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THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 2-2002

Minutes of a meeting of the Community and Health Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Monday, February 4, 2002 commencing at 2:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Hildreth, Bailey; Brickell; Davidson; Eke; Forster; Harry; Redekop.

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. Bacchus, Commissioner, Corporate Services; Mr. Bertleff, Supvr. Emergency Measures; Ms. Biscaro, Manager, Healthy Babies/Parent Child; Mr. Christensen, Director of Health Protection & Promotion; Ms. Chudzik, Director, Population Health; Mr. Cunnane, Director of Public Safety; Ms. DeCou, Epidemiologist; Ms. Horner, Manager, Children's Services; Mr. Hutchings, Director, Operational Support Services; Dr. Klooz, Associate Commissioner of Public Health; Ms. McBrain, Manager Children's Services; Mr. Papp, Social Housing Transition Manager; Mr. Ventresca, Director, Seniors Services; Ms. Wilson, Manager, Chronic Disease.

Others: Mr. Little, Regional Coordinator.

CLOSED SESSION

17. Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Eke

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.

18. Proposed Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Response Team

Moved by Councillor Redekop

Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report CSD 16-2002, January 30, 2002 (PHD 08-2002, January 28, 2002), respecting Proposed Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Response Team, be received.

That the attached 'draft' business plan and cost estimates be received; and

That the costs relating to capital be considered to be funded from the year-end net allocation of surpluses identified for 2001, and that the Commissioner of Corporate Services provide a report on the funding source in the final year-end transfer report; and

That staff pursue opportunities to recover up to 100% of the costs, and

That the operational costs be covered in the 2002 Public Health Department/Public Safety Division budget.

That a further report be prepared with respect to private sector capabilities and how it can be incorporated into the business plan.

That this report be circulated to local municipal councils.

That the "HAZMAT Response Team" presentation be made to all members of Regional Council, at its meeting of February 7, 2002.

Carried.

(Refer to staff directions on page CHS 21.)

19. Legal Matter – Fort Erie Water

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Redekop declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to the legal matter regarding Fort Erie Water due to his position as

Mayor of the Town of Fort Erie and he therefore vacated the room and took no part in the discussion of or voting on this matter.

Dr. Williams, Medical Officer of Health, distributed updated information regarding the Fort Erie Water legal matter.

20. Personnel Issue – Public Health Department

Dr. Williams provided an oral report regarding a personnel issue.

21. Update – Land Ambulance Issue

Mr. Trojan, C.A.O., provided an update on the land ambulance issue.

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

22. A Change in the Committee-Council Meeting Cycle

Moved by Councillor Davidson
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report CLK 04-2002, January 28, 2002, be received.

That status quo be continued with respect to the Committee-Council Meeting Cycle and that the summer schedule consist of one week of standing committee meetings, followed by a Council meeting the same week and that all relevant materials be distributed to members of Council, the week prior to the meetings.

That the schedule of meetings include all Ad Hoc/Advisory/Sub Committees.

Carried.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

23. Proposed Terms of a Memorandum of Understanding
For a Partnership between Deer Park Villa
And the Regional Municipality of Niagara

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Forster declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to the Partnership between Deer Park Villa and the Regional Municipality of Niagara, as she is a member of ONA and she therefore took no part in the discussion of or voting on this matter.

Mr. Ventresca, Director of Seniors Services, provided an overview of the discussions and negotiations between Deer Park Villa and the Region to develop the proposed terms for a Memorandum of Understanding for the development of a Niagara Long-Term Care facility in west Niagara. This agreement is based on the joint approval of a Business Case and its objective to achieve a quality and cost-effective facility that is responsive to local needs of the community. Subject to Regional Council's approval of the Memorandum of Understanding, staff will proceed to draft a legal agreement that will detail the respective financial commitments and a human resources plan. The next step that needs to be completed prior to the execution of the agreement is the development of a joint human resources plan to address transitional issues

Moved by Councillor Davidson
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report COM 03-2002, January 28, 2002, respecting Proposed Terms for a Memorandum of Understanding for a Partnership between Deer Park Villa and the Regional Municipality of Niagara, be received.

That Regional Council approve the proposed terms for a Memorandum of Understanding for a Partnership between Deer Park Villa and the Regional Municipality of Niagara (Appendix 1) that incorporates the terms of the approved Business Case on the Development of a Niagara Long-Term Care Facility in west Niagara.

That Regional Council authorize staff to proceed with the drafting of a detailed legal agreement between the partners that is based on the aforementioned Memorandum of Understanding and that will require subsequent approval by Regional Council and the Deer Park Villa Board.

Carried.

24. Financing the Redevelopment of the Region's Long-Term Care Facilities: A Status Report

Mr. Ventresca, in response to a request by Committee, summarized Council's decisions regarding the financing of the redevelopment of the Region's long-term care facilities and the alternative financing

options examined. Mr. Ventresca also highlighted the current status of long-term care and health care capital financing in Ontario.

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Redekop

That Report COM 04-2002, January 28, 2002, respecting Financing the Redevelopment of the Region's Long-Term Care Facilities: A Status Report, be received for information.

Carried.

25. 2000 Long-Term Care Facility Service Agreements
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report COM 05-2002, January 28, 2002, respecting 2000 Long-Term Care Facility Service Agreements Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, be received.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into the 2000 Long-Term Care Facility Service Agreements with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (Provincial subsidy - \$20 million; Regional Levy = \$4.0 million).

Carried.

26. Amended 2001 Ontario Works Service Contract

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report COM 06-2002, January 28, 2002, respecting amended 2001 Ontario works Service Contract, be received.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into the Amended 2001 Ontario Works Service Contract with the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

	<u>Previous</u>	<u>Amended</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Provincial Subsidy	\$9,789,530	\$9,475,311	(\$314,219)
Regional Levy	\$4,867,545	\$4,830,135	(\$ 37,410)

Carried.

27. 2001 Service Contract
Ministry of Community and Social Services for
Consolidated Verification Process (CVP) Workload
Funding Strategy (Social Assistance and
(Employment Opportunities Division)

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Brickell

That Report COM 07-2002, January 28, 2002, respecting 2001 Service Contract Ministry of Community and Social Services for Consolidated Verification Process (CVP) Workload Funding Strategy Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities Division, be received.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into the 2001 Service Contract with the Ministry of Community and Social Services regarding the CVP Workload Funding Strategy (Provincial subsidy = \$728,861/Regional levy = \$0).

Carried.

28. 2001 Service Contract
Ministry of Community and Social Services for
Local Implementation Manager (LIM),
Business Transformation Project (BTP)
Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities Division

Moved by Councillor Brickell
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report COM 08-2002, January 28, 2002, respecting 2001 Service Contract Ministry of Community and Social Services for Local Implementation Manager (LIM), Business Transformation Project (BTP) Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities Division, be received.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into the 2001 Service Contract with the Ministry of Community and Social Services regarding the Local Implementation Manager (LIM), Business Transformation Project (BTP) (Provincial subsidy = \$103,300/Regional levy = \$0).

Carried.

29. Ontario Early Years Centres and Supports

Ms. Horner, Manager, Children's Services, advised that the Ministry of Community and Social Services has approved Niagara's Early Years Centres Plan. The plan, under the direction of Dr. Williams, Niagara's appointed Early Years Champion, recommends four lead agencies to delivery Early Years Centre services across Niagara. The Early Years Centres and related initiatives are consistent with the Region's current responsibility for the management of the system of services for families of young children. Ms. Horner advised that two additional elements supporting Early Years Services include Literacy Specialists and Data Analyst coordinators.

Ms. Chudzik, Director, Population Health, advised that the Early Years Study identified the measurement of child outcomes as a critical activity in the delivery of early years services. Ms. Chudzik apprised Committee of the role of the Data Analysis Coordinators, advising that these positions are in keeping with the CAO's benchmarking initiative which contributes to service performance measures, analysis and benchmarking results in order to identify best practices, assist in decision making and ensure integrity.

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That Report COM 09-2002/PHD 07-2002, respecting Ontario Early Years Centres and Supports, be received for information.

That approval be granted for the hiring of 1.5 full time equivalent Data Coordinator Positions in the Public Health Department to support Early Years Centres and initiatives (Provincial Subsidy - \$100,000; Regional Levy - \$0).

That staff be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into a Service Contract with Literacy Link Niagara (Provincial Subsidy - \$100,000; Regional Levy - \$0).

Carried.

30. Endorsement of Niagara Regional Housing Resolution
Re: Coordinated Housing Access Niagara (CHAN) Business Plan

Moved by Councillor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report COM 10-2002, January 28, 2002, respecting Endorsement of Niagara Regional Housing Resolution re: coordinated Housing Access Niagara (CHAN) Business Plan, be received.

That Regional Council endorse the Niagara Regional Housing Board of Directors Resolution re: Coordinated Housing Access Niagara (CHAN) Business Plan.

That, in conjunction with the acceptance of the CHAN Business Plan, the CHAN Board of Directors would dissolve its corporation.

That CHAN become an internal division of Niagara Regional Housing at the point of transfer of social housing responsibilities from the Service Manager (The Regional Municipality of Niagara) to Niagara Regional Housing, in accordance with the Social Housing Reform Act, 2000.

That the staffing model recommended in the Business Plan be incorporated into Niagara Regional Housing's organizational structure.

That Niagara Regional Housing proceed to staff the new Coordinated Access Division by offering first opportunity of employment to current employees of CHAN, as part of the overall human resource strategy for Niagara Regional Housing.

That the division of Coordinated Housing Access Services continue to be delivered from the current location at 479D Carlton Street, St. Catharines.

That the Region notify the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing of this change to its Joint Local Transfer Plan regarding waitlist management functions.

Carried.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

31. West Nile Virus Activity 2001

Mr. Christensen, Director, Health Protection and Promotion Division, provided an update on West Nile Virus activity during the past year. The existing West Nile Virus contingency plan focuses on source reduction and public education strategies. He noted that in light of the recent viral activity, an increased effort needs to be made throughout the Region to increase collective activities by mapping potential mosquito breeding sites and developing sound mosquito control plans at the municipal level. Mr. Christensen apprised Committee of the potential risk to Niagara residents and visitors in the event of a West Nile Virus outbreak and outlined the strategies proposed to provide effective public health preventive measures for 2002.

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report PHD 04-2002, January 28, 2002, respecting West Nile Virus Activity 2001, be received and the proposed initiatives for 2002 as outlined be supported.

That this report be distributed to all municipal councils in the Niagara Region.

That this report be circulated to the Regional Niagara Public Works and Utilities Committee and Planning Services Committee.

Carried.

32. The Launch of Eat Smart! In Niagara

Ms. Wilson, Manager, Chronic Disease Program, apprised Committee of the launch of the "Eat Smart" program. The program will assist residents of Niagara in making healthier choices when dining out. This is a province-wide program promoting restaurants that meet exceptional standards in nutrition, food safety and non-smoking seating. The goal of the program is to contribute to the reduction of food borne illness and chronic diseases in Ontario.

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 05-2002, January 28, 200, respecting the Launch of Eat Smart! In Niagara, be received for information.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

33. Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That the following communications be received:

CHS 4-2002 Wayne Thomson, Mayor, City of Niagara Falls (January 18, 2002) regarding its Council's resolution which calls for the immediate release of the report and recommendations of the external audit/review of the Hamilton dispatch operation.

CHS 5-2002 Letters from Tony Clement, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care regarding additional funding for the salaries of paramedics in the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

CHS 6-2002 Tony Clement, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care regarding Regional Council's resolution with respect to the final report resulting from the external review of the Hamilton Central Ambulance Communication Centre.

Carried.

STAFF DIRECTION

Staff was directed to:

- (i) Prepare a report summarizing HAZMAT incidents pre and post September 11, 2001; what municipalities are paying now for HAZMAT related matters; and provide examples of what can happen if there is a catastrophic situation.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee adjourned at 3:50 p.m. to meet again on Monday, February 11, 2002, at 3:00 p.m. in C.R. 4, Regional Headquarters.

Jill Hildreth
Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Pamela Gilroy
Acting Regional Clerk