



EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT 23-004

1:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 6, 2023
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Present: Councillors B. Clark (Chair), T. Jackson, C. Kroetsch, T. Hwang, N. Nann and A. Wilson and M. Wilson

THE EMERGENCY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 23-004 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Annual Report (HSC23015)(City Wide) (Item 8.1)

That the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Annual Report (HSC23015), be received.

2. Seniors Strategy Update (HSC23018) (City Wide)

That the Seniors Strategy Update (HSC23018), be received.

3. Behavioural Supports Ontario Initiative – Macassa Lodge (HSC23011) (Ward 7) (Item 10.1)

- (a) That the Behavioural Supports Ontario (BSO) Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brand (HNHB) – Ontario Health (OH) West base annual funding in the amount of \$112,073 for the 2023/2024 fiscal year be received;
- (b) That the General Manager of Healthy and Safe Communities Department, or their designate, be authorized to increase the Long Term Care (LTC) Division's 2023 budgeted complement by one full time permanent position of a Recreational Therapist, at an estimated annual cost of \$103,618, to be funded from BSO new base funding, and;
- (c) That ancillary administrative costs of approximately \$1,700, that is not permissible to be funded per BSO, to be absorbed by the division's 2023

in year savings that may be realized through gapping or other in year savings.

4. Declarations of Emergency in the Areas of Homelessness, Mental Health and Opioid Addiction (Item 11.1)

- (a) That the Mayor formally issue three separate declarations of emergency, in the areas of homelessness, mental health and opioid overdoses/poisoning;
- (b) That the Mayor send correspondence to the Provincial Government requesting that action be taken on the eight measures proposed by the Association of Local Public Health Agencies including:
 - (i) Creation of a multi-sectoral task force to guide the development of a robust provincial opioid response plan that will ensure necessary resourcing, policy change, and health and social system coordination;
 - (ii) Expanding access to evidence informed harm reduction programs and practices including lifting the provincial cap of 21 Consumption and Treatment Service (CTS) Sites, funding Urgent Public Health Needs Sites (UPHNS) and scaling up safer supply options;
 - (iii) Revision of the current CTS model to address the growing trends of opioid poisoning amongst those who are using inhalation methods;
 - (iv) Expanding access to opioid agonist therapy for opioid use disorder through a range of settings (e.g. mobile outreach, primary care, emergency departments, Rapid Access to Addiction Medicine Clinics), and a variety of medication options;
 - (v) Providing a long-term financial commitment to create more affordable and supportive housing for people in need, including people with substance use disorders;
 - (vi) Addressing the structural stigma and harms that discriminate against people who use drugs, through provincial support and advocacy to the Federal government to decriminalize personal use and possession of substances and ensure increased investments in health and social services at all levels;
 - (vii) Increasing investments in evidence-informed substance use prevention and mental health promotion initiatives that provide foundational support for the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, and neighbourhoods, beginning from early childhood; and

- (viii) Funding additional and dedicated positions for public health to support the critical coordination and leadership of local opioid and substance abuse strategies;
- (c) That the Mayor send correspondence to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting action be taken to correct the funding allocation model for homelessness based on the results of Auditor General's 2021 report which found that provincial funding in this area is incorrect;
- (d) That the Mayor send correspondence to the Ministry of Health and the CEO of Ontario Health requesting that the province immediately commit to fully funding gaps in mental health service, as well as funding ongoing annual increases as required by inflation and population need;
- (e) That the Mayor send correspondence to Federal Minister of Justice and Attorney General, David Lametti, and Federal Minister of Health, Jean-Yves Duclos, urging the Federal government convene a task force to explore the legal regulation and decriminalization of all drugs in Canada; and
- (f) That the Mayor send correspondence to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) requesting that targeted advocacy be conducted in these areas, including the development of a singular motion that can be ratified by municipal councils across Ontario calling on the province to take immediate action.

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)

The Committee Clerk advised the following changes to the agenda:

6. DELEGATION REQUESTS

- 6.3 Mary Vaccaro, respecting the Safer Drug Use Space at YWCA Hamilton and the Declarations of Emergency

9. CONSENT ITEMS

- 9.2 Advisory Committee Minutes

- 9.2a LGBTQ Advisory Committee Minutes - February 21, 2023
- 9.2b Hamilton Veterans Committee Minutes - November 29, 2022
- 9.2c Hamilton Veterans Committee Minutes - February 28, 2023

13. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS

- 13.1 Amendments to the Outstanding Business List

- (a) Items To Be Removed:
 - (a) 16-A: Endorsement of Report “The Right to an Adequate Standard of Living: An Update to the 2006 Report” to the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Geneva. February 8, 2016, 16-002, Item 1
 - (b) 18-A: Funding Requests from Agencies HSC 18-007 Addressed in subsequent reports.
 - (c) 20-G: Crisis with Supportive Housing for those with Disabilities E&CS 20-010 Item (f)(i) Addressed in subsequent reports
 - (d) 20-K: Establishing a Sub-Committee to Address Impacts of Social Issues – COVID-19 Council 20-010, Item 6.3
 - (e) 21-C: Citizen Committee Report Seniors Advisory Committee respecting Long Term Care Homes 21-005, Item 4
- (b) Items Requiring New Due Date:
 - (a) 21-F: Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities Report 20-007, December 8, 2020 GIC 21-003, Item 3(b)
 - (b) 23-B: Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters Site Options and Considerations (HSC22015(b)) (City Wide) ECS 23-001, January 19, 2023, Item 6, As amended by Council on January 25, 2023
 - (c) 23-G: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI) Round 3 (HSC20056(c)) (ECS 23-001 Added Item 14.4) Special Council Meeting, February 15, 2023

The agenda for the April 6, 2023 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) March 23, 2023 (Item 4.1)

The Minutes of the March 23, 2023 meeting of the Emergency and Community Services Committee, were approved, as presented.

(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 6)

The following Delegation Requests, be approved, as presented:

- (i) Elizabeth Watson-Morlog respecting the Dundas Community Pool (for a future meeting) (Item 6.1)
- (ii) Calvin Cain, Ontario Homes for Special Needs Association Hamilton, respecting Hamilton Residential Care Facilities (for a future meeting) (Item 6.2)
- (iii) Mary Vaccaro, respecting the Safer Drug Use Space at YWCA Hamilton and the Declarations of Emergency (for today's meeting) (Added Item 6.3)

(e) DELEGATIONS (Item 7)

The following delegations addressed the Committee respecting the following:

- (i) Hafeez Hussain respecting the controls and verification process in the Healthy and Safe Communities in administrating the Ontario Works and ODSP Programs (Item 7.1)
- (ii) Mary Vaccaro respecting the Safer Drug Use Space at YWCA Hamilton and the Declarations of Emergency (Added Item 7.2)

The following Delegations, were received:

- (a) Hafeez Hussain, addressed the Committee respecting the controls and verification process in the Healthy and Safe Communities in administrating the Ontario Works and ODSP Programs (Item 7.1)
- (b) Mary Vaccaro, addressed the Committee respecting the Safer Drug Use Space at YWCA Hamilton and the Declarations of Emergency (Added Item 7.2)

For further disposition on Item (b), refer to Item 4 and (i)(i)

(f) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 8)

(i) Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Annual Report (HSC23015)(City Wide) (Item 8.1)

Rachelle Ihekwoaba, Manager, Community Strategies, and Koubra Haggar, Co-Chair of the Community Safety and Well-Being System Leadership Table addressed Committee respecting the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Annual Report (HSC23015).

The Presentation respecting the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Annual Report (HSC23015), be received.

For further disposition, refer to Item 1

(g) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 9)

That the following Items be received:

(i) Advisory Committee Minutes (Added Item 9.2)

- (a) LGBTQ Advisory Committee Minutes - February 21, 2023
- (b) Hamilton Veterans Committee Minutes - November 29, 2022
- (c) Hamilton Veterans Committee Minutes - February 28, 2023

(h) MOTIONS (Item 11)

(i) Declarations of Emergency in the Areas Of Homelessness, Mental Health and Opioid Addiction (Item 11.1)

- (a) That the Mayor formally issue three separate declarations of emergency, in the areas of homelessness, mental health and opioid addiction, as per the procedure outlined in the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act;
- (b) That the Mayor send correspondence to the Provincial Government requesting that action be taken on the eight measures proposed by the Association of Local Public Health Agencies including:
 - (i) Creation of a multi-sectoral task force to guide the development of a robust provincial opioid response plan that will ensure necessary resourcing, policy change, and health and social system coordination;
 - (ii) Expanding access to evidence informed harm reduction programs and practices including lifting the provincial cap of 21 Consumption and Treatment Service (CTS) Sites, funding

- Urgent Public Health Needs Sites (UPHNS) and scaling up safer supply options;
- (iii) Revision of the current CTS model to address the growing trends of opioid poisoning amongst those who are using inhalation methods; Public Health and Social Services Committee
 - (iv) Expanding access to opioid agonist therapy for opioid use disorder through a range of settings (e.g. mobile outreach, primary care, emergency departments, Rapid Access to Addiction Medicine Clinics), and a variety of medication options;
 - (v) Providing a long-term financial commitment to create more affordable and supportive housing for people in need, including people with substance use disorders;
 - (vi) Addressing the structural stigma and harms that discriminate against people who use drugs, through provincial support and advocacy to the Federal government to decriminalize personal use and possession of substances and ensure increased investments in health and social services at all levels;
 - (vii) Increasing investments in evidence-informed substance use prevention and mental health promotion initiatives that provide foundational support for the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, and neighbourhoods, beginning from early childhood; and
 - (viii) Funding additional and dedicated positions for public health to support the critical coordination and leadership of local opioid and substance abuse strategies;
- (c) That the Mayor send correspondence to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting action be taken to correct the funding allocation model for homelessness based on the results of Auditor General's 2021 report which found that provincial funding in this area is incorrect;
 - (d) That the Mayor send correspondence to the Ministry of Health and the CEO of Ontario Health requesting that the province immediately commit to fully funding gaps in mental health service as have been identified in the Needs Based Planning project by Niagara Ontario Health Team's Mental Health and Addictions Working Group, as well as funding ongoing annual increases as required by inflation and population need;

- (e) That the Mayor send correspondence to Federal Minister of Justice and Attorney General, David Lametti, and Federal Minister of Health, Jean-Yves Duclos, reaffirming Regional Council's October 22, 2020 motion urging the Federal government convene a task force to explore the legal regulation and decriminalization of all drugs in Canada; Public Health and Social Services Committee
- (f) That the Mayor send correspondence to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) requesting that targeted advocacy be conducted in these areas, including the development of a singular motion that can be ratified by municipal councils across Ontario calling on the province to take immediate action.

The Motion respecting Declarations of Emergency in the Areas of Homelessness, Mental Health and Opioid Addiction, was **amended** as follows:

- (a) That the Mayor formally issue three separate declarations of emergency, in the areas of homelessness, mental health and opioid **overdoses/poisoning addiction, as per the procedure outlined in the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act;**
- (b) (iii) Revision of the current CTS model to address the growing trends of opioid poisoning amongst those who are using inhalation methods; **Public Health and Social Services Committee**
- (d) That the Mayor send correspondence to the Ministry of Health and the CEO of Ontario Health requesting that the province immediately commit to fully funding gaps in mental health service **as have been identified in the Needs Based Planning project by Niagara Ontario Health Team's Mental Health and Addictions Working Group**, as well as funding ongoing annual increases as required by inflation and population need; and
- (e) That the Mayor send correspondence to Federal Minister of Justice and Attorney General, David Lametti, and Federal Minister of Health, Jean-Yves Duclos, **reaffirming Regional Council's October 22, 2020 motion** urging the Federal government convene a task force to explore the legal regulation and decriminalization of all drugs in Canada; **Public Health and Social Services Committee**

For further disposition, refer to Item 4

(i) **GENERAL ISSUES / OTHER BUSINESS (Item 13)**

(i) **Amendments to the Outstanding Business List (Item 13.1)**

The following items were deferred to the April 20, 2023 meeting, and that new due dates be included for each item:

- (i) 21-F: Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities Report 20-007, December 8, 2020 GIC 21-003 (Item 13.1(b)(a))
- (ii) 23-B: Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters Site Options and Considerations (HSC22015(b)) (City Wide) ECS 23-001, January 19, 2023, As amended by Council on January 25, 2023 (Item 13.1(b)(b))
- (iii) 23-H: Enabling Recommendations in Citizen Committee Report from the LGBTQ Advisory Committee entitled, In Response to the passing of Redeemer University LGBTQIA+ student Bekett Noble ECS 23-002, February 16, 2023 (Item 13.1(b)(d))

The Amendments to the Outstanding Business List were approved, **as amended**:

- 1. Items to be Removed:
 - (a) 16-A Endorsement of Report “The Right to an Adequate Standard of Living: An Update to the 2006 Report” to the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Geneva.
February 8, 2016, 16-002
 - (b) 18-A Funding Requests from Agencies
HSC 18-007
 - (c) 20-G Crisis with Supportive Housing for those with Disabilities
E&CS 20-010
 - (d) 20-K Establishing a Sub-Committee to Address Impacts of Social Issues – COVID-19
Council 20-010
 - (e) 21-C Citizen Committee Report Seniors Advisory Committee re Long Term Care Homes
21-005

2. Item with New Due Date or Status Update:

- (a) 23-G: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)
Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI) Round 3 (HSC20056(c)) (ECS
23-001 Added Item 14.4)
Special Council Meeting, February 15, 2023
New Due Date: August 2023

(j) ADJOURNMENT (Item 16)

There being no further business, the Emergency and Community Services Committee adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor B. Clark
Chair, Emergency and Community Services
Committee

Loren Kolar
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk