



COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 13, 2021 – 1:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to order.
2. Land Acknowledgement.
3. Roll call.
4. Disclosure of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof.
5. Adoption of minutes of previous meetings held on September 15, 2021 and September 29, 2021.
6. Delegations: None at the time of mailing.

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7. Community Services Department
 - (a) Department Report 3
 - (b) Ontario Works Division Report 7
 - (c) Child Care and Early Years Division Report 9
8. New Business.
9. Closed Meeting – None at time of mailing.
10. Date of next meeting (Tuesday, November 9, 2021) and adjournment.

NOTE: (a) County Council: Wednesday, October 27, 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: October 13, 2021

SUBJECT: Department Report

INFORMATION

1. The Grind [Strategic Goal #2]

At the June 2021 meeting of County Council, members of The Grind made a request of County Council for operational funding to cover staff (administrative and managerial) wages and benefits in the amount of \$142,329.82 annually. This request for financial support has been directed to Community Services for review and consideration. After a review of the Community Services budget and funding envelopes, it is staff's recommendation to utilize Social Services Relief (SSRF) funding to extend to The Grind the after-hours support until March 31, 2022, which is the end of the funding cycle for the SSRF. SSRF is currently covering these costs until December 31, 2021. Through the Homelessness Prevention Program, support for the cost of emergency housing (ie: motel/hotel) and after-hours food security for people who reach out for homelessness support through The Grind's after-hours support program continue to be supported as billed, as long as funding through the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) continues. Community Services does not have the funding in the 2021 budget to support The Grind's request for operational funding for staff salary and wages in the amount of \$142,329.82. All funding for the April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022 fiscal year has been committed.

2. **Community Needs Analysis [Strategic Goal #3]**

The Robbie Dean Centre and the Circle of Turtle Lodge have partnered with many who share a common interest in ensuring Indigenous Peoples of Renfrew County feel connected to their culture. Their goal is to launch a sustainable land based Indigenous mental health and addiction program and as a first step, have partnered with local stakeholders to host an Indigenous Community Needs Analysis. The data collected will be used to apply for funding and will be shared with organizations in Renfrew County and area who may need it. The analysis will be held virtually on October 21st and also have paper questionnaires for those who do not have access or prefer doing it on paper. Attached as Appendix I is an information sheet and invitation to the virtual Community Needs Analysis being held on Thursday, October 21, 2021.

BY-LAWS

3. **Tender 21-11 Window Replacement at Bronx and Reynolds Townhouse Complex, Pembroke, Ontario [Strategic Plan Goal #2]**

Recommendation: THAT the Community Services Committee recommends that County Council approve Tender 21-11 as submitted by Valley Window and Door, Pembroke, Ontario for the replacement of 28 family units' windows at Bronx and Reynolds Townhouse Complexes in Pembroke, Ontario in the amount of \$194,164.53 plus HST; AND FURTHER THAT County Council pass a By-law to Authorize Execution of the Contract.

Background

Renfrew County Housing Corporation issued a request for tender for replacement of all windows at Bronx and Reynolds family unit projects, Pembroke, Ontario. Tenders were received until 2:00 p.m. on October 5, 2021. These buildings were built in 1976 and windows were replaced in 1992 and are now at the end of their life cycle due to wear and tear. Energy efficiency in the units should be increased which will improve energy consumption. This project will replace all windows, varying in size, in 3, 4 and 5 bedroom units in a total of 28 family units. Three companies pulled the tender documents; however only one company attended the mandatory site meeting.

Tenders were received and the results submitted are as follows:

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|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Valley Windows and Doors | \$194,164.53 |
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All amounts exclude 13% HST.

In accordance with the County of Renfrew Policy GA-01 for the Procurement of Goods & Services, competitive tenders with results greater than \$150,000 require approval from County Council.

Procurement of the services included in this tender, followed the requirements set out in Policy GA-01 – Procurement of Goods & Services.

Attached as Appendix II is a by-law for the execution of Tender 21-11 window replacement at Bronx and Reynolds Townhouse Complex in Pembroke, Ontario.

Financial Implications

The cost for this contract is covered in our capital plan at \$175,000. Staff have reviewed the tender results for the project and confirmed that there are sufficient funds in the 2021 Departmental budget to complete this project.

4. **Tender 21-14 Window Replacement at 260 Elizabeth St. N., Pembroke, Ontario [Strategic Plan Goal #2]**

Recommendation: THAT the Community Services Committee recommend that County Council approve Tender 21-14 as submitted by Valley Window and Door, Pembroke, Ontario for the replacement of 60 unit windows (living room and bedroom) at 260 Elizabeth Street North Apartment Complex in Pembroke, Ontario in the amount of \$172,453.95 plus HST; AND FURTHER THAT County Council pass a By-law to Authorize Execution of the Contract.

Background

Renfrew County Housing Corporation issued a request for tender for replacement of living room and bedroom windows at 260 Elizabeth St. N., Apartment Complex in Pembroke, Ontario. Tenders were received until 2:00 p.m., October 5, 2021. The building was built in 1977 and the windows have never been replaced and are at the end of their life cycle. Energy efficiency should be increased thus costing us less in our energy

consumption moving forward. This project will replace all living room and bedroom windows in 60 units. We had three companies pull the tender documents; however only one company attended the mandatory site meeting.

Tenders were received and the results submitted are as follows:

2. Valley Windows and Doors	\$172,453.95
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All amounts exclude 13% HST.

In accordance with the County of Renfrew Policy GA-01 for the Procurement of Goods & Services, competitive tenders with results greater than \$150,000 require approval from County Council.

Procurement of the services included in this tender, followed the requirements set out in Policy GA-01 – Procurement of Goods & Services.

Attached as Appendix III is a by-law for the execution of Tender 21-14 window replacement at 260 Elizabeth Street North Apartment Complex in Pembroke, Ontario.

Financial Implications

The cost for this contract is covered in our capital plan at \$200,000. Staff have reviewed the tender results for the project and confirmed that there are sufficient funds in the 2021 Departmental budget to complete this project.

5. Ontario Works Division Report

Attached as Appendix IV is the Ontario Works Division Report prepared by Ms. Andrea Patrick, Manager of Ontario Works, providing an update on activities.

6. Child Care and Early Years Division Report

Attached as Appendix V 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

October 13, 2021

INFORMATION

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

Attached as Appendix OW-I is a memo dated September 13, 2021 from Cordelia Abankwa, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development (MLTSD) which provides an update on the provincial roll out of the EST. As previously announced, MLTSD will be undertaking a multi-stage competitive process to select Service System Managers (SSMs) for all catchment areas in Ontario between now and the end of 2023.

The following four catchment areas were identified to be part of the next phase and MLTSD will have finalized agreements with SSMs by April 2022:

- York
- Halton
- Stratford-Bruce Peninsula
- Kingston-Pembroke

Attached as Appendix OW-II is a brief presentation of the EST process which outlines the phased approach that will be taken. There will be a 12-month planning and transition period where the province and municipalities will work with the new SSMs to prepare for the integrated employment system launch in April 2023.

As part of the transformation taking place with employment services and social assistance, municipal staff will focus on supporting recipients with employment readiness and life stabilization activities and will refer job ready recipients to Employment Ontario. Technological enhancements and new tools will be introduced, including the common assessment tool and shared action plan, which will help facilitate a collaborative case management approach and streamline services for recipients.

2. **Municipal Staff Engagement on Social Assistance Transformation [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]**

The Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) has committed to conducting a series of consultation sessions regarding social assistance transformation to obtain input from key stakeholders. On September 22, 2021, a meeting was held with all staff to review the Social Assistance Reform Consultation Package #3 (attached as Appendix OW-III), and obtain feedback on client-facing services and the future state client journey. The Ministry has requested input from municipal staff regarding which services can be effectively delivered virtually and which are better served by in-person delivery methods. Feedback from all Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSM) and District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSAB) is being shared with the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) who will compile and organize it into themes before providing it to the Ministry.

3. **Termination of Federal Financial Assistance Programs [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]**

Federal financial assistance programs including the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB), the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB), and the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB) are scheduled to end during the month of October. To help prepare for the anticipated surge in social assistance applications, MCCSS has created a data match with Employment and Social Development Canada. This data match will enable program staff to obtain required information to help expedite the Ontario Works application process for individuals transitioning between programs. The Social Assistance Performance and Accountability Branch (SAPA) of MCCSS is facilitating a series of information sessions for staff who require access to the federal recovery benefit information. All County of Renfrew caseworkers will be participating in these upcoming training sessions.

CHILD CARE AND EARLY YEARS REPORT

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

Prepared for: Community Services Committee

October 13, 2021

RESOLUTIONS

1. **To Change the Title of Integration Services to Inclusion Services [Strategic Plan Goal # 1 (b)]**

Recommendation: THAT the Community Services Committee recommends that County Council approve that the Child Care and Early Years Integration Services be renamed Inclusion Services.

Background

Since 2007, the Child Care and Early Years has directly operated Integration Services for children with special needs attending a licensed child care center in Renfrew County.

Since that time the Child Care and Early Years division has transformed service delivery from an approach of integrating children to including children. Inclusive programming is one that acknowledges, accepts, and celebrates each child's individuality and their abilities. Inclusive programs are an environment in which everyone experiences a sense of belonging and are supported to fully participate within the program. The updated language also aligns with provincial references to special needs services and supports.

BY-LAWS

2. **Amendment to By-law 15-15 - County of Renfrew Wage Enhancement Agreement with Licensed Child Care Providers [Strategic Plan Goal # 3 (b)]**

Recommendation: THAT the Community Services Committee recommends to County Council that By-law No. 15-15 be amended to enter into a Wage Enhancement Agreement with Arnprior Heritage Child Care Centre for the purpose of receiving Wage Enhancement Grant Funding for 2021.

Background

In 2015, the province of Ontario mandated municipalities the responsibility of distribution of Ministry of Education Wage Enhancement funding to all licensed child care centres.

Arnprior Heritage Child Care Centre is a newly operational for profit licensed child care centre in Arnprior. They are eligible under provincial guidelines to receive Wage Enhancement Funding. This agreement is separate from all other Child Care and Early Years agreements and does not include provisions for Fee Subsidy or Special Needs Resource Funding.

Attached as Appendix CC-I is a copy of the by-law along with the Wage Enhancement Agreement.