

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 9-2006

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Health and Social Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Tuesday, June 27, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Timms, Hildreth Co-Chairs; Baty, Casselman, Marshall, Regional Chair Partington, Almas and Harry.

Staff: Dr. Williams, Medical Officer of Health and Commissioner Public Health; Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Mr. Hutchings, Commissioner of Community Services; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Gilroy, Regional Clerk; Ms. Ricci, Acting Legislative Assistant.

Staff

Part-time: Mr. Christensen, Director, Health Protection and Promotion; Ms. Biscaro, Director Population Health; Mr. Jones, Director, Administration Services; Ms. Pennisi, Director Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities; Ms. Heidebrecht, Director, Children's Services; Mr. Ventresca, Director Seniors Services; Mr. Pelette, Manager – Housing, Hostels and Homelessness; Ms. Beckwith, General Manager, Niagara Regional Housing; Ms. Rix, Manager, Tobacco Control Program; Ms. DiPietro, Manager, Chronic Disease Prevention; Mr. Hudgin, Manager Health Protection and Promotion; Ms. Coppola, Manager, Healthy Eating; Ms. Flynn, Public Health Nurse, Healthy Babies, Healthy Children/Parent Child; Ms. Alfieri-Maiolo, Manager, Healthy Babies, Healthy Children/ Parent Child.

Regrets: Councillors Angelone, Bailey.

Guests: Mr. Stephen Butz, CEO, YMCA of Niagara

PRESENTATION

138. Our Community Strategy for a Healthy, Active Niagara

Regional Chair Partington provided background with respect to how Regional Council had, for 2004-2006, recognized that rising rates of overweight and obesity were impacting on the health of Niagara residents and decided to make obesity prevention one of its strategic priorities.

After some preliminary work by the Public Health department, and following the release of Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Sheela Basrur's report *Healthy Weights, Healthy Lives*, a group of community leaders and champions representing different sectors considered how they might collectively take action to improve the health of Niagarans; the Leadership Round Table (LRT) was then formed.

Regional Chair Partington thanked members of the LRT for their commitment over the past year, during the planning phase, and stated that they were instrumental in getting the Region of Niagara to where it is today and he feels they will continue to provide leadership and guidance as we begin to implement the initiatives and recommendations outlined in today's report.

Regional Chair Partington introduced Dianne Coppola, Manager, Healthy Eating; Councillor Timms and Steve Butz, CEO, YMCA of Niagara, he stated that they were member of LRT and were present today to provide a brief overview of the planning process, the resulting strategy framework and next steps.

Ms. Coppola, Mr. Butz and Councillor Timms highlighted during their presentation the following areas for Committee members:

- Prevalence of Overweight in Central West Population Aged 20-64; for the years 1990, 1996, 2001
- Body Mass Index Distribution of Niagara Residents, 2001-2003
- Key Milestones
- Logo Development and key messages
- Vision
- 3 Areas of Focus (Strategy Components)
- 3 Key Enablers (Strategy Components)
- 9 Strategic Initiatives
- Active and Visible Leadership from Community

Councillor Timms asked that Report PHD 51-2006, June 27, 2006, respecting Final Report & Recommendations of the Regional Chairman's Leadership Round Table on Obesity Prevention: Our Community Strategy for a Healthy, Active Niagara be moved forward on the agenda at this point.

139. Final Report & Recommendations of the Regional Chairman's Leadership Round Table on Obesity Prevention: Our Community Strategy for a Healthy, Active Niagara
PHD 51-2006

Moved by Regional Chair Partington
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 51-2006, June 27, 2006, respecting the Final Report & Recommendations of the Regional Chairman's Leadership Round Table on Obesity Prevention: Our Community Strategy for a Healthy, Active Niagara, be received; and

That the Final Report of the Regional Chairman's Leadership Round Table (LRT) on Obesity Prevention titled *Our Community Strategy for a Healthy, Active Niagara*¹ be endorsed and adopted for implementation; and

That the Regional Chairman's LRT continue to meet at least twice a year to provide ongoing leadership, guidance and feedback on the implementation issues associated with this community strategy; and

That the Regional Municipality of Niagara (RMON) support LRT efforts to engage youth in finding workable solutions to increasing healthy eating and physical activity choices amongst their peers, and agree to work collectively to establish a Youth Action Advisory Group (or groups) to develop, plan and coordinate activities and events for youth 13-18 years of age; and

That the RMON continue to provide dedicated staff in a coordinating capacity to facilitate ongoing collaborations and coordination of efforts within and across the nine strategic initiatives outlined in the final report; and

That the RMON support in principle the need to seek out alternate sources of funding to support the implementation of these strategic initiatives (e.g. grants, corporate sponsorship, fundraising etc.), and agree to collaborate on securing these alternate funding sources where appropriate; and

That the RMON will actively support the implementation of the various initiatives within the LRT Community Strategy with both in-kind and direct financial support, by committing to integrate components of the strategy into annual planning and budget development processes for all departments within the corporation; and

That the RMON recognize that further discussions and planning are required to identify feasible strategies for evaluating the progress and outcomes associated with the LRT Community Strategy and agree to work collectively to assist with the development of a comprehensive evaluation plan; and

That the RMON, in collaboration with appropriate community partners, will prepare and distribute a Community Report Card summarizing progress on strategy implementation; and

That given the lack of local data pertaining to the prevalence of overweight/obesity for children and youth, the RMON support in principle the need to consider collecting Body Mass Index height and weight ratio and waist circumference data from elementary-age students beginning in JK and at pre-determined milestones thereafter to monitor the status of local childhood obesity rates, and will support the efforts of Niagara's school boards in collaboration with Public Health and Brock University to undertake such data collection; and

That RMON recognize that further discussions and planning are required to identify feasible strategies for improving access to healthy food choices and physical activity opportunities for low income and otherwise disadvantaged Niagara residents, and agree to facilitate ongoing collaboration and coordination of efforts in this regard; and

That the Regional Chairman disseminate the Final Report of the LRT to Minister Jim Watson, Ministry of Health Promotion and Dr. Sheela Basrur, Chief Medical Officer of Health, and ask that it be further disseminated to the Inter-Ministerial Committee convened by Minister Watson for the purpose of informing the Province's soon-to-be-released Healthy Weights Strategy; and

That the Final Report of the LRT be strategically presented to the thirteen municipal councils for endorsement and implementation.

Carried.

140. Parenting

Ms. Biscaro, Director, Population Health introduced to Committee members Ms. Flynn, Public Health Nurse, Healthy Babies, Healthy Children/Parent Child; Ms. Alfieri-Maiolo, Manager, Healthy Babies, Healthy Children/ Parent Child who provided a power point presentation entitled, "Parenting".

Highlighted in the presentation were, in part, the following:

- Factors Affecting Child Development
- Factors Affecting Parenting
- Survey of Parents
- Parenting Programs – Research and Benefits
- Parent and Professional Viewpoints (Focus Groups)
- Evidence-Based Programs – Why do we need them?
- Review of Parenting Programs – (evidence-based & others)

PLANNING AND PRIORITIES (STRATEGIC PLANNING/POLICY)

141. Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth –
Supplementary Report
PHD 47-2006

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That Report PHD 47-2006, June 27, 2006, respecting the Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth – Supplementary Report, be received; and

That Council support a philosophy that encourages parents and other caregivers to choose approaches to discipline that focus on positive parenting and do not rely on physical punishment; and

That Council refer the Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth to Early Years Niagara for review.

Carried.

142. 2006 Ontario Tobacco Strategy Budget
PHD 53-2006 / CSD 85-2006

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Report PHD 53-2006/ CSD 85-2006, June 28, 2006, respecting the 2006 Ontario Tobacco Strategy Budget, be received for information; and

That one of the following options for applying the \$161,495 Region share of tobacco enforcement program budget be selected:

- Apply the amount toward program expenditures for the Obesity prevention strategy thus strengthening a program that is identified as an important goal for the Region
- Apply the amount to offset costs that will be incurred during the upcoming move of Public Health to the new building. The move is tentatively scheduled to happen in late January 2007, so the costs could be encumbered into 2006 and this budget amount used to cover them
- Apply the amount to the tax rate stabilization fund to reduce the tax levy
- Apply a portion to each of the above options in an agreed upon combination
- Apply to another strategy

Lost.

Moved by Regional Chair Partington
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Report PHD 53-2006/ CSD 85-2006, June 28, 2006, respecting the 2006 Ontario Tobacco Strategy Budget, be received for information; and

That the \$161,495 Region share of tobacco enforcement program budget be applied to a portion of each of the options A, B, and C in an agreed upon combination, as determined appropriate by the CAO and MOH.

Lost.

Moved by Councillor Almas
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That Report PHD 53-2006/ CSD 85-2006, June 28, 2006, respecting the 2006 Ontario Tobacco Strategy Budget, be received for information; and

That the \$161,495 Region share of tobacco enforcement program budget be applied to the tax rate stabilization fund to reduce the tax levy.

Lost.

Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

That Report PHD 53-2006/ CSD 85-2006, June 28, 2006, respecting the 2006 Ontario Tobacco Strategy Budget, be received; and

That the \$161,495 Region share of tobacco enforcement program budget be applied as determined by the MOH.

Lost.

Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

That Report PHD 53-2006/ CSD 85-2006, June 28, 2006, respecting the 2006 Ontario Tobacco Strategy Budget, be referred back to staff; and

That staff allocate the \$161,495 Region share of tobacco enforcement program budget as deemed appropriate.

Carried.

(Please note that Report PHD 53-2006 (CSD 85-2006) can be found behind the JNT RPTS Blue Book Tab)

OPERATIONS (STATUS REPORTS)

143. Smoke Free Ontario Act:
Implementation in Niagara Region's Long-Term Care Homes
COM 37-2006

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That Report COM 37-2006, June 27, 2006, respecting Smoke Free Ontario Act: Implementation in Niagara Region's Long-Term Care Homes, be received for information; and

That controlled Smoking Areas not be constructed in any of the Niagara Region's eight long-term care homes.

Carried.

144. Seniors Services Quality Improvement Report
First Quarter – January 1, 2006 – March 31, 2006
COM 38-2006

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report COM 38-2006, June 27, 2006, respecting the Seniors Services Quality Improvement Report First Quarter – January 1, 2006 – March 31, 2006, be received for information.

Carried.

145. Quality Child Care Niagara Update
COM 39-2006

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That Report COM 39-2006, June 27, 2006, respecting Quality Child Care Niagara Update, be received for information.

Carried.

146. Emergency Energy Fund
COM 40-2006

Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Report COM 40-2006, June 27, 2006, respecting Emergency Energy Fund, be received for information; and

That staff prepare a memorandum which provides other service programs, similar to the Emergency Energy Fund (EEF), currently being supported within the Niagara Region; and

That staff provide copies of this memorandum to Council members at its meeting of July 6, 2006.

Carried.

147. The Canada - Ontario Affordable Housing Program
– Wave: 1, Housing Delivery Plan
COM 41-2006/DPD 67-2006/ CSD 88-2006

Ms. Beckwith, General Manager, Niagara Regional Housing presented Committee members with a brief overview with respect to this report.

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That Report COM 41-2006/DPD 67-2006/ CSD 88-2006, June 28, 2006, respect the Canada – Ontario Affordable Housing Program – Wave: 1, Housing Delivery Plan, be received;

That the Housing Delivery Plan (attached as Appendix “A” to the Report) for the delivery of 170 Rent Supplement/ Housing Allowance units; 110 Rental and Supportive Housing units; and, 121 Homeownership units in the Niagara region under the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program be approved; and

That the approved Housing Delivery Plan be forwarded to Regional Council and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) for approval.

Carried.

(Please note that Report COM 41-2006 (DPD 67-2006/ CSD 88-2006) can be found behind the JNT RPTS Blue Book Tab)

INFORMATION

148. Niagara's Status with Respect to The Final Report of the Capacity Review Report Committee
MOH 03-2006

Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

That Report MOH 03-2006, June 27, 2006, respecting Niagara's Status with Respect to The Final Report of the Capacity Review Report Committee, be received for information.

Carried.

149. Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That the following items be received for information:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| PHD 46-2006 | June 27, 2006 respecting the Automated External Defibrillators (AED) in Public Places |
| PHD 48-2006 | June 27, 2006 respecting Safe Water Program – Drinking Water |
| PHD 50-2006 | June 27, 2006 respecting the Mandatory Program Compliance – Early Detection of Cancer |
| 3-2006 | Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee (May 23, 2006) |

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

150. Moved by Councillor Almas
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That the following communications be received and supported by this Committee at this time:

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|--------------|--|
| PHSS 29-2006 | Letter to the Medical Officer of Health from alPHa re: Public Health Unit 2006 Budget Survey (Niagara Region results) |
| PHSS 30-2006 | Letter (two attachments included to support letter) from Liana Nolan, President, alPHa (June 7, 2006) to Boards of Health, Medical Officers of Health, and affiliate organizations re: 2006 Funding for Public Health Units. |

Carried.

CLOSED SESSION

151. Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That this Committee do now meet in Closed Session for purpose of receiving information of a confidential nature relating to personnel and legal matters.

Carried.

152. Recruitment – Associate Medical Officer of Health
HR 20-2006 (MOH 02-2006) CONFIDENTIAL

Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That the Confidential Report HR 20-2006/ MOH 02-2006, June 28, 2006, respecting the Recruitment – Associate Medical Officer of Health, be received; and

That the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

153. Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 4:35 p.m., to meet again in Committee Room 4 on June 27, 2006 at 2:00 p.m

Jill Hildreth
Co-Chair

Lisa Ricci
Acting, Legislative Assistant

Bruce Timms
Co-Chair

Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk