THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 8-2008

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 24, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

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

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

Staff Other: Community Services; Ms. Cousins, Director, Operational Support Services; Ms. Horner, Manager, Children's Services; Ms. McBrain, Manager, Children's Services; Ms. O'Hagan-Todd, Manager, Children's Services; Ms. Pennisi, Director, Social Assistance & Employment Opportunities.
Public Health: Ms. Biscaro, Director, Family Health; Mr. Christensen, Director, Environmental Health; Dr. Feller, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Gordon, Manager, Dental Program; Mr. Hunter, Manager, Environmental Health; Dr. Klooz, Associate Commissioner of Health; Mr. Laflamme, Manager, Environmental Health; Ms. Peacefull, Community Development Manager; Mr. Young, Manager, Environmental Health.
Administration: Mr. Roberts, Executive Officer to Regional Chair.

Others: Mr. J. Kwekkeboom, Vice-President, Ontario 211 Services Corp.; Ms. R. Thoms, Executive Director, Information Niagara; Ms. S. Toth, Executive Director, Adolescents' Family Support Services Niagara.

OTHER BUSINESS

103. Learning, Earning and Parenting Program (LEAP) Graduation
Councillor Baty, Co-Chair, advised that the Niagara Region hosted its annual Learning, Earning and Parenting (LEAP) program graduation today in Welland. He commented that there were 34 graduates who earned their Secondary School diplomas while balancing the demands of parenting and employment as part of the LEAP program.

PRESENTATION

104. 211

Ms. Rosanna Thoms, Executive Director, Information Niagara and Mr. John Kwekkeboom, Vice-President, Ontario 211 Services, attended to provide an update on 211 Niagara. The 211 Niagara Program was launched in November 2, 2005 and has received over 90,000 calls to date. It is the second 211 centre in Ontario and has been accredited by Alliance of Information & Referral Systems (AIRS). There are currently eight sites in Ontario that form the backbone of the provincial wide 211 system providing 50% of Ontario's population access to 211. The Province has announced a budget allocation of $13 million over four years to make Ontario's 211 system province-wide beginning in 2008-2009. The Director highlighted the benefits of this service that include; Improved access to Community Services; Assistance in Poverty Situations; Crisis Assistance to Niagara (in times of large scale emergencies); Identify unmet needs of the Community; Support to Newcomers; and Volunteer Brokerage Service (linking volunteers and agencies). Ms. Thoms commented that the 211 contact centre together with the 211 database provides Niagara with a powerful resource to be used by the entire community.

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That the presentation by Ms. Thoms, Executive Director, Information Niagara and Mr. Kwekkeboom, Vice-President, Ontario 211 Services, regarding 211 Niagara be received.

Carried.

105. 211 Niagara
COM 36-2008

Moved by Councillor Goulbourne
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That Report COM 36-2008, June 24, 2008, respecting 211 Niagara, be received for information.

Carried.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

106. 2008 Ontario Works Enhanced Family Support Initiative (EFSI) Service Contract
COM 34-2008

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report COM 34-2008, June 24, 2008, respecting 2008 Ontario Works Enhanced Family Support Initiative (EFSI) Service Contract, be received.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into the 2008 Ontario Works Enhanced Family Support Initiative (EFSI) Service Contract with the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS), (100% Provincial subsidy = $125,000/Regional Contribution = $0).

Carried.

107. 2007 Amended Service Contract – Homelessness Ministry of Community and Social Services (Consolidated Homeless Prevention Program, Emergency Energy Fund)
COM 35-2008

Moved by Councillor Henderson
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report COM 35-2008 June 24, 2008, respecting 2007 Amended Service Contract – Homelessness Ministry of Community and Social Services (Consolidated Homeless Prevention Program, Emergency Energy Fund), be received.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into the 2007 Amended Service Contract with the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) regarding funding through the Emergency Energy Fund (EEF) (100% of Provincial Subsidy = $175,557/Regional Contribution = $0), and the Consolidated Homeless Prevention Program (CHPP) (100% Provincial Subsidy = $589,832/Regional Contribution = $0, for a total contract of $765,389).

Carried.

108. Safe Water Program – Small Drinking Water Systems
PHD 31-2008

Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report PHD 31-2008, June 24, 2008, respecting Safe Water Program – Small Drinking Water Systems, be received for information; and

That staff be directed to assess and monitor the anticipated cost of supporting the new legislation and report back to Regional Council and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC).

Carried.

109. New Smart Systems for Health Agencies (SSHA)'s Agreements – The ONE ID Direct Service Module and the Data Hosting Service Module for the Oral Health Information Support System (OHISS)
PHD 32-2008

Conflict of Interest
Councillor Baty declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Report PHD 32-2008 respecting New Smart Systems for Health Agencies (SSHA)'s Agreements – The ONE ID Direct Service Module and the Data Hosting Service Module for the Oral Health Information support System (OHISS) as he has a family member who is an employee of the firm and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting on, this matter.

Moved by Councillor Goulbourne
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report PHD 32-2008, June 24, 2008, respecting New Smart Systems for Health Agencies (SSHA)'s Agreements—the ONE ID Direct Service Module and the Data Hosting Service Module for the Oral Health Information Support System (OHISS), be received for information; and

That the Medical Officer of Health be authorized to consent to, and sign, the following agreements on behalf of the Regional Municipality of Niagara:

(i) the ONE ID Direct Service Module dated April 3, 2008
(ii) the Data Hosting Service Module for the Oral Health Information Support System dated April 3, 2008.

Carried.

110. Resolution – Re: PHD 20-2008
HPV (Human Papillomavirus) Vaccine Program

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has publicly funded HPV vaccine for Grade 8 females in the school setting during the Grade 8 year as of September 2007; and

SHEREAS Health Canada has approved the use of HPV vaccine, for 9-26 year old females, to reduce cervical cancer in women in Ontario; and

WHEREAS Grade 8 females are socially and developmentally vulnerable with respect to this health care decision, and may not be able to take advantage of this offer at the time it is provided in Grade 8 because of the influence of peers, family, and/or disrupted family circumstances; and

WHEREAS female youth who decline or miss immunization through the program in Grade 8 for reasons other than a mature choice, miss out on public funding if they subsequently choose immunization; and

WHEREAS the consequences of either not initiating or not completing the vaccine regime due to situations and circumstances, can have significant health implications;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health of the Niagara Region urge the Government of Ontario to utilize unused funds, to expand the HPV program and to provide continuing access to all eligible consenting students; and

FURTHER THAT the Government of Ontario continue to solicit expert advice and implement recommendations set forth by the Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC) regarding the use/protection provided by the HPV vaccine.

Carried.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

111. Adolescents' Family Support Services of Niagara
COM 33-2008

Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Goulbourne

That Report COM 33-2008, June 24, 2008, respecting Adolescents' Family Support Services of Niagara, be received for information.

Carried.

112. Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program
Community Participation and Leadership Funding
Grant Application for Computers for Seniors Program
COM 37-2008

Moved by Councillor Henderson
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That Report COM 37-2008, June 24, 2008, respecting Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program Community Participation and Leadership Funding Grant Application for Computers for Seniors Program, be received for information.

Carried.

113. Vector Borne Diseases
PHD 27-2008

Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That Report PHD 27-208, June 24, 2008, respecting Vector Borne Diseases, be received for information.

Carried.

114. Food Safety Report
PHD 28-2008

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report PHD 28-2008, June 24, 2008, respecting Food Safety Report, be received for information as requested.

Carried.

115. Social Marketing Initiatives Scheduled
July through to December 2008
PHD 29-2008

Moved by Councillor Goulbourne
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report PHD 29-2008, June 24, 2008, respecting Social Marketing Initiatives Scheduled July through to December 2008, be received for information.

Carried.

116. Transfer of the Administration of the Ontario Building Code Part 8 (Sewage Systems) Program to the Development Services Division of the Public Works Department
PHD 30-2008 (PWP 28-2008)

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report PHD 30-2008, June 24, 2008 (PWP 28-2008, June 25, 2008) respecting Transfer of the Administration of the Ontario Building Code Part 8 (Sewage systems) Program to the Development Services Division of the Public Works Department, be received for information.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

117. Moved by Councillor
Seconded by Councillor

That the following communications be received.

PHSS 27-2008	Carolyn Downs, City Clerk, City of Kingston (May 21, 2008) regarding its Council's resolution respecting Bill 64 – Pesticide Act
PHSS 28-2008	Dennis Roughley, Chair, Simcoe Muskoka District Board of Health (June 6, 2008) regarding Food and Beverage Marketing to Children.
PHSS 29-2008	Dr. W. David Colby, Acting Medical Officer of Health, Municipality of Chatham-Kent (May 21, 2008) respecting the Role of Health Units in Smoke-Free Ontario Cessation Strategy
PHSS 31-2008	Cheryl Miclette, Town Clerk, Town of Pelham (June 3, 2008) regarding their Council's resolution supporting the City of Welland's resolution urging the Provincial and Federal Governments to provide the much needed dedicated funding to municipalities for the development, renewal and rehabilitation of physical activity facilities and outdoor spaces.

Carried.

118. Introduction
Mr. Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services, introduced Kathryn O'Hagan-Todd as the new Director of Children's Services to replace Pat Heidebrecht who is retiring.

119. Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Communication PHSS 30-2008, Memorandum from Brian Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services (June 24, 2008) regarding Rainbow Early Learning and Parenting Centre, Welland operated by Family and Children's Services (FACS), be received.

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests.)

OTHER BUSINESS

120. AIDS Board
Councillor Forster advised that she attended the AIDS Annual General Meeting and advised that a change was made in the Board membership and that a Regional Councillor was no longer required to serve on the Board. A staff person (Alan Spencer) from the Public Health Department will continue to serve on the Board. Councillor Forster advised that the organization will be bringing forward information to Regional Council on "World AIDS Day".

121. "Think and Drive" Float - Rose Festival Grande Parade
Councillor Baty advised that a float provided by CAA with a damaged car on it was part of the Rose Festival Grande Parade and was used as a strategy to help get out the message of the "Think and Drive" program to the public. Committee concurred that these opportunities are beneficial in educating the public on the Region's many programs and services.

122. Expression of Appreciation
Councillor Goulbourne expressed his appreciation to staff of the Region for participating and assisting the City of Welland with many of its social programs including its Health and Wellness Growth Plan.

123. Pat Heidebrecht Retirement
Mr. Hutchings advised that Pat Heidebrecht's retirement party is being held at the Niagara Culinary Institute, Niagara College on Wednesday, June 25, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. The tickets are $25.00 each for which most of this is being donated to Pro-Kids as per her request. A large turnout is expected to wish her well.

COUNCILLOR INFORMATION REQUESTS

Staff was requested to:

(i) Carry out a more comprehensive review of the issues related to the closing of the Rainbow Early Learning and Parenting Centre site. (Marshall) (Refer to minute 118.)

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3:27 p.m., to meet again in Committee Room 4 on Tuesday, July 15, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

Brian Baty
Co-Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Judy Casselman
Co-Chair

Janet Pilon
Acting Regional Clerk