

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

**PHSSC 10-2019  
Tuesday, October 8, 2019  
Council Chamber  
Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

Committee: Bradley (Regional Chair), Butters, Chiocchio (Committee Co-Chair), Darte, Foster, Gibson, Heit, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Nicholson, Rigby, Sendzik, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen

Absent/Regrets: Bellows, Greenwood (Committee Co-Chair)

Staff: A. Alfieri-Maiolo, Director, Clinical Services, A. Biscaro, Director, Family Health, H. Chamberlain, Director, Financial Management & Planning/ Deputy Treasurer, C. Cousins, Director, Homelessness and Community Engagement, K. Desharnais, Communications Consultant, Dr. A. Feller, Associate Medical Officer of Health, Dr. M. M. Hirji, Acting Medical Officer of Health, A. Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services, K. Lotimer, Legislative Coordinator, R. Mostacci, Commissioner, Planning and Development Services, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, R. Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, D. Vanecko, Manager, Organizational & Foundational Standards

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Co-Chair Chiocchio called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

**3.1 Youth Shelter Diversion Pilot**

Michael Lethby, Executive Director, The RAFT, provided information respecting the Youth Shelter Diversion Pilot. Topics of the presentation included:

- 2008-2018: A Decade of Prevention
- Search for a Solution
- Shelter Diversion offers a solution
- What is Shelter Diversion?
- What we have learned after 22 weeks
- Next Steps

**4. DELEGATIONS**

**4.1 Creating a New Niagara-South Homeless Shelter**

Steven Soos, Resident, City of Welland and Leslie Bellingham, Director of Development and Communications, Open Arms Mission, appeared before Committee respecting creating a new Niagara-South homeless shelter and requested that Niagara Region consider creating a Public Advisory Committee focusing on homelessness, addictions and mental health.

**5. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**5.1 COM 40-2019**

Five-Year Review of Niagara's 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan

Jeffrey Sinclair, Homelessness Action Plan Advisor and Lori Beech, Executive Director, Bethlehem Housing & Support Services, provided information respecting the Five-Year Review of Niagara's 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan. Topics of the presentation included:

- A review of the legislative requirements and review process
- Updates to the Plan across the Four Goal Areas titled:
  - House People Who Don't Have a Home
  - Help People to Retain a Home
  - Increase Housing Options and Opportunities for Low- and Medium-Income Households
  - Build Capacity and Improve the Effectiveness of the Housing and Homelessness System
- Financial Investments to Support the Action Plan proposed for 2020

Moved by Councillor Ip

Seconded by Councillor Nicholson

That Report COM 40-2019, dated October 8, 2019, respecting Five-Year Review of Niagara's 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Council **APPROVE** (subject to Ministry approval) the Five-Year review of the Niagara Region 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan, including the action items, outcomes and targets for 2019 to 2023, which resulted from the review.

The following friendly **amendment** to add clauses was accepted by the Committee Chair and the mover and seconder of the motion as follows:

2. ***That the presentation respecting Five-Year Review of Niagara's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan BE MADE to the local area municipal Councils; and***
3. ***That regular updates respecting housing and homelessness BE PROVIDED at each Public Health and Social Services Committee meeting.***

The Committee Chair called the vote on the motion, as amended, as follows:

That Report COM 40-2019, dated October 8, 2019, respecting Five-Year Review of Niagara's 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Council **APPROVE** (subject to Ministry approval) the Five-Year review of the Niagara Region 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan, including the action items, outcomes and targets for 2019 to 2023, which resulted from the review;
2. That the presentation respecting Five-Year Review of Niagara's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan **BE MADE** to the local area municipal Councils; and
3. That regular updates respecting housing and homelessness **BE PROVIDED** at each Public Health and Social Services Committee meeting.

**Carried**

**Councillor Information Request(s):**

Provide a training session for Regional and Municipal Councillors focusing on Housing and the Homelessness Action Plan, strategies and best practices. Councillor Insinna.

**6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**6.1 COM 41-2019**

Emergency Shelter System Capacity

Moved by Councillor Ip

Seconded by Councillor Heit

That Report COM 41-2019, dated October 8, 2019, respecting Emergency Shelter System Capacity, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

**6.2 PHD 18-2019**

Ontario Public Health Standards: Risk Management Requirement

Moved by Councillor Whalen

Seconded by Councillor Foster

That Report PHD 18-2019, dated October 8, 2019, respecting Ontario Public Health Standards: Risk Management Requirement, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no items of other business.

**8. CLOSED SESSION**

There were no closed session items.

**9. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Regional Headquarters.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

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Councillor Chiocchio  
Committee Co-Chair

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Kelly Lotimer  
Legislative Coordinator

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Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk