



## **RENFREW COUNTY HOUSING CORPORATION**

**Monday, November 9, 2020**

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An electronic meeting of the Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors was held on Monday, November 9, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

Directors Present: Chair James Brose  
Warden Debbie Robinson  
Vice-Chair John Reinwald  
Councillor Debbi Grills  
Councillor Ed Jacyno  
Councillor Kim Love  
Councillor Cathy Regier

Officers Present: Paul Moreau, Chief Executive Officer  
Jeffrey Foss, Treasurer

Staff Present: Andrea Patrick, Acting Director of Social Services  
Craig Kelley, Director of Development and Property  
Shelley Sheedy, Director of Long-Term Care  
Carol Neill, General Manager, Renfrew County Housing Corporation  
Judy Mulvihill, Manager of Child Care and Early Years Services  
Rose Gruntz, Deputy Clerk  
Wendy Hill, Administrative Assistant

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Chair Brose called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The roll was called and no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

### **RESOLUTION NO. RCHC-C-20-11-35**

Moved by Councillor Love

Seconded by Councillor Regier

THAT the minutes of the Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors meeting held on October 14, 2020 be adopted. CARRIED.

Councillor Jacyno introduced Rev. Deacon Adrien Chaput, Mr. Jerry Novack and Mr. David Studham of The Grind who provided a presentation on The Grind Pembroke Operations Past, Present & Future.

The presentation focused on challenges The Grind Pembroke faces, opportunities that may be available to address them and the role they see community leaders playing.

Discussion took place regarding The Grind's services and other supports and services that are available in the County of Renfrew, and the possibility of strengthening partnerships and working more closely together. It was encouraged that The Grind continue to have conversations with County of Renfrew staff and that any recommendations be brought to Committee.

Ms. Patrick overviewed the Director's Report, which is attached as Appendix A.

The Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors received a letter from the Board Chair of the Opeongo Non-Profit Community Residential Development Inc. at their meeting on September 6, 2018 requesting that the Renfrew County Housing Corporation absorb the Opeongo Non-Profit Housing Corporation portfolio by June 30, 2019. On June 26, 2019 County Council adopted a management agreement between Opeongo Non-Profit Community Residential Development Inc. and Renfrew County Housing Corporation.

The initial intent was to undergo an amalgamation of Opeongo Non Profit Housing into the portfolio of Renfrew County Housing Corporation, however earlier in 2020 it was determined that a transfer of assets would be the most appropriate plan. While awaiting the formal documentation, the Management Agreement that was effective on June 26, 2019 remained in force.

Mr. David Stewart, B.A., LL.B., McNab, Stewart & Prince, provided additional information on the background of Opeongo Non-Profit Housing Corporation and the Renfrew County Housing Corporation and the decision for an asset acquisition and the steps that were undertaken to get to the draft agreement.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. RCHC-C-20-11-36**

Moved by Councillor Jacyno

Seconded by Councillor Grills

WHEREAS the Renfrew County Housing Corporation ("the Corporation") was incorporated under the *Business Corporations Act*;

AND WHEREAS the Corporation is a local housing corporation as defined in the *Housing Services Act, 2011* and it has decided to purchase the assets of Opeongo Non-profit Community Residential Development Inc., which is also a local housing corporation pursuant to the *Housing Services Act*;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The transfer of assets from the Opeongo Non-profit Community Residential Development Inc. to the Corporation in accordance with the terms of the Transfer Agreement between the Corporation and Opeongo Non-profit Community Residential Development Inc., be and the same is hereby approved a copy of which is attached;
2. The Corporation is hereby authorized to enter into and adopt the said Transfer Agreement; and
3. The directors and proper officers of the Corporation be and they are hereby authorized to do all things necessary and execute and give effect to the foregoing pursuant to subsection 34 of the *Housing Services Act, 2011*.

AND FURTHER THAT the Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors recommends to the Social Services Committee that County Council adopt a By-law for the Transfer of Assets of Opeongo Non-profit-Community Residential Development Inc. to Renfrew County Housing Corporation on or before December 31, 2020. CARRIED.

Ms. Neill overviewed the Monthly Report, which is attached as Appendix B.

Ms. Neill provided an update on the Canada Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB) and stated that 53 people have been approved for the program and 17 are pending approval. The average amount of COHB being received is \$250 per participant.

**RESOLUTION NO. RCHC-C-20-11-37**

Moved by Councillor Reinwald

Seconded by Councillor Love

THAT the Director's Report and the Monthly Report attached as Appendices A and B be approved. CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION NO. RCHC-C-20-11-38**

Moved by Councillor Reinwald

Seconded by Councillor Jacyno

THAT this meeting adjourn and the next regular meeting be held at the call of the Chair. Time 2:25 p.m. CARRIED.



## **SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, November 9, 2020**

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An electronic meeting of the Social Services Committee was held on Monday, November 9, 2020 at 2:25 p.m.

Present were:      Chair James Brose  
                            Warden Debbie Robinson  
                            Vice-Chair John Reinwald  
                            Councillor Debbi Grills  
                            Councillor Kim Love  
                            Councillor Cathy Regier

City of Pembroke

Representative:    Councillor Ed Jacyno

Staff Present:      Paul Moreau, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk  
                            Jeffrey Foss, Director of Finance/Treasurer  
                            Craig Kelley, Director of Development & Property  
                            Shelley Sheedy, Director of Long-Term Care  
                            Andrea Patrick, Acting Director of Social Services  
                            Carol Neill, General Manager, Renfrew County Housing Corporation  
                            Judy Mulvihill, Manager of Child Care & Early Years Services  
                            Rose Gruntz, Deputy Clerk  
                            Wendy Hill, Administrative Assistant

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Chair Brose called the meeting to order at 2:25 p.m. The roll was called and no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

### **RESOLUTION NO. SS-C-20-11-49**

Moved by Councillor Regier

Seconded by Councillor Grills

THAT the minutes of the September 30, 2020 and October 14, 2020 meetings be adopted. CARRIED.

Ms. Patrick overviewed the Social Services Department Report, which is attached as Appendix A.

The Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors received a letter from the Board Chair of the Opeongo Non-Profit Community Residential Development Inc. at their meeting on September 6, 2018 requesting that the Renfrew County Housing Corporation absorb the Opeongo Non-Profit Housing Corporation portfolio by June 30, 2019. On June 26, 2019 County Council adopted a management agreement between Opeongo Non-Profit Community Residential Development Inc. and Renfrew County Housing Corporation.

The initial intent was to undergo an amalgamation of Opeongo Non Profit Housing into the portfolio of Renfrew County Housing Corporation, however earlier in 2020 it was determined that a transfer of assets would be the most appropriate plan. While awaiting the formal documentation, the Management Agreement that was effective on June 26, 2019 remains in force.

Attached as Appendix B is the Draft Transfer Agreement between Opeongo Non-Profit Community Residential Development Inc., and the Renfrew County Housing Corporation.

**RESOLUTION NO. SS-C-20-11-50**

Moved by Councillor Regier

Seconded by Councillor Reinwald

THAT the Social Services Committee recommends to County Council that a by-law be adopted approving the Collective Agreement between CUPE Local 4425 and the Renfrew County Housing Corporation for the period of January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020, which was ratified by the CUPE Local 4425 membership on September 29, 2020. CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION NO. SS-C-20-11-51**

Moved by Councillor Love

Seconded by Councillor Jacyno

THAT the Social Services Committee recommends to County Council that a By-law be passed approving the transfer of assets from the Opeongo Non-Profit Community Residential Development Inc. to the Renfrew County Housing Corporation; AND FURTHER THAT By-law 107-19 be repealed. CARRIED.

Warden Robinson suggested that Councillor Jacyno share the information about the Rapid Housing Initiative and the Inclusive Community Grant with The Grind.

**Ontario Works Division**

Ms. Patrick overviewed the Ontario Works Division Report, which is part of the Social Services Department Report.

**Child Care and Early Years Division**

Ms. Mulvihill overviewed the Child Care and Early Years Division Report, which is part of the Social Services Department Report.

Committee discussed licensed child care sector wage disparity which needs to be rectified and pandemic pay needs to be provided during the pandemic.

Since March 2020, the province recognised that licensed child care was essential to the economic viability of communities.

Through strict health and safety protocol measures, the province also recognised the risks associated with placing the licensed child care sector at the front line. No pandemic pay was, or has been provided knowing the risks. In addition, the licensed child care sector remains stymied by the historical wage disparity between registered early childhood educators (RECE) working in the licensed child care sector and the education/school system. Through the pandemic the licensed child care system continues to operate and support the provincial direction, even though the sector recognises the lack of provincial changes to decent wages and pandemic pay.

Although several groups have lobbied for changes to the wage disparity, there has not been change, and now a crisis is looming in the licensed child care sector. The wage disparity is resulting now in a larger issue, the economic viability of our community.

Recruitment and retention of qualified RECE's in the County of Renfrew is at a crisis level. The existence of qualified staff to support the continued opening and maintain the sector is non-existent. Seeking a better wage, many RECE's have moved to the educational system or out of the child care system altogether. As a result, program closures are occurring, families have been forced to seek permanent and/or temporary alternate private care arrangements. The provincial vision of quality, affordable and accessible licensed child care is losing ground.

It is time that their essential work be monetarily recognised in order to circumvent a recruitment and retention problem that is threatening our community's economic viability and the provincial vision.

**RESOLUTION NO. SS-C-20-11-52**

Moved by Warden Robinson

Seconded by Councillor Love

THAT the Social Services Department Report attached as Appendix A be approved. CARRIED.

**New Business****Change of Name from Social Services to Community Services**

Discussion took place regarding changing the name of the Social Services Department and Social Services Committee to Community Services Department and Community Services Committee. It was noted that it would be good timing for the name change due to the work that is underway with the integration of services and upcoming move into the County Administration Building and need to obtain new signage. This name change would fit well with what is reflected on the County of Renfrew website.

**RESOLUTION NO. SS-C-20-11-53**

Moved by Councillor Grills

Seconded by Councillor Love

THAT the Social Services Committee recommends to County Council that the Department of Social Services be renamed Community Services and the Division of Social Housing be renamed Community Housing. CARRIED.

**Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Pandemic Pay****RESOLUTION NO. SS-C-20-11-54**

Moved by Warden Robinson

Seconded by Councillor Love

THAT the Social Services Committee recommends to County Council that in response to the pandemic the Warden send a letter to the Province of Ontario and Minister of Education with respect to pandemic pay for Early Childhood Educator professionals within the child care profession; AND FURTHER THAT copies be sent to the Premier, the Honourable Todd Smith and the Honourable John Yakabuski. CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION NO. SS-C-20-11-55**

Moved by Councillor Regier

Seconded by Councillor Reinwald

THAT this meeting adjourn and the next regular meeting be held at the call of the Chair. Time – 3:17 p.m. CARRIED.