

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE Wednesday, September 15, 2021

An electronic meeting of the Community Services Committee was held on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 1:42 p.m.

Present were: Chair James Brose

Vice-Chair John Reinwald Councillor Debbi Grills Councillor Kim Love Councillor Cathy Regier

Regrets: Warden Debbie Robinson

Councillor Ed Jacyno

Staff Present: Paul Moreau, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

Laura LePine, Director of Community Services

Craig Kelley, Director of Development and Property

Jennifer Dombroskie, Manager of Housing and Homelessness Judy Mulvihill, Manager of Child Care & Early Years Services

Andrea Patrick, Manager of Ontario Works Kevin Raddatz, Manager of Real Estate

Rosalyn Gruntz, Deputy Clerk

Wendy Hill, Administrative Assistant

Chair Brose called the meeting to order at 1:42 p.m. The roll was called and no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

RESOLUTION NO. CS-C-21-09-41

Moved by Councillor Reinwald Seconded by Councillor Grills

THAT the minutes of the August 11, 2021 meeting be adopted. CARRIED.

Ms. LePine overviewed the Community Services Department Report which is attached as Appendix A.

Ontario Works Division

Ms. Patrick overviewed the Ontario Works Division Report, which is part of the Community Services Department Report.

Discussion occurred regarding Employment Services Transformation and what this means as an organization and the changes coming in 2022 and 2023.

Committee asked if the Mental Health and Addiction Resource Guide could be shared with municipalities for posting in various buildings. The Moving on Mental health planning table is looking at ways to share the information, and staff will inquire as to how this document can be shared once the guide is ready.

Child Care and Early Years Division

Ms. Mulvihill overviewed the Child Care and Early Years Division Report, which is part of the Community Services Department Report.

RESOLUTION NO. CS-C-21-09-42

Moved by Councillor Regier

Seconded by Councillor Grills

THAT the Community Services Committee recommends that County Council approve Policy Number LHCC-17 COVID-19 Immunization Disclosure Policy; AND FURTHER THAT By-law 49-17 be amended for this purpose. CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. CS-C-21-09-43

Moved by Councillor Regier

Seconded by Councillor Grills

THAT the Community Services Department Report be approved. CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. CS-C-21-09-44

Moved by Councillor Reinwald

Seconded by Councillor Love

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Community Services Committee move into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended for the purpose of discussing explicitly confidential information from Sr. Government. Time – 2:32 p.m. CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. CS-C-21-09-47

Moved by Councillor Reinwald Seconded by Councillor Regier THAT this meeting resume as an open meeting. Time – 2:53 p.m. CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. CS-C-21-09-48

Moved by Councillor Love Seconded by Councillor Grills THAT this meeting adjourn and the next regular meeting be held on October 13, 2021. Time – 2:54 p.m. CARRIED.

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

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 êducatif 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