

COUNTY OF RENFREW



MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS
of the
COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE
COUNTY OF RENFREW

- Third Ordinary Session -

County Council
Pembroke, Ontario
February 23, 2022

GENERAL SESSION

The General Session of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew met at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 23, 2022.

The Warden, Debbie Robinson, presided.

Warden Robinson cited the Land Acknowledgement, identifying that the meeting was being held on the traditional territory of the Algonquin People.

The meeting opened with a moment of silent reflection and the singing of the National Anthem.

The roll was called and all members were found to be present. No pecuniary interest was disclosed.

Moved by Councillor Brose

Seconded by Councillor Regier

THAT the minutes of January 7, 2022, January 17, 2022 and January 26, 2022 be adopted. CARRIED.

Warden Robinson addressed Council as follows:

Members of County Council:

During the month of February, I attended 15 meetings on County business.

The month started out very well with a ZOOM meeting with Minister of Health Christine Elliott and MPP John Yakabuski to discuss future funding of Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre (RC VTAC). We are all very pleased that the province has confirmed that funding will continue for RC VTAC until March 31, 2023. This does not mean that VTAC will end at that time. What it does mean is that the Minister is well aware of the benefits of VTAC and will work with us in the coming year to find a way of cementing VTAC as a permanent service in Renfrew County and area.

On February 14, I received a follow up memo from the Ministry of Health, which stated that the ministry understands that RC VTAC continues to strengthen access to health care in Renfrew County and is a critical part of the province's pandemic response. It goes further to state, "...the Ministry is reviewing your proposal for expanding virtual triage services in Renfrew County to provide health care services beyond COVID-19. Ministry officials will be in contact with you if any further information is required about your proposal and to communicate a decision once it is made." This was received on Valentine's Day and was much better than a box of chocolates. Of course, I will definitely stay on top of this in the months ahead and will reach out to the Minister of Health following the June election.

That same day we finalized our response to Minister Steve Clark's follow up to the Rural Housing Roundtable session he hosted with municipal leaders during the ROMA conference. The amount of detail and research that went into our response was outstanding and I have no doubt it will impress the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. I want to thank our Acting Manager of Planning Bruce Howarth and his staff for their work in creating this report. The Development and Property Committee members will have an opportunity to see the report for themselves in March.

Just a reminder, our delegation with Minister Clark at ROMA made it very clear that the County of Renfrew is willing to participate in innovative solutions to the housing shortage.

On February 15, I attended an AMO Health Task Force meeting. We received an update on AMO's response to governance of Ontario Health Teams, which aligns with our position and the position of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus. We also had a thorough discussion on the regulations regarding fixing the Long-Term Care Homes Act. The new legislation includes measures in three key areas: improving staffing and care, protecting residents through better accountability, enforcement and transparency, and building modern, safe, comfortable homes.

On February 17, CAO Paul Moreau, Director of Development and Property Craig Kelley, Director of Community Services Laura Lepine and I met with Andrew Hamilton and Nik Lemieux of Mirabel Consulting to discuss innovative ways of assisting people who are homeless or precariously housed. Staff along with myself have spoken of perhaps hosting a housing forum to bring together developers, builders and other individuals interested in addressing the housing crisis in the County of Renfrew. This proposal will be brought to Development and Property Committee in the near future.

On February 18, I attended a meeting with Parliamentary Assistant Amarjot Sandhu, Ministry of Infrastructure regarding the implementation of the recommendations under the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund re-design and asset management planning programming. Attendees included representatives from the City of Thunder Bay, Town of Newmarket, City of Quinte West, Township of Centre Wellington and the County of Renfrew. I would like to thank Director Kelley and Manager of Finance Daniel Burke for accompanying me. It is interesting to note that our responses to the questions posed by the Ministry were also echoed by the other participants.

In the month of February, we continued our delegation meetings with the local municipalities. We have two more municipalities to visit, the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan and Head Clara Maria. Thank you to all municipalities for inviting us to make our presentation and thank you to staff CAO Paul Moreau, Director of Development & Property Department Craig Kelley, Director of Corporate Services Jeff Foss and Human Resources Manager Greg Belmore for assisting with our presentation.

I will remind those assembled here of the following - the County of Renfrew, Experience our history, Share our future.

This concludes my address for this session of County Council. Debbie Robinson,
Warden

Delegations were heard as follows:

- a) Video – Launch of partnership with Renfrewshire Scotland (Provost Lorraine Cameron).
- b) Video - Miramichi Lodge staff supporting Bonnechere Manor staff.

Councillor James Brose, Chair of the Community Services Committee brought in and read the resolutions of the following report:

February 23, 2022

To the Council of the Corporation
Of the County of Renfrew

Members of County Council:

We, your **Community Services Committee**, wish to report and recommend as follows:

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	1,048	1,344
May	1,037	1,268
June	1,014	1,199
July	1,002	1,160
August	985	1,125
September	946	1,074
October	974	1,083
November	977	1,080
December	1,017	1,073

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

The following chart indicates the County of Renfrew Licensed Home Child Care program 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	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21
Children served	30	19	18	19	20	15	15	15	14	18	15	15	15
Open homes	7	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Children on waitlist	39	64	66	71	78	59	66	67	77	77	82	86	91

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	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21
Licensed capacity	176 2	176 4	176 4	176 4	176 4	176 4	176 4	176 4	176 4	176 4	176 4	176 4	176 4
Operating capacity	139 0	111 7	110 9	114 3	120 8	581	577	105 6	106 2	124 6	126 5	126 9	136 4
Children served	155 8	828	851	898	900	491	483	810	844	110 5	109 9	114 2	121 9
Children served, receiving Fee Subsidy	471	328	331	331	322	317	314	321	323	343	326	327	327

*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. 2021 Fourth Quarter Community Housing Registry Waitlist Statistics [Strategic Plan Goals #1, #2 & #3]

	New Eligible Applications	Total Eligible Applications	Total # of Active Applicants	Eligible Transfer Applicants	Eligible SP Applicants
Senior	4	75	90	16	0
Adult	73	598	658	38	1
Family	65	348	547	40	37
TOTALS	142	1021*	1295**	94	38

*1021 eligible applications as of December 31, 2021

Bedroom Size	Senior	Adult	Family
1	70	559	0
2	5	39	157
3	0	0	112
4	0	0	55
5	0	0	24
TOTALS	75	598	348

**1295 active applicants as of December 31, 2021

Bedroom Size	Senior	Adult	Family	Dependents
1	85	622	0	0
2	5	36	236	145
3			168	224
4			91	172
5			52	113
TOTALS	90	658	547	651

5. Move Ins, Move Outs, and Internal Transfers Comparison (Fourth Quarter 2021) [Strategic Plan Goal #1]

	Move Outs Fourth Quarter 2021	Move Ins Fourth Quarter 2021	Internal Transfers Fourth Quarter 2021
Pembroke & Area	13	11	2
Renfrew	8	8	0
Arnprior	7	4	3

6. **eSignature is expanding in Ontario Works in 2022** [Strategic Plan Goal #3 (b)]

MCCSS has introduced an eSignature option for social assistance recipients. Between February and June of this year, the new signature solution will be rolled out across the province in five phases. The County of Renfrew is one of ten municipalities going live in the first phase. Two staff members have been identified as leads on this project to help coordinate the roll-out and to champion this new initiative. The new technology will enable consent forms as

well as the rights and responsibilities form to be signed digitally to reduce the need for in-person visits. This initiative will be expanded over time to offer the eSignature option for additional forms.

This technology was successfully piloted in two Ontario Works (OW) and two Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) offices in the fall which led to the province-wide implementation plan.

RESOLUTIONS

7. Investing in Inclusive and Accessible Communities [Strategic Plan Goal #3]

RESOLUTION NO. CS-CC-22-02-07

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve that the County of Renfrew apply to the Inclusive Community Grants funding program for the development of a County of Renfrew Housing Action Plan.

Background

Attached as Appendix I is information relating to the Province's call for applications for the next round of Inclusive Community Grants. These grants provide successful municipalities, non-profit community organizations, and Indigenous communities with up to \$60,000 for a local project that will help older residents and people with disabilities participate in community life. This year, Ontario will prioritize projects that support under-served communities and those that address COVID-19-related challenges.

Over the past couple of years, the County of Renfrew has identified that there is a need for various levels of government to further address the affordable housing situation in the region. The strategies also suggested that partnerships amongst governmental organizations, private developers, and non-profit entities would prove advantageous as a path forward to seeing housing needs being met. To reach a true understanding of what role both tiers of local government can assist, it is prudent for the County to consult with the local municipalities on the entire inventory of municipally-owned property assets to determine what possibilities exist for affordable housing developments, a mixed-housing development, aspirational/ attainable housing developments, etc.

To that end staff are recommending that an application be pursued to create a new Housing Action Plan. It is proposed, based on final confirmation of eligible expenses and outcomes, that the funding will go towards a consultant who will assist with taking the information gleaned from the County's Housing and Homelessness Strategy and the County's Senior's Housing Strategy, along with extensive consultation with the local municipalities and come up with a housing action plan that would collect and review all municipal assets and provide a best practice approach for disposal and/or conversion of those assets.

The deadline for applications is March 3, 2022.

8. **Hourly Rate for Resource Teachers** [Strategic Plan Goal # 2 (a)]

RESOLUTION NO. CS-CC-22-02-08

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve an increase to Resource Teachers capped rate of \$16.00 per hour plus mandatory benefits, to \$18.00 per hour plus mandatory benefits, effective January 1, 2022.

Background

The County of Renfrew, Child Care and Early Years Division, provides funding to licensed child care centers to pay for Resource Teachers. This funding provides enhanced supports for children who require enhanced inclusion support. The Resource Teachers are hired and trained by each child care agency, and monitored by the Inclusion Services staff.

Effective January 1, 2022, minimum wage rates increased from \$14.35 to \$15.00 an hour. The additional hourly rate will support recruitment and retention of qualified staff. The last pay increase was March 2018. It is expected that this pay increase will impact the Inclusion Services budget by approximately \$60,000, which will be mitigated with 100% provincial and federal funding.

9. **Professional Development Training** [Strategic Plan Goal # 3 (b)]

RESOLUTION NO. CS-CC-22-02-09

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve that Shelley Moore, George Couchie, Lorrie Baird, and Anne Marie Coughlin, provide professional development training to EarlyON and Licensed Child Care Providers throughout 2022, utilizing capacity funding.

Background

Due to the cost associated with these training modules approval is being sought. The training proposal for 2022 will cost up to \$43,000. Funding will be paid for with 100% provincial Capacity Funding which is to be utilized for staff training and development.

The following chart provides the training topics and cost analysis:

Presenter	Topic	Date	Total Cost
Shelley Moore	The Infrastructure of Inclusion (Three-part series being offered twice)	February to April	\$15,000
Shelley Moore	Coaching Session	February to April	\$1,000
George Couchie	Cultural Mindfulness (half day sessions)	April 5 and 6, 2022	\$5,000
Lorrie Baird	Deepening our Role as Leaders in the Classroom (Four- part evening series)	May to June	\$7,000
Lorrie Baird and Anne Marie Coughlin	Creating a Culture of Reflective Practice – The Role of the Pedagogical Leader (Five-part evening series)	October to November	\$15,000
Total			\$43,000

All of which is respectfully submitted.

James Brose, Chair

And Committee Members: D. Grills, K. Love, C. Regier, J. Reinwald, D. Robinson

The Report was adopted as presented.

Councillor Thomas Peckett, Chair of the Operations Committee brought in and read the resolutions in the following report:

February 23, 2022

To the Council of the Corporation
of the County of Renfrew

Members of County Council:

We, your **Operations Committee**, wish to report and recommend as follows:

INFORMATION

1. Growth Related Projects

In April of 2021, our Committee directed staff to research policies for funding growth related issues along county roads. Attached as Appendix I are the comments that have been received from our municipal partners in response to the email request sent out in November 2021 (attached as Appendix II) requesting feedback on the proposed growth financing options. Mr. Gary Scandlan of Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. is scheduled to appear at the April 20, 2022 special meeting of County Council as per the approved Resolution No. OP-CC-22-01-10 to discuss Development Charges. Staff will provide a more fulsome report to Council once further understanding on how the proposed growth funding policies may affect the County of Renfrew.

Municipalities who have provided input are listed as follows:

- Town of Arnprior
- Town of Petawawa
- Town of Renfrew
- Township of Bonnechere Valley
- Township of Greater Madawaska
- United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria
- Township of Horton
- Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards
- Township of McNab/Braeside

2. **Ottawa Valley Cycling and Active Transportation Alliance [Strategic Plan Goal No. 1]**

Attached as Appendix III is a letter received from the Ottawa Valley Cycling and Active Transportation Alliance (OVCATA) raising concerns on safety for pedestrians and cyclists crossing at the intersection of Highway 148 and County Road 29 (Drive-In Road).

In 2012 a presentation was made to the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) by the County of Renfrew to initiate the installation of traffic control signals (and associated intersection improvements, if necessary) at the County Road 29 (Drive-In Road) – Highway 148 intersection and staff continue to lobby for this.

On June 22, 2021, a meeting was held with MTO and staff from the County of Renfrew, the Township of Laurentian Valley and the City of Pembroke, along with Parsons Corporation, to discuss construction staging at the intersection of Hwy 148, County Road 40 (Greenwood Road) and County Road 29 (Drive-In Road). Discussion included the installation of a traffic signal at this intersection. As part of the meeting discussion on the following was noted, “The Township of Laurentian Valley confirmed they own only one luminaire at the intersection of Highway 148 and County Road 29 (Drive-In Road). Parsons noted that the Township of Laurentian Valley’s luminaire will be removed and replaced by luminaires to be mounted on the traffic signal poles. New luminaires will be owned, operated and maintained by MTO.

Our Committee directed staff to prepare a response to the Ottawa Valley Cycling and Active Transportation Alliance on behalf of the Warden advising of the ongoing discussions with the MTO for traffic signals at the intersection of Highway 148 and County Road 29 (Drive-In Road) and to send a letter to the MTO asking for an update on the rehabilitation plans including an anticipated timeline for signals to be installed.

3. **2022 Project Update**

a) **Design of B203 (Petawawa River Bridge) [Strategic Plan Goal No. 2]**

Design for rehabilitation of County Structure B203 (Petawawa River Bridge) is underway by WSP Canada. Preliminary design has been completed and given the high traffic volumes over the bridge, WSP met with County staff to discuss traffic management during the upcoming construction project on the bridge. Staff from Partham Engineering also attended the meeting to provide input on the temporary signal installation and overall traffic management plans.

The rehabilitation project will be undertaken in two stages in order to maintain one alternating lane of traffic over the bridge. Stage 1 of the project will require closure of the west (southbound) lane of the bridge with pedestrian traffic maintained on the east sidewalk. Stage 2 of the project will require closure of the east (northbound) lane and east sidewalk of the bridge. As only a single sidewalk is present, pedestrian access over the bridge will be maintained using a temporary walkway on the west side of the bridge and paths to the nearest intersection on each approach to the bridge. Coordination of pedestrian traffic and traffic management has commenced with the Town of Petawawa and the Garrison in order to ensure early input on this important aspect of the project.

b) **B319 (Bucholtz Bridge) Detour [Strategic Plan Goal No. 2]**

Discussions with the Township of Laurentian Valley staff have been ongoing regarding the use of Borne Road as a detour for full closure of B319 (Bucholtz Bridge) during construction in 2022.

Staff of the County of Renfrew and Laurentian Valley have concluded that the use of Borne Road as a detour route for County Road 58 (Round Lake Road) traffic would incur significant damage to Borne Road and require such significant traffic control that the benefits of closing Bucholtz Bridge during construction are outweighed by the negative impacts which could be incurred by the traffic, especially truck traffic, using Borne Road. Construction staging will proceed as originally designed with a single lane closure and traffic signals in place.

4. Winter Operations [Strategic Plan Goal No. 3]

Table 1 provides a summary of winter events, material usage and precipitation amount for the months of November and December and Table 2 outlines the Significant Weather Events declared to date for the 2021/2022 winter season. Staff continues to be ready to respond to winter events as they occur.

Table 1

Month	No. of Event Days		Type of Event (days)			Material Used (tonnes)		Precipitation	
	Weekday	Weekend	Snow	Blowing Snow	Freezing Rain	Salt	Sand	Weather Station	Amount (mm)
Nov	7	2	7	0	7	665.6	588.7	Petawawa	41.0
								Bancroft	62.2
Dec	18	8	19	1	8	5,565.4	1,679.9	Petawawa	55.0
								Bancroft	78.9
Totals	25	10	26	1	15	6,231.0	2,268.6	Petawawa	96.0
								Bancroft	141.1

Table 2

Declaration Start			Declaration End			Reason
Month	Day	Time	Month	Day	Time	
Dec	5	3:00 PM	Dec	7	8:00 AM	Snow/Ice
Dec	10	10:30 PM	Dec	12	6:46 AM	Ice
Dec	15	7:00 AM	Dec	16	8:00 AM	Ice
Dec	24	3:27 PM	Dec	26	7:14 AM	Ice
Jan	16	6:30 PM	Jan	19	1:30 PM	Snow

BY-LAWS

5. County Road 1 (River Road) Road Widening – Kohlsmith [Strategic Plan Goal No. 2]

RESOLUTION NO. OP-CC-22-02-20

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council pass a By-law to acquire lands located within part of Lots 23 and 24, Concession A in the geographic Township of McNab in the Township of McNab/Braeside, described as Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5 on Plan 49R-19902 from Valerie Kohlsmith and Lorinda Kohlsmith for the sum of Seven Thousand and Fifty Dollars (\$7,050); AND FURTHER THAT Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5 on Plan 49R-19902 be dedicated as part of the public highway upon registration of the transfer documents.

Background

The applicants, Valerie Kohlsmith and Lorinda Kohlsmith, submitted an application for consent for a property along County Road 1 (River Road) within part of Lots 23 and 24, Concession A, in the geographic Township of McNab in the Township of McNab/Braeside.

During the review it was determined that a portion of land was required for the future road widening and maintenance of River Road in accordance with Corporate Policy PW-12 Right of Way Protection. The road widening lands to be transferred to the County are identified as Parts 2, 4 and 5 on Plan 49R-19902.

In addition, in order to consolidate some of the subject lands in the application, the Township of McNab/Braeside has included a condition of consent that the applicants convey a one-foot square piece of property to the adjacent road authority. Since River Road is a County Road (County Road 1), the one-foot square is to be conveyed to the County of Renfrew. The one-foot square is identified as Part 3 on Plan 49R-19902. A copy of Plan 49R-19902 and a map showing the location are attached as Appendix-IV.

6. **County Road 52 (Burnstown Road) Road Widening – Arbuthnot [Strategic Plan Goal No. 2]**

RESOLUTION NO. OP-CC-22-02-21

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council pass a By-law to acquire Part 2 in the geographic Township of McNab in the Township of McNab/Braeside on Plan 49R-19982 from Ryan Arbuthnot and Krystyn Arbuthnot for the sum of \$1.00; AND FURTHER THAT Part 2 on Plan 49R-19982 be dedicated as part of the public highway upon registration of the transfer documents.

Background

The applicants, Ryan Arbuthnot and Krystyn Arbuthnot, submitted an application for consent for a property along County Road 52 (Burnstown Road) within part of Lot 24, Concession 2, in the geographic Township of McNab in the Township of McNab/Braeside.

In order to consolidate the lands, the Township of McNab/Braeside has included a condition of consent that the applicants convey a one-foot square piece of property to the adjacent road authority. Since Burnstown Road is a County Road (County Road 52), the one-foot square is to be conveyed to the County of Renfrew. All costs associated with the transfer will be the responsibility of the applicants. The property to be transferred to the County is identified as Part 2 on Plan 49R-19982, which is attached as Appendix V.

7. **County Road 511 (Lanark Road) – Review of Speed Limit from Calabogie Road to 12517 Lanark Road [Strategic Plan Goal No. 2]**

RESOLUTION NO. OP-CC-22-02-22

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council update the speed limit By-law to change the posted speed limit along County Road 511 (Lanark Road) between County Road 508 (Calabogie Road) and 12517 Lanark Road to 40km/hr; AND FURTHER THAT By-law 138-21 is hereby repealed.

Background

The County of Renfrew Public Works and Engineering Department has received a request from the Township of Greater Madawaska through a Council Resolution, attached as Appendix VI, that a section of Lanark Road (County Road 511) be reduced from the existing posted speed limit of 50km/hr to 40km/hr. A map is attached as Appendix VII to display the location.

The County of Renfrew utilizes the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) guidelines in establishing posted speed limits along County Roads. The data collected is input into a standardized TAC spreadsheet, which establishes a score and outputs a recommended posted speed limit. The recommendation is further reviewed to confirm compliance with the Ontario Traffic Manuals and Highway Traffic Act.

The results of the TAC speed limit guidelines are attached as Appendix VIII. The results indicate a risk score of 36 for this section of County Road 511 (Lanark Road), which alone would meet the warrants for a posted speed limit of 50km/hr. However, within the requested zone, the County and Township have identified two horizontal curves which have been posted with warning signs of 30km/hr due to their radii. Furthermore, an elementary school is situated at the northeast quadrant of the Lanark Road/Mill Street intersection.

Many of the connecting roadways within the Village of Calabogie have already been posted at 40km/hr. A reduction in the posted speed limit along the subject section of Lanark Road would be keeping consistent with the fabric of the Village already established. In view of the foregoing, staff is in support of the requested change.

8. Policy for Enhanced Traffic Warning Devices [Strategic Plan Goal No. 3]

RESOLUTION NO. OP-CC-22-02-23

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council pass a By-law approving Corporate Policy PW-17 – Enhanced Traffic Warning Devices which outlines the procedure for the request and approval of the installation of enhanced traffic warning devices.

Background

County staff have received a request from the Township of Greater Madawaska to implement flashing beacons atop two intersection warning signs along County Road 508 (Calabogie Road), near Norway Lake Road. The beacons are requested to draw greater attention to the upcoming intersection so that oncoming traffic proceeds with greater caution.

As the installation of beacons atop warning signs is over and above the requirements of Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) Book 6, they would not be required if not for the request from the local municipality. Additionally, the beacons provide similar value to both the local municipality requesting them and the County. As such, staff recommend equally cost sharing the supply of the beacons, and similar requests going forward. Corporate Policy PW-17 for Enhanced Traffic Warning Signs outlines the procedure for requesting items over and above the OTM Book 6 requirements and the sharing the costs.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. Peckett, Chair

And Committee Members: D. Bennett, B. Hunt, S. Keller, D. Lynch, D. Robinson, J. Tiedje

The Report was adopted as amended.

Councillor Michael Donohue, Chair of the Health Committee brought in and read the resolutions of the following report:

February 23, 2022

To the Council of the Corporation
of the County of Renfrew

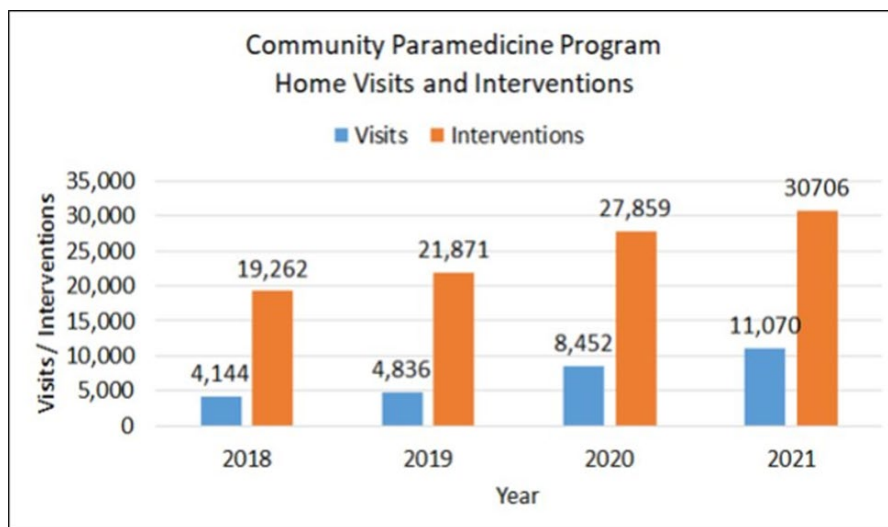
Members of County Council:

We, your **Health Committee**, wish to report and recommend as follows:

INFORMATION

1. **Community Paramedic Program Update [Strategic Plan Goal #3]**

Community Paramedics continue to support vulnerable populations including those remaining in their homes while COVID positive, reducing transports to hospital, emergency visits and potential admissions. The Remote Patient Monitoring program has 140 patients enrolled, including several that are COVID positive. This technology has measurement tools including weight, blood pressure, oxygen levels and glucose measurement that is remotely monitored by a Community Paramedic and used to determine where early intervention is most needed.



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

Recent provincial testing guidelines have decreased public demand for COVID testing, however the Service is working in conjunction with Ontario Health to augment the VTAC offering to add expanded in-person physical assessment options by Paramedics for COVID and other primary care needs. Importantly, Paramedics and VTAC physicians will determine patient eligibility for anti-viral therapy. This change supports the priorities of Ontario Health and meets the requirements necessary to function as a Clinical Assessment Centre (CAC).

ID NOW™ Rapid Analyzer - The County of Renfrew is taking the next step in COVID 19 detection with soon-to be implemented rapid analyzers known as ID Now. The ID NOW™ COVID-19 rapid test delivers high-quality molecular positive results in as little as fifteen minutes, targeting the coronavirus, but can detect other viruses including, among others, Influenza.

The units will be used in conjunction with the current swabbing process of swab samples collected for PCR and will eventually become the primary method of testing, providing near-immediate results.

3. **Vaccine Update [Strategic Plan Goal #3]**

Vaccine clinic attendance has declined resulting in the cancellation of several clinic dates. Clinics in Pembroke, Renfrew and Arnprior will be reduced to one each week in February, freeing resources to complete vaccines in homes, retirement homes, congregate care settings and schools over the next few weeks. Once these groups have been completed, pop-up clinics will be established in various municipalities.

The Service is waiting for the 12-17-year-old cohort to be announced. Demographics for this group will be analyzed and vaccine team resources deployed to best serve the population.

4. **Public Access Defibrillator Program Update [Strategic Plan Goal #3]**

There are currently 368 active and registered, automatic external defibrillators within the County of Renfrew, with 29 of these units stored in heated cabinets to remain accessible for outdoor activities and community use during the winter months.

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

On December 28, 2021, the Ministry introduced additional temporary enhanced measures for long-term care homes (LTCHs), specifically pausing general visitors and social day absences (initial measures were put in place earlier in December including keeping the number of caregivers visiting a resident at one time to a maximum of two).

The Ministry has worked with the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (OCMOH) to plan for the gradual easing of temporary enhanced measures currently in place. This plan is in the context of the broader reopening Ontario approach announced by the province in January and is also contingent on the absence of concerning trends in public health and health care indicators over the coming weeks. It is within this context of a cautious and phased approach that the Ministry plans:

On February 7, 2022:

- Increasing the maximum number of designated caregivers per resident from 2 to 4 (unless designated before December 15th). Continue with limit of 2 visitors (currently only caregivers) at a time per resident.
- Resuming social day absences for residents who have had at least three COVID-19 vaccine doses, while supporting these residents with information about the benefits of limiting contact with others, including avoiding large social gatherings, following masking and physical distancing as much as possible, and only being in close contact with people who have had three COVID-19 vaccine doses.

Targeting February 21, 2022 to:

- Resume all general visitors 5 years and older who have had at least two COVID-19 vaccine doses.
- Children under 5 years of age would continue to be restricted from entering a long-term care home, except for infants 12 months or younger.
- Increase limits on the number of visitors (including caregivers) that may visit a resident at one time to 3.
- Caregivers must have at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine to enter the home and be fully vaccinated as of February 21, 2022. Proof of a third dose is required by March 14, 2022 (only if eligible on or after March 14).

- Residents who have had at least three COVID-19 vaccine doses may resume social day absences. However, homes should encourage residents to:
 - limit their contact with others, including avoiding large social gatherings, and
 - physically distance and only be in close contact with people who have had three doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, especially when eating.

With the resumption of general visitors into the homes, this will also allow for the resumption of adult day programs, entertainers and personal care services (where the person is not a staff member) in the homes. Social group activities should remain as small groups (i.e., up to 10).

Targeting March 14, 2022 to:

- Resume visits by general visitors under 5 years old. No vaccination requirement for those under the age of 5.
- Increase limit on the number of visitors (including caregivers) at a time per resident to 4.
- Allow social overnight absences for all residents regardless of vaccination status. Surveillance testing requirements per the most recent testing directive dated December 17, 2021 for all staff, caregivers and visitors continue to be in place.

Updates to the Ministry of Health's COVID-19 Guidance: Long-Term Care Homes (LTCHs) and Retirement Homes (RHs) for Public Health Units are summarized as follows:

- Updated confirmed outbreak definition
 - Two or more tested and confirmed (staff/resident/other visitor) cases in a home with reasonable evidence they were acquired within the home in a 10-day period; and
 - There is a risk of transmission to residents within the home.
- Updates to the Management of Contacts section:
 - Definition of higher risk contacts and lower risk contacts
 - Details for how to identify and manage contacts
- Additional guidance provided on cohorting during outbreaks
- Clarity on admissions and transfers, particularly for admitting/transferring residents to a home with an outbreak

- Algorithms included for admissions, transfers, and managing contacts in LTCHs and RHs.

Dr. Cushman, Acting Medical Officer of Health, Renfrew County and District Health Unit rescinded the Class Order made pursuant to Section 22 (5.0.1) of the Health Protection and Promotion Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter H.7 made December 22, 2021. However, Bonnechere Manor remains in outbreak status and will follow the following directives from RCDHU:

- 1) General visitors are not permitted when a home is in outbreak or to visit an isolating resident ([COVID-19 Guidance Document - Required Visitor Policy](#)).
- 2) Volunteers are permitted in the facility provided they are vaccinated x3 (if eligible), have been trained and are able to wear PPE, complete surveillance testing and screening prior to entry and are aware of the risk of entering a facility in an ongoing outbreak.
- 3) Essential Caregivers (ECGs) are limited to 2 per resident at a time, unless the resident is isolating or symptomatic. An ECG should not visit any other home after visiting a home in outbreak or a resident who is isolating.
- 4) Social outings and absences are limited to only essential absences such as medical absences and compassionate and palliative absences, while the home is in outbreak. As the outbreak comes under control and units are able to be withdrawn from outbreak, residents of those units can resume other social outings and absences. Returning as per the isolation and testing requirements for residents returning from absences ([COVID-19 Guidance Document - Absences](#))

6. **Additional COVID-19 Prevention and Containment Funding for 2021-22**

The Ministry of Long-Term Care announced \$328.7 million in additional COVID-19 prevention and containment funding for the remainder of the 2021-22 fiscal year. The funding includes up to \$277 million to support additional costs associated with enhanced measures required to prevent and contain outbreaks in 2021-22 and up to \$51.7 million to homes with outstanding funding shortfalls incurred in 2020-21.

The \$277 million of the total funding will flow to eligible long-term care (LTC) homes as follows:

- \$201,982,800 will be provided to every eligible licensee of a LTC home with baseline funding of \$20,000 per month and an additional \$700 per bed per month over January to March 2022.
- \$45 million will be provided to homes with outstanding funding shortfalls for 2020-21. The allocation reflects the difference between the total prevention and containment funding provided for 2020-21 and the updated total expenditures reported in the Supplemental Reporting for 2020-21 COVID-19 Prevention and Containment Expenditures.
- The remaining funding will be provided after the Ministry receives additional financial reporting from the sector as outlined below.
- Homes are required to complete the 2021-22 Q1-Q3 COVID-19 Prevention and Containment Expenditures Report as well as review and restate their 2020-21 COVID-19 Prevention and Containment Expenditures by February 18, 2022.
- Funding allocated for the 2021-22 fiscal year is intended to support eligible prevention and containment expenses incurred from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022. If the funding provided during 2021-22 is not spent by March 31, 2022, it will be recovered based on interim reporting on prevention and containment expenditures and/or at the time of the 2022 annual reconciliation.

7. **Long-Term Care Home Occupancy Targets Reinstated**

The Ministry announced the reinstatement of Long-Term Care Home (LTCH) Occupancy Targets effective February 1, 2022.

- Beds set aside for isolation purposes (10 beds at each Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge) in accordance with Directive 3 will be excluded from the occupancy target requirement, and homes will receive full Level of Care (LOC) per diem funding, including global per diem for these beds.
- If homes experience outbreaks, they will continue to receive funding for eligible beds that they are unable to fill during an outbreak.
- As per the COVID-19 Funding Policy, from February 1 to March 31, 2022, LTCHs that do not achieve their target resident days will not receive less than 90% of their LOC per diem funding.
- Homes will be required to report data through the weekly LTCH Occupancy Data and Summary Report to determine resident days to be

excluded from occupancy targets for isolation beds for reconciliation purposes.

8. 2021/22 Community Funding for Operating Pressures

Ontario Health, through Ontario Health (East), confirmed that Bonnechere Manor Senior Adult Day Program will receive base funding up to \$6,976 in 2021/2022 for Operating Pressures. A key priority is to support the continued delivery of services and to protect and prevent admissions of clients to acute settings as a result of de-stabilization in mental and/or physical health status.

9. New Minister of Long-Term Care

On January 14, 2022, Premier Doug Ford announced the appointment of Paul Calandra as Ontario's next Minister of Long-Term Care, replacing Rod Phillips. Minister Calandra will maintain his existing responsibilities as Minister of Legislative Affairs and Government House Leader.

RESOLUTIONS

10. Long-Term Care Service Accountability Agreement and Schedule E – Form of Compliance Declaration

RESOLUTION NO. H-CC-22-02-16

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council authorize the Warden and Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk to sign the annual Schedule E – Form of Compliance Declaration issued pursuant to the Long-Term Care Service Accountability Agreement for each of Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge.

Background

Ontario Health advised on January 24, 2022 that due to the Pandemic the Service Accountability Agreements (SAAs) for the fiscal year 2022/23 and associated timelines and activities will be revised as follows:

- The completion of the Annual Planning Submissions for Long-Term Care Homes (LAPS) will not be required for 2022/23;

- SAAs with all HSPs will be extended for one (1) year from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023;
- Minor changes to the template agreement to update references from the Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) to Ontario Health and relevant legislation from the Local Health System Integration Act, 2006 to the Connecting Care Act, 2019 will be deferred until 2023/24.

Ontario Health (formerly Champlain LHIN) requires Schedule E-Form of Compliance Declaration to be signed for declaration of compliance and returned by the March 1, 2022 deadline as attached as Appendix I.

BY-LAWS

11. Hospital/Paramedic Service Partnership [Strategic Plan Goal #3]

RESOLUTION NO. H-CC-22-02-13

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council pass a By-law authorizing the approval of the Agreement between the County of Renfrew Paramedic Service and Arnprior Regional Health to place Paramedics in the Emergency Department.

Background

Paramedics have been working in the Arnprior Regional Health Emergency Department to relieve pressures during surge periods.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Michael Donohue, Chair

And Committee Members: D. Bennett, G. Doncaster, P. Emon, D. Grills, K. Love, J. Murphy, D. Robinson

The Report was adopted as presented.

Councillor Robert Sweet, Chair of the Development & Property Committee brought in and read the resolutions of the following report:

February 23, 2022

To the Council of the Corporation
of the County of Renfrew

Members of County Council:

We, your **Development and Property Committee**, wish to report and recommend as follows:

INFORMATION

1. **County of Renfrew Business Update Survey COVID-19 Effects and County Business Environment [Strategic Plan Goal No. 1]**

Economic Development Services has concluded a survey of county businesses to measure the effects on the business community of the on-going COVID-19 Pandemic and the challenges created for operations, sales, employees and business owners. The survey was emailed to our extensive retail, service, manufacturing, forestry, and tourism business contacts and to partner organizations. It was also promoted in the print and radio news media and on social media. A total of 115 business leaders completed the survey. Responses have come in from almost all of the municipalities within the County, and from virtually all industry sectors. The results of the survey speak to the resilience and tenacity of our local businesses, but also attest to the challenges and hardship that they have been enduring for the past two years. The survey results overwhelmingly speak to the need for continued support for the local business community. A copy of the survey results to date is attached as Appendix I for your information.

2. **Agriculture Committees Discuss Merging to Enhance Efficiencies and Effectiveness [Strategic Plan Goal No. 3]**

In January, Business Development Officer David Wybou coordinated two County of Renfrew Agriculture-related committee meetings: the Renfrew County Agricultural Economic Development Committee meeting on January 13; and the Renfrew County Agricultural Leadership Advisory Committee

meeting on January 17. Both committees discussed the merits of merging and both voted to merge as soon as feasible. These committees share many common members and goals and both advise staff on agri-business and agricultural community issues, challenges and opportunities. A draft version of a unified and merged vision and terms of reference will be developed by staff and then reviewed and discussed by both committees.

3. Staycation Tax Credit [Strategic Plan Goal No. 2]

The Ottawa Valley Tourist Association (OVTA) staff has been engaged in a campaign of regular information sharing with tourism businesses and to the public on the opportunities and benefits the Ontario Staycation Tax Credit can provide. The OVTA is very excited about this opportunity to attract more visitors and to provide greater value to clients who can apply for the tax credit and have been advising tourism operators and municipal staff who have questions about some aspects of the tax credit and its application.

Local media were very responsive and supportive of the local tourism sector. Cogeco developed a feature news story on the Staycation Tax Credit with Tourism Business Development Officer Melissa Marquardt. With interview footage shot at the Best Western Inn and Conference Centre, the story featured additional video footage from a number of accommodators across the Ottawa Valley. MYFM and Oldies Arnprior also featured an interview with OVTA on the benefits to both tourists and business operators of the Ontario Staycation Tax Credit.

4. 2022 Ottawa Valley Road Map [Strategic Plan Goal No. 3]

Production of the 2022 Ottawa Valley Road map is now complete. Originally planned as an 11" x 17" sized map, the print size had to be increased to 17" x 22" due to overwhelming advertising demand.

Eighty thousand copies of the map have been printed with distribution beginning mid-February. Approximately 46,000 copies will be distributed via Canada Post direct mail drop to every household in Renfrew County, City of Pembroke, South Algonquin Township and some nearby municipalities. Remaining copies will be distributed as tear-off map pads to local businesses and visitor information centres, as well as Ontario and Québec regional visitor information centres and key accommodators, attractions and retailers across Ontario.

5. Forestry Activities

- a) The end of 2021 marked the mid-way point for the 2017-2026 Renfrew County Forest Management Plan. Attached as Appendix II is a report of last year's activities. A summary of the first five years of the Plan is included in this year's Annual Report. The final revenues for 2021 are below.

Tract	Sale #	Harvest Type	Allocated Area (ha)	Total Bid Received (\$)*	Status	Invoiced** Revenue to Date for 2021 (\$)	Total revenue for Sale	% of bid price
Opeongo Line	11-19	Poplar/Mixedwood Clearcut, shelterwood	162	\$ 115,445.00	This contract is from July 2, 2019-December 31, 2021 . Harvest and hauling underway. Started May 2020, \$76,960.29 revenue in 2020. Harvest and haul complete.	\$ 71,502.06	\$ 148,462.35	129%
Germanicus	19-20	Red Pine Thinning	12	\$ 22,068.00	Complete. Additional \$21,148.20 revenue generated in 2020.	\$ 5,513.16	\$ 26,661.36	121%
Byer's Creek	01-21	Red Pine Thinning	21	\$ 82,520.00	Complete	\$ 81,575.42	\$ 81,575.42	99%
Brudenell	02-21	Red Pine Thinning	26	\$ 70,900.00	Harvest and haul ongoing. Will carry over into 2022.	\$ 66,305.56	\$ 66,305.56	94%
TOTAL				290,933.00		\$ 224,896.20	\$ 323,004.69	

* Actual invoiced amount will depend on actual, weighed volume (m3) harvested. Bid is based on estimated volume.

**Invoicing can occur as long as 30 days post-haul. Mills must send in weigh slips before invoicing can occur.

In Progress

Complete

- b) In preparation for upcoming forest management activities in 2022 at Beachburg Tract, outreach has been taking place with the Township of Whitewater Region, Beachburg Off Road Cycling Association (BORCA), Whitewater Sno-Goers and Snow Country Snowmobile Region Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) District 6 since February 2021. Attached as Appendix III is information that will be used for public outreach and staff will continue to share information as it becomes available. Thirty-six hectares of the harvest area are at the seeding stage of shelterwood management, after which action must be taken to ensure the area is regenerated back to pine forest. Although the bid price for this area was \$117,400, it is estimated that regeneration activities will cost more than \$65,000 for site preparation, seedlings, tree planting, and tending between 2023-2027. This demonstrates the importance of the Forestry Renewal Reserve.
- c) Attached as Appendix IV is the Renfrew County Forest Health Update for 2021 which coincides with the information presented to County Council in October 2021. This information will be posted on the County website as public information.

6. **Amendments to the Species at Risk in Ontario List**

Attached as Appendix V is an order released on January 25, 2022, by the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regulation (O. Reg. 23/22) that Endangered Species Act (ESA) protections for Black Ash be temporarily suspended for a two-year period as soon as it is listed on the Species at Risk in Ontario (SARO) List. A notice has been posted on the Environmental Registry [019-4278](#) to advise the public of this decision. The Ministry needs this time to determine the best way to protect and recover Black Ash, including how to balance protections for Black Ash with managing invasive Emerald Ash Borer and the social and economic realities within Ontario. This notice aligns with the County of Renfrew's response sent to the Ministry supporting the temporary suspension of the ESA protection for Black Ash.

7. **Algonquin Trail – Rural Economic Development (RED) Fund**

Attached as Appendix VI is the announcement from the Province of Ontario for the new intake of the Rural Economic Development (RED) Program. Ontario's RED program provides cost-share funding to support activities that create strong rural communities in Ontario, and opens doors to rural economic development through:

- funding assistance to address barriers to economic development, better position rural communities to attract and retain jobs and investment, and enhance economic growth
- funding to build community capacity and support for economic development in Ontario's rural communities
- investments in rural communities to help diversify and grow local economies – making economic growth more inclusive so Rural Ontario continues to share in the Province's economic prosperity

The Strategic Economic Infrastructure Stream supports strategic economic infrastructure projects advance economic development and investment opportunities in Rural Ontario, such as:

- rehabilitation of cultural, heritage or tourism attractions
- redevelopment of vacant or under-used properties
- main street minor capital improvements

Applications for strategic economic infrastructure projects should include previously completed work (for example, plans, strategies, research and data) that identifies the project as an economic development priority.

Staff will review the application guidelines and if applicable apply for work on the Algonquin Trail before the March 7, 2022 deadline. Application for funding opportunities is consistent with the March 2021 County Council direction provided to staff under RESOLUTION NO. DP-CC-21-03-37 which included the statement “AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to continue to seek any grant opportunities, revenue streams and/or partnerships to offset funding requirements.”

8. **GIS Services**

County of Renfrew staff held a virtual meeting on February 16, 2022 with local municipalities to review GIS services and capabilities along with the review of ESRI’s Small Local Government Enterprise License Agreement (SG-EA). The benefits of the ESRI SG-EA include:

- Ability to expand and capitalize your GIS investment
- Lower software cost per unit
- Current maintenance
- Removes uncertainty over access to software and fluctuating budgets
- Ensures access to current software, support, training and consulting
- Architectural flexibility
- Predictable spend/budgeting ... no surprises
- Discounts on other ESRI software if required (non-royalty bearing offerings)
- Minimize time - consuming and restrictive procurements
- Reduced administrative costs

This aligns with the County of Renfrew’s Service Delivery Review and the most recent Perry Group Consulting Digital Strategy Project.

9. **RFP-DP-2022-01 Design Build of Multi-Residential Update [Strategic Plan Goal No. 2]**

A mandatory site meeting for the new Multi-Residential Housing Project was held January 25, 2022 at the site located at Lea Street and Douglas

Street in Pembroke. There were six contractors that attended, Becc Construction, Buttcon East Limited, Quasar Consulting Group, Rossman Architecture, R.G.T. Clouthier Construction Ltd. and William Sons. The details for the Request for Proposal (RFP) were reviewed and opportunity given for preliminary questions and site inspection. The closing date for the RFP is February 25, 2022.

10. **Changes to the Ontario Planning Act [Strategic Plan Goal No. 3]**

Attached as Appendix VII is notification that Ontario Government's Bill 13 Supporting People and Businesses Act, 2021 and Bill 276 Supporting Recovery and Competitiveness Act, 2021 which contain amendments to many different Ontario statutes came into effect on January 1, 2022. The focus for this report is to highlight some of the more significant changes related to how the Planning Act changes impact the County of Renfrew Planning Division.

Amendments

- a) The interpretation section has been updated to provide a definition of retained lands to be "the whole of a parcel of land that abuts land that is the subject of a certificate given under subsection 53 (42) allowing the conveyance by way of a deed or transfer with a consent that was given on or after March 31, 1979 and that did not stipulate that subsection (3) or (5) applies to any subsequent conveyance or other transaction."
- b) You no longer need Consent to convey a parcel of land if:
 - the property is the whole parcel of land, or abutted lands previously owned by joint tenants that would have merged on the death of joint tenant;
 - the property abuts a property that was previously conveyed with consent (the retained lands).
- c) A certificate can be issued for the retained lands along with a certificate for the severed lands. However, it must be requested at the time of application, a legal description must be provided and the applicant must not own abutting lands. It does not require a lot of additional work on the part of staff, but an administration fee to provide the second certificate would be appropriate.

- d) Subsection 53 (49) allows the retained lands to be conveyed or otherwise dealt with before the severed lands are, but it must be done before the consent lapses.
- e) The Act now allows for part of a property that is not within a building to be dealt with, without contravening the Act. For example, a consent for a long-term lease for a restaurant in part of the building can now also convey an exclusive permission for the restaurant to set up an outdoor patio.
- f) Validation applications correct or make effective prior registered instruments that contravened the Planning Act. The land involved is usually already recognized as a separate parcel of land. Validations of title involve legal ownership and title and usually are not a planning issue. However, now the land described in the Certificate of Validation must conform with the same criteria that apply to the granting of consents under section 53.
- g) A purchaser can now make an application for consent before they own the lands they intend to purchase. However, they must be specifically authorized in the agreement of purchase and sale.
- h) An applicant now has two years to fulfill the conditions of a provisional consent or the consent shall be deemed to be refused. This does not apply to decisions which lapsed before January 1, 2022; but does appear to apply to decisions rendered in 2021 with conditions that do not lapse until 2022.
- i) An owner can request that a previous consent be cancelled for the purposes of merging lots. This is useful when an applicant wants to merge two whole abutting lots or part of two abutting lots. There are no planning issues at play and since the owner receives the benefit of any consent that may exist, it is the owner's right to give up that benefit. An application is required to be made to the consent granting authority for the cancellation of a consent.
- j) Bill 13 contains changes to the Planning Act related to delegation of decision authority to a staff member for minor zoning amendments such as removal of holding symbols and temporary use by-laws. These amendments may impact local applications, but not County of Renfrew approvals or processes.

11. **Planning Tariff of Fees By-law [Strategic Plan Goal No. 3]**

Our Committee debated the following resolution that was contained in our Committee report:

“THAT the Development and Property Committee recommend that County Council pass the new Tariff of Fees By-law for Applications Made in Respect of Planning Matters; AND FURTHER THAT By-law Number 8-19 is hereby repealed.”

Several members of our Committee noted they have concerns with the establishment of a fee for General Inquiries, as growth for the smaller local municipalities is dependent on severances and not subdivisions. It was also noted that 11 municipalities of the 17 within the County of Renfrew rely on their Clerk or the County of Renfrew for assistance in planning matters.

Our Committee directed that this By-law be forwarded to County Council without changes for a more fulsome discussion prior to passing the By-law.

The authority to pass a Tariff of Fees By-law is provided for under section 69 (1) of the Planning Act, which requires the By-law to be designed to meet only the anticipated costs to the municipality of processing the different types of applications. Staff is recommending increases in some of the fees, which are highlighted in bold and strike-out in Appendix VIII. Attached as Appendix IX is a chart illustrating the current County of Renfrew fee structure for Planning Act applications compared to fees in other counties in Ontario.

In addition to increased fees for certain applications, there are several new fees that are required as a result of changes to the Planning Act and the County of Renfrew receiving delegated approval authority for Official Plan Amendments. In addition, staff are proposing a fee for general inquiries/ pre-consultation.

The basic premise is that the general taxpayer should not be subsidizing individual applicants. The County of Renfrew has been increasing these fees over the past few years to better cover our costs and to reflect the fee structure of other municipalities across the Province, although many of our fees are still lower than other jurisdictions. It is important to note that a straight comparison of fees between municipalities is not always possible

because different jurisdictions may have different responsibilities and costs associated with a given Planning Act application.

Not all the fees are proposed to be increased, such as those for plan of subdivision/condominium. The current fee structure for these applications is consistent with fees in other counties that were surveyed.

On average, it takes approximately 300 minutes of staff time to process a general inquiry which averages to \$300 of staff time. Following the recommendations of the Planning Service Delivery review, staff are recommending that the County implement a fee/deposit for general inquiries. Anyone who submits a general inquiry would be required to pay a fee, if the general inquiry becomes an application where fees are due, the inquiry fee is credited. Looking at the comparison fee chart, many municipalities have chosen not to implement a charge for general inquiries, but for those that do implement a charge, the average is around \$300. It is proposed that the County implement a fee of \$200 for general inquiries, but that the fee be offset by a reduction of \$200 in planning application fees if the inquiry results in an application within 12 months of receiving a response.

The key proposed fee changes include:

- Consent applications increased by \$100 to \$1,200
- New fee for cancellation certificate - \$300
- New fee for additional certificate - \$100
- Validation of Title - increase of \$550 to \$1,200
- New fee for Amendments to County of Renfrew Official Plan - \$2,000
- New fee for the approval of an adopted Local Official Plan Amendment - \$500
- Local Planning Approvals:
 - Increase Official Plan Amendment by \$400 to \$1,500
 - Increase zoning by-law review by \$100 to \$850
 - New fee for processing minor variance application - \$750
 - New fee for processing local consent applications - \$1,400
 - New fee for site plan applications review (previously by the hour) - \$500

- New fee for site plan review for lots implementing the requirements of a plan of subdivision application - \$50
- Minor Variance (planning report only) increase by \$25 to \$400
- Consent (planning report only) increase by \$25 to \$400
- General inquiries (pre-consultations) - new fees
 - For application where County is approval authority - \$200
 - Additional consultation within twelve-month period post response - \$50
 - Planning fee for application submitted within twelve months of receiving a response be reduced by \$200
 - For applications where local municipality is the approval authority - \$200
 - Additional consultation within 12-month period post response - \$50
 - Planning fee to local municipality for processing an application within 12 months of receiving a response be reduced by - \$200
 - For applications where there are joint approvals at the County and local municipality - \$200
 - Additional consultation within 12-month period post response - \$50
 - Planning fee to local municipality for processing an application within 12 months of receiving a response be reduced by - \$200
- Hourly fees have been updated to align with the County of Renfrew schedule of fees:
 - Director - \$130
 - Manager - \$100
 - County Planner - \$75
 - Junior Planner - \$60
 - Clerical - \$55

RESOLUTIONS

12. Canadian Nuclear Laboratories – Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Application

RESOLUTION NO. DP-CC-22-02-12

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council supports through written intervention and in-person participation, the Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) application to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), Canada's nuclear regulator, to amend its existing site licence in order to construct a Near Surface Disposal Facility (NSDF).

Background

Attached as Appendix X is a letter from the Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) requesting support for their application to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) either through comments submitted to the CNSC in the form of a written intervention or by participating as an in-person delegation in support of a written submission.

Our Committee also directed staff work with Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) to communicate the content for a letter of support from the County of Renfrew and to provide information to the local municipalities that outlines the process, steps and timelines.

BY-LAWS

13. Ontario Trillium Foundation – Community Building Fund

RESOLUTION NO. DP-CC-22-02-16

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council pass a By-law to execute an agreement with the Ontario Trillium Foundation in the amount of \$62,800; AND FURTHER THAT funds up to \$15,700 be taken from the 2022 Provision for Unallocated Funds for the County of Renfrew's 20% contribution of the grant; AND FURTHER THAT the funds be used for improvements to the K & P Recreational Trail.

Background

The County of Renfrew was successful in their funding application to the Ontario Trillium Foundation – Community Building Fund. The \$78,500 application, of which \$62,800 will be the Ontario Trillium Foundation amount and \$15,700 will be taken from the 2022 Provision for Unallocated Funds, will address a community need by the improvements to 3.5 km on the K & P Recreational Trail which includes the brushing, ditching, pre-grading, and application of aggregate. Attached as Appendix XI is a map that outlines the proposed location where the funding will be utilized.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Robert Sweet, Chair

And Committee Members: P. Emon, S. Keller, D. Lynch, C. Regier, J. Reinwald, D. Robinson, J. Tiedje

Moved by Councillor Tiedje

Seconded by Councillor Donohue

THAT Item 11 Tariff of Fees be severed from the report and voted on separately.
CARRIED.

Council recessed at 10:32 a.m. Council reconvened at 10:46 a.m. with the same persons present.

Moved by Councillor Brose

Seconded by Councillor Murphy

THAT the Tariff of Fees By-law be deferred to the next meeting of County Council for further discussion.

A recorded vote was taken as follows:

A recorded vote was taken as follows:			For	Against
MUNICIPALITY	COUNCILLOR	# Votes	Wtd	Wtd
Township of Horton	Bennett, D.	7	7	0
Township of North Algona Wilberforce	Brose, J.	9	9	0
Town of Deep River	Doncaster, G.	8	0	8
Township of Admaston/Bromley	Donohue, M.	8	0	8
Town of Renfrew	Emon, P.	14	0	14
Township of Head, Clara & Maria	Grills, D.	2	2	0
Township of Greater Madawaska	Hunt, B.	15	0	15
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch & Raglan	Keller, S.	7	0	7
Township of Madawaska Valley	Love, K.	14	0	14

Town of Arnprior	Lynch, D.	16	16	0
Township of Bonnechere Valley	Murphy, J.	11	11	0
Township of McNab/Braeside	Peckett, T.	15	15	0
Township of Whitewater Region	Regier, C.	16	16	0
Town of Laurentian Hills	Reinwald, J.	6	6	0
Township of Laurentian Valley	Robinson, D.	18	0	18
Town of Petawawa	Sweet, B.	33	33	0
Township of Killaloe, Hagarty & Richards	Tiedje, J.	8	8	0
TOTAL		207	123	84

MOTION CARRIED.

The Report was adopted as amended.

Councillor Keller vacated the meeting at 11:18 a.m.

Councillor Jennifer Murphy, Chair of the Finance & Administration Committee brought in and read the resolutions of the following report:

February 23, 2022

To the Council of the Corporation
Of the County of Renfrew

Members of County Council:

We, your **Finance and Administration Committee**, wish to report and recommend as follows:

INFORMATION

1. March Meeting of County Council

Staff continue to monitor the Provincial guidelines for COVID -19 and it is anticipated that the March County Council meeting will be a hybrid in person and virtual. Further details will be provided closer to the meeting.

2. Council Remuneration [Strategic Plan Goal #2]

Attached as Appendix I is the Treasurer's Statement of Remuneration and Expenses paid to County Council as at December 31, 2021. Council will note that the Remuneration for Members of Council By-law references an allocation of \$3,900 per year to attend any conference(s), convention(s) or education session of choice, however, during the 2021 Budget Workshop and once again at the 2022 Budget Workshop, a reduced allocation of $\$30,000 \div 16$ Elected Officials = \$1,875 was approved. Therefore, the column entitled "Convention Expenses" in the Statement of Remuneration and Expenses was changed to \$1,875.

3. AMO 2021 Statement of Remuneration [Strategic Plan Goal #2]

Attached as Appendix II is a letter dated January 19, 2022 from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) providing details of Council remuneration and expenses paid to Warden Robinson, AMO Board of Directors, County Caucus, EOWC Chair. AMO only reimburses for mileage and all meetings in 2021 were held virtually.

4. **Board of Health 2021 Statement of Remuneration** [Strategic Plan Goal #2]

Attached as Appendix III is a letter dated January 4, 2022 from the Renfrew County and District Health Unit providing an itemized statement of remuneration and expenses paid for 2021 for the members of County Council appointed to the Board of Health.

5. **Rural Ontario Municipal Association Delegations** [Strategic Plan Goal #3]

The County of Renfrew was successful in obtaining four delegations at the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference in January. Attached as Appendix IV are the position papers and corresponding thank you letters to each Minister for the following delegations:

- 1) Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Steve Clark - To overview how the Social Services Relief Fund 4 will be utilized within the County of Renfrew to start construction on a capital project to build six new affordable supportive housing units, and to discuss innovative approaches to community housing and new purpose-built housing in Renfrew County.
- 2) Minister of Transportation, the Honourable Caroline Mulroney – To discuss innovative options and future collaborations for completion of the Algonquin Trail.
- 3) Minister of Infrastructure, the Honourable Kinga Surma – To discuss potential funding opportunities for growth related projects.
- 4) Minister of Health, the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier – To discuss the municipal role and funding in Public Health, specifically the impact any future increases to the provincial/municipal cost-sharing model will have on the municipal tax burden. This is particularly challenging for rural communities with aging populations and limited resources, such as the County of Renfrew.

6. **2022 Final Budget** [Strategic Plan Goal #3]

At the January 17, 2022 Budget Workshop, the budget document was revised to incorporate all the approved changes. This final budget document has been posted on the Elected Official's and Staff Intranet area. A copy is available upon request.

7. **Municipal Benefits Committee (MBC) Financial Management - Contribution Holiday** [Strategic Plan Goal #3]

Extended Health Care and Dental Care benefits are underwritten under a refund accounting basis. This type of financing option is generally available to larger employers since insurers generally do not offer this option to employers with less than 75 employees.

Premiums paid for these benefits are allocated and tracked separately in an account in the name of the County of Renfrew and participating municipalities. Claims incurred under the plan, along with the insurer's expenses, are charged to the account. If, at the end of the contract year, there is a surplus, it is the property of the County of Renfrew and participating municipalities, and all, or a portion thereof, is refunded or transferred to an unrestricted deposit account. If a deficit develops at the end of the contract year, it is carried forward with interest and the rates at the renewal are adjusted to recover a portion of the deficit. The plan has not been in a deficit position.

In order to establish the renewal rates, the insurer projects the plan experience (paid claims) into the future and then applies factors for inflation, benefit utilization, changing prices for services and supplies and cost shifting from provincial plans. The overall factor is known as the annual trend factor.

The MBC is in a surplus and the County of Renfrew will be exercising a premium holiday for one month beginning on February 1, 2022.

Appendix V provides information on the surplus allocation for a premium holiday for the County of Renfrew and participating municipalities.

8. **Financial Indicator Review** [Strategic Plan Goal #2]

Attached as Appendix VI is an email dated January 21, 2022 that includes the Financial Indicator Review – 2020 for the County of Renfrew from Meredith Staveley-Watson, Municipal Advisor, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The Ministry reviews the indicators from time-to-time, to make sure they provide useful information and this year they have not made any changes to the indicators.

The indicator for Asset Consumption Ratio has been flagged as “moderate risk”, which is unchanged from the 2018 report.

9. Provincial Offences Administration Backlog [Strategic Plan Goal #3]

The following chart highlights the ongoing backlog of court matters due to the COVID-19 shutdown:

Month	# of Courts Originally Scheduled	# of Courts Cancelled	# Part I Charges in Backlog	Part III New Charges	# Part III Charges in Backlog	Total Backlog Charges	Number of Court Days Required for Backlog	Months to Clear Backlog at Current Rate
2021 March	4	4	456	60	403	919	39	13
April	3	2	540	53	646	1239	52	17
May	6	2	514	75	355	944	39	13
June	6	2	527	90	595	1212	50	16
July	5	2	512	95	277	884	37	12.5
August	6	2	432	77	549	1058	44	15
Sept.	6	3	439	88	449	956	40	13.5
Oct.	5	2	499	125	377	1001	42	14
Nov.	7	2	560	86	540	1186	50	16.5
Dec.	6	3	534	57	555	1146	48	16
2022 January	6	2	494	124	279	897	37	12.5

BY-LAWS

10. Council Remuneration By-law

RESOLUTION NO. FA-CC-22-02-16

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council adopt the revised By-law for the Remuneration of Members of the Council of the County of Renfrew effective January 1, 2022; AND FURTHER THAT By-law 22-21 be repealed.

Background

The Remuneration By-law states that “All future council remuneration increases will be consistent with percentage increases as per Employment By-law #1, except where noted”. A 1.75% increase was approved at the budget workshop.

A Special Electronic Meeting of County Council will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 to deal with the Council Compensation Review and Non-Union Compensation Review (Gallagher Benefit Services (Canada) Group Inc.) and the Information Technology Digital Strategy (Perry Group Consulting).

11. Municipal Modernization Fund – Intake 3 [Strategic Plan Goal #3]

RESOLUTION NO. FA-CC-22-02-17

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council adopt a By-law to authorize the Warden and Clerk to enter into a Transfer Payment Agreement in the amount of \$317,491 with Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the Municipal Modernization Fund-Intake 3.

Background

In September 2021, the Finance and Administration Committee directed staff to complete an application under the Municipal Modernization Program Intake 3 by the October 19, 2021 deadline.

The County of Renfrew was successful in this application and it is now necessary to authorize a By-law allowing the Warden and Clerk to sign this agreement to obtain \$317,491 (65%) funding. The County will have to contribute \$170,956 (35%) against a total project cost of \$488,447 (100%).

12. **Policy GA-01 – Procurement of Goods and Services** [Strategic Plan Goal #2]

RESOLUTION NO. FA-CC-22-02-19

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve the revised Policy GA-01 Procurement of Goods and Services; AND FURTHER THAT a By-law to Amend By-law 59-02 Corporate Policies and Procedures for the County of Renfrew be adopted.

Background

With a continued movement towards electronic means of conducting business, County of Renfrew staff have updated the procurement policy to include electronic tendering which includes the use of an electronic bidding system such as “Bids &Tenders” for a digital procurement platform. The changes also include an extensive clean up of items since the last policy update was in 2015. County of Renfrew Solicitor, Mr. James L. MacGillivray, Rasmussen Starr Ruddy LLP reviewed these additions and changes.

13. **Employment By-law #1**

RESOLUTION NO. FA-CC-22-02-20

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve the following changes to Employment By-law #1 effective January 1, 2022:

- a) Article 4 - Rates of Pay: A 1.75% wage increase for all non-union staff (except students) as outlined in Schedules “A” and “B”;
- b) Removal of the Clerk/Cashier (Disclosure), Courtroom Clerk/Monitor and General Clerk/Cashier from Schedule “A” at Group 3 in the salary grid, removal of the Collections Clerk from Schedule “A” at Group 4 in the salary grid and addition of Court Service Specialist in Schedule “A” at Group 3 in the salary grid;
- c) Removal of the Asset Management Coordinator from Schedule “A” at Group 7 in the salary grid; and
- d) Change to the Student Wage from \$13.40 to \$14.10 (for students under 18) and from \$14.25 to \$15.00 (for students 18 and over) as outlined in Schedule “B”.

AND FURTHER THAT the revised Employment By-law # 1 be adopted.

Background

Below is a summary of the changes to Employment By-law #1:

a) Article 4 – Rates of Pay

A 1.75% non-union wage increase consistent with the 2022 approved annual budget for employees that are part of the following Schedules effective January 1, 2022:

Schedule “A” – Non-Union Salary Grid and Classifications; and
Schedule “B” – Roads Operational Classifications and Rates.

b) Provincial Offences Administrative Changes

After a review of the job descriptions of the Clerk/Cashier (Disclosure), Courtroom Clerk/Monitor, General Clerk/Cashier and Collections Clerk, and with subsequent job evaluations completed for each position, staff recommends that these positions be given the title Court Services Specialist in Group 3 of the salary grid.

c) Asset Management Coordinator

The Asset Management Coordinator was responsible for assisting the Manager of Real Estate. However, with changes in Finance with the hiring of a Finance Manager and inclusion of other staff, there is an option and greater synergy to roll in Asset Management as an ongoing task for finance staff, supported by the appropriate staff in Renfrew County Housing Corporation (RCHC), Development and Property, Public Works and Engineering, etc.

d) Student Wages

On January 1, 2022, the Ontario minimum wage increased from \$14.25 to \$15.00 per hour. The County of Renfrew student wages are calculated as follows:

- Students over the age of 18 are paid at the Province of Ontario general minimum wage, equalling \$15.00; and
- Students under the age of 18 are paid at 94% of the general minimum wage, equalling \$14.10.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Jennifer Murphy, Chair

And Committee Members: J. Brose, G. Doncaster, M. Donohue, B. Hunt,
T. Peckett, D. Robinson, R. Sweet

The Report was adopted as presented.

Councillor Keller joined the meeting at 11:21 a.m.

Moved by Councillor Peckett

Seconded by Councillor Lynch

THAT the following By-laws be enacted and passed:

- a) By-law 12-22 – A By-law to Provide for the Remuneration of Members of the Council of the County of Renfrew.
- b) By-law 13-22 - A By-law to Execute an Agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in the Right of the Province of Ontario as Represented by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Municipal Modernization Program Intake 3.
- c) By-law 14-22 – A By-law to Amend By-law 59-02 Corporate Policies and Procedures for the County of Renfrew.
- d) By-law 15-22 - Employment By-law #1 for County Officers and Staff.
- e) By-law 16-22 - A By-Law to Execute an Agreement between the County of Renfrew and the Ontario Trillium Foundation.
- f) By-law 17-22 – A Tariff of Fees By-Law for Applications made in Respect of Planning Matters **was deferred to the March 2022 meeting of County Council.**
- g) By-law 18-22 - A By-Law to acquire land County Road 1 (River Road).
- h) By-law 19-22 - A By-Law to acquire land County Road 52 (Burnstown Road).
- i) By-law 20-22 - A By-Law to authorize Speed Limits.
- j) By-law 21-22 - A By-Law to Establish Policy PW-17 – Enhanced Traffic Warning Devices for the Municipal Road System within the Jurisdiction of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew.
- k) By-law 22-22 - A By-Law authorizing the Warden and Clerk to approve an Agreement between the County of Renfrew and Arnprior Regional Health for a partnership to include Paramedics in the Emergency Department.

CARRIED. (except item f) Tariff of Fees By-law)

Councillor Tiedje vacated the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Written Reports from Representatives Appointed to External Boards

- a) Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO)
Councillor Emon's report is attached.
Councillor Donohue commented on Item 4 of AMO's 2022 Pre-Budget Submissions with respect to property assessment and the 59% of taxes collected being residential and the increase in 2017 to 68%. Councillor Donohue questioned what the founding basis on the burden on tax rates was.

Councillor Emon committed to raising the issue at AMO to understand the ratio and bring back information to a future meeting.

- b) Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN)
Councillor Murphy's Report is attached. EORN will be a delegation to the May meeting of County Council to provide an update.
- c) Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
No report this month.
- d) Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)
No report his month. next meeting is in March.

Moved by Councillor Murphy

Seconded by Councillor Peckett

THAT By-law 23-22, being a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of the Council of the County of Renfrew at the meeting held on February 23, 2022 be now numbered, deemed read three times and passed. CARRIED.

Moved by Councillor Regier

Seconded by Councillor Reinwald

THAT County Council adjourn. Time – 11:56 a.m. CARRIED.