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**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA**  
**COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**REPORT 6-2003**

Minutes of a meeting of the Community and Health Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Monday, March 24, 2003 commencing at 3:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

Committee: Councillors Hildreth, Chair; Zimmerman, Regional Chair; Bailey; Bentley; Brickell; Davidson; 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. Heidebrecht, Director, Children's Services; Mr. Hutchings, Director, Operational and Support Services; Mr. Ventresca, Director, Seniors Services.

Public Health Dept.: Mr. Christensen, Director, Health Protection & Promotion; Ms. Chipman, Dental Hygienist; Mr. Cunnane, Director of Public Safety; Mr. Hunter, Manager, Health Protection & Promotion; Mr. Jones, Director, Administrative Services; Dr. Klooz, Associate Commissioner of Health; Ms. Papaiz, Communications Coordinator; Ms. Piva, Dental Hygienist; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health;

Others: Mr. Bacchus, Commissioner, Corporate Services; Ms. Beckwith, General Manager, Niagara Regional Housing; Mr. Robson, Director, Corporate Strategy.

Others: Councillor Saracino.

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

58. Dental Health Month – April 2003

Moved by Councillor Harry  
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report PHD 23-2003, March 24, 2003, regarding Dental Health Month – April 2003, be received for information.

Carried.

59. Outbreak of Legionnaire's Disease

Moved by Chair Zimmerman  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 18-2003, March 24, 2003, regarding Outbreak of Legionnaire's Disease, be received for information.

That the Regional Chair write to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care urging him to incorporate the existing protocol for public spas into existing provincial legislation governing swimming pools.

Carried.

60. Compliance with Coroner's Recommendations  
For Hot Tubs, Spas and Whirlpools

Moved by Councillor Marshall  
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report PHD 19-2003, March 24, 2003, regarding Compliance with Coroner's Recommendations for Hot Tubs, Spas and Whirlpools, be received for information.

Carried.

61. West Nile Virus – Protocol for the Control of Mosquito Larvae

Mr. Christensen, Director, Health Protection and Promotion, provided a slide presentation on the West Nile Virus and its spread to the human population in 2002 and the potential for further cases in 2003. The Director outlined the protocol to be used by the Public Health Department for vector mosquito control. The implementation of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to vector mosquito control is the most effective long-term means of protecting human health while minimizing environmental impacts. Mr. Christensen highlighted the department's three tier approach to mosquito control: Tier 1 – Source Reduction and Public Education; Tier 2 – Larval Mosquito Control and Tier 3 – Adult Mosquito Control. Committee was advised that Niagara is currently in a Tier 2 status and that Tier 3 strategies are the least desirable and will only be implemented if justified by the burden of illness and where Tier 1 and 2 strategies have not been successful in reducing the risk to human health from WNV. Adulticiding will not be implemented without discussions with the Chief Medical Officer of Health for Ontario, Medical Officers of Health,

the Ministry of the Environment and other appropriate agencies. A report to the Community and Health Services Committee and Council would also be provided prior to application of adulticides.

Moved by Councillor Timms  
Seconded by Councillor Brickell

That Report PHD 22-2003, March 24, 2003 (CSD 45, 2003, March 26, 2003) regarding West Nile Virus – Protocol for the Control of Mosquito Larvae, be received.

That Council endorse the Integrated Pest Management protocol outlined in this report, for the vector control component of Regional Niagara's West Nile Virus program; and

That \$350,000 in year-end surplus be allocated to temporarily fund contractual services for the West Nile Virus program in 2003.

That a report be presented to the Community and Health Services Committee, prior to the implementation of Tier 3, the application of adulticides; and

That area Mayors ensure that their Councils pass a resolution to the Provincial government requesting increased Provincial leadership including 100% funding for the West Nile Virus program; and

That area municipalities and the public be fully informed, through the Public Health Department's Communication Plan, of the preventive measures that need to be taken to protect them from the West Nile Virus.

Carried.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

62. Moved by Chair Zimmerman  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Communication CHS 29-2003, from Sandra Pupatello, MPP, Deputy Leader and Health Critic, Ontario Liberal Party, regarding her resolution on the Resurgence of West Nile, be received; and

That Regional Council support her resolution to request the Provincial Government for one hundred percent funding for the implementation of an overall regional plan to combat the West Nile Virus through the reduction

of the vector mosquito population and the adoption of an Integrated pest management protocol; and

That consultation take place with nearby jurisdictions like Michigan and Yew York State to ensure appropriate protection of our citizens.

Carried.

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT** (continued)

63. Request for Approval to Proceed with the Development Of a Process to Effectively Respond to a Provincial RFP For a New Niagara Ambulance Communications Service

Mr. Cunnane, Director of Public Safety, provided an overview of Report PHD 25-2004 regarding a Request for Approval to Proceed with the Development of a Process to Effectively Respond to a Provincial RFP for a New Niagara Ambulance Communications Service. The Director commented that, based on the Ottawa experience and the anticipated short timeframes, staff must immediately proceed with the development of a process to respond to the RFP in an effective and timely manner.

Moved by Councillor Timms  
Seconded by Councillor Bentley

That Report PHD 25-2003, March 24, 2003, respecting Request for Approval to Proceed with the Development of a Process to Effectively Respond to a Provincial RFP for a New Niagara Ambulance Communications Services, be received.

That Regional Council approve the staff recommendation to proceed with the development of a process to respond to the ambulance (Niagara) dispatch RFP (Request for Proposal), including the development of a corporate project team.

That a progress report, including cost estimates, be provided to Committee, within two weeks of the RFP being released.

Carried.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

64. 2002 Children's Services Division Service Contract

Moved by Councillor Brickell  
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Report COM 14-2003, March 24, 2003, respecting 2002 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 2002 Children's Services Division Service contract with the Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services (Provincial Subsidy = \$16,175,847; Regional Levy = \$4,046,009).

Carried.

65. Provincial Funding for Long-Term Care Facilities and Community Programs

Moved by Councillor Davidson  
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report COM 15-2003, March 24, 2003, respecting Provincial Funding for Long-Term Care Facilities and Community Programs, be received.

That the Regional Chair correspond with the Minister and Associate Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, and local MPPs to advocate for an increase in Provincial funding of Nursing and Personal Care, in resident food allowances and in Community Programs.

That the results of the Ministry of Health & Long-term Care (MOHLTC) resident classification of the Region's long-term care facility, and the resultant increase in Provincial revenue be received for information.

Carried.

66. Capital Budget Allocation and Financing Approval for Automated Resident Care and Trust Systems from the 2003 Corporate Information Systems Capital Budget

Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Davidson

That Report COM 16-2003, March 24, 2003 (CSD 40-2003, March 26, 2003) regarding Capital Budget Allocation and Financing Approval for Automated Resident Care and Trust Systems from the 2003 Corporate Information Systems Capital Budget, be received.

That budget allocations in the gross and net amount of \$102,000 be approved for project ZGC0303 Resident Care Plans and Trust Systems as submitted in the 2003 Corporate Information Systems Capital Budget, be received.

That the financing for the project be approved in the amount of \$102,000 from the Capital Levy reserve.

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

Carried.

67. Affordable Housing Program: Community Rental Housing Initiative

Moved by Councillor Timms  
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That Report COM 17-2003, March 24, 2003 (CSD 41-2003, DPD 47-2003, March 26, 2003) respecting Affordable Housing Program: Community Rental Housing Initiative, be received.

That the recommendations in the attached report "Affordable Housing Program: Community Rental Housing Initiative" be supported.

That appropriate staff be authorized to participate as members of the Task Force to explore the feasibility of implementing the "Affordable Housing Program: Community Rental Housing Initiative" in Niagara.

Carried.

68.

**ACCOUNTS**

Moved by Councillor Timms  
Seconded by Councillor Brickell

That Expense Summary for the period ending February 28, 2003 in the following amounts be approved:

Community Services	\$3,687,575.90
Public Health	\$1,369,207.28

Carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

69. Smoking By-law Implementation Steering Committee

Councillor Timms advised that the Smoking By-law Implementation Steering Committee met prior to the Community and Health Services Committee meeting. The Councillor apprised Committee of a number of issues addressed at the meeting related to enforcement protocols, designated smoking rooms, amendments to by-law protocols and communication.

Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That the oral report from Councillor Timms regarding the Smoking By-law Implementation Steering Committee be received.

Carried.

(Notes from the Smoking By-law Implementation Steering Committee meeting are attached to these minutes, for information to Committee, as per Councillor Timms' request.)

**ADJOURNMENT**

Committee adjourned at 4:55 p.m. to meet again on Monday, April 7, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. in C.R. 4, Regional Headquarters.

Jill Hildreth  
Chair

Gail Reilly  
Legislative Assistant

Thomas R. Hollick  
Regional Clerk