



RENFREW COUNTY HOUSING CORPORATION

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 – 1:00 p.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.
5. Delegations: None at time of mailing.

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6. Director's Report	3
7. General Manager's Monthly Report	4
8. New Business.	
9. Closed Meeting – None at time of mailing.	
10. Date of next meeting (Wednesday, April 14, 2021) and adjournment.	

NOTE: (a) 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
COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
RENFREW COUNTY HOUSING CORPORATION

TO: Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors

FROM: Laura LePine, Director of Community Services

DATE: March 17, 2021

SUBJECT: Director's Report

INFORMATION

1. By-Name Lists and Enumeration [Strategic Goal #3(b)]

Attached as Appendix I is correspondence dated February 18, 2021 from Joshua Paul, Assistant Deputy Minister, Housing Division, Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, introducing By-Name Lists and Enumeration for people experiencing homelessness across Ontario.

2. Statistical Reporting

Beginning in May, statistical information will be reported on a quarterly basis. This will allow staff to identify any trends or significant changes affecting the program(s) and options to address them.

3. Renfrew County Housing General Manager Retirement

After 20 years with the County of Renfrew, Carol Neill, General Manager with Renfrew County Housing will be retiring. Ms. Neill has been an asset to this portfolio and her expertise and leadership has been greatly valued. We want to wish Ms. Neill all the best in her retirement and thank her for her great service.

**COUNTY OF RENFREW
COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
RENFREW COUNTY HOUSING CORPORATION**

TO: Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board of Directors
FROM: Carol Neill, General Manager
DATE: March 17, 2021
SUBJECT: Monthly Report

INFORMATION

1. Eviction Enforcement Resumes in Three Ontario Regions

Attached as Appendix RCHC-I is a memo from Tribunals Ontario Landlord and Tenant Board dated February 9, 2021 advising that on February 8, 2021 the government announced that residential eviction enforcement will resume in three public health unit regions, including Renfrew County and District Health Unit.



COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

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.
5. Delegations - None at the time of mailing.
6. Community Services Department Page
 - (a) Department Report 3
 - (b) Ontario Works Division Report 4
 - (c) Child Care and Early Years Division Report 6
7. New Business.
8. Closed Meeting – None at time of mailing.
9. Date of next meeting (Wednesday, April 14, 2021) and adjournment.

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

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

Strategic Plan

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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**
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- (c) Put a County of Renfrew technology strategy in place.**

COUNTY OF RENFREW
COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

TO: Community Services Committee
FROM: Laura LePine, Director of Community Services
DATE: March 17, 2021
SUBJECT: Department Report

INFORMATION

1. **Ontario's Vision for Social Assistance Transformation [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]**

Attached as Appendix I is correspondence from Janet Menard, Deputy Minister, Children, Community & Social Services regarding Ontario's new vision for social assistance.

2. **Statistical Reporting**

Beginning in May, statistical information will be reported on a quarterly basis. This will allow staff to identify any trends or significant changes affecting the program(s) and options to address them.

3. **Ontario Works Division Report**

Attached as Appendix II is the Ontario Works Division Report prepared by Ms. Andrea Patrick, Manager of Ontario Works, providing an update on activities.

4. **Child Care and Early Years Division Report**

Attached as Appendix III is the Child Care and Early Years Division Report, prepared by Ms. Judy Mulvihill, Manager of Child Care and Early Years Services, providing an update on activities.

ONTARIO WORKS REPORT

Prepared by: Andrea Patrick, Manager of Ontario Works

Prepared for: Community Services Committee

March 17, 2021

INFORMATION

1. Homelessness Prevention Program [Strategic Plan Goal # 3 (a)]

Number of Approved Applications in January 2021	Monthly Expenditure
115	\$111,316.11

Month	Homeless Population by Age Range						Total
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	
January 2021	4	9	7	3	5	1	29
February 2021	3	11	7	4	5	1	31

Attached as Appendix OW-I is information about homelessness in Renfrew County. The charts provide demographic information on individuals who have accessed emergency shelter services since the start of the pandemic. During the period of March 2020 – February 2021, 80.4% of homeless individuals in the County of Renfrew were local residents; 87.2% accessed support for the first time; and 92.4% were single people.

2. Mental Health and Addictions Referral Service [Strategic Plan # 3 (b)]

Attached as Appendix OW-II is an announcement regarding a mental health and addictions referral service called AccessMHA. This new single point of entry into eastern Ontario's system of care for mental health and addictions is intended to simplify the pathway for individuals seeking help. Residents who are 16 years of age or older can go to AccessMHA.ca to schedule an appointment with a mental health and addictions professional. That professional will work with the client to complete an initial assessment and connect them to the service that best fits their needs from a network

of partner organizations across the region. It is anticipated that AccessMHA will reduce wait times by assisting individuals to find the right service at the right time.

3. Employment Ontario [Strategic Plan # 3 (b)]

Attached as Appendix OW-III is an announcement of the business closure of Tyerman & Daughters Inc., the Employment Ontario service provider for the Eganville and Barry's Bay catchment area. Maggie Tyerman will be retiring effective March 31, 2021 after delivering employment services to area residents for over 30 years. A new Employment Ontario service provider will be announced soon. Currently in Renfrew County there are two other service providers, Algonquin College (serving Pembroke, Deep River, and surrounding areas) and OnTrac (serving the Renfrew, Arnprior and surrounding areas).

CHILD CARE AND EARLY YEARS REPORT

Prepared by: Judy Mulvihill, Manager of Child Care and Early Years Division

Prepared for: Community Services Committee

March 17, 2021

INFORMATION

1. **Revised Screener and Updated Health and Safety Measures [Strategic Plan Goal # 3 (b)]**

Attached as Appendix CC-I is a memo from the Ministry of Education dated February 22, 2021. This memo provides updated guidance that builds upon a number of public health and safety measures for early years and child care settings.

2. **Professional Learning in the Early Learning Programs in Renfrew County [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]**

On May 14th, 2021 the Child Care and Early Years Division will be hosting the eighth annual Early Childhood Education Development day. This year the day will consist of online interactive sessions that will be tailored to the input provided through an online survey of professional development interests and needs. The survey that was sent out to licensed child care agencies and EarlyON programs has received over 100 responses and recommendations for this day that will be considered. The Early Childhood Education Development day theme will be continued throughout the year in the form of follow-up opportunities for online learning with local partners.

3. **Professional Mentorship Program [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]**

Starting in June 2021, a professional Mentorship program will be available to any Early Childhood Educator supporting a student placement through the Algonquin College Pembroke Campus, Early Childhood Education Program. This Mentorship program has been put in place in partnership with the College in the effort to support the enhanced learning and unique challenges of student co-op placements through COVID. The Mentorship program is voluntary and free of charge and will consist of pre and post placement educational and coaching support for the Early Childhood

Educator engaged in supporting placement of a student. The education and coaching will be provided virtually.

4. **EarlyON Status Update [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]**

Since March 2020, all eight EarlyON programs in Renfrew County have been closed for in-person programming and have been operating in a virtual model as instructed by provincial legislation. As the province has now lifted restrictions and limited in person programming is allowable, the County of Renfrew is engaging with operators to make this a reality.

During the period of shut down, EarlyON sites have been utilizing several methods of virtual programming to engage families in Renfrew County through live virtual programs, pre-recorded postings on social media platforms, take-home learning kits, virtual resource sharing, and outreach for individual families.

Community interest in virtual programming has grown over this period. Currently, the statistics for EarlyON virtual programming for January are as follows:

Type of Programming	Number of Engagements
Social Media Postings	10,148 views
Virtual Programs	237 Adults served 247 Children served
Take Home Learning Packages	429 Families served

5. **Ontario Takes Action to Support Working Families [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]**

On February 26, 2021 the Ontario government announced regulatory amendments that support working families and improve the child care and early years' sector.

The regulatory amendments, which take effect on March 8, 2021, are as follows:

- a) Exempt certain authorized recreational providers from their three-hour operating limit, improving access to select before and after school programs for families with school-age children. The ability to operate for longer than three hours per day will be required to apply to the Ministry of Education themselves for an exemption. The first phase of implementation is limited to 5,000 spaces across the province. Providers wishing to begin implementing program changes or new programs under the exemption in the 2020-2021 school year must apply before March 26, 2021. Providers wishing to begin implementing project changes or new programs in the 2021-2022 school year must apply before April 30, 2021.
- b) Enhance health and safety protections in licensed child care settings, such as requirements to support contact tracing by local public health, new requirements for home-based child care and updates to the safe storage of potentially poisonous and hazardous items.
- c) Reduce regulatory/administrative burden on child care operators by removing redundant and unnecessary requirements for all providers. These include the removal of duplicate requirements related to the collection of children's emergency contact information, allowing records and documents required by the regulation to be kept in digital format, and no longer requiring licensees to seek ministry approval for children 44 months and up to bring their own meals from home.

The announcement can be found at the following link;

[Ontario Takes Action to Support Working Families and Improve Child Care](#)

6. **Renfrew County Licensed Child Care - Letter to Ministry [Strategic Plan Goal #1 (b)]**

Please see attached as Appendix CC-II a letter to the Honourable John Yakabuski and the Ministry of Education, dated February 25, 2021 from the Directors and Supervisors from Renfrew County concerning the Early Childhood Educator profession and the challenges regarding Personal Protective Equipment requirement for goggles to be worn outdoors.