



HEALTH COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 – 9:30 a.m.
Virtual Meeting

AGENDA

1. Call to order.
2. Roll call.
3. Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof.
4. Adoption of minutes of previous meeting held on February 10, 2021, (on website).
5. Delegations:
 - (a) 9:30 a.m. – Shelley Sheedy, Director of Long-Term Care, and Jennifer White, Director of Care, Miramichi Lodge, will present Miramichi Lodge Outbreak Update.

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6. Emergency Services Department Report	3
7. Long-Term Care Report	10
8. Administration Department Report	17
9. Board of Health Minutes – Dec.9, 2020 and Jan. 8, 2021	
10. New Business.	
11. Closed Meeting – None at time of mailing.	
12. Date of next meeting (Wednesday, April 14, 2021) and adjournment.	

NOTE: (a) County Council: Wednesday, March 31, 2021.

Submissions received from the public, either orally or in writing may become part of the public record.

Strategic Plan

Strategic Plan Goal # 1: To inform the Federal and Provincial government on our unique needs so that Renfrew County residents get their “fair share”.

Initiatives:

- (a) Create s strategic communications plan**
- (b) Identify and advocate for issues important to the County of Renfrew.**

Strategic Plan Goal # 2: Fiscal sustainability for the Corporation of the County of Renfrew and its ratepayers.

Initiatives:

- (a) Commitment from Council supporting principles within the Long-Term Financial Plan**
- (b) Establish Contingency Plan to respond to provincial and federal financial pressures and opportunities beyond the Long-Term Financial Plan.**

Strategic Plan Goal # 3: Find cost savings that demonstrate our leadership while still meeting community needs.

Initiatives:

- (a) Complete community needs assessment**
- (b) With identified partners implement plan to optimize service delivery to the benefit of our residents.**

Strategic Plan Goal # 4: Position the County of Renfrew so that residents benefit from advances in technology, to ensure that residents and staff have fair, affordable and reasonable access to technology.

Initiatives

- (a) Ensure that the County of Renfrew is top of the list for Eastern Ontario Regional Network funding for mobile broadband**
- (b) Lobby for secure and consistent radio systems for first responders and government**
- (c) Put a County of Renfrew technology strategy in place.**

COUNTY OF RENFREW
EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

TO: Health Committee

FROM: Michael Nolan, Director of Emergency Services/Chief, Paramedic Service

DATE: March 17, 2021

SUBJECT: Department Report

INFORMATION

1. Palliative Care Model- Strategic Plan Goal #1

Advanced Care Paramedic Chelsea Lanos and Commander Amber Hultink presented the County of Renfrew Community Paramedic Palliative Care Program at the online McMaster University 17th Annual Innovations in Palliative Care, on March 3, 2021. They presented successes to date with coordination of inter-professional relationships to provide optimal care to patients in their preferred environment.

Paramedics involved in palliative care calls report that the program has been running smoothly. Palliative calls have increased as patients understand that symptoms can be appropriately treated and managed in their homes or wherever they want to be, diverting calls that would have gone to the 911 system.

2. Advancing Community Paramedicine Practice in Response to COVID-19 - Strategic Plan Goal #3

Commander Amber Hultink has submitted a project proposal to the Centre for Aging and Brain Health Innovation (CABHI) to expand the Community Paramedicine Standards in response to COVID-19.

The COVID-19 pandemic has emphasized the health and financial benefits of keeping people out of hospital if they can be cared for at home or in their communities. It can reduce the risk of spreading the disease and help to preserve health care facility space and resources. It has also emphasized the need for social connectedness and caregiver wellbeing solutions. Community paramedicine programs informed by COVID-19-related best practices can help meet evolving out-of-hospital care needs. This project will identify community paramedicine best practices to support COVID-19 pandemic and on-going needs; provide evidence-informed guidance; and contribute the guidance as an input into the next edition of the National Standard of Canada on Community Paramedicine program development for use by all paramedic services.

3. County of Renfrew AED Program - Strategic Plan Goal #3

There are 370 active defibrillators in the County of Renfrew. Four new units have been purchased through a grant received from the Legion Command, and four were purchased for the County of Renfrew loaner program. Five heated outdoor cabinets were sent to the Round Lake Property Association and they will purchase an additional five outdoor cabinets to increase accessibility.

4. Emergency Management Update

The initial meeting of the yearly Freshet was March 4, 2021. The group met with all County of Renfrew Community Emergency Management Coordinators (CEMCs) and representatives from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF). The virtual meetings will be hosted by alternate County of Renfrew CEMC, Acting Commander Steve Osipenko.

Acting Commander Osipenko has also been requested to sit on an Emergency Management Ontario team, Enhancing the Emergency Management Framework in Ontario. This virtual group will be working to improve the Emergency Management program in Ontario.

5. VTAC/Testing Centre Update - Strategic Plan Goal #4

Recent changes for school-aged children from Public Health regarding symptoms, isolation and testing requirements have resulted in an almost

100% increase in demand at COVID-19 testing centers. To help meet the demand, an additional clinic has been added midweek. The Service will continue to monitor trends to meet the needs of the community. The Service has been working closely with Public Health, and other healthcare stakeholders in the planning of vaccine clinics for Long-Term Care, congregate settings, healthcare workers and the public.

County of Renfrew Paramedics have worked with researchers from York University to build a simulator for drive-through COVID clinics. This capability is being used by major centres in the United States, but Renfrew County is the first in Canada to do so.

6. Vaccine Roll-Out - Strategic Plan Goal #4

a. Drive-Thru Vaccine Clinic

The vaccination rollout in the Arnprior area is being led by the Arnprior and District Family Health Team, Arnprior Regional Hospital, Clancy's Drug Store, The County of Renfrew Paramedic Service, and The Town of Arnprior as part of the regional strategy led by the Renfrew County & District Health Unit. As the vaccination rollout moves ahead, priority groups will be notified through various multi-media channels including public service announcements to indicate who is eligible to receive the vaccine. The centralized online vaccine booking system will be available for all Renfrew County and District communities. For those who do not have access to the internet, there will also be a phone booking system. More information and details will be shared with residents soon.

b. Vaccine Accessibility

With the vaccination roll-out across the County of Renfrew the Paramedic Service is leading a subgroup of Paramedic staff, health care professionals and community partners to address the concern of our vulnerable population being able to access COVID-19 vaccinations.

Due to the geographic size and layout of the County, many individuals may have transportation issues in getting to a clinic to be vaccinated while others may have medical, physical, or mental health issues restricting them from traveling to or participating in a vaccination clinic. Members of the subgroup are working collaboratively to construct a

categorized list of those that require support from our vulnerable population within each municipality and to then map out where there is a required need to determine where there may be clusters of individuals who require support.

The group is also working to establish the services and a list of volunteers available in each region to help provide support to this population to assist with transportation, registration, and vaccination clinics. The goal is to be able to pair services and/or volunteers with individuals from our vulnerable population to provide them with the support they require to be able to get vaccinated. Where there is identified clusters of individuals that require assistance in a specific region a strike team will be formed and launched to that area of the County to provide access to a vaccination clinic. The strike team will be formed based on the need within the community and could consist of Paramedics, local health care professionals, community partners and volunteers.

- c. Acting Commander and Alternate CEMC Steve Osipenko has been selected to be part of the County Command table to assist in connecting to local CEMCs and facilities as well as provide recommendations for volunteer processes.
- d. The Service has revised deployment capacity to meet the increased swabbing activities as well as provide support to the Renfrew County Health Unit roll out of vaccines to the community.
- e. Attached as Appendix ES-I is a COVID-19 Vaccine News Brief from the Renfrew County & District Health Unit providing highlights of local, provincial, and federal vaccine roll-out, as well as a Press Release from the Renfrew County and District Vaccine Communications Committee.

7. Logistics Update

In December 2020, the Service made an Emergency Escalation request to the Ministry of Health (MOH)/Ministry Emergency Operations Centre (MEOC) for a restock of N95 respirators. Three N95 Models were received.

- Model #3M-8210 (quantity 640)

- Model #3M-1860 (quantity 640)
- N95 Halyard Fluid Shield 3 (quantity 210)

In the afternoon of March 5, 2021, an email was received from MOH/MEOC regarding the possible existence of counterfeit 3M N95 Respirators in the Provincial supply chain. It is important to note that currently the safety notice does not affect all N95s, only specific LOT NUMBERS of 3M products.

On the evening of March 5, 2021, a preliminary audit was conducted on the two 3M models received from MOH/MEOC. The following was found:

- The Service can account for all the MOH/MEOC respirators and can confirm none were distributed to staff.
- Model #3M-1860 - the Lot number was identified as being counterfeit (quantity 640).
- Model #3M-8210 - respirators received were **not** on the counterfeit list. Further, their lot numbers and security codes have passed a secondary, online validity check. (quantity 640).
- All N95 Respirators in the Renfrew warehouse have been quarantined until a full audit can be completed.
- N95 disposable respirators already distributed to bases remain available to staff.
- N95 disposable respirators in circulation are purchased inventory, supplied by recognized suppliers and not the Provincial donation pile.

Staff were informed that 3M 7500 series reusable respirators are available, should N95 level of protection be required. Operations Commanders continued to review the 3M documents and conducted audit of base/vehicle supplies.

After sending documentation and pictures to the 3M fraud detection branch for review, they confirmed that the 1860 respirators bearing lot #B20020 are counterfeit. The MOH/MEOC sent replacement stock of the 640 N95 respirators on Friday, March 12.

8. Gratitude

Attached as Appendix ES-II are the following notes of gratitude for Paramedic Service staff.

- An email commending the Service on a call response and ability to work with partner agencies.
- A letter from Member of Parliament for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke Cheryl Gallant thanking Service staff for their work.
- A card from Mr. Jason Stewart sharing his birthday present with frontline Paramedic staff.

COUNTY OF RENFREW
LONG-TERM CARE REPORT

TO: Health Committee

FROM: Shelley Sheedy, Director of Long-Term Care

DATE: March 17, 2021

SUBJECT: Department Report

INFORMATION

1. Bonnechere Manor Resident Statistics

Statistics	Dec 31, 2020	Jan 31, 2021	Feb 28, 2021
Population at end of Month	172	172	173
# of Female Residents	101	104	103
# of Male Residents	71	68	70
Vacant Beds at End of Month	8	8	7
YTD Occupancy Rate: LTC Respite	96.83%* **	96.59%* **	96.63%* **
Resident Deaths	8	6	3
Resident Discharges	1	0	0
Resident Admissions	6	5	4

2. Miramichi Lodge Resident Statistics

Statistics	Dec 31, 2020	Jan 31, 2021	Feb 28, 2021
Population at end of Month	157	155	155
# of Female Residents	109	105	107
# of Male Residents	48	50	48
Vacant Beds at End of Month	9	11	11
YTD Occupancy Rate: LTC Respite	96.31%* **	94.73%* **	95.34%* **
Resident Deaths	5	6	4
Resident Discharges	1	0	1

Statistics	Dec 31, 2020	Jan 31, 2021	Feb 28, 2021
Resident Admissions	8	4	5

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the following is applicable:

*Suspension of occupancy target is in effect until March 31, 2021.

**The Respite Program has been temporarily placed on hold, converting the respite beds into long-term care beds.

3. Champlain Local Health Integration Network Home & Community Care Client Waitlist Information

Renfrew County Long-Term Care Homes	Nov 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021
Bonnechere Manor	240	240	238
Caressant Care Cobden	106	109	103
Deep River & District Hospital – The Four Seasons Lodge	55	59	58
Grove (The) Arnprior & District Nursing Home	163	166	166
Groves Park Lodge	173	177	174
Marianhill Inc.	220	221	220
Miramichi Lodge	362	367	362
North Renfrew Long-Term Care Services Inc.	94	93	91
Valley Manor Inc.	71	73	73
Totals	1484	1505	1485

The waitlist information does not change significantly from month to month and will be reported on a quarterly basis going forth.

4. COVID-19 Pandemic Update – Long-Term Care

- Miramichi Lodge Outbreak – declared February 21, 2021
There will be a delegation at today's meeting to provide an up-to-date status report on the Miramichi Lodge COVID-19 outbreak.
- Surveillance and Symptomatic Testing **Strategic Plan (Goal # 4)**
The County of Renfrew Long-Term Care Homes are utilizing advances in technology where an application is uploaded with the provincial long-term care screening tool completed by staff or visitors entering and

exiting the Homes and then verified by a third party screener along with a temperature check.

Onsite rapid antigen testing is now required for the ongoing surveillance of staff, essential caregivers (ECGs) and eventually all visitors. With the hiring of screening coordinators, Bonnechere Manor has ramped up to extend this onsite surveillance testing to staff and ECGs. Note that Miramichi Lodge's rapid testing implementation is on hold as polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing only is used during an outbreak. PCR testing is also used to confirm a positive rapid antigen test or for any symptomatic individuals.

- Vaccination

We are pleased to report that the second COVID-19 vaccine was provided to the Bonnechere Manor residents on March 7, 2021 and to the Miramichi Lodge residents on March 8, 2021.

The first COVID-19 vaccination clinic for Miramichi Lodge staff and essential caregivers (ECGs) at the Pembroke Regional Hospital started February 25, 2021. Bonnechere Manor staff and ECGs' first COVID-19 vaccination clinic started on February 28, 2021 at the Renfrew Victoria Hospital. The percentages vaccinated will be provided at an upcoming meeting.

For the resident vaccination clinics, thank you to all residents who accepted this opportunity, to the Home's staff that supported as well as the Renfrew County and District Health Unit and Renfrew County Emergency Services staff who assisted.

For the staff and essential caregiver clinics, thank you to the local hospitals for hosting the clinics, as well as the Renfrew County and District Health Unit and Renfrew County Emergency Services staff for their assistance.

- Continued Suspension of LTC Occupancy Targets

The Ministry has advised that long-term care occupancy targets will continue to be suspended until March 31, 2021. In the interim, they

have required Homes to develop a plan in consultation with Regional (or Local Health Integration Network) long-term care leads to outline the Home's approach to safely increasing admissions to any excess vacant beds – beds that are available for admissions/re-admissions and are in addition to those being kept vacant for use as isolation beds. Committee will recall that, with Committee and County Council support, we paused on community admissions earlier in the pandemic to create this physical capacity. Since that time, we have been admitting new residents as isolation requirements allow.

- **Prevention and Containment Funding Strategic Plan (Goal # 1)**
The Province has announced additional Prevention and Containment Funding - an increase in the per bed allocation and an extension of funding into 2021-22:
 - Every eligible long-term care home will receive baseline funding of \$12,000 and \$360 per bed to support necessary incremental expenditures to help stop the spread of COVID-19.
 - Homes with COVID-19 outbreaks reported or resolved as of January 20, 2021 and February 1, 2021 respectively, will receive an adjustment of \$10,000 per home and \$300 per bed.

Bonnechere Manor: Based on Outbreak Data as of:

January 20, 2021: \$140,800

February 1, 2021: \$140,800

Miramichi Lodge: Based on Outbreak Data as of:

January 20, 2021: \$131,600

February 1, 2021: \$131,600

5. **Provincial Long-Term Care Staffing Plan: Accelerated Personal Support Worker Training Program**

The committee is aware the Province launched a 'Better Place to Live, A Better Place to Work: Ontario's Long-Term Care Staffing Plan', in December of 2020. The centre of this plan is the hours of direct care for residents to increase to an average of four hours per day over four years. This Provincial commitment requires the attraction of more people into Personal Support

Worker (PSW) roles. The Province is offering a free tuition plan and support retention through paid clinical placements in 2021.

This [accelerated PSW training](#) for 6,000 PSWs is offered in six months as opposed to the regular eight-month program. Algonquin College will offer this fully funded program through two additional intakes: May 10 and June 14, 2021.

The Province will also be offering a grant of \$2,000 to 2,200 PSWs who are currently enrolled in programs, as well as a stipend to complete their clinical training. Committee will recall that Bonnechere Manor has worked with Algonquin College to provide an accelerated onsite program for the last three years. This means that in Renfrew County there will be four intakes for the Algonquin College Personal Support Worker program:

- September to April at the Algonquin College Pembroke campus
- January to June ‘Living Classroom’ onsite at Bonnechere Manor
- May to November virtual classroom and lab with onsite clinical placements
- June to December virtual classroom and lab with onsite clinical placements.

Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge look forward to continuing to be a partner in these initiatives.

6. Ministry of Long-Term Care Inspection – Miramichi Lodge

Ms. Emily Prior, Inspector with the Ministry of Long-Term Care conducted a Critical Incident System inspection on the following dates: January 8 to 22 and January 25 to 27, 2021 regarding a resident transfer/positioning incident at Miramichi Lodge. One written notification (WN) was issued. Appropriate corrective action including re-education for staff members involved was provided. The full report is available on the Ministry of Long-Term Care website – [public reporting](#).

7. Fundraising

a) The Butterfly Bulletin Issue 02 is available for each Home:

[Bonnechere Manor Foundation](#)

[Miramichi Lodge Foundation](#)

- b) Thank you to the MacLaren family who have donated \$10,000 to Bonnechere Manor Foundation in honour of family members that have lived at Bonnechere Manor in the past.
- c) Thank you to the Miramichi Lodge Auxiliary who recently donated \$10,000 to Miramichi Lodge for the implementation of the Butterfly Approach project.

8. **Expressions of Gratitude**

Both Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge have received the following expressions of gratitude:

- a) A family recognized the excellent care provided to their loved one while resident at Bonnechere Manor:
'My mom was only deemed palliative 24 hours before she passed away, so it was a quick 24 hours. Prior to that time my mother's health was failing and I was kept apprised by staff of her situation. During the 24 hours of being told my mom was palliative we were permitted family visits to say good-bye. The staff was overly helpful and secured a room for us so visitors with my mom were kept to a minimum. All precautions were taken to ensure safety was maintained during COVID. All-in-all I felt we were treated kindly and respectfully. My mother was kept pain free and comfortable. I was able to stay overnight with her and during that time I witnessed the kindness of the staff to me and especially my mother. A very hard loss but comforted by the care my mother received especially during her final days.'
- b) Families recognized the excellent care provided to their loved one while resident at Miramichi Lodge:
'Living this far away from Pembroke is not helpful but these meeting are an excellent alternative to seeing first hand the valuable service you provide all the residents and staff of which my mother is one. Thank you for the update emails I receive weekly as well, they help me understand your efforts to keep my mother safe. Thank you to you and all your Miramichi Lodge staff for all you do. I rest a lot easier knowing how safe my mother is and how safe your staff work to maintain the safety of every one inside the walls of Miramichi Lodge.'

BY-LAWS

9. “Extending Letters” to the Long-Term Care Service Accountability Agreement and Schedule E – Forms of Compliance Declaration

Recommendation: THAT the Health Committee recommend that County Council authorize the Warden and Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk to sign the “Extending Letter” to the Long-Term Care Service Accountability Agreement until March 31, 2022 and the annual Schedule E – Form of Compliance Declaration Issued Pursuant to the Long-Term Care Service Accountability Agreement for each of Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge; AND FURTHER THAT County Council approve a By-law to Amend By-law 15-20, being a By-law Authorizing the Warden and Clerk to continue the Long-Term Care Service Accountability Agreement including the Compliance Declaration with Champlain Local Health Integration Network, at their next session.

Background

Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge each entered into a Long Term Care Service Accountability Agreement (L-SAA) with the Champlain Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) with a request to sign “Extending Letters” for extension of the L-SAAs for each of Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge from March 31, 2021 until March 31, 2022. The annual Schedule E-Form of Compliance Declaration is also requested to be signed for declaration of compliance for both Homes and returned by the March 31, 2021 deadline.

10. Bonnechere Manor Senior/Adult Day Program Multi-Sector Service Accountability Agreement (M-SAA)

Recommendation: THAT the Health Committee recommend that County Council authorize the Warden and Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk to sign the “Extending Letter” for the extension of the Multi-Sector Service Accountability Agreement from March 31, 2021 to March 31, 2022 between the Champlain Local Health Integration Network and the Corporation of the County of Renfrew, Bonnechere Manor for compliance with the Local Health System Integration Act, 2006 for submission by the deadline of March 31, 2021. AND FURTHER THAT County Council approve a By-law to Amend By-law 16-20 being a By-law Authorizing the Warden

and Clerk to continue the Multi-Sector Service Accountability Agreement at their next session.

Background

Bonnechere Manor has been operating Senior/Adult Day Programs in Renfrew since February 1997 and in Cobden since May 2001. Both programs are currently on pause for in-person services due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, however virtual programming is currently in place.

For the continuation of 100% funding for the Bonnechere Manor Senior/Adult Day Program, the Champlain Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) is requesting the signed 'Extending Letter' for the extension of the Multi-Sector Service Accountability Agreement from March 31, 2021 until March 31, 2022 or until such other time as may be agreed to in writing by the LHIN and Bonnechere Manor and submitted to the LHIN by the deadline of March 31, 2021.

COUNTY OF RENFREW
ADMINISTRATION REPORT

TO: Health Committee
FROM: Paul V. Moreau, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
DATE: March 17, 2021
SUBJECT: Department Report

INFORMATION

1. Retirement Notice

Attached as Appendix I is a letter dated February 12, 2021 from Mrs. Shelley Sheedy, Director of Long-Term Care informing the County that she will be retiring effective December 31, 2021, however her last day of work will be sometime in June. Congratulations to Mrs. Sheedy; we wish her well in her retirement

2. Ontario Health Team Application

Attached as Appendix II is an application update to the Network 24 Partners and Supporters providing a proposed structure to complete the OHT application and next steps for all groups.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has approved Upper Ottawa Valley, Highway 60, and North Renfrew together to move to a full application for a single integrated OHT.