



## HEALTH COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, August 11, 2021**

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An electronic meeting of the Health Committee was held on Wednesday, August 11, 2021, at 9:30 a.m.

**Present were:**

Chair Michael Donohue  
Warden Debbie Robinson  
Vice-Chair Kim Love  
Councillor David Bennett  
Councillor Glenn Doncaster  
Councillor Debbi Grills

**City of Pembroke Reps:**

Mayor Michael LeMay  
Councillor Patricia Lafreniere

**Regrets:**

Councillor Peter Emon  
Councillor Jennifer Murphy

**Staff Present:**

Paul Moreau, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk  
Michael Nolan, Director of Emergency Services  
Mike Blackmore, Director of Long-Term Care  
Jeffrey Foss, Director of Corporate Services  
Craig Kelley, Director of Development and Property  
Laura LePine, Director of Community Services  
Lee Perkins, Director of Public Works & Engineering  
Brian Leahey, Deputy Chief, Emergency Services  
Dave Libby, Commander, Emergency Services  
Kimberley Saunders, Administrator, Bonnechere Manor  
Roselyn Gruntz, Deputy Clerk  
Wendy Hill, Administrative Assistant

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Chair Donohue called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The roll was called, and no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

**RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-08-71**

Moved by Councillor Love

Seconded by Councillor Bennett

THAT the minutes of the June 16, 2021 meeting be adopted. CARRIED.

**Emergency Services Report**

Chief Nolan overviewed the Emergency Services Department Report which is attached as Appendix A.

**RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-08-72**

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Grills

THAT Health Committee recommend that County Council adopt a By-law authorizing the Warden and Clerk to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Renfrew Paramedic Service and Arnprior Regional Health transferring operational responsibility for the Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre (RC VTAC) to take effect August 29, 2021, and be in effect until March 31, 2022.

Vote on resolution:

Councillor Name	For	Against
Chair Donohue	x	-
Warden Robinson	x	-
Councillor Bennett	x	-
Councillor Doncaster	x	-
Councillor Emon	-	-
Councillor Grills	x	-
Councillor Love	x	-
Councillor Murphy	-	-
Mayor LeMay	x	-
Councillor Lafreniere	x	-
Totals	8	0

CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-08-73**

Moved by Councillor Bennett

Seconded by Councillor Love

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

**Long-Term Care Report**

Mr. Blackmore overviewed the Long-Term Care Report which is attached as Appendix B.

**RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-08-74**

Moved by Councillor Doncaster

Seconded by Councillor Grills

THAT the signing authority for Bonnechere Manor trust accounts be updated to remove Shelley Sheedy and add Kimberley Saunders, Administrator, Bonnechere Manor effective immediately. FURTHER, THAT two (2) of the following four (4) names have signing authority: Jeffery Foss, Kimberley Saunders, Sandra Blok and Kim Prentice.

**RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-08-75**

Moved by Councillor Bennett

Seconded by Councillor Love

THAT the Long-Term Care Department Report attached as Appendix B be approved. CARRIED.

**Administration Report**

Mr. Moreau overviewed the Administration Report which is attached as Appendix C.

**RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-08-76**

Moved by Councillor Love

Seconded by Councillor Lafreniere

THAT the Administration Report attached as Appendix C be approved. CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-08-77**

Moved by Councillor Doncaster

Seconded by Warden Robinson

THAT the Board of Health Minutes for May 25, 2021 be accepted as received. CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-08-78**

Moved by Councillor Bennett

Seconded by Councillor Love

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Health Committee move into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended to discuss labour relations or employee negotiations. Time: 11:05 a.m. CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-08-79**

Moved by Warden Robinson

Seconded by Councillor Grills

THAT this meeting resume as an open meeting. Time: 11:15 a.m. CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-08-80**

Moved by Councillor Bennett

Seconded by Councillor Lafreniere

THAT this meeting adjourn and that the next regular meeting be held on September 15, 2021. Time: 11:16 a.m. CARRIED.

**COUNTY OF RENFREW**  
**EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT**

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**TO:** Health Committee

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

**DATE:** August 11, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Department Report

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**INFORMATION**

**1. 50/50 Land Ambulance Services Grant [Strategic Plan Goal #3]**

Attached as Appendix ES-I is a letter from Ms. Susan Picarello, Assistant Deputy Minister of Health advising that there will be \$414,159 in additional base funding for a total of \$9,050,987 for the 50/50 Land Ambulance Services Grant for the 2021 calendar year and providing a schedule of payments to the County of Renfrew including the 2021 LASG calculation document.

**2. Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre (RC VTAC) 2 Proposal [Strategic Plan Goal #3]**

Attached as Appendix ES-II is a proposal that will be Chief Nolan will present as information.

**3. Vaccine Update [Strategic Plan Goal #4]**

As the demand for COVID-19 vaccinations is starting to decrease, with a large percentage of County of Renfrew residents having received their first and second doses, the Vaccination teams are focusing efforts on the more vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations throughout Renfrew County. This is being accomplished by establishing micro or 'pop-up' vaccination clinics, where residents do not need to have a pre-booked appointment.

In June, 1,687 doses were administered throughout the County of Renfrew through a combination of Long-Term Care (82), drive-thru (1,322) and in-

home (283) vaccination clinics. In July, the pop-up/walk-in model was adopted, and a further 1,098 doses were administered through walk-in (173), drive-thru (865) and in-home (60) clinics.

## **BY-LAWS**

### **4. Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre (RC VTAC) [Strategic Plan Goal #3]**

**Recommendation:** THAT Health Committee recommend that County Council adopt a By-law authorizing the Warden and Clerk to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Renfrew Paramedic Service and Arnprior Regional Health transferring operational responsibility for the Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre (RC VTAC) to take effect August 29, 2021, and be in effect until March 31, 2022, unless an extension is mutually agreed upon at the next session.

#### **Background**

Throughout the last fifteen months, Arnprior Regional Health has done an incredible job managing and operating the Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre (RC VTAC), developed initially as a response to COVID-19 in a rural setting, but has since become a lifeline to many who have not had access to a physician or care outside of the Emergency Department for many years.

The County of Renfrew has had the opportunity to work closely with Arnprior Regional Health as a partner since the inception of RC VTAC and has witnessed the benefits of this program as a model for the COVID-19 response for our communities and as the potential answer to the many issues faced by rural Ontarians to healthcare access.

The County of Renfrew will take this strong foundation and continue to build upon it, further strengthening partnerships and connections with our community partners, family health teams, hospitals, primary care, mental health services and other community services to make a rural model of quality, accessible, cost effective health care for our resident. This transition to the County of Renfrew will ensure that these essential services continue uninterrupted and will provide a stable solution until a concrete funding stream from the Ministry is available.

Attached as Appendix ES-III is the By-law and Agreement.

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

**TO:** Health Committee

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

**DATE:** August 11, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Department Report

**1. Bonnechere Manor Resident Statistics**

Statistics	May 31, 2021	June 30, 2021	July 31, 2021
Population at end of Month	175	176	172
# of Female Residents	103	104	100
# of Male Residents	72	72	72
Vacant Beds at End of Month	5	4	8
YTD Occupancy Rate: LTC Respice	98.15% **	98.11% **	97.73% **
Resident Deaths	2	3	6
Resident Discharges	0	0	0
Resident Admissions	3	4	2

**2. Miramichi Lodge Resident Statistics**

Statistics	May 31, 2021	June 30, 2021	July 31, 2021
Population at end of Month	159	162	162
# of Female Residents	109	111	110
# of Male Residents	50	51	52
Vacant Beds at End of Month	6	4	4
YTD Occupancy Rate: LTC Respice	93.94% **	94.61% **	95.14% **
Resident Deaths	2	3	1
Resident Discharges	0	0	2
Resident Admissions	10	6	3

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. **Home and Community Care Support Services Champlain Client Waitlist Information**

Renfrew County Long-Term Care Homes	April 2021	May 2021	June 2021
Bonnechere Manor	242	250	252
Caressant Care Cobden	113	114	114
Deep River & District Hospital – The Four Seasons Lodge	58	58	63
Grove (The) Arnprior & District Nursing Home	181	181	181
Groves Park Lodge	173	175	178
Marianhill Inc.	243	250	247
Miramichi Lodge	378	378	378
North Renfrew Long-Term Care Services Inc.	94	89	94
Valley Manor Inc.	76	81	82
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1558</b>	<b>1576</b>	<b>1589</b>

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

- Reopening Ontario - Stage 2 Restrictions for Long Term Care  
On June 29, 2021, the Ministry announced the easing of visitor restrictions effective July 7, 2021 as follows:
  - The limit of two designated caregivers per resident is removed. Processes to designate persons as caregivers continues.
  - Up to 10 people at a time can visit outdoors with a long-term care home resident.
  - All residents may have up to two general visitors and two caregivers at a time for an indoor visit.
  - Personal care services, such as those provided by hairdressers/barbers, are permitted.
  - Cohorting of residents can be relaxed during outdoor activities.



- Reopening Ontario - Stage 3 Restrictions for Long Term Care
 

On July 14, 2021 the Ministry announced further easing of COVID-19 IPAC measures effective July 16, 2021 including:

  - Lifting surveillance testing requirements for all fully immunized asymptomatic individuals visiting the Home.
  - Individuals choosing not to disclose their vaccination status will continue to require a negative rapid antigen test.
  - Returning to homes setting their own maximums for visitors based on operational capabilities with potential guidance on minimums
  - Permitting buffet and family style dining.
  - Allowing activities such as karaoke, singing, and dancing.
  - Permitting all residents to go on day and overnight absences regardless of immunization status.
  - Asymptomatic fully immunized individuals with no known COVID-19 exposure no longer require testing or quarantine on admission/transfer/return to the home.
  - Enabling the resumption of off-site group excursions for residents.
  - Removing requirements/rules contingent on homes' immunization coverage rates.
  - Directive #3 also updated changing daily symptom screening of residents to at minimum once daily (compared with twice daily) & adjusting the eye protection requirements for all staff and essential visitors providing care within two metres to a resident who is on droplet/contact precautions and/or directly in an outbreak setting.

## 5. **“Ontario’s Long Term Care Staffing Plan” - Staffing Report Revisions**

On July 22, 2021, the Ministry of Long-Term Care announced implementing a mandatory quarterly reporting of long-term care home (LTCH) staffing data. This initiative is introduced in conjunction with the goal to establish 27,000 new Nursing and Personal Support Worker (PSW) positions in long-term care as well as a 20% increase in direct care time from allied health professionals such as physiotherapists. The report seeks to establish a baseline and continued monitoring of staffing progress. Bridging and staffing vacancies are included as new indicators. In addition, the report seeks to separate position hours funded by the Ministry versus other sources.

A new reporting platform will be made available via the Health Data Collection Services website commencing August 6, 2021 with the April 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021 reporting period due for completion by August 27, 2021. At this time, the reporting requirements for the previous annual staffing report remain under review.

In addition to staffing-related data collection, the Ministry is requesting Homes to complete a survey by August 4, 2021, to support enhancements to clinical placement opportunities in LTCHs. Surveys were completed for both Homes. The information gathered through the survey will inform the development of solutions to increase clinical placement capacity and ensure a positive, supportive, and high-quality experience for students and staff that are critical to meet the complex and diverse needs of long-term care residents.

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

We are pleased to share another recruitment video produced in partnership with Pathway2PSW entitled 'Being a Personal Support Worker' that is available at this youtube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nS-weO8wD38>

#### **7. Butterfly Approach Project Update**

The management teams from both Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge met virtually with Ms. Wendy Brawley of Hobin Architecture Incorporated to discuss the required renovations to reduce the Butterfly home areas at each Home to two smaller 'households'. Ms. Brawley has since provided a Class D estimate of \$13,693 for Bonnechere Manor and \$15,318 for Miramichi Lodge.

#### **8. Joint Accreditation Canada Accreditation Update**

Committee will recall that both Bonnechere Manor and Miramich Lodge made application to Accreditation Canada for joint accreditation. Accreditation Canada has granted approval of the application. Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge are now registered with Accreditation Canada as 'County of Renfrew Long Term Care Homes' and are scheduled for the completion of the accreditation survey in 2023.

9. **Bonnechere Manor Roofing Replacement (Strategic Plan Goal #2)**

The Bonnechere Manor roof replacement was due for partial replacement this year at a costing of \$222,000 per the 2021 capital budget. Per County Council approval, \$250,000 capital funding was reallocated from HVAC replacement to the Bonnechere Manor roofing project to allow complete replacement of the roof up to a cost of \$472,000. Funding reallocation was facilitated by the award of \$990,000 per the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program for retrofit of the HVAC system. Consistent with Corporate Policy GA-01, Procurement of Goods and Services, Article 18.0 Purchases Exceeding \$50,000 – Request for Tender, six tender bids were received.

In an effort to ensure timely completion in advance of winter conditions, By-law number 89-21, dated July 19, 2021 was enacted per the Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk and the Warden. The By-law confirms Perth Roofing as the successful bidder, upon meeting the entire Request for Tender (RFT) requirements and submitting the lowest bid at \$398,000.

**RESOLUTIONS**

10. **Bonnechere Manor Resident Trust Account Signing Authority**

**Recommendation:** THAT the signing authority for Bonnechere Manor trust accounts be updated to remove Shelley Sheedy and add Kimberley Saunders, Administrator, Bonnechere Manor effective immediately. FURTHER, THAT two (2) of the following four (4) names have signing authority: Jeffery Foss, Kimberley Saunders, Sandra Blok and Kim Prentice.

**Background**

Mrs. Shelley Sheedy, Director of Long-Term Care retired as of June 30, 2021. Ms. Kimberley Saunders was the successful applicant for the position of Administrator of Bonnechere Manor.

**COUNTY OF RENFREW**  
**ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

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**TO:** Health Committee

**FROM:** Paul V. Moreau, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

**DATE:** August 11, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Administration Report

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**INFORMATION**

**1. AMO Delegation Position Papers [Strategic Plan Goal # 3]**

Attached as Appendix I are the position papers that were prepared for our various Delegations with Ministers during the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference as follows:

- (a) Minister Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
- Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre (VTAC);
  - Ontario Health Teams Governance; and
  - Public Health Funding.

The County of Renfrew requested delegation meetings on all three of the above issues, however, we were only successful in getting a meeting with Minister Elliott on RC VTAC. All three position papers were sent to the Minister.

- (b) Minister Rod Phillips, Minister of Long-Term Care
- Commission Report on Long-Term Care.

- (c) Parliamentary Assistant to the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Jim McDonell
- Seniors Housing Strategy.

**2. EOWC Briefing Notes [Strategic Plan Goal # 3]**

Attached as Appendix II for Committee's information are the briefing notes for the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC).

### 3. **Opioid Crisis**

Attached as Appendix III is a letter dated August 5, 2021 addressed to Warden Robinson from Chair Ann Aikens, Renfrew County Board of Health responding to the County of Renfrew's letter of May 27, 2021 regarding the increase in mental health and opioid-use related 911 calls.