

AGENDA LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL

Wednesday, May 1, 2024 9:00 AM Council Chambers, Wyoming

Page

1. Morning Reception with MPP Bob Bailey

County Councillors are invited to attend a morning reception with MPP Bob Bailey from 8:15 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room #3, prior to the Council meeting.

2. Roll Call

3. Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this land on which we are gathered today is part of the ancestral land of the Chippewa, Odawa, and Potawatomi peoples, referred to collectively as the Anishinaabeg. It is through the connection of the Anishinaabeg with the spirit of the land, water and air that we recognize their unique cultures, traditions, and values. Together as treaty people, we have a shared responsibility to act with respect for the environment that sustains all life, protecting the future for those generations to come.

4. Disclosures of Pecuniary of Interest

lf any.

5. IN-CAMERA SESSION - 9:00 A.M.

Recommendation

That the Warden declare that County Council go in-camera to discuss the following:

- a) to review the Lambton County Council (Closed Session) minutes dated April 3, 2024 pursuant to s. 239(2) (d),(e) and (k) of the *Municipal Act, 2001.*
- b) to review the Committee of the Whole (Closed Session) minutes dated April 17, 2024 pursuant to s. 239(2) (c),(e),(h) and (k) of the *Municipal Act, 2001.*

6. <u>OPEN SESSION</u>

The Open Session meeting will commence immediately following the Closed Session meeting.

7. <u>Silent Reflection</u>

8. <u>Rise and Report Motions of the In-Camera Session</u>

lf any.

9. <u>DELEGATIONS</u>

- 7 15
- a) Alison Maxwell and Larry Swart will be presenting to County Council regarding the "POGG Primer: Ending the Public/Private Partnership Fraud."
- 16 26
 b) Dr. Katherine Albion, Executive Director, Western Sarnia-Lambton Research Park and Derrek Lennox, Managing Partner, Kewin Consulting will be presenting to County Council on behalf of the County of Lambton Community Development Corporation (CLCDC) Board regarding an update on CLCDC.
- 27 28 c) Rob Kardas, President and CEO, Lambton College, Dr. David Muir, Associate Vice-President, Innovation and Strategic Partnerships, Western University, Kelly Provost, Director of Economic Development, City of Sarnia, and Matthew Slotwinski, Interim CEO, Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership will speak to County Council regarding the importance of the Western Sarnia-Lambton Research Park to the economic and innovation ecosystems of the region.

10. GUEST SPEAKERS - 10:00 AM

Honourable Rob Flack, Associate Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and MPP Bob Bailey will be joining the County Council meeting at 10:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.

11. Minutes of Council (Open Session)

a) Reading and adoption of the Lambton County Council (Open Session) minutes dated April 3, 2024.

12. BOARD OF HEALTH (Lambton Public Health)

A) <u>Correspondence to Receive and File</u> <u>Recommendation</u>

That the following correspondence items be received and filed:

a) <u>BOH 05-11-24</u> A letter from Dr. Charles Gardner, President,

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Association of Local Public Health Agencies ("alPHa") dated April 5, 2024 in response to the Chief Medical Officer of Health's ("CMOH") 2023 Annual Report, which addresses substance use and harms and recommends strategies to reduce them. alPHa has endorsed several resolutions that are directly connected to the themes of CMOH's Annual Report. A selection of these resolutions and their connections to the CMOH's observations and recommendations are outlined in the correspondence. See correspondence and links within for full resolution details.

b) <u>BOH 05-12-24</u> A letter from René Lapierre, Board of Health Chair, and Dr. Mustafa Hirji, Acting Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer, Public Health Sudbury & Districts dated April 22, 2024, regarding a resolution as passed at the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury and District's meeting on April 18, 2024, relating to recommendations for government regulation of nicotine pouches. Please see the attached letter for the full motion.

> THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts strongly encourage Health Canada to take immediate action to close the regulatory gap that permits the sale of nicotine pouches to youth under 18 years of age.

B) Information Reports

- a) Information Report dated May 1, 2024 Regarding Clinical and Family Services Q1 2024 Update.
- b) Information Report dated May 1, 2024 Regarding Rabies Prevention and Control Program Update.

13. <u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>

A) <u>Correspondence to Receive and File</u> Recommendation

That the following correspondence items be received and filed:

a) <u>CC 05-10-24</u> A letter from Bill Weber, Chair, and Matthew Butler, Staff Representative of Lambton Senior's Advisory Committee ("**SAC**") dated April 5, 2024 regarding Rural Intercommunity Travel. At its March 26, 2024 meeting, the Lambton SAC endorsed the following motion:

That the Lambton Seniors Advisory Committee recognizes the need for equitable access to public transportation for

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both urban and rural residents and that the Committee supports the County of Lambton in pursuing a solution for rural/inter-community transportation throughout Lambton County.

B) <u>Correspondence from Member Municipalities</u>

- a) <u>CC 05-13-24</u> A letter from Amanda Gubbels, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)/Clerk, Township of Warwick, dated April 22, 2024 regarding the Township of Warwick's comments in relation to York1 Environmental Compliance Aproval (ECA) Amendment Number 019-8417.
 - b) <u>CC 05-14-24</u> A letter from Mayor Mike Bradley, The City of Sarnia, dated April 24, 2024 regarding encampments and homelessness. Please see the attached letter for full details.

14. Information Reports

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A) SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

a) Information Report dated May 1, 2024 Regarding Homelessness Prevention Department Funding.

15. <u>Items Not Requiring a Motion</u>

a) Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership (SLEP) Board minutes dated January 30, 2024.

16. <u>Committee of the Whole Minutes</u>

a) Committee of the Whole (Open Session) minutes dated April 17, 2024.

17. <u>Items Tabled from Previous Meetings</u>

89 - 101a)Tabling Motion #11 of the Committee of the Whole (Open Session)
minutes dated January 17, 2024 reads as follows:

That the report dated January 17, 2024 regarding County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee (CLAAC) Revitalization be tabled until the April 17, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting.

A motion to lift from the table is required to deal with the Report dated January 17, 2024 regarding County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee (CLAAC) Revitalization.

18. <u>Notice of Motion</u>

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19. <u>Other Business</u>

20. Notice of By-Laws

- a) <u>#10 of 2024</u> A By-Law to Establish and Levy Tax Rates for Upper Tier Purposes for the Year 2024.
- b) <u>#11 of 2024</u> A By-Law to Set Tax Rate Reductions for Prescribed Property Subclasses for the Year 2024.
- c) <u>#12 of 2024</u> A By-Law to Set Tax Ratios for Prescribed Property Classes for the Year 2024.
- d) <u>#13 of 2024</u> A By-Law to Appoint An Emergency Management Program Co-ordinator and Alternates - *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act.*
- e) <u>#14 of 2024</u> A By-Law to Amend By-Law No. 24 of 2023 to Regulate Parking.
- f) <u>#15 of 2024</u> A By-Law to Authorize a Boundary Line Highway Agreement with The Corporation of the County of Middlesex.
- g) <u>#16 of 2024</u> A By-Law of The Corporation of the County of Lambton to confirm the resolutions and motions of Lambton County Council which were adopted up to and including May 1, 2024.

21. First and Second Reading of By-Laws

a) #10, #11, #12, #13, #14, #15, and #16 of 2024.

22. Third and Final Reading of By-Laws

a) #10, #11, #12, #13, #14, #15, and #16 of 2024.

23. ADJOURNMENT

Recommendation

That the Warden declare the meeting adjourned and that the next regular meeting of County Council be held on Wednesday, June 5, 2024 with the In-Camera Session to commence at 9:00 a.m.

24. Jane Joris Retirement

Congratulations to Jane Joris on her retirement from the County of Lambton. Jane has served the County in a number of positions since 1996, including that of Supervisor, Administrator and, most recently, General Manager, Long Term Care Division. She will be dearly missed by her many friends and colleagues.

25. <u>O Canada!</u>

The POGG primer peace order and good governance

- In 1992 Brian Mulroney leader at the time signed Canada on to the United Nations agenda 21.
- Upon his signature Canada ceased to operate as a nation.

• Canada became a "United Nations" member state and agreed to UN 'Sustainable Action Plan'

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- Lambton County and its 14 towns are UN satellite field offices which are Public Private Partnerships acting in de facto law
- We are governed by the United Nations, G20, World Economic Forum and the World Health Organization
- In 1994 a Municipal Primer was issued to all local towns and all towns adopted it including Lambton County public officials, mayors and councillors

- None of the men and women we have elected to govern our affairs at on a local level have sworn a oath to office
- Did you understand what oath you were asked to take when you took public office?
- What jurisdiction on you in and who's your employer?
- Who did you swear to serve?
- These are just a few of the questions we need answers to

- Alison Maxwell and Larry Swart will be presenting to County Council rega
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• The International Council on Local and Environmental Issues (ICILI) became the main source of consultation to fund the local agenda.

 It is a fact that Corporations are Masquerading as government around the world for profit and for purpose of governance

- Alison Maxwell and Larry Swart will be presenting to County Council rega
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• Through our taxes we enjoy the benefits of roads, schools, public health services from the people in our communities

- What if the government serving as our trustee started serving another master?
- Would you trust them enough to appoint them as our 'Trustee'

- We think we are electing a public official for the office of mayor instead we get a global strong mayor with powers to veto and override councillors decisions.
- The danger is any local decision can be made without any public input from only 2 people the mayor and the CAO
- They can not only call an emergency to pass a bylaw to put a needle in your arm like a parking ticket. They can pass mandates without public input.

- The facts are Public Private Partnerships are a fiction and illegal way of lawful local regulatory control.
- Usury are used to create soaring taxes, high inflation rates and bloated bureaucracy and huge administrative costs are used to bankrupt our coffers causing massive poverty and to steal your property in land grabs. Evictions from farms and rural areas to help create 15 minute cities with ever increasing laws and restrictions to limit their ability to farm.

- In summary in the coming days, mayors and councillors will receive an electronic information packet which will explain the text of this delegation and supporting documentation. We the people of Lambton County wish to enter into a meaningful respectful dialogue with our elected officials on this complex and important issue.
- These unlawful Public Private Partnerships that threaten every one of us today and our future generations.

- We really need our elected representatives to Step up, Step aside or Step down. This is a pivotal opportunity for you to set an example for rest of the Regional and District Councils who are hostages to the same situation.
- We need to restore Peace Order and Good Governance and remove yourself from all de facto covenants.

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Elevating Success: Update to Lambton County Council



May 1, 2024

Empowering Financial Resilience: Turning Challenges into Breakthroughs

- 1. Background
- 2. Situation
- 3. Short-Term Objectives
- 4. Request of Lambton County Council







Vision: To be a world-class destination for technology and talent in the biotech, energy, chemical and industrial processing sectors and a beacon for the region's knowledge economy

Mission: To serve as an enabler and catalyst for economic growth, innovation, employment, and wealth creation in Sarnia and Lambton County



Successes & Milestones



Engine of Economic Growth

Pre-Pandemic Occupancy of 95%+

Attracted 28 New Companies to Sarnia-Lambton

Supported 42 Startup Companies

26 Graduates since 2012

Direct Economic Impact \$1B+

1,000+ Direct and 5,100+ Indirect Research and Technology Jobs created by tenants since 2012

\$3.2B+ Grants and Investments received by tenants since 2012

3 New Commercial Plants: \$2.3B+ Capital Investment and 250+ Jobs







Current Socio-Economic Situation

- Impact of concurrent overarching multi-year trends:
 - Cyclical nature of commercial real estate leases
 - Abundance of office space available, in a competitive market
 - Reduction in average office space requirements, per business
- Recent year post-pandemic socio-economic trends:
 - CLCDC ineligible for Federal and Provincial pandemic support programs
 - Companies attempted to reduce costs and comply with social-distancing policies (especially when revenues were reduced)
 - Post-pandemic work-from-home culture is "sticky" in its return to work in the office (many companies negatively impacted for multiple years)
- Time required to refill office space

Research Parks across North America and parts of Europe have lagged the recovery in other industries, leading to low occupancy rates in the medium term \rightarrow including the Western Sarnia-Lambton Research Park





Current Financial Situation

- Pre-Fiscal Year 2023 Height of the Real Estate Cycle:
 - Average total Research Park occupancy of 95% from 2015 2019, average occupancy of 77% from 2020 - 2023
 - Annually generating surplus cash from operations (including County grant) following monthly mortgage payments
- Fiscal Year 2023 Valley of the Real Estate Cycle:
 - Delayed impact of the pandemic on large tenant leases
 - Return of 60K+ ft² of office space by anchor tenants
 - Occupancies fell below break-even point, reliance on \$2M line of credit
- Fiscal Year 2024 and Beyond WSL Research Park Growth:
 - Reduction of operating costs to lowest levels, meeting credit facilities limits
 - Ideal revenue generation through new leases, but tenants lease smaller office suites, and leasehold improvements required
 - Funding required for conversion of office suites into new research labs
 - Implementation of recovery plan and actions identified in the Kewin Consulting assessment





Progress To Date

- Kewin Consulting retained to review the current financial situation and prepare a recovery plan for the Research Park to return to break-even, propose interim plans if applicable
- The review was conducted in February and the most urgent Objectives were identified with action plans

Project: Elevating Success Objective 1: Increase Marketing Reach and Effectiveness Objective 2: Restructure Sufficient Capital, Responsibly Objective 3: Formalize Stakeholder Linkages and Processes

- These three interim Objectives will lead to an update of the current multi-year strategic plan for the CLCDC engaging the County, the City and other key stakeholders in its development, including a detailed scenario analysis for the County
- This request is part of Objective 2





CLCDC Requests "Runway" to Launch

- CLCDC is one of the major players of the Sarnia-Lambton economic ecosystem
- Based on the current economic situation, 18 to 36 months may be required to return to break-even; CLCDC has sufficient funds to remain cash flow positive for less than 4 months, including the County grant
- The CLCDC Board requests:
 - Base operating funding of \$1.35M to March 2025
 - Work with County Staff regarding potential requests:
 - \$1M in equity funding if a FEDDEV grant for \$2M is awarded to convert lower-demand office space into higher-demand higher-margin lab space
 - Access to leasehold improvement loans or grants which may be required on a client-by-client basis as new tenants are secured
 - Update Council on progress and request base operating funding in the 2025 budget process based on the results of the Elevating Success project







The CLCDC continues to deliver on the mandate given by Lambton County Council

The Research Park has a bright future, and new opportunities will continue to benefit the business owners and residents of Lambton County









AGENDA ITEM #c)

MINUTES LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL

April 3, 2024

Lambton County Council was in session in Council Chambers, Wyoming, Ontario, at 9:00 a.m. on the above date. Warden in the Chair; Roll called. All members present, except Councillors G. Atkinson, B. Hand, and C. McRoberts. Also present was N. McEwen, Alternate Member to Councillor G. Atkinson, Town of Plympton-Wyoming and G. Grimes, Alternate Member to Councillor B. Hand, Village of Point Edward.

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this land on which we are gathered today is part of the ancestral land of the Chippewa, Odawa, and Potawatomi peoples, referred to collectively as the Anishinaabeg. It is through the connection of the Anishinaabeg with the spirit of the land, water and air that we recognize their unique cultures, traditions, and values. Together as treaty people, we have a shared responsibility to act with respect for the environment that sustains all life, protecting the future for those generations to come.

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

None.

In-Camera

- <u>#1:</u> Loosley/Case: That the Warden declare that County Council go in-camera:
- a) to review the Lambton County Council (Closed Session) Budget minutes dated March 6, 2024 pursuant to s. 239 (2)(d) of the *Municipal Act, 2001.*
- b) to receive a report and provide instructions related thereto, regarding negotiations between the County and a third party relating to a development project in the City of Sarnia, pursuant to s. 239(2)(e)(k) of the *Municipal Act, 2001.*

Carried.

Time: 9:03 a.m.

Open Session

The Warden declared that County Council go back into Open Session. Council then reconvened at 9:30 a.m.

Lambton County Council (Open Session) April 3, 2024 (page 2)

The Warden noted that moving forward, the Open Session meeting will commence immediately following the Closed Session to eliminate the long wait period between meetings.

Rise and Report Motions of the In-Camera Session

The Clerk noted that County Council met in camera to:

- a) adopt the Lambton County Council (Closed Session) Minutes dated March 6, 2024; and
- b) receive a report regarding and provide instructions regarding negotiations between the County and a third party relating to a development project in the City of Sarnia.

Delegations

<u>#2:</u> Boushy/White: That we invite the delegations within the Bar to speak to County Council.

Carried.

Natural Environment Committee

Mary Martin, President, Lambton Wildlife Inc., Máirín Ring, Co-Chair Natural Environment Committee and Karen Cooke, member, Natural Environment Committee discussed the importance of woodlands in Lambton County, the relevant County documents that protect woodlands and the reasons why protection is significant for habitat preservation, wildlife protection and ecological services to county residents.

Minutes of Council (Open Session)

The Lambton County Council (Open Session) Budget minutes dated March 6, 2024 were presented.

<u>#3:</u> Agar/Miller: That the Lambton County Council (Open Session) Budget minutes dated March 6, 2024 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

BOARD OF HEALTH (LAMBTON PUBLIC HEALTH)

Correspondence to Receive and File

<u>BOH 04-04-24</u> A letter from Councillor Joy Lachica, Chair, Board of Health, Peterborough Public Health, dated January 31, 2024, advocating for legislated

AGENDA ITEM #a)

Lambton County Council (Open Session) April 3, 2024 (page 3)

improvements to indoor air quality in indoor public settings to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and other airborne pathogens.

#4: Veen/Cook: That correspondence BOH 04-04-24 be received and filed.

Carried.

Information Reports

<u>#5:</u> Dennis/Ferguson: That the following Information Reports from the Board of Health (Lambton Public Health) be received and filed:

- a) Information Report dated April 3, 2024 regarding Food Insecurity in Lambton County: The 2023 Nutritious Food Basket.
- b) Information Report dated April 3, 2024 regarding Measles Preparedness.

Carried.

Report Requiring a Motion

Report dated April 3, 2024 Regarding Public Health Ontario's Laboratory Modernization Plan with Recommendation to Phase Out Private Well Water Testing in Ontario including correspondence BOH 04-07-24 and BOH 04-08-24

<u>#6:</u> Broad/Cook: That County Council support the correspondence received from the Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Committee on February 26, 2024 regarding concerns with the recommendations of the PHOL modernization plan as outlined in the December 2023 Auditor General's Value-for-Money Audit: Public Health Ontario (PHO) report.

Carried.

Notice of Motion

<u>#7:</u> Loosley/Dennis: That County Council move the Committee of the Whole meeting of Thursday, August 22, 2024 to Wednesday, August 14, 2024 to allow the County Councillors to take part in the Annual Charlotte Eleanor Englehart (CEE) Hospital Golf Tournament Fundraiser in Petrolia that takes place on August 22, 2024.

Withdrawn.

<u>#8:</u> Bradley/Loosley: That County Council cancel the August 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting on the understanding that an August 2024 meeting may be called at the discretion of the Warden to address any pressing and/or urgent matters.

Carried.

Lambton County Council (Open Session) April 3, 2024 (page 4)

Other Business

- a) Councillor M. Bradley requested that staff provide brief monthly updates on its affordable housing projects and homelessness prevention efforts within the community.
- b) Councillor A. Broad encouraged County Councillors to submit their comments, through their respective lower-tier municipalities on Environmental Registry of Ontario #019-8313, being an application to expand a landfill in Dresden, Ontario, before the April 11, 2024 deadline. Councillor A. Broad also noted that comments are being sought by May 2024 with respect to an Environmental Assessment for the said landfill.
- c) Councillor T. Case thanked MPP Bob Bailey for all his support at Queens Park.
- d) Councillor B. Loosley informed County Council and the public that the Sarnia Lambton Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Lunch with MP Marilyn Gladu on Friday, April 5, 2024 at the Best Western.

<u>By-Laws</u>

<u>#9:</u> Agar/McEwan: That By-Law #9 of 2024, as circulated, be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried.

<u>#10:</u> Agar/McEwan: That By-Law #9 of 2024, as circulated, be taken as read a third time and finally passed.

Carried.

Adjournment

<u>#11:</u> Veen/Sageman: That the Warden declare the meeting adjourned and that the next regular meeting be held on Wednesday, May 1, 2024.

Carried.

Time: 10:08 a.m.

Lambton County Council (Open Session) April 3, 2024 (page 5)

Kevin Marriott Warden

Olivia Leger Clerk

AGENDA ITEM #a)

BOH 05-11-24

PO Box 73510, RPO Wychwood Toronto, Ontario M6C 4A7 E-mail: info@alphaweb.org

April 5, 2024

Hon. Sylvia Jones Minister of Health College Park 5th Flr, 777 Bay St Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Jones,

Re: 2023 Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) Annual Report: An All-of-Society Approach to Substance Use and Harms

On behalf of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) and its Boards of Health Section, Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health Section, and Affiliate Associations, we are writing in response to the <u>Chief Medical Officer of Health's 2023</u> <u>Annual Report</u>, which addresses substance use and harms and recommends strategies to reduce them.

Public Health has an important mandate in several areas of the Ontario Public Health Standards to reduce harms related to substance use, including activities in chronic disease prevention, injury prevention, social determinants of health and substance abuse prevention and harm reduction. Comprehensive strategies to address the potential harms of substance use can only succeed through a multisectoral combination of interventions: education, early prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and regulation. The CMOH's report strongly supports this approach and suggests specific and evidenceinformed policy measures in each of these areas to reduce the rising public health toll of substance use in Ontario.

We are very pleased that Dr. Moore has chosen this as the theme of this year's report, as our members have a long history of highlighting the significant impact of substance use on Ontarians and its burden on public services such as health care and law enforcement. With alPHa as their collective voice, they have endorsed a number of resolutions that are directly connected to the themes of this report. A selection of these is attached, and their connections to the CMOH's observations and recommendations are outlined below.

Resolution A23-02: Toward a Renewed Smoking, Vaping, and Nicotine Strategy in Ontario

This resolution touches upon the ongoing burden of tobacco, with references to the rising prevalence of vaping and cannabis use. It urges the Minister of Health to develop a renewed and comprehensive smoking, vaping, and nicotine strategy, with the support of a multidisciplinary panel of experts, local public health, and people with lived experience. The CMOH outlines the elements of a recommended strategy beginning on page 48.

<u>Resolution A11-1: Conduct a Formal Review and Impact Analysis of the Health and</u> <u>Economic Effects of Alcohol in Ontario and Thereafter Develop a Provincial Alcohol</u> <u>Strategy</u>

This resolution outlines the significant direct and indirect health and economic impacts of alcohol use and asks the Ontario government to conduct a formal review and impact analysis of the health and economic effects of alcohol in Ontario and develop a provincial Alcohol Strategy. The CMOH outlines the elements of a recommended strategy beginning on page 58.

Providing Leadership in Public Health Management



alPHa's members are the public health units in Ontario.

alPHa Sections:

Boards of Health Section

Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health (COMOH)

Affiliate Organizations:

> Association of Ontario Public Health Business Administrators

Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario

Association of Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors of Ontario

Health Promotion Ontario

Ontario Association of Public Health Dentistry

Ontario Association of Public Health Nursing Leaders

Ontario Dietitians in Public Health

www.alphaweb.org

Resolution A22-4: Priorities for Provincial Action on the Drug/Opioid Poisoning Crisis in Ontario.

This resolution outlines the alarming morbidity, mortality, and societal impacts of the ever-worsening drug toxicity crisis in this province. It calls for a collaborative, well-resourced and comprehensive multisectoral approach based on nine priorities identified in the appendix. The CMOH outlines elements of a recommended strategy on page 62.

Resolution A19-3: Public Health Approach to Drug Policy

This resolution, which is cited in the CMOH's report among similar positions that support his own recommendation, calls for the decriminalization of the possession of all drugs for personal use, and scaling up prevention, harm reduction and treatment services. These positions support the CMOH's observation that "arresting, charging, and incarcerating people who use drugs have failed as a strategy to reduce harmful opioid use" (p. 61).

Resolution A19-8, Promoting Resilience through Early Childhood Development Programming

This resolution is aligned with the CMOH's observations about the upstream interventions that need to be considered to reduce the risk factors that lead to substance abuse and addictions later in life. These interventions "focus on building stronger families and stronger, more connected communities, addressing systemic and structural determinants of health, and improving health equity". Our resolution calls on the province to support investments in early childhood development to enable health and resiliency throughout life, promote mental health and reduce mental illness and addictions. It also repeats our ongoing call to adequately fund the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program, which is cited in the CMOH report as an existing public health program that would effectively address some of the early drivers of substance use and addictions with proper investment (p. 31).

Resolution A22-5: Indigenous Harm Reduction: A Wellness Journey

This resolution outlines the burden of harm associated with substance use among Indigenous peoples, and calls for the adoption of policies, practices and programs for harm reduction that are culturally safe and rooted in community-knowledge and needs, as well as additional funding to support Indigenous harm reduction interventions. The CMOH similarly outlines the disproportionate impacts of substances and addictions on Indigenous peoples (p. 25) and recommends decolonizing practices and interventions in favour of Indigenous-centred approaches (p. 33).

We recognize that addressing substance use and its harms is multifaceted and complex and appreciate the CMOH's acknowledgement that it is indeed a "balancing act", where there may be tension among a range of valid interests as interventions are considered. This report recognizes the challenges and is deliberate about including the many societal factors and multiplicity of influential policy drivers that should be considered as part of constructive discussion of a strategic approach.

alPHa would like to thank the Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Kieran Moore and his staff for their leadership on key evidence-based strategies to prevent and reduce the harms related to tobacco, alcohol, cannabis, and opioids. As he has clearly stated, this is an all-of-society, health-first issue, and the public health sector plays an important role, but we are just one player. We look forward to playing our part in a comprehensive approach to advancing the aims of this important report through our already mandated efforts and related advocacy.

We look forward to working with you and welcome any questions you may have. Please have your staff contact Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, alPHa, at <u>loretta@alphaweb.org</u> or 647-325-9594.

Sincerely,

C. gandon

Dr. Charles Gardner, President

Copy: Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario Deborah Richardson, Deputy Minister of Health Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ontario Elizabeth Walker, Executive Lead, Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health

Encl.

The Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) is a not-for-profit organization that provides leadership to Ontario's boards of health. alPHa represents all of Ontario's 34 boards of health, medical officers and associate medical officers of health, and senior public health managers in each of the public health disciplines – nursing, inspections, nutrition, dentistry, health promotion, epidemiology, and business administration. As public health leaders, alPHa advises and lends expertise to members on the governance, administration, and management of health units. The Association also collaborates with governments and other health organizations, advocating for a strong, effective, and efficient public health system in the province. Through policy analysis, discussion, collaboration, and advocacy, alPHa's members and staff act to promote public health policies that form a strong foundation for the improvement of health promotion and protection, disease prevention and surveillance services in all of Ontario's communities.
Association of Local PUBLIC HEALTH Agencies	RESOLUTION A23-02
TITLE:	Toward a Renewed Smoking, Vaping, and Nicotine Strategy in Ontario
SPONSOR:	Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU)
WHEREAS	commercial tobacco use remains the leading preventable cause of death and disease in Ontario and Canada; and
WHEREAS	the direct and indirect financial costs of tobacco smoking are substantial and were estimated at \$7 billion in Cancer Care Ontario and Public Health Ontario's 2019 report <u>The Burden of Chronic Diseases in Ontario</u> ; and
WHEREAS	the prevalence of cigarette smoking among Ontarians aged 15 years and older in 2020 was 9.9%, amounting to 1,222,000 people; and
WHEREAS	the commercial tobacco control landscape has become more complex with the rapid rise of vaping among youth, as well as the concerning prevalence of waterpipe and cannabis smoking; and
WHEREAS	the membership previously carried resolution A21-1 proposing policy measures to address youth vaping for implementation at the provincial and federal levels, several of which have yet to be implemented; and
WHEREAS	the membership previously carried resolution A17-5 recommending that the provincial tobacco control strategy be aligned with the tobacco endgame in Canada; and
WHEREAS	Ontario and Canada have made great strides in commercial tobacco control in Ontario, which are now endangered by the lack of a provincial strategy and infrastructure to support its continuation; and
WHEREAS	disproportionate commercial tobacco and nicotine use and associated health burdens exist among certain priority populations;
Ontario Ministe nicotine strate	DRE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies write to the er of Health recommending that a renewed and comprehensive smoking, vaping, and gy be developed with the support of a multidisciplinary panel of experts, local public ople with lived experience;
AND FURTHER	that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies recommend that in the development

AND FURTHER that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies recommend that, in the development of a target for such a provincial strategy, the expert panel examine the sufficiency and inclusiveness of Canada's Tobacco Strategy target of less than 5% commercial tobacco use by 2035 with respect to all nicotine delivery products;

AND FURTHER that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies recommend that the pursuit of health equity be foundational to such a provincial strategy;

AND FURTHER that a copy be sent to the Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario.

AGENDA ITEM #a)

Association of Local PUBLIC HEALTH Agencies	alPHa RESOLUTION A11-1
TITLE:	Conduct a Formal Review and Impact Analysis of the Health and Economic Effects of Alcohol in Ontario and Thereafter Develop a Provincial Alcohol Strategy
SPONSOR:	Middlesex-London Board of Health
WHEREAS	There is a well-established association between easy access to alcohol and overall rates of consumption and damage from alcohol; and (Barbor et al., 2010)
WHEREAS	Ontario has a significant portion of the population drinking alcohol (81.5%), exceeding the low risk drinking guidelines (23.4%), consuming 5 or more drinks on a single occasion weekly (11.2%), and reporting hazardous or harmful drinking (15.6%); and (CAMH Monitor)
WHEREAS	Ontario youth (grades 9-12) have concerning levels of alcohol consumption with 69.4% having drank in the past year, 32.9% binge drinking (5 or more drinks), and 27.5% of students reporting drinking at a hazardous level; and (OSDUHS Report)
WHEREAS	Each year alcohol puts this province in a \$456 million deficit due to direct costs related to healthcare and enforcement; and (G. Thomas, CCSA)
WHEREAS	Billions of dollars are spent each year in Canada on indirect costs associated with alcohol use (illness, disability, and death) including lost productivity in the workplace and home; and (The Costs of Sub Abuse in CAN, 2002)
WHEREAS	Nearly half of all deaths attributable to alcohol are from injuries including unintentional injuries (drowning, burns, poisoning and falls) and intentional injuries (deliberate acts of violence against oneself or others); and (WHO – Alcohol and Injury in EDs, 2007)
WHEREAS	Regulating the physical availability of alcohol is one of the top alcohol policy practices in reducing harm; and (Barbor et al., 2010)
WHEREAS	The World Health Organization (WHO, 2011) has indicated that alcohol is the world's third largest risk factor for disease burden and that the harmful use of alcohol results in approximately 2.5 million deaths each year. Alcohol is associated with increased levels of health and social costs in Ontario and is causally related to over 65 medical conditions;
the Ontario gov	PRE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) petition vernment to conduct a formal review and impact analysis of the health and economic ol in Ontario and develop a provincial Alcohol Strategy.
ACTION FROM	CONFERENCE: Resolution CARRIED



alPHa RESOLUTION A22-4

TITLE:	Priorities for Provincial Action on the Drug/Opioid Poisoning Crisis in Ontario		
SPONSOR:	Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health (COMOH)		
WHEREAS	the ongoing drug/opioid poisoning crisis has affected every part of Ontario, with the COVID-19 pandemic further exacerbating the issue, leading to a 73% increase in deaths from opioid-related toxicity from 2,870 deaths experienced in the 22 months prior to the pandemic (May 2018 to February 2020) to 4,951 deaths in the 22 months of available data since then (March 2020 to December 2021); and		
WHEREAS	the burden of disease is particularly substantial given the majority of deaths that occurred prior to the pandemic and the increase during the pandemic have been in young adults, in particular those aged 25-44, and the extent of the resulting trauma for families, front line responders, and communities as a whole cannot be overstated; and		
WHEREAS	the membership previously carried resolution A19-3, asking the federal government to decriminalize the possession of all drugs for personal use based on broad and inclusive consultation, as well as supporting robust prevention, harm reduction and treatment services; and		
WHEREAS	the membership previously carried resolution A21-2, calling on all organizations and governmental actors to respond to the opioid crisis with the same intensity as they did for the COVID-19 pandemic; and		
WHEREAS	the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) has identified that responding to the opioid crisis is a priority area for local public health recovery in their <i>Public Health Resilience in Ontario</i> publication (Executive Summary and Report); and		
WHEREAS	recognizing that any responses to this crisis must meaningfully involve and be centred- around people who use drugs (PWUDs), inclusive of all backgrounds, and must be founded not only on evidence- and trauma-informed practices but also equity, cultural safety, anti-racism as well as anti-oppression; and		
WHEREAS	COMOH's Drug / Opioid Poisoning Crisis Working Group has recently identified nine provincial priorities for a robust, multi-sector response that is necessary in response to this crisis (see Appendix A); and		
WHEREAS	local public health agencies are well positioned, with additional resourcing, to play an enhanced role in local planning, implementation and coordination of the following priority areas: harm reduction, substance use prevention and mental health promotion, analysis, monitoring and reporting of epidemiological data on opioid and other substance-		

related harms, health equity and anti-stigma initiatives, efforts towards healthy public policy related to substance use including but not limited to decriminalization, and providing and mobilizing community leadership; and

WHEREAS this work of local public health agencies aligns with the Substance Use and Harm Reduction Guideline (2018) and the Health Equity Guideline (2018) under the Ontario Public Health Standards;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that alPHa endorse the nine priorities for a provincial multi-sector response;

AND FURTHER that the noted provincial priorities and areas of contribution by local public health agencies be communicated to the Premier, Minister of Health, Associate Minister of Mental Health & Addictions, Attorney General, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing, Minister of Children, Community & Social Services, Chief Medical Officer of Health, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Ontario Health and CEO of Public Health Ontario;

AND FURTHER that alPHa urge the above mentioned parties to collaborate on an effective, wellresourced and comprehensive multi-sectoral approach, which meaningfully involves and is centredaround PWUDs from of all backgrounds, and is based on the nine identified provincial priorities.

AND FURTHER that alPHa recommend the provincial government consider the potential role and appropriate timing of declaring the drug poisoning crisis in Ontario as an emergency under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection act (R.S.O. 1990).

CARRIED AS AMENDED

AGENDA ITEM #a)



Association of Local PUBLIC HEALTH Agencies	alPHa RESOLUTION A19-8
TITLE:	Promoting Resilience through Early Childhood Development Programming
SPONSORS:	Northwestern Health Unit Thunder Bay District Health Unit Middlesex-London Health Unit
WHEREAS	one in five Canadians are affected by mental illness or an addiction issue every year, and the burden of illness is more than 1.5 times the burden of all cancers and 7 times the burden of all infectious diseases; and
WHEREAS	suicide is the second leading cause of mortality among young Canadians aged 10-24 and suicide accounted for 24% of all deaths among youth 15 to 24 years old from 2009-2013; and
WHEREAS	there were more than 9,000 deaths in Canada from 2016 to 2018 and more than 1,250 deaths in Ontario in 2017 related to opioids; and
WHEREAS	the annual economic burden of mental illness is approximately 51 billion in Canada with a substantial impact on emergency room departments and hospitals; and
WHEREAS	70% of mental health and substance use problems begin in childhood; and adverse childhood experiences, such as poor attachment to parents, child abuse, family conflict and neglect, have been clearly linked to risk for mental illness and addiction later in life; and
WHEREAS	programming that enhances the early childhood experience has proven benefits in IQ levels, educational achievements, income levels, interactions with the criminal justice system and utilization of social services; and
WHEREAS	every \$1 invested in early childhood development can save \$9 in future spending on health, social and justice services; and
WHEREAS	the Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) program is a prevention/early intervention initiative designed to ensure that all Ontario families with children (prenatal to the child's transition to school) who are at risk of physical, cognitive, communicative, and/or psychosocial problems have access to effective, consistent, early intervention services; and
WHEREAS	the HBHC program provides home visiting services and home visiting programs have demonstrated effectiveness in enhancing parenting skills and promoting healthy child development in ways that prevent child maltreatment; and
WHEREAS	the HBHC program supports the early childhood experience and development of resiliency by enhancing the parent-child attachment, parenting style, family relationships, and financial instability and addressing parental mental illness and

substance misuse, child abuse or neglect thereby reducing the risk of subsequent mental illness and addictions; and

- WHEREAS in 1997 the province committed to funding the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program at 100% and the HBHC budget has been flat-lined since 2008 with the exception of increased base funding in 2012 for an increase in public health nursing positions for Healthy Babies Healthy Children program as part of the 9,000 Nurses Commitment; and
- WHEREAS fixed costs such as salaries and benefits, travel, supplies, equipment and other operational costs have increased the costs of operating the HBHC program, and
- WHEREAS operating the HBHC program with the existing funding has become increasingly more challenging and will result in reduced services for high-risk families if increased funding is not provided;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) actively engage with the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, the Ministry of Health and Long term Care, and the Premier's Council on Improving Health Care and Ending Hallway Medicine to support investments in early childhood development as a strategy to enable health and resiliency throughout life, promote mental health and reduce mental illness and addictions;

AND FURTHER that alPHa engage with the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, the Ministry of Health and Long term Care, and the Premier's Council on Improving Health Care and Ending Hallway Medicine to urgently support adequate funding (including staffing and operational costs) of the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program as a strategic immediate action to enhance the early childhood experience and address mental illness and addictions in Ontario;

AND FURTHER that the Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario, Ontario Public Health Association, Centre for Addictions and Mental Health and other relevant partner agencies be so advised.

ACTION FROM CONFERENCE: Carried as amended

AGENDA ITEM #a)



THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies recognize the critical importance of working with Indigenous communities to better understand Indigenous harm reduction and adopt policies, practices and programs for harm reduction that are culturally safe and rooted in community-knowledge and needs.

AND FURTHER that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies advocate with Indigenous partners to the Minister of Health and other appropriate government bodies for additional funding to support Indigenous harm reduction including additional Indigenous Treatment and Healing Centres.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

Disposition of alPHa Resolutions - 2022

Page **21** of **23**

AGENDA ITEM #b)

BOH 05-12-24



April 22, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario Legislative Building Queen's Park Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Recommendations for Government Regulation of Nicotine Pouches

In July 2023, Health Canada gave approval to Imperial Tobacco Canada to sell Zonnic under the <u>Natural Health Product Regulations</u> as a Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) product. Consequently, Zonnic is sold under the Health Canada approval without adhering to the restrictions of the Federal <u>Tobacco and Vaping Products Act, 1997</u> and the <u>Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017</u>.

Since this time, nicotine pouches have become widely available to youth. These flavoured pouches can be legally purchased by those under 18 years of age in Ontario. The unrestricted sale, display, and promotion of nicotine pouches contribute to accessibility, normalization, and potential health hazards. Nicotine is highly addictive and its use, in any form, is unsafe for children¹ and youth². Exposure to nicotine can have adverse effects on the developing brains of children and youth and increases the likelihood of initiation and long-term use of tobacco².

In March 2024, Public Health Sudbury & Districts released an advisory alert to local health system partners sharing concerns related to nicotine pouches. Additionally, letters were sent to education directors, educators, and parents to increase awareness of the availability and risks of nicotine pouches to children and youth.

At its meeting on April 18, 2024, the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts took further action and carried the following resolution #26-24:

Healthier communities for all. Des communautés plus saines pour tous Sudbury

1300 rue Paris Street Sudbury ON P3E 3A3 t: 705.522.9200 f: 705.522.5182

Elm Place

10 rue Elm Street Unit / Unité 130 Sudbury ON P3C 5N3 t: 705.522.9200 f: 705.677.9611

Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

1 rue King Street Box / Boîte 58 St.-Charles ON POM 2W0 t: 705.222.9201 f: 705.867.0474

Espanola

800 rue Centre Street Unit / Unité 100 C Espanola ON P5E 1J3 t: 705.222.9202 f: 705.869.5583

Île Manitoulin Island

6163 Highway / Route 542 Box / Boîte 87 Mindemoya ON POP 1S0 t: 705.370.9200 f: 705.377.5580

Chapleau

34 rue Birch Street Box / Boîte 485 Chapleau ON POM 1K0 t: 705.860.9200 f: 705.864.0820

toll-free / sans frais 1.866.522.9200

phsd.ca

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The Honourable Doug Ford April 22, 2024 Page 2

> WHEREAS Health Canada approved nicotine pouches for sale under the Natural Health Product regulations providing no restrictions on advertising or sale to children and youth; and

> WHEREAS the unrestricted sale, display, and promotion of nicotine pouches contribute to their accessibility, the normalization of nicotine use, and potential health hazards; and

WHEREAS nicotine is highly addictive and its use, in any form, is unsafe for children and youth; and

WHEREAS exposure to nicotine can have adverse effects on the developing brains of adolescents and young adults and increases the likelihood of initiation and long-term use of tobacco products; and

WHEREAS the emergence of nicotine pouch products occurred rapidly without requiring adherence to the restrictions of the federal <u>Tobacco and Vaping Products Act, 1997</u>, and the <u>Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017</u>; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts strongly encourage Health Canada to take immediate action to close the regulatory gap that permits the sale of nicotine pouches to youth under 18 years of age; and

FURTHER THAT the Board of Health urge Health Canada to strengthen regulations to restrict the sale of new and emerging tobacco and nicotine products, ensuring that nicotine availability to children and youth never occur again; and

FURTHER THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts strongly encourage the Government of Ontario to exclusively sell nicotine pouches from behind pharmacy counters, limit their display in retail settings, and restrict their promotion, especially to youth; and

FURTHER THAT the Government of Ontario expand the Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy to create a comprehensive, coherent public health-oriented framework for the regulation of vaping and all nicotine-containing products.

We strongly encourage the Government of Ontario to follow immediately the Government of British Columbia and the Government of Québec to exclusively sell nicotine pouches in pharmacies, specifically behind the counter. This decision reduces product availability, restricts their promotion, and limits their display in retail settings.

Until tighter restrictions of nicotine pouches are implemented, the widely available and accessible product will continue to expose children and youth to nicotine. The Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts strongly encourages the Government of Ontario to expand the Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy to create a comprehensive, coherent public health-oriented framework for the regulation of vaping and all nicotine-containing products.

The Honourable Doug Ford April 22, 2024 Page 3

We thank you for your speedy attention to this important issue, and we continue to look forward to opportunities to work together to promote and protect the health of Ontarians.

Sincerely,

René Lapierre Chair, Board of Health

17 Augu

M. Mustafa Hirji, MD, MPH, FRCPC Acting Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Honourable Mark Holland, Minister of Health of Canada Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Honourable Ya'ara Saks, Canada's Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services Yasir Naqvi, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health, Honorable Mark Holland Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario France Gélinas, Member of Provincial Parliament, Nickel Belt Jamie West, Member of Provincial Parliament, Sudbury Michael Mantha, Member of Provincial Parliament, Algoma-Manitoulin Viviane Lapointe, Member of Parliament, Sudbury All Ontario Boards of Health Association of Local Public Health Agencies

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK294308/#ch5.s2 ² National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (US) Office on Smoking and

¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2014). "The Health Consequences of Smoking-50 Years of Progress: A Report of the Surgeon General."

Health. (2016). "E-cigarette Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General." Retrieved on January 30, 2024 from

www.cdc.gov/tobacco/sgr/ecigarettes/pdfs/2016_sgr_entire_report_508.pdf.

COUNTY OF LAMBTON PU	BLIC HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION
REPORT TO:	WARDEN AND LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL
DEPARTMENT:	LAMBTON PUBLIC HEALTH
PREPARED BY:	Kevin Churchill, Manager, Clinical and Family Services
REVIEWED BY:	Andrew Taylor, General Manager Stéphane Thiffeault, Chief Administrative Officer
MEETING DATE:	May 1, 2024
INFORMATION ITEM:	Clinical and Family Services Q1 2024 Update

BACKGROUND

Clinical and Family Services provides legislated public health programs, in accordance with the Ontario Public Health Standards and protocols. This multi-disciplinary team focuses on healthy growth and development, home visiting, positive parenting, breastfeeding, sexual health clinics, harm reduction for the prevention of blood borne diseases and sexually transmitted infections, contraception, prenatal education, and oral health programs for children and youth.

Reproductive Health, Harm Reduction, and Oral Health Services are designed to prevent unwanted pregnancies, reduce the burden of sexually transmitted infections, prevent the spread of blood borne illness, prevent opioid poisoning, and provide early screening for oral health problems which can help improve long-term health outcomes.

The purpose of this report is to provide County Council an update on the first quarter of 2024 with key program indicators within Clinical and Family Services. This report will also serve to update the Board of Health on program prioritization impacts as reported to County Council through the report dated July 5, 2023, titled *Update on Lambton Public Health's Current and Future Budget Pressures*. Service impacts from these budget pressures are also reflected in staffing reductions described in the approved 2024 County Budget.

DISCUSSION

The following tables highlight key indicators under the two main service areas within Clinical and Family Services.

Clinical and Family Services Q1 2024 Update (page 2)

May 1, 2024

Reproductive, Harm Reduction and Dental Services Indicators

Activity	Number
Harm Reduction - # of client visits	445
Harm Reduction- # of needles distributed	83,685
Harm Reduction - # of inhalation supplies distributed	14,804
Harm Reduction - # of community sharps disposal bin inspections	74
Harm Reduction - # of community sharps disposal bins exchanged	8
Harm Reduction - # of Naloxone Kits distributed (with community partners)	852
Sexual Health Clinic Visits	442
Sexual Health - % of clinic visits related to STI testing	32%
Sexual Health - % of clinic visits related to STI treatment	13%
Sexual Health - % of clinic visits related to sexual health counselling	62%
School Dental Screening - # of schools completed	12
School Dental Screening - # of students screened	1,203
Ontario Seniors Dental - # of newly eligible clients	48
Ontario Seniors Dental - # of seniors received treatment	256

Reproductive, harm reduction and dental programs remain active in 2024. Our Harm Reduction program indicators remain consistent and are operated in accordance with best practice. Needle and syringe programs and other harm reduction programs play a key role in the collection and disposal of used drug-use equipment. Removing used equipment from circulation helps to reduce the risk of transmission of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis C (HCV), hepatitis B (HBV), and other blood-borne pathogens associated with accidental needle-stick/sharps injury and equipment sharing.ⁱ

Sexual health programs are designed to prevent, test, treat and reduce the burden of sexually transmitted infections. Sexual Health programs also promote contraception and safer sex which can save health care resources by preventing unintended pregnancies.

Healthy Growth and Development and Child Health Indicators:

Activity	Number
Family Health Line calls	75
Breastfeeding Inquiries	30
Healthy Growth & Development Inquiries	16
Prenatal Teaching Sessions	9
Healthy Babies Healthy Children Home Visits	

AGENDA ITEM #a)

Clinical and Family Services Q1 2024 Update (page 3)

May 1, 2024

Parent Drop-In - # of parents	523
Post Partum Support Group - # of sessions	

Supporting young families and infants prenatally and post-partum is a key component of Healthy Growth and Development and Child Health programs. These programs and supports are designed to give infants the best possible start in life, promoting resilience and healthy relationships, including access to a Lactation Consultant and Public Health Nurses through our parent drop-ins. The Post Partum sessions are delivered in partnership with The Family Counselling Centre and St. Clair Child and Youth Services.

Impacts of Prioritization

As described in the July 5, 2023, report, there are a number of budget pressures facing Ontario public health units. Like most Ontario health units, Lambton Public Health ("LPH") has been challenged by a decrease in funding levels combined with inflationary pressures. For this reason, LPH updated its strategic priorities in July 2023. Decisions about staffing and service reductions were informed by these updated priorities. In Clinical and Family Services, the following services were impacted as a result of prioritization.

<u>Sexual Health Teaching</u>: Council was last updated on sexual health education services delivered by LPH in April 2019. The decision was made to move to a supportive role to enable community partners to deliver sexual health education. Approaches for a supportive role for promoting sexual health teaching are guided by best practices, and consistent with how most Ontario health units are applying the Ontario Public Health Standards related to healthy sexuality.

<u>Vision Screening</u>: The vision screening program was suspended from 2020 to 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. After review, for 2024, the vision screening program has transitioned from a universal approach to increasing promotion of OHIP childhood annual eye exams with an optometrist. LPH is transitioning to assisting with system navigation and access to resources including low or no-cost eyeglasses for children in need, to align with Public Health Ontario's 2016 review finding unclear effectiveness of this type of universal screening, and LPH's interim strategic priorities for 2022 to 2024. External communication regarding this shift in approach was shared with school boards. Local optometrists have been sent an LPH health care provider email noting promotion of OHIP childhood annual eye exams with an optometrist.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All costs associated with the Clinical and Family Services programs are provincial and municipal cost-share funded, as included in the approved 2024 LPH budget.

CONSULTATIONS

In the preparation of this report, the Supervisors of Clinical and Family Services, Lambton Emergency Medical Services, and the Ontario Harm Reduction Database were consulted.

Clinical and Family Services Q1 2024 Update (page 4)

May 1, 2024

The Medical Officer of Health and General Manager were also consulted in the preparation of this report.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The programs, services and activities delivered by Clinical and Family Services staff contribute to the Lambton County Strategic Plan, Principle and Value of a Healthy Community. Many of the programs are delivered in partnership with local community agencies, fulfilling the Partnerships Area of Effort.

CONCLUSION

Clinical and Family Services continue to deliver valuable programs in accordance with the Ontario Public Health Standards. This report highlights the importance of balancing programs and services to reflect strategic priorities and ongoing budget pressures.

ⁱ Strike C, Miskovic M, Perri M, Xavier J, Edgar J, Buxton J, Challacombe L, Gohil H, Hopkins S, Leece P, Watson, T, Zurba N and the Working Group on Best Practice for Harm Reduction Programs in Canada.Best Practice Recommendations for Canadian Programs that Provide Harm Reduction Supplies to People Who Use Drugs and are at Risk for HIV, HCV, and Other Harms: 2021. Toronto, ON: Working Group on Best Practice for Harm Reduction Programs in Canada. 2021.

COUNTY OF LAMBTON	BLIC HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION
REPORT TO:	WARDEN AND LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL
DEPARTMENT:	LAMBTON PUBLIC HEALTH
PREPARED BY:	Chad Ikert, Manager, Health Protection Lori Lucas Supervisor, Health Protection
REVIEWED BY:	Andrew Taylor, General Manager Stéphane Thiffeault, Chief Administrative Officer
MEETING DATE:	May 1, 2024
INFORMATION ITEM:	Rabies Prevention and Control Program Update

BACKGROUND

The Ontario Public Health Standards requires public health units to administer a Rabies Prevention and Control Program, the goal of which is to prevent the occurrence of rabies in humans by standardizing animal rabies surveillance and managing human rabies exposures.

The purpose of this report is to provide Lambton's Board of Health (County Council) with an update on the Rabies Prevention and Control Program in Lambton County. The last update on this program was provided through the *Rabies Prevention and Control Program Update* report dated May 3, 2023.

DISCUSSION

Human rabies is rare in Canada, due largely to excellent prevention and control programs. Since 1924, a total of 26 people in six provinces have died of rabies in Canada: Quebec (12), Ontario (7), Saskatchewan (2), Alberta (2), British Columbia (2) and Nova Scotia (1). The last human rabies case in Ontario occurred in 2012 and involved a male in Toronto who acquired the disease abroad (PHAC, 2024).

In Ontario, the prevention and control of rabies involves the collaborative effort of multiple stakeholders. Public health units, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs ("**OMAFRA**"), the Canadian Food Inspection Agency ("**CFIA**"), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry ("**MNRF**") and other wildlife departments, the Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians ("**OAVT**"), local physicians and hospitals, veterinarians, municipalities, and the public are all integral to the success of rabies prevention and control.

AGENDA ITEM #b)

Rabies Prevention and Control Program Update (page 2)

May 1, 2024

Lambton Public Health ("**LPH**") and other public health units across Ontario collaborate with OMAFRA, OAVT, and CFIA regarding national and provincial rabies protocols and the response to animal-human incidents. Other than in Quebec, provincial/municipal health authorities manage all reported animal-human bite incidents.

Once notified of an animal-human bite, public health staff conduct an investigation. The investigation involves: conducting a risk assessment of the exposure to determine required actions; ensuring the animal involved in the exposure is placed in an isolation period; observing the animal at the end of the isolation period; verifying the vaccine status of the animal; collaborating with OAVT for animal pick-up and submission to CFIA for testing where observation is not possible or applicable; and distributing rabies post-exposure vaccine to physicians and emergency departments where required. See **Appendix "A"** for a summary of rabies investigations and activity in Lambton from 2013-2023.

Public Health Inspectors are responsible to enforce provincial legislation that requires all cats and dogs over three months of age to be vaccinated for rabies. In 2023, LPH issued 21 mandatory vaccination letters to ensure rabies vaccination was completed before concluding their investigation.

Municipalities help advocate for the vaccination of pets by hosting low-cost rabies vaccination clinics within their communities and inviting local veterinarians to participate. On average, six (6) municipally hosted low-cost rabies vaccination clinics are held within Lambton County each spring. The Sarnia and District Humane Society also hosts wellness clinics where animal owners can get a low-cost rabies vaccine for their pets, along with other services. The clinics are always well attended. LPH sponsors these low-cost clinics by providing advertising for them. In 2023, 262 dogs and 87 cats were vaccinated at these clinics. Six municipally hosted clinics are scheduled across the County during the spring of 2024. The Sarnia and District Humane Society is also hosting 4 wellness clinics throughout the year. See **Appendix** "**B**" for the list of scheduled clinics.

Positive cases of animal rabies remain low in Lambton County with only six (6) cases identified since 2013. All six (6) cases were in bats. In 2023, there were 56 cases of animal rabies confirmed in Ontario. See Table 1 for a summary of positive animal rabies cases in Ontario based on information reported by the CFIA.

Public education continues to be an important part of the rabies prevention and control program. LPH plans to strategically use social media throughout the year to spread rabies awareness during times that have historically resulted in more human exposures. Past educational initiatives have included providing rabies education at children's safety fairs, social media campaigns, and providing rabies educational sessions to schools upon request. LPH also communicates in writing annually to health care providers, veterinarians, and police to remind them of the requirement to notify and provide necessary information to the local Medical Officer of Health regarding any bite or any contact with a mammal that is conducive to the potential transmission of rabies to a person.

Rabies Prevention and Control Program Update (page 3)

May 1, 2024

Raccoon Rabies in Ontario

In December 2015, the MNRF confirmed that raccoon rabies had re-emerged in Ontario after a raccoon captured in Hamilton tested positive for the virus. This strain of rabies is currently circulating in North America and is highly prevalent in New York State. As of April 10, 2024, there have been 523 cases of raccoon strain rabies identified in Ontario since December 2015. These cases span over six health units including Hamilton, Halton, Niagara, Haldimand-Norfolk, Brant and Waterloo. All the raccoon rabies cases identified in 2023 were skunks from the Niagara region. To date in 2024, there have been no cases identified in Ontario.

With the re-emergence of raccoon rabies in Ontario, the MNRF continues to be diligent with their baiting programs and monitoring of wildlife. The program consists of aerial baiting and hand baiting in areas within a 50 km radius of any positive raccoon strain or artic fox strain rabies as well as live trapping and vaccinating (trap-vaccinate-release) in designated areas. The Ontario MNRF, OMAFRA, Ontario Ministry of Health and affected health units continue to work closely to monitor and contain the raccoon rabies strain. Ongoing surveillance is integral to monitor the impact of the raccoon rabies strain and to determine where future vaccine baiting programs should be concentrated. In the event of a raccoon or fox strain rabies case being identified outside of the current control zone, MNRF will conduct rapid response localized baiting and Trap-Vaccinate-Release programs. For the 2024 season, MNRF's vaccine baiting program will be focused on the Niagara peninsula, as this is where the remaining active cases were identified. Active cases are defined as those detected after July 1st, 2021. See Appendix "C" for a map of the bait operations area.

To date, there have been no reports of raccoon rabies in Lambton County, nor in any counties neighboring Lambton. LPH maintains a Raccoon Rabies Contingency Plan that outlines roles, responsibilities, and actions to be taken by applicable agencies and organizations in the event a positive case is identified in Lambton. LPH will continue to work with provincial stakeholders to monitor the situation closely and to implement any recommendations set forth by the province.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Rabies Prevention and Control Program is cost-share funded between the province and municipality, as approved in LPH's 2024 Health Protection Budget.

CONSULTATIONS

None.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The Rabies Prevention and Control Program is consistent with the principles, values and

AGENDA ITEM #b)

Rabies Prevention and Control Program Update (page 4)

May 1, 2024

areas of effort identified in the strategic plan. The program supports the value of Lambton County as a healthy community.

CONCLUSION

Rabies prevention and control in Ontario is a joint effort that receives important input from a variety of partners all of whom are key to the continued success of Ontario's world-renowned program which helps prevent the occurrence of rabies in humans.

Lambton Public Health continues to work closely with provincial stakeholders to monitor the raccoon rabies in Ontario and to implement any recommendations set forth by the province.

Rabies Prevention and Control Program Update (page 5)

May 1, 2024

Appendix "A"

Year	# of Rabies Investigations	# of Positive Animal Rabies	# Persons Receiving PEP*
2013	346	3 bat	21
2014	373	0	52
2015	374	0	40
2016	346	1 bat	35
2017	404	0	43
2018	390	0	42
2019	396	0	39
2020	235	0	37
2021	366	2 bat	34
2022	393	0	32
2023	450	0	49

* Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis

Appendix "B"

Low-cost Rabies Vaccination Clinics Offered in Lambton County - 2024

Protect your pets Rabies Vaccination Clinics

All cats and dogs over three months of age are legally required to be vaccinated against rabies

(Health Protection and Promotion Act, R.S.O. 1990)

\$30, Cash Only

Brooke-Alvinston

April 27, 2024

Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre 3310 Walnut St 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Enniskillen

May 11, 2024

Enniskillen Township Garage 4465 Rokeby Line 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Oil Springs

May 4, 2024

Oil Springs Fire Hall 4589 Oil Springs Line 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Dawn-Euphemia

April 6, 2024

Dawn-Euphemia Community Centre 6213 Mill Street, Florence 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Rutherford Public Works Garage 4590 Lambton Line 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

April 13, 2024

Cairo Public Works Garage 1345 Cairo Road, Dawn-Euphemia 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.



Information Report dated May 1, 2024 Regarding Rabies Prevention and Con...

AGENDA ITEM #b)

Rabies Prevention and Control Program Update (page 7)

May 1, 2024

Recognizing the need for BASIC AFFORDABLE VETERINARIAN CARE

we are happy to announce that the Sarnia & District Humane Society will be holding a total of four

WELLNESS CLINICS IN 2024!

ALL CLINICS will be held at the Sarnia & District Humane Society on Saturdays from 9am-2pm FEBRUARY 10 MAY 18 AUGUST 17 NOVEMBER 9

No appointment will be needed.

It is our sincere hope that these Wellness Clinics will assist those facing financial hardships, the opportunity to ensure their pets receive the preventative protection they need to keep them happy, healthy & at home.

Each Wellness Clinic Package will include a Veterinarian exam, core vaccines, rabies vaccine, deworm & flea treatment, and heartworm testing. Prices are per pet.

FULL WELLNESS Care Package	\$50	
CORE VACCINES and rabies only	\$35	
DEWORM/FLEA treatment only	^{\$15}	
HEARTWORM TESTING only	\$15	11000
	_	「

FOOD & BEDDING will also be available to those in need.

Veterinarians will perform only the wellness services listed.



Rabies Prevention and Control Program Update (page 8)

May 1, 2024

Table 1Animal Rabies Cases in Ontario in 2023

Summary of rabies cases by region in 2023 (Canadian Food Inspection Agency)

Species	Strain type	County	Number
Big brown bat	Bat	Durham	2
Big brown bat	Bat	Elgin	1
-		Haliburton	1
Big brown bat	Bat		-
Big brown bat	Bat	Halton	3
Big brown bat	Bat	Hamilton	8
Big brown bat	Bat	Hastings	1
Big brown bat	Bat	Huron	1
Big brown bat	Bat	Middlesex	4
Big brown bat	Bat	Niagara	1
Big brown bat	Bat	Nipissing	1
Big brown bat	Bat	Oxford	1
Big brown bat	Bat	Peel	2
Big brown bat	Bat	Peterborough	2
Big brown bat	Bat	Prescott & Russell	2
Big brown bat	Bat	Renfrew	1
Big brown bat	Bat	Simcoe	3
Big brown bat	Bat	Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	1
Big brown bat	Bat	Toronto	4
Big brown bat	Bat	Kawartha Lakes	1
Big brown bat	Bat	Waterloo	2
Little brown bat	Bat	York	3
Domestic cat	Unknown	Niagara	1
Hoary bat	Bat	Ottawa-Carleton	1
Little brown bat	Bat	Grey	1
Little brown bat	Bat	Simcoe	1
Little brown bat	Bat	York	1
Skunk	Raccoon	Niagara	6

AGENDA ITEM #b)

Rabies Prevention and Control Program Update (page 9)

May 1, 2024

Appendix "C"



MNRF 2024 Rabies Control Operations – Bait Distribution

CC 05-10-24



Lambton Public Health 160 Exmouth Street Point Edward, ON N7T 7Z6 Telephone: 519-383-8331 Toll free: 1-800-667-1839 Fax: 519-383-7092 www.lambtonpublichealth.ca

April 5, 2024

Lambton County Council 789 Broadway Street, Box 3000 Wyoming ON N0N 1T0

Dear Lambton County Council:

Re: Rural Inter-community Travel

Lambton Seniors Advisory Committee, at its meeting March 26, 2024, endorsed the following motion:

<u>#2</u>: (S. Hamilton/A. Patterson): That the Lambton Seniors Advisory Committee recognizes the need for equitable access to public transportation for both urban and rural residents and that the Committee supports the County of Lambton in pursuing a solution for rural/inter-community transportation throughout Lambton County.

Carried.

The committee asks that Council consider opportunities to improve inter-community transportation with a focus on reaching seniors who are isolated from community services. The committee supports council's decision to fund the demand and feasibility study for rural inter-community transit that was discussed at the <u>council meeting dated</u> <u>February 7</u>, contingent on provincial funding.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely, Bill Weber, Chair of Lambton Seniors Advisory Committee

Matthew Butler, Supervisor, Health Promotion/Staff Representative, Seniors Advisory Committee LAMBTON PUBLIC HEALTH | County of Lambton 160 Exmouth Street, Point Edward, Ontario N7T 7Z6 p: 519-383-8331, ext 3644 | 1-800-667-1839 f: 519-383-7092 e: matthew.butler@county-lambton.on.ca w: www.lambtonhealth.on.ca

BW/mb



www.lambtononline.ca

AGENDA ITEM #a)

CC 05-13-24



TOWNSHIP OF WARWICK

"A Community in Action"

5280 Nauvoo Road | P.O. Box 10 | Watford, ON NOM 2S0

Township Office: (226) 848-3926 Watford Arena: (519) 876-2808 Website: <u>www.warwicktownship.ca</u> Works Department: (519) 849-3923 Fax: (226) 848-6136 E-mail: <u>info@warwicktownship.ca</u>

April 22, 2024

Environmental Registry of Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks 135 St. Clair Avenue West, 1st Floor Toronto, Ontario M4V 1P5

Submitted via Environmental Registry of Ontario

<u>RE: Township of Warwick Comments Related to York1 ECA Amendment Number</u> 019-8417

Warwick Township is writing to provide comments in support of the proposed proposed designation under the Environmental Assessment Act of the landfill site and waste transfer and processing expansion in Dresden (ERO 019-8417).

As the host community to one of the largest landfills in the country, Twin Creeks Landfill, Warwick Township has a direct understanding of the significant impacts that landfill operations can have on a community. Twin Creeks Landfill is currently undergoing an environmental assessment for a proposed expansion, which highlights the importance of robust assessment processes for landfill projects. The proposed expansion will have significant impact on the Warwick community.

Further, Warwick Township calls upon Minister Khanjin to provide Warwick Township with the same public statement providing guarantees of a full environmental assessment for Twin Creeks Landfill proposed expansion as those afforded to the York1 landfill proposal. It is essential that all aspects of the environmental, social, and economic impacts of landfill projects are thoroughly reviewed and assessed to ensure the well-being of our communities and environment.

Warwick believes that all communities should have the same opportunity to comment on proposed landfill changes and actions, as the impact on that specific community will be large. For this reason, Warwick supports the proposal on ERO 019-8417.

In addition, Warwick supports the submissions made by the County of Lambton regarding the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) amendment (#019-8313) related to York1 Environmental Waste Solutions Ltd.'s operations at 29831 Irish School

Road, Dresden, Ontario. We note with concern the discrepancies and outstanding technical questions highlighted in the County of Lambton's submissions dated April 9, 2024, and March 14, 2024, regarding York1's ECA amendment applications. The County's thorough review underscores the need for comprehensive environmental assessments to evaluate the full range of potential impacts associated with landfill developments, including traffic, noise, hydrogeological concerns, and consultation with Indigenous communities.

Furthermore, we support the position of the Council of Dawn-Euphemia Township in advocating for transparent and thorough assessments of landfill projects. All communities, including Warwick Township, deserve the same opportunities for involvement and assessment when significant waste management projects are proposed within their jurisdictions.

In conclusion, Warwick Township urges the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to approve the amendment listed as ERO 019-8417, to prioritize the concerns raised by the County of Lambton and ensure that York1's ECA amendment applications undergo rigorous scrutiny and a transparent consultation process (ERO 019-8313). Warwick also urges Minister Khanjin to provide a public statement that guarantees the Twin Creeks landfill will be required to complete a full environment assessment process. The public assurance that the ongoing public process will be guaranteed to be completed would be beneficial to our community.

Thank you for considering our comments on this matter. Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Amanda Gubbels Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)/Clerk Township of Warwick E: <u>agubbels@warwicktownship.ca</u>

Cc: County of Lambton Council Township of Dawn-Euphemia Council

CC 05-14-24



 MAYOR

 CITY OF SARNIA

 255 N. Christina Street
 P.O. Box 3018

 Sarnia, ON Canada
 N7T 7N2

 519 - 332-0330
 Ext. 3312
 519 - 332-3995 (fax)

 519 - 332-2664 (TTY)
 www.sarnia.ca
 mayor@sarnia.ca

April 24, 2024

Warden Kevin Marriott Members of Lambton County Council

MIKE BRADLEY

Dear Warden Marriott and Council Members:

RE: ENCAMPMENTS AND HOMELESSNESS

I am writing to Lambton County Council on a matter that is most urgent and would ask that it be considered under "New Business" at the May 1, 2024, Lambton County Council Meeting.

Since 1991 the County of Lambton has had the mandate to deal with the issues of housing and homelessness along with other issues.

Lambton County Council, to its credit, last July 5, 2023, Lambton County Council agreed to the following motion:

"That County Council publicly endorse making affordable housing and shelter the number one priority of County Council."

On April 8, 2024, Sarnia City Council passed the following motion:

THAT Sarnia City Council direct staff to dissolve the encampment after consideration at the May 6, 2024, meeting, in order to receive information regarding By-law Service, Legal Services, and County of Lambton Social Services; and

THAT staff be directed to continue cleanup in the park for the short-term and involve any applicable agencies."



Page 2

I was not present at this meeting so I cannot speak about why this action and resolution was agreed to without having the full background both legally and on a community basis.

In looking at what is happening in other communities across Canada and in the United States the complexity of the issue is overwhelming at times and the old and past solutions are not working. And that is what is being stated by those on the front line dealing with those in need.

It is apparent here and across this country that when people living in an encampment in one park are forced to vacate, they simply move to other neighbourhoods or parts of the community.

A comprehensive response and plan are needed to deal with any actions taken by the City of Sarnia at Rainbow Park or any other place within Lambton County.

I put forward the following questions:

- Is the County of Lambton prepared with additional resources?
- If yes, what resources and funding are needed to deal with those in the parks relocating them to other shelter or accommodation?
- Does the County of Lambton have a different approach on encampments?

What is happening here, across Canada and the United States is a protest against the status quo and the ability for communities to provide appropriate, safe housing and shelter for those in need in the community. And the courts so far have supported that unless the community could demonstrate that there is adequate safe shelter in their community. Communities cannot take direct action against encampments. Communities have an obligation to provide suitable, safe shelter for those in need.

By way of this motion I am asking for an action plan by the County of Lambton to deal with any of the overflow, especially since there have been statements made continually in the media that with the recent changes made in services at River City Vineyard it has prompted individuals to go to the Out of the Cold Overflow Shelter but there are no plans at this time to extend that programme further. This raises the question of why there isn't a proper and safe place for people to go during the daytime hours when the shelters are not available, like the Night Light. Night Light, operated by a Page 3

volunteer group in the downtown core, with no government funding, provides a place for a few days a week for people to gather and be out of harm's way.

Also, there is disagreement in the community about the statement being made that there are adequate shelter beds available. This statement needs to be verified, by fact, not just opinion.

We all recognize the complexity of this issue and the difficulty of solutions that end up creating other issues. I would hope in a co-operative spirit we can move forward, both at the County level and at the lower tier level, to find and mitigate as much as possible the impacts of this national crisis on communities.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Bradley Mayor of Sarnia

Copy: Sarnia City Council

COUNTY OF LAMBTON	SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION
REPORT TO:	WARDEN AND LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL
DEPARTMENT:	Homelessness Prevention and Children's Services
PREPARED BY:	Melissa Fitzpatrick, Manager
REVIEWED BY:	Valerie Colasanti, General Manager Stéphane Thiffeault, Chief Administrative Officer
MEETING DATE:	May 1, 2024
INFORMATION ITEM:	Homelessness Prevention Department Funding

BACKGROUND

The Homelessness Prevention Department receives funding through three primary sources: The Federal Reaching Home Program ("**RH**"), the Provincial Homelessness Prevention Program ("**HPP**"), and Municipal levy dollars. Programs are delivered through purchase of service agreements with partner agencies or are directly offered by Social Services Division staff. The services delivered through RH, HPP, and levy funds have the central mandate to prevent and end experiences of homelessness. The Homelessness Prevention Department has Purchase of Services agreements with 15 agencies in Lambton County to deliver homelessness prevention programs and services through one of these funding streams.

The County of Lambton uses a coordinated and collaborative approach across multiple partner agencies to deliver a broad range of homelessness services. The multi-agency and multi-sector service delivery model focuses on the central objective of preventing and ending homelessness. Services are provided to individuals and families to address housing needs across the entire housing continuum, from those who are experiencing homelessness to those who require help to maintain their tenancy.

DISCUSSION

Reaching Home, Canada's Homelessness Strategy, is a community-based program aimed at preventing and reducing homelessness across Canada using the Housing First approach. It supports the goals of the National Housing Strategy to support the most vulnerable Canadians to maintain safe, stable, and affordable housing, and to reduce chronic homelessness nationally by 50% by fiscal year 2027-28. Lambton County was one of only four new communities in Canada to receive Reaching Home funding in 2020. The use of these funds locally is supported by the recommendations of the Lambton County Community Advisory Board, with senior leadership representation from agencies including

AGENDA ITEM #a)

Homelessness Prevention Department Funding (page 2)

May 1, 2024

the North Lambton Community Health Centre, Sarnia-Lambton Rebound, the Canadian Mental Health Association Lambton-Kent, the Sarnia Lambton Native Friendship Centre, the Women's Interval Home of Sarnia Lambton, the Inn of the Good Shepherd, and the County of Lambton.

In March 2022, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing ("**MMAH**") introduced HPP as an amalgamation of several preceding housing and homelessness funding programs. The goals of the HPP align with ongoing work and goals of the County of Lambton's 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan to ensure everyone in Lambton County has an affordable, suitable, and adequate home. The HPP builds on the provincial government's mandate to introduce a local By-Name List of individuals and families experiencing homelessness as a tool to measure major indicators such as placements into more permanent housing and retention of housing. The Lambton County By-Name List enables County staff to apply common intake, assessment, referral and matching processes for households experiencing homelessness, furthering the community capacity to follow best-practices and apply equitable housing and homelessness services to those in need.

A smaller proportion of local homelessness services are supported through municipal funds. The flexibility enabled by this funding allows for the delivery of locally significant programming that may not otherwise be available through either Federal or Provincial funding sources.

Homelessness and housing services are provided to individuals and families to address needs across the entire housing continuum.



When considering the cost of addressing homelessness, it is more cost effective to provide people who experience homelessness with the housing and supports they need,

Homelessness Prevention Department Funding (page 3)

May 1, 2024

rather than simply provide them with emergency supports through shelters and soup kitchens. Evidence points to the fact that if resources are focused on upstream prevention and support services, we not only achieve better social outcomes, but we also save money. While emergency services will always be necessary because of personal crises, preventing people from becoming homeless in the first place and rehousing people who are already experiencing homelessness is both a humane and cost-effective solution.

Prevention

Currently, \$2,677,714 is allocated to prevention services that support individuals at risk of homelessness to retain housing and prevent an experience of homelessness. Social Services Division staff along with staff from nine community partner agencies deliver a range of preventative supports and services. Programs include rent and utility arrears assistance, rent supplements to provide a subsidy to help make rental accommodations more affordable, community support workers to provide tenancy supports for such things as apartment upkeep, budget management, landlord mediation, food security and transportation supports for low-income households, legal supports for tenants to maintain housing, and specific programs to prevent homelessness for youth.

Purchase of Service Agreements to deliver these programs are in place with the following community partners:

- The Inn of the Good Shepherd
- Canadian Red Cross
- Family Counselling Centre
- Salvation Army
- St Vincent De Paul
- Neighbour Link
- Community Legal Assistance Sarnia
- Canadian Mental Health Association Lambton-Kent Branch
- Sarnia Lambton Children's Aid Society

Coordinated Access

Currently, \$200,785 annually is allocated to a community-wide coordinated access system that streamlines the process for people experiencing homelessness to access housing and supports. A coordinated access system is essential to a smarter, faster, more coordinated housing system. Coordinated access is mandatory and an obligation of the Homelessness Prevention team under funding guidelines from both the Federal and Provincial governments.

Homelessness Prevention Department Funding (page 4)

May 1, 2024

Homelessness and Emergency Shelter Services

Currently, \$2,643,024 annually is allocated to services that support individuals and families experiencing homelessness or are accessing emergency shelter. Social Services Division staff along with staff from five community partner agencies offer supports such as emergency shelter, including overflow and the Haven Shelter for youth, staff to support emergency shelter by completing common intakes, a common triage assessment, as well as conduct diversion with the goal to help the individual or household find safe alternative housing immediately. Additionally, funds support street outreach and community navigation to connect individuals to appropriate supports, assistance with transportation, food security, rent supplements, the Housing and Homelessness Resource Centre, and supports for individuals of Indigenous ancestry, youth, and 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals experiencing homelessness.

Purchase of Service Agreements to deliver these programs are in place with the following community partners:

- The Inn of the Good Shepherd
- North Lambton Community Health Centre
- Canadian Red Cross
- Salvation Army
- Sarnia Lambton Native Friendship Centre

In addition to the above funded programs, the Ontario Works Department also assists in the homelessness response by issuing emergency assistance funds and by providing intensive case management supports to individuals in receipt of Ontario Works experiencing homelessness.

Transitional Housing

Currently \$241,320 is allocated to transitional housing through partnerships with River City Vineyard and Sarnia-Lambton Rebound. Transitional housing refers to a supportive, yet temporary type of accommodation that is meant to bridge the gap from homelessness to permanent housing by offering structure, supervision, addictions and mental health support, life skills, and in some cases, education, and training. It is an intermediate step between emergency crisis shelter and permanent housing. River City Vineyard offers transitional housing to nine individuals and Sarnia-Lambton Rebound supports nine youth through transitional housing at Ohana Landing. In addition, independently, the Inn of the Good Shepherd offers a transitional housing program for up to 20 individuals.

Supportive Housing

Currently \$1,675,602 is allocated to supportive housing, which combines rental or housing assistance with individualized, flexible, and voluntary support services for people with high needs related to physical or mental health, developmental disabilities, or substance use. It is an option to house chronically homeless individuals with medium to high acuity. Social

Homelessness Prevention Department Funding (page 5)

May 1, 2024

Services Division staff along with teams from six community partners, provide standard and enhanced levels of supportive housing to enable successful placements into permanent housing, reduce evictions, and decrease the number of individuals who return to homelessness.

Purchase of Service Agreements to deliver these programs are in place with the following community partners:

- Lambton Elderly Outreach
- Saini Domiciliary Hostels
- Sarnia Lambton Native Friendship Centre
- The Inn of the Good Shepherd
- Canadian Mental Health Association Lambton-Kent Branch
- Sarnia Lambton Children's Aid Society

Community Housing

Currently \$341,888 is allocated annually to support Community Housing, sometimes referred to as social housing, or housing that is offered at below market rates so that it is more affordable. This funding allows staff to provide support to tenants and their families. They also advocate on behalf of individuals to improve quality of life and maintain housing.

Additionally, the Housing Services Department provides significant resources and support through both rent supplements and community support workers who assist tenants in remaining housed to community housing.

Affordable Housing

Currently \$893,922 is allocated to Affordable Housing. Housing is affordable when a household spends less than 30% of its pre-tax income on adequate shelter. Largely, these funds are allocated to rent supplements to several private landlords and non-profit providers throughout the County of Lambton.

Additionally, the Housing Services Department provides significant resources and support for affordable housing.

This following chart summarizes the allocation of program funds for the Homelessness Prevention Department:

Program Revenue (2024)	(\$)
County Levy	1,827,558
Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP)	5,615,600
Reaching Home (RH)	1,772,769
Total Revenue	9,215,927
Homelessness Prevention Department Funding (page 6)

May 1, 2024

Program Expenditures (2024)	(\$)
Prevention	2,677,714
Homelessness & Emergency Shelter	2,643,024
Transitional Housing	241,320
Supportive Housing	1,675,602
Community Housing	341,888
Affordable Housing	893,922
Coordinated Access	200,785
5.8% Program Administration (data analysis, IT,	
social planning, research, general operating	
expenses)	541,673
Total Expenditures	9,215,927

*The above allocation reflects only the Homelessness Prevention Department funding. Additional dollars are allocated in the Ontario Works and Housing Services departments to homelessness and housing programs.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no new funding impacts to the County of Lambton as a result of this report. The Reaching Home Program is funded 100% by the Government of Canada, the HPP is funded 100% through the provincial Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the 2024 levy funds are approved through the annual budget process.

CONSULTATIONS

Consultations have taken place with members of the County of Lambton Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee, the Lambton County Community Advisory Board, the General Manager of Social Services, the Manager of Homelessness Prevention and Children's Services, and the Manager of Housing Services.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The activities of the Division support the Community Development Area of Effort #3 in the County of Lambton's Strategic Plan, specifically:

Advocating in a manner that raises the profile of the County and its needs in order to secure improved government supports, funding, grants, and other resources.

Developing programs and initiatives that address poverty reduction and promote social belonging.

Planning for and responding to the ever-changing needs of an aging population, homelessness and retaining young people in the community while supporting their transition to being employed community members and future leaders.

Homelessness Prevention Department Funding (page 7)

May 1, 2024

Actively pursuing joint opportunities with community partners that contribute to the wellbeing of the Lambton Community.

CONCLUSION

The Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee (HHAC) was established in 2020 and is a collaborative body with representation from many service providers who, to various degrees, offer supports and services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness. A coordinated and collaborative approach across 15 community partner agencies is utilized in Lambton County to deliver a broad range of homelessness supports. The 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan identifies the clear need to invest in upstream preventive solutions as much as possible. Investment into preventative services leads to drastically improved client-level outcomes and cost savings both within and beyond human and social service agencies. County of Lambton staff, in close partnership with local service providers, will continue to work to meet the drastically elevated need in Lambton for housing and homelessness services.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, January 30th 7:30AM LOCATION: Virtual, Team Meeting

Attendance:

Marriott, Kevin Lee, Adrienne McEachran, Carrie Edlington, Angela Dochstader, Nick Thiffeault, Stephane

Bradley, Mike Kabbes, Don Perdeaux, Rick Cayea, David Plain, Jeff

Slotwinski, Matthew (Interim CEO) Moore, Brittany (Executive Assistant)

Regrets:

Kardas, Rob Reaume-Zimmer, Paula Knapp, Tim

Call to Order Quorum Present

Agenda

Motion: To approve Agenda as submitted.

Moved by D. Kabbes. Seconded by N. Dochstader. Carried.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None declared.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: That the minutes of the Board Meeting held November 21, 2023, be approved as submitted.

Moved by D. Cayea. Seconded by J. Plain. Carried.



Chair Update

- □ A. Lee welcomed M. Slotwinski as interim CEO
- Provided an update on the strategic plan, was not completed fully by yearend.

Motion: To go in camera.

Moved by A. Edlington. Seconded by C. McEachran. Carried.

Motion: To rise from camera.

Moved by N. Dochstader. Seconded by D. Cayea. Carried.

CEO Update

M. Slotwinski shared the CEO report executive summary

Committees

Governance Committee

- A. Lee provided an update on non-voting community committee member policy
 - Adding one individual to both governance and finance committee, position will not be advertised but through the recruitment process if there are eligible individuals who might be a good fit to join one of the committees the recruitment committee will bring a recommendation forward.
 - Helpful in Board recruitment and also give us the opportunity to build up the bench strength for succession planning to eventually become official Board members.

Motion: To approve the Non-Voting Community Committee Member Policy.

Moved by D. Cayea. Seconded by S. Thiffeault. Carried.

- □ A. Lee provided a member update; in 2024 we will be recruiting one open Board position
- □ It is important to have representation from

Motion: Advertisement for recruitment be approved as submitted.

Moved by C. McEachran. Seconded by D. Cayea. Carried.



Powering a Sustainable World

 Committee Updates, one minor update to move A. Edlington over to Governance for succession planning. T. Knapp will be moving over to Finance.

Motion: That the updated committees be approved as submitted.

Moved by K. Marriott. Seconded by D. Kabbes. Carried.

- Cyber security policy procedure is in progress and we will continue to update Board
 - Are we covered with Cyber insurance? Something we should look into.
 - o Do we have a backup? We will look into this as well.
- A. Lee provided an update to advise the expense policy on travel, expense and procurement is under review by the governance committee and will be shared at the next Board meeting.

Finance Committee

- Year-end projections update
- □ Budget reserves discussion

<u>Motion:</u> That the Board of Directors supports the reserve requests to use reserves for the outlined projects.

Moved by D. Kabbes. Seconded by A. Edlington. Carried.

- D. Cayea suggested a hold on use of any further reserves
- D. Kabbes provide an 2024 Budget update will come for approval in March 2024
- Consideration to include SLIA in the budget moving forward

New Business

□ None

Motion to Adjourn

Moved by D. Kabbes. Seconded by N. Dochstader. Carried.

Acting Chai

Adrienne Lee

Secretary-Treasurer Stephane Thiffeault



MINUTES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

(Infrastructure & Development Services/Public Health Services – Emergency Medical Services/Cultural Services/Long-Term Care/Corporate Services/Finance, Facilities and Court Services/Social Services)

April 17, 2024

A meeting was held at the County Building at 9:00 a.m. on the above date.

Present

Chair K. Marriott and Members J. Agar, G. Atkinson, D. Boushy, M. Bradley, A. Broad, T. Case, D Cook, D. Ferguson, B. Hand, C. McRoberts, S. Miller, D. Sageman and B. White attended in person. Member B. Loosley attended virtually. Various staff were present including the following General Managers: Mr. J. Cole, General Manager, Infrastructure and Development Services, Mr. A. Taylor, General Manager, Public Health Services, Mr. A. Meyer, General Manager, Cultural Services, Ms. J. Joris, General Manager, Long-Term Care, Mr. L. Palarchio, General Manager, Finance, Facilities and Court Services, Ms. V. Colasanti, General Manager, Social Services, Ms. O. Leger, General Manager, Corporate Services and Mr. S. Thiffeault, Chief Administrative Officer.

<u>Absent</u>

B. Dennis.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION

Correspondence to Receive and File

<u>PW 05-05-24</u> A letter from Andrea Fischer, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk, Town of Goderich, dated March 8, 2024 regarding a motion passed at the Monday, February 26, 2024, Goderich Town Council Meeting asking that the ROMA & OGRA boards reestablish a combined ROMA and OGRA annual conference and that a hybrid participation option be considered for the sessions.

<u>PW 05-06-24</u> A letter from Janet Denkers, Clerk, the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston, dated March 19, 2024 regarding support of the County of Lambton's comments on the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) amendment application (ERO number 019-

Committee of the Whole – April 17, 2024 (page 2)

8205) and associated documentation submitted by York 1 Environmental Waste Solutions.

<u>#1:</u> Miller/Boushy: That correspondence PW 05-05-24 and PW 05-06-24 be received and filed.

Carried.

Information Reports

<u>#2:</u> Boushy/Cook: That the following Information Reports dated April 17, 2024 from the Infrastructure and Development Services Division be received and filed:

- a) Information Report dated April 17, 2024 regarding Woodlands Annual Report 2023.
- b) Information Report dated April 17, 2024 regarding 2024-2028 Roads Construction Program.
- c) Information Report dated April 17, 2024 regarding Upcoming 2024 Public Works Conferences.
- d) Information Report dated April 17, 2024 regarding York1 Environmental Waste Solutions Ltd. Applications.

Carried.

Reports Requiring a Motion

Report dated April 17, 2024 Regarding Appointment of Emergency Management Program Coordinators and Alternates

<u>#3:</u> Sageman/Cook: That a draft By-Law appointing Jay vanKlinken as the Emergency Management Program Coordinator, and David Larkin, Lynn McCreary, and Brian Soulard as Alternate Emergency Management Program Coordinators be presented to County Council for its consideration.

Carried.

Report dated April 17, 2024 Regarding County of Middlesex Boundary Agreement

<u>#4:</u> Ferguson/Veen:

- a) That The Corporation of the County of Lambton enter into an agreement with the County of Middlesex for the maintenance and repair of boundary roads and bridges subject to the terms and conditions of the agreement attached hereto as Appendix A.
- b) That the Warden and Clerk be authorized to execute all relevant documentation.
- c) That the appropriate By-Law be presented to County Council for their consideration.

Committee of the Whole – April 17, 2024 (page 3)

Carried.

<u>Report dated April 17, 2024 Regarding Parking By-Law – Enforcement and Penalty</u> <u>Provision Amendment</u>

<u>#5:</u> Case/Atkinson:

 a) That the By-Law No. 24 of 2023 "A By-Law to Regulate Parking" (hereinafter the "Parking By-Law") be amended by deleting section 10 therefrom and replacing section 10 with the following provisions:

ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

- 10.1 A police officer, provincial offences officer, or such other person designated by By-Law from time to time may enforce all provisions of this By-Law.
- 10.2 A police officer, provincial offences officer, or such other person designated by By-Law from time to time to enforce this By-Law, may cause a Vehicle Parked in contravention of this By-Law to be moved or taken to and placed or stored in a suitable place, and all costs and charges for removing, caring and storing, if any, shall be assessed as a lien against the Vehicle and enforced as such in the manner provided by in the Repair and Storage Liens Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. R.25; and
- 10.3 Any person who contravenes this By-Law is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to such fine and other penalty as provided for in the Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 33 as amended.
- 10.4 Where a Vehicle has been left Parking in contravention of this ByLaw, the owner of the Vehicle, notwithstanding that he or she was not the driver of the Vehicle at the time of the contravention of this By-Law, is guilty of an offence and is liable to the fine assessed in accordance with section 3 and the costs set out in section 2, as applicable, unless, in respect only of the fine assessed in accordance with section of this By-Law, the Vehicle was in the possession of some person other than the owner without the owner's consent. The owner of the Vehicle shall have the onus of demonstrating that the Vehicle was in possession of some person other than the owner without the owner's consent for the purposes of this By-Law. Regardless of who was in possession of the Vehicle at the time of the contravention of the By-Law, all charges in moving or taking to and placing or storing the Vehicle shall continue to be assessed and placed as a lien against the Vehicle in accordance with section 2 hereof.
- b) That the appropriate By-Law be presented to County Council amending the Parking By-Law in accordance with paragraph a) above for Council's consideration and approval.

Committee of the Whole – April 17, 2024 (page 4)

Carried.

Report dated April 17, 2024 Regarding County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Sub-Committee Recommendations

<u>#6:</u> Veen/Miller:

- a) That Council approve the County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee (the "Committee") draft Terms of Reference, dated March 5, 2024, attached hereto as Appendix "B".
- b) That County of Lambton staff and associated resources assemble and facilitate the Committee under the newly adopted Terms of Reference.

Carried.

<u>#7:</u> Broad/Case: The Council accept Councillor A. Broad's resignation from the County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee and that Councillor G. Atkinson be appointed to the County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee for the remainder of the 2024 year.

Carried.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION – EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

No reports from Public Health Services Division – Emergency Medical Services.

CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION

Correspondence to Receive and File

<u>CUL 05-01-24</u> A letter dated December 12, 2023 from The Honourable Neil Lumsden Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport to the Lambton County Public Library Board, announcing approval of grant funds under the Public Library Operating, Pay Equity and First Nation Salary Supplement Grants program for the 2023-24 fiscal year. Such funding supports the organization by providing important library services and access to information to residents within the community.

<u>CUL 05-04-24</u> A letter from Julie Kirkelos, Clerk, The Town of Lincoln, dated February 28, 2024, regarding a resolution as passed by the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its February 26, 2024 Council meeting. The Town of Lincoln is seeking support on the resolution below. Please see the attached letter for the full motion.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Lincoln Council urges the Provincial Government to support increasing funding to both public libraries and community museums. Recognizing these institutions as national assets and

Committee of the Whole – April 17, 2024 (page 5)

strategically investing in their potential will contribute significantly to renewing postpandemic social cohesion, economic well-being, and community resilience.

<u>CUL 05-09-24</u> A letter from Kristina Lepik, Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services, The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg, dated March 8, 2024 regarding a resolution as passed by the Town of Cobourg at its February 28, 2024 Council meeting. The Town of Cobourg is seeking support on the resolution below. Please see the attached letter for the full motion.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Cobourg authorize the Mayor to promptly send a letter to Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, and Michael Ford, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, requesting that Subsection 27(16) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* be amended to extend the abovenoted deadline for five years from January 1, 2025 to January 1, 2030.

<u>#8:</u> Boushy/Agar: That correspondence CUL 05-01-24, CUL 05-04-24, and CUL 05-09-24 be received and filed.

Carried.

Information Reports

<u>#9:</u> Miller/Veen: That the following Information Reports from the Cultural Services Division be received and filed:

- a) Information Report dated April 17, 2024 regarding Show and Tell with Lambton County Library and Lambton County Museums.
- b) Information Report dated April 17, 2024 regarding Bright's Grove Library Expansion. Carried.

Reports Requiring a Motion

Report dated April 17, 2024 Regarding Library Policy Manual

<u>#10:</u> Cook/Broad: That Lambton County Council approve the following Library policies: Video Surveillance and Sponsorships and Partnerships.

Carried.

Report dated April 17, 2024 Regarding Museums, Gallery & Archives Collections Management January and February 2024

<u>#11:</u> Agar/Atkinson: That the Museums, Gallery and Archives Collections Management January and February 2024 Report be accepted, and items recommended for acceptance be approved for inclusion in the respective permanent collections.

Carried.

Committee of the Whole – April 17, 2024 (page 6)

LONG-TERM CARE DIVISION

Correspondence to Receive and File

<u>LTC 05-07-24</u> A letter from the Ministry of Long-Term Care, dated April 2, 2024 regarding approval of two (2) additional beds (for a total of 12) for the Long-Term Care Development Project at Lambton Meadowview Villa.

<u>#12:</u> Case/Cook: That correspondence LTC 05-07-24 be received and filed.

Carried.

Information Reports

<u>#13:</u> Veen/McRoberts: That the following Information Reports dated April 17, 2024 from the Long-Term Care Division be received and filed:

- a) Information Report dated April 17, 2024 regarding Ministry of Long-Term Care Inspections 2023.
- b) Information Report dated April 17, 2024 regarding One Time Funding.

Carried.

CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION

Correspondence to Receive and File

<u>CORP 05-08-24</u> A letter from Catalina Blumenberg, Clerk, The County of Prince Edward, dated March 28, 2024 regarding a resolution as passed by The County of Prince Edward at its March 26, 2024 Council meeting. The County of Prince Edward is seeking support on the resolution below. Please see the attached letter for the full motion.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Prince Edward County strongly encourages action on the part of the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a) create a "Municipal Accessibility Fund" for municipalities to develop, implement and enforce AODA standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings. Such a fund could be modeled after the Canada Community-Building Fund or the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund on a per household basis; and
- b) to commit to working with municipalities to implement the Donovan Review immediate crisis recommendations.

Committee of the Whole – April 17, 2024 (page 7)

<u>#14:</u> Veen/Atkinson: That Lambton County Council support the resolution in correspondence CORP 05-08-24.

Carried.

FINANCE, FACILITIES AND COURT SERVICES DIVISION

Information Report

Information Report dated April 17, 2024 Regarding 2023 Council Remuneration and Related Expenses

<u>#15:</u> Miller/Hand: That Information Report dated April 17, 2024 regarding 2023 Council Remuneration and Related Expenses be received and filed.

Carried.

Reports Requiring a Motion

Report dated April 17, 2024 Regarding 2024 Tax Policy

<u>#16:</u> Broad/McRoberts:

- a) That for all property classes except the Landfill Property Class, there be no change to the broad property class ratios for these classes from those set by Council for the 2023 Taxation year, and that these ratios continue to apply in the 2024 Taxation year.
- b) That the Tax Class Ratio for the Landfill Property Class be set at the maximum value as permitted in Subsection 10.2(3) as described in O.Reg. 385/98 as amended, being 22.035526.

Carried.

Report dated April 17, 2024 Regarding the 2023 Year-End Monitoring Report

<u>#17:</u> Broad/McRoberts: That Council, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Reserve and Reserve Fund Policy approved by County Council on July 6, 2022, authorize the General Manager, Finance, Facilities and Court Services/County Treasurer to contribute the 2023 year-end surplus, estimated in the amount of \$550,000, to the County's Stabilization Reserve.

Carried.

SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

Correspondence to Receive and File

<u>SOC 05-02-24</u> A resolution from Catalina Blumenberg, Clerk, the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward dated February 13, 2024 regarding Prince Edward County

Committee of the Whole – April 17, 2024 (page 8)

Council's support for a review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates.

<u>#18:</u> Ferguson/Hand: That correspondence SOC 05-02-24 be received and filed.

Carried.

Information Reports

<u>#19:</u> Broad/Case: That the following Information Reports from the Social Services Division be received and filed:

- a) Information Report dated April 17, 2024 regarding Affordable Housing Update 2.
- b) Information Report dated April 17, 2024 regarding Employment Ontario Delivery Update.
- c) Information Report dated April 17, 2024 regarding the Out of the Cold Shelter Program.

Carried.

Report Requiring a Motion

Report dated April 17, 2024 Regarding Kathleen Avenue Development

<u>#20:</u> Cook/Bradley:

- a) That staff proceed with the design, engineering and construction of up to 50 affordable housing units on the lands described as Lots 19-23 on Plan 299 and the north half of Christy Street (closed) also on Plan 299 in the City of Sarnia (hereinafter, the "Kathleen Avenue Development") at an estimated cost of \$16.5 million.
- b) That the County be authorized to seek additional debt financing of up to \$7,611,620.00 on the Kathleen Avenue property to partially fund the Kathleen Avenue Development.
- c) That staff provide County Council with quarterly project updates, including confirmation of the number of affordable housing units to be constructed and capital budget monitoring updates.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor T. Case wished the Alvinston Killer Bees hockey team the best of luck in the Championship series.

<u>#21:</u> Bradley/McRoberts: That the County of Lambton and City of Sarnia host a joint virtual Town Hall meeting within the next four weeks to address questions and concerns

Committee of the Whole – April 17, 2024 (page 9)

regarding housing and homelessness in the community, and that the media and the public are invited to attend.

Carried.

Councillor J. Agar invited Council to attend the United Way Campaign kickoff BBQ hosted by St. Clair Township at the Mooretown Civic Centre on Wednesday, June 5, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

IN-CAMERA

<u>#22:</u> Atkinson/Bradley: That the Chair declare the Committee go in-camera to discuss the following:

- a) a report to provide an update and instructions relating to information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality by the Province of Ontario, pursuant to s. 239(2)(h) of the Municipal Act, 2001.
- b) a report regarding the potential acquisition of property in the City of Sarnia, and to provide instructions in relation thereto, pursuant to s. 239(2)(c) of *the Municipal Act*, 2001.
- c) a report and provide instructions regarding negotiations between the County and a third party relating to a lease agreement in the City of Sarnia, pursuant to ss. 239(2)(k) of the *Municipal Act*, 2001.
- d) a report and provide instructions regarding negotiations between the County and a third party relating to a development project in the City of Sarnia, pursuant to s. 239(2)(e)(k) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

Carried.

<u>#23:</u> (Motion to be dealt with at the Lambton County Council (CLOSED SESSION) meeting dated May 1, 2024).

<u>#24:</u> (Motion to be dealt with at the Lambton County Council (CLOSED SESSION) meeting dated May 1, 2024).

<u>#25:</u> (Motion to be dealt with at the Lambton County Council (CLOSED SESSION) meeting dated May 1, 2024).

<u>#26:</u> (Motion to be dealt with at the Lambton County Council (CLOSED SESSION) meeting dated May 1, 2024).

<u>#27:</u> Bradley/Broad: That the Chair declare the Committee go back into Open Session. Carried.

Committee of the Whole - April 17, 2024 (page 10)

ADJOURNMENT

<u>#28:</u> Boushy/Agar: That the Chair declare the meeting adjourned with the next meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Western Sarnia-Lambton Research Park, 1086 Modeland Road, Sarnia, Ontario.

Carried.

Time: 9:31 a.m.

Kevin Marriott Chair

Olivia Leger Clerk Committee of the Whole - January 17, 2024 (page 1)

<u>#11:</u> Ferguson/Cook: That the report dated January 17, 2024 regarding County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee (CLAAC) Revitalization be tabled until the April 17, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Carried.

INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION		
REPORT TO:	CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS	
DEPARTMENT:	INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION	
PREPARED BY:	Jason Cole, P. Eng., General Manager	
REVIEWED BY:	Stéphane Thiffeault, Chief Administrative Officer	
MEETING DATE:	January 17, 2024	
SUBJECT:	County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee Revitalization	

BACKGROUND

The County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee (CLAAC) was established to provide advice to The Corporation of the County of Lambton (County) on agricultural and rural matters. The CLAAC began meeting in 2009 and was active for several years initially, but eventually slowed and ceased regular meetings in 2016.

The Committee was comprised of 14 voting members, appointed mainly from identified local agricultural commodity groups or organizations, a member of County Council, and two ex-officio members from County Planning staff and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. The term of the last assembled membership has expired under the adopted Terms of Reference for the Committee.

DISCUSSION

In November 2023, the County put a call out to the agricultural organizations that provided membership for the CLAAC, asking for representation to attend a meeting to consider revitalizing the Committee. A group of 13 representatives (including the appointed member from County Council and the Warden) met on December 14, 2023, to participate in a facilitated review of the CLAAC's purpose and last standing Terms of Reference.

In general, the meeting attendees indicated a strong desire to revitalize the CLAAC. A summary of the meeting proceedings and a revised draft Terms of Reference (prepared based on the comments received at the meeting) are attached as Appendix A and Appendix B respectively to this report.

County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee Revitalization (page 2)

January 17, 2024

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost to facilitate the CLAAC is primarily associated with personnel and facility resources dedicated to recruit, organize and facilitate the CLAAC and its meetings. It is anticipated that these costs can be managed within the existing Planning & Development Services Department budget as part of the proposed 2024 County of Lambton Budget.

CONSULTATIONS

The Planning & Development Services Department, Bryan Boyle & Associates, and representation from the organizations identified in the previous CLAAC Terms of Reference were consulted as part of the preparation of this report.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Application of Area of Effort #2: Communications - Providing progressive and effective communications that are relevant and clear and that promote opportunities for dialogue in order to improve collaboration and build relationships by:

• Clearly, completely, and concisely articulating County decisions and initiatives.

Application of Area of Effort #5: Partnerships - Developing stronger relationships with community partners, municipalities, and indigenous groups as a basis to build a shared community of interest by:

• Cultivating sustainable relationships that include strategies to improve communication and understanding, provide mutual assistance on projects, and fulfill Duty to Consult obligations.

CONCLUSION

The CLAAC was established to provide advice to the County on agricultural and rural matters. The Committee was active for several years, but eventually slowed and ceased regular meetings.

Based on a facilitated discussion to consider revitalizing the CLAAC, there is a strong desire from the agricultural community to reinitiate the Committee and meet regularly in the future. It is recommended that a new CLAAC membership be established that can adopt a Terms of Reference and report back to County Council.

County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee Revitalization (page 3)

January 17, 2024

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) That Council approve the revitalization of the County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee (the "Committee") based on the draft Terms of Reference, dated December 14, 2023, attached hereto as Appendix "B".
- b) That the Committee, County of Lambton staff and associated resources finalize the Committee's Terms of Reference, with the Committee reporting back the finalized Terms of Reference for Council's review and approval.

Appendix A

County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee

Revitalization Meeting December 14, 2023



Tabling Motion #11 of the Committee of the Whole (Open Session) minutes ...

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County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee (CLAAC) Revitalization Meeting on December 14, 2023 Facilitated by Bryan Boyle

Purpose of Meeting

To review key areas of focus of the former Terms of Reference and solicit input regarding if, or how, the County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee should be revitalized.

Introductions

Each participant shared their name, location, organization that they represent, and one of their interests or activities completely unrelated to farming or their member organization and how it helps them be more effective in their role as a participant on the County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee.

First Impressions

Participants were asked to share the first one or two words that come to mind when they hear,

"County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee".

Interaction with County Council

- Sounding board to Lambton County Council
- Makes recommendations to County Council
- Agricultural awareness to County Council
- County-wide input from many
- Rural and agricultural input
- Provides direction and support
- Consultative and advisory

Addressing Agricultural Issues

- Addressing day-to-day issues
- Input and advice on agriculture
- Agricultural issues

Potential Issues to Address

- Drainage
- Maintaining growth
- Land preservation
- Woodlot



- Minor variance and bylaws
- Ensuring economic benefit

Interface with Current Agencies

- Committee of Adjustment
- Review of Complaints on Normal Farm Practices

Background and Approach for the Meeting

The County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee was created in 2009 and was active until 2016. There has been interest expressed in revitalizing this committee if it could have a meaningful role within our Lambton County community.

In this meeting the County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee was approached in a four-step process.

- An evaluation of the Terms of Reference that existed for the 2009-2016 County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee to see which parts of those terms may still be relevant
- Identifying potential additions to these Terms of Reference that could add value to a County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee from this point forward
- 3) Assessment by all individuals in this group of the relevance and potential of revitalizing a County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee
- 4) Next steps, if any, that are required

Evaluation of the Current Terms of Reference

Each point within the current Terms of Reference was evaluated, scored, and edited by small discussion groups. This input was shared and discussed with the entire group. An opportunity was provided for other groups to add value to each discussion point.

The results of the participants' input are recorded in the updated CLAAC Terms of Reference that is attached with this meeting report.

Perspectives on Revitalization of CLAAC

On a scale numbered from 1 to 30, participants chose the number that they feel most accurately describes the current potential to revitalize the CLAAC.

#30 = "Top of our Game": A well-coordinated, community-oriented County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee could be very relevant and meaningful and could be



of substantial value to the agricultural community, Lambton County Council, and the general Sarnia-Lambton community. It is worthy of all Lambton agricultural and rural organizations' support, and action should be taken immediately to revitalize this Committee.

#1 = "Served its Purpose": A County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee is no longer relevant nor meaningful and it would be of very limited value to the agricultural community, Lambton County Council, or the general Sarnia-Lambton community. It is not worthy of Lambton agricultural and rural organizations' support, and no action should be taken at this time to revitalize this Committee.



Average = 26.92

Potential Next Steps

- Bryan Boyle will create a report from this meeting including all the proposed edits to the terms of reference based on participants' input.
- The meeting report will be circulated to all participants.
- Jason Cole will create a report for Lambton County Committee of the Whole and Council based on Bryan's report of this December 14, 2023 meeting.
- Jason's report will be presented to Lambton County Committee of the Whole Council at the earliest opportunity in 2024.
- All Lambton organizations represented at the December 14, 2023 meeting will be invited to attend a CLAAC organizational meeting in the first quarter of 2024.



Governance

Several administrative and governance details will need to be developed for CLAAC in 2024. At this meeting a survey of potential meeting frequency was taken.

Potential Meeting Frequency		
Times per Year	Participant Votes	
2	4	
3	4	
4	3	
5	0	
6	1	
Average = 3.2		

Summary

The CLAAC revitalization meeting was a productive activity. The participants were very engaged and committed to the process. The participants took an important step by providing valuable input to help revitalize the CLAAC so it could be of substantial value to the agricultural community, Lambton County Council, and the general Sarnia-Lambton community.



Appendix B

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE COUNTY OF LAMBTON AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE Revised December 14, 2023

<u>Goal</u>

To provide advice and direction to The Corporation of the County of Lambton (County) on agricultural, environmental, and rural matters.

Mandate

The County of Lambton Agricultural Advisory Committee (CLAAC) is a voluntary, nonpolitical Advisory Committee established by County Council in accordance with these Terms of Reference. Committee members are guided by these Terms of Reference.

The Terms of Reference provide for a balance between activities referred from the County Planning and Development Services Department and County Council, and the ability for the CLAAC to be proactive and advise on matters identified on its own initiative. The CLAAC will generally report to County Council through the County Planning and Development Services Department. The County Planning and Development Services Department will also report back to CLAAC on agricultural issues being considered by County Council and progress on CLAAC recommendations.

Scope of Activities

The scope of the CLAAC may include activities such as:

- Providing advice on issues and concerns of the agricultural community in the County of Lambton.
- Providing advice on the implementation, interpretation, and impact of Provincial and Federal legislation, policies, and guidelines related to the agricultural industry.
- Providing advice on agricultural and rural policy directions proposed or pursued by the County. This may include providing advice on County-initiated official plan amendments related to agricultural matters; on County agricultural matters through a comprehensive official plan review; or, other policy directions pursued by the County.
- Providing advice on the identification and implementation of programs which encourage public awareness and education of agricultural and related rural issues.
- Providing assistance with the mediation of complaints related to agricultural issues that could have implications across the County.

• Providing advice on matters as they arise, at the request of the County.

Composition

The CLAAC will be composed of 15 voting members and 1 ex-officio staff member.

The voting membership will include one individual appointed from each of the following:

- Lambton Cattlemen's Association
- Lambton Dairy Producers
- Lambton Pork Producers
- The "Feathers" Livestock Industry
- A Specialty Livestock Operation
- Grain Farmers of Lambton
- Lambton Soil and Crop Improvement Association
- The Vegetable Grower's Association
- A Specialty Crop Producer
- Lambton Federation of Agriculture
- Lambton 328 Farmer's Union
- Lambton Christian Farmers
- A Producer with Conservation Interests
- Non-Farm Rural Resident
- County Council

The Manager of Planning and Development Services (or designate) will be an ex-officio, non-voting advisory member of the CLAAC and shall serve as Secretary.

Selection of Voting Members

The County will request each of the respective organizations to nominate one of their members as a member on the CLAAC, subject to the following exceptions:

- The "Feathers" industry member shall be agreed upon and nominated jointly by the recognized local chicken and turkey producer organizations.
- The "Producer with Conservation Interests" member shall be agreed upon and nominated jointly by the Rural Lambton Stewardship Network, Woodlot Owner's Association, and Lambton Wildlife.
- The County will solicit letters of interest from individuals wishing to fill the positions of "Non-Farm Rural Resident", "Specialty Crop Producer", and "Specialty Livestock Producer", and County staff will recommend members to the CLAAC from those letters received.

The Specialty Livestock and Specialty Crop members may be from any type of operation not specifically represented on the CLAAC (e.g., sheep, horses, goats, sugar beets, horticulture, greenhouses, etc). The County will, at a minimum, solicit the

organizations representing the larger "specialty" industries in the County for letters of interest from their members, but will consider letters of interest from any "specialty" industry. The type of "specialty" industries represented may vary from term to term.

All voting members must be residents of the County and have knowledge of agricultural, environmental, and rural issues.

In their capacity as CLAAC members, all members are intended to sit primarily as private individuals with a variety of knowledge and perspectives and not as advocates for any particular operation or organization.

The respective organizations with a designated or jointly designated position on the CLAAC are permitted and encouraged to formally nominate an alternate member to the CLAAC. Alternates shall meet the same membership requirements as other members. Only one member of each organization is encouraged to attend each CLAAC meeting but when both a primary member and his or her alternate attend a meeting, the alternate may only participate in the discussion at the discretion of the Chair. Alternates may only vote in the absence of the primary appointed representative.

Officers

A Chair and a Vice-Chair will be elected annually by the membership of the CLAAC. The Manager of Planning and Development Services (or designate) shall serve as Secretary.

Length of Terms

The County Councilor position terms shall last one year at a time without limit on the number of consecutive terms.

Membership terms for all other voting members shall be a maximum of three years with a maximum of two consecutive terms permitted. Terms shall be staggered such that approximately one-third of the members are replaced each year.

Support

The County Planning and Development Services Department will provide administrative, procedural, and technical support to the CLAAC.

Meetings

The CLAAC will generally meet at the County Administration Building. The CLAAC will generally meet on a set schedule, although special meetings may be held at the call of the Chair. Meetings may also be cancelled at the discretion of the Chair.

Unless otherwise determined, all meetings will be open to the public. Agendas will be posted publicly on the County of Lambton's website: www.lambtononline.ca. CLACC will follow the County's Procedural By-law for its processes subject to anything to the contrary stipulated in these Terms of Reference.

Delegations

Any person wishing to appear before the CLAAC as a delegation must submit a request to the staff liaison in the Planning and Development Services Department and the Chair of the CLAAC, advising of the topic or item to which they wish to speak. All requests for delegations must be received at least one week prior to the meeting to ensure that the delegation is included on the agenda.

Agendas

The CLAAC agendas will be prepared by the staff liaison and the CLAAC Chair or Vice Chair with input from other CLAAC members.

Minutes

Minutes from each CLAAC meeting will be forwarded to County Council in County Council's meeting agenda and package. The minutes of each CLAAC meeting will be amended as necessary and approved at the following meeting by its members. The unapproved minutes will be forwarded to the next regularly scheduled County Council meeting. When approved, any amendments will be forwarded to County Council.

Committee Resolutions

The CLAAC will seek to achieve consensus on decisions. Recommendations are adopted by CLAAC if supported by a majority of members present. Only resolutions as they appear in the adopted minutes may be considered to officially represent the position of the CLAAC.

Annual Review

An annual review of the CLAAC will be completed by staff and submitted to County Council, including a report on and review of the year's activities to examine the effectiveness of the Committee and to ensure continued improvements. The Manager of Planning and Development Services (or designate) will take the lead in coordinating this annual review process.