

COUNTY OF RENFREW

ADDENDUM TO THE ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT REPORT

TO: Health Committee

FROM: Craig Kelley, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk

DATE: August 14, 2024

SUBJECT: Department Report

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Association of Municipalities Ontario – Homelessness and Opioids Crises Call to Action**

Recommendation: THAT the Health Committee recommends that County Council supports Ontario’s Big City Mayors (OBCM) in their campaign to draw attention to the opioid crisis and homeless encampments by requesting that the Province:

- Appoint a responsible ministry and Minister with the appropriate funding and powers as a single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs as well as mental health, addictions and wrap around supports.
- Have this Minister strike a task force with broad sector representatives including municipalities, healthcare, first responders, community services, the business community and the tourism industry to develop a *Made in Ontario Action Plan*.
- Provide municipalities with the tools and resources to transition those in encampments to more appropriate supports, when deemed necessary.
- Commit to funding the appropriate services these individuals need, community by community where there are gaps in the system.
- Invest in 24/7 Community Hubs / Crisis Centres to relieve pressure on emergency centres and first responders.

Background

Aligning with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) advocacy on the opioid crisis and homeless encampments, Ontario’s Big City Mayors (OBCM) has initiated a “[Solve the Crisis](#)” campaign and are calling for the Province to address the humanitarian crises of homelessness and mental health and addictions. OBCM has prepared an informative [video](#) that depicts the humanitarian crises that is unfolding across the Province and Canada.