

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 3, 2021

A regular meeting of the Health & Social Services Committee was held on Thursday, June 3, 2021 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 left the meeting at 11:00 AM
Councillor Roy
Councillor Wotten
Regional Chair Henry left the meeting at 12:01 PM
***all members of the Committee participated electronically**

Also

Present: Councillor Ashe
Councillor Crawford
Councillor Highet
Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Smith
Councillor Yamada

Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services
T. Fraser, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health
J. Nesbitt, Director, Population Health and Chief Nursing Officer
V. Olmstead, Manager, Population Health, Health Department
J. Riches, Deputy Chief, Region of Durham Paramedic Services
N. Prasad, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
***all staff except R. Inacio participated electronically**

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,
(22) That the minutes of the regular Health & Social Services Committee meeting held on Thursday, May 6, 2021, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

5. Delegations

5.1 Amy Archer, Executive Director, Sloane's House re: Sloane's House

Amy Archer, Executive Director, Sloane's House provided a PowerPoint presentation. A copy of the presentation was provided to members in advance of the meeting.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Sloane's House Board of Directors
- It Begins With Love
- A Medically Fragile Child
- Lack of Paediatric Respite Yet High Need in The Durham Region
- Respite and Hospice Care
- Sloane's House Vision
- Partnerships
- How Can The Region of Durham Help Sloane Achieve Her Legacy?
- Realizing The Vision

A. Archer stated that Sloane was a medically fragile child whose medical conditions or health problems required 24-hour supervision from a skilled team. She added that Sloane represents hundreds of children currently living in Durham Region. She stated there are greater than 400 families of children with multiple medical complexities living in Durham Region and Durham Region is home to the highest proportion of these families in the Greater Toronto Area. She advised that the Sloane's House project will provide much needed paediatric respite and hospice care for those children and their families. She stated that the holistic and community based care provided by Sloane's House is preferable for these families as it also reduces reliance on and cost to the acute health care system.

A. Archer advised that Sloane's House will also be a place where the whole family can connect through recreation programs and activities geared to all ages and abilities, ensuring that a child's time at Sloane's House will be meaningful and enjoyable.

A. Archer responded to questions of the Committee and was requested to provide a delegation at the June 23, 2021 Regional Council meeting.

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Chapman,
(23) That we recommend to Council:

That the Health and Social Services Committee recommends to Regional Council:

Whereas there are greater than 400 families of children with multiple medical complexities living in Durham Region, and Durham Region is the home to the highest proportion of these families in the GTA; and

Whereas the Sloane's House project will provide much needed pediatric respite and hospice care for these children and their families; and

Whereas the holistic and community based care provided by Sloane's House is preferable for these families while at the same time reducing reliance on and cost to the acute care health care system;

Now therefore be it resolved:

- A) That the Region of Durham supports in principle the Sloane's House project for the construction and operation of a pediatric respite and hospice care facility located in Durham to serve the families of children living with multiple medical complexity; and
- B) That the Regional Chair express this support to the provincial government and specifically send a communication to the Premier, the Minister of Health and all MPPs in Durham Region.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY ON THE
FOLLOWING RECORDED VOTE

Yes

Councillor Anderson
Councillor Carter
Councillor Dies
Regional Chair Henry
Councillor Pickles

No

None

Councillor Roy
Councillor Wotten
Councillor Chapman

Members Absent: None

Declarations of Interest: None

5.2 Mark Canning, Clarington Resident re: Rapid Testing in Clarington

M. Canning, Clarington Resident, provided a presentation with regards to Rapid Testing in Clarington. He stated that his proposal suggests 2 phases of Rapid Testing in Clarington, which, along with increasing vaccines and public health requirements, would be another way to catch asymptomatic and symptomatic cases to help keep cases down and the community out of any further lockdowns.

M. Canning stated that Rapid Testing is becoming increasingly used in organizations and businesses around the world. He advised that Phase 1 is a pilot project for customers of local businesses to self administer a test if they choose to. He advised that his proposal states that any privacy, legal or insurance liability issues be addressed up front to not have any costs further incurred by local businesses or risks to residents. He advised that he has talked to local businesses such as gyms, entertainment complexes and other close proximity businesses, who are in support of Phase 1 of the proposal.

M. Canning stated that Phase 2 would be a resident program where municipal facilities and DRT buses not being used due to COVID-19 reduced usage, could provide Rapid Testing to residents on an optional basis. He stated that a Rapid Test Program would help small businesses and the broader Clarington community better survive the pandemic.

M. Canning responded to questions of the Committee.

5.3 Gord Gill, Durham Resident re: Mark Canning's Delegation on Rapid Testing in Clarington

Gord Gill, Durham Resident provided his delegation later in the meeting due to connectivity issues.

5.4 Cynthia Davis, President & CEO, Lakeridge Health and Scott McLeod, Independent Advisor re: Proposed Site Selection Process for a New Hospital

Moved by Councillor Roy, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,
(24) That the rules of procedure be suspended in order to permit the delegation from Cynthia Davis, President & CEO, Lakeridge Health and Scott McLeod, Independent Advisor.

CARRIED ON A 2/3rds VOTE

Cynthia Davis, President & CEO, Lakeridge Health and Scott McLeod, Independent Advisor provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Proposed Site Selection Process for a New Hospital. A copy of the presentation was provided to members in advance of the meeting.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Proposed Site Selection Process for a new Hospital
- Process Objectives
- Independent Expert Panel
- Community Engagement
- Process
- Launch Announcement & Next Steps
- Key Considerations

C. Davis advised of the recent announcement with regards to plans to move forward with an independent site selection process for the potential new hospital in Durham Region.

S. McLeod stated that the Expert Panel will conduct the review process and provide a recommendation to the Board on a preferred location. He advised that the Expert Panel will be comprised of members with various expertise and will be appointed based on a Board-endorsed skills matrix. He also advised that Lakeridge Health will undertake focused engagement with internal and external stakeholders to gather input on the criteria best used for site selection. He provided an overview of the launch announcement as well as next steps.

C. Davis and S. McLeod responded to questions of the Committee.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,
(25) That the Committee recess for 10 minutes.

CARRIED

The Committee recessed at 10:45 AM and reconvened at 10:55 AM.

The Committee Clerk conducted a roll call following the recess and all Committee members were present.

It was at this time that Gord Gill delegated to the Committee.

5.3 Gord Gill, Durham Resident re: Mark Canning's Delegation on Rapid Testing in Clarington

Gord Gill, Durham Resident, advised that he support's Mark Canning's delegation on Rapid Testing in Clarington. He advised that he and his wife are the owners of the Clarington Entertainment Complex, which houses numerous recreational entertainment facilities for families and he anticipates using Rapid Testing in a non-mandatory way. He stated that between the second and third lockdown, families were offered the opportunity to attend the complex in a way where their bubble was the only social bubble in the entire centre for a period of time. During other hours, up to nine people were allowed to attend the facility, knowing that they would be around other people not part of the same bubble but adhering to safety protocols.

G. Gill advised that with Rapid Testing, customers would be given the option to self administer the Rapid Test before entering the facility. He stated that their customer base is wide ranging in age and customers would be less stressed knowing they are entering an environment that is safe where both customers and employees are able to administer the test.

G. Gill responded to questions of the Committee.

6. Presentations

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

R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health provided a PowerPoint Presentation with regards to the COVID-19 Update.

Highlights of the Presentation included:

- COVID-19 Update
- Current Status
- Variants of Concern
- Monitoring Indicators
- Provincial Vaccination Status
- COVID-19 Vaccination Administration
- COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage – Durham
- COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage – Ajax
- COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage – Pickering
- Durham COVID-19 Vaccine Plan
- Youth 12-17 Vaccination Strategy
- Additional Mobile and Pop-Up Clinics
- Provincial School Dose Eligibility
- Durham Second Dose Booking

R.J. Kyle advised that case counts have decreased significantly and as a result there are fewer active cases, fewer hospitalizations and fewer people in intensive care units. He stated that since schools have been closed, all active school/childcare outbreaks are in child care centres, and most on-going workplace outbreaks are in the manufacturing/industrial and retail sectors.

With regards to variants of concern, he advised that the 7-day moving average is 82% with predominant strains being the United Kingdom, Brazil and South Africa variants. He provided an overview of the provincial vaccination status and advised that as of May 27th, at least 65% of adult Ontarians have received at least one dose of a vaccine. He further advised that as of June 1st, Durham Region Health has administered over 422,000 doses of the vaccine with about 5,000 doses per day. He also advised that the most common vaccine administered in Durham Region is the Pfizer-BioNTech and provided a brief overview of vaccination coverage in Durham.

R.J. Kyle advised that all residents 12 and older are now eligible to book the Pfizer vaccine. He stated that the goal is to vaccinate the majority of youth in June with the second dose by the end of August, in time for them to return to school. He advised that there will be additional mobile and pop-up clinics available for: residents 12 and older living or working in the L1L area; the Oshawa homeless population; identified target populations; and Black, African and Caribbean communities. He also provided an overview of the provincial plan with regards to second dose eligibility.

Staff responded to questions with regards to advancement of the second dose to graduating students who will be attending post secondary schools in September 2021; the possibility of a fourth wave; vaccine hesitancy among residents; the availability of second doses through mobile clinics to Long term Care (LTC) and retirement homes; the supply of Moderna vaccines; the availability of second dose AstraZeneca vaccines; and, the rise of cases at the White Oaks apartment complex.

6.2 Carly Kalish, Executive Director, Victim Services of Durham Region re: Update on Human Trafficking

Carly Kalish, Executive Director, Victim Services of Durham Region provided a verbal presentation with regards to Human Trafficking. A brief video presentation was also provided.

C. Kalish stated that human trafficking is the fastest growing crime in Canada with 66% of the Canadian cases found in Ontario. Victim Services of Durham Region helps people who are previously or currently being trafficked and work in partnership with Durham Region Police Services and the Social Services Department.

C. Kalish stated that human trafficking statistics have doubled annually for the past three years but thanks to the Region's funding, they have been able to provide prevention workshops to over 15,000 people on the topic of healthy relationships and the cycle of commercial sexual exploitation. She also advised that this past year, they have supported 270 survivors of human trafficking from the community with the Region's support.

C. Kalish pointed out that COVID-19 has not slowed human trafficking in Durham Region. The amount of time young people spend online has increased and traffickers have adapted to recruit online.

C. Kalish advised that Durham Region has been identified as a leader in Ontario for human trafficking prevention and intervention but what is missing is housing, with approximately 80% of clients identifying that they need safe housing in order to leave their trafficker. She stated that Durham needs to be a leader in how to house human trafficking survivors with no barriers to entry.

C. Kalish responded to questions of the Committee with regards to the Combating Human Trafficking Act, 2021, recently passed by the Province; housing requirements that are needed; additional supports that are needed; supports received from SafeHope home; and, whether education is provided to the buyers.

7. Health

7.1 Correspondence

A) Correspondence from the Municipality of Clarington regarding the resolution passed at the May 25, 2021 Council meeting re: COVID-19 Rapid Testing

R.J. Kyle responded to questions with regards to his thoughts on implementing Rapid Testing; as well the accuracy of the rapid tests.

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,
(26) That the correspondence from the Municipality of Clarington regarding the resolution passed at the May 25, 2021 Council meeting regarding COVID-19 Rapid testing be received for information.

CARRIED

7.2 Reports

There were no Health Reports to consider.

8. Social Services

8.1 Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

8.2 Reports

- A) Approval to Award a Sole Source Contract for Supply and Delivery of Nestle Dysphagia Dietary Products for use by the Region of Durham's four (4) Long-Term Care Homes (2021-SS-7)
-

Report #2021-SS-7 from S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services, was received.

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,
(27) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That the Regional Municipality of Durham enter into a sole source contract with Nestle Health Sciences at a total estimated cost not to exceed \$240,000 (before applicable taxes) for a three (3) year period for the supply of dysphagia products for the Region of Durham's four (4) Long-Term Care Homes to be financed from the 2021 approved and future years' Social Services Business Plans and Budgets; and
- B) That the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to execute any necessary documents related to this sole source 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, September 9, 2021 at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

13. **Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Anderson, Seconded by Councillor Carter,
(28) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 12:13 PM

Respectfully submitted,

B. Chapman, Chair

N. Prasad, Committee Clerk