

Memorandum

COM-C 13-2024

Subject: Veterans Funding

Date: October 8, 2024

To: Public Health & Social Services Committee

From: Adrienne Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services

Further to the presentation to the Public Health and Social Services Committee on December 5, 2023, Niagara Region had been successful in securing temporary funding through the True Patriot Love Accelerator Fund to support ongoing targeted homelessness service for local veterans experiencing homelessness through Niagara Assertive Street Outreach. Since the time of the presentation to Committee, Niagara Region submitted a funding proposal to Infrastructure and Communities Canada for funds to continue the Niagara's efforts to end the experience of homelessness for Veterans in our community. In July 2024 staff were notified that Niagara Region was successful in this funding application.

In August 2024 Niagara Region signed a funding agreement for the federal Veteran Homelessness Program funding with Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada, and staff are pleased to report that Niagara Region has been allocated \$758,727 over the next 4 years to facilitate the enhancement of Niagara Region's Veteran Outreach pilot work. This new four-year funding stream will allow for:

- Ongoing intensive case management support services
- Connection and securing of new permanent housing for Veterans
- Increased housing affordability and stability through Housing Allowances for eligible Veterans
- Connection of Veterans to health supports within the community
- Community integration and life stabilization with flexible funding towards membership fees, education and skills upgrade classes.

A Request for Proposal for delivery of this newly enhanced program will be issued to the community, with an expected program start in early Q4 2024.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Cathy Cousins
Director, Homelessness &
Community Engagement

Adrienne Jugley, MSW, RSW, CHE
Commissioner, Community Services