



COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 9, 2021

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 October 13, 2021.
5. Delegations: None at the time of mailing.
6. Community Services Department Page
 - a) Department Report 3
 - b) Ontario Works Division Report 5
 - c) Child Care and Early Years Division Report 8
7. New Business.
8. Closed Meeting to discuss: Explicitly confidential information from Sr. Government.
9. Date of next meeting (at the call of the Chair) and adjournment.

NOTE: a) **County Council: Wednesday, November 24, 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: November 9, 2021
SUBJECT: Department Report

INFORMATION

1. **Kingston City Council Motion - National Child Care Program [Strategic Goal #1]**

Attached as Appendix I is a letter from Kingston City Council to Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) regarding their support for building a National Child Care Program.

2. **2021 OMSSA Local Municipal Champion Award**

The County of Renfrew Community Services Department has been chosen as a winner for the 2021 OMSSA Local Municipal Champion Award. OMSSA's Local Municipal Champion Awards recognize the great work done in advancing excellence in human services integration and service system management by teams from CMSMs and DSSABs across the province.

Attached as Appendix II is a letter from the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association congratulating the County of Renfrew Community Services Department on receiving this award.

3. **Treasurer's Report – September 2021 [Strategic Plan Goal #2]**

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

4. **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.

5. **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

November 9, 2021

INFORMATION

1. Ontario Works Caseload Statistics [Strategic Plan Goal #1 (b)]

Month	2021 Total Caseload	2020 Total Caseload
January	1,062	1,273
February	1,052	1,287
March	1,076	1,327
April	1048	1,344
May	1037	1,268
June	1014	1,199
July	1002	1,160
August	985	1,125
September	946	1,074
October		1,083
November		1,080
December		1,073

2. Community Reintegration Engagement Session [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]

On October 6, 2021, the Ontario Works Manager attended a Community Reintegration Engagement Session facilitated by the Ministry of the Solicitor General (SOLGEN). SOLGEN presented an overview of their vision

for a Community Reintegration Strategy and sought feedback from Consolidated Municipal Service Managers regarding barriers and opportunities for enhanced community reintegration efforts. Attached as Appendix OW-I is an information document, which outlines the current state journey for inmates and details the challenges that individuals face when released from incarceration. SOLGEN is working with community partners to provide inmates with a more seamless connection to community-based services to help promote successful transitions, reduce recidivism, and improve outcomes.

3. Reimagining Social Assistance – Feedback Session [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]

The Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services (MCCSS) is changing what social assistance in Ontario will look like and is seeking input on the new delivery model from local service providers. The Ontario Works Manager and the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) Manager cohosted a meeting on October 26, 2021 for community partners to help build a shared understanding of Ontario’s new vision for social assistance and to obtain stakeholder feedback. The MCCSS slide deck, attached as Appendix OW-II, provides an overview of the information that was discussed at the meeting.

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

Attached as Appendix OW-III is the second edition of the Social Assistance Recovery and Renewal Highlights newsletter. This bulletin provides a detailed overview of MCCSS’ progress to date and all the modernization initiatives that are underway.

5. Implementation of the Common Assessment Tool and Action Plan [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]

Attached as Appendix OW-IV is a memo dated October 21, 2021 from MCCSS explaining that they are beginning a process to expand the use of the following two tools that support life stabilization to ODSP and Ontario Works offices across the province. These tools are currently being used successfully in the Employment Services Transformation (EST) prototype sites:

- **Common Assessment:** a digital questionnaire accessed through the Social Assistance Management System (SAMS) and used across social assistance and employment services to support identification, assessment and planning for life stabilization and employment.
- **Action Plan:** a tool used to create and record a client's individual plan towards life stabilization. It allows the caseworker to track the client's goals, barriers, and community referrals related to their life stabilization needs.

As a first step in this process MCCSS will be looking for one to two representatives from each local Ontario Works offices to join a working group to learn how the tools work and utilize them with their clients. Local office managers will be responsible to coordinate the selection of working group participants and are asked to consider level of interest and staff aptitudes for leading change while choosing participants as there will be an expectation that working group members will lead the implementation of these tools.

This expansion brings us a step closer to the broader social assistance vision that will provide recipients with supports needed to achieve greater independence, participate in their communities, and prepare them for work where applicable. Attached as Appendix OW-V is a slide deck which provides further details regarding the implementation of the Common Assessment Tool and Action Plan.

CHILD CARE AND EARLY YEARS REPORT

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

Prepared for: Community Services Committee

November 9, 2021

INFORMATION

1. Inclusion Services Statistics [Strategic Plan Goal # 1 (a)]

The following chart indicates Inclusion Services statistics for February 2020, before the COVID-19 pandemic as a comparison against the monthly statistics for 2021.

Month and Year	Feb 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	Jul 21	Aug 21	Sep 21
Children served	168	173	169	171	170	173	177	182	174	175

2. Licensed Home Child Care Statistics [Strategic Plan Goal # 1 (a)]

The following chart identifies the statistics for the County of Renfrew Licensed Home Child Care program for February 2020, before the COVID-19 pandemic as a comparison against the monthly statistics for 2021.

Month and Year	Feb 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	Jul 21	Aug 21	Sep 21
Children served	30	19	18	19	20	15	15	15	14	18
Open homes	7	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3
Children on waitlist	39	64	66	71	78	59	66	67	77	77

3. Licensed Child Care Statistics [Strategic Plan Goal # 1 (a)]

The following chart indicates statistics for licensed child care in Renfrew County for February 2020, before the COVID-19 pandemic as a comparison against the monthly statistics for 2021.

Month and Year	Feb 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	Jul 21	Aug 21	Sep 21
Licensed capacity	1762	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764
Operating capacity	1390	1117	1109	1143	1208	581	577	1056	1062	1246
Children served	1558	828	851	898	900	491	483	810	844	1105
Children served, receiving Fee Subsidy	471	328	331	331	322	317	314	321	323	343

*Emergency Child Care not included in the above statistics. Emergency Child Care operated from January 4, 2021, to January 22, 2021, and again from April 19, 2021, to June 30, 2021.

4. 9th Annual Early Childhood Education Professional Development Day [Strategic Plan Goal # 3 (b)]

On November 19, 2021, the Child Care and Early Years Division will be hosting its 9th Annual Early Childhood Education Professional Development day. This day will take place virtually and will support over 200 participants in the licensed child care and early years sector, in Renfrew County.

This year’s presenters will include Dr. Susan Hopkins presenting “Self-Regulation and Well-Being in the Early Years”, Laura Shilson, OT Reg. (Ont.) presenting “Sensory Strategies for Early Learning Environments”, and Dr. Jean Clinton presenting “Understanding Emotions and Remaining Resilient in Extraordinary Times”.

BY-LAWS

5. Amendment to By-law 50-17- County of Renfrew New License Home Agreement [Strategic Plan Goal # 3 (b)]

Recommendation: THAT the Community Services Committee recommends to County Council that By-law No. 50-17 authorizing the County of Renfrew to enter into an agreement with Licensed Home Child Care service providers, be amended to enter into an agreement with Sandra Swain (located in Eganville).

Background

Since 2018 the County of Renfrew has been licensed by the Ministry of Education to operate a Licensed Home Child Care Agency. At this time, there are three homes operating at full capacity with fifteen full time children. One home resides in Arnprior and the other two homes are located in Pembroke. The new home, located in Eganville, will support a licensed child care need for space in this area.

Attached as Appendix CC-I is the By-law to amend By-law 50-17 authorizing the County of Renfrew to enter into an agreement with Licensed Home Child Care service providers and the Funding Agreement with Sandra Swain.

6. Service Agreement with Bonnechere Algonquin First Nation [Strategic Plan Goal # 3 (b)]

Recommendation: THAT the Community Services Committee recommends to County Council that By-law No. 13-15 authorizing the County of Renfrew to enter into an agreement with Licensed Child Care Providers for the purpose of child care services, be amended to enter into an agreement with Bonnechere Algonquin First Nation for the purpose of operating a licensed child care centre in Herman Street Public School in Petawawa, Ontario.

Background

A new licensed child care centre addition to Herman Street Public School is expected to be completed August, 2022. This site is projected to be licensed for 88 child care spaces (10 infant, 30 toddler, 48 preschool). Bonnechere Algonquin First Nation has been operating the very successful County of Renfrew Indigenous Bonnechere Inòdewiziwin Abinòdjìnjish Kikinàmàgan (BIAK) EarlyON program in Renfrew County since January 2018.

Attached as Appendix CC-II is the By-law to amend By-law 13-15 authorizing the County of Renfrew to enter into an agreement with Licensed Child Care Providers for the purpose of child care services and the Service Agreement with Bonnechere Algonquin First Nation.