

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

**REPORT 1-2010**

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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, January 12, 2010 at 2:05 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

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

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

Staff

Other: Community Services: Ms. O'Hagan-Todd, Director, Children's Services; Mr. Ventresca, Director, Seniors Services.  
Public Health: Dr. Jaeger, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Mr. McKay, Associate Director, Administration, E.M.S.; Mr. McQueen, Operating Officer, P.H.  
Administration: Mr. Watkins, Policy Assistant, Chair's Office.  
Corporate Services: Ms. Casement, Manager, Employee Relations; Ms. Elliott, Director, Human Resources; Mr. Inman, Associate Director, Energy Management.

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

1. Procedure to Select Committee Co-Chairs  
**ICP 1-2010**

Peter Partington, Regional Chair, called for nominations 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 2006-2010 term of Council.

Moved by Councillor Timms  
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

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 2006-2010 term of Council.

Carried.

Regional Chair Partington called a second and third time for nominations.

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

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, Regional Chair Partington, with the agreement of Councillor Casselman, declared her Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Public Health Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee for the remainder of the 2006-2010 term of Council.

Peter Partington, Regional Chair, called for nominations for the position of Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Community Services Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Councillor Baty be nominated for the position of Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Community Services Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee for the remainder of the 2006-2010 term of Council.

Carried.

Regional Chair Partington called a second and third time for nominations.

Moved by Councillor Casselman  
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

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

Carried.

There being no other nominations, Regional Chair Partington, with the agreement of Councillor Baty, declared him Co-Chair, (Aligned to the Community Services Department), of the Public Health and Social Services Committee for the remainder of the 2006-2010 term of Council.

*Regional Chair Partington vacated the Chair and Councillors Baty and Casselman, Co-Chairs, assumed the Chair.*

2. Moved by Councillor Timms  
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report ICP 01-2009, January 13, 2010, respecting Procedure to Select the Committee Co-Chairs, Chairs and Vice Chairs, be received.

Carried.

*(Please note that Report ICP 01-2010 can be found behind the JNT RPTS Blue Book Tab)*

### **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

3. Niagara Emergency Medical Services Cross Border  
(Municipal) Billing (CBB)  
**PHD 01-2010 (CSD 09-2010)**

Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report PHD 01-2010, January 12, 2010 (CSD 09-2010, January 13, 2010) respecting Niagara Emergency Medical Services Cross Border (Municipal) Billing (CBB), be received:

That the Regional Chairman and Regional Clerk be authorized and directed to sign the Mutual Release in the format attached and forward it to Haldimand County in due course;

That the Regional Chairman and Regional Clerk, on behalf of Niagara Region, be authorized and directed to execute Mutual Release Agreements for payment of funds in the amount of \$171,396 to Haldimand County;

That the respective amount be offset by a transfer from the Region's Contingency Reserve (as suggested in Report PHD 27-2009), and;

That staff be authorized to execute all future Cross Border (Municipal) Billings (payables and receivables) as part of annual operating budgets to facilitate these smaller, annual payments and prepare an annual summary report for Committee and Council, to advise of the transactions.

Carried.

*(Please note that Report PHD 01-2010 (CSD 09-2010) can be found behind the JNT RPTS Blue Book Tab)*

4. Initiation of Children's Services Capital Program  
**COM 02-2010 (CSD 06-2010)**

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Katzman declared a pecuniary interest with respect to Report COM 02-2010 (CSD 06-2010), Initiation of Children's Services Capital Program, 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 Councillor Marshall

That Report COM 02-2010, January 12, 2010 (CSD 06-2010, January 13, 2010), respecting Initiation of Children's Services Capital Program, be received:

That a capital budget allocation in the gross and net amount of \$200,000 be approved for the Children's Services Capital Program as approved in the 2008 and 2009 Capital Budgets;

That approval be given to fund the projects with \$200,000 from the Capital Levy Reserve; and

That the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate By-laws are prepared for presentation to Regional Council.

Carried.

*(Please note that Report COM 02-2010 (CSD 06-2010) can be found behind the JNT RPTS Blue Book Tab)*

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

5. Update to Community Services Strategic Plan 2008-2011  
**COM 01-2010**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That Report COM 01-2010, January 12, 2010, respecting Update to Community Services Strategic Plan 2008-2011, be received for information.

Carried.

6. Energy Utilities Project at Northland Pointe in Port Colborne  
**COM 03-2010 (CSD 11-2010)**

Moved by Councillor Cordiner  
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report COM 03-2010, January 12, 2010 (CSD 11-2010, January 13, 2010) respecting Energy Utilities Project at Northland Pointe in Port Colborne, be received for information.

Carried.

*(Please note that Report COM 03-2010 (CSD 11-2010) can be found behind the JNT RPTS Blue Book Tab).*

7. 2008 Management Letter –  
Funding to Not for Profit/Service Provider Organizations  
**CSD 152-2009**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report CSD 152-2009, November 4, 2009, respecting 2008 Management Letter – Funding to Not for Profit/Service Provider Organizations, be received.

Carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

8. Community Services 2010 Operating Budget Pressures

Mr. Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services, provided an overview of the 2010 Operating Budget Pressures on the Community Services Department in the amount of \$8,432,337. He advised that this amount is funded from Upload in the amount of \$4,000,000 and from Reserves in the amount of \$4,432,337. A chart was presented noting the balance of the Social Assistance Reserve Fund as of January 1, 2009 in the amount of \$7,968,221. The projected balance of this reserve at December 31, 2010 is \$2,535,884 taking into consideration the 2009 Usage for Ontario Works (\$1,750,000); 2009 ODSP Surplus of \$750,000; 2010 Ontario Works Budget (\$3,558,822); and 2010 ODSP Budget (\$874,115). Mr. Hutchings noted that without the allocation of significant upload dollars in 2011, this reserve will be depleted in 2011, however, Ontario Works will not be fully uploaded until 2018, and recession impacts will be felt for several years. A chart depicting the impacts of 2011 on the Reserves was also highlighted. The Commissioner also presented funding options detailing the subsequent impact on the levy.

Mr. Hutchings apprised Committee of the impact on Children's Services due to the loss of Childcare funding in the amount of \$1.5 million and outlined the mitigation strategies that would be undertaken to address this impact.

(A copy of Mr. Hutching's presentation on the Community Services 2010 Operating Budget Pressures is attached to the PHSS minutes.)

9. Health Canada Giant Colon Exhibit

Dr. Feller, Associate Medical Officer of Health, advised Committee of the Giant Colon exhibit coming to the Pen Centre in St. Catharines. Health Canada is presenting the exhibit, with guest speakers in attendance, to raise awareness of the importance of colorectal screening. The event will kick off on January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00 p.m. and will provide an opportunity for visitors to take a walk through the 40 foot giant colon exhibit.

10. Update – H1N1

Dr. Feller provided an update on the H1N1 virus advising that Public Health have administered approximately 52,000 doses of the H1N1 flu vaccine with Physicians administering approximately 58,000 doses which served about 25% of the population (this is most likely an underestimate). Dr. Feller advised 230 cases of the H1N1 virus have been lab confirmed with approximately 115 cases not "typed" for a total of about 345 cases. The last confirmed H1N1 case was on December 11, 2009. It is not known whether there will be a 3<sup>rd</sup> Phase of the virus. Dr. Feller advised that the department is working with the Ministry to ascertain costs for this service.

Public Health is still administering both the H1N1 and Seasonal influenza vaccines at clinics until January 15, 2009 and then at weekly clinics by appointment as per usual practice for influenza.

11. Tour of Niagara Falls Public Health Facility

Councillor Casselman asked if staff could arrange a tour for Committee members of the Niagara Falls Public Health facility.

12. City of Welland Resolution – EMS Medical Calls

Councillor Forster apprised Committee of a letter sent to Regional Councillors regarding a resolution from the City of Welland in response to a request from the City of Welland's Fire Chief to seek a subsidy from Emergency Medical Services when their Fire Department responds to 911 medical calls.

**CLOSED SESSION**

13. Moved by Councillor Cordiner  
Seconded by Councillor Katzman

That this Committee do now meet in Closed Session for purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature relating to a Labour Relations Matter ONA 9 Homes for the Aged.

Carried.

**Conflict of Interest**

Councillor Forster declared a pecuniary interest with respect to the presentation on the Labour Relations Matter ONA 9 Homes for the Aged as she is a staff member of with the Ontario Nurses Association, and she therefore vacated the Committee Room and took no part in the discussion of, or voting on, this matter.

14. Labour Relations Strategy for  
ONA 9 Homes for the Aged

Ms. Deb Elliott, Director, Human Resources, provided a presentation on a Labour Relations Strategy for ONA 9 Homes for the Aged.

Moved by Councillor Greenwood  
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That the presentation by Ms. Deb Elliott, Director, Human Resources, regarding a Labour Relations Strategy for ONA 9 Homes for the Aged, be received.

Carried.

15. Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

**NEXT MEETING**

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

Brian Baty  
Co-Chair

Gail Reilly  
Legislative Assistant

Judy Casselman  
Co-Chair

Kevin Bain  
Regional Clerk