

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

**REPORT 15-2007**

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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, October 30, 2007 at 2:05 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

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

Staff: Mr. Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Gilroy, Regional Clerk; Ms. Reilly, Legislative Assistant.

Staff

Part-time: Community Services Dept.: Ms. Urbshott, Administrative Assistant.  
Public Health Dept.: Mr. Jones, Director, Administration; Dr. Feller, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Dr. Klooz, Associate Commissioner of Health; Mr. Lorenzo, Manager, Chronic Disease; Ms. Rix, Manager, Tobacco Control Program; Ms. Wodchis, Director, Chronic Disease Prevention.  
Administration: Mr. McQueen, Director, Administrative Services.  
Corporate Services: Mr. Macklem, Properties Coordinator; Mr. Moffat, Manager of Properties.

Others: Ms. Alex Pedersen, Peer Leader, Youth Action Alliance.

**ELECTION OF CO-CHAIR**

232. Due to the resignation of Councillor Timms as Co-Chair of the Public Health and Social Services Committee for the remainder of the year 2007, an election for a new Co-Chair was held.

Councillor Baty, Co-Chair, Public Health and Social Services Committee, called for nominations for the position of Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Public Health Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Collins  
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Councillor Casselman be nominated for the position of Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Public Health Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee for the remainder of the year 2007

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Collins  
Seconded by Councillor Partington

That nominations for the position of Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Public Health Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee, be closed.

Carried.

There being no other nominations, Councillor Baty, Co-Chair, with the agreement of Councillor Casselman, declared her Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Public Health Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee.

**CLOSED SESSION**

233. Moved by Councillor Collins  
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

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.

234. Oral Report  
Smoke-Free Ontario Act Matter

Ms. Rix, Manager, Tobacco Control Program, provided an oral report on a Smoke-Free Ontario Act Matter.

Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That the oral report from Ms. Rix, Manager, Tobacco Control Program, regarding a Smoke-Free Ontario Act matter, be received.

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests.)

235. Moved by Councillor Timms  
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

**PRESENTATION**

236. Video Presentation  
Update: Community Services Video  
“Building Community, Building Lives”

Mr. Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services, presented the updated Community Services video “Building Community, Building Lives”. The video features four segments: one each on long-term care, the Ontario Works client participation program, Adult Day Services and subsidized child care. The segments tell the stories of four clients and their families and demonstrate how Community services programs and services meet the needs of Niagara residents.

Moved by Councillor Greenwood  
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That the video presentation and Communication PHSS 38-2007, being a memorandum from Brian Hutchings, Commissioner Community Services, re: Update: Community Services Video “Building Community, Building Lives”, be received and that the video be provided to Cogeco for their final review and scheduling of air dates.

Carried.

237. Welland Child Care Centre Horticultural Award

Mr. Hutchings displayed a picture of the Welland Child Care Centre depicting the landscaping that led to the Child Care Centre receiving the Welland Horticultural Society Merit Award for 2007. Committee commended Staff and associates of the Centre on this excellent achievement.

238. Youth Engagement Strategy  
‘Join the Revolution – Go Green’

Mr. Lorenzo, Manager, Chronic Disease, together with Ms. Alex Pedersen, Peer Leader, Youth Action Alliance, advised Committee of the “Join the Revolution – Go Green” summit which is to take place on Tuesday, November 20, 2007 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Club Italia in Niagara Falls. Ms. Pederson apprised Committee of REACT – Resist Expose and Challenge, Tobacco formed through the Public health Department. REACT is a group of students who promote advocacy and civic action for the reduction of tobacco use. Regional Councillors are invited to attend the summit and encouraged to participate in discussions and hear a range of ideas and views from Niagara’s youth. The dialogue with politicians is scheduled between 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That the oral presentation from Mr. Lorenzo, Manager, Chronic Disease and Ms. Alex Pedersen, Peer Leader, Youth Action Alliance, re: Youth Engagement Strategy – ‘Join the Revolution – Go Green”, be received and that Report COM 52-2007/PHD 70-2007 be brought forward to be dealt with at this time.

Carried.

Councillor Casselman, Co-Chair, on behalf of Committee, thanked Mr. Lorenzo and Ms. Pedersen and her group on their commitment and important work around these environmental issues.

239. Youth Engagement Strategy  
‘Join the Revolution – Go Green’  
**COM 52-2007/PHD 70-2007**

Moved by Councillor Katzman  
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report COM 52-2007/PHD 70-2007, October 30, 2007, respecting Youth Engagement Strategy – ‘Join the Revolution – Go Green’, be received for information.

Carried.

### **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

240. Donation to Upper Canada Lodge  
**COM 50-2007**

Moved by Councillor Timms  
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Report COM 60-2007, October 30, 2007, respecting Donation to Upper Canada Lodge, be received.

That Regional Council authorize the Corporation to execute the necessary documents releasing the estate administrators for Caroline Coate Tocher from all potential legal claims, thereby allowing for the donation of \$5,000 from the estate.

Carried.

241. 2007 Ontario Works Service Contract  
**COM 51-2007**

Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That Report 51-2007, October 30, 2007, respecting 2007 Ontario Works Service Contract, be received.

That Regional Council authorize the Regional Chair and Clerk to execute the necessary documents to enter into the 2007 Ontario Works Service Contract with the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS).

Carried.

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

242. Tobacco High School Grants Program:  
Descriptive Report on the 2006-2007 Provincial Evaluation Results  
**PHD 71-2007**

Moved by Councillor Cordiner  
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That Report PHD 71-2007, October 30, 2007, respecting Tobacco High School Grants Program: Descriptive Report on the 2006-2007 Provincial Evaluation Results, be received for information.

Carried.

**MINUTES**

243. 7-2007

Moved by Councillor Marshall  
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report 7-2007, minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Ontarians with Disabilities Act meeting of Tuesday, September 25, 2007, be received and approved.

Carried.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

244. Moved by Councillor Marshall  
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Communication PHSS 39-2007, letter from Craig Stirtzinger, Clerk, City of Welland (September 17, 2007) respecting The Arson Prevention Program for Children in Niagara Region, be received and forwarded to Public Health staff for report.

Carried.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

245. Spread of Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA)

Councillor Marshall expressed his concerns on recent information released on the spread of MRSA in the United States and asked if Canada is experiencing the same problems. Dr. Sider commented that there are National guidelines set with respect to the management of MRSA and that the Provincial Infectious Disease Advisory Committee (for which he is a member) is working with the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to develop a province-wide strategy to address the spread of this community-acquired antibiotic resistant organism in Ontario. A further report will be coming to Committee on this matter.

246. AIDS Niagara

Councillor Forster inquired as to whether there is a Regional By-law that requires a Regional Councillor to serve as a representative on the AIDS Board. The Regional Clerk will look into this matter and report back.

247. Mass Immunization Plan

Councillor Timms inquired as to the status of the Mass Immunization Plan. Dr. Sider advised that the Niagara Region pandemic plan includes a mass immunization strategy and work plan. In order to test its suitability in the event of a public health emergency, Niagara Region Public Health will be conducting a planning exercise on Tuesday, November 6, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., in cooperation with the provincial Emergency Management Unit (EMU). The Province will be providing an additional \$14,500 in funding for this exercise. This clinic is much larger than a normal annual flu shot clinic and includes a focus on administering the vaccination to the general public and high priority groups such as EMS, police and fire. The exercise will also provide an opportunity for concurrent functioning and testing of the Department's Emergency Control Group and Emergency Operations Centre.

**CLOSED SESSION (Continued)**

248. Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Timms

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.

**Conflict of Interest**

Councillor Timms declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to matters related to Regional Development Charges as his family owns a business that may be subject to development charges, and he therefore, vacated the Committee Room and took no part in the discussion of, or voting on, these matters.

249. Update – Proposed Acquisition of Property  
by the Municipality, City of Welland  
**PHD 66-2007 (CSD 164-2007) Confidential**

Moved by Regional Chair Partington  
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That Confidential Report PHD 66-2007, October 30, 2007 (CSD 164-2007, October 31, 2007) respecting Update – Proposed Acquisition of Property by the Municipality – City of Welland, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved and that Committee receive an update on this matter in six weeks.

Carried.

250. Moved by Councillor Katzman  
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

251. Reports to Audit Committee Re: Public Health Matters  
Councillor Timms inquired as to why Reports CSD 159-2007, CSD 160-2007 and CSD 163-2007 regarding Public Health matters, which are being presented to the Audit Committee on October 31, 2007, were not presented to the Public Health and Social Services Committee for information. This information will be put on the next Public Health and Social Services Committee agenda for information.

**COUNCILLOR INFORMATION REQUESTS**

- (i) That Public Health, with the assistance of Communications staff, develop a media release with regards to the Smoke-Free Ontario Act Matter discussed in Closed Session. (Collins) (Refer to minute item 234.)

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Committee adjourned at 3:50 p.m., to meet again in Committee Room 4 on Tuesday, November 20, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.

Brian Baty  
Co-Chair

Gail Reilly  
Legislative Assistant

Judy Casselman  
Co-Chair

Pam Gilroy  
Regional Clerk