



**HEALTH COMMITTEE**  
**Wednesday, June 16, 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 May 12, 2021 (on website).
5. Emergency Services Department Report. Page  
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6. Long-Term Care Report. 7
7. Administration Department Report – None at time of mailing.
8. Board of Health Minutes, April 27, 2021. 27
9. New Business.
10. Closed Meeting – None at time of mailing.
11. Date of next meeting (Wednesday, August 11, 2021) and adjournment.

**NOTE: (a) County Council: Wednesday, June 30, 2021.**

- (b) 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**

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**TO:** Health Committee  
**FROM:** Michael Nolan, Director of Emergency Services  
**DATE:** June 16, 2021  
**SUBJECT:** Emergency Services Department Report

**INFORMATION**

**1. Sierra Training [Strategic Plan Goal # 1]**

A training exercise involving the County of Renfrew Paramedic Service and the Search and Rescue (SAR) Techs took place on May 27, 2021. The goal of the exercise was to:

- Test communication capability with the County of Renfrew Paramedic Service, 424 Squadron and Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC).
- Ensure ground teams understand Search and Rescue (SAR) capability and how C-130 (Hercules Military Transport Aircraft) and the CH-146 (Griffon Helicopter) can assist for ground teams in a wilderness environment.
- Expose ground teams to SAR Tech Parachute insertion for persons in distress or to assist ground teams.
- Ensure helicopter safety when transferring patients into the CH-146 or prepare patient and ground teams for hoisting.

Air to ground communications were tested. The Algonquin Park team needs a number to text information so accurate details on patient condition can be relayed to SAR crews so they can provide the best care and mitigate risk to SAR crews.

An overview of what equipment is carried (medical gear, survival gear, patient extraction equipment and signal devices) by the Sierra Team and its purpose was given on the ground, along with pictures and information prior to the training to be reviewed by the teams to maximize SAR crews time on scene.

Two Sar Techs parachuted into the confined area with Search and Rescue Personal Equipment Lower System filled with medical and survival equipment to demonstrate their austere insertion capability. The CH-146 was used as the follow-on asset to extract the jumpers to the closest airport which was Muskoka CYQA.

#### Lessons Learned

- The County of Renfrew Paramedic Service would like to build a stronger bond with 424 Squadron and the JRCC to provide the best patient-care possible by continuing monthly joint training in the Algonquin Park area.
- The regional supervisor would like to have a meeting with the Commanding Officers of 424 Squadron and the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre to establish better standard operating procedures for future rescue coordination in their region.
- The SAR Tech Training Cell will coordinate continuing training in all aspects of rescue operations to build better understanding of each other's capabilities and requirements.
- Using RP30 C-130 and CH-146 along with the CH-146 T-Crew ensured that the 424 Squadron was able to support the training event and maintain SAR Operations for the one-day training event.

## 2. Vaccine Roll-Out [Strategic Plan Goal #4]

### **Long term Care/ Retirement Home Residents: (1340 Vaccines administered)**

The Service Vaccine Team administered a total of 1340 vaccines for first and second doses to residents of Retirement and Long-term Care Facilities who had consented to receive the vaccine. These facilities included Supples Landing, Arnprior Vila, Island View Suites, Champlain Gardens, Carefor Civic, Carefor Mackay, Chartwell Pinewood, Chartwell Heritage, Madonna House, Fairfields and Country Haven, and will continue to provide vaccine support for new residents who have not been fully vaccinated.

### **In Home: (330+ First Doses Administered)**

Over 330 vaccines have been transported and administered to individuals who are unable to leave their home due to mobility or other health issues. To identify people in need over 1600 people who receive chronic homecare were contacted to see if they required an in-home vaccination. There was also a form

mailed to individuals enabling them to request an in-home vaccination. Vaccine support will continue to be provided to any new individuals added to the list.

**Drive-through Clinics: (550+ First Doses Administered)**

The vaccine team organized two large pop-up drive through clinics ranging from 110-260+ individuals in Pembroke and Cobden, as well as smaller ones in Barry's Bay, Deep River, Renfrew, Eganville and Arnprior for individuals with chronic health issues who would not be able to attend a mass vaccination clinic but were able to leave their homes. In total from these clinics, over 550 first doses have been administered. A further pop-up drive-through clinic will be scheduled in Petawawa (demographically largest population of this age group) for children aged 12-17.

**Health Care workers/individuals eligible for early second dose interval: (120+ Vaccines administered)**

Once it was announced that healthcare workers, first responders, essential caregivers, retirement/long-term care staff and more were eligible for a second dose at an earlier interval, two drive through clinics were organized in Cobden for all eligible individuals who had received Moderna for their first dose. Over 120 individuals were vaccinated at this event.

**Retirement and Long-Term Care Staff Second Doses: (130+ Vaccines Administered)**

For Country Haven, The Grove and Valley Manor, walk-through clinics were organized near each Retirement home for their staff and essential caregivers to receive their second dose of the Pfizer vaccine. For each organization two – three clinics were held to ensure that enough staff remained able to work if individuals had adverse second-dose side effects. Over 130 individuals received their second dose at these clinics.

**Low Income Housing Units:**

Our team contacted low-income housing units to see if anyone needed help accessing a vaccine. Approximately 80 people were identified and were assisted with appointment booking and transportation to a nearby vaccination clinic if required.

**Assisting other Mass Vaccination Clinics:**

The Vaccine Team assists with various clinics where needed including administering vaccines, observation and COVAX administration.

**COUNTY OF RENFREW  
LONG-TERM CARE REPORT**

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**TO:** Health Committee

**FROM:** Mike Blackmore, Acting Director of Long-Term Care  
Shelley Sheedy, Director of Long-Term Care

**DATE:** June 16, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Department Report

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**1. Bonnechere Manor Resident Statistics**

Statistics	Mar 31, 2021	Apr 30, 2021	May 31, 2021
Population at end of Month	172	174	175
# of Female Residents	102	104	103
# of Male Residents	70	70	72
Vacant Beds at End of Month	8	6	5
YTD Occupancy Rate: LTC Respite	97.06%* **	97.23%* **	98.15%* **
Resident Deaths	4	3	2
Resident Discharges	0	0	0
Residents Admissions	3	5	3

**2. Miramichi Lodge Resident Statistics**

Statistics	Mar 31, 2021	Apr 30, 2021	May 31, 2021
Population at end of Month	149	151	159
# of Female Residents	105	108	109
# of Male Residents	44	43	50
Vacant Beds at End of Month	17	15	6
YTD Occupancy Rate: LTC Respite	94.45%* **	93.61%* **	93.94%* **
Resident Deaths	6	4	2
Resident Discharges	0	0	0
Residents Admissions	0	6	10

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

\*Suspension of occupancy target is in effect until August 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	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2021
Bonnechere Manor	238	243	246
Caressant Care Cobden	103	112	114
Deep River & District Hospital – The Four Seasons Lodge	58	58	62
Grove (The) Arnprior & District Nursing Home	166	168	178
Groves Park Lodge	174	176	174
Marianhill Inc.	220	225	244
Miramichi Lodge	362	364	381
North Renfrew Long-Term Care Services Inc.	91	94	96
Valley Manor Inc.	73	78	79
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1485</b>	<b>1518</b>	<b>1574</b>

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

- **Occupancy Targets**

On May 12, 2021, the Ministry provided guidance for Homes to reach the occupancy levels identified in Homes as admissions plans toward achieving the September 1, 2021 occupancy target of 97%. Homes are asked to safely fill the available vacancies identified at the following rates:

- 40% as of June 1
- 70% as of July 1
- 90% as of August 1
- Full occupancy as of September 1 (excluding unavailable beds).

Committee will recall that Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge have four unavailable beds each to manage suspect and/or new resident admissions that are not fully vaccinated. It is noted that Bonnechere Manor exceeds the 97% minimum vacancy requirement and Miramichi Lodge is at 94% related to the outbreak and anticipates reaching 97% by July 2021.



- **High-Risk Health Care Workers Second Dose Intervals**  
The Ministry of Health issued a memo adding high-risk health care workers (HCW) to the list of those eligible to receive their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine earlier than the extended four-month interval. However, given the limited vaccine supply provided to Renfrew County and District Health Unit this announcement did not benefit Renfrew County Long-Term Care Homes. However, we are pleased to advise committee of the strong uptake by all of our stakeholders to date:

	Bonnechere Manor	Miramichi Lodge
Residents 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> doses	93 %	99%
Staff (2 <sup>nd</sup> doses to be completed mid-June/21)	91 %	93%
Essential Caregivers** 1 <sup>st</sup> dose	88 %	87%

\*Snapshot as at June 7, 2021

\*\*2<sup>nd</sup> doses for ECGs are occurring offsite so we do not have access to final dose uptake at this time.

- **Immunization Policy**  
Despite being erroneously reported in the media as Long-Term Care staff being required to be vaccinated; rather the Province requires each Home to have an immunization policy to include:
  - Proof of vaccination of each dose;
  - Documented medical reason for not being vaccinated; or
  - Participate in an educational program about the benefits of vaccination and the risks of not being vaccinated.
 The above requirements were already in practice at our Homes.
- **General Visitor Outdoor Visits**  
With the declining local community transmission, general visitor outdoor visits were approved by Dr. Cushman, (Acting) Medical Officer of Health, Renfrew County and District Health Unit to commence on June 2, 2021. In addition, where a resident has health conditions rendering an outdoor visit unlikely, one general visitor per resident may visit indoors at a time.

- **Changes to Visitor and Resident Absences Policy**

The Ministry announced significant changes to general visitor and resident absence restrictions effective June 9, 2021. Residents are permitted to leave their Home for non-essential reasons, “Short Term – Social (less than 24 hours) and Temporary (overnight)” if the resident is fully vaccinated (two weeks post final dose) and the Home is not in outbreak. Medical masks, following Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) protocols and active screening upon return is required and for overnight absences, a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test and isolation until a negative result obtained is required. It is noted that while there is no screening, testing nor vaccination required for the individuals accompanying the residents for either of the above absences from the Homes.

- **Prevention and Containment Funding (Strategic Plan Goal # 1)**

The Ministry of Long-Term Care continues to provide additional COVID-19 prevention and containment funding. The allocation for April to June 2021 for Bonnechere Manor is \$319,800 and for Miramichi Lodge \$179,100. It is noted that the difference in funding amounts between the Homes is related to Miramichi Lodge’s underspending in 2020 and that staff have a proactive plan for 2021.

The Homes will continue to submit the requested quarterly interim financial reports to the Ministry with the understanding that funding provided during the 2021-22 fiscal year (April 2021 to March 2022) that is not spent by March 31, 2022 will be recovered based on in-year reporting on Prevention and Containment expenditures and at the time of the 2022 annual reconciliation.

- **Personal Support Worker Temporary Wage Increase Extended**

The Province announced the extension of the temporary wage increase for personal support workers until August 23, 2021.

- **Patient Ombudsman Survey – COVID-19 Experience in LTC Homes**

The Patient Ombudsman’s office launched a COVID-19 experience survey for residents, caregivers and families, and the staff of Ontario’s LTC homes. This survey will inform Patient Ombudsman’s on-going investigation into LTC homes with COVID-19 outbreaks. Survey results will be shared publicly later this year. Anyone can complete the online survey through the

following link: <https://www.patientombudsman.ca/COVID-19/Long-Term-Care-Home-Complaints>.

## **5. Ministry of Long-Term Care Funding: Case Mix Index 2021-22**

On June 9, 2021, long-term care homes were advised of the Case Mix Index (CMI) Ministry of Long-Term Care (LTC) funding with the same methodology used as the previous year. The Home's CMI is calculated from the MDS 2.0 resident assessments completed between April 2019 to March 2020, which is used to calculate the Nursing and Personal Care (NPC) funding.

	Budgeted CMI	Funded CMI 2020-21 Apr 1/21 – Jul 31/22	Funded CMI 2021-22 Aug 1/21- Mar 31/22	Increase to Funding
Bonnechere Manor	.9810	1.0007	.9840	\$51,523
Miramichi Lodge	1.0347	1.0502	1.0376	\$38,756

While this funding increase is minimal, we are pleased given that historically we have experienced a decrease in funding despite increases in resident acuity related to the Province's re-indexing process.

## **6. Co-payment and Preferred Accommodation**

On May 26, 2021, the Ministry of Long-Term Care issued a bulletin declaring that due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the annual long-term care home resident co-payment rate increase will be suspended for the entire 2020-21 program cycle (July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021).

## **7. Eastern Ontario Administrators/Directors of Long-Term Care Group**

The Eastern Ontario Chief Administrative Officers' group requested that the Administrators/Directors of Long-Term Care meet quarterly. Mrs. Sheedy participated in the first meeting held recently and has provided Mr. Mike Blackmore's contact information for subsequent meetings. The topics covered in the first meeting included COVID-19 directives, disability management, physiotherapy and staffing comparators.

## **8. Ministry of Long Term Care Compliance Inspections**

Bonnechere Manor – From May 11 to May 14, 2021, Ministry of Long-Term Care Compliance Inspector Mr. Anandraj Natarajan was on site to follow up on two critical incident reports for which there were no findings of non-compliance. Per protocol, the Inspector applied the Infection Prevention and Containment Inspection protocol. The resulting [report](#) included the issuance of one written notice of non-compliance and VPC. A VPC has been completed with the inclusion of the required SOP revision for hand hygiene and inclusion of resident hand hygiene to the weekly IPAC audit.

Miramichi Lodge - From May 10 -13, 2021, Ministry of Long-Term Care Compliance Inspector Ms. Emily Prior was on site to follow up on three critical incident reports. There were no findings of non-compliance for the incident reports. While onsite all Inspectors are now applying the Infection Prevention and Containment Inspection protocol. The resulting [report](#) included the issuance of one written notice of non-compliance and voluntary plan of correction (VPC). The VPC has been completed with the inclusion of the required standard operating procedure (SOP) revision for hand hygiene and inclusion of resident hand hygiene to the weekly Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) audit.

## **9. Joint Accreditation Canada Accreditation**

Committee will recall that both Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge have been awarded Accreditation Canada's highest accreditation award - Exemplary status. Miramichi Lodge is due for accreditation in 2022 and Bonnechere Manor in 2023. Consistent with the ongoing long-term care goal to standardize the programs and services at our Homes where feasible and the changes in the senior management, along with recommendations from the Accreditation Canada surveyors during the last accreditation processes that we should undergo joint accreditation at our next survey; Mrs. Sheedy has made application to Accreditation Canada for joint accreditation. This means that in 2023, the new entity would be placed into Phase 4 with an onsite survey and would be awarded its first shared accreditation status.

## **10. Recruitment of Personal Support Workers**

With the completion of the third consecutive onsite Algonquin College Personal Support Worker (PSW) program at Bonnechere Manor ending June

30<sup>th</sup>, the Manor is hiring six graduates from the 18-person class. As noted previously, while the strategy of offering an additional PSW program intake in the Renfrew area was initiated to assist the Manor in filling PSW vacancies, it is also intended to assist any other area organizations that employ PSWs.

Consistent with the Homes' Strategic Plan, Mr. Blackmore, Acting Director of Long-Term Care met with Algonquin College to explore a potential launch of a PSW onsite program at Miramichi Lodge. Preliminary discussions indicate favourable conditions to commence September 2022. A site visit to explore potential classroom and lab space at Miramichi Lodge is the next order of business as COVID-19 restrictions permit.

Our Homes have also engaged in a promising recruitment strategy in collaboration with Algonquin College Pembroke Campus this year in which "Job-Out Resident Aide" opportunities were awarded to successful student applicants nearing completion of the Personal Support Worker (PSW) Program. The job-out option was introduced as a means to support PSW students in completing their program during the COVID-19 pandemic whereby students completing their studies are simultaneously offered employment by a placement agency relevant to their field of study. In this mutually beneficial arrangement, students were able to earn both income and experience working as a Resident Aide while completing their final semester of the PSW program. The Homes interviewed candidates in advance of the placement to ensure organizational fit and are able to schedule job-out student hours to best meet resident and staffing needs. The students assumed responsibility for a gradually increased independent resident care assignment throughout the placement term.

Miramichi Lodge led this recruitment initiative with six (6) students onboard into Job-Out Resident Aide Positions in March/April of 2021. Provincial COVID funding in support of the recruitment and retention of qualified staff was applied to subsidise the full-time Job-Out Resident Aide hours necessary for the students to fulfill the clinical requirements for the PSW program. These hours were in addition to the regular staffing compliment. All of the participating students successfully met their PSW program criteria through their Job-Out Resident Aide placements and have now graduated from the Personal Support Worker Program. Four of the job-out students seamlessly transitioned into PSW positions, supporting the Home in achieving the

increased PSW compliment required to meet staffing needs over the summer months, and into the future.

Following on the Lodge's success, Bonnechere Manor also participated in the Job-Out initiative where two students were hired into full-time positions and three students into part time positions effective upon the completion of the PSW program in June and therefore of great assistance to the Home this summer and going forward.

## 11. Butterfly Approach Project Update

Further to the program summary presented to last month and committee's request to see some of the Butterfly enhancements, please find photo collages depicting some of the physical changes made to date. Committee is reminded that Moira Welsh's Toronto Star feature, [The Fix](#) is the end goal of our implementation of the Butterfly Approach.



In addition since our last report, the Homes have met virtually with Meaningful Care Matters to transition the project management to Mr. Blackmore and Mrs. Saunders and also discuss the potential timing of formal resumption of education portion of the project – it is to be determined dependant upon the status of the Pandemic such as if we will experience a fourth wave. In addition, we met virtually with Ms. Wendy Brawley of Hobin Architecture Incorporated to discuss the required renovations to reduce the Butterfly unit at each Home to two smaller 'households'. Ms. Brawley will provide a Class D estimate to inform the 2022 capital budget process and ongoing fundraising.

## RESOLUTIONS

### 12. Business Case – Bonnechere Manor Full-time Recreation Programmer

**Recommendation:** THAT the Health Committee recommend to County Council that the Full-Time Recreation Programmer complement at Bonnechere Manor is increased by one (1) position (2,080 hours) from existing part-time hours effective July 3, 2021 at an annual estimated saving of \$4,540. AND FURTHER THAT that Finance and Administration Committee be so advised.

#### **Background**

The Recreation Programmer position plays a critical role in the residents' physical, social and emotional wellbeing as part of the Home's interdisciplinary team, by delivering a variety one-to-one recreation programs, small group and large group activities as well as special events. Consistent with our goal and the Province recommendation to increase full-time positions where feasible to enhance resident continuity of care, a Business Case is attached as Appendix LTC-I.

### 13. Seniors' Housing Strategy

**Recommendation:** THAT the Health Committee approves the Emergency Services and Long-Term Care portion of the Seniors' Housing Work Plan; and further recommends that County Council approve the entire Seniors' Housing Work Plan dated June 2021 as attached as Appendix LTC-II.

#### **Background**

At the February 24, 2021 meeting, County Council adopted Resolution No. H-CC-21-02-18 whereby Council received the Seniors' Housing Strategy 'Strategy Summary Report/Strategy Technical Appendix' and directed that staff initiate the development of a prioritized work plan.

Directors Mr. Craig Kelley, Ms. Laura LePine, Chief Michael Nolan and Mrs. Shelley Sheedy along with Chief Administrative Officer Mr. Paul Moreau have drafted a work plan for the review of the Health, Development & Property and the Community Services Committees, which is attached as Appendix LTC-II. The applicable areas for the Health Committee are shaded in grey, and staff are recommending that this draft work plan be forwarded to County Council for their approval. The

Development & Property and Community Services Committees will be reviewing for approval to their areas of the work plan.

If approved, it is noted that this work plan will be included in the request for both a delegation and to present at the 2021 Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference.