

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

**PHSSC 4-2024  
Tuesday, April 9, 2024  
Council Chamber - In Person and Electronic Meeting  
Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

Committee: Bateman\*, Bradley (Regional Chair)\*, Chiocchio (Committee Co-Chair), Insinna, Jordan\*, Kaiser\*, Morocco (Committee Co-Chair), Rigby, Seaborn, Siscoe\*, Sorrento\*, Whalen, Witteveen

Absent/Regrets: Craitor, Diodati, Easton, Foster, Ip

Staff: C. Banach, Director, Housing Services, A. Basic, Legislative Coordinator, R. Ferron, Chief/Director, Emergency Medical Services\*, R. Hill, Legislative Assistant, A. Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services, Dr. A. Kasmani, Medical Officer of Health, H. Koning, Director, Senior Services, R. Law, Deputy Chief, Emergency Medical Services\*, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, M. Sergi, Commissioner, Growth Strategy & Economic Development\*, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer\*, L. Watson, Director, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities, S. Klair, Director, Children's Services

\* indicates members/staff who participated electronically, all other members/staff participated in person

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT**

Councillor Insinna read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

**3. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations.

**5. DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations.

**6. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**6.1 COM 10-2024**

Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Program Update

Satinder Klair, Director, Children's Services, provided information respecting the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Program Update. Topics of the presentation included:

- Update on the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Program
- Update on the CWELCC Child Care Expansion Plan

Moved by Councillor Whalen

Seconded by Councillor Insinna

That Report COM 10-2024, dated April 9, 2024, respecting Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Program Update, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the addition of two (2) new permanent full-time positions in Children's Services, a CWELCC compliance position, and a Licensed Home Child Care Advisor, for a total gross cost of \$199,102 fully funded through provincial funding **BE APPROVED**, in order to meet provincial requirements for the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care program.

**Carried**

**6.2 COM 11-2024**

Extension of Lease Agreement at 350 Ontario Street in St. Catharines

Moved by Councillor Sorrento

Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report COM 11-2024, dated April 9, 2024, respecting Extension of Lease Agreement at 350 Ontario Street in St. Catharines, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Community Services **BE APPROVED** to exercise its option to extend the existing short term Lease Agreement at 350 Ontario Street, St. Catharines from April 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025;
2. That the Commissioner of Community Services **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute the required notice to extend the term of the Lease Agreement and such other ancillary documents as negotiated by Real Estate services in a form satisfactory to the Director, Legal and Court Services, in order to complete the extension; and

3. That Real Estate Services **BE DIRECTED** to complete the negotiations of the lease agreement extension and obtain Council approval through Corporate Services Committee.

**Carried**

**7. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Moved by Councillor Seaborn  
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

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

COM-C 3-2024

Seniors Services LTC Homes Volunteer Update

COM-C 4-2024

Correspondence from Niagara Regional Housing – Single Source Emergency Plumbing Work

COM-C 5-2024

Urgent Service Manager Notification - Niagara

**Carried**

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

**8.1 Motion Respecting Niagara Poverty Reduction Strategy**

Councillor Bateman requested clarification respecting the motion brought forward at the March 21, 2024, Council meeting that was referred to the Public Health and Social Services Committee. Adrienne Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services advised that the motion would be included on the agenda for the June Committee meeting, as there will be a report respecting social assistance caseload and rates, which will further respond to Council's request for additional information.

**9. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Regional Headquarters.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

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Councillor Morocco  
Committee Co-Chair

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Councillor Chiocchio  
Committee Co-Chair

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Azra Basic  
Legislative Coordinator

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Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk