



COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
Wednesday, September 15, 2021 – 1:00 p.m.

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 August 11, 2021.
5. Delegations: None at the time of mailing.
6. Community Services Department

	<u>Page</u>
(a) Department Report	3
(b) Ontario Works Division Report	5
(c) Child Care and Early Years Division Report	9
7. New Business.
8. Closed Meeting to discuss: Explicitly confidential information from Sr. Government.
9. Date of next meeting (Wednesday, October 13, 2021) and adjournment.

NOTE: (a) **County Council: Wednesday, September 29, 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
COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

TO: Community Services Committee
FROM: Laura LePine, Director of Community Services
DATE: September 15, 2021
SUBJECT: Department Report

INFORMATION

1. Renfrew County Indigenous Population Community Needs Analysis Planning Meeting [Strategic Goal #1]

On September 2, 2021 the Director of Community Services along with members of the Robbie Dean Family Counselling Centre, the Bonnechere Algonquins First Nation, The Circle of Turtle Lodge, Whitney, and Area Algonquins and Erik Lockhart, consultant, met to discuss an indigenous community needs analysis and to review some of the data that will be collected. This project is being coordinated by Algonquin College, United Way, The Circle of Turtle Lodge, the Algonquins of Bonnechere, the Algonquins of Whitney and area, the Ontario Metis Association, the Inuit Association and the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan. Community consultations will take place later in October and the data collected will be available to identify needs, gaps, and support planning for services.

2. Treasurer's Report – June 2021 [Strategic Plan Goal #2]

Attached as Appendix I is a copy of the June 2021 Treasurer's Report for the Community Services Department.

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

September 15, 2021

INFORMATION**1. Employment Services Transformation [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]**

Attached as Appendix OW-I is a memo from Nelson Loureiro and Drew Vanderduim, Assistant Deputy Ministers of the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) and a supplementary questions and answers document advising of the next steps in the employment services transformation in Ontario. Attached as Appendix OW-II is a memo from Cordelia Abankwa, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development (MLTSD) and an employment services transformation provincial rollout implementation guide.

In February 2019, MLTSD announced plans to transform employment services for all job seekers in the province. This included the integration of employment programs for Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program into Employment Ontario to create a single streamlined system. The new employment service system management model was launched in a phased approach starting with three prototypes in Hamilton-Niagara, Muskoka-Kawarthas, and Peel.

MLTSD will be moving forward with the employment services transformation in a further 9 regions, including Renfrew County, in 2022. Renfrew County is included in the Kingston-Pembroke Economic Region which includes Hastings County, Frontenac County, Prince Edward County and County of Lennox and Addington. Service system managers for each Economic Region will be determined through a competitive process that is open to any public, not-for-profit, and private sector organization. The County of Renfrew will continue to work collaboratively with any community partners who are applying to be the service system manager for our region.

The two-stage competitive process has been launched with a Request for Qualifications process, which will be followed by a Call for Proposals from qualified bidders in the fall of 2021. Service System Managers for low complexity areas will be confirmed in the spring of 2022 and medium complexity areas in the fall of 2022. MLTSD will determine the level of complexity through an assessment of labour market conditions and community readiness. The last three catchment areas, which include Toronto and the North (high complexity areas), will move forward in 2023.

MLTSD and MCCSS are working collaboratively to transform Employment Ontario and social assistance programs to reduce duplication of services and provide a more responsive, streamlined system where individuals can receive the support they need to move towards employment and independence.

2. Life Stabilization Information Package [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]

As MCCSS moves forward with a renewed operating model for social assistance, the focus of the work for municipal staff will shift toward a greater emphasis on connecting recipients with the supports and services they need to move towards greater independence and employability. An information package that provides details on the life stabilization framework and a placemat that summarizes the types of services that will be provided within this framework are attached as Appendix OW-III.

3. MCCSS Organizational Structure Changes [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]

Attached as Appendix OW-IV is a memo from the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services dated July 21, 2021 advising of changes to the organizational structure in the social assistance area. The Social Assistance Operations Division and the Social Assistance Policy, Planning and Innovation Division have been reintegrated into a single Social Assistance Programs Division (SAPD) led by Interim Assistant Deputy Minister Aki Tefara.

4. Social Assistance Recovery and Renewal Highlights Newsletter [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]

Attached as Appendix OW-V is a memo from Lindsay Jones, Director of the Social Assistance Strategy and Transformation Branch of MCCSS

announcing the launch of a new bimonthly newsletter to provide updates on the progress of the Social Assistance Recovery and Renewal Plan. The first issue of the newsletter dated August 2021 is attached as Appendix OW-VI.

5. Client Engagement on Social Assistance Transformation [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (a)]

MCCSS has been conducting extensive consultations with a variety of stakeholders regarding social assistance transformation. The Ministry requested assistance from municipal partners to gather feedback from recipients to ensure their needs are reflected in the future design of social assistance. County of Renfrew Ontario Works staff conducted telephone meetings with clients during the month of August to inquire about their experiences with social assistance and to gather their opinions on proposed changes. The MCCSS slide deck, attached as Appendix OW-VII, provides details regarding the questions that were posed of recipients. All responses were shared anonymously with Deloitte Consultants, who will summarize the data and provide it to MCCSS. Clients who participated in the survey will receive a \$25 gift card from the Ministry. Staff were pleased to be able to assist in this endeavour and help ensure the voices of clients in Renfrew County are heard.

6. Mental Health and Addiction Resource Guide [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]

Attached as Appendix OW-VIII is a bilingual resource guide listing all of the mental health and addiction support services available to Renfrew County residents. This guide was created by the Moving on Mental Health Planning Table to ensure that residents who need help in these areas know where to find it.

7. Local Immigration Partnership Strategic Plan [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]

The Ontario Works Manager and the Child Care and Early Years Manager were invited by the Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) – Lanark & Renfrew to participate in a community consultation session on June 17, 2021. Feedback received from community partners helped inform the development of the LIP's strategic plan. An interactive copy of the strategic plan is available at [Welcoming Communities: No Wrong Door 2021-2025](#).

8. Ontario Works Service Plan [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]

Attached as Appendix OW-IX is the draft 2021 - 2022 Ontario Works Service Plan. This document outlines the County of Renfrew Ontario Works service delivery model, local environmental influences, and strategies for supporting clients to achieve greater life stability and increased employability. The Service Plan is submitted to the Ministry in a two-year cycle, as part of the service contract negotiation process.

CHILD CARE AND EARLY YEARS REPORT

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

Prepared for: Community Services Committee

September 15, 2021

INFORMATION

1. **2020 Child Care and Early Years Statistical Report [Strategic Plan Goal #1 (a)]**

Attached as Appendix CC-I is the Annual 2020 Statistical Report for the Child Care and Early Years Division. This report contains data comparing 2019 to 2020 data and includes data from January to June 2021.

2. **Special Needs Resourcing Statistics [Strategic Plan Goal #1 (a)]**

Attached as Appendix CC-II is the special needs resourcing statistical report for the month of July 2021.

3. **Update of Capital Child Care Projects in Renfrew County [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]**

The following is an update on the capital projects approved or in approval stage by the Ministry of Education in the County of Renfrew;

Arnprior

Conseil des écoles catholiques due Centre-Est, a new school build, that will contain a licensed child care centre, has an expected completion date of September 2022. Projected for 49 licensed child care spaces (10 infant, 15 toddler and 24 preschool).

Renfrew County Catholic District School Board has submitted plans to the Ministry of Education for a new licensed child care centre within the existing St. John XXIII School with an unknown completion date. Projected licensed child care capacity not yet finalized.

Pembroke

Le Conseil des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario, Centre éducatif L'Équinoxe licensed child care expansion within an existing licensed child

care centre. Construction is set to begin May 2022. Projected for 39 additional licensed child care spaces (15 toddler, 24 preschool).

Renfrew County Catholic District School Board has submitted plans to the Ministry of Education for a new licensed child care centre within the existing Our Lady of Lourdes School. Completion date unknown. Projected licensed capacity not yet finalized.

Petawawa

Renfrew County District School Board, Herman Street School new licensed child care addition is expected to be completed August 2022. Projected for 88 licensed child care spaces (10 infant, 30 toddler, 48 preschool). As there is no partnering child care agency at this time to operate the program, management of a waitlist for these spaces has not been created. Once the school board has announced a partnership with a licensed child care agency for this project, information will be made available to families on the County of Renfrew website.

Renfrew County Catholic District School Board has submitted plans to the Ministry of Education for a new licensed child care centre within the existing Our Lady of Sorrows School. Completion date unknown. Projected licensed capacity not yet determined.

Renfrew

Renfrew County Catholic District School Board, St. Joseph's High School renovation will accommodate the move of the existing Leaps and Bounds licensed Child Care Centre in Renfrew and add space for an EarlyON site within the centre. Construction completion by 2024.

4. Work Matters Press Release [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]

Work Matters has announced the launch of an initiative focusing on worker attraction and retention in the Early Childhood Education (ECE) and Skilled Trades sectors in Lanark and Renfrew Counties. In 2020-2021, Work Matters concentrated on worker attraction and retention in the Health Care, Manufacturing and Transportation sectors resulting in the launch of our new Pathway2PSW program. Local consultations will begin taking place in October 2021 with partners who employ or educate Early Childhood Educators. Attached as Appendix CC-III is the press release containing links to registration for roundtable events and survey.

BY-LAWS

5. Amendment to By-law 49-17- County of Renfrew License Home Policies and Procedures [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]

Recommendation: THAT the Community Services Committee recommends to County Council that By-law No. 49-17 be amended authorizing the County of Renfrew to add a new policy to the Licensed Home Child Care Policies and Procedures.

Background

On September 2, 2021, the Ministry of Education updated Health and Safety Guidelines to include an Immunization Policy. The immunization policy applies to all licensed child care settings including Licensed Home Child Care operators. As a result, an amendment is required to the existing policies for Licensed Home Child Care Services for the County of Renfrew to include an Immunization Policy.

The following new policy is attached as Appendix CC-IV.

- LHCC-17-COVID-19 Immunization Disclosure Policy