



REPORT TO: Co-Chairs and Members of
Public Health and Social Services Committee

SUBJECT: **Extension of Memorandum of Understanding for
Physiotherapy Services for the Long-Term Care Homes**

RECOMMENDATION

That this Committee recommends to Regional Council that the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to extend the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and St. Elizabeth Health Care for physiotherapy services to the Region's long-term care homes.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) has agreed to fully fund designated OHIP physiotherapy services for long-term care homes in Ontario.
- Following a comprehensive Request for Proposal (RFP) process, evaluation of proposals and interviews with proponents in 2006, a MOU was executed between the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Regional Municipality of Niagara and St. Elizabeth's Health Care (Physiotherapy Service Provider) for the period of September 4, 2006 to March 31, 2008, (COM 44-2006, July 18, 2006).
- The MOHLTC has now authorized the parties to extend the MOUs with all homes, for which authorization by Regional Council is required.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The physiotherapy services covered in this recommendation are 100 percent funded by the MOHLTC on a \$600 per bed per year basis prorated to \$450 for the duration of the nine month period of this MOU extension. The annual value of this MOU calculated on the total of 957 Regional long term care beds is \$430,650. The MOU will run to March 31, 2009.

PURPOSE

This report summarizes the Niagara Region's process of acquiring designated OHIP funded physiotherapy services for its eight long-term care homes and the need to extend the existing MOU with St. Elizabeth's Health Care, as authorized by the MOHLTC.

BACKGROUND

Since 2006, the MOHLTC has funded the provision of physiotherapy to residents of all long-term care homes in the Province. The Niagara Region's eight long-term care homes entered into a MOU with the MOHLTC and St. Elizabeth Health Care covering the period of September 2006 to March 31, 2008 (COM 44-2006, July 18, 2006). An addendum to the MOU was executed to cover the period of April 1, 2008 to June 30, 2008.

St. Elizabeth Health Care had been selected following a comprehensive RFP process in March 2006. An evaluation team of Seniors Services staff, including a Purchasing representative from Corporate Services, had reviewed proposals from five proponents, interviewed three and ultimately selected St. Elizabeth Health Care based on the highest overall score and excellent references.

REPORT

The MOHLTC has authorized the parties province-wide to extend the MOUs with all long-term care homes and physiotherapy providers. The MOU assures the homes' residents of continued physiotherapy services from the same provider and the continuation of payments from the Ministry to St. Elizabeth. The MOU also sets out service expectations and accountability measures.

Authorization by Regional Council is required to obtain corporate signatures to enable residents' access to this service with the accompanying Provincial funding.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Brian Hutchings
Commissioner, Community Services

Mike Trojan
Chief Administrative Officer

This report was prepared by Dominic Ventresca, Director, Seniors Services.