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## The Regional Municipality of Durham

### MINUTES

#### HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 9, 2020

A regular meeting of the Health & Social Services Committee was held on Thursday, July 9, 2020 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 Chapman, Chair  
Councillor Pickles, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Carter  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Wotten  
Regional Chair Henry  
**\*all members of the Committee except Councillor Chapman and Regional Chair Henry participated electronically**

Also  
Present: Councillor Bath-Hadden  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Hight

Staff  
Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer  
S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services  
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT  
R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health  
T. Fraser, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services  
N. Prasad, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Anderson, Seconded by Councillor Roy,  
(20) That the minutes of the regular Health & Social Services Committee meeting held on Thursday, June 4, 2020, be adopted.

CARRIED

**4. Statutory Public Meetings**

There were no statutory public meetings.

**5. Delegations**

There were no delegations to be heard.

**6. Presentations**

There were no presentations.

**7. Health**

7.1 Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

7.2 Reports

There were no Health Reports to consider.

**8. Social Services**

8.1 Correspondence

- A) Correspondence from the City of Oshawa re: Resolution passed at their Council Meeting held on May 25, 2020, regarding the Licensing Payday Loan Establishments
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Moved by Councillor Roy, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,  
(21) That the correspondence from the City of Oshawa regarding the resolution passed at their meeting held on May 25, 2020 regarding the Licencing Payday Loan Establishments be received for information.

CARRIED

- B) Correspondence from the City of Oshawa re: Resolution passed at their Council Meeting held on June 9, 2020 regarding Funding to Expand the Scope of the City's Security Services and Retain CDN Protection Limited
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Moved by Councillor Roy, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,  
(22) That the correspondence from the City of Oshawa regarding the resolution passed at their meeting held on June 9, 2020 regarding Funding to Expand the Scope of the City's Security Services and Retain CDN Protection Limited be referred to staff.

CARRIED

8.2 Reports

A) At Home in Durham, the Durham Housing Plan 2014-2024 Annual Report (2020-SS-8)

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Report #2020-SS-8 from S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services, was received.

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

- A) That Report #2020-SS-8 of the Commissioner of Social Services be received for information as the legislatively required annual report on the progress of At Home in Durham, the Durham Housing Plan 2014-2024;
- B) That a copy of Report #2020-SS-8 of the Commissioner of Social Services be forwarded to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH); and
- C) That the Region of Durham request that the provincial and federal governments review relevant tax legislation and policies to identify opportunities to better incent investment in the development of affordable purpose-built rental housing through progressive and responsive federal and provincial tax reform, in order to support the goals of At Home in Durham.

CARRIED

B) Expedited Supportive Housing Development (2020-SS-9)

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Report #2020-SS-9 from S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services, was received.

Staff responded to questions with regards to the management of the modular supportive housing project as well as whether there will be any adverse effects of the "Microhome Pilot" project.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Carter,  
(24) That we recommend to Council, subject to the approval of the Finance and Administration Committee:

- A) That, subject to a two-thirds majority vote, Council be requested to rescind its previous decision to issue a Request for Proposal for the purpose of soliciting affordable rental housing project proposals under the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative, as adopted by Council on June 26, 2019 in Part (F) of Report #2019-COW-13 in order for the funds to be reallocated and used directly by the Region for supportive housing development;

- B) That 2021 pre-budget approval be granted for the development of a modular supportive housing project of approximately 50 units and the construction of an approximate 5,000 square foot ancillary structure to provide a combination of support services and congregate living, on Regional land located at 133 Main St., Beaverton, at an estimated cost of \$13,552,990 to be funded from the reallocation of the proposed \$5,620,900 in Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI) and \$7,932,090 from the Social Housing Reserve Fund, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) under Years 2 and 3 of the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI) in the amounts of \$2,137,535 and \$3,483,365 respectively;
- C) That a sole source agreement with Horizon North Inc. (or its affiliate NRB) for the design, delivery and installation of approximately 50 modular affordable supportive housing rental units at 133 Main St., Beaverton be approved subject to the terms and conditions being satisfactory to the Commissioner of Finance;
- D) That 2021 pre-budget approval be granted for a “Microhome Pilot” project to provide temporary supportive housing on Regionally owned lands, that are available for a limited period of time at an estimated cost \$880,000 to be funded from the Social Housing Reserve Fund and the procurement process, including potentially sole sourcing be delegated to the Commissioner of Finance and the Commissioner be authorized to award and execute any required agreements;
- E) That staff be directed to pursue all available and eligible funding from senior levels of government related to the “Supportive Housing - Modular Homes” and “Supportive Housing – Microhomes” projects, and that the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to execute any subsequent agreements; and
- F) That the CAO be authorized to urgently request the Ontario Government to make available operating funding to support the Region’s modular supportive housing initiative and that the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to negotiate and enter into any agreements necessary to secure such funding.

CARRIED

This item will be considered by the Finance & Administration Committee on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 and will be presented to Regional Council on Wednesday July 29, 2020 as Item 2 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Report of the Health and Social Services Committee.

C) Information Sharing Agreement with Durham Connect (2020-SS-10)

Report #2020-SS-10 from S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services, was received.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Carter,  
(25) That Report #2020-SS-10 of the Commissioner of Social Services be received for information.

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**

A) Motion to Add Staff for Mental Health Support Unit in 2021 Regional Budget

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Chapman,  
(26) That the Rules of Procedure be suspended in order to introduce a motion regarding the addition of staff for a mental health support unit in the 2021 Regional budget.

CARRIED on a 2/3rds Vote

Discussion ensued with regards to the importance of providing Durham residents with around the clock crisis intervention services throughout the entire region.

Staff responded to questions with regards to the current number of units; whether the provincial and federal government will be asked to be partners in the initiative; whether there are examples and available research of similar programs being successful in North America; whether data will be collected to annually review the success of the program; and the importance of having all frontline staff trained with de-escalation training and specialized mental health training.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Chapman,  
(27) That we recommend to Council, subject to the approval of the Finance and Administration Committee:

Whereas there is a growing need for the Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS) to attend to individuals in a mental health crisis; and

Whereas other jurisdictions have demonstrated success with crisis intervention teams trained in de-escalation and non-violent resolution of situations requiring mental health stabilization, assessment and access to treatment and other services; and

Whereas Lakeridge Health currently has two nurses that work in conjunction with DRPS when addressing such issues; and

Whereas to effectively support this critical need, an additional three nurses are required to ensure that this support can be available 24/7; and

Whereas proactive investment in community social and health services has multiple benefits, including reducing incidence of harm and suicide, easing visits to emergency rooms, reducing time spent in police custody as a place of safety, and contributing to enhanced interaction with citizens;

Now therefore be it resolved that, the three additional nurses, as Regional employees, be recommended for inclusion in the 2021 budget at an estimated cost of \$150,000 (including salary and benefits, etc.) per nurse;

That Regional staff be directed to report as part of the 2021 budget process on total program costs and administration required with Lakeridge Health and DRPS to ensure the availability of these services on a 24/7 basis;

That staff continue to explore expansion of the Primary Care Outreach Program (PCOP) as part of the approved Regional Recovery Framework and action plan, including mobile models that address social and healthcare needs of marginalized populations, with staffing needs and requirements to be included as part of the 2021 budget process;

That staff pursue any senior government funding opportunities; and

That this resolution be forwarded to the Finance and Administration Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation at Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY ON THE  
FOLLOWING RECORDED VOTE:

Yes

No

Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Carter  
Councillor Dies  
Regional Chair Henry  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Wotten  
Councillor Chapman

Members Absent: None

Declarations of Interest: None

This item will be considered by the Finance & Administration Committee on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 and will be presented to Regional Council on Wednesday July 29, 2020 as Item 5 of the 5th Report of the Finance and Administration Committee.

**12. Date of Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled Health & Social Services Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

**13. Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Pickles, Seconded by Councillor Carter,  
(26) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 AM

Respectfully submitted,

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B. Chapman, Chair

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N. Prasad, Committee Clerk