

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

PEDC 2-2025

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

**Council Chamber - In Person and Electronic Meeting
Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

Committee: Bateman, Bradley (Regional Chair)*, Campion, Davies*, Foster, Huson (Committee Chair), Jordan*, Junkin*, Kaiser (Committee Vice Chair)*, Morocco, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn, Steele, Ugulini, Witteveen

Other Councillors: Insinna

Absent/Regrets: Ganann, Siscoe

Staff: E. Acs, Manager, Community Planning, P. Busnello, Manager, Development Planning*, S. Cole, Manager, Strategic Initiatives, J. Croteau, Physician Recruitment Specialist, K. Desharnais, Manager, Strategic Marketing, R. Hill, Legislative Coordinator, A. Korchok, Chief of Staff, D. Morreale, Director, Development Approvals, R. Muzzell, Manager, Program Financial Support*, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, T. Ricketts, Commissioner, Public Works*, M. Robinson, Director, Partnerships and Communication, M. Sergi, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, A. Shanks, Senior Development Planner, G. Spezza, Director, Economic Development, J. Spratt, Legislative Coordinator, A. Stea, Director, Corporate Strategy and Community Sustainability, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Huson called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Committee Chair Huson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce

Mishka Balsom, Chief Executive Officer, and Hugo Chesshire, Director, Policy and Government Relations, Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce, provided information respecting Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce. Topics of the presentation included:

- Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce's Purpose
- Unified Commitment to Prosperity
- Guiding Values
- Making Business Better
- Collaboration: Working With You
- Supporting your 10-Year Plan
- Advocacy and Public Policy Impact
- Advocacy in Action
- Local Business Support and Collaboration
- Our Commitment: A thriving, sustainable, and inclusive region

5. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

6. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

There were no items for consideration.

7. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

7.1 ED 3-2025

Physician Recruitment Update

Jill Croteau, Physician Recruitment Specialist, provided information respecting Physician Recruitment Update. Topics of the presentation included:

- Overview of the Physician Recruitment Program
- State of Primary Care in Niagara
- Challenges and Opportunities
- International Recruitment Efforts
- Strategic Partnerships
- Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities
- Conclusion

Moved by Councillor Steele
Seconded by Councillor Ugolini

That Report ED 3-2025, dated March 5, 2025, respecting Physician Recruitment Update, **BE RECEIVED**.

Carried

Councillor Information Request(s):

Provide additional information respecting salary models for physicians.
Councillor Bateman.

7. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Seaborn

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

PDS 5-2025

Update on Local Official Plan Reviews and Proclamation Transition

PDS 6-2025

Shared Services Update

PDS-C 2-2025

Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce Presentation

Carried

Councillor Information Request(s):

Consider circulating regular shared services updates to the local area municipalities. Councillor Foster.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Physician Regulatory Requirements

Councillor Foster suggested that additional information could be provided respecting key issues around physician recruitment in Niagara. George Spezza, Director, Economic Development advised that an update on these efforts would be provided at the Regional Council meeting being held on March 20, 2025.

8.2 Committee Chair Huson

Councillor Bateman noted that it was Committee Chair Huson's last Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting and thanked her for all her work to support the Committee and fellow Councillors.

9. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Regional Headquarters.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Councillor Huson
Committee Chair

Jenna Spratt
Legislative Coordinator

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk