

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**REPORT 9-2007**

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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, June 26, 2007 at 2:10 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

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

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

Staff

Part-time: Community Services Dept.; Ms. Cousins, Director, Operational Support Services, Community Services; Ms. Heidebrecht, Director, Children's Services; Mr. Pelette, Manager, Housing, Hostels and Homelessness; Ms. Pennisi, Director, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities; Ms. O'Hagan Todd, Manager, Children's Services.

Public Health Dept.: Ms. Biscaro, Director, Population Health Division; Mr. Christensen, Director, Environmental Health; Ms. Peacefull, Community Development Manager.

Others: Mr. John Nicol, Commissioner, Human Resources

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

137. Board of Health Orientation  
**PHD 42-2007**

Moved by Councillor Cordiner  
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That Report PHD 42-2007, June 26, 2007, respecting Board of Health Orientation and the appendices, be received and supported.

Carried.

All Regional Councillors were asked to complete Appendix "A" which is attached to the report and return to Fiona Peacefull, Community Development Manager, Public Health.

138. Impact of the Ontario Child Benefit  
On the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund Grant  
**COM 33-2007 (CSD 99-2007)**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Report COM 33-2007, June 26, 2007 (CSD 99-2007, June 27, 2007) respecting Impact of the Ontario Child Benefit on the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund Grant, be received; and

That Regional Council authorize the Regional Chair to correspond with the Minister of Finance to ensure that the implementation of the Ontario Child Benefit Program does not have a negative impact on the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund Grant.

Carried.

*(Please note that Report COM 33-2007, June 26, 2007 (CSD 99-2007, June 27, 2007)) can be found behind the JNT RPTS Blue Book Tab)*

#### **ITEMS FOR DEBATE**

139. 2007 and 2008 Per Diem for Emergency Hostels  
**COM 30-2007**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Report COM 30-2007, June 26, 2007, respecting 2007 and 2008 Per Diem for Emergency Hostels, be received and approved, **“as amended”**;

That the per diem for current contracted emergency hostels not in receipt of the maximum 80/20 cost sharable per diem be increased to \$39.95 effective January 1, 2007 and to \$40.75 for 2008; and

That the number of emergency hostel beds in Niagara expand from 146 to 153; and

***“That staff report back in the fall of 2008 after monitoring of the different agencies to ensure that the services they provide are equitable.”***

Carried.

140. Transitional Supported Housing Pilot Project  
**COM 31-2007**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report COM 31-2007, June 26, 2007, respecting Transitional Supported Housing Pilot Project, be received and endorsed.

Carried.

141. 2007-2008 Early Learning & Child Care Plan Update  
**COM 32-2007**

Moved by Regional Chair Partington  
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That Report COM 32-2007, June 26, 2007, respecting 2007-2008 Early Learning & Child Care Plan Update, be received for information; and

That Children's Services Plan: 2007-2008 The Early Learning & Child Care Plan be endorsed based on this summary report and be forwarded to the Ministry of Children and Youth Services for acceptance.

Carried.

**MINUTES**

142. Report 3-2007

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That Report 3-2007, being the minutes of the Regional Municipality of Niagara Accessibility Advisory Committee Ontarians with Disabilities Act meeting of Tuesday, April 10, 2007, be received.

Carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

143. Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That the following communications be received:

PHSS 23-2007      Dennis Roughley, Chair, Board of Health, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (May 9, 2007) regarding its Board's resolution respecting Highway Traffic Act Amendment (Cellular Phones) 2006.

PHSS 24-2007 Ken Graham, Chair of the Board, Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit (May 31, 2007) regarding its resolution respecting the "Trans Fat Task Force Report: TRANSforming the Food Supply".

PHSS 25-2007 Lucy Brown, Chief Executive Officer, Chatham-Kent Public Health (May 23, 2007) regarding its resolution respecting Advertising Standards.

Carried.

### **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION** (continued)

144. Appointment to AIDS Board

Moved by Councillor Collins  
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Councillor Cindy Forster be appointed to serve on the AIDS Board.

Carried.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

145. Update – Outbreaks – Salmonella and E-coli 157

Dr. Sider provided an update on the outbreaks at Stewart's Market in Fort Erie where there were four confirmed Salmonella cases in the 19 symptomatic cases to date, as well as the status of the E-coli outbreaks at the YMAN Restaurant. He advised that Public Health staff have been working with the owner/operators to ensure food handling regulations are being met to the satisfaction of the department. Dr. Sider also advised that there have been no further symptomatic cases since June 19<sup>th</sup> and that all cases consumed a variety of foods during the June 13-19 period. A discussion ensued on the possibility of instituting a mandatory requirement for food establishments to take courses with respect to food handling regulations. Dr. Sider advised that staff will be bringing forward a report with recommendations on this matter.

(Refer to staff direction.)

146. Funding Heart Health Program

Dr. Sider commented that the Province has announced funding of the Hearth Health Program for 2008.

147. Events

Councillor Baty advised that he recently attended the following events:

- June 11th - The rededication of Nelles School and Best Start Program
- June 19<sup>th</sup> – Public Health volunteer event in Campbell East Atrium
- June 21<sup>st</sup> – Opportunities Niagara Annual General Meeting
- June 25<sup>th</sup> – LEAP Graduation

148. Press Release

Councillor Greenwood apprised Committee of the "Summer Savings Program" in Niagara Falls. She apprised Committee of the energy saving initiatives implemented and distributed samples of the energy efficient light bulbs which are being distributed to low income families for their use. It is anticipated that there will be approximately 20% savings in Hydro costs for the participants for July and August.

**CLOSED SESSION**

149. Moved by Councillor Collins  
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

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

Carried.

150. Oral Report:  
John Nicol, Commissioner, Human Resources  
Re: HR 22-2007 – A Matter of Labour Relations:  
Status of CUPE Local 1263 (Homes for the Aged)  
Contract Negotiations – Conciliation and  
CUPE Local 1757 (Public Health) Contract Negotiations

Mr. Nicol, Commissioner, Human Resources, provided an oral report respecting Confidential Report HR 22-2007 – A Matter of Labour Relations: Status of CUPE Local 1263 (Homes for the Aged) Contract Negotiations – Conciliation and CUPE Local 1757 (Public Health) contract negotiations.

151. Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That this Committee do now rise without report.

Carried.

**STAFF DIRECTIONS**

- (i) That Public Health and Public Works staff examine the feasibility of a notification protocol when municipal water supplies are interrupted, to assure that food premises who have cuts to potable water supplies cease operations until water supplies return. (Refer to minute 145.)

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Committee adjourned at 3:50 p.m., to meet again in Committee Room 4 on Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.

Brian Baty  
Co-Chair

Gail Reilly  
Legislative Assistant

Bruce Timms  
Co-Chair

Pam Gilroy  
Regional Clerk