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THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 1-2003

Minutes of a meeting of the Community and Health Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Monday, January 13, 2003 commencing at 3:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Hildreth, Chair; Zimmerman, Regional Chair; Bailey; Brickell; Davidson; Eke; Forster; Gabriel; Harry; Marshall; Redekop; Timms.

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

Staff

Part-time: Community Services Dept.: Ms. Graham-Watson, Director, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities; Mr. Hutchings, Director, Operational Support Services; Ms. Stewart, Manager, Community Services.

Niagara Regional Housing: Ms. Beckwith, General Manager.
Public Health Dept.: Ms. Papaiz, Communications Coordinator; Ms. Partington, Director, Population Health; Ms. Roach, Manager, Infant Education and Parent Teaching Program; Ms. St. John, Director, Clinical Services; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Mr. Spencer, Manager, Sexual Health Program; Ms. Wilson, Manager, Chronic Disease Prevention Division.

Clerk's Dept.: Mr. Hollick, Regional Clerk.

Public Works Dept.: Mr. Bousfield, Manager, Properties and Facilities Management.

Others: Councillor Saracino.

CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

1. Procedure to Select the Committee Chair and Vice-Chair of each of the Standing Committees

Debbie Zimmerman, Regional Chair, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Community and Health Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Harry

Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Councillor Hildreth be nominated for the position of Chair of the Community and Health Services Committee for a one-year term.

The Chair called a second and third time for nominations for the position of Chair of the Community and Health Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Harry

Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That nominations for the position of Chair of the Community and Health Services Committee be closed.

Carried.

There being no other nominations, Chair Zimmerman, with the agreement of Councillor Hildreth, declared her Chair of the Community and Health Services Committee for a one-year term.

Councillor Hildreth, Committee Chair, called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Community and Health Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Eke

Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Councillor Brickell be appointed Vice-Chair of the Community and Health Services Committee for a one-year term.

Councillor Hildreth called a second and third time for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Community and Health Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Eke

Seconded by Councillor Harry

That nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Community and Health Services Committee be closed.

Carried.

There being no other nominations, Councillor Hildreth, with the agreement of Councillor Brickell, declared him Vice-Chair of the Community and Health Services Committee for a one-year term.

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That the report of the Regional Clerk, being Report CLK 01-2003, January 13, 2003, respecting the selection of the Committee Chair and Vice-Chair for each of the Standing Committees, be received.

Carried.

2. Day and Time of Regular Meetings for Standing Committees

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report CLK 02-2003, January 13, 2003, respecting Day and Time of Regular Meetings for Standing Committees, be received.

That regular meetings of the Community and Health Services Committee be held on Monday at **2:00** p.m. in accordance with a schedule approved, from time to time, by Regional Council.

That special meetings be held at such times and such places as may be appropriate, pursuant to the provisions of the procedural by-law.

Defeated.

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Chair Zimmerman

That Report CLK 02-2003, January 13, 2003, respecting Day and Time of Regular Meetings for Standing Committees, be received.

That regular meetings of the Community and Health Services Committee be held on Monday at **3:00** p.m. in accordance with a schedule approved, from time to time, by Regional Council.

That special meetings be held at such times and such places as may be appropriate, pursuant to the provisions of the procedural by-law.

Carried.

PRESENTATIONS

3. Lack of Transportation in Niagara
As a Barrier to Employment and Access
To Social and Community Services

Gracia Janes, Chair, Social Assistance Advisory Committee, attended to apprise Committee of the concerns identified by the Social Assistance Advisory Committee regarding the lack of adequate affordable public transportation between municipalities as a significant barrier to employment and service delivery for citizens receiving Social Assistance in Niagara. She advised that the Committee agrees with the former General Manager of the City of Ottawa, that “a lack of mobility is a major barrier to moving people off social assistance in maintaining employment”.

Ms. Janes highlighted some good examples of Transit Services elsewhere such as the City of Ottawa, Hamilton and Peterborough and the related benefits. She commented that Port Colborne provides a good example of how transit services can help those on social assistance, noting the initiative of Port Cares that is funded by the City of Port Colborne. Other financial supports for transit include Project Share in Niagara Falls, and the St. Catharines Employment Help Centre.

Ms. Janes outlined several recommendations of the Social Assistance Advisory Committee regarding improved transportation and urged Regional Council’s support.

The Regional Chair and Committee thanked Ms. Janes for her timely presentation, noting support for her Committee’s recommendations, specifically with respect to a Mobility Niagara type of service and an Inter-Regional Transit System. Ms. Janes was advised that the challenge in providing these services is in the funding and an already tight budget.

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Redekop

That Ms. Gracia Janes’ presentation be received and referred to the Community Services and Public Works Departments (Transportation Strategy Steering Committee) to address the issues related to a Mobility Niagara type of service and an overall Inter-Regional Transit System.

Carried.

4. Fort Erie Refugee Reception
and Migration Health Centre

Catherine Mindorff, Executive Director, attended to apprise Committee of the activities that take place when refugees enter into Canada through the Fort Erie Bridge. She commented that they mostly come from Miami, through the airport with the intention of entering into Canada. Ms. Mindorff detailed the processes that take place with respect to immunization, medicals and shelter. Ms. Mindorff distributed a list of agencies that the Fort Erie Refugee Reception Centre provides, noting the number of referrals and the reason for the referrals. A chart indicating the top seven Countries of Origin for December 2002 was distributed. These countries included the Sudan (12), Venezuela (13), Sri Lanka (17), Turkey (29), Uruguay (33), Pakistan (53) and Columbia (114). Also provided to Committee for information, was a comparative analysis of claims processed by CIC to services delivered by the Reception Centre.

Committee was advised that 40 to 60% of refugees are skilled and well educated, many with post graduate degrees and certificates. Committee expressed the importance of the upper levels of government to become involved and to provide funding to Fort Erie and these agencies to enable them to continue to meet the demand of settlement services and overall assistance to these refugees.

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That the presentation from Ms.Catherine Mindorff, Fort Erie Refugee Reception Centre, be received.

Carried.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

5. Federal Affordable Rental Housing Program Information
Re: Provincial and Federal Government's Authority to
Sign a Bilateral Agreement

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report COM 2-2003, January 13, 2003, regarding Federal Affordable Rental Housing Program – Information Re: Provincial and Federal Government's authority to sign a Bilateral Agreement, be received.

Carried.

6. 2001 and 2002 Long-Term Care Facility Service Agreements
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report COM 3-2003, January 13, 2003, regarding 2001 and 2002 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 2001 and 2002 Long-Term Care Facility Agreements with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Provincial Subsidy	\$20,238,210	\$21,152,127
Regional Levy	\$ 4,056,515	\$ 3,895,975

Carried.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

7. Enforcement of the Immunization of School Pupils Act

Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health, provided clarification to his memo regarding the "Enforcement of the Immunization of School Pupils Act. The activity is to ensure that all school children have complete and up to date records in the Public Health Department's Immunization Record Information System.

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Communication CHS 15-2003, being a memorandum from Dr. Douglas Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health, regarding Enforcement of the Immunization of School Pupils Act, be received.

Carried.

8. Infant Education and Parent Teaching Program (IEPT): Enhanced Funding

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Report PHD 01-2003, January 13, 2003 (HR 01-2003, January 14, 2003) regarding Infant Education and Parent Teaching Program: Enhanced Funding Report be received for approval.

That approval be granted to enhance the IEPT staff complement.

Carried.

9. Artificial Tanning Campaign Launched

Moved by Councillor Brickell
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report PHD 02-2003, January 13, 2003, regarding Artificial Tanning Campaign Launched, be received for information.

Carried.

Councillor Timms wished to be recorded as opposed to the foregoing motion.

10. The Health Bus – Services to Refugees

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Davidson

That Report PHD 03-2003, January 13, 2003, regarding the Health Bus – Service to Refugees in Niagara, be received for information; and

That the full costs for this service be determined and reported in a further report to Committee.

Carried.

(Refer to staff direction on page CHS 13.)

11. Staffing Enhancement – Increase of Part-time To Full-time Position: Manager, Healthy Babies/Healthy Children, Population Health Division

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That Report PHD 04-2003, January 13, 2003 (HR 02-2002, January 14, 2003), regarding Staffing Enhancement – Increase of Part-time to Full-time Position: Manager, Healthy Babies/Healthy Children, Population Health Division, be received.

That Regional Council approve the increase of the position of Manager, Healthy Babies, Healthy Children (HBHC) from part-time (0.6 FTE) to full-time (1.0 FTE) for the purpose of providing appropriate coverage of a large team.

Carried.

12. Water and Wastewater Servicing Issues Township of Wainfleet

Moved by Councillor Brickell
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 7-2003, January 13, 2002 (PWA 7-2003, January 14, 2003) regarding Water and Wastewater Servicing Issues, Township of Wainfleet be deferred to the next Community and Health Services Committee meeting of January 27, 2003.

Carried.

ACCOUNTS

13. Moved by Councillor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Accounts Payable Expense Summary for the period ending November 30, 2002 in the following amounts be approved:

Community Services	\$2,806,748.86
Public Health	\$1,560,925.61

That Accounts Payable Expense Summary for the period ending December 31, 2002 in the following amounts be approved:

Community Services	\$2,688,554.36
Public Health	\$2,885,472.45

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

14. Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Communication CHS 6-2003 from Craig A. Stirtzinger, City Clerk, City of Welland (December 19, 2002) to Tony Clement, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care regarding its Council's resolution supporting the concerns of Welland's pediatrician and family physicians and urging the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to suspend further reviews of physicians by the Medical Review Committee pending a negotiated agreement, be received and supported.

Carried.

Councillor Brickell wished to be recorded as opposed to the foregoing motion.

15. Moved by Councillor Brickell
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That Communication CHS 11-2003 from The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh, Corporate Services Department (November 29, 2002) resolution respecting Smoking in Public Places and Workplaces and requesting the Region of Niagara's support, be received and supported.

Carried.

16. Moved by Councillor Brickell
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That the following communications be received for information:

CHS 1-2003 Cheryl Miclette, Town Clerk, Town of Pelham (December 18, 2002) regarding its Council's resolution endorsing and supporting the City of Welland's respecting the submission by the Niagara Region Children's Mental Health Network entitled "Locating Children's Mental Health Beds in Niagara: Part of a Continuum of Service for Children's Mental Health".

- CHS 2-2003 John K. Bice, City Clerk, City of Thorold (December 20, 2002) regarding its Council's resolution endorsing the City of Welland's of the submission by the Niagara Region Children's Mental Health Network entitled "Locating Childrens Mental Health Beds in Niagara: Part of a Continuum of Service for Children's Mental Health".
- CHS 3-2003 Tony Clement, Minister, Ministry of Health (December 3, 2002) approving Dr. Doug Sider's appointment to the position of Associate Medical Officer of Health for the Niagara Regional Area Health Unit.
- CHS 4-2003 Doug Rapelje, President, Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region (December 16, 2002) to Minister Tony Clement, Ministry of Health expressing the Niagara Region Alzheimer Society's deep concern over the potential loss of the Alzheimer Respite Companion Program and urging the Ministry to intervene immediately to bring resolution to this very serious situation and ensure the continuity of this vital service.
- CHS 5-2003 Brenda Elliott, Minister, Ministry of Community, Family & Children's Services (December 12, 2002) respecting the Region of Niagara's experience supporting refugee claimants seeking asylum in Canada at the Fort Erie/Buffalo border.
- CHS 7-2003 Chris Hodgson, Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (December 13, 2002) respecting the details of the first phase of the Community Rental Housing component of the Affordable Housing Program for rental projects announced on December 6, 2002.
- CHS 8-2003 John Maloney, M.P. (Erie-Lincoln) (December 11, 2002) "Good things in Child Protection Bill but Disappointed that Age of Consent remains unchanged".
- CHS 9-2003 John Mills, Environment Canada (December 2, 2002) regarding the Niagara Region Community and Health Services Committee's recommendations respecting air quality.

- CHS 10-2003 Ron Kane, Kane's Distributing Limited (December 16, 2002) requesting an amendment to the No Smoking By-Law # 22-2002.
- CHS 12-2003 Member Communication Alert (December 24, 2002), As 2002 Comes to a Close - A Brief Summary of Bills Passed in the Legislature this Fall.
- CHS 13-2003 Mike Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer (December 23, 2002) to Frank Bagatto, Interim Chief Executive Officer, Hotel Dieu Health Sciences Hospital Niagara regarding the 2002 and 2003 funding requests and the funding being recommended to Regional Council.

(The C.A.O. provided a brief overview and update of his memorandum dated December 23, 2002 to Mr. Frank Bagatto, Interim C.E.O., Hotel Dieu Health Executive Officer.)

- CHS 14-2003 Memorandum to Members of the Community and Health Services Committee requesting their attendance at the Public Works and Utilities Committee meeting of Tuesday, January 14th, 2003 to receive a presentation by MacViro Consultants regarding Wainfleet Sewer Servicing (Report PHD 7-2003/PWA 7-2003).

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

17. alPHa All Members Meeting

Councillor Timms inquired as to whether anyone has registered to attend the alPHa All Members Meeting to be held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel Admiral in Toronto on January 30th and 31st. He commented that he attended the alPHa Conference in the past and it was most informative. To date no Committee members have registered to attend this meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

18. Moved by Councillor Davidson
Seconded by Councilor Timms

That this Committee do now meet in Closed Session for purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature relating to a property matter.

Carried.

19. Proposed Lease of Office Space
From Port Cares
Ontario Works Program
City of Port Colborne

Moved by Councillor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor Brickell

That Report COM 1-2003, January 13, 2002 (PWA 1-2003, January 14, 2003), be received and the recommendation contained therein be approved.

Carried.

20. Moved by Councillor Brickell
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS (continued)

21. Deer Park Villa

Ms. Reid, Commissioner of Community Services, advised that a report would be coming forward regarding Deer Park Villa at the first Committee meeting in February.

22. School Nurse - Youth Connection Program

Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Brickell declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to the matter of the School Nurse – Youth Connection Program, as his wife is employed by the District School Board of Niagara, and he therefore took no part in the discussion of or voting on this matter.

Councillor Gabriel declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to the matter of the School Nurse – Youth Connection Program, as he is employed by the Niagara Catholic District School Board, and he therefore took no part in the discussion of or voting on this matter.

Councillor Hildreth advised that she would bring the following motion to the Committee of the Whole meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2003, which clarifies the actions taken by Committee and Council on this matter:

"That funding for the School Nurse - Youth Connection Program, as approved by Community and Health Services Committee (Item 137, June 10, 2002) and Council (Item 249, June 20, 2002) from the Community Participation Revenues for 2003 be approved;

and that the Public Health Department absorb the ongoing cost of that program in its base budget in 2004."

STAFF DIRECTION

That staff be directed to:

- (i) Forward a copy of Report PHD 03-2003 regarding the Health Bus – Services to Refugees, to the Niagara District Health Council for information.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee adjourned at 5:35 p.m. to meet again on Monday, January 27, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. in C.R. 4, Regional Headquarters.

Jill Hildreth
Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Thomas R. Hollick
Regional Clerk