



## **EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT 21-011**

1:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 4, 2021  
Council Chambers  
Hamilton City Hall  
71 Main Street West

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**Present:** Councillors N. Nann (Chair), B. Clark, T. Jackson, S. Merulla, and E. Pauls

**Regrets:** Councillor T. Whitehead – Personal

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### **THE EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 21-011 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

**1. Seniors Advisory Committee Citizen Committee Report, respecting Macassa and Wentworth Lodges (Item 7.1)**

That Seniors Advisory Committee Citizen Committee Report, respecting Macassa and Wentworth Lodges, be received.

**2. LGBTQ Advisory Committee Citizen Committee Report, respecting Recommendations from the Community Conversation (Item 7.2)**

- (a) That LGBTQ Advisory Committee Citizen Committee Report, respecting Recommendations from the Community Conversation, be received and referred to staff for review and report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee; and
- (b) That staff from the Healthy and Safe Communities be directed to attend meetings of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee.

**3. Standardization of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Equipment for the Hamilton Fire Department (HSC21036) (City Wide) (Item 10.1)**

- (a) That Council approve the standardization of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Equipment manufactured by MSA The Safety Company, pursuant to Procurement Policy #14 – Standardization, until December 31, 2031 and that the Fire Chief of the Hamilton Fire Department be authorized to negotiate, enter into and execute any

required contract and any ancillary documents required to give effect thereto with MSA The Safety Company, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and,

- (b) That the Fire Chief of the Hamilton Fire Department, or his/her designate, be authorized to amend any Contracts executed and any ancillary documents as required if MSA The Safety Company undergoes a name change.

**4. Voluntary Safe Isolation Space Program Funding (HSC21042) (City Wide) (Item 10.2)**

That the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department, or their designate, be authorized and directed to enter into and execute a Contribution Agreement with the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) to administer Voluntary Safe Isolation Space Program (VSISP) allocation to a maximum amount of \$210,928, as well as any ancillary agreements, contracts, extensions and documents required to give effect thereto in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

**5. Fireworks By-Law Review (Item 11.1)**

WHEREAS, there appear to have been several residential fires started by fireworks across the Province in 2021;

WHEREAS, there has been an increase in complaints pertaining to fireworks damaging properties with falling, hot embers;

WHEREAS, the power, size and explosive force of retail fireworks appear to have increased;

WHEREAS, a 24-year-old goaltender from Latvia, who was spending the summer in the United States, was killed after being struck in the chest with a fireworks mortar; and,

WHEREAS, there are fireworks retailers in Ontario open year-round.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Hamilton Fire Chief and staff be directed to review the City's bylaws that regulate fireworks sales and residential use with a report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee in the first quarter of 2022.

**6. Winter Services Plan for People Experiencing Homelessness (Item 11.2)**

WHEREAS, cold weather disproportionately impacts residents experiencing homelessness;

WHEREAS, needs are unique during cold alerts and circumstances change, requiring winter services to be monitored and adapted to ensure safe and welcoming places for people experiencing homelessness during winter are available;

WHEREAS, there has been expressed need for increased provision of 24-hour respite sites during cold weather alerts that prioritize ease of access to safe indoor resting spaces; and

WHEREAS, Hamilton Housing Service Division works with various partners to help mitigate and address negative impacts related to homelessness during the winter season.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That staff be directed to develop an annual winter services plan for people experiencing homelessness that includes monitoring and adapting to emerging needs, for report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee.

**FOR INFORMATION:**

**(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)**

The Committee Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda:

**6. DELEGATION REQUESTS**

6.2. Respecting Winter Services Plan (Added Item 6.2)

6.2 (a) James Lambert

6.2 (b) Vic Wojciechowska

6.2 (c) Katie Sullivan, Hamilton Encampment Response Network

6.2 (d) Merima Menzildzic

**12. NOTICES OF MOTION**

12.1. Winter Services Plan for People Experiencing Homelessness

12.2 National Childcare Strategy – investigating the potential for direct municipal agreement with the Federal Government

**13. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS**

**13.1 Ambulance Offload Delays – Update**

The agenda for the November 4, 2021 Emergency and Community Services Committee meeting was approved, as amended.

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)**

There were no declarations of interest.

**(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)**

**(i) October 7, 2021**

The Minutes of the October 7, 2021 meeting of the Emergency and Community Services Committee were approved, as presented.

**(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 6)**

That the following Delegation Requests, be approved for today's meeting:

- (i) Jennifer Hompoth, NGen Youth Centre, respecting expert contribution on youth housing, transitional and emergency shelter, with respect to municipal removal of encampment protocols (Item 6.1)
- (ii) Respecting Winter Services Plan (Added Item 12.1) (Added Item 6.2)
  - 1. James Lambert (Added Item 6.2 (a))
  - 2. Vic Wojciechowska (Added Item 6.2 (b))
  - 3. Katie Sullivan, Hamilton Encampment Support Network (Added Item 6.2 (c))
  - 4. Merima Menzildzic (Added Item 6.2 (d))

**(d) PUBLIC HEARINGS / DELEGATIONS (Item 9)**

- (i) **Jennifer Hompoth, NGen Youth Centre, respecting expert contribution on youth housing, transitional and emergency shelter, with respect to municipal removal of encampment protocols (Item 9.1)**

Jennifer Hompoth, NGen Youth Centre was not present when called upon.

- (ii) **Winter Services Plan - Added Item 12.1 (Added Item 9.2)**

- 1. **James Lambert (Added Item 9.2 (a))**

James Lambert addressed the Committee respecting Winter Services Plan (Added Item 12.1).

**2. Vic Wojciechowska (Added Item 9.2 (b))**

Vic Wojciechowska addressed the Committee respecting Winter Services Plan (Added Item 12.1).

**3. Katie Sullivan, Hamilton Encampment Support Network (Added Item 9.2 (c))**

Katie Sullivan, Hamilton Encampment Support Network addressed the Committee respecting Winter Services Plan (Added Item 12.1).

**4. Merima Menzildzic (Added Item 9.2 (d))**

Merima Menzildzic addressed the Committee respecting Winter Services Plan (Added Item 12.1).

The following Delegations, were received, and referred to the consideration of Item 12.1, Winter Services Plan for People Experiencing Homelessness:

- (i) James Lambert (Added Item 9.2 (a))
- (ii) Vic Wojciechowska (Added Item 9.2 (b))
- (iii) Katie Sullivan, Hamilton Encampment Support Network (Added Item 9.2 (c))
- (iv) Merima Menzildzic (Added Item 9.2 (d))

For disposition of this matter, please refer to Item 6.

**(e) NOTICES OF MOTION (Item 12)**

**(i) Winter Services Plan for People Experiencing Homelessness (Added Item 12.1)**

The Rules of Order were waived to allow for the introduction of a Motion respecting Winter Services Plan for People Experiencing Homelessness.

For further disposition of this matter, refer to Item 6.

**(ii) National Childcare Strategy – investigating the potential for direct municipal agreement with the Federal Government (Added Item 12.2)**

Councillor Nann introduced the following Notice of Motion:

WHEREAS, on April 19, 2021 the Government of Canada's budget announcement included a \$30 billion investment over five years to create a national system of Early Learning and Child Care and Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care;

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada has entered into Child Care Agreements with seven provinces and one territory to improve the quantity and quality of regulated child care while reducing the costs for parents to an average of \$10 per day;

WHEREAS, the provinces and territory that signed agreements with the federal government are collectively committing to expanding capacity of new regulated child care spaces by 125,000;

WHEREAS, an agreement between the Government of Canada and Province of Ontario on a bilateral child care program remains outstanding with public reports stating negotiations are ongoing;

WHEREAS, Ontario is home to 38% of Canada's children under the age of 6;

WHEREAS, like other cities in Ontario, families in Hamilton struggle with accessing child care and managing the high fees required to maintain care once secured;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has particularly amplified the precarious position that women, primarily the caregivers of children, are placed in when forced to choose between participating in the workforce and caring for their children or their extended family's children;

WHEREAS, twice as many women as men vacated the paid labour force by September 2021 compared to February 2020;

WHEREAS, the adoption of a National Child Care strategy would provide the resources required to ensure all families have access to the child care supports that meet their needs while providing all members of our community the opportunity to fully participate in the work force;

WHEREAS, the National Child Care strategy aligns with Hamilton's Economic Recovery Task Force recommendation to ensuring a direct connection is made to the health and well-being of the community and the economy; and

WHEREAS, the National Child Care strategy aligns with Hamilton's Early Years Community Plan and the commitment to providing responsive, high quality, accessible early years programming that achieves equitable outcomes for all children and families.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

That staff from the Healthy and Safe Communities Department investigate the potential for entering into a direct municipal agreement with the Federal Government that would allow the City of Hamilton to participate in

the National Childcare Strategy and report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee as soon as possible.

**(f) GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS (Item 13)**

**(i) Ambulance Offload Delays - Update (Added Item 13.1)**

Chief Michael Sanderson provided the Committee with an update respecting the Ambulance Offload Delays.

The verbal update provided by Chief Michael Sanderson, regarding Ambulance Offload Delays, was received.

**(g) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)**

There being no further business, the Emergency and Community Services Committee be adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor N. Nann  
Chair, Emergency and Community Services  
Committee

Tamara Bates  
Legislative Coordinator  
Office of the City Clerk