

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 7-2010

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, May 25, 2010 at 2:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

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

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

Staff

Other: Community Services: Ms. O'Hagan-Todd, Director, Children's Services; Mr. Todd, Manager, Community Services; Ms. Watson, Director, Social Assistance & Employment Opportunities.
Public Health: Ms. Biscaro, Director, Family Health; Ms. Brigantino, Manager, Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention; Mr. Carey, Manager, Environmental Health; Mr. Christensen, Director, Environmental Health; Dr. Jaeger, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Mr. McKay, Associate Director, EMS; Mr. McQueen, Operations Officer (PH); Mr. Smith, Associate Director, EMS; Ms. St. John, Director, Clinical Services; Ms. Wodchis, Director, Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention.
Administration: Mr. Roberts, Executive Officer to Regional Chair.
Integrated Community Planning: Ms. Swigger, Student.

PRESENTATIONS

94. Susan Venditti, Start-Me-Up Niagara
Re: Report COM 24-2010

Susan Venditti, Executive Director, Start-Me-Up Niagara attended to speak to Report COM 24-2010 and the impact of funding on participants and community. Ms. Venditti expressed appreciation for the funding, highlighting the organization's demographics and past and future initiatives.

The presenter advised that Start-Me-Up Niagara works with individuals to improve life quality and level of self sufficiency by providing opportunities to improve health, increase level of community integration and support employment.

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That the presentation by Susan Venditti, Start-Me-Up Niagara, regarding the impact of funding on participants and community as it pertains to Report COM 24-2010 regarding an Update on “increasing Prosperity for Families Living in Poverty”2010 Prosperity Projects, be received.

Carried.

95. Liz Palmieri, Niagara Prosperity Initiative Advisory Committee
Re: Report COM 24-2010

Liz Palmieri, Co-Chair, Niagara Prosperity Initiative Advisory Committee, attended to speak to Report COM 24-2010 and the impact on Community Development from the perspective of the Advisory Committee. Ms. Palmieri expressed appreciation to the region for their contribution the past two years towards prosperity initiatives. These initiatives, she commented, represent the commitment of the Region to continue to invest in providing opportunities for families and individuals to prosper. She also thanked the Region for the work on Neighbourhood mapping which has proved to be a useful tool in identifying where resources need to be focused. Ms. Palmieri recommended that the Region explore an opportunity to renew commitment over the next four years as opposed to a year by year commitment and to measure success and progress on a family by family basis as opposed to neighbourhood by neighbourhood basis. The presenter encouraged the Region to continue with the Prosperity Initiative Advisory Committee and include an evaluation of the committee’s effectiveness.

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That the presentation by Liz Palmieri, Co-Chair, Niagara Prosperity Initiative Advisory Committee, regarding Report COM 24-2010 respecting Impact on Community Development from the perspective of the Niagara Prosperity Initiative Advisory Committee, be received.

Carried.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

96. Update on “Increasing Prosperity for Families Living in Poverty”
2010 Prosperity Projects
COM 24-2010

Moved by Councillor Katzman
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report COM 24-2010, May 25, 2010, respecting Update on “Increasing Prosperity for Families Living in Poverty” 2010 Prosperity Projects, be received for information.

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests.)

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

97. Extension of MOHLTC Offload Nurse Funding Initiative
PHD 18-2010

Moved by Regional Chair Partington
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report PHD 18-2010, May 25, 2010, respecting Extension of MOHLTC Offload Nurse Funding Initiative, be received and approved as ***amended***.

That senior management for Niagara Emergency Medical Services (NEMS) be authorized to enter into an agreement with the Niagara Health System (NHS) for the hiring of nursing staff within the Niagara Health System Emergency Departments to address offload delays;

That Niagara Region be authorized to receive funding from the provincial Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC), to be distributed to the NHS for payment of services received in the Offload Nurse program; and

That the Regional Chairman and Regional Clerk be authorized to sign a by-law (Appendix A) as may be approved by Legal Services; and

That this Committee receive a report providing an update on this matter in 90 days.

Carried.

98. LCBO Privatization
PHD 22-2010

Staff Presentation:

Ms. Brigantino, Manager, Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention, provided an overview of the current provincial discussions regarding LCBO privatization, highlighting the significant impact alcohol privatization would have on the residents of Ontario and Niagara. It is recommended that the Minister of Finance review the 2008 Public Health Approach to Alcohol Policy Report; Update the 2005 Beverage Alcohol System Initiative; and Develop and Implement a Public Consultation Strategy.

(A copy of Ms. Brigantino's presentation regarding LCBO Privatization is attached to the minutes.)

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Goulbourne

That Report PHD 22-2010, May 25, 2010, respecting LCBO Privatization, be received for information; and

That the Regional Chairman write a letter to the Minister of Finance, urging the provincial government to review the 2008 *Public Health Approach to Alcohol Policy* report, to update the 2005 *Beverage Alcohol System* initiative, and to develop and implement a public consultation strategy prior to any proposed changes to the current alcohol regulation system as a means to prevent alcohol-related harm.

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests.)

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION (continued)

99. Food Safety Report
PHD 20-2010

Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PHD 20-2010, May 25, 2010, respecting Food Safety Report, be received for information as requested.

Carried.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION (continued)

100. Mandatory Food Handler Certification By-law
PHD 24-2010

Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report PHD 24-2010, May 25, 2010, respecting Mandatory Food Handler Certification By-law, be referred to staff for further information.

Carried.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION (continued)

101. Low Income Dental Program
PHD 26-2010

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report PHD 26-2010, May 25, 2010, respecting Low Income Dental Program, be received for information.

Carried.

102. Niagara Emergency Energy Fund
COM 25-2010

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Goulbourne

That Report COM 25-2010, May 25, 2010, respecting Niagara Emergency Energy Fund, be received for information.

Carried.

103. Oral Report
David Lorenzo, Manager, Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention
Re: Convenience Store Association (CSA) Launches Contraband Tobacco Road Show (Communication PHSS 29-2010)

David Lorenzo, Manager, Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention, provided an overview of Communication PHSS 29-2010 and the Convenience Store Association (CSA) launch of their Contraband Tobacco Road Show. The CSA will embark on a 41 stop tour throughout Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes. Mr. Lorenzo highlighted that CSA is financially supported by the tobacco industry and although the CSA is striving to reduce

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contraband tobacco use to 10% in 2010, their ultimate goal is not to reduce Niagara's smoking rates. The NRPH will not support their ultimate goal of tobacco tax rollbacks and continues to strive for a smoke-free Niagara.

Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Communication PHSS 29-2010 and the presentation by David Lorenzo regarding the Convenience Store Association (CSA) Launches Contraband Tobacco Road Show be received.

Carried.

104. ProKids Program – Providing Recreational/Cultural Opportunities For Children/Youth 2009 Year End Report

COM 26-2010

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Lepp

That Report COM 26-2010, May 25, 2010, respecting ProKids Program – Providing Recreational/Cultural Opportunities for Children/Youth 2009 Year End Report, be received for information.

Carried.

105. Directly Operated Child Care Centres and Home Child Care 2009 Year End Report

COM 27-2010

During discussion of Report COM 27-2010, the Regional Chair requested an update on the status of the agreement between the Niagara Region and the District School Board of Niagara with respect to the Child Care Facility on Carlton Street. Ms. O'Hagan-Todd advised that the agreement is still in place.

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Katzman declared a pecuniary interest with respect to the status report on the agreement between the Niagara Region and the District School Board of Niagara with respect to the Child Care Facility on Carlton Street, as she is employed by the District School Board of Niagara, and she therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting on, this matter.

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report COM 27-2010, May 25, 2010, respecting Directly Operated Child Care Centres and Home Child Care 2009 Year End Report, be received for information.

Carried.

106. Children's Services 2009 Year End Systems
Management Report
COM 28-2010

Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That Report COM 28-2010, May 25, 2010, respecting Children's Services 2009 Year End Systems Management Report, be received for information.

Carried.

107. Ministry of Children and Youth Services to Ministry of Education
Transition of Child Care Announcement April 27, 2010
COM 29-2009

Moved by Councillor Lepp
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report COM 29-2010, May 25, 2010, respecting Ministry of Children and Youth Services to Ministry of Education Transition of Child Care Announcement April 27, 2010, be received for information.

Carried.

108. Closure of Capital Projects
CSD 60-2010

Moved by Councillor Lepp
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That Report CSD 60-2010, May 26, 2010, respecting Closure of Capital Projects, be received for information.

Carried.

(Report CSD 60-2010 can be found behind the CSC tab in the Blue Book.)

CORRESPONDENCE

109. Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That the following communications be received:

- PHSS 20-2010 Board of Health, Timiskaming Health Unit (April 8, 2010) respecting "Smoke-Free Ontario Charges".
- PHSS 21-2010 Graham L. Pollett, Medical Officer of Health, Middlesex-London Health Unit (April 15, 2010) regarding "Labelling of Caffeine Content in Prepackaged Foods".
- PHSS 22-2010 Laurel Broten, Minister of Children and Youth Services, (April 20, 2010) regarding "Provincial Funding for Child Care".
- PHSS 23-2010 Ian MacDonald Gemmill, Medical Officer of Health, Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health (April 26, 2010), regarding "Ministry of Children and Youth Services Funded Program Budgets".
- PHSS 24-2010 Dennis Roughley, Chair, Board of Health, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (April 21, 2010) regarding the "Semi-privatization of the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO)".
- PHSS 25-2010 Leona Dombrowsky, Minister of Education and Laurel Broten, Minister of Children and Youth Services, regarding the "*Full-day Early Learning Statute Law Amendment Act, 2010*".
- PHSS 26-2010 Beth Pater, Chair, Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health (May 5, 2010) regarding "Ministry of Children and Youth Services Funded Budgets".
- PHSS 27-2010 Mac Bain, Chairperson, Board of Health, North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (May 10, 2010) regarding "Harmful Effects of Artificial Tanning and In Particular for Youth Who are Most Susceptible to the Damaging Effects of UV Radiation".

PHSS 28-2010 Karen Murray, Chair, to Co-Chairs & Members of Public Health and Social Services Committee, (May 25, 2010) regarding Niagara Regional Housing Quarterly Report January 1, 2010 – March 31, 2010.

Carried.

110. Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That Communication PHSS 30-2010, Council Correspondence C7504 - Susan Daniels, City Clerk, City of Thorold (May 6, 2010) regarding Request to Report on Results of Various Closures at Fort Erie and Port Colborne Hospitals, be referred to the next Public Health and Social Services Committee meeting of June 15, 2010.

Carried.

MINUTES

111. #87-2010 (NRH)

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report #87-2010 being the minutes of the Niagara Regional Housing Board of Directors Meeting of Friday, March 26, 2010, be received.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

112. Bill 16 – Public Sector Compensation Restraint
To Protect Public Services Act, 2010

Councillor Timms apprised Committee of the AMO News on the status of Bill 16, noting that the article implied that the legislation applies to Boards of Health which are 75% funded by the Province. He inquired as to the status of the wage freeze related to the AMO advisory and what is being done with collective bargaining negotiations.

Mr. McQueen advised that there is still confusion about the legislation and some conflicting language that has prompted a collective municipal/BOH effort to get some legal clarity on inclusion based on the varied BOH models.

Councillor Timms requested an in-camera update on this matter at the Council meeting of June 3, 2010.

COUNCILLOR INFORMATION REQUESTS

That staff:

- (i) Provide a report on the re-evaluation of the administrative structure of the Committee as it pertains to the “Increasing Prosperity for Families Living in Poverty” Initiative. (Cordiner) Refer to Report COM 24-2010 and minute item 96.)
- (ii) Examine surplus properties to determine whether there are any buildings available (Baty) Refer to Report COM24-2010 and minute item 96.)
- (iii) Consider preparing a four year budget with respect to Prosperity Initiatives. (Forster) Refer to Report COM 24-2010 and minute item 96.)
- (iv) Provide information on what the penalty is for operators in the Private Sector and the LCBO for selling liquor to underage persons. (Timms) Refer to Report PHD 22-2010 and Minute item 98.)

NEXT MEETING

The Committee adjourned at 4:20 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, June 15, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

Brian Baty
Co-Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Judy Casselman
Co-Chair

Janet Pilon
Deputy Regional Clerk