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## The Regional Municipality of Durham

### MINUTES

#### HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, December 8, 2022

A regular meeting of the Health & Social Services Committee was held on Thursday, December 8, 2022 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 Dies, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Carter  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Jubb  
Regional Chair Henry

Also  
Present: Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Marimpietri

#### Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer  
C. Boyd, Solicitor, Corporate Services – Legal Services  
T. Cheseboro, Chief, Region of Durham Paramedic Services  
S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services  
J. Dixon, Director, Business Affairs and Financial Management, Social Services  
J. Gaskin, Manager, Wage Subsidy, Children’s Services, Social Services  
A. Harras, Director of Legislative Services/Regional Clerk  
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT  
R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health  
M. Laschuk, Director, Family Services, Social Services  
D. Nation-Williams, Area Manager, Income and Employment Support, Social Services  
L. MacDermaid, Director, Long-Term Care and Services for Seniors, Social Services  
J. Riches, Deputy Chief, Region of Durham Paramedic Services  
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  
L. Soto Maya, 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. Election of Health and Social Services Committee Vice-Chair**

The Chair called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Health and Social Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Brenner, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,  
(30) That Councillor Dies be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the Health and Social Services Committee.

The Chair asked if Councillor Dies wished to stand. Councillor Dies indicated she would stand.

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Brenner,  
(31) That nominations be closed.  
CARRIED

Chair Roy declared Councillor Dies the Vice-Chair of the Health and Social Services Committee.

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Jubb,  
(32) That the minutes of the regular Health & Social Services Committee meeting held on Thursday, September 8, 2022, be adopted.  
CARRIED

**5. Statutory Public Meetings**

There were no statutory public meetings.

**6. Delegations**

There were no delegations.

**7. Presentations**

- 7.1 Stella Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services, re: Overview of Social Services Department
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S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, L. MacDermaid, J. Dixon, M. Laschuk, A. Robins. J. Gaskin, E. Valant, and D. Nation-Williams provided a PowerPoint Presentation with regards to an Overview of the Social Services Department. A copy of the presentation material was provided to members in advance of the meeting.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Social Services Department
- Legislated by the Province: Service System Manager
- Long-term Care & Services for Seniors
- Business Services & Emergency Social Services
- Family Services
- Housing Services
- Children's Services
- Homelessness Programs
- Professional Associations

Staff responded to questions with respect to Business Services and Emergency Social Services training for lower-tier municipalities; similarities between the services being offered by the Primary Care Outreach Program (PCOP) and Mental Health Outreach Program (MHOP); the Durham Access to Social Housing (DASH) waitlist; coordinated access to social services to assist with transitioning residents out of supportive housing into an independent system; treatment programs available through the Oshawa micro-homes and the Beaverton Supportive Housing projects; supportive housing programs becoming available; programs available to match roommates; Ontario Works rates; residents leaving and returning to Ontario Works throughout the pandemic; and guaranteed income programs.

S. Danos-Papaconstantinou responded to questions with respect to support of mental health experts in collaboration with the Durham Regional Police Services.

The Committee recessed at 11:27 AM and reconvened at 11:40 AM.

7.2 Dr. R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health, re: COVID-19 and Flu Update

Dr. R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to COVID-19 and Flu Update. A copy of the presentation material was provided to members in advance of the meeting.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Current Status – COVID-19
- COVID-19 Vaccination Administration
- COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage
- Wastewater Surveillance

- Guidance for Cases & Contacts
- Section 22 Class Order Enforcement Update
- Current Status – Flu
- Age Distribution of Flu Cases
- Current Status – Respiratory Outbreaks
- Child Care & School Absenteeism
- Chief Medical Office of Health Remarks
- Current Masking Requirements
- Current COVID-19 & Flu Vaccine Plans

R.J. Kyle advised that we are still in the seventh wave of COVID-19 which is moving at a slow to moderate rate and there are currently 12 ongoing outbreaks within long-term care homes, retirement homes, and hospitals.

R.J. Kyle advised that in terms of vaccine administration, the number of doses administered in Durham Region has exceeded 1.6 million. He provided a brief overview of the vaccine administrations; administrations by site; and vaccination coverage. He advised that wastewater surveillance has been decreasing throughout the seventh wave.

R.J. Kyle provided an update with regards to Section 22 Class Order Enforcement and noted that two summonses were issued to a client testing positive for COVID-19.

R.J. Kyle advised that there is a trifecta of COVID-19, influenza and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) occurring in communities. He advised there were 92 confirmed cases last week and the activity level is high. He also advised there are 100 respiratory outbreaks consisting of COVID-19 and Influenza A. He stated that childcare absenteeism has been higher in childcare centres and elementary schools.

R.J. Kyle stated that the Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario announced on November 14, 2022 that Ontario is facing a “triple threat” with influenza and RSV. He provided an overview of guidance for cases and contacts; current masking requirements and the current COVID-19 and influenza vaccine plans.

C. Boyd responded to questions with regards to costs related to the Section 22 Class Order Enforcement.

## **8. Health**

### **8.1 Correspondence**

There were no communications to consider.

### **8.2 Reports**

There were no Health reports to consider.

**9. Social Services**

9.1 Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

9.2 Reports

There were no Social Services reports to consider.

**10. Advisory Committee Resolutions**

There were no advisory committee resolutions to be considered.

**11. Confidential Matters**

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

**12. Other Business**

There was no other business to be considered.

**13. Date of Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled Health & Social Services Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

**14. Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Foster,  
(33) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:57 AM

Respectfully submitted,

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E. Roy, Chair

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K. Smith, Committee Clerk