



MEMORANDUM

CL-C 110-2020

Subject: COVID-19 Status Updates

Date: November 18, 2020

To: Regional Council

From: Ron Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer and Ann-Marie Norio,

Regional Clerk

Over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, Regional staff have made every effort to ensure that Regional Council receives timely information with respect to both the ongoing public health measures related to COVID-19 and the actions undertaken by staff. These updates have been provided at each of the four Standing Committees in order to provide Council with fulsome updates as they relate to the core businesses within each functional area and its operating departments.

Aside from those Members participating in the Public Health and Social Services Committee or opening discussion at a Council meeting, there has not been a dedicated opportunity for Members to receive regular updates with respect to the virus or to ask questions of the Acting Medical Officer of Health. With the current rise in cases of COVID-19 in Niagara and across Canada, there have been requests for more timely updates that would allow Council access to the most up to date information and provide an opportunity for Members to ask any questions.

Staff are proposing a workshop format, held every other week, to have Dr. Hirji provide the most recent updates with respect to COVID-19 and allow members of Council to ask questions. These workshops would follow a similar format to the Budget workshops and would be for educational/training purposes only. This format would allow Members to be able to ask questions; however, no business could be advanced (i.e. making motions or directing staff). Any direction to staff would have to be provided at either Council or Standing Committee. These workshops would be held every other Friday, starting on Friday, November 27 for approximately one hour from 1-2:00 p.m.

Should Council desire staff to implement COVID-19 workshops, a motion to direct staff to begin holding the workshops effective November 27, 2020 would be required.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

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Ann-Marie Norio Regional Clerk

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Ron Tripp, P.Eng Acting Chief Administrative Officer