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## **THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA**

### **PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE**

#### **REPORT 2-2004**

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Health Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Monday, January 26, 2004, commencing at 12:30 p.m.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Committee: Councillors Timms, Chair; Partington, Regional Chair; Baty; Casselman; Davidson; Harry.

Staff: Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Reilly, Legislative Assistant.

#### **Staff**

Part-time: Mr. Bertleff, Supervisor, Emergency Services; Mr. Christensen, Director, Health Protection & Promotion; Mr. Cunnane, Director, Public Safety; Ms. Decou, Epidemiologist; Mr. Hunter, Manager, Health Protection and Promotion; Ms. Jacobs, Acting Manager, Infectious Diseases Program; Mr. Jones, Director, Administrative Services; Ms. Kalailieff, Manager, Youth Connection Secondary Program; Dr. Klooz, Associate Commissioner of Health; Ms. Lacroix, Manager, Vaccine Preventable Diseases Program; Mr. Laflamme, Manager, Institutional Infectious Diseases Program; Ms. Morris, Manager, Youth Connection Elementary Program; Ms. Papaiz, Communications Coordinator; Ms. Partington, Director, Population Health; Mr. Spencer, Manager, Sexual Health; Ms. St. John, Director, Clinical Services Division; Ms. Watt, Coordinator, Environmental Health Projects.

Corporate Services: Mr. Bacchus, Commissioner, Corporate Services; Ms. Murphy, Manager, Current and Capital Budgets.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET PRESENTATION**

14. Regional Chair Partington commented that the budget process is working well this year, having started in May 2003 with approval scheduled for early in March. He commented that overall tax increases have been less than the rate of inflation in the last five years. The Regional Chair advised

that Councillor Timms met with Public Health Department staff, prior to this meeting, and is satisfied with the responses to his questions regarding the department's budget.

15. Public Health Department Current Budget

Dr. Sider highlighted the elements from Council's Vision, Goals and Objectives and outlined the Public Health Department Strategic Goals and how they link to Council's 2003-2006 Business Plan. Dr. Sider presented the proposed 2004 Budget totalling \$20,700,113, which represents a change of \$2,913,696 over the 2003 budget of \$17,786,417. In providing a 2003-2004 budget comparison, the major components impacting the budget were identified as Public Safety, West Nile Virus, and Special Provincial Initiatives opportunities for regional cost-shared funding to enhance infectious disease response capacity. Dr. Sider outlined the program objectives, fiscal overview, program issues and fiscal challenges for each program. The mandatory programs represent an increase over 2003 of \$318,252 or 3.9%

Moved by Councillor Harry  
Seconded by Councillor Davidson

That the Public Health Department 2004 Current Budget be received and referred to the Budget Review Committee for consideration with the 2004 Consolidated Budget.

Carried.

16. Capital Budget

Mr. Jones outlined the components of the 2004 Capital Budget as follows:

- Vehicle and Equipment replacement portion \$850,000 (gross)  
\$425,000 (net)
- Buildings – addition of 1 ambulance bay in N.O.T.L. \$100,000 (net)

Moved by Councillor Davidson  
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That the Public Health Department 2004 Capital Budget presentation be received; and

That Report CSD 153-2003, October 29, 2003, respecting 2004 Capital Program – Final Report be referred to the Budget Review Committee with no changes.

Carried.

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

17. Influenza Planning and Response, Niagara Region

Councillor Timms, Committee Chair, together with Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health, presented trophy awards for the “Beat the Bug Challenge”. The award for the long term care facility with the highest staff vaccination rate was presented to Oakwood Park Lodge, with 99% of staff immunized. The hospital with the highest staff vaccination rate was Welland County General Hospital – Niagara Health System, with a coverage rate of 57% (15% higher than last year).

Moved by Councillor Casselman  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 10-2004, January 26, 2004, respecting Influenza Planning and Response, Niagara Region, was received for information with thanks extended to staff.

Carried.

18. Follow-up to CBRN Vehicle Report PHD 73-2003

Moved by Councillor Harry  
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That Report PHD 06-2004, January 26, 2004, respecting Follow-up to CBRN Vehicle Report PHD 73-2003, be received; and

That the outcome of the Region’s bid be received for information; and

That the recommendation of the CBRN Steering Committee to investigate other vehicle options capable of pulling the equipment trailer using revenue generated from the sale of the refurbished Ambulance, with additional funding to be provide from within existing CBRN Response Team project dollars/Regional Fire Co-ordinator budget dollars as required, be approved.

Carried.

19. Update on Public Health Service Delivery to Children and Youth

Moved by Councillor Davidson  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 07-2004, January 26, 2004, respecting Update on Public Health Service Delivery to Children and Youth, be received for information.

Carried.

20. 2004 Budget and Potential Revenue Generation

Moved by Councillor Davidson  
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That Report PHD 08-2004, January 26, 2004, respecting 2004 Budget and Potential Revenue Generation, be received for information; and

That staff be directed not to proceed with detailed business cases in various services related to a revenue generation strategy.

Carried.

Councillor Casselman wished to be recorded as opposed to the foregoing motion.

21. Regional Air Quality Initiative

Moved by Councillor Harry  
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That Report PHD 09-2004, January 26, 2004, respecting Regional Air Quality Initiative, be received for information; and

That the new work plan related to air quality in Regional Niagara be supported.

Carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

22. Public Health Department Program Standards

A document outlining program standards for the Public Health Department's divisions was circulated to Committee members for information.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Committee adjourned at 2:40 p.m. to meet again on Monday, February 9, 2004 at 12:30 p.m. in C.R. 4, Regional Headquarters.

D. Bruce Timms  
Chair

Gail Reilly  
Legislative Assistant

Pam Gilroy  
Acting Regional Clerk