

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA  
PROCEEDINGS OF SPECIAL COUNCIL  
OPEN SESSION**

**CL 16-2021  
Tuesday, August 31, 2021  
Council Chamber/Video Conference  
Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold**

Council Members Present in the Council Chamber: Bradley (Regional Chair)

Council Members Present via Video Conference: Butters, Bylsma, Campion, Chiocchio, Darte, Diodati, Disero, Easton, Edgar, Fertich, Foster, Gale, Greenwood, Heit, Huson, Insinna, Junkin, Redekop, Rigby, Sendzik, Steele, Ugulini, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa

Absent/Regrets: Bellows, Gibson, Ip, Jordan, Nicholson, Vilella

Staff Present in the Council Chamber: D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, M. Lewis, Client & Support Advisor, F. Meffe, Director, Human Resources, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Regional Chair Bradley called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Whalen  
Seconded by Councillor Heit

That Council Agenda CL 16-2021, **BE ADOPTED.**

**Carried**

**3. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

**4. CLOSED SESSION**

Moved by Councillor Steele  
Seconded by Councillor Foster

That Council **DO NOW MOVE** into closed session for the purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature respecting:

A Matter concerning Personal Matters about an identifiable individual and Legal Advice subject to Solicitor-Client Privilege pursuant to s.239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Update regarding Recruitment of Chief Administrative Officer and Proposed Offer of Employment

**Carried**

Council resolved into closed session at 4:05 p.m.

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION**

Councillor Campion declared a conflict of interest during the closed session portion of the meeting regarding Confidential CL-C 69-2021 and therefore did not take part in the discussion or voting on this matter.

Council reconvened in open session at 5:44 p.m. with the following individuals in attendance:

Council Members Present in the Council Chamber: Bradley (Regional Chair)

Council Members Present via Video Conference: Butters, Bylsma, Chiochio, Darte, Diodati, Disero, Easton, Edgar, Fertich, Foster, Gale, Greenwood, Heit, Huson, Insinna, Junkin, Nicholson, Redekop, Rigby, Sendzik, Steele, Ugulini, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa

Absent/Regrets: Bellows, Gibson, Ip, Jordan, Villella

Staff Present in the Council Chamber: D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, F. Meffe, Director, Human Resources, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, M. Trennum, Deputy Regional Clerk, R. Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Staff Present via Video Conference: M. Bannerman, Grant & Incentive Program Manager

5.1 Confidential CL-C 69-2021

A Matter concerning Personal Matters about an identifiable individual and Legal Advice subject to Solicitor-Client Privilege pursuant to s.239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Update regarding Recruitment of Chief Administrative Officer and Proposed Offer of Employment

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Steele

That Confidential Item CL-C 69-2021, being a memorandum from F. Meffe, Director, Human Resources, dated August 31, 2021, respecting A Matter concerning Personal Matters about an identifiable individual and Legal Advice subject to Solicitor-Client Privilege pursuant to s.239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Update regarding Recruitment of Chief Administrative Officer and Proposed Offer of Employment, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (19): Butters, Darte, Diodati, Disero, Easton, Edgar, Foster, Greenwood, Heit, Huson, Junkin, Nicholson, Redekop, Rigby, Sendzik, Steele, Ugulini Witteveen, Zalepa.

No (3): Bylsma, Fertich, Gale.

**Carried**

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 CL-C 70-2021

Committee of the Whole Minutes COTW 3-2021 and Debate on Minute Item 5.1 Report PDS 31-2021 Niagara Region Incentives Policy

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That Correspondence Item CL-C 70-2021, being a memorandum from A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, dated August 31, 2021, respecting Debate respecting Report PDS 31-2021 (Committee of the Whole Minutes COTW 3-2021, Minute Item 5.1), **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

7.1 Committee of the Whole

Minutes COTW 3-2021, Thursday, August 5, 2021

As a result of curfew being reached at the Regional Council meeting held on August 26, 2021, debate was suspended before Council was able to render a decision; therefore debate resumed on the motion below as presented on August 26, 2021.

1. That the Niagara Region Incentives Policy (Appendix 1 of Report PDS 31-2021) which promotes ***Council's four priority areas for Niagara Region, namely Affordable Housing, Employment, Brownfield Remediation, and Public Realm***, **BE APPROVED** with the following additions:
  - a) ***That the current Regional TIG and Smart Growth DC programs be maintained in municipal CIP districts until October 1, 2024, or until new programs are approved by Regional Council that further support municipal CIP Districts with criteria that supports residential intensification, employment enhancements and brownfield remediation;***
  - b) ***That the SNIP (Smarter Niagara Incentive Program) be maintained with a maximum dollar figure available for grants that is determined during the annual budget process;***
2. That staff **PROVIDE** sunset clause policies ***for currently approved programs*** that include reasonable expiration dates;
3. That staff formally **REVIEW** and **REPORT** to Regional Council prior to October 2024 on the effectiveness, challenges and any recommended changes to the Region's Incentive Programs, after consulting with the local area municipalities;
4. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to explore the inclusion of the Niagara Investment in Culture Program as part of the updated policy; and
5. That Report PDS 31-2021 **BE CIRCULATED** to the Local Area Municipalities.

Moved by Councillor Campion  
Seconded by Councillor Edgar

That the question **BE CALLED**.

**Carried**

The Regional Chair called the vote on the amendment as follows:

1. That the Niagara Region Incentives Policy (Appendix 1 of Report PDS 31-2021) which promotes ***Council's four priority areas for Niagara Region, namely Affordable Housing, Employment, Brownfield Remediation, and Public Realm***, **BE APPROVED** with the following additions:
  - a) ***That the current Regional TIG and Smart Growth DC programs be maintained in municipal CIP districts until October 1, 2024, or until new programs are approved by Regional Council that further support municipal CIP Districts with criteria that supports residential intensification, employment enhancements and brownfield remediation;***
  - b) ***That the SNIP (Smarter Niagara Incentive Program) be maintained with a maximum dollar figure available for grants that is determined during the annual budget process;***
2. That staff **PROVIDE** sunset clause policies ***for currently approved programs*** that include reasonable expiration dates;
3. That staff formally **REVIEW** and **REPORT** to Regional Council prior to October 2024 on the effectiveness, challenges and any recommended changes to the Region's Incentive Programs, after consulting with the local area municipalities;
4. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to explore the inclusion of the Niagara Investment in Culture Program as part of the updated policy; and
5. That Report PDS 31-2021 **BE CIRCULATED** to the Local Area Municipalities.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (15): Campion, Darte, Diodati, Easton, Foster, Gale, Greenwood, Junkin, Nicholson, Redekop, Rigby, Sendzik, Steele, Ugulini, Witteveen.

No (8): Butters, Bylsma, Disero, Edgar, Fertich, Heit, Huson, Zalepa.

**Carried**

Moved by Councillor Huson  
Seconded by Councillor Zalepa

That the motion **BE REFERRED** to a Committee of the Whole meeting to be held on October 7, 2021, with the following instructions:

That staff **PROVIDE** a report that includes:

1. What programs would be cancelled in moving to the 4 Pillar Suite of Incentives;
2. Articulates which of those programs would attain any of the 4 Pillar objectives;
3. Identifies what programs from the Old Suite or the 4 Pillar Suite incentivize greenfield development;
4. Provides recommendations for grandfathering and expiration timelines;
5. Provides recommendations for annual reporting to Council on program costing;
6. Provides an incentive option for the 4 Pillar model pertaining to "Downtown Core" improvements/developments for Council consideration;
7. Provides a full costing to maintain both program Suites (Old & 4 Pillar) in accordance with the recommended changes;
8. Articulates how each scenario (Old Suite, 4 Pillar or dual offering) will impact the upcoming levy budget.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (11): Butters, Bylsma, Darte, Edgar, Foster, Heit, Huson, Junkin, Redekop, Rigby, Zalepa.

No (11): Champion, Diodati, Easton, Fertich, Gale, Greenwood, Nicholson, Sendzik, Steele, Ugulini, Witteveen.

There being a tie, Regional Chair Bradley voted in favour and therefore the vote was declared,

**Carried**

8. **BY-LAWS**

8.1 **Bill 2021-70**

Moved by Councillor Zalepa  
Seconded by Councillor Steele

That Bill 2021-70 being a by-law to adopt, ratify and confirm the actions of Regional Council at its special meeting held on August 31, 2021, **BE NOW READ** and **DO PASS**.

**Carried**

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

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Jim Bradley  
Regional Chair

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Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk