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## **THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA**

### **COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE**

#### **REPORT 15-2001**

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Minutes of a meeting of the Community and Health Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Monday, September 24, 2001 commencing at 3:15 p.m.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Committee: Councillors Adams, Chair; Zimmerman, Regional Chair; Bailey; Bentley; Brickell; Davidson; Eke; Forster; Gabriel; Harry; Konkle; Marshall; Timms.

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

Staff (Part-time): Mr. Christensen, Director, Health Protection & Promotion; Ms. Chudzik, Director, Population Health; Ms. Fontana, Director of Corporate Health Services and Employee Relations; Ms. Hague, Manager, Infectious Disease Program; Ms. Heidebrecht-Golian, Director of Children's Services; Mr. Hutchings, Director, Operational Support Services; Mr. Jones, Director, Administrative Services; Ms. Jugley, Manager, Community Mental Health Program; Dr. Lee, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Mr. McQueen, Supervisor, Tobacco Programs; Mr. Papp, Transition Manager, Social Housing; Ms. St. John, Director, Clinical Services Division; Mr. Spencer, Manager, Sexual Health Program; Ms. Varcoe, Public Health Nurse; Mr. Ventresca, Director, Seniors Services Division; Ms. Wodchis, Director, Chronic Disease Prevention Division; Mr. Young, Manager, Institutions & Healthy Environments.

**PRESENTATIONS**

141. Donation to Seniors Services by  
The Robert Bell and Gladys May Bell Foundation

Stella Ziff, Louis Ziff, Carrie Kaye and Linda Ressler, attended to present a cheque to Councillor Adams, Committee Chair, in the amount of \$28,382 from the Robert Bell and Gladys May Bell Foundation to Gilmore Lodge in Fort Erie and the Regional Respite Companion Program to enhance services to residents and clients with dementia.

Mr. Ziff provided a brief background of the Robert Bell and Gladys May Bell Foundation Board stating that it is a small group of Fort Erie residents with an interest in providing funding for dementia-related needs.

Councillor Adams, together with Regional Chair Zimmerman, presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Robert Bell and Gladys May Bell Foundation for their generous donation to improving the quality of life for persons living with dementia.

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Forster declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to any matters relating to the Ontario Nurses Association (ONA) as she is a member of the Association and she therefore took no part in the discussions of or voting on these matters.

Councillor Gabriel declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to any matters relating to the Smoking Bylaw as his spouse is employed by the gaming industry, and he therefore took no part in the discussions of or voting on these matters.

**PRESENTATIONS** (continued)

142. A Comprehensive Review of the Mandatory  
Program Delivery to the 5 – 19 Year Olds

Mr. Khayyam Syne, Principal, Notre Dame, together with Mr. Maurice Charbonneau, Principal, Denis Morris and Mr. John Crocco, Principal, Lakeshore, attended, on behalf of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, to express their concerns with the Public Health Department's report regarding the mandatory program delivery to the 5 to 19 year

olds. They commented that removing the nurses from the schools could cause an increase in many of the problems facing students such as eating disorders, substance abuse, and sexual-related problems. Committee members were advised that the school nurse is a valuable member of the school community and has worked well with teachers and parents to provide counselling services to students, who without their advise, could make uninformed and radical decisions. The familiar face and consistent presence of the nurse in the schools encourages students to seek help when needed. Committee was provided statistical information regarding the number of students seeking counselling services, verifying the need for these nurses to be at the school, not only 3 days but 5 days a week. The presenters commented that there has not been sufficient consultation with all the stakeholders to proceed with the new service delivery model recommended by the Public Health Department. Committee was asked to defer approval of this new service delivery model until a thorough consultation process has been completed.

Ms. Chudzik, Director, Population Health, provided a brief overview of Report PHD 73-2001/HR 42-2001. She commented that following a comprehensive review of the mandatory program delivery to the 5 to 19 year olds, it was recognized that the present means of delivering services through the school-based model could be improved and enhanced to align with the issue-base programming. Committee was advised that the Board of Health is bound by the mandatory health programs and service guidelines developed by the Ministry of Health. Ms. Chudzik commented the new service delivery model provides an integrated, coordinated and enhanced service of these programs.

Moved by Councillor Bailey  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 73-2001, September 10, 2001 (HR 42-2001, September 11, 2001), and the presentation from Messrs. Syne, Charboneau and Crocco of the Niagara District Catholic School Board, regarding mandatory program delivery, be referred to staff for further information regarding costs for providing schools with ongoing counselling services to be considered during the 2002 budget deliberations; and

That further information be provided regarding the context of the public consultation process that has taken place on this issue and feedback on the various models implemented in other Regions.

Carried.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

143. Children's Services Division  
2001 Second Quarter Report

Moved by Councillor Bailey  
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report COM 68-2001, September 24, 2001, respecting Children's Services Division – 2001 Second Quarter Report, be received for information.

Carried.

144. 2001 Children's Services Division Service Contract

Moved by Councillor Brickell  
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report COM 69-2001, September 24, 2001, respecting 2001 Children's Services Division Service Contract, be received.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into the 2001 Children's Services Division Service Contract with the Ministry of Community and Social Services (Provincial Subsidy = \$16,187,048; Regional Levy - \$4,156,033).

Carried.

145. Donation to Seniors Services by  
The Robert Bell and Gladys May Bell Foundation

Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report COM 70-2001, September 24, 2001, respecting Donation to Seniors Services by The Robert Bell and Gladys May Bell Foundation, be received for information.

Carried.

146. Medical Directors Annual Reports  
- Long Term Care Facilities

Moved by Councillor Bailey  
Seconded by Councillor Konkle

That Report COM 71-2001, September 24, 2001, respecting Medical Directors Annual Reports – Long-Term Care Facilities, be received for information.

That the Regional Chair be authorized to correspond with the Niagara District Health Council (NDHC) and to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to encourage the Province to enhance resources for long-term care residents, and for the increased integration and improved utilization of health care resources at the local long-term care facility/hospital level, as per the recommendations by the Medical Directors.

Carried.

147. Progress Report on the Exploration of a Partnership  
Between Deer Park Villa and the Regional Municipality of Niagara

Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Bentley

That Report COM 72-2001, September 24, 2001, being a Progress Report on the Exploration of a Partnership between Deer Park Villa and the Regional Municipality of Niagara, be received for information.

Carried.

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

148. Special Funding – Safe Water Program  
Enhanced Staffing – Food Safety Program

Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Bentley

That Report PHD 54-2001, September 24, 2001, respecting Special Funding – Safe Water Program Enhanced Staffing – Food Safety Program, be received.

That the enhancement of 2 FTE public health inspector positions be referred to the Budget Review Committee for consideration with the 2002 Budget of the Public Health Department.

Carried.

149. Inspection of Migrant Farm Worker Housing

Members of Committee reviewed the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-term Care published guidelines on accommodations for Migrant Farm Workers and advised that in some instances these guidelines are not adhered to. Questions arose to how often these premises are inspected and what enforcement mechanisms are in place to ensure that the guidelines are followed. A more comprehensive report regarding this matter was requested by Committee.

Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Bentley

That Report PHD 62-2001, September 24, 2001, respecting Inspection of Migrant Farm Worker Housing, be received for information.

Carried.

150. Public Health Department: Peninsula Youth Centre Partnership

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That Report PHD 80-2001, September 24, 2001, respecting Public Health Department: Peninsula Youth Centre Partnership, be received.

That the Public Health Department enter into a formal agreement with Hamilton East Community Services for the provision of service to the Peninsula Youth Centre.

That the Public Health Department enhance the nursing complement by 0.4 FTE with all related costs recovered through the agreement on a fee-for-service basis.

Carried.

151. Proposal to Reallocate Funds for Clinical Supervisor  
Position (Community Mental Health Program)

Moved by Chair Zimmerman  
Seconded by Councillor Brickell

That Report PHD 81-2001 respecting Proposal to Reallocate Funds for Clinical Supervisor Position (Community Mental Health Program), be received.

That Regional Council allow funding to be reallocated from direct service staffing to fund a clinical supervisor position.

Carried.

152. Ventilation/Designated Smoking Rooms (DSRs) Reconsidered

Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Report PHD 82-2001, respecting Ventilation/Designated Smoking Rooms (DSRs) Reconsidered and PHD 85-2001, respecting Regional Smoke-free Public Places and Workplaces Bylaw – Summary Report, be deferred.

Defeated.

Dr. Lee, Associate Medical Officer of Health, in response to direction given to Public Health Department staff to review ventilation/DSR studies, including the "Black Dog Pub Study", to determine whether ventilation/DSRs are viable health protection options, provided a brief overview of the evidence around this issue. Dr. Lee advised that after consideration of available scientific evidence, the Public Health Department's conclusion is consistent with that of other well-respected and reputable health experts and scientific organizations, that current available ventilation systems for use within DSRs will not reduce ETS exposure to levels that are safe for the health of workers or patrons.

Moved by Councillor Marshall  
Seconded by Chair Zimmerman

That Report PHD 82-2001, September 24, 2001, respecting Ventilation/Designated Smoking Rooms (DSRs) Reconsidered, be received for information.

Carried.

153. Region-wide Communication Campaign to Promote the Ontario Breast Screening Program in Niagara, October 2001

Moved by Councillor Gabriel  
Seconded by Councillor Konkle

That Report PHD 84-2001, September 24, 2001, respecting Region-wide Communication Campaign to Promote the Ontario Breast Screening Program in Niagara, October 2001, be received.

Carried.

Moved by Chair Zimmerman  
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That Regional Council endorse the strategy for dissemination of the information, as outlined in the Report PHD 84-2001.

Carried.

154. Regional Smoke-free Public Places and Workplaces by-law – Summary Report

Moved by Councillor Davidson  
Seconded by Councillor Brickell

That Report PHD 85-2001, September 24, 2001, respecting Regional Smoke-free Public Places and Workplaces Bylaw – Summary Report, be received for information.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Timms  
Seconded by Councillor Bentley

That the memorandum from Jennifer Yessis, Smaller World Communications, to Chris McQueen, Regional Niagara Public Health Department (September 24, 2001), regarding the Addendum to Executive Summary of the Report: Public Opinion Survey on Attitudes Towards Smoking in Public Places, be circulated to all members of Council and as additional information for the consultation process.

Carried.

155. Sexual Health Program: Request for Staff Enhancement

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 86-2001, September 24, 2001, respecting Sexual Health Program: Request for Staff Enhancement be received; and

That the enhancement of permanent staff by 1.0 FTE PHN and .5 FTE Medical Director be referred to the Budget Review Committee for consideration with the 2002 Budget of the Public Health Department.

Carried.

156. Infectious Disease Program: Request for Staff Enhancement

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 87-2001, September 24, 2001, respecting Infectious Disease Program: Request for Staff Enhancement, and explaining the need for two casual .5 FTEs to enable staff to meet the added demands of the Infectious Disease Program, be received for information and referred to the Budget Review Committee for consideration with the 2002 Budget of the Public Health Department.

Carried.

157. Vaccine Preventable Disease Program: Request for Staff Enhancement

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 88-2001, September 24, 2001, respecting Vaccine Preventable Disease Program: Request for Staff Enhancement and explaining the need for 1.0 permanent FTE to enable staff to meet the added demands of the Universal Influenza Program, be received for information and referred to the Budget Review Committee for consideration with the 2002 Budget of the Public Health Department.

Carried.

**MINUTES**

158. Report 4-2001

Moved by Councillor Harry  
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That Report 4-2001, being the minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee on Smoke-free Public Places and Workplaces By-law meeting of September 10, 2001, be approved.

Carried.

**ACCOUNTS**

159. Moved by Councillor Bailey  
Seconded by Councillor Konkle

That the accounts payable expense summary for the period ending August 31, 2001 in the following amounts be approved:

Community Services	6,884,315.66
Public Health	1,359,375.18

Carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

160. Moved by Chair Zimmerman  
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That the following communications be received:

CHS 54-2001 Susan Welke, Policy Analyst, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, regarding Council's resolution respecting exotic pets and venomous snakes.

CHS 55-2001 Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Directive (August 29, 2001) regarding recent changes to the tenant Protection Act, 1997 (TPA).

CHS 56-2001 Tony Clement, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care regarding the government's position on funding of wage increases.

CHS 57-2001 Tony Clement, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care advising that the Region will receive a special grant of \$156,980.00 to improve patient care by upgrading and enhancing existing medical diagnostic and treatment equipment.

Carried.

**CLOSED SESSION**

161. Moved by Councillor Konkle  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That this Committee do now meet in Closed Session for purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature relating to legal, personnel and property matters.

Carried.

162. Analysis of Financial and Human Resources Implications of a Partnership between Deer Park Villa and the Regional Municipality of Niagara

Moved by Councillor Harry  
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That Report COM 73-2001, September 24, 2001, respecting Analysis of Financial and Human Resources Implications of a Partnership between Deer Park Villa and the Regional Municipality of Niagara, be received for information.

That staff be authorized to draft a Memorandum of Understanding for subsequent approval that will detail the principles and terms of a partnership, as outlined in the approved Business Case for the Development of a Niagara Region Long-Term Care Facility for west Niagara.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Konkle  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Committee adjourned at 4:50 p.m. to meet again at 6:00 p.m. that evening in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters, for the purpose of a Public Meeting on the 100% Smoke-free Public Places and Workplaces Bylaw.

T. Roy Adams  
Chair

Gail Reilly  
Legislative Assistant

Thomas R. Hollick  
Regional Clerk