

In accordance with the notice and submission deadline requirements of Sections 18.1 (a) and 11.3, respectively, of Niagara Region's Procedural By-law, the Regional Clerk received from Councillor Easton a motion to be brought forward for consideration at the February 20, 2020 Council meeting respecting a new West Lincoln Memorial Hospital.

WHEREAS West Lincoln Memorial Hospital (WLMH) has a critical and urgent need to rebuild its facilities in order to continue providing safe, high-quality hospital services for all residents of West Niagara;

WHEREAS Hamilton Health Sciences, the oversight system for WLMH, received approval from the Ontario government on December 19, 2019, to proceed to Stage 2 of the government's capital planning process for a new hospital in order to rebuild West Lincoln Memorial Hospital;

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario's cost share policy for hospital capital projects provides a provincial investment of 90% of the capital construction costs, conditional upon commitment from local fundraising partners to contribute both a 10% local share of financing for the capital construction cost, plus a 100% share of financing for the cost of all furniture, fixtures and equipment (FF&E) and any required parking infrastructure;

WHEREAS approval from the Ontario government to proceed with Stage 3 planning for the rebuilding of West Lincoln Memorial Hospital requires the timely submission by Hamilton Health Sciences of a financial plan in Stage 2 outlining the contributors to the local share of financing for the new hospital;

WHEREAS Hamilton Health Sciences is engaged in a dialogue with three west Niagara municipalities to determine how the local area municipalities may assist with fulfilling the needed commitment to the local share of financing, and provide a commitment by June 1, 2020, in order to satisfy the Province of Ontario's requirements to proceed with the next stage of planning for a new West Lincoln Memorial Hospital;

WHEREAS part of the required local funding could include a potential ask to Niagara Region;

WHEREAS the respective Chief Administrative Officers from Lincoln, West Lincoln and Grimsby, together with the Regional Chief Administrative Officer have had preliminary conversations on past practices of the Region in supporting hospital redevelopment projects;

WHEREAS there requires more formal conversations to take place between the local area municipalities and Regional staff to investigate potential funding options;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That staff from Niagara Region **BE DIRECTED** to begin to formally discuss and engage in exploratory conversations with staff from all three West Niagara municipalities respecting a new West Lincoln Memorial Hospital to determine next steps and any potential options for consideration pertaining to funding opportunities from Niagara Region.