

Haldimand-Norfolk  
Health and Social Services Advisory Committee

April 25, 2022

9:30 a.m.

Council Chambers

Live Stream: [www.norfolkcounty.ca/watch-norfolk-county-meetings](http://www.norfolkcounty.ca/watch-norfolk-county-meetings)

\*Due to Covid-19 restrictions, there is no public access to Council Chambers.

Proceedings are web-streamed live and archived on the County's website.  
Deputations are presented electronically.

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- 11.1. HSS 22- 012 - Homeless Prevention Program Report Pursuant to the Municipal Act, 2001 Section 239(2)(h) (h) information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them;
- 11.2. HSS 22-015 - Social Services Relief Fund (SSRF), Phase 5 Pursuant to the Municipal Act, 2001 Section 239(2)(h) (h) information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them;
12. Next Meeting  
May 23, 2022 - Victoria Day Holiday. Postponing meeting till Monday May 30, 2022 @ 9:30am
13. Adjournment

**Haldimand-Norfolk  
Health and Social Services Advisory Committee**

**March 28, 2022**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Virtual Meeting**

**Present:** Kim Huffman, Chris Van Paassen, Ryan Taylor,  
Stewart Patterson, Tony Dalimonte, Bernie Corbett

**Also Present:** Christina Lounsbury, Heidy VanDyk, Louise Lovell,  
Syed Shah, Stephanie Rice, Lori Friesen, Dr.  
Matthew Strauss, Nicole Wagenaar

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**1. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

None

**2. Additions to Agenda**

Vacant Housing Disposal Process

Update from The Medical Officer of Health - Dr. Matt Strauss

**3. Presentations/Deputations**

None

**4. Adoption/Correction of Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

**4.1 Health and Social Services Advisory Committee Minutes dated  
January 24, 2022**

**Moved By:** Bernie Corbett

**Seconded By:** Kim Huffman

The minutes of the Health and Social Services Advisory Committee meeting dated January 24, 2022, having been distributed to all Committee Members and there being no errors reported, they were there upon declared adopted and signed by Chair Dalimonte.

**Carried.**

**5. Update on Reports**

From January 24, 2022 Meeting Heidi VanDyk-Ellis, Acting General Manager, advised that all reports from the January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Advisory Committee were approved at council as presented.

**6. Consent Items**

None

**7. Staff Reports**

**7.1 General Manager**

**7.2 Public Health**

**7.2.1 HSS-22-05 - Annual Service Plan Budget Submission**

**Moved By:** Ryan Taylor

**Seconded By:** Stewart Patterson

THAT report HSS-22-05 be received as information;

AND THAT the Board of Health endorse the submission of the 2022 Annual Service Plan and Budget Submission to the Ministry of Health.

**Carried.**

**7.3 Social Services and Housing**

**7.3.1 HSS 22-04 - 2021 Homelessness Enumeration Results**

**Moved By:** Kim Huffman

**Seconded By:** Bernie Corbett

THAT Staff report HSS 22-04 2021 Homelessness Enumeration Results be received as information.

#### **7.4 Quality, Planning, Accountability, and Performance**

#### **8. Sub-Committee Reports**

None

#### **9. Communications**

None

#### **10. Other Business**

- Vacant Housing Disposal Process
  - Councillor Corbett asked what is the plan for the disposal of the vacant Housing Corporation social housing homes? Heidy VanDyk-Ellis, Acting General Manager of Health and Social Services states that the signal family homes and semidetached homes in both counties have been identified for disposal. The recommendation was to leverage the assets in order to build new projects. The next step is to go through the consent procedure. She is aware of the request from the housing corporation to sell the properties. Social Services & Housing will complete an assessment of this request, write a staff report and bring forward to council.
- Dr. Strauss – Acting Medical Officer of Health – Verbal Update
  - Matt Strauss presented a verbal update on the COVID-19 pandemic and Health Unit Response. He talked about a report that was presented at Council and wanted to give the same update to the Committee. Dr. Strauss provided the Committee members information on Paxlovid, a medication that is administered orally in pill form.
  - Dr Strauss addressed questions from the committee regarding vaccine recommendations, ticks and hogweed.

#### **11. Closed Session**

#### **12. Next Meeting**

Health and Social Services Advisory Committee Meeting next Meeting will be on Monday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Heidy will work with Norfolk County Clerks department and Christina Lounsbury to whether it would be at Council Chambers or in the Boardroom at 12 Gilbertson Drive Simcoe.

**13. Adjournment**

10:40am

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Chair

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Clerk



## **Board of Health Meeting – May 03, 2022**

### **Advisory Committee Meeting – April 25, 2022**

Subject: Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program – Request for Proposals  
Report Number: HSS-22-010  
Division: Health and Social Services  
Department: Haldimand Norfolk Health Unit  
Purpose: For Decision

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#### **Recommendation(s):**

THAT Staff Report HSS 22-010, OSDCP – Request for Proposals be received as information;

AND THAT Approval be granted for a modified procurement process to be completed seeking proposals from qualified community dental professionals for a period of six (6) months from July 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022 with an option to extend the agreement on the same terms and conditions for one (1) additional six (6) month term.

#### **Executive Summary:**

This report is to seek approval from the Board of Health (BOH) to permit a procurement process, requesting proposals from qualified community dental professionals for a period of six (6) months, from July 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022, with an option to extend the agreement on the same terms and conditions for six (6) months for the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program.

#### **Discussion:**

In the 2019 provincial budget, Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program (OSDCP) was introduced for financially challenged seniors to access dental care services with no or little cost to them. The main objectives of this program are to prevent chronic disease, reduce infections and increase quality of life while reducing burden on the health care system.

On June 7, 2019, the Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit (HNHU) received notification from the Ministry of Health (MOH) of the 2019 operational funding of \$537,900 for OSDCP. The amount was pro-rated to \$403,425 for a mid-year program implementation date (calendar 2019 only).

On September 3, 2019 report HSS 19-39 Ministry of Health Operational Funding for Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program was presented to the BOH. The BOH advised staff to explore alternate options for service delivery models of dental care services for low income seniors.

In mid-September, it was confirmed by the MOH that the BOH may enter into partnership contracts with other entities/organizations or service providers on an hourly, sessional or per diem basis for the provision of dental care services

A modified Request for Proposal (RFP) was developed and issued to the marketplace. Contracts were executed in mid-November 2019 with three (3) providers. The contract start date was December 2, 2019 with a contract end date of June 2, 2020.

On May 19, 2020, staff report HSS 20-13, the BOH agreed to a nine (9) month contract extension for the period June 3, 2020 to March 1, 2021 with the three (3) contractors.

In February, 2021, staff completed a modified procurement process in accordance with the County's Purchasing Policy, seeking proposals from qualified dental professionals within Haldimand and Norfolk Counties to provide dental services for the Seniors Dental Program with a closing date of March 2, 2021. Contracts were executed at the end of March 2021 with four (4) providers, for the period April, 2021 to December 31, 2021. The contracts were extended for six (6) months till June 30, 2022.

Currently, the Health Unit office in Simcoe still does not have the necessary infrastructure to implement the OSDCP. This is mostly due to construction delays as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Construction is planned to be completed at the end of August, 2022.

Staff are requesting approval from the BOH to permit a modified procurement process, seeking proposals from qualified community dental professionals for a period of six (6) months, with an option to extend the agreement on the same terms and conditions for an additional six (6) months. This will ensure continuity of implementation of the seniors' dental program while construction of the dental operatory is on-going.

All costs associated with this program are covered from Ministry of Health funding.

#### **Financial Services Comments:**

##### **Norfolk County**

The Approved 2022 Board of Health budget includes \$537,900 for the Ontario Senior's Dental Care program, funded by the Ministry of Health. The amount includes sufficient budget for continuation of the contract to December 31, 2022, currently set to expire on June 30, 2022. A follow up report will be provided to the Board for consideration once capital infrastructure is in place to support the program internally.



### **Haldimand County**

Haldimand Finance staff have reviewed this report and agree with the information provided by Norfolk Financial Services.

### **Interdepartmental Implications:**

Once approval has been received from the BOH, the Health Unit will work with Norfolk County Purchasing to develop, issue and evaluate the RFP and execute the contracts.

### **Purchasing Services**

Purchasing has reviewed the report and concurs with the recommendation that upon approval, a competitive bidding opportunity be developed and issued to the marketplace.

### **Haldimand County**

Upon follow up with Norfolk staff, they have provided clarification on the meaning of a "modified RFP". The intent is to issue a simplified RFP with the desire to increase the number of submissions from qualified dental care providers.

Norfolk staff also confirmed the purpose of the 6 month term with a 6 month extension is to ensure that there is a contingency in place for the provision of services if the construction of the Simcoe dental operatory is not ready to go by August 2022.

### **Consultation(s):**

Norfolk County Purchasing was consulted on the development of this report.

No other consultation was necessary for this service.

### **Strategic Plan Linkage:**

This report aligns with the 2019-2022 Council Strategic Priority "Focus on Service".

Explanation: Supports Norfolk County's initiative to service the community

### **Conclusion:**

Staff are requesting approval for a procurement process, seeking proposals from qualified community dental professionals for a period of six (6) months, with an option to extend the agreement on the same terms and conditions for an additional six (6) months.

### **Attachment(s):**

None

**Approval:**

Approved By:  
Heidy VanDyk  
Acting General Manager, Health and  
Social Services  
For more information, call:  
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Reviewed By:  
Syed Shah  
Acting Director, Public Health  
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Prepared By:  
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Program Manager, School Health & Substance Use  
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## **Council-In-Committee Meeting – May 10, 2022**

### **Advisory Committee Meeting – April 25, 2022**

Subject: Homeless Prevention Services – Emergency Housing Program  
Report Number: HSS-22-014  
Division: Health and Social Services  
Department: Haldimand Norfolk Social Services and Housing  
Purpose: For Decision

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#### **Recommendation(s):**

THAT Staff report HSS-22-014, Homeless Prevention Services – Emergency Housing Program, be received as information;

AND THAT Council direct staff to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for enhanced emergency housing and homeless prevention programs which may include additional locations for emergency housing and warming and cooling centres in both Counties;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to bring back a report outlining the results of the RFP.

#### **Executive Summary:**

The purpose of this staff report is to report back to Council on the results of staff's review of the emergency housing program and to present Council with options for future service delivery in response to community feedback.

#### **Discussion:**

Staff have completed follow up in response to the resolution of Norfolk Council to review the emergency housing program in light of community feedback that warming, cooling centres are needed, and that an emergency housing location is needed in downtown Simcoe. In preparing this report, staff are also considering services in Haldimand County and previous feedback that emergency housing locations are needed in Dunnville.

As a follow up to Norfolk Council's motion requesting staff to investigate other models of service delivery and partnership for the emergency housing program, staff reached out to other Consolidated Municipal Services Managers through the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association. An information request asked municipalities to provide

information about emergency housing, shelters specifically, and an estimate of initial and ongoing operating costs.

Responses were received from five municipalities, three of which provided annual costs of \$630,000 on the low end and \$3 million on the high end for the operations of a 24/7 shelter. The variances in costs depended on the number of beds, the level of staffing, whether there was security on site and whether some of the services, such as meals, were provided in kind by donation and volunteers. These costs do not include the initial and ongoing capital expenses associated with owning and operating a shelter. One municipality indicated that they had recently issued a request for proposals (RFP) for their emergency housing program and received no bids.

As requested by Council, staff also had a conversation with a representative of the Ministry of Children Community and Social Services (MCCSS) to inquire whether a partnership in one of the provincially owned and operated residential programs to deliver emergency housing would be possible. The response received was that this would not be supported by the Ministry and that provincial residential programs are built and operated only for their specific and intended purpose.

By way of a previous staff report, an overview of the emergency housing program was provided. Specifically, there are a total of 17 emergency housing beds available in the two County area, 5 in Simcoe at Hambleton Hall and 12 at the Star Motel in Jarvis. The program is delivered from housing first and trauma informed care philosophies whereby staff work with people “where they are at” and try to put as few barriers to service in place as possible while still maintaining standards for the health and safety of the program participants and the staff. Staff remain confident that the emergency housing program serves the needs of the community and that appropriate options and locations for emergency housing are being provided. It is acknowledged that there are individuals who refuse the service for a number of reasons and staff continue to attempt to engage with these individuals.

Staff are also aware that a group of community individuals have undertaken to operate an overnight temporary shelter in the basement of a local church in Simcoe. Staff have reached out to seek more information and feedback on how this is working. Further, staff have participated in a discussion with the RISE group about their idea for a home share program which would facilitate individuals sharing rental housing together. Feedback has also been received that emergency housing options are needed in Dunnville.

In 2018, the homeless prevention programs underwent a service review and, at that time, an RFP was issued for the emergency housing program with no bidders. Since then, the program has been delivered by the Social Services & Housing department in the manner described above.

Staff are very aware of and open to the feedback that has come from the community related to the service, specifically, that emergency housing locations in Dunnville and

Simcoe and warming / cooling centres are needed. To be responsive, staff are recommending as part of this report that an RFP be issued as a way to see what new partnerships may exist in the community.

Staff commit to continuing to work with our community partners to support our most vulnerable community members. Homelessness is a complex issue and unfortunately, there does not seem to be a quick and easy solution. Homelessness is a concern that municipalities across Canada are struggling to solve, particularly in downtown areas.

All homeless prevention programs, including emergency housing are 100% funded by provincial funding from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

### **Financial Services Comments:**

#### **Norfolk County**

The Approved 2022 Levy Supported Operating Budget includes \$454,100 to support the Emergency Shelter program detailed within the report, as part of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing's Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI). The program has remained within budget since becoming internally delivered by Housing Services.

Enhanced delivery of the program, as outlined in this report, is in addition to the budgets included in the Approved 2022 Levy Supported Operating Budget. At this time, staff anticipate the program will remain 100% Ministry funded. Further details of the planned funding source are included within Closed Session Report HSS 22-015. Housing Services and Financial Management & Planning staff will determine feasibility and budget implications once the RFP has closed. Any financial implications from the result of the RFP will be provided within the follow up report back to Council.

#### **Haldimand County**

Haldimand Finance staff have reviewed this report and agree with the information provided by Norfolk Financial Services.

### **Interdepartmental Implications:**

#### **Norfolk County**

Should Council decide to issue an RFP for new homeless prevention partnerships, including additional emergency housing locations and warming and cooling centres, Social Services & Housing Staff will work with Norfolk County Purchasing Staff to complete this procurement.

#### **Purchasing Services**

Purchasing Services has reviewed the report. Upon approval and based on the need identified by Social Services & Housing staff to see what new partnerships may exist in the community, recommend that consideration be given for an Expression of Interest (EOI) to be developed and issued to the marketplace prior to the Request for Proposal

(RFP) process being completed and in accordance with Section 4.7 of CS-02 Purchasing Policy. A Manager may use an EOI prior to a Bid Request to seek information from interested parties for an upcoming solicitation. An EOI is a process whereby the County can acquire information, and sometimes is known as a ‘fishing exercise’. Such process does not lead to a contract award.

### **Haldimand County**

As with previous RFP’s issued by the Social Services & Housing Department, Haldimand Corporate Services staff will be included in the development and evaluation of the RFP to ensure that the needs of both Counties are represented with the purpose of seeking potentially new or different partnerships or service delivery models for the provision of additional emergency housing locations, warming and cooling centres.

### **Consultation(s):**

This report was circulated to Norfolk County Senior Leadership Team, Norfolk County Finance and Purchasing for review and comment and was then circulated to Haldimand County Finance and Corporate Services for their review and comment.

Social Services & Housing Staff have also reached out to and will be meeting with representatives of the downtown Simcoe BIA and Church Out Serving for a tour of the current warming centre and for suggestions and collaboration.

### **Strategic Plan Linkage:**

This report aligns with the Norfolk County strategic initiative, Focus on Service.

Rationale: The Social Services & Housing department endeavours to provide the best possible service to our community, particularly our most vulnerable members who are experiencing homelessness so that they may experience housing and life stabilization.

### **Conclusion:**

Staff have reviewed the community feedback received related to the emergency housing program and the program’s service delivery model. In order to explore potentially new or different partnerships or service delivery models, staff are recommending issuing an RFP for new partnerships, including additional emergency housing locations and warming and cooling centres.

### **Attachment(s):**

- None

**Approval:**

Reviewed By:  
Heidy VanDyk  
Acting General Manager, Health and Social Services  
For more information, call:  
519-426-6170 ext.3120

Prepared By:  
Stephanie Rice  
Acting Director of Social Services and Housing  
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Dear alPHa Members,

alPHa is pleased to announce registration is now open for the 2022 Annual General Meeting, Conference, Section Meetings, and optional Pre-Conference Workshop!

The Conference is taking place on June 14<sup>th</sup> and will continue the conversation on the critical role of local public health in the province's Public Health System. Highlights include alPHa's Annual General Meeting, consideration of Resolutions, Plenary Sessions with guest speakers, Section Meetings, and the presentation of the 2022 Distinguished Service Awards. We have an exciting line-up of conference speakers including Matt Anderson (President & CEO, Ontario Health), Dr. Ross Upshur (Professor, DLSPH), Dr. Jackie Schleifer Taylor, and speakers from Public Health Ontario. alPHa's President, Dr. Paul Roumeliotis, is the Conference Chair.

alPHa's Pre-Conference workshop is being held on June 13<sup>th</sup> from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at no additional cost to Conference participants. For those of you who attended the Winter Symposium, where Tim Arnold was a speaker, you will know his talk at lunchtime briefly addressed how to be more resilient, embrace change and manage expectations. This is an opportunity for alPHa members to take a deeper dive into these subjects. The workshop has three main components: *The Secret to Sustainability - Care for Others AND Care for Yourself*, *Outsmarting Change - Embrace Change AND Preserve Stability*, and *The High-Performance Paradox - Have Expectations AND Extend Grace*. Please note you must be a conference registrant to participate in the workshop.

Our thanks to the Eastern Ontario Health Unit for co-hosting the event and to the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health for their generous support.

**Registration information can be found by [clicking here](#).** The price of the Annual Conference and Section Meetings (June 14<sup>th</sup>), including the Pre-Conference Workshop (June 13<sup>th</sup>), is \$399.99+ HST. The [Preliminary Program](#), [Conference poster](#), [Workshop poster](#), [Conference Sponsorship package](#), and [alPHa Fitness Challenge](#) are also available by clicking on these links. Program updates are posted on our [Conference webpage](#), so check this page regularly.

We hope to see you online June 13<sup>th</sup> and June 14<sup>th</sup>!

Take Care,

Loretta

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Loretta Ryan, CAE, RPP  
Executive Director

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