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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, December 5, 2024

A regular meeting of the Health & Social Services Committee was held on Thursday, December 5, 2024 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
*** denotes Councillors participating electronically**

Also
Present: Councillor Wotten*
*** denotes Councillors participating electronically**

Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair*, Chief Administrative Officer
C. Boyd, Solicitor, Chief Administrative Office – Legal Services
S. Dessureault, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
J. Gaskin, Director, Children’s Services, Social Services
J. Hunt*, Regional Solicitor/Director of Legal Services, Corporate Services – Legal Services
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
G. Muller, Director, Affordable Housing Development & Renewal
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
N. Taylor*, Commissioner of Finance
V. Walker, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
*** denotes staff participating electronically**

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Dies, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,
(42) That the minutes of the regular Health & Social Services Committee
meeting held on Thursday, November 7, 2024, be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

5. Presentations

5.1 Dr. Pepi McTavish, Associate Medical Officer of Health, and Dr. Hetal Patel,
Public Health and Preventive Medicine Resident, re: Respiratory Viral Illness
Updates

Dr. Pepi McTavish, Associate Medical Officer of Health, and Dr. Hetal Patel,
Public Health and Preventive Medicine Resident, provided a PowerPoint
presentation with regards to Respiratory Viral Illness Updates.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Respiratory Virus Data Tracker
- Current Status – COVID-19
- COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance
- Current Status – Influenza
- Current Status – Respiratory Outbreaks
- Institutional Outbreak Dashboard
- COVID-19 Testing
- COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccines
- RSV Vaccine

Dr. McTavish responded to a question with regards to how the Health Department
is communicating to the public on the importance of following guidelines to reduce
the spread of respiratory viral illnesses.

6. Delegations

There were no delegations.

7. Health

7.1 Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

7.2 Reports

A) Region of Durham Paramedic Services (RDPS) – Continuation for the Standardization and Sole Source of Teleflex Medical Canada Inc., ARROW EZ-IO Intraosseous Vascular Access Equipment and Supplies (2024-MOH-5)

Report #2024-MOH-5 from R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health, was received.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Anderson, (43) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That Teleflex Medical Canada Inc.'s ARROW EZ-IO intraosseous (IO) vascular access equipment be adopted as the standard for RDPS for a period of up to five (5) years; and
- B) That authorization be granted to award a sole source contract to Teleflex Medical Canada Inc., for up to five (5) years in the total estimated amount of \$425,000, for ARROW EZ-IO vascular access equipment and supplies, to enable paramedics to initiate IO access in critically ill and injured patients, when intravenous (IV) access is not a viable option.

CARRIED

8. Social Services

8.1 Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

8.2 Reports

There were no Social Services reports to consider.

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

11.1 Homelessness and Encampment Strategy

In response to a question from Councillor Foster, L. McIntosh advised that the encampment strategy has moved past phases one and two of engagement and the document is almost ready for another round of review with area municipal staff. A final document that there is a level of consensus on will be presented at the February 6, 2025 Health and Social Services Committee meeting.

11.2 Bethesda House

Mayor Foster thanked staff for their work with Bethesda House on a resolution regarding their need for funding and for getting ahead of the problem.

11.3 Ontario Auditor General's Report

In response to a request from Chair Roy for feedback regarding the Ontario Auditor General's report on dealing with the opioid crisis, Dr. Kyle advised he reviewed the Audit at a Glance as well as the recommendations and believes it is a very damning review and there were not too many surprises in the report.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Health & Social Services Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, January 9, 2025 at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Dies, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,
(44) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:51 AM

Respectfully submitted,

E. Roy, Chair

K. Smith, Committee Clerk