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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 4, 2023

A regular meeting of the Health & Social Services Committee was held on Thursday, May 4, 2023 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:30 AM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Councillor Roy, Chair
Councillor Anderson*
Councillor Brenner*
Councillor Carter*
Councillor Foster
Councillor Jubb*
Regional Chair Henry
*** denotes Councillors participating electronically**

Also
Present: Councillor Garrod*
Councillor Schummer*
*** denotes Councillors participating electronically**

Absent: Councillor Dies, Vice-Chair

Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
C. Boyd, Solicitor, Chief Administrative Office – Legal Services
A. Burgess, Director, Communications & Engagement
S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services
A. Di Pietro, Acting Director, Health Protection Division
J. Dixon, Director, Business Affairs and Finance Management, Social Services
M. Hutchinson, Program Manager, Population Health
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health
M. Laschuk, Director, Family Services, Social Services
L. MacDermaid, Director, Long-Term Care and Services for Seniors, Social Services
L. McIntosh, Director, Income & Employment Support, Social Services
P. McTavish, Associate Medical Officer of Health
A. Robins, Director, Housing Services, Social Services
A. Skan, Manager, Housing Services, Social Services

C. Taylor, Manager, Budgets & Finance, Social Services
N. Taylor, Commissioner of Finance
T. Tyner Cavanagh, Manager, Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships
E. Valant, Area Manager, Income & Employment Support, Social Services
S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,
(19) That the minutes of the regular Health & Social Services Committee
meeting held on Thursday, April 6, 2023, be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

5. Presentations

5.1 Melissa Hutchinson, Program Manager, Population Health, Durham Region
Health Department, and Beth Brannon, Senior Director, Mental Health and
Addictions, Lakeridge Health, re: Local Mental Health and Addictions Services
Updates

Melissa Hutchinson, Program Manager, Population Health, Durham Region
Health Department, and Beth Brannon, Senior Director, Mental Health and
Addictions, Lakeridge Health, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to
Local Mental Health and Addictions Services Updates.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Public Health Mandate: Harm Reduction Program Enhancement
- Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy
- The Durham Region Opioid Task Force: Stewards of the Durham
Region Opioid Response Plan
- The Durham Region Opioid Response Plan
- Continued Focus On...
- New Areas of Focus...
- Key Highlights of Work Accomplished in 2022/2023
- Helping Our Most Vulnerable Populations
- Primary Care Outreach Program (PCOP)
- Together, Best Mental Health – Mental Health and Addictions Plan

- Yearly Visits Related to Mental Health and Substance Use
- Engagement and Partners
- In Depth: Five Strategic Directions
- Progress: Continued Collaboration
- Progress: Decrease of Opioid Poisoning-related Visits to Emergency Departments
- Homelessness and Mental Health and Addictions
- Durham Region Health Department Recommendation

M. Hutchinson responded to questions with regards to how information is being shared between organizations; ways to assist those struggling with drug addictions and mental health challenges; the average wait for overdose calls in emergency rooms; number of overdose and mental health calls that secure a bed in emergency rooms; the number of overdose calls in Durham Region; how overdose calls are tracked; the outcome of the harm reduction program; the naloxone kits provided to community agencies; potential dangers of administering naloxone to a patient and to the person administering it; how to increase partnerships with other agencies; building community safety well being plans with lower tier municipalities; campaigns to educate the public on naloxone kits; where naloxone kits can be picked up, expiration dates for kits, and proper disposal once used; overdose risk for Indigenous people; and whether further reports and data will be presented to Council at future meetings.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Foster,

- (20) That Melissa Hutchinson, Program Manager, Population Health, Durham Region Health Department, and Beth Brannon, Senior Director, Mental Health and Addictions, Lakeridge Health, be invited to present at the June 28, 2023 Regional Council meeting with regards to Local Mental Health and Addictions Services Updates.

CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING
RECORDED VOTE:

Yes

Councillor Anderson
Councillor Brenner
Councillor Carter
Councillor Foster
Councillor Jubb
Councillor Roy
Regional Chair Henry

No

None

Members Absent: Councillor Dies

Declarations of Interest: None

5.2 Lisa McIntosh, Director, Income, Employment and Homelessness Support Division, re: An Update on Durham Region's Homelessness Support and Coordinated Access System (2023-SS-6) [Item 8.2 c)]

Lisa McIntosh, Director, Income, Employment and Homelessness Support Division, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to An Update on Durham Region's Homelessness Support and Coordinated Access System.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Two-Part Report and Presentation
- 2022 Annual Data – Take Aways
- Forecasting to 2025
- Program Reviews
- Bright Spots
- Key Challenges
- Durham Advisory Committee on Homelessness

L. McIntosh responded to questions with regards to statistics on how many families were spending more than 50% of their income on shelter; information collected for individuals on the By Name List (BNL); talent recruitment for the homelessness division; recognition done for staff working in the homelessness area; and whether Durham Region has a poverty reduction strategy.

6. Delegations

There were no delegations.

7. Health

7.1 Correspondence

A) Information Report #2023-INFO-33 of the Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health, re: Mental Health and Opioids in Durham Region

Discussion ensued with regards to ways to advocate for the mental health and opioid crisis in Durham Region and compliance with Federal and Provincial public health standards.

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,
(21) That Information Report #2023-INFO-33 of the Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health, re: Mental Health and Opioids in Durham Region, be received for information.

CARRIED

7.2 Reports

A) The Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) Call for Board of Health Nominations (2023-MOH-4)

Report #2023-MOH-4 from R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health, was received.

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Brenner,
(22) That we recommend to Council:

A) That the nomination of Councillor Elizabeth Roy for election to the alPHa Board of Directors for a two-year term to represent the Central East region be endorsed; and

B) That two members of Regional Council be identified to sponsor the nomination and complete the nomination form.

CARRIED

8. **Social Services**

8.1 Correspondence

A) Information Report #2023-INFO-32 of the Chief Administrative Officer, re: Advocacy Strategy and Engagement Plan to Address Homelessness and Related Challenges

E. Baxter-Trahair advised that Information Report #2023-INFO-32 was provided to update Council on the coordinating action to address homelessness and related challenges in response to a motion from the February 9, 2023 Health and Social Services Committee meeting.

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,
(23) That Information Report #2023-INFO-32 of the Chief Administrative Officer, re: Advocacy Strategy and Engagement Plan to Address Homelessness and Related Challenges, be received for information.

CARRIED

8.2 Reports

A) Supply and Service of Dish Machines for the Regional Municipality of Durham's Four (4) Long-Term Care Homes (2023-SS-4)

Report #2023-SS-4 from S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services, was received.

S. Danos-Papaconstantinou responded to a question with regards to whether due diligence was done to obtain the best value for the supply and service of dish machines.

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Carter,
(24) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That authorization be granted to award a sole source agreement to Hobart Canada for the procurement of new and replacement dish machine equipment and that the Hobart Canada dish machine be the Regional standard for a period of five (5) years effective July 1, 2023, at a total estimated cost not to exceed \$704,000 at the Regional Municipality of Durham's four (4) Long-Term Care Homes, subject to financing being approved in the annual Social Services Business Plans and Budgets; and
- B) That authorization be granted to award a sole source agreement to Hobart Canada effective July 1, 2023, for a period of five (5) years for non-warranty maintenance and service repair at an annual cost not to exceed \$47,600 at the Regional Municipality of Durham's four (4) Long-Term Care Homes, subject to financing being approved in the annual Social Services Business Plans and Budgets; and
- C) That the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to execute any necessary agreement.

CARRIED

B) Basic Income to Support the Economy (2023-SS-5)

Report #2023-SS-5 from S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services, was received.

Discussion ensued with regards to bringing the report forward to the Province; preparing an advocacy strategy; employment practices to achieve desirable outcome for the Ontario living wage; and preparing a poverty prevention strategy.

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,
(25) That Report #2023-SS-5 of the Commissioner of Social Services be received for information.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

(See Following Motion)

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Carter,
(26) That the main motion (25) of Councillors Carter and Anderson be amended by adding the words, "and that a report be brought back Committee that looks at a poverty prevention strategy".

CARRIED

The main motion (25) of Councillors Carter and Anderson was then put to a vote and CARRIED AS AMENDED.

C) An Update on Durham Region's Homelessness Support and Coordinated Access System (2023-SS-6)

Report #2023-SS-6 from S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services, was received.

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,
(27) That Report #2023-SS-6 of the Commissioner of Social Services be received for information.

CARRIED

D) Unbudgeted Provincial Funding for the Homelessness Prevention Program (2023-SS-7)

Report #2023-SS-7 from S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services, was received.

Moved by Councillor Anderson, Seconded by Councillor Carter,
(28) That we recommend to Council:

A) That the 2023 portion of unbudgeted Provincial funding from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in the amount of \$5,360,850 for the period of April 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, be expended in accordance with the Homelessness Prevention Program guidelines; and

B) That the Commissioner of Social Services be authorized to enter into all necessary agreements related to the Homelessness Prevention Program.

CARRIED

E) Authorization to Extend the Existing Bulk Cable TV Services Standing Agreement with Rogers Cable TV for the Regional Municipality of Durham's Four (4) Long-Term Care Homes (2023-SS-8)

Report #2023-SS-8 from S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services, was received.

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Brenner,
(29) That we recommend to Council:

A) That authorization be granted to award a single source extension of the existing standing agreement to Rogers Cable TV for the supply and delivery of bulk cable TV services for a period of one (1) year expiring April 30, 2024, at a total estimated cost not to exceed \$274,000 for the Regional Municipality of Durham's four (4) Long-Term Care Homes, subject to

financing being approved in the annual Social Services Business Plans and Budgets; and

- B) That the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to execute any necessary agreement.

CARRIED

9. Advisory Committee Resolutions

There were no advisory committee resolutions to be considered.

10. Confidential Matters

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

11. Other Business

There was no other business to be considered.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Health & Social Services Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Jubb, Seconded by Councillor Carter,
(30) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 12:11 PM

Respectfully submitted,

E. Roy, Chair

K. Smith, Committee Clerk