




Hamilton

## INFORMATION REPORT

<b>TO:</b>	Chair and Members Emergency and Community Services Committee
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	July 11, 2019
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Addictions Services Initiative (HSC19027(a)) (City Wide)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	Kerry Lubrick (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4855 Melissa Eberhardt-Markle (905) 546-2424 Ext. 5165
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Bonnie Elder Director, Ontario Works Division Healthy and Safe Communities Department
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

### COUNCIL DIRECTION

At the June 6, 2019 Emergency and Community Services Committee Meeting the following motion carried:

“That the Emergency and Community Services Committee support the application for the three-month extension offered by the Province of Ontario to provide continued support to help transition current participants in the Addiction Services Initiative.”

### INFORMATION

Staff provided an update on the Ontario Works Addiction Services Initiative (OWASI) (Report HSC19027) and the status of the winddown of the program to the Emergency and Community Services Committee on June 6, 2019, following the announcement by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services on ending the service contract with the City of Hamilton effective July 31, 2019. At that meeting, staff were directed to submit an application for the three-month extension offered by the Province of Ontario. The extension will assist with the continuity of the addiction treatment for approximately 28 participants until October 31, 2019.

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OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

The following is an update on the OWASI caseload and wind down activities:

1. Average ASI caseload

- Since 2011, the average caseload in OWASI was 248 per year with average of 187 of those participants engaged in addiction treatment. This represents an average of 398 unique participants per year.
- The average number of new OW/ODSP participants accepted into ASI each month was 7.
- The average length of time in the ASI program was 22 months.
- The average number of participants leaving ASI per month was 15.
- The Caseload ratio to OWASI Case Facilitator was 59:1.

2. ASI outcomes since 2016

- 112 participants secured employment
- 52 participants transferred over to ODSP
- 47 participants attended school/training
- 208 participants attended trauma counselling

Overall participants also self-identified improvement in the areas of mental health and substance use.

3. Number of people needing to be transitioned to addiction services as of May 31, 2019

- The OWASI caseload as of May 31, 2019 was 246
  - 28 participants are actively working with the Addictions Social Worker in ASI and it is anticipated that treatment will be required past July 31, 2019.
  - 12 participants have been referred to Alcohol Drugs and Gambling Services main program.
  - 23 participants were connected to other Ministry of Health funded treatment providers (i.e. Womenkind, Suntrac, Wayside, Suboxone, Methadone, Regional Indian Centre).
  - 9 participants were engaged in other non-ministry funded treatment supports (Alcohol Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous).
  - The remaining 174 participants are working through trauma, relapse and crisis. As a result, they are not actively engaged in addiction treatment. Intensive case management support is provided to those individuals through referrals to community supports and at times accompaniment to community supports.

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4. Other community supports being accessed by OWASI Participants

- Mental Health and Addictions Services:
  - Canadian Association of Mental Health
  - St. Joseph's Hospital Concurrent disorders and Rapid Access Addiction Medicine clinic
  - Family health teams and family doctors
  - Native Women's Centre
  - Catholic Family Services
  - March of Dimes
  - SACHA Sexual Assault Centre
  - Children's Aide Society
  - Woman's Centre
  - Aboriginal Health Centre
- Other Supports:
  - Transition to Homes
  - Dental
  - Optometrist
  - Employment Counselling
  - Access to Housing
  - Childcare Subsidy
  - Legal Aid
  - Public Health Smoking Cessation Program

Since April 2019, OWASI Staff have connected directly with 31% of the caseload. ASI Case Facilitators continue to meet with ASI participants by scheduled appointments, drop in sessions, programming, home and community visits and by telephone. Active outreach and intensive case management will continue until July 31, 2019 at which time the participants will be transferred, along with the Case Facilitator to regular case management through the Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program, as applicable.

Staff have received verbal approval to the City's request and it is expected that a letter will be provided by the Ministry approving the use of unspent ASI funds beyond the July 31, 2019 termination date up to October 31, 2019.

**APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

None