

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

PHSSC 7-2024

Tuesday, July 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)*, Craitor*, Diodati*, Easton*, Foster*, Insinna, Kaiser*, Morocco (Committee Co-Chair), Rigby, Seaborn*, Siscoe*, Sorrento*, Whalen*, Witteveen*

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

Staff: C. Banach, Director, Housing Services, A. Basic, Legislative Coordinator, C. Cousins, Director, Homelessness and Community Engagement, R. Ferron, Chief/Director, Emergency Medical Services*, R. Hill, Legislative Assistant, A. Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services, Dr. A. Kasmani, Medical Officer of Health, S. Kearns, Public Health Chief of Staff*, S. Klair, Director, Children's Services, H. Koning, Director, Senior Services, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, J. Sinclair, Manager, Homelessness Services, M. Steele, Associate Director, Reporting & Analysis, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer, L. Watson, Director, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities

* indicates participants who attended the meeting electronically,
all others participated in person

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 21-2024**

Approval of 2024 Community Services Program Audits

Moved by Councillor Seaborn
Seconded by Councillor Foster

That Report COM 21-2024, dated July 9, 2024, respecting Approval of 2024 Community Services Program Audits, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the draft audited annual reconciliation return for the Community Support Services Program (Appendix 1 to Report COM 21-2024) for the period ended March 31, 2024, **BE APPROVED**;
2. That the draft audited schedule of Revenue and Expenses for the Reaching Home Program (Appendix 2 to Report COM 21-2024) for the year ended March 31, 2024, **BE APPROVED**;
3. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to coordinate with the auditor to finalize the statements as presented; and
4. That Report COM 21-2024 **BE FORWARDED** to the Region's Audit Committee for information.

Carried

6.2 **COM 22-2024**

Niagara Prosperity Initiative Grant Process

Moved by Councillor Insinna
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report COM 22-2024, dated July 9, 2024, respecting Niagara Prosperity Initiative Grant Process, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the use of granting **BE APPROVED** for the funding allocation pursuant to the "Niagara Prosperity Initiative" (NPI) as a second pilot project (of the granting approach) to respond to the recommendations in the Niagara Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS);

2. That the Commissioner of Community Services **BE AUTHORIZED** to build on the learnings from the "Building Safer Communities Grant Program" when developing the necessary procedures to implement the use of granting for the Niagara Prosperity Initiative and execute any agreements and ancillary documents as required to allocate funding under the Niagara Prosperity Initiative in a form satisfactory to the Director, Legal and Court Services, and contingent on annual operating budget approval of NPI investments from 2025 to 2027; and
3. That staff **REPORT BACK** on the outcome of the second granting pilot and the potential to establish a corporate grant policy and procedure, subject to Council approval, to provide a fair, open and transparent method for allocating funding to advance future Community Services' programs and initiatives.

Carried

7. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Moved by Councillor Whalen
Seconded by Councillor Witteveen

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

COM-C 10-2024
Homelessness Services "Niagara Counts" Point-in-Time (PiT) Count 2024

COM-C 11-2024
Correspondence from Niagara Regional Housing Respecting Social Non-Profit
Housing Mortgage Renewal for September 1, 2024

Carried

Councillor Information Request(s):

Provide a breakdown of the homeless population by municipality. Councillor Whalen.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Staffing Announcement

Dr. Azim Kasmani, Medical Officer of Health, announced the upcoming retirement of Angela Alfieri-Maiolo, as Director of Clinical Services and thanked her for over 30 years of service.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Regional Headquarters.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

Councillor Morocco
Committee Co-Chair

Councillor Chiocchio
Committee Co-Chair

Azra Basic
Legislative Coordinator

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk