



Community Services Committee

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 1:00 PM

Council Chambers


Agenda

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1. Call to Order	
2. Land Acknowledgement	
3. Roll Call	
4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof	
5. Adoption of the Open Minutes - October 16 and 30, 2024	
a. Minutes - October 16, 2024	3 - 5
Community Services Committee - Oct 16 2024 - Minutes	
b. Minutes - October 30, 2024	6 - 9
Community Services Committee - Oct 30 2024 - Minutes	
6. Delegations - None at time of mailing	
7. Community Services Department Reports	
Director's Report	
a. Director's Report	10 - 14
Treasurer's Report - September 2024	
2024 OMSSA Awards Local Municipal Champion Award Letter - County of Renfrew	

Community Supports Division

- b. [Community Supports Report](#)  15 - 16

Children's Services Division

- c. [Children's Services Report](#)  17 - 18

8. Approval of the Community Services Department Report as a Whole

9. New Business

10. Adjournment

NOTE:

- County Council: Wednesday, November 27, 2024.
- Submissions received from the public either orally or in writing, may become part of the public record.



Community Services Committee

Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 1:32 PM

Council Chambers

Minutes

Present: Chair Anne Giardini, Warden Peter Emon, Vice-Chair Debbi Grills, Councillor David Mayville, Councillor Neil Nicholson, Councillor Gary Serviss

City of Pembroke Representative: Councillor Ed Jacyno

Also Present: Craig Kelley, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk, Andrea Patrick, Director of Community Services, Jason Davis, Director of Development and Property, Daniel Burke, Manager of Finance/Treasurer, Jennifer Dombroskie, Manager of Community Housing, April Muldoon, Manager of Community Supports, Gwen Dombroski, Clerk, Tina Peplinskie, Media Relations and Social Media Coordinator, Evelyn VanStarkenburg, Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order

Chair Giardini called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

The land acknowledgement identifying that the meeting was being held on the traditional territory of the Omàmiwinini People was recited.

3. Roll Call

The roll was called.

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

No pecuniary interests were disclosed.

5. Adoption of the Open Minutes

- a. Minutes - September 10, 2024

[Community Services Committee - Sep 10 2024 - Minutes](#) 

RESOLUTION NO. CS-C-24-10-61

THAT the minutes of the September 10, 2024, meeting be approved.

Moved by: Gary Serviss

Seconded by: Warden Peter Emon

CARRIED

6. Community Services Department Reports

Director's Report

The Director of Community Services overviewed the Director's Report.

- a. [Director Report](#) 
[Ontario Works Program Delivery Funding](#) 

Community Supports Division

The Manager of Community Supports overviewed the Community Supports Division Report.

- b. [Community Supports Report](#) 
[Ontario Works - Centralized Intake Policy Changes](#) 
[Questions and Answers - CI Update and Regulatory Changes](#) 
[Employment Services Transformation 2025 Targets](#) 

7. Approval of the Report as a Whole

RESOLUTION NO. CS-C-24-10-62

THAT the Community Services Department Report be approved as presented.

Moved by: David Mayville

Seconded by: Warden Peter Emon

CARRIED

8. Date of next meeting (Wednesday, November 13, 2024) and adjournment

RESOLUTION NO. CS-C-24-10-63

THAT this meeting adjourn and the next regular meeting be held on Wednesday, November 13, 2024. Time: 1:46 p.m.

Moved by: Debbi Grills
Seconded by: Gary Serviss

CARRIED

Anne Giardini, Chair

Gwen Dombroski, Clerk

DRAFT



Community Services Committee

Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at 9:25 AM

Council Chambers

Minutes

Present: Chair Anne Giardini, Warden Peter Emon, Vice-Chair Debbi Grills, Councillor David Mayville, Councillor Neil Nicholson, Councillor Gary Serviss

Absent: Councillor Ed Jacyno, City of Pembroke Representative

Also Present: Craig Kelley, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk, Andrea Patrick, Director of Community Services, Jason Davis, Director of Development and Property, Lee Perkins, Director of Public Works and Engineering, Daniel Burke, Manager of Finance/Treasurer, Greg Belmore, Manager of Human Resources, Jennifer Dombroskie, Manager of Community Housing, Gwen Dombroski, Clerk, Tina Peplinskie, Media Relations and Social Media Coordinator, Evelyn VanStarkenburg, Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order

Chair Giardini called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

The land acknowledgement identifying that the meeting was being held on the traditional territory of the Omàmiwininì People was recited.

3. Roll Call

The roll was called.

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

No pecuniary interests were disclosed.

5. Corporate Services Department Report

Human Resources Division Report

The Manager of Human Resources overviewed the Human Resources Division Report.

RESOLUTION NO. CS-C-24-10-64

THAT the Community Services Committee recommends that County Council adopt a By-law to approve a two year collective agreement between the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 4425, the Renfrew County Housing Corporation and the County of Renfrew for the term January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025 which was ratified by the CUPE membership on October 28, 2024; AND THAT By-law 106-20 be hereby repealed.

Moved by: David Mayville

Seconded by: Gary Serviss

CARRIED

- a. [Human Resources Division Report to Community Services Committee](#) 
[By-law 144-24 CUPE4425Agreement2024](#) 

6. Approval of the Human Resources Division Report to the Community Services Committee as a Whole

RESOLUTION NO. CS-C-24-10-65

THAT the Human Resources Division Report which is part of the Community Services Department Report be approved as presented.

Moved by: Gary Serviss

Seconded by: Neil Nicholson

CARRIED

7. New Business

- a. Child Welfare Funding
Warden Emon advised that he was approached by the Executive Director of the Family and Children's Services of Renfrew County, who who will present to County Council about the funding challenges they are currently facing. He

added that at the October County Inter-Municipal Relation Committee Meeting, the Committee discussed these funding challenges, agreed on the need for a revised funding formula and drafted a resolution to effectively communicate the issues. A joint delegation will be requested at the upcoming Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference to discuss these critical funding challenges with the Minister.

RESOLUTION NO. CS-C-24-10-66

WHEREAS the County of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke have no financial obligations concerning the funding of Child Welfare agencies; and

WHEREAS the Financial Accountability Office in June 2024 identified issues with funding in the Child Welfare sector; and

WHEREAS Family and Children's Services of Renfrew County has experienced a funding cut of \$1.59 million, or 10.8%, over the past ten 10 years; and

WHEREAS Family and Children's Services of Renfrew County was provided planning allocations reflecting a further funding reduction of \$963,603 over the next two years; and

WHEREAS Family and Children's Services of Renfrew County has achieved administrative efficiencies as a multi-service agency, has implemented various cost mitigation measures, including reductions in staff and services, and has reached a point where further measures could negatively impact children at risk and their families; and

WHEREAS both the County of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke are committed to improving the health and safety of their residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke formally request the Province of Ontario to consult with and collaborate with Child Welfare agencies to develop an updated and equitable Child Welfare funding formula; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the newly developed funding formula be structured to ensure an equitable and proportionate distribution that meets the diverse, unique, individual, and complex needs of the communities and populations served; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Warden of the County of

Renfrew and the Mayor of the City of Pembroke be directed to write a letter to Minister Parsa expressing their concerns and request a meeting in the fall of 2024 or to submit a joint delegation request for the 2025 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference;

AND THAT this resolution be shared with Premier Doug Ford, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP John Yakabuski, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC), Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus (EOMC), Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies (OACAS), and local municipalities.

Moved by: Warden Peter Emon

Seconded by: David Mayville

CARRIED

8. Date of next meeting (Wednesday, November 13, 2024) and adjournment

RESOLUTION NO. CS-C-24-10-67

THAT this meeting adjourn and the next regular meeting be held on Wednesday, November 13, 2024. Time: 9:33 a.m.

Moved by: Gary Serviss

Seconded by: Debbi Grills

CARRIED

Anne Giardini, Chair

Gwen Dombroski, Clerk

COUNTY OF RENFREW

COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

TO: Community Services Committee

FROM: Andrea Patrick, Director of Community Services

DATE: November 13, 2024

SUBJECT: Department Report

INFORMATION

1. Treasurer's Report

Attached as information is the Treasurer's Report for the Community Services Department as of September 30, 2024.

2. Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) Award

The County of Renfrew has been awarded OMSSA's 2024 Local Municipal Champion Award in recognition of the leadership and vision in implementing the region's Mesa wellness initiative. This award celebrates significant contributions to advancing excellence in human services integration and service system management throughout the Province, often involving collaboration between municipal staff and community organizations. The County of Renfrew has been invited to present on Mesa at the OMSSA 2025 Exchange Conference, showcasing key highlights of community achievements. The OMSSA Exchange Conference will be taking place from May 13-14, 2025 in Toronto.

RESOLUTIONS

3. Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Delegation Request

Recommendation: THAT the Community Services Committee recommends to County Council that delegation requests be submitted for the 2025 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference to:

1. the Ministry of Education to advocate for the County of Renfrew to be allocated additional spaces within the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care system,
2. the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services to discuss the Ontario Works financial assistance rates which have not been increased since 2018, and

3. the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to seek additional Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) funds to assist builds, homelessness, etc.;

AND THAT the Chair of the Standing Committee, along with the Warden, be designated to attend the delegation.

Background

a. Ministry of Education

The Ministry of Education has recently released a new funding formula which will take effect in 2025. Under the new funding formula, centres that are not enrolled in the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system are not eligible for operating funding. These changes put three existing centres in Renfrew County at risk of closure. These centres would like to opt in to CWELCC in order to remain viable; however, this is not possible as the County of Renfrew was not allocated any child care spaces for 2025 or 2026 and has fully allocated all spaces for 2022 to 2024. Without additional CWELCC spaces, not only is the County of Renfrew unable to grow the system, but is also at risk of child care centres closing, further reducing families' access to safe and quality child care in our communities.

b. Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Despite significant increases in the cost of living over the past six years, the Ontario Works rates have been frozen since 2018. Insufficient financial support restricts access to essentials like nutritious food, safe housing, and healthcare, contributing to poorer physical and mental health outcomes. This economic strain makes it difficult for individuals to participate in the labour market, as inadequate resources can impede job search efforts, skills training, and transportation. Additionally, low social assistance rates put immense pressure on social support systems, including food banks, non-profit organizations, and community agencies, which struggle to meet increased demand with limited resources. This reliance diverts these organizations from providing developmental and empowerment-based services, locking many individuals into cycles of poverty and dependence rather than enabling pathways to stability and self-sufficiency.

c. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

The demand for affordable housing in Renfrew County significantly outpaces supply, making the creation of additional affordable housing essential to addressing the region's escalating housing crisis. By increasing the construction of new, affordable housing units, we can help alleviate the pressure on rental markets, reduce housing insecurity, and create more opportunities for individuals and families to find stable, long-term housing. The demand for supportive housing options is also increasing, necessitating greater investment in comprehensive housing solutions that provide the necessary support for individuals transitioning out of homelessness to achieve stability and self-sufficiency. To continue expanding our housing supply while maintaining robust support programs through the Homelessness Prevention Program, a larger allocation of resources is essential.

**COUNTY OF RENFREW
TREASURER'S REPORT - Community Services Committee
SEPTEMBER 2024**

	<u>YTD ACTUAL</u>	<u>YTD BUDGET</u>	<u>VARIANCE</u>	<u>FULL YEAR BUDGET</u>
			over / (under)	
<u>ONTARIO WORKS</u>	<u>612,042.54</u>	<u>1,162,702.00</u>	<u>(550,659.46)</u>	<u>1,487,138.00</u>
Depreciation	11,929.41	14,004.00	(2,074.59)	18,667.00
Homelessness	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Municipal Contribution - City of Pembroke	(399,967.11)	(396,792.00)	(3,175.11)	(529,065.00)
Ontario Works Program Administration	2,531,852.57	3,061,009.00	(529,156.43)	4,018,203.00
Other Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Provincial Subsidy - Ontario Works Program Admin	(1,551,504.00)	(1,516,509.00)	(34,995.00)	(2,022,000.00)
Provincial Subsidy - Social Assistance - Benefits	(9,395,046.33)	(9,447,246.00)	52,199.67	(12,596,330.00)
Social Assistance - Benefits	9,426,707.41	9,462,240.00	(35,532.59)	12,616,330.00
Surplus Adjustment - Depreciation	(11,929.41)	(14,004.00)	2,074.59	(18,667.00)
SURPLUS ADJ - CAPITAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Surplus Adjustment - TRF From Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<u>CHILD CARE</u>	<u>496,796.15</u>	<u>462,006.00</u>	<u>34,790.15</u>	<u>167,139.00</u>
Administration	51,102.90	134,024.00	(82,921.10)	165,553.00
Core Programs	101,517.39	340,632.00	(239,114.61)	454,188.00
Special Needs Resourcing	0.00	10,829.00	(10,829.00)	0.00
Special Purpose	392,163.86	15,111.00	377,052.86	20,157.00
EarlyON Centres	0.00	3,829.00	(3,829.00)	0.00
Licensed Family Home Day Care	0.00	3,409.00	(3,409.00)	0.00
CWELCC (\$10/day Child Care)	0.00	2,160.00	(2,160.00)	0.00
Municipal Contribution - City of Pembroke	(47,988.00)	(47,988.00)	0.00	(63,989.00)
Surplus Adjustment - TRF From Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00	(408,770.00)
<u>COMMUNITY HOUSING</u>	<u>4,792,001.89</u>	<u>4,769,685.00</u>	<u>22,316.89</u>	<u>5,914,824.00</u>
Admin Charges	162,387.00	162,585.00	(198.00)	216,783.00
Affordable Housing - Tax Rebate	7,811.74	9,378.00	(1,566.26)	12,500.00
HR Charges	61,695.00	61,695.00	0.00	82,259.00
IT Charges	28,062.00	28,062.00	0.00	37,411.00
Legal	2,035.20	0.00	2,035.20	0.00
Municipal Contribution - City of Pembroke	(534,897.00)	(534,897.00)	0.00	(713,198.00)
Non Profit Housing	1,011,935.00	1,212,048.00	(200,113.00)	1,616,064.00
Office Supplies	0.00	747.00	(747.00)	1,000.00
PROV (FED) SUBSIDY -SOCIAL HOUSING	(553,807.05)	(553,806.00)	(1.05)	(738,409.00)
PROV REV - IAH	(20,300.00)	(12,753.00)	(7,547.00)	(17,000.00)
PROV REV - OPHI	(7,729.69)	(375,228.00)	367,498.31	(500,300.00)
PROV REV - SRF-COVID	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROV REV - SSRF-COVID	0.00	(974,997.00)	974,997.00	(1,300,000.00)
PROV REV - HPP	(2,799,357.20)	(2,676,897.00)	(122,460.20)	(3,569,200.00)
PROV SUBS HOUSING - COHB	(250.00)	(2,250.00)	2,000.00	(3,000.00)
PROV SUBS HOUSING - COCHI	(694,266.49)	(870,975.00)	176,708.51	(1,161,300.00)
PROV SUBS HOUSING - CMHC	0.00	(132,750.00)	132,750.00	(177,000.00)
RCHC TRANSFER - BASE	4,843,359.00	4,843,359.00	0.00	6,457,815.00
RCHC TRANSFER - IAH	20,300.00	12,753.00	7,547.00	17,000.00
RCHC TRANSFER - OPHI	7,729.69	375,228.00	(367,498.31)	500,300.00
OPHI Direct	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
RCHC TRANSFER - COCHI	694,266.49	646,065.00	48,201.49	861,420.00
RCHC TRANSFER - CMHC	0.00	132,750.00	(132,750.00)	177,000.00
HOUSING-INTERNAL CHG-RCHC COHB	250.00	2,250.00	(2,000.00)	3,000.00
RCHC TRANSFER - COVID	0.00	974,997.00	(974,997.00)	1,300,000.00
RCHC TRANSFER - HPP	2,736,852.68	2,676,897.00	59,955.68	3,569,200.00
Recoveries - RCHC	(236,079.00)	(236,079.00)	0.00	(314,774.00)
Recoveries - Outside	(104,074.05)	0.00	(104,074.05)	0.00
Special Project - Transitional Housing - external lease	62,504.52	0.00	62,504.52	0.00
Special Project - Deep River School	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Special Project - Warming Centre	103,574.05	0.00	103,574.05	0.00
Surplus Adjustment - Capital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Surplus Adjustment - TRF from Reserves	0.00	0.00	0.00	(444,747.00)
Surplus Adjustment - TRF To Reserves	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Travel	0.00	1,503.00	(1,503.00)	2,000.00
Total Community Services	5,900,840.58	6,394,393.00	(493,552.42)	7,569,101.00



October 25, 2024

Barb Tierney
County of Renfrew
9 International Dr.
Pembroke, ON
K8A 6W5

Re: 2024 OMSSA Awards – Local Municipal Champion Award Nomination

Dear Barb,

It gives us great pleasure to inform you that the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) has awarded you and your colleagues a 2024 [Local Municipal Champion](#) Award for your submission on the Mesa team.

This award recognizes the great work done in advancing excellence in human services integration and service system management by teams from CMSMs and DSSABs across the province. Teams may include CMSM and DSSAB staff in partnership with community organizations and/or initiatives where CMSM and DSSAB staff work together with their communities.

OMSSA would like to highlight your achievements as one of our 2024 Local Municipal Champion Award recipients during our 2025 Exchange Conference.

OMSSA's Communications and Member Engagement Manager, Rob Kirsic, will be in contact with you shortly to confirm details and collect information about your achievement that we can share. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Rob at rkirsic@omssa.com.

We are honoured to present you and your colleagues with this award on behalf of our Association, and we look forward to many more meaningful exchanges in the future.

Sincerely,

Henry Wall
OMSSA President

Doug Ball
OMSSA Executive Director

COMMUNITY SUPPORTS DIVISION REPORT

Prepared by: April Muldoon, Manager of Community Supports

Prepared for: Community Services Committee

November 13, 2024

INFORMATION

1. Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness National Conference 2024

Members of our Mesa team, including our Mesa Coordinator, Community Services Supervisor, Ontario Works Caseworker, Data Analysis Coordinator, Deputy Chief of Emergency Services, and Commander of the Community Paramedic Program, attended the national conference on ending homelessness in Ottawa on October 29 and 30, 2024.

The conference offered an opportunity to hear about experiences across the country and learn about what other communities are doing to reduce or end homelessness.

2. Ontario Works Caseload Statistics

Month	2024 Total Caseload	2024 Total Beneficiaries	2023 Total Caseload
January	1,250	2,049	1,161
February	1,291	2,082	1,167
March	1,300	2,086	1,182
April	1,286	2,063	1,185
May	1,291	2,060	1,189
June	1,209	2,011	1,182
July	1,195	1,979	1,168
August	1,185	1,969	1,167
September	1,185	1,962	1,161
October			1,187
November			1,209
December			1,242

3. By-Name List Data

Homelessness Status Count		Percentages
Chronic	25	68%
Non-Chronic	12	32%
Total Active	37	

Age Group	Number	Percentages
Youth (16-29)	7	19%
Adult (30-64)	24	65%
Senior (65+)	5	14%
Undisclosed	1	2%

4. **Integrated Employment Services**

Activity	Total Completed	Total Outstanding
Common Assessment Module 1	532	734
Social Assistance Action Plan	762	504
Referrals to Employment Ontario to Date	Employment Benefits Issued by Employment Ontario	Average Benefit Amount
310	\$66,558	\$218

CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIVISION REPORT

Prepared by: Margo Smith, Manager of Children's Services

Prepared for: Community Services Committee

November 13, 2024

INFORMATION

1. Licensed Child Care Centre Statistics

The following chart indicates monthly statistics for licensed child care centres in Renfrew County from January 2024 to September 2024.

Month	Number of Centres	Licensed Spaces	Operating Spaces	Total Children Served*
January	30	2109	1719	1737
February	30	2109	1755	1759
March	30	2109	1748	1777
April	30	2109	1740	1760
May	30	2109	1751	1798
June	30	2109	1755	1786
July	30	2109	1502	1550
August	31	2191	1522	1563
September	31	2191	1802	1748

* Total children served may be a higher number than operating spaces, as some programs have multiple part-time children using the same space.

2. Licensed Home Child Care Agency Statistics

The following chart indicates the monthly statistics for licensed home child care agencies in Renfrew County from January 2024 to September 2024.

Month	Number of Agencies	Homes Open	Licensed Spaces	Operating Spaces	Total Children Served
January	2	15	390	90	70
February	2	15	390	90	72
March	2	15	390	90	75
April	2	15	390	90	75
May	2	14	390	84	71
June	2	14	390	84	74
July	2	12	390	72	68
August	2	12	390	72	65
September	2	13	390	78	75

3. **Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Statistics**

The following chart indicates monthly statistics for CWELCC from January 2024 to September 2024.

Month	Centres Enrolled in CWELCC	CWELCC Eligible Children (under age six)	Centres Not Enrolled in CWELCC	Non-CWELCC Children (under age six)
January	30	1104	2	67
February	30	1129	2	64
March	30	1161	2	67
April	30	1150	2	64
May	30	1198	2	64
June	30	1189	2	66
July	30	1158	2	40
August	30	1097	3	36
September	30	1171	3	64

4. **Inclusion Services Statistics**

The following chart indicates Inclusion Services monthly statistics from January 2024 to September 2024.

Month	Children Served
January	174
February	172
March	174
April	170
May	170
June	171
July	173
August	174
September	173

5. **Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day**

October 24, 2024, was the 24th annual celebration of Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day. Recognition was given to the Early Childhood Educators and other child care staff who work in the sector for their dedication and commitment to the children and families throughout the County of Renfrew.