

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA  
PUBLIC HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
OPEN SESSION**

**PHSSC 7-2021  
Tuesday, July 13, 2021  
Council Chamber / Video Conference  
Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

Committee Members Present in the Council Chamber: Greenwood (Committee Co-Chair)

Committee Members Present via Video Conference: Bellows, Bradley (Regional Chair), Butters, Darte, Foster, Gibson, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Nicholson, Rigby, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen

Absent/Regrets: Chiocchio (Committee Co-Chair), Sendzik

Staff Present in the Council Chamber: S. Guglielmi, Technology Support Analyst, Dr. M. M. Hirji, Acting Medical Officer of Health, A. Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, R. Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Staff Present via Video Conference: B. Brens, Associate Director, Reporting & Analysis, N. Cortese, Shelter Supervisor, Homelessness Services, S. Kearns, Director, Environmental Health, Dr. A. Kasmani, Associate Medical Officer of Health, K. Lotimer, Legislative Coordinator, M. Penca, Manager, Homelessness Services, M. Todd, Manager, Social Assistance & Employment Opportunities, L. Watson, Director, Social Assistance & Employment Opportunities, D. Woiceshyn, Director, Housing Services

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Co-Chair Greenwood called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations.

**4. DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations.

5. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

5.1 **PHD 7-2021**

Approval of the 2020-2021 Public Health and Emergency Services  
Program Audits

Moved by Councillor Insinna

Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Report PHD 7-2021, dated July 13, 2021, respecting Approval of the 2020-2021 Public Health and Emergency Services Program Audits, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the draft audited schedules of revenue and expenses for the following programs for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021, **BE APPROVED**:
  - 1.1 Ambulance Communication Services (Appendix 1 to Report PHD 7-2021);
  - 1.2 Community Mental Health Program (Appendix 2 to Report PHD 7-2021);
  - 1.3 Infant and Child Development Services ("ICDS") (Appendix 4 to Report PHD 7-2021);
  - 1.4 Healthy Babies, Healthy Children ("HBHC") (Appendix 5 to Report PHD 7-2021);
2. That the annual reconciliation return for the Community Mental Health Program for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021 (Appendix 3 to Report PHD 7-2021), **BE APPROVED**;
3. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to co-ordinate with the auditor to finalize the statements as presented; and
4. That Report PHD 7-2021 **BE FORWARDED** to the Region's Audit Committee for information.

**Carried**

**6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Moved by Councillor Ip  
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That the following items **BE RECEIVED** for information:

COM 19-2021  
Niagara Prosperity Initiative 2021 Update

COM 20-2021  
Bridge Housing Design Phase Operations

COM-C 24-2021  
Niagara Regional Housing 2020 Annual Report

COM-C 25-2021  
Niagara Joins Built for Zero Veteran Cohort

**Carried**

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

**7.1 COVID-19 Update**

Dr. Hirji, Acting Medical Officer of Health, provided an update respecting the status of COVID-19 and vaccinations in Niagara.

**Councillor Information Request(s):**

Provide a report to the Public Health and Social Services Committee meeting being held on August 10, 2021, respecting plans to provide a location for a memorial to recognize Niagara residents lost to COVID-19. Councillor Ip.

**7.2 Affordable Housing**

Councillors discussed affordable housing and the importance of creating a long-term strategy to alleviate the housing crisis in Niagara. Adrienne Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services, advised that an affordable housing presentation is planned for the early fall. Councillor Insinna, Niagara Regional Housing Board member, advised that Niagara Regional Housing is currently working on a Housing Master Plan that is slated for completion later this year.

7.3 Associate Medical Officer of Health

Dr. Hirji, Acting Medical Officer of Health, introduced Dr. Azim Kasmani, as the new Associate Medical Officer of Health, to Committee members. Dr. Kasmani previously worked with various health units including York Region, Durham Region, Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Public Health and Hastings and Prince Edwards Counties.

8. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

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Councillor Greenwood  
Committee Co-Chair

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Kelly Lotimer  
Legislative Coordinator

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Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk