



HEALTH COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

An electronic meeting of the Health Committee was held on Wednesday, October 13, 2021, at 9:30 a.m.

Present were:

- Chair Michael Donohue
- Vice-Chair Kim Love
- Councillor David Bennett
- Councillor Glenn Doncaster
- Councillor Peter Emon
- Councillor Debbi Grills
- Councillor Jennifer Murphy

City of Pembroke Reps:

- Mayor Michael LeMay
- Councillor Patricia Lafreniere

Staff Present:

- Paul Moreau, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
- Michael Nolan, Director of Emergency Services
- Mike Blackmore, Director of Long-Term Care
- Craig Kelley, Director of Development and Property
- Laura LePine, Director of Community Services
- Kimberley Saunders, Administrator, Bonnechere Manor
- Mathieu Grenier, Deputy Chief, Emergency Services
- Steve Osipenko, Acting Commander/Alternate CEMC
- Rosalyn Gruntz, Deputy Clerk
- Wendy Hill, Administrative Assistant

Chair Donohue called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

The Chair recited the land acknowledgement identifying that the meeting was being held on the traditional territory of the Algonquin People.

The roll was called, and no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-10-89

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Doncaster

THAT the minutes of the September 15, 2021 meeting be adopted. CARRIED.

Emergency Services Report

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

To maintain compliance with Emergency Management Ontario, the Health Committee and Members of the Emergency Operations Centre took part in a tabletop exercise to walk through the notification procedures and emergency plan to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the County of Renfrew.

Chief Nolan noted that VTAC funding has been extended until March 31, 2022 and further information will be brought forward to the November 2021 meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-10-90

Moved by Councillor Murphy

Seconded by Councillor Love

THAT the Health Committee recommend that a By-law be passed at the next session of County Council to approve the 2019/20 Fire Services Agreement, including addendum to this agreement, for the purpose of call-taking, fire dispatch and, in conjunction with the Public Works Department, maintenance of call-taking and dispatching equipment and technology. CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-10-91

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Bennett

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

Long-Term Care Report

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

Warden Robinson entered the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-10-92

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Emon

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

Administration Report

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

Councillor Grills vacated the meeting at 10:23 a.m. and re-entered the meeting at 10:30 a.m. due to internet connectivity issues.

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-10-93

Moved by Councillor Murphy

Seconded by Councillor Love

THAT the Health Committee recommend to County Council that the Collaborative Decision-Making Agreement be endorsed. NOT VOTED ON.

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-10-94

Moved by Councillor Emon

Seconded by Warden Robinson

THAT the Health Committee recommend to County Council that the Collaborative Decision-Making Agreement be endorsed in principal with the understanding Council remains committed to its position and will continue to advocate that the Governance board must have elected municipal representation. Should this not occur this may cause Council to reconsider its endorsement at a future date; AND FURTHER THAT the Warden convey Council's position in a letter to the Network 24 Steering Committee and the Minister of Health. CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-10-95

Moved by Councillor Murphy

Seconded by Councillor Love

THAT the Health Committee recommend that the Warden send a letter of commendation to Dr. Robert Cushman, Medical Officer of Health, Renfrew County and District Health Unit, in receiving the United Way Community Builder of the Year Award.

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-10-96

Moved by Councillor Love

Seconded by Councillor Bennett

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

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-21-10-97

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Murphy

THAT this meeting adjourn and that the next regular meeting be held on November 9, 2021. Time: 11:10 a.m. CARRIED.

COUNTY OF RENFREW
EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

TO: Health Committee

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

DATE: October 13, 2021

SUBJECT: Department Report

INFORMATION

1. Emergency Management Compliance for 2021 [Strategic Plan Goal #3]

To maintain compliance with Emergency Management Ontario, the County of Renfrew Emergency Operations Team must take part in an Emergency Exercise each year. Health Committee is the Emergency Operations Team for the County of Renfrew. Acting Commander Steve Osipenko, Alternate Community Emergency Management Coordinator will be running Committee through Exercise Frozen February, a tabletop exercise to walkthrough the notification procedures and emergency plan to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the County. The Emergency Plan is attached as Appendix ES-I for your information.

2. COVID-19 Testing Update [Strategic Plan Goal # 3]

Swabbing demand for September has increased by 45 percent in comparison to the summer months. To ensure capacity, the Service has increased swabbing capacity and staffing levels. Without this increase, 96 percent of capacity would be reached. The Fall 2021 Testing Surge Plan is attached as Appendix ES-II.

3. Vaccine Update [Strategic Plan Goal # 3]

The Service has been assisting Public Health with mass vaccination clinics and administration of third vaccine doses to eligible residents in nursing homes and high-risk retirement homes. A total of 2,186 vaccines were administered to the public in September. Vaccine Clinics will be held indoors starting in October.

4. County of Renfrew Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) [Strategic Plan Goal # 4]

On Tuesday, September 21, the County of Renfrew drone was deployed to assist local firefighters responding to a structure fire outside of Renfrew at the former Briscoe's Store in Northcote.

Members of the Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) Team were requested by the fire departments to respond to the call, where despite strong winds, were able to get a drone in the air to assess the fire, providing situational awareness to crews actively fighting the fire.

Through coordinated teamwork, the Service, Douglas, and Whitewater Region Fire Departments and the OPP managed the blaze and were able to save the historic landmark.

5. Community Paramedic Collaboration

Ms. Claire Ludwig, Vice President of Home and Community Care Support Services Champlain visited the County of Renfrew Community Paramedic Program on September 24, 2021, to discuss opportunities for new and continued collaboration, and ultimately opportunities to improve local patient care and service delivery. As part of the visit, Ms. Ludwig participated in two community paramedic home visits, and demonstrated a great deal of interest and enthusiasm for the program.

- **Community Paramedic Continuing Education**

Community Paramedics are completing their post-stroke education with the Ottawa Hospital. This will enable a higher level of care for patients returning home following a stroke. The partnership will lead to

increased ability to support residents of the County through health prevention and promotion activities.

6. High Intensity Supports at Home (HISH) Funding

Ontario Health, through Ontario Health (East), has provided notification of funding for the 2021/22 Community Paramedic High-Intensity Supports at Home Program. Funding for this initiative, in the amount of \$133,300 will flow through Arnprior Regional Health. The notification letter, reporting template and terms and conditions of funding are attached as Appendix ES-III.

BY-LAWS

7. Fire Services Agreement

Recommendation: THAT the Health Committee recommend that a By-law be passed to accept the 2019/20 Fire Services Agreement, including addendum to this agreement, for the purpose of call-taking, fire dispatch and, in conjunction with the Public Works Department, maintenance of call-taking and dispatching equipment and technology at the next session of County Council.

Background

Attached as Appendix ES-IV is a Fire Services Agreement for 2019-20, as well as an addendum outlining provision for extension of this contract. The County of Renfrew Emergency Services Department is responsible for the contract for call-taking, fire dispatch and with the Public Works Department, the maintenance of call-taking and dispatching equipment and technology. The attached addendum to the agreement provides terms of a renewal for an additional three-years.

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

TO: Health Committee

FROM: Mike Blackmore, Director of Long-Term Care

DATE: October 13, 2021

SUBJECT: Department Report

INFORMATION

1. COVID-19 Pandemic Update – Long-Term Care (Strategic Plan Goal #3)

- On October 1, 2021 the Ministry of Long-Term Care provided updates to the Minister's Directive on Long-Term Care Home COVID-19 Immunization Policy to require full COVID-19 vaccination (two weeks post second dose) for all staff, support workers, students and volunteers in long-term care homes by November 15, 2021, unless they have a valid medical exemption. All staff choosing to remain unvaccinated will be placed on an unpaid leave of absence from November 15, 2021 until January 15, 2022. Staff were advised that continued refusal to obtain COVID-19 vaccination may result in termination of employment.
- Effective October 15, 2021, the Minister's Directive: Long-Term Care Home Surveillance Testing and Access to Homes will require licensees to ensure homes conduct randomized testing of fully immunized individuals at an interval to be determined by the licensee.
- In recognition of potential staffing challenges associated with enhanced mandatory vaccination requirements, the Ministry of Long-Term Care reminded licensees that Homes have staffing and operational flexibility provided through O. Reg. 95/20: Streamlining Requirements for Long-Term Care Homes, under the Reopening Ontario Act, 2020. Options permitted include forgoing the requirement for a Registered Nurse (RN) to be on staff at all times, allowing a Registered Practical Nurse (RPN) to

assume this responsibility where an RN is available to consult remotely. Employment of Resident Aides is suggested as another potential mitigation strategy.

- The Ministry of Health set a target date of October 8, 2021 for the third dose administration to eligible long-term care residents that are a minimum of five months post second dose. Both County Homes are currently compliant.
- Ontario Health East confirmed one-time funding for Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Personnel and Training of \$68,644 for Bonnechere Manor and \$63,305 for Miramichi Lodge. Funds are intended to bolster IPAC implementation measures and expertise. Funds must be spent by March 31, 2022.

2. Provincial Funding (Strategic Plan Goal #2)

Committee may recall that it was announced in the spring budget, that the provincial government would provide \$270 million this fiscal year towards increasing the direct hours of care provided by registered nurses (RNs), registered practical nurses (RPNs), and personal support workers (PSWs) for 2021-22. This funding is intended to increase the provincial daily average to 3 hours per resident per day, by the end of this fiscal year.

Over the next four years, along with the funding provided to train and educate more PSWs and nurses, the total funding will be \$4.9 billion. The breakdown of the funding is as follows:

- \$270 million in 2021-22
- \$673 million in 2022-23
- \$1.25 billion in 2023-24
- \$1.82 billion in 2024-25

Homes will start receiving the funds in November 2021, based on the number of beds per home.

As a reference, a 160-bed home will receive close to \$1.2 million over the next year in funding, and by 2024, the same 160-bed home will receive a total of \$3.2 million. This funding will allow homes to add approximately 43 new direct care staff with 6 RNs, 12 RPNs, and an additional 25 PSWs. The

requirement for Homes to provide an average of 4 hours of direct care per resident per day is to be added to the Long-Term Care Homes Act this fall.

3. **National Occupational Classification (Strategic Plan Goal #3)**

The federal government has changed the personal support worker (PSW) classification in the 2021 revisions to the National Occupational Classification (NOC). It is the NOC that determines whether a job or type or particular work experience meets eligibility for immigration purposes. This is anticipated to have a major positive impact toward increasing PSW staffing levels nationwide once implemented.

COUNTY OF RENFREW
ADMINISTRATION REPORT

TO: Health Committee

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

DATE: October 13, 2021

SUBJECT: Departmental Report

INFORMATION

1. Network 24 - Ontario Health Team (Strategic Plan Goal #3)

Recommendation: THAT the Health Committee recommend to County Council that the Collaborative Decision Making Agreement be endorsed.

As part of its plan to end hallway health care and build an integrated health care system centred on the needs of patients, the Ontario government in partnership with Ontario Health announce eight new Ontario Health Teams (OHT) located across the province including our local OHT, Network 24 representing the majority of Renfrew County and the Township of South Algonquin in Nipissing District.

As committee is aware, Ontario Health Teams (OHTs) are part of a new approach to health care aimed at bringing health care providers together as one collaborative team. The overarching goal for OHTs is to foster unified care provision culminating in one patient story, one patient record and one care plan that is shared between the health care providers. There are now fifty OHTs across Ontario set to cover ninety-two percent of the Ontario citizens once fully functional.

The Network 24 OHT, a steering committee of fifteen members, has been established for the first year of operation. The committee is composed of the following designate representation numbers: three hospital; three Patient and Family Advisory Committee; two Primary Care; one County of Renfrew; one Community Care; one Home Care; one Long Term Care; and one Mental Health and Addictions.

Chief Administrative Officer Mr. Paul Moreau participates on the multi-sectoral steering committee as the County of Renfrew designate member. Director of Long-Term Care, Mike Blackmore is appointed by the Long-Term Care Administrator's group to function as the steering committee's Long-Term Care designate. Chief Michael Nolan functions as the designate for Paramedic Services.

Attached as Appendix I, for Committee's review and endorsement, is a copy of the Collaborative Decision Making Agreement (CDMA) developed by all of the Network 24 partners. This request creates the structure that will allow the further development of the OHT model over the next year.

A September 27, 2021 vote held by the Network 24 steering committee designated the County of Renfrew as the OHT fund holder.

2. United Way Community Builder of the Year Award

On October 5, 2021, United Way bestowed its top honour, the Community Builder of the Year Award to the region's Medical Officers of Health and their respective health care practices during COVID-19 – Dr. Robert Cushman, Renfrew County and District Health Unit, Dr. Vera Etches and Ottawa Public Health, Dr. Paul Roumeliotis and the Eastern Ontario Health Unit, and Dr. Paula Stewart and the Leeds, Grenville, and Lanark District Health Unit.

Congratulations to Dr. Cushman, our Medical Officer of Health for this recognition.