

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

**PHSSC 8-2020
Tuesday, September 8, 2020
Council Chamber/Video Conference
Niagara Regional Headquarters, Campbell West
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

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

Committee Member Present via Video Conference: Bradley (Regional Chair), Butters, Darte, Foster, Insinna, Ip, Nicholson, Rigby, Sendzik, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen

Absent/Regrets: Bellows, Gibson, Heit, Jordan

Staff Present in the Council Chamber: L. Glynn, Technology Support Analyst, Dr. M. M. Hirji, Acting Medical Officer of Health, A. Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk

Staff Present via Video Conference: B. Brens, Manager, Program Financial Support, C. Cousins, Director, Homelessness and Community Engagement, D. Edgar, Director, Children's Services, Dr. A. Feller, Associate Medical Officer of Health, H. Koning, Director, Senior Services, K. Lotimer, Legislative Coordinator, R. Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, L. Watson, Director, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities, D. Woiceshyn, Chief Executive Officer, Niagara Regional Housing, B. Zvaniga, Interim Commissioner, Public Works

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.1 YWCA Niagara Region Anti-Human Trafficking Funding Proposal with the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Elisabeth Zimmermann, Executive Director, YWCA Niagara Region, presented information respecting YWCA Niagara Anti-Human Trafficking Funding Proposal with the Ministry of Children Community and Social Services. Topics of the presentation included:

- About YWCA Niagara
- Niagara's Anti-Human Trafficking Emergency Response Protocol
- Identifying Gaps in Services for Victims of Human Trafficking in Niagara
- Funding Proposal with the Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services (MCCSS)
- Scope of the Funding Proposal

Moved by Councillor Greenwood
Seconded by Councillor Witteveen

WHEREAS Niagara experiences a high level of human trafficking due to it being a US border community, easily accessible from the GTA and a tourism center;

WHEREAS the profoundly negative effects of human trafficking not only dramatically affects the victims, but is also felt throughout the entire Niagara region, as it funds organized crime and consumes countless public resources;

WHEREAS the YWCA has successfully assumed a leadership role in Niagara by initiating and coordinating the development of the Anti-Human Trafficking Emergency Response Protocol with over a dozen community partners;

WHEREAS the YWCA continues to lead the fight against human trafficking in Niagara;

WHEREAS the Regional Municipality of Niagara and the YWCA continue to enjoy a productive partnership in the fight against human trafficking;

WHEREAS the YWCA has submitted a formal funding application to the Province of Ontario to provide the necessary resources to operate a 6-bed emergency crisis housing project to serve youth between the ages of 16-24 who are escaping human trafficking;

WHEREAS the YWCA's project will provide those exiting a human trafficking situation with the necessary skills to build the resiliency to achieve a long-term exit; and

WHEREAS the YWCA's project directly aligns with Council strategic plan to build safe and inclusive neighbourhoods;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Regional Municipality of Niagara formally **ENDORSE AND SUPPORT** the YWCA's application to the Province of Ontario for the necessary funds to operate the 6-bed emergency crisis housing project; and
2. That the Regional Chair **BE DIRECTED** to send a letter of support to the appropriate provincial ministries that adequately expresses Council's support for the YWCA's application.

Carried

There being no objections, Correspondence Item COM-C 27-2020 was dealt with at this time.

6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.9 COM-C 27-2020

YWCA Niagara Region Request for Support of Provincial Application to Secure Funding to Help Combat Human Trafficking in Niagara

Moved by Councillor Rigby

Seconded by Councillor Ip

That Correspondence Item COM-C 27-2020, being a letter to Niagara Region Council Members from E. Zimmerman, Executive Director, YWCA Niagara Region, dated August 21, 2020, respecting Anti-Human Trafficking Community Support Fund Application, Province of Ontario, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

4. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

5. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

5.1 COM 16-2020

Approval of the 2019 Community Services Program Audits

Moved by Councillor Insinna

Seconded by Councillor Nicholson

That Report COM 16-2020, dated September 8, 2020, respecting Approval of the 2019 Community Services Program Audits, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the 2019 Child Care Services draft audited Schedule of Revenues and Expenses for the year ended December 31, 2019 (Appendix 1 to Report COM 16-2020) **BE APPROVED**;
2. That the 2019 audited Long-Term Care Home Annual Reports for the year ended December 31, 2019 (Appendices 2-9 to Report COM 16-2020) **BE APPROVED**;
3. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to co-ordinate with the auditor to finalize the statements as presented; and
4. That this report **BE FORWARDED** to the Region's Audit Committee for information.

Carried

6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Moved by Councillor Whalen

Seconded by Councillor Butters

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

PHD-C 7-2020

COVID-19 Response and Business Continuity in Public Health and Emergency Services

COM-C 28-2020

COVID-19 Response and Business Continuity in Community Services

COM 17-2020

Seniors Services Quality Improvement Report – April to June 2020

COM 18-2020

ProKids Program – Providing Recreational/Cultural Opportunities for Children/Youth 2019 Year End Report and COVID-19 Impact

COM-C 25-2020

Activities related to Niagara's 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan for June, July and August 2020

COM-C 23-2020

Niagara Regional Housing Quarterly Report April 1 to June 30, 2020

COM-C 24-2020

Niagara Regional Housing 2019 Annual Report

COM-C 26-2020

Regulation Changes to the Housing Services Act, 2011 and Communications Plan Update

Carried

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Face Covering By-law

Councillor Witteveen enquired about the Region's Face Covering By-law, specifically, whether or not the by-law will be extended and if there will be an opportunity to make amendments to the by-law to reflect feedback received from municipalities and businesses. Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk, advised Committee members that the Region's Face Covering By-law will be discussed at the Regional Council meeting being held on September 17, 2020.

7.2 Chapel Hills Retirement Home

Councillor Greenwood advised Committee members that she recently toured the Chapel Hills Retirement Home in Niagara Falls and encouraged those members interested to contact the home to arrange a tour.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Regional Headquarters.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Councillor Chiochio
Committee Co-Chair

Councillor Greenwood
Committee Co-Chair

Kelly Lotimer
Legislative Coordinator

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk