



HEALTH COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

A meeting of the Health Committee was held on Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. at the County Administration Building, Pembroke, Ontario.

Present were: Chair Michael Donohue
 Warden Peter Emon
 Vice-Chair Neil Nicholson
 Councillor Debbi Grills
 Councillor Jennifer Murphy
 Councillor Rob Weir
 Councillor Mark Willmer

City of Pembroke Reps: Councillor Troy Purcell

Regrets: Councillor Valerie Jahn (on leave of absence)
 Councillor Patricia Lafreniere

Staff Present: Craig Kelley, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
 Mike Blackmore, Director of Long-Term Care
 Michael Nolan, Director of Emergency Services
 Jason Davis, Director of Development and Property
 Andrea Patrick, Acting Director of Community Services
 Lee Perkins, Director of Public Works & Engineering (Virtual)
 Mathieu Grenier, Deputy Chief, Emergency Services
 Dave Libby, Deputy Chief, Emergency Services
 Jama Watt, Strategic Implementation Lead, OVOHT
 Gwen Dombroski, Deputy Clerk
 Tina Peplinskie, Media Relations and Social Media Coordinator
 Dianne Johnston, Administrative Assistant III

Other: Melanie Henderson, Pembroke Regional Hospital

Chair Donohue called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-24-02-18

Moved by Councillor Willmer

Seconded by Councillor Grills

THAT the minutes of the January 17, 2024 meeting be adopted. CARRIED.

Emergency Services Department Report

The Director of Emergency Services overviewed the Emergency Services Department Report which is attached as Appendix A.

The Director welcomed and introduced Jama Watt, Strategic Implementation Lead, Ottawa Valley Ontario Health Team (OVOHT) as an observer at today's meeting. The Director provided a presentation on the new MESA Team, the collaborative initiative led by Paramedic Service, Community Services, and the Development and Property Department to address the root causes of homelessness, addictions, and mental health while fostering a resilient and healthier community for all residents in Renfrew County. The Director of Property and Development circulated a descriptive guide for the MESA project including the next steps, roles, and responsibilities of each Department.

The Chair on behalf of the Committee thanked everyone for the collaborative and comprehensive presentation.

Committee recessed at 10:36 a.m. and reconvened at 10:47 a.m. with the same persons present, excluding Ms. Henderson, Ms. Watt and Deputy Chief Libby.

The Director of Emergency Services provided a presentation on the Emergency Management Program with an all hazards approach to coordinating local resource utilization. The Director advised that training will be encouraged for all municipalities on a ratio of one staff for six volunteers, as an extension of the initial training of municipal staff in 2018. The goals will be to increase awareness, train volunteers, and have access to the necessary equipment with the coordination of staff and volunteers.

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-24-02-19

Moved by Warden Emon

Seconded by Councillor Purcell

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

Long-Term Care Department Report

The Director of Long-Term Care overviewed the Long-Term Care Department Report which is attached as Appendix B.

The Director provided a breakdown of the combined Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge crisis waitlist for long-term care placement, with 20 applicants residing at their home residence, 17

applicants in retirement homes, and 21 applicants are patients in hospital. He advised that the County of Renfrew Paramedicine Program is supporting 55% of the residents on the crisis waitlist.

Deputy Chief Grenier vacated the meeting at 11:36 a.m.

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-24-02-20

Moved by Councillor Nicholson

Seconded by Councillor Weir

THAT the Health Committee recommend that County Council approve the reallocation of the Bonnechere Manor Capital Funds for resident tubs in the amount of \$70,000 for the purchase of ARJO Huntleigh resident tub chair lifts at a cost of \$64,392.78 inclusive of HST AND FURTHER THAT the Finance and Administration Committee be so advised. CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-24-02-21

Moved by Councillor Murphy

Seconded by Councillor Willmer

THAT the Health Committee recommend 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. CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-24-02-22

Moved by Councillor Grills

Seconded by Councillor Purcell

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

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-24-02-23

Moved by Councillor Weir

Seconded by Councillor Purcell

THAT the Board of Health Minutes for November 28, 2023 be noted and received. CARRIED.

Committee requested that an invitation to the next session of County Council scheduled for Wednesday, February 28, 2024, be extended to the Medical Officer of Health for Renfrew County and District Health Unit, Dr. Jason Morgenstern to provide an update on Renfrew County District Health Unit (RCDHU) activities, including an update on amalgamation of health units.

RESOLUTION NO. H-C-24-02-24

Moved by Councillor Purcell

Seconded by Warden Emon

THAT this meeting adjourn and that the next regular meeting be held on March 6, 2024. Time: 11:58 a.m. CARRIED.

COUNTY OF RENFREW
EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

TO: Health Committee
FROM: Michael Nolan, Director of Emergency Services/Chief, Paramedic Service
DATE: February 14, 2024
SUBJECT: Department Report

INFORMATION

1. Health and Housing Crisis Engagement Team

The new MESA Team, the proposed name for the Health and Housing Crisis Engagement Team (formerly referred to as the “Hub” model), marks a pivotal initiative within the County of Renfrew to address the critical intersection of health and homelessness. This collaborative initiative will be led by the Paramedic Service, Community Services, and Development and Property departments. Recognizing the urgent need for a unified and multi-sectoral approach, MESA establishes an evidence-to-action model that not only acknowledges the complex challenges at the nexus of health and homelessness but also delineates a roadmap for coordinated, integrated solutions. This report underscores the commitment of the County of Renfrew's administration, community services, development and property, and emergency services departments to work synergistically in executing a transformative strategy that goes beyond individual silos and leverages the collective expertise and resources of the community. MESA embodies a bold and compassionate endeavor to address the root causes of homelessness while fostering a resilient and healthier community for all residents of the County of Renfrew. The name is derived from the term used for a flat-topped hill; a formation that has steep sides all around, resembling a table (Mesa comes from the Latin mensa, meaning "table"). Tables represent a sturdy and helpful resources and have the means to stand up on their own feet without any assistance; traits that we are sure we'd want our clients to have at the end of our engagement.

This initiative enhances Strategic Goal #3, Community Wellness and Healthcare

2. Emergency Management

The County of Renfrew includes major river systems such as the Petawawa, Bonnechere, Madawaska and Ottawa. With over 900 lakes, many of which are watershed basis for these major river systems, flooding to some degree happens on an annual basis dependent on the watershed experience, precipitation and the rate of thaw experienced each spring. With a

land area of 7,357.94 km² (2,840.92 sq mi), and a population density of 14.5/km² (37.4/sq mi) in (2021) the County of Renfrew and its residents are no stranger to flooding that has severely impacted critical infrastructure, bridges, culverts, roads, water intake systems and septage.

Critical infrastructure, residential, commercial, and seasonal properties have sustained irreparable damage due to major flooding emergencies in recent years. Multiple freshets annually and major floods in 2017, 2019, and 2023 have resulted in total loss of property and infrastructure as well as weeks long evacuations and displacement of families lasting years. Despite a persistent belief that the '100-year flood' is an irregular and unanticipated event, we have experienced record setting flooding since 2017 on many waterways that eclipse all historic records for the County. The province has assisted the residents through disaster relief funding and expert advice from Emergency Management Ontario in cooperation with the County of Renfrew and local CEMC's and councils. The need for enhanced readiness and capability enhancement is clear.

As previously reported, this Department has applied for the Ontario Community Emergency Preparedness Grant to help communities and organizations purchase critical supplies, equipment and deliver training and services to improve local emergency preparedness and response. The goal of the grant is to purchase a gravity-feed sandbag processing machine, supplies and equipment to be shared among all local municipalities and First Nations.

The balance of the application focuses on services such as coordination of staff operators / volunteers from the County of Renfrew and participating local municipalities and partners for the delivery of shared public education, training, planning and coordination for flood mitigation, readiness, response, and recovery efforts across the County of Renfrew and its 17 member municipalities and the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation.

As our 2024 goal, we will adopt a local response model of coordinating local staff and local volunteers i.e., one staff and up to six volunteers from each of the 20 organizations coming together to learn the essentials of basic emergency management, command, and control models, how to lead flood mitigation efforts locally and how to support one another through inter-operable teams across Renfrew County.

We have begun the planning phase of building this capability in advance of the spring freshet with the assistance of The Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) a governmental non-profit organization (NGO) under the auspices of the Federal Ministry of the Interior (BMI) and CPYC, a National Capital Region Disaster Relief organization that has assisted the County during the floods of 2017 and 2019. We will also be incorporating this training with a multi-municipal exercise for local municipal control groups that would like to participate.

This activity supports Strategic Plan Goal #6 – Environmental Resiliency.

3. Dedicated Off-Load Nursing Funding Application

The Service will be applying for Dedicated Off-Load Nursing Funding for the 2024/25 year. Funding in the amount of \$421,000 was received in 2023/24 to facilitate early ambulance offload transfers of patients onto hospital stretchers and to provide clinical care and management to increase patient flow in the Emergency Department.

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

TO: Health Committee

FROM: Mike Blackmore, Director of Long-Term Care

DATE: February 14, 2024

SUBJECT: Department Report

INFORMATION

1. Long-Term Care Resident Statistics

| Bonnechere Manor Statistics | November 2023 | December 2023 | January 2024 |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Population at end of Month | 177 | 172 | 177 |
| # of Female Residents | 100 | 98 | 101 |
| # of Male Residents | 77 | 74 | 76 |
| Vacant Beds at End of Month | 1 | 5 | 3 |
| YTD Occupancy Rate: LTC | 99.46% | 98.91% | 96.51% |
| Resident Deaths | 2 | 6 | 5 |
| Resident Discharges | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Resident Admissions | 4 | 1 | 10 |

| Miramichi Lodge Statistics | November 2023 | December 2023 | January 2024 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Population at end of Month | 164 | 158 | 156 |
| # of Female Residents | 105 | 101 | 99 |
| # of Male Residents | 59 | 57 | 57 |
| Vacant Beds at End of Month | 2 LTC / 0 Respite | 6 LTC / 2 Respite | 8 LTC / 2 Respite |
| YTD Occupancy Rate: LTC | 98.19% | 98.12% | 95.65% |
| Respite | 56.44% | 53.70% | 59.68% |
| Resident Deaths | 6 | 7 | 9 |
| Resident Discharges | 1 LTC / 2 Respite | 0 LTC / 4 Respite | 0 LTC / 4 Respite |
| Resident Admissions | 7 LTC / 3 Respite | 3 LTC / 2 Respite | 7 LTC / 4 Respite |

Home & Community Care Support Services Champlain Client Waitlist Information

| Renfrew County Long-Term Care Homes (LTCHs) | Patients waiting for 1 st choice from Community/Hospital | Patients waiting for 1 st choice to transfer from another LTCH | Totals |
|---|---|---|------------|
| Bonnechere Manor | 112 | 36 | 148 |
| Caessant Care Cobden | 40 | 21 | 61 |
| Deep River & District Hospital – The Four Seasons Lodge | 9 | 4 | 13 |
| Grove (The) Nursing Home | 127 | 34 | 161 |
| Groves Park Lodge | 39 | 19 | 58 |
| Marianhill Inc. | 54 | 17 | 71 |
| Miramichi Lodge | 241 | 51 | 292 |
| North Renfrew LTC Services | 53 | 21 | 74 |
| Valley Manor Inc. | 43 | 15 | 58 |
| Totals | 718 | 218 | 936 |

In response to Committee’s request to gain a better understanding of waitlisted applicants at greatest risk, a sample of crisis category applicants were taken from the County of Renfrew Long Term Care Homes’ waitlists. Crisis category residents residing at home are examined as the group of applicants likely to be in greatest need for community care support as they await long term care placement. As of February 6, 2024, there were 28 applicants on the crisis list for Bonnechere Manor, of which 13 reside at home. Miramichi Lodge had 41 applicants categorized as crisis, with 13 residing at home as well. To note, long-term care applicant statistics including total waitlisted and category assignment are subject to change on a daily basis.

2. **International Recruitment Strategy – Bonnechere Manor**

Staff are pleased to confirm that the first four of the anticipated twenty international personal support workers as approved by Committee and Council in May of 2023, will commence employment with Bonnechere Manor on February 22, 2024. This endeavour is intended to bolster permanent staffing stability and is in alignment with the County of Renfrew Strategic Plan, Goal # 2 Workforce Development.

3. **Ministry of Long-Term Care Inspection Reports – Miramichi Lodge**

Ministry of Long-Term Care Inspectors Maryse Lapensee, Severn Brown and Shevon Thompson, conducted an inspection on a complaint and critical incident system inspection at Miramichi Lodge on November 28, 29, 30, December 1, 5, and 6, 2023. The following inspection protocols were used during this inspection: Resident Care and Support Services, Food, Nutrition and Hydration, Medication Management, Safe and Secure Home, Infection Prevention and Control, Prevention of Abuse and Neglect, Responsive Behaviours, Reporting and Complaints, and Falls Prevention and

Management. Six (6) written notifications were issued, along with four (4) compliance orders. An action plan has been developed and actioned to ensure ongoing compliance. The full report is available through the Ministry of Long-Term Care Public Reporting website: [Licensee Inspection Report](#).

4. **Community Services Base Funding – Bonnechere Manor Senior/Adult Day Program**

Ontario Health, through Ontario Health East, advised that the Corporation of the County of Renfrew, Bonnechere Manor Senior/Adult Day Program will receive a 2% increase in base funding in the amount of \$9,744 in fiscal year 2023/2024 and a 3% increase in base funding in the amount of \$14,617 in fiscal year 2024/2025 to support Community Services Funding.

5. **Equipment and Training Fund – Miramichi Lodge**

Ontario Health, through Ontario Health East, advise the Corporation of the County of Renfrew, Miramichi Lodge will receive one-time funding in the amount of \$10,000 in the fiscal year 2023-24 to support the purchase of diagnostic equipment and/or associated training that target improvements in the management and treatment of conditions that commonly lead to avoidable emergency department visits.

RESOLUTIONS

6. **Reallocation of Capital Funds – Bonnechere Manor**

Recommendation: THAT the Health Committee recommend that County Council approve the reallocation of the Bonnechere Manor Capital Funds for resident tubs in the amount of \$70,000 for the purchase of ARJO Huntleigh resident tub chair lifts at a cost of \$64,392.78 inclusive of HST AND FURTHER THAT the Finance and Administration Committee be so advised.

Background

With the recent inspection of our resident bathing tubs and tub chair lifts, it was determined, that the tub chair lift replacements are a higher priority than the bathing tubs. Staff is recommending the reallocation of the Bonnechere Manor Capital Funds from resident tubs to resident tub chair lifts. As per Corporate Policy GA-01 Procurement of Goods and Services, Section 22.1(c) “where only one source of supply would be acceptable and/or cost effective due to compatibility, or safety and liability concerns” the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Long-Term Care support the sole purchasing of the resident tub chair lifts to ARJO Huntleigh. All the lifts within the Home have been purchased from ARJO Huntleigh, which allows consistency for staff training, and usage, and as well, the maintenance and upkeep is manageable on standardized equipment.

7. **Long-Term Care Service Accountability Agreement Schedule E – Form of Compliance Declaration**

Recommendation: THAT the Health Committee recommend 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

Attached as Appendix LTC-I is the annual Schedule E-Form of Compliance Declarations to be signed for each of Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge and returned by the March 1, 2024 deadline.

Schedule E – Form of Compliance Declaration

DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE

Issued pursuant to the Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement

To: The Board of Directors of Ontario Health Attn: Board Chair.

From: The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew (the “HSP”)

For: Bonnechere Manor (the “Home”)

Date: February 28, 2024

Re: January 1, 2023– December 31, 2023 (the “Applicable Period”)

The Board has authorized me, by resolution dated February 28, 2024, to declare to you as follows:

After making inquiries of the Director of Long-Term Care, Mike Blackmore and other appropriate officers of the Health Service Provider (the “HSP”) and subject to any exceptions identified on Appendix 1 to this Declaration of Compliance, to the best of the Board’s knowledge and belief, the HSP has fulfilled, its obligations under the long-term care home service accountability agreement (the “Agreement”) in effect during the Applicable Period.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the HSP confirms that:

- (i) it has complied with the provisions of the *Connecting Care Act, 2019* and with any compensation restraint legislation which applies to the HSP; and
- (ii) every Report submitted by the HSP is accurate in all respects and in full compliance with the terms of the Agreement.

Unless otherwise defined in this declaration, capitalized terms have the same meaning as set out in the Agreement between the Ontario Health and the HSP effective April 1, 2023.

Craig Kelley
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

Peter Emon
Warden County of Renfrew

Schedule E – Form of Compliance Declaration Cont'd.

Appendix 1 - Exceptions

[Please identify each obligation under the LSAA that the HSP did not meet during the Applicable Period, together with an explanation as to why the obligation was not met and an estimated date by which the HSP expects to be in compliance.]

Schedule E – Form of Compliance Declaration

DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE

Issued pursuant to the Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement

To: The Board of Directors of Ontario Health Attn: Board Chair.

From: The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew (the “HSP”)

For: Miramichi Lodge (the “Home”)

Date: February 28, 2024

Re: January 1, 2023– December 31, 2023 (the “Applicable Period”)

The Board has authorized me, by resolution dated February 28, 2024, to declare to you as follows:

After making inquiries of the Director of Long-Term Care, Mike Blackmore and other appropriate officers of the Health Service Provider (the “HSP”) and subject to any exceptions identified on Appendix 1 to this Declaration of Compliance, to the best of the Board’s knowledge and belief, the HSP has fulfilled, its obligations under the long-term care home service accountability agreement (the “Agreement”) in effect during the Applicable Period.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the HSP confirms that:

- (i) it has complied with the provisions of the *Connecting Care Act, 2019* and with any compensation restraint legislation which applies to the HSP; and
- (ii) every Report submitted by the HSP is accurate in all respects and in full compliance with the terms of the Agreement.

Unless otherwise defined in this declaration, capitalized terms have the same meaning as set out in the Agreement between the Ontario Health and the HSP effective April 1, 2023.

Craig Kelley
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

Peter Emon
Warden County of Renfrew

Schedule E – Form of Compliance Declaration Cont'd.

Appendix 1 - Exceptions

[Please identify each obligation under the LSAA that the HSP did not meet during the Applicable Period, together with an explanation as to why the obligation was not met and an estimated date by which the HSP expects to be in compliance.]