

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

**REPORT 5-2007**

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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, April 3, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

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

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

Staff

Part-time: Community Services Dept.: Ms. Cousins, Director, Operational Support Services; Ms. Heidebrecht, Director, Children Services; Mr. Ventresca, Director, Seniors Services.

Public Health Dept.: Mr. Bertleff, Program Manager, Emergency Management; Mr. Christensen, Director, Health Protection & Promotion; Mr. Cunnane, Director, EMS; Dr. Feller, Associate Medical Officer of Health (Clinical); Mr. Fuentes, Associate Director, Emergency Services; Ms. Gordon, Manager, Dental Program; Mr. Hunter, Manager, Health Protection & Promotion; Ms. Jugley, Manager, Community Mental Health Program; Dr. Klooz, Associate Commissioner, Public Health; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Ms. St. John, Chief Nursing Officer; Ms. Vanecko, Manager, Healthy Babies/Parent Child Health; Mr. Van Valkenburg, Manager, Administration, E.M.S.; Ms. Wodchis, Director, Chronic Disease Prevention.

Others: Mr. Bousfield, Manager, Property Management, P.W.; Chief Cartwright, Regional Fire Coordinator.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

69. Scheduled Events to Honour Volunteers and Seniors Services Staff

Mr. Ventresca, Director, Seniors Services, apprised Committee of upcoming Seniors Services Recognition Events.

- Volunteer Appreciation Week – there are a number of events at the Region's Homes for the Aged and Regional Councillors are welcome to attend their local Home's event. The date and time of these events are located on the last page of Report COM 16-2007.

- Seniors Services Staff Long-Term Care Week – Closer to the time of Long-Term Care Week, Regional Councillors will be notified of any events at which they may wish to attend and express appreciation to the staff of their local Home for the Aged.

### **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

70. **Offload Delays**  
**PHD 21-2007**

Moved by Councillor Marshall  
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report PHD 21-2007, April 3, 2007, respecting Offload Delays, be received and that the recommendations (Dr. Schwartz) outlined within this report be endorsed.

Carried.

### **PRESENTATION**

71. **Nanticoke Generating Station**

Mr. Jack Gibbons, Chair, Ontario Clean Air Alliance, attended to urge Committee and Council to request the government of Ontario to issue a legally-binding regulation requiring the phase-out of coal burning at the Nanticoke Generating Station by 2009. He advised that the phase-out of coal burning at Nanticoke will provide multiple benefits to the Niagara Region including: Reduced smog emissions; reduced greenhouse gas emissions; reduced emissions of mercury – a neuro-toxin; and business opportunities for the Region's municipally-owned electric utilities with respect to the promotion of energy conservation, renewable power and combined heat and power plants.

Following discussion, it was:

Moved by Regional Chair Partington  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That the presentation from Mr. Jack Gibbons, Chair, Ontario Clean Air Alliance, be referred to staff for report with additional information on the newest pollution control technology available and its effectiveness, as well as the potential effects of the closure of the Nanticoke refinery on the Region's marine industry.

Carried.

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

72. Procedural Issues

**CSD 43-2007 (Revised)**

Moved by Councillor Marshall  
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That Report CSD 43-2007 (Revised), April 3 and 4, 2007, respecting Procedural issues, be received for information.

Carried.

*(Please note that Report CSD 43-2007 can be found behind the CS Blue Book Tab)*

73. Appointment of Regional and Deputy Fire Coordinators Bylaw

**PHD 14-2007**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Report PHD 14-2007, April 3, 2007, respecting Appointment of Regional and Deputy Fire Coordinators Bylaw, be received.

That the designation of a Regional Fire Coordinator (Mr. Denys Prevost, Welland) and three (3) Deputy Regional Fire Coordinators (Messrs. Chris Halliday, Grimsby; Larry Coplen, Thorold and Ed Lajoie, St. Catharines) be supported; and

That the Regional Clerk (Region of Niagara), be directed to ensure that the appropriate bylaw is prepared for submission to Regional Council; and

That Regional Council express their appreciation to Chief Tom Cartwright for his excellent service as the Regional Fire Coordinator for the Region of Niagara.

Carried.

74. Funding Agreement Re: Ontario Heart Health walkON Project

**PHD 19-2007**

Moved by Councillor Casselman  
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That Report PHD 19-2007, April 3, 2007, respecting Funding Agreement Re: Ontario Heart Health walkON Project, be received.

That the Regional Chairman and Regional Clerk be authorized to execute the legal agreement between the Ministry of Health Promotion (MHP) and the Regional Municipality of Niagara (RMON). This agreement provides 12 months of funding, totalling \$49,900 for walkON, a project of the heart health sites of Central West Ontario for the period January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007.

Carried.

75. Initiation of 2007 Ambulance Capital Program  
**PHD 20-2007 (CSD 57-2007)**

Moved by Councillor Cordiner  
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PHD 20-2007, April 3, 2007 (CSD 57-2007, April 4, 2007) respecting Initiation of 2007 Ambulance Capital Program, be received.

That the budget allocation from the approved 2007 Public Health Capital Budget in the gross amount of \$910,000 and net amount of \$455,000 be approved for Capital Project ZGR0702 – Ambulance and Related Equipment; and

That the debenture financing (1-5 Years) of \$455,000 for Capital Project ZGR0702 – Ambulance and Related Equipment be approved, and that the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate bylaw(s) are prepared for presentation to Regional Council.

Carried.

*(Please note that Report PHD 20-2007 (CSD 57-2007) can be found behind the JNT RPTS Blue Book Tab)*

76. 2007-2008 Funding Enhancement for Community Mental Health  
**PHD 24-2007**

Moved by Councillor Marshall  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Report PHD 24-2007, April 3, 2007, respecting 2007-2008 Funding Enhancement for Community Mental Health, be received.

That the Community Mental Health Program receive the recently announced funding enhancement of \$206,326 provided to hire 2 FTE staff and 1.5% adjustment to base funding (\$37,926).

Carried.

77. National Child Benefit Plan 2006 Expenditures and 2007 Budget  
**COM 14-2007**

Moved by Councillor Cordiner  
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report COM 14-2007, April 3, 2007, respecting National Child Benefit Plan 2006 Expenditures and 2007 Budget, be received; and

That the 2007 National Child Benefit (NCB) expenditure plan be approved.

Carried.

78. Initiation of 2007 Community Services Capital Program  
**COM 18-2007 (CSD 58-2007)**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That Report COM 18-2007, April 3, 2007 (CSD 58-2007, April 4, 2007) respecting Initiation of 2007 Community Services Capital Program, be received.

That a capital budget allocation in the gross and net amount of \$700,000 be approved for the Community Services Capital Program as submitted in the 2007 Capital Budget and summarized in Appendix 1. (attached)

That approval be given to fund the projects with \$700,000 from the Capital Levy Reserve Fund.

That the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate Bylaw(s) are prepared for presentation to Regional Council.

Carried.

*(Please note that Report COM 18-2007 (CSD 58-2007) can be found behind the JNT RPTS Blue Book Tab)*

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

79. Dental Health Month – April 2007  
**PHD 18-2007**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Report PHD 18-2007, April 3, 2007, respecting Dental Health Month – April 2007, be received for information.

Carried.

80. 2007 Smart Gardening Campaign  
**PHD 23-2007 (PWP 25-2007)**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Report PHD 23-2007, April 3, 2007 (PWP 25-2007, April 4, 2007) respecting 2007 Smart Gardening Campaign, be received for information.

Carried.

*(Please note that Report PHD 23-2007 (PWP 25-2007) can be found behind the JNT RPTS Blue Book Tab)*

81. Youth Engagement Strategy  
**COM 15-2007**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Report COM 15-2007, April 3, 2007, respecting Youth Engagement Strategy, be received for information.

Carried.

82. Seniors Services Volunteer Program Achievements 2006  
**COM 16-2007**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Report COM 16-2007, April 3, 2007, respecting Seniors Services Volunteer Program Achievements 2006, be received for information.

Carried.

83. Seniors Services Staff Long-Term Care Week  
**COM 17-2007**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Report COM 17-2007, April 3, 2007, respecting Seniors Services Staff Long-Term Care Week, be received for information.

Carried.

84. Report AAC 1-2007

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Report AAC 1-2007, being the minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Ontarians with Disabilities Act meeting of January 16, 2007, be received.

Carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

85. Moved by Councillor Collins  
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Communication PHSS 16-2007 from John Albanese, Chair, Board of Health, Northwestern Health Unit (March 1, 2007) advising of its resolution urging the province to take appropriate action to ensure adequate social assistance rates, adequate minimum wage and affordable housing, in order to facilitate for all families the purchase of adequate nutritious food, be received.

Carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

86. Health Preparedness – Pandemic Planning

Dr. Williams advised that a combined meeting of the Niagara Region's Board of Health and the Niagara Health System Board is being planned to focus on Health Preparedness – Pandemic Planning some time in late May, early June. Mr. McQueen will advise Committee and Council of the meeting date once it is confirmed.

87. Local Health Integrated Networks (LHINS)

Councillor Baty, Co-Chair, suggested that, due to the Provincial legislation that is coming into effect April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007, that transfers the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care's service and accountability agreements with health-care providers to LHINs across the province, Committee recommend that the Chair of the Hamilton, Niagara, Haldimand and Brant LHIN's Board of Directors and Chief Administrative Officer be invited to attend a meeting with Niagara's Board of Health.

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That the Chair of the Hamilton, Niagara, Haldimand and Brant LHIN's Board of Directors and Chief Administrative Officer be invited to attend a meeting with Niagara's Board of Health.

Carried.

**CLOSED SESSION**

88. Moved by Councillor Marshall  
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

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.

89. Human Resources Reports

A discussion ensued on the process for review and discussion of reports to other Committees as they relate to the Public Health and Community Services departments. (i.e. HR 14-2007 and HR 18-2007)

(Refer to staff directions.)

90. A Matter of Security of the Property of the Municipality  
Real Estate Matter - Leasing of Space  
Regional Municipality of Niagara  
**Confidential PHD 22-2007 (PWA 58-2007)**

Moved by Councillor Collins  
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Confidential Report PHD 22-2007, April 3, 2007 (PWA 58-2007, April 4, 2007) respecting A Matter of Security of the Property of the Municipality, Real Estate - Leasing of Space for the Regional Municipality of Niagara, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

91. Process – Property Matters

A discussion ensued regarding the process related to the preparation and recommendations in reports related to property matters

92. A Matter of the Security of the Property of the Municipality  
**Confidential PHD 25-2007 (PWA 66-2007)**

**Conflict of Interest**

Councillor Timms, Co-Chair, declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Report PHD 25-2007 (PWA 66-2007, A Matter of the Security of the Property of the Municipality) as it is related to a family business, and he therefore vacated the Committee Room and took no part in the discussion of, or voting on, this matter.

Moved by Councillor Cordiner  
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That Confidential Report PHD 25-2007, April 3, 2007 (PWA 66-2007, April 4, 2007) respecting A Matter of the Security of the Property of the Municipality, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

93. Moved by Regional Chair Partington  
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

94. Change in Date – Next Public Health and Social Services Committee Meeting  
Committee recommended that the next Public Health and Social Services Committee meeting be held on Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. due to the events of “Niagara Week” being held on April 23 and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in Toronto.

#### **STAFF DIRECTION**

That staff be directed to:

- (i) Provide a briefing to the Public Health and Social Services Committee on any reports/matters that are presented to other Committees that may relate to the Public Health and Community Services Departments.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Committee adjourned at 4:25 p.m., to meet again in the Council Chambers on Monday, April 16, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.

Bruce Timms  
Co-Chair

Gail Reilly  
Legislative Assistant

Brian Baty  
Co-Chair

Pam Gilroy  
Regional Clerk