided an overview of the services provided by Hospice Niagara to Niagara's residents. Committee was apprised of the increasing demand for Hospice Care as Niagara have the oldest age demographic in Ontario with over 50,000 residents over 75 years of age in 2010. The presenters highlighted Hospice Niagara's services through its Stabler Centre and its Visiting Volunteers in-home support program. Information was also presented on Hospice Niagara's funding and funding necessary to support residential hospice care in Ontario.

(A copy of the presentation from Hospice Niagara, regarding its services for Niagara Residents, is attached to the minutes.)

Moved by Councillor Henderson  
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That the presentation from Hospice Niagara regarding its services for Niagara Residents, be received.

Carried.

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

59. Fees and Charges  
Clinical Services Division Public Health 2010  
**PHD 10-2010**

Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That Report PHD 10-2010, April 13, 2010, respecting Fees and Charges – Clinical Services Division Public Health 2010, be received;

That the 2010 Fee Schedule included in this report be adopted;

That the enclosed 2010 fees and charges schedule be approved for services and products provided by the Niagara Region Public Health programs; and

That the Regional Clerk be directed to prepare the necessary by-law to amend the Fees and Charges By-law.

Carried.

60. Niagara Region Public Health Strategic Plan 2007-2011  
**PHD 13-2001**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That Report PHD 13-2010, April 13, 2010, respecting Niagara Region Public Health Strategic Plan 2007-2011, be received; and

That the Niagara Region Public Health (NRPH) updated strategic plan be endorsed and approved by Committee and Council.

Carried.

61. 2009-2010 Pandemic H1N1 Clinic/Mass Immunization Software Update  
**PHD 17-2010**

Staff Presentation

Dr. Jane Nassif, Manager, Medical Informatics, provided an overview of the Protocol for Electronic Clinic Systems (PECS), an innovative software application developed by IT staff in the Niagara Region and piloted by Public Health during the 2008-2009 season influenza vaccination clinics held throughout the Niagara Region.

(A copy of Dr. Nassif's presentation on the "Protocol for Electronic Clinic Systems (PECS) within H1N1 Vaccination Clinics" is attached to the minutes.)

Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Lepp

That Report PHD 17-2010, April 13, 2010, respecting 2009-2010 Pandemic H1N1 Clinic/Mass Immunization Software Update, be received for information; and

That staff continue to develop the Clinic/Mass Immunization Software and pursue external opportunities for revenue and product utilization.

Carried.

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

62. Sexual Health Program – Update 2008-2009  
**PHD 14-2010**

Moved by Councillor Cordiner  
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That Report PHD 14-2010, April 13, 2010, respecting Sexual Health Program – Update 2008-2009, be received for information.

Carried.

63. Safe Water Program – Small Drinking Water Systems  
**PHD 15-2010**

Moved by Councillor Marshall  
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That Report PHD 15-2010, April 13, 2010, respecting Safe Water Program – Small Drinking Water Systems, be received for information.

Carried.

64. Annual Tobacco Enforcement Compliance Report  
**PHD 16-2010**

Moved by Councillor Cordiner  
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PHD 16-2010, April 13, 2010, respecting Annual Tobacco Enforcement Compliance Report, be received for information.

Carried.

65. Seniors Services Volunteer Program Achievements 2009  
**COM 17-2010**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report COM 17-2010, April 13, 2010, respecting Seniors Services Volunteer Program Achievements 2009, be received for information.

Carried.

66. Increased Demand for Social Assistance  
Additional Staff Required  
**COM 18-2010**

Moved by Councillor Cordiner  
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report COM 18-2010, April 13, 2010, respecting Increased Demand for Social Assistance – Additional Staff Required, be received for information.

Carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

67. Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That the following communications be received:

PHSS 12-2010 Deb Matthews, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (PHSS 12-2010) extending thanks to the Board of Health, Dr. Robin Williams and the entire staff of the Niagara Region Public Health Department for their commitment and dedication in response to Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 Influenza.

PHSS 13-2010 Juanita G. Gledhill, Board Chair, Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant LHIN (March 10, 2010) regarding Notification of 2010-11 Aging at Home Funding.

PHSS 14-2010 David C. Williams, Associate Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (March 16, 2010) providing a copy of the report "Infectious Disease Prevention and Control in Ontario: Continuing the Investment in Public Health in 2008".

Carried.

**MINUTES**

68. 2-2010 (JAC)

Moved by Councillor Lepp  
Seconded by Councillor Goulbourne

That Report 2-2010 (JAC) being the minutes of the Joint Advisory Committee on Wainfleet Water & Wastewater Servicing Project meeting of Monday, March 22, 2010, be received.

Carried.

(Please note that 2-2010 (JAC) minutes can be found behind the Joint Reports Blue Book Tab.)

69. #86-2010- Niagara Regional Housing

Moved by Councillor Lepp  
Seconded by Councillor Goulbourne

That Report #86-2010, being the minutes of the Niagara Regional Housing Board of Directors Meeting of Monday, January 18, 2010, be received.

Carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

70. Tour of Niagara Falls Public Health Facility

Councillor Casselman, Committee Co-Chair, advised that a tour of the Niagara Falls Public Health Facility is scheduled for May 3, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. Maps and further information on this tour will be forwarded to Committee prior to the event.

71. Provincial Government Announcement -Compensation Freeze  
Impact on Niagara Region

Moved by Councillor Timms  
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That staff provide a list of Regional Programs, which may be impacted by the Province's announcement to freeze compensation, identifying the salary component and risks within departmental budgets.

Carried.

72. Niagara Region Public Health Strategic Plan 2007-2011

Councillor Goulbourne, in referring to Page 3 of Report PHD 13-2010, requested staff report back on how the mid-year reviews of program operational plans and year-end review of program goals and outcomes could be built into the budget cycle.

73. Provincial Budget Announcement  
Children's Services Best Start Program

Brian Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services, advised that on March 25, 2010, the Provincial Government announced that funding for the Children's Services Best Start program would be continued. The Region had believed that the funding would no longer be available and had allocated uploading dollars to this program. As a result of the recent budget announcement a \$1.5 million surplus can be expected in 2010 for the Children's Services program. A report will be brought to the next Public Health and Social Services Committee meeting regarding this matter.

**CLOSED SESSION**

74. Moved by Councillor Cordiner  
Seconded by Councillor Lepp

That this Committee do now meet in Closed Session for purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature relating to Matters of Labour Relations Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Update and ONA Collective Bargaining Update.

Carried.

75. A Matter of Labour Relations – Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Update

John Cunnane, Director, Emergency Medical Services, provided an update on a Matter of Labour Relations – Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That the oral report by John Cunnane, Director, Emergency Medical Services, regarding a Matter of Labour Relations – Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Update, be received.

Carried.

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Forster declared a pecuniary interest with respect to a Matter of Labour Relations – ONA Collective Bargaining Update, as she is a staff member with the Ontario Nurses Association, and she therefore vacated the Committee Room, and took no part in the discussion of, or voting on, this matter.

76. A Matter of Labour Relations: ONA Collective Bargaining Update

Deb Elliott, Director, Human Resources, provided an update on a Matter of Labour Relations – ONA Collective Bargaining Update.

Moved by Councillor Cordiner  
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That the oral report by Deb Elliott, Director, Human Resources, regarding a Matter of Labour Relations – ONA Collective Bargaining Update, be received.

Carried.

77. Moved by Councillor Timms  
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

**NEXT MEETING**

The Committee adjourned at 4:20 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

Brian Baty  
Co-Chair

Gail Reilly  
Legislative Assistant

Judy Casselman  
Co-Chair

Kevin Bain  
Regional Clerk