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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

A regular meeting of the Health & Social Services Committee was held on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:30 AM

Present: Councillor Chapman, Chair
Councillor Pickles, Vice-Chair
Councillor Anderson
Councillor Dies
Councillor Roy
Councillor Wotten

Absent: Councillor Carter was absent on municipal business
Regional Chair Henry

Staff

Present: A. Andrews, Manager, Strategic Partnerships, Income and Employment Support
E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
C. Bandel, Deputy Clerk, attended for part of the meeting
C. Boyd, Solicitor, Corporate Services – Legal Services
T. Tyner-Cavanagh, Policy Advisor, Social Services
H. Drouin, Commissioner of Social Services
J. Finlayson, Manager, Corporate Communications
D. Holmes, Director, Business Affairs and Finance Management, Social Services Department
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health
M. Laschuk, Director, Family Services
D. Levine, Manager, Research & Innovation, Administration
L. MacDermaid, Director, Long Term Care & Services for Seniors
R. MacEachern, Manager, Health Protection
L. McIntosh, Director, Children's Services
K. O'Brien, Director, Income & Employment Support
A. Robins, Director, Housing Services
A. Wakeford, Senior Solicitor, Corporate Services – Legal Services
R. Walton, Regional Clerk/ Director of Legislative Services, attended for part of the meeting
N. Prasad, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Election of Health and Social Services Committee Vice-Chair

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

Moved by Councillor Dies, Seconded by Councillor Roy,

- (1) That Councillor Pickles be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the Health & Social Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Roy, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,

- (2) That nominations be closed.

CARRIED

The Chair asked if Councillor Pickles wished to stand. Councillor Pickles indicated he would stand.

Chair Chapman declared Councillor Pickles the Vice-Chair of the Health & Social Services Committee.

3. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

4. Delegations

4.1 Kapil Sunak, BOSS Shisha Lounge, re: Shisha Lounges in Durham Region

K. Sunak withdrew his request to appear.

5. Presentations

5.1 R. MacEachern, Manager, Health Protection, re: Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017 and Regional By-Law

R. MacEachern provided a PowerPoint Presentation with regards to the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017 and Regional By-Law. A copy of the presentation was provided as a handout.

R. MacEachern stated that on October 17, 2018, the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2016 and the Electronic Cigarettes Act, 2015 were repealed and replaced with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017 (SFOA, 2017). He stated that the SFOA, 2017 regulates the sale, supply, display and promotion of tobacco and vapour products as well as the smoking of tobacco, the use of e-cigarettes to vape any substance and the smoking of medical cannabis. He further stated that the regulation of other cannabis related activities are addressed in other statutes including the Cannabis Act (Canada) and the Cannabis Control Act, 2017 (Ontario). New provincial regulations regarding private recreational cannabis store systems will begin on April 1, 2019 under the oversight of the Alcohol and Gaming Commissioner of Ontario (AGCO).

R. MacEachern advised that the following are new amendments under the SFOA, 2017:

- Expands restrictions on smoking of tobacco and use of e-cigarettes to vape any substance;
- Regulates smoking of cannabis and all methods of consuming cannabis in vehicles and boats;
- Strengthens display and promotion restrictions relating to tobacco products;
- Creates the display and promotion rules for vapour products;
- Requires a tobacconist to register with its local board of health to display and promote specialty tobacco products; and
- Requires a specialty vape store to register with its local board of health to display and promote vapour products.

R. MacEachern stated that public health units are expected to employ a progressive enforcement approach for the new amendments in the SFOA, 2017 but will continue with a zero-tolerance policy regarding the sales of tobacco and e-cigarettes to minors. He provided an overview of various occurrences with regards to cannabis use and the corresponding legislation and jurisdiction that would apply.

R. MacEachern advised that recreational cannabis became legal for adults in Canada on October 17, 2018 and reviewed various statistics in relation to cannabis. He also advised that 40 million dollars over the course of 2 years has been committed by the provincial government to help municipalities with the implementation costs of the legalization of recreational cannabis. He further advised that municipalities can inform AGCO of their decision to opt out of hosting retail cannabis stores by January 22, 2019 or they are considered to have opted in.

R. MacEachern advised that vaping is the use of a vaporizer or inhalant device that heats up a substance that produces a vapour. He advised that there is no strong evidence that shows vaping as an effective tool to stop smoking and it could take years to determine the health effects.

R. MacEachern stated that the current Regional Smoking By-law was passed on December 4, 2002 and needs to be replaced with a new by-law that regulates smoking and vaping in public places and in the workplace. He provided an overview of what the new By-law will include.

R. MacEachern responded to questions and discussion ensued with regards to whether the area municipalities have been contacted regarding the changes to the SFOA 2017; the importance of regulating the use of cannabis in public areas in the same manner as alcohol; whether there may be potential problems with some municipalities opting out and some not opting out to host retail cannabis stores; and the importance of providing proper education with regards to vaping.

5.2 Dr. H. Drouin, Commissioner of Social Services, re: Social Services Department Overview and Orientation

Dr. Drouin, Commissioner of Social Services, provided a video and PowerPoint presentation regarding the Social Services Department. A copy of the presentation was provided as a handout.

Dr. Drouin stated that the Department's mission statement is "to meet the needs of citizens through leadership, cooperation and service excellence". He stated that the Department's principles are: care; excellence; learning; and leadership. He also advised of the following strategic priorities: sustaining a culture of excellence; strengthening the capacity to meet emerging trends; ensuring value of the department and its services; and building the capacity to collaboratively respond to emerging social issues. Dr. Drouin stated that in November 2018, the Department received the Canada Awards of Excellence Gold Award for the Excellence, Innovation and Wellness (EIW) Standard.

An overview was provided of the following Social Services Divisions:

- Commissioner's Office
- Business Affairs and Financial Management
- Children's Services
- Family Services

- Housing Services
- Income and Employment Support
- Long Term Care and Services for Seniors

An overview was also provided of various community needs and challenges.

Discussion ensued with regards to possible changes being implemented by the provincial government and best methods for committee members to assist with inquiries and concerns from citizens regarding various issues.

6. Health

6.1 Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

6.2 Reports

A) Durham Nuclear Health Committee Membership ([2018-MOH-1](#))

Report #2018-MOH-1 from Dr. R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health, was received.

Moved by Councillor Pickles, Seconded by Councillor Roy,
(3) That we recommend to Council:

That the following individuals be appointed to the Durham Nuclear Health Committee as follows:

- i. Susan Ebata: Public Member – Whitby;
- ii. Jane Snyder: Public Member – Whitby;
- iii. Matthew Cochrane: Alternate Member – Oshawa; and
- iv. Alan Shaddick: Alternate Member – Whitby.

CARRIED

7. Social Services

7.1 Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

7.2 Reports

There were no Social Services reports to consider.

8. Advisory Committee Resolutions

There were no advisory committee resolutions to be considered.

9. Confidential Matters

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

10. Other Business

10.1 Regional Appointments to Boards and Committees

Councillor Chapman reminded members that nominations and appointments of Regional Councillors to various agencies, boards and committees will be completed at the December 19, 2018 meeting of Regional Council.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Health & Social Services Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, January 10, 2019 at 9:30 AM in the Lower Level Boardroom (LL-C), Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

12. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Wotten, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,
(4) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:37 AM

Respectfully submitted,

B. Chapman, Chair

N. Prasad, Committee Clerk