



## HEALTH COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

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A Special virtual meeting of the Health Committee was held on Wednesday, June 24, 2020, at 8:30 a.m.

Present were: Michael Donohue, Chair  
Debbie Robinson, Warden

and Committee Members: David Bennett, Glenn Doncaster, Debbi Grills, Kim Love, Jennifer Murphy, Cathy Regier

City of Pembroke Reps: Patricia Lafreniere, Michael LeMay

Staff Present: Paul V. Moreau, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk  
Shelley Sheedy, Director of Long-Term Care  
Michael Nolan, Director of Emergency Services  
Bruce Beakley, Director of Human Resources  
Craig Kelley, Director of Development and Property  
Laura LePine, Director of Social Services  
Jeffrey Foss, Director of Finance/Treasurer  
Lee Perkins, Director of Public Works  
Rosalyn Gruntz, Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk  
Dianne Johnston, Administrative Assistant, Bonnechere Manor

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Chair Donohue called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The roll was called and no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

Mrs. Shelley Sheedy overviewed the Addendum to the Health Committee Report attached as Appendix A.

### **RESOLUTION NO. H-C-20-06-47**

Moved by: Councillor Love  
Seconded by: Councillor Murphy

THAT Health Committee recommend that County Council authorize the Director of Long-Term Care, in consultation with the Warden and Chief Administrative Officer and Renfrew County and District Health Unit, advise the Champlain Local Health Integration Network, Home and

Community Care that admissions to the County of Renfrew's Long term Care Homes will occur when it has been assessed by staff to be safe to accept community and hospital admissions to the long-term care homes based on risk criteria for the protection of our residents and staff during the COVID-19 Pandemic, which may fluctuate during this Pandemic.

CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION NO. H-C-20-06-48**

Moved by: Warden Robinson

Seconded by: Councillor Bennett

THAT this meeting adjourn and the next regular meeting be held August 12, 2020. Time – 8:50 a.m.

CARRIED.

**ADDENDUM TO  
HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT  
DATED JUNE 24, 2020**

**INFORMATION**

18. Seniors' Housing Strategy Assessment Consultant Request for Proposal

As per Council's request, staff initiated a Request for Proposal to procure consultancy services to undertake a comprehensive review of senior services to inform a "Seniors' Housing Strategy" intended to assist the County of Renfrew in strategic decision making and policy development regarding seniors' housing options not limited to "brick and mortar" and including:

- Assisted living;
- Supportive housing;
- Long-Term Care (LTC)/Community Paramedic Partnership in the client's home/virtual care; and/or
- Additional long-term care beds.

Eight (8) consultancy firms responded, providing submissions based on the following criteria:

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Points</b>
Respondent's Understanding of Project and Completeness of Proposal	20
Qualifications and Experience of the Proposed Project Team	20
Project Methodology and Workplan	30
Financial	15
Presentation	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

<b>Company</b>	<b>Project Fee</b>
A&A Ward Consulting Inc., Windsor, ON	\$46,150
Arising Collective, Peterborough, ON	\$47,815
Health Innovations Group Inc., Toronto, ON	\$29,000
Lough Barnes Consulting Group (LBCG), Toronto, ON	\$38,200
Optimus SBR, Toronto, ON	\$48,450
<b>Re/fact Consulting, Stittsville, ON</b>	<b>\$30,262</b>
SHS Consulting in collaboration with Bessent Pelech Associates Inc., Richmond Hill, ON	\$61,907.50
UrbanMetrics Inc., Toronto, ON	\$35,000

All prices exclude HST

The selection committee, comprised of Ms. Shelley Sheedy, Director of Long-Term Care, Mr. Craig Kelley, Director of Development and Property and Ms. Laura LePine, Director of Social Services. As a result, our committee is recommending that Re/fact Consulting, having met all the criteria of the Request for Proposal ADMIN-2020-02, be selected as the consultancy firm to conduct the 'Seniors' Housing Strategy' for the County of Renfrew.

The Proposals processed in accordance with the County of Renfrew Policy GA-01 Procurement of Goods and Services, and Directors may award contracts not exceeding \$50,000. As Council will recall, this project was approved through the 2020 Budget process.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### **19. Long-Term Care Resident Admissions from the Community or Hospital**

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

#### **RESOLUTION NO. H-CC-20-06-47**

THAT County Council authorize the Director of Long-Term Care, in consultation with the Warden and Chief Administrative Officer and Renfrew County and District Health Unit, advise the Champlain Local Health Integration Network, Home and Community Care that admissions to the County of Renfrew's Long term Care Homes will occur when it has been assessed by staff to be safe to accept community and hospital admissions to the long-term care homes based on risk criteria for the protection of our residents and staff during the COVID-19 Pandemic, which may fluctuate during this Pandemic.

#### **Background**

County Council has supported a number of proactive initiatives to keep our long-term care (LTC) residents and staff as safe as possible prior to implementation or in the absence of provincial directives. Further to the April 29, 2020 decision by County Council to temporarily suspend the admission of community residents into our Homes in order to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 to our frail and elderly residents; Council is advised that, effective June 10, 2020, Dr. Williams, Provincial Chief Medical Officer of Health updated Directive # 3 to permit hospital admissions under certain conditions.

LTC staff have reviewed the applicable criteria regarding safest timing to re-open community admissions to Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge. It is important to review the rationale for the temporary suspension of community admissions in concert with current circumstances:

1. To ensure the highest level of protection for our residents by reducing the number of vectors through which the COVID-19 virus is able to enter our Homes

- While Renfrew County has experienced low COVID-19 positive testing results to date; the impact of Stage II provincial re-openings is not known at this time
  - Respite admissions from the community remain on hold provincially
  - Long-term care staff are considered a significant vector to transmitting COVID-19 to residents
    - Provincial directive of testing of all LTC staff in May and twice in June: Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge have completed one cycle of June testing but do not have all results back yet; second cycle scheduled to occur before end of June/20
    - Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge informed of a breach in Personal Protection Equipment regarding use of surgical masks not specified for health care use on June 8, 2020 – the staff testing results following this potential risk are not known at this time
  - Provincial directive continues to restrict in-person visitors to long-term care (LTC) homes, as another vector source to LTC residents
2. To build physical capacity to cohort suspect residents with cohorted staff
- The LTC homes were built to different design standards:
    - Bonnechere Manor is 25 years old and has:
      - 44 private rooms
      - 88 semi-private (shared bathroom) and
      - 24 shared rooms (including shared entrance to room, washroom and only curtain separating sleeping areas)
    - The Manor currently has 7 vacant beds
      - 2 private
      - 3 semi (includes 2 designated as respite)
      - 2 shared
    - Miramichi Lodge is 15 years old and has:
      - 100 private rooms and
      - 33 shared rooms (including entrance to room and washroom but most shared rooms have physical wall between sleeping areas)
    - The Lodge currently has 11 vacant beds:
      - 7 private (includes 2 designated as respite)
      - 4 shared

Due to the differences in the LTC homes design standards and current vacant beds, it is noted that the timing on re-opening to admissions may be different. It is further noted that the current cognitive status of the new resident as well as the roommate, if applicable, is critical in ensuring compliance to infection prevention and control protocols including the required 14-day isolation of new residents and that residents' status is not static. Therefore, staff recommend that County Council approve that staff consider each new admission on a case-by-case basis based on the need for a minimum of two (2) appropriate beds be retained for the 14-day isolation of new admissions

and/or the ongoing cohorting of suspect resident cases and that the following assessment criteria be considered by staff prior to re-opening to admissions and/or the need to temporarily re-suspend admissions:

1. Renfrew County continues to experience low COVID-19 positive testing results following Phase II provincial re-opening impact;
2. Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge staff surveillance testing results from June, 2020 are received;
3. The Homes have sufficient staffing resources to cohort staff as required;
4. The Homes have sufficient PPE; and
5. The Homes retain sufficient physical capacity to cohort suspect residents.

Dr. Cushman, local Medical Officer of Health, was consulted on the above process and remains in support of this plan in recognition of the potential significant impact of COVID-19 to LTC residents.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

M. Donohue, Chair

And Committee Members: D. Bennett, G. Doncaster, D. Grills, K. Love, J. Murphy, C. Regier and D. Robinson.