

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2012

A regular meeting of the Health & Social Services Committee was held on Thursday, April 5, 2012 in Room LL-C, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:32 a.m.

Present: Councillor Coe, Chair
Councillor England, Vice-Chair
Councillor Clayton
Councillor Neal
Councillor Rodrigues
Councillor Woo
Regional Chair Anderson

Absent: Councillor Parish was absent on municipal business

Staff

Present: G. Cubitt, Chief Administrative Officer
H. Drouin, Commissioner of Social Services, attended the meeting at 10:27 a.m.
R.J. Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health, left the meeting at 10:49 a.m.
P. Abbey, Director, Oral Health, Health Department, left the meeting at 10:49 a.m.
R. Armstrong, Director, EMS, Health Department, left the meeting at 10:49 a.m.
D. Beaton, Chief Information Officer, Corporate Services – IT, left the meeting at 10:49 a.m.
R. Blake, Solicitor, Legal Department, left the meeting at 10:49 a.m.
J. Boufford, Director, Administration, Health Department, left the meeting at 10:49 a.m.
P. Cloutier, Director, Income and Employment Support, Social Services Department, attended the meeting at 10:27 a.m.
L. Freeland, Manager, Environmental Health, Health Department, left the meeting at 10:49 a.m.
H. Ge, Public Health & Preventive Medicine Consultant, Health Department, left the meeting at 10:49 a.m.
P. Hanley, Manager, Public Health Nursing & Nutrition, Health Department, left the meeting at 10:49 a.m.
R. Lambert, Director, Children's Services, Social Services Department, attended the meeting at 10:27 a.m.

D. Lessak, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services Department
S. Munns, Director, Corporate Communications
M. Murti, Medical Resident, Health Department, left the meeting at 10:49 a.m.
J. Santos, Manager, Corporate Communications
H. Tanevski, Executive Coordinator, Health Department, attended for part of
the meeting
L. Fleury, Committee Clerk, Clerk's Department

HEALTH DEPARTMENT MATTERS

1. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

MOVED by Councillor Clayton,
(59) "THAT the minutes of the following meetings be adopted:

- the Regular Health & Social Services Committee meeting held on [March 8, 2012](#); and
- the Joint Health & Social Services, Finance & Administration, Planning & Economic Development and Works Committee meeting held on [March 22, 2012](#)."

CARRIED

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **DELEGATIONS**

a) **MR. RICHARD STADNYK RE: FAMILY FITNESS**

Mr. Richard Stadnyk had requested to appear as a delegation, but was not present.

b) **MS. STACEY KEARNEY RE: FLUORIDATION**

Ms. Stacey Kearney advised that she is a grade 12 student at O'Neill Collegiate and Vocational Institute. She added that her objective is to educate the Health & Social Services Committee about the dangers of fluoride so that they take progressive action to eliminate water fluoridation in Durham Region. She provided a document entitled Support the Fight to Get Clean Water, Say No to Fluoride, as a handout.

Ms. Kearney outlined commitments made by the Region including leading the way to a healthier Durham; protecting community health; and ensuring a healthy and safe environment.

Ms. Kearney displayed an excerpt from a drinking water systems report for the Oshawa Drinking Water System with respect to the distribution of fluoride. She noted an amount of 0.11 to 1.01 mg/L of fluoride with a notation that fluoride is added to water to prevent tooth decay.

Ms. Kearney advised that fluoride is one of the most corrosive chemical agents known to man. She added that the fluoride added to drinking water is a waste product from phosphate fertilizer manufacturing, which the manufacturers sell to municipalities. She noted that in the air or the oceans fluoride would be considered as a pollutant, but when it is added to the drinking water system it is considered as a product. She further added that fluoride, like lead, accumulates in the body. Ms. Kearney noted that fluoride is used to produce products such as fuel and rat poison.

Ms. Kearney outlined health effects associated with fluoride including skeletal fluorosis; arthritis; osteosclerosis; renal osteodystrophy; cancer; immune system alteration; genetic damage; thyroid dysfunction; breathing problems; and central nervous system disorders. She added that 32% of children in America have dental fluorosis. She further added that fluoride absorption can affect the body's production of hormones and can lead to children reaching puberty at an earlier age. She noted that the dose of fluoride in water can not be controlled.

Ms. Kearney advised that fluoridated toothpaste contains a warning with respect to contacting a poison control centre if accidentally swallowed and that only a pea sized amount should be used in children under 6. She added that a pea sized amount of toothpaste contains the same amount of fluoride as a large glass of water.

Ms. Kearney advised that Dr. Phyllis Mullenix, a Neurotoxicologist with a PhD in pharmacology, conducted clinical trials on rats which proved negative health effects of fluoride and that the results showed cognitive defects and rats born with hyperactivity.

Ms. Kearney concluded that water fluoridation is unethical; there is no margin of adequate safety; it is the Committee's legal obligation to protect the citizens of Durham Region; strong evidence compels to "just say no" to fluoride; the Region needs to be a leader in sustainability; and the Region would save \$200,000 if water fluoridation was discontinued. She added that the Fluoride Action Network's website contains additional information on fluoridation.

Ms. Kearney responded to questions from the Committee members.

4. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations to consider.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to consider.

6. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS – FOR DECISION

a) STANDING AGREEMENT WITH ZOLL MEDICAL CANADA LIMITED
(2012-MOH-17)

Report #2012-MOH-17 from Dr. R.J. Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health was received. R. Armstrong responded to questions with respect to how much preventative maintenance and repair work is required for the monitor/defibrillator machines; whether the inventory for monitor/defibrillators will be increasing; how frequently the machines are used; how many other companies supply defibrillators; are there many differences between the different brands; what is the cost for each machine; why the lifespan of the machines is only 4 to 5 years; what is the cost of the machines used in the Regional Headquarters building; whether the machines used in the building should be replaced every 5 years; what alternatives are available if a machine fails; whether the contract is basically for maintenance and repairs; what would happen if a different vendor was used for maintenance and repairs; and whether the amount of the contract would decrease proportionally if the length of the contract was decreased.

Discussion ensued with respect to the possibility of decreasing the length of the contract from five years to four years. Comments were made with respect to the contract not extending beyond the length of the term of Council; the difficulty in obtaining a competitive bid if the time frame is reduced; voiding the warranty on the machines if supplies or equipment from another supplier are used; and having to re-negotiate the contract price if the length of the term is changed.

MOVED by Councillor Woo,

(60) "THAT we recommend to Council, subject to the approval of the Finance & Administration Committee:

- a) THAT Zoll E-Series monitor/defibrillators be adopted as the Regional standard for a period of five (5) years, the anticipated lifecycle of the EMS Division new monitor/defibrillator inventory; and
- b) THAT the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to negotiate and renew a Standing Agreement with Zoll Medical Canada Limited to supply the EMS Division with preventative maintenance and repair service, reusable and disposable accessory equipment for Zoll E-Series monitor/defibrillators at a cost not to exceed \$160,000 for 2012 with the option of four (4) additional one-year terms."

CARRIED LATER IN THE MEETING
(See Following Motion)

MOVED by Councillor Rodrigues,
(61) "THAT the main motion (60) of Councillor Woo be amended by revising the option of four (4) additional one-year terms, to three (3) additional one year terms, thereby decreasing the potential overall contract length from five (5) years to four (4) years."

DEFEATED

The main motion (60) of Councillor Woo was then put to a vote and CARRIED.

This matter will be considered by the Finance & Administration Committee on April 17, 2012 and will be presented to Regional Council on Wednesday, April 25, 2012 as Item #1 of the 4th Report of the Health & Social Services Committee.

- b) AWARD OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 186-2011 FOR THE PROVISION OF MOBILE TRANSPORTERS FOR THE REGION OF DURHAM HEALTH DEPARTMENT, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION (2012-MOH-18)

Report #2012-MOH-18 from Dr. R.J. Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health was received.

MOVED by Councillor Woo,
(62) "THAT we recommend to Council, subject to the approval of the Finance & Administration Committee:

- a) THAT Rowland Emergency Vehicle Products, Inc. be awarded to provide an initial order of fifty (50) mobile transporters (stretchers) and on-site service as needed for a period of one-year in the amount of \$189,750 with the option of four additional one year terms for additional or replacement cots as required (with an annual review to determine continuation), all in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in Request for Proposal 186-2011; and
- b) THAT the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to execute the agreement for these services for the term noted in the RFP, including any required contract renewals."

CARRIED

This matter will be considered by the Finance & Administration Committee on April 17, 2012 and will be presented to Regional Council on Wednesday, April 25, 2012 as Item #2 of the 4th Report of the Health & Social Services Committee.

- c) REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL #RFP-421-2012 FOR THE PROVISION OF A PUBLIC HEALTH ELECTRONIC CLIENT RECORD, DOCUMENTATION AND SCHEDULING SOFTWARE AS A SERVICE (SAAS) SOLUTION (2012-MOH-19)

Report #2012-MOH-19 from Dr. R.J. Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health was received. Dr. Kyle and J. Boufford responded to a question with respect to the anticipated amount of the one-time cost-sharing that could be received from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

MOVED by Councillor Woo,

(63) "THAT we recommend to Council, subject to the approval of the Finance & Administration Committee:

- a) THAT Intrahealth Canada Ltd. be awarded #RFP-421-2012 for the provision of a Public Health electronic record, documentation and scheduling software as a service (SaaS) to include the first-year subscription term and support services in the total amount of \$429,040;
- b) THAT financing for the provision of a Public Health electronic record, documentation and scheduling software as a service (SaaS) be provided from funds set aside for the acquisition, subject to the approval of an application for one-time cost-sharing by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care;
- c) THAT in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in Request for Proposal #RFP-421-2012, the software subscription and support services costs in the amount of \$96,000 per annum for years 2 to 6 be approved with financing to be included in the annual budgets and business plans; and,
- d) THAT the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to execute the associated Agreements for these services, including any extensions."

CARRIED

This matter will be considered by the Finance & Administration Committee on April 17, 2012 and will be presented to Regional Council on Wednesday, April 25, 2012 as Item #3 of the 4th Report of the Health & Social Services Committee.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS – FOR INFORMATION

d) PROGRAM REPORTS (2012-MOH-20)

Report #2012-MOH-20 from Dr. R.J. Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health was received. Councillor England questioned whether other regions have programs in place to support food premise operators in making their businesses breastfeeding friendly. Dr. Kyle advised that he will investigate this matter and report back.

MOVED by Councillor England,
(64) "THAT Report #2012-MOH-20 from the Commissioner & Medical
Officer of Health be received for information."
CARRIED

e) 2011 ADVOCACY, ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS REPORT
(2012-MOH-21)

Report #2012-MOH-21 from Dr. R.J. Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of
Health was received.

MOVED by Councillor England,
(65) "THAT Report #2012-MOH-21 from the Commissioner & Medical
Officer of Health be received for information."
CARRIED

f) SANDOZ MEDICATION SHORTAGE (2012-MOH-22)

Report #2012-MOH-22 from Dr. R.J. Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of
Health was received.

MOVED by Councillor England,
(66) "THAT Report #2012-MOH-22 from the Commissioner & Medical
Officer of Health be received for information."
CARRIED

g) REPLACEMENT OF OXYCONTIN BY OXYNEO (2012-MOH-23)

Report #2012-MOH-23 from Dr. R.J. Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of
Health was received.

MOVED by Councillor England,
(67) "THAT Report #2012-MOH-23 from the Commissioner & Medical
Officer of Health be received for information."
CARRIED

7. OTHER BUSINESS

a) PAP TESTING AND SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC SERVICES

Councillor England advised that she previously raised a concern with respect to
the lack of access to birth control and pap testing for women over twenty-five
years old who do not have a family physician. She added that she has had over
100 women contact her in this regard.

She questioned whether Health Department staff investigated to determine whether the information previously provided in Report #2011-MOH-35, considered at the November 3, 2011 meeting of the Committee, with respect to locations which provide pap testing and birth control, is accurate. She added that she has received feedback from women who have tried to access services at the clinics listed in the Report and were not able to do so.

Dr. Kyle advised that to his knowledge, at the time the Report was prepared, the information was accurate. He added that he will have staff investigate this matter further and report back.

Councillor England added that this is an “equal access to healthcare” issue and she may be formulating a motion for consideration at the next Committee meeting in order to highlight this issue to the Province.

b) TORONTO STAR ARTICLE REGARDING CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH INFORMATION (CIHI) REPORT

Regional Chair Anderson cited a Toronto Star article with respect to a report released yesterday by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) on hospital performance. He questioned whether Dr. Kyle could provide a synopsis and his opinion of the CIHI report. Dr. Kyle advised that hospital performance is outside of his scope. He added that he can review the report and could request that Mr. Kevin Empey, CAO, Lakeridge Health, provide further information to the Committee with respect to the information about Lakeridge Health contained within the report. Chair Coe asked that Dr. Kyle contact Mr. Empey and request that he appear at the April 26th meeting of the Committee. He also requested that if Mr. Empey can provide any responses to Dr. Kyle in the interim, they be forwarded to him and then circulated to the Committee members.

Chair Anderson suggested that if Mr. Empey is not able to attend the April 26th meeting, then perhaps he could provide a written response which could be considered by the Committee at that meeting.

Discussion ensued with respect to the content of the CIHI report and whether the issues are specific to Lakeridge Health or are system-wide and whether it is necessary for Mr. Empey to respond. Chair Coe advised that the report contains specific benchmarks and it would be best to consult with Mr. Empey.

c) COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Councillor Clayton requested that lengthy Commissioner's reports, such as Report #2012-MOH-21, be provided in a shortened format for the Agenda, with the full version available on-line for those who wish to access it.

Dr. Kyle advised that with respect to this particular report, a shortened version is not possible. He added that Report #2012-MOH-21 was prepared as part of the

Department's accountability. He further added that the Health Department has been making a conscious effort to reduce the size of the Agenda document by providing e-mail updates to Committee member's on a regular basis, rather than including all of the information contained in the updates in the Agenda, as was the process previously. He added that they will continue to provide as much information as possible in an electronic format.

d) **PROCEDURE WITH RESPECT TO NON-ATTENDANCE AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Councillor England questioned whether there is a formal process in place with respect to non-attendance by Committee members at Committee meetings and whether regrets are typically received when a member will not be in attendance.

The Committee Clerk advised that there is no formal process in place as it pertains to Committee meetings. She added that regrets are generally received through the Clerk's Department e-mail address and that the Committee Chair is advised prior to the meeting if any regrets are received.

Chair Anderson advised that there is a provision for non-attendance at Council meetings but not Committee meetings.

Councillor England suggested that a formal process be developed for frequent non-attendance at Committee meetings. Discussion ensued with respect to the possibility of revising the Council Rules of Procedure By-law with respect to non-attendance at Committee meetings at the same time the By-law is revised to reflect other changes, such as the direct election of the Chair.

Regional Chair Anderson advised that he will not be in attendance for the April 26th Committee meeting and Councillor Woo advised that he will not be in attendance for the April 12th Joint Committee meeting.

The Committee recessed at 10:49 a.m. and reconvened at 10:57 a.m.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT MATTERS

8. **PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations to consider.

9. **DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations to consider.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to consider.

11. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS – FOR DECISION

a) RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM AND THE DURHAM REGION CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY (2012-CSD-03)

Report #2012-CSD-03 from Dr. H. Drouin, Commissioner of Social Services was received. Dr. Drouin responded to questions with respect to whether the funding for the agreement is provided by the Province and the details of the relationship between the Region and Durham Children's Aid Society.

Councillor England questioned whether there has ever been a recommendation from this Committee with respect to the Ombudsman not having the ability to investigate Children's Aid Society (CAS) decisions or recommendations. Dr. Drouin advised that the Office of the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth can look into any concerns with CAS. He added that CAS follows a rigid policy structure and is closely supervised.

Councillor England advised that there is a report from the Ombudsman (Beyond Scrutiny: Opening up the MUSH Sector to Oversight) outlining his concerns with the inability of his office to investigate CAS and other organizations. She added that she will send the report to Dr. Drouin following the meeting and she asked that Dr. Drouin discuss the report with her and assist her with formulating a motion directed to the Province, requesting that the Ombudsman be granted the authority to investigate CAS.

MOVED by Councillor Woo,

(68) "THAT we recommend to Council, subject to the approval of the Finance & Administration Committee:

- a) THAT approval be granted to re-new a three-year Agreement with Durham Children's Aid Society (DCAS) effective April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2015 which will cover 100% of the direct service costs for one full-time equivalent Behaviour Consultant position, plus an allowance for travel, supervision and administration and a facility rental charge; and,
- b) THAT approval be granted for the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk to execute the Agreement, and subsequent renewals or in-year amending agreements, between the Region of Durham and Durham Children's Aid Society."

CARRIED

This matter will be considered by the Finance & Administration Committee on April 17, 2012 and will be presented to Regional Council on Wednesday, April 25, 2012 as Item #4 of the 4th Report of the Health & Social Services Committee.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS – FOR INFORMATION

b) 2011 YEAR END STATUS – PURCHASE OF SERVICE AGREEMENTS
(2012-CSD-04)

Report #2012-CSD-04 from Dr. H. Drouin, Commissioner of Social Services was received.

MOVED by Councillor Clayton,
(69) “THAT we recommend to Council:

THAT Report #2012-CSD-04 from the Commissioner of Social Services be received for information.”

CARRIED

c) REPORT OF THE INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT DIVISION FOR
FEBRUARY 2012 (2012-IES-05)

Report #2012-IES-05 from Dr. H. Drouin, Commissioner of Social Services was received.

MOVED by Councillor Clayton,
(70) “THAT Report #2012-IES-05 from the Commissioner of Social
Services be received for information.”

CARRIED

12. OTHER BUSINESS

a) CITY OF TORONTO PILOT PROGRAM FOR SMART CARDS FOR SOCIAL
ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS

Councillor Neal requested an update on the City of Toronto pilot program for Smart Cards for Social Assistance recipients. P. Cloutier advised that the first Request for Proposal (RFP) issued by the City did not proceed and that a second RFP was completed in late December/early January. He added that he has not been provided with any information since that time and he will follow up on this matter and report back to the Committee.

Chair Coe asked that this item be added to the Outstanding Items List.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Health & Social Services Committee is scheduled to be held at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 26, 2012, Room LL-C, Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Rd. East, Whitby.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Clayton,
(71) "THAT the meeting be adjourned."
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

L. Fleury, Committee Clerk

L. Coe, Chair
Health & Social Services Committee