



AGENDA
LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL
May 3, 2023 9:15 am
Council Chambers, Wyoming

Page

1. Roll Call

2. 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.

3. Disclosures of Pecuniary of Interest

If any.

4. IN-CAMERA SESSION - 9:15 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 5, 2023, pursuant to s. 239 (2)(d) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

5. OPEN SESSION

Regular Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m.

6. Silent Reflection

7. Rise and Report Motions of the In-Camera Session

If any.

8. DELEGATIONS

- 8 - 17
- a) Debb Pitel, Founder of No One Stands Alone would like to speak to County Council in regards to funding as a non-profit in support of mental health. A booklet of mental health agencies is compiled and made available to communities for those that need help with mental health and don't know where to turn. Presently, No One Stands Alone relies on the generosity of sponsorships and donations to produce such booklets so Ms. Pitel is requesting financial assistance to continue to provide this resource.

9. Minutes of Council (Open Session)

- 18 - 30
- a) Reading and adoption of the Lambton County Council (Open Session) minutes dated April 5, 2023.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

A) Correspondence to Receive and File

Recommendation

That the following correspondence items be received and filed:

- 31
- a) CC 04-02-23 A resubmitted letter dated December 15, 2022 from Jasmin Ralph, Clerk, Lanark County regarding a motion passed to recognize the issues of violence in rural communities.

Motion #CC-2022-235

Moved by: R. Kidd Seconded by: B. Dowdall

Be it resolved that the Lanark County Council recognizes the issues of violence in rural communities as serious to health and wellness of local families; and

Be it further resolved that the Lanark County Council recognizes the rural Renfrew County Coroner's Inquest as important to all rural communities; and

Based on the statistics of 4815 crisis calls and service provision to 527 women and children in our local community, the Lanark County Council declarers IPV (intimate partner violence)/VAW (violence against women) an epidemic as per recommendation #1 of the Renfrew County Coroner's jury recommendations; and

That this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario, local MPs and MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Ministry of the Attorney General, Ministry of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, and the Federal Ministry of Women and Gender Equality.

32 - 33

- b) CC 05-11-23 A resolution dated April 5, 2023 from Sasha Helmkey, Clerk, Township of Clearview supporting the correspondence/resolution from the Township of Lucan Biddulph regarding Barriers for Women in Politics stating (please see attachment for full resolution):

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Township of Clearview expresses its support for women in politics and their right to participate in a political environment that is free from misogyny and harassment, and where everyone feels equal.

34 - 35

- c) CC 05-12-23 A resolution from Staci Landry, Deputy Clerk, City of Owen Sound dated April 4, 2023 respecting support for the Municipality of Chatham-Kent's resolution regarding reducing municipal insurance costs as premiums have been one of the most significant constraints in limiting yearly tax levy increases. The resolution states (please see attachment for full resolution):

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That City Council directs staff to send a letter to all other municipalities in Ontario supporting the Municipality of Chatham-Kent calling for action to reduce insurance costs.

B) Correspondence from Member Municipalities

36 - 37

- a) CC 05-10-23 A letter dated April 20, 2023 from Amy Burkhart, City of Sarnia Clerk regarding a resolution adopted on April 17, 2023 by Sarnia City Council:

That Sarnia City Council refer the request from No One Stands Alone regarding the Need for Mental Health Help to Lambton County Council for consideration.

11. Board of Health - Lambton Public Health

A) Correspondence to Receive and File Recommendation

That the following correspondence items be received and filed:

- 38 - 39 a) CC 05-05-23 A letter from Douglas Lawrance, Chair, Board of Health, Northwestern Health Unit regarding a resolution passed at their March 3, 2023 Board of Health meeting calling on the Government of Canada to amend the Food and Drug Act to make it mandatory that all alcohol beverage containers have enhanced alcohol labels.
- 40 - 42 b) CC 05-06-23 A letter from Councillor Kathryn Wilson, Chair, Board of Health Chair, Peterborough Public Health, dated March 3, 2023, entitled Medical Officer of Health Urges Province to Explore Improvements to Ontario Building Code to Improve Indoor Air Quality. Peterborough Public Health implores Ontario's Minister of Health to thoroughly examine the Ontario Building Code and to identify opportunities to make changes to the Code that can be implemented to improve indoor air quality and provide increased protection for residents of Ontario.
- 43 - 45 c) CC 05-07-23 A letter from Councillor Kathryn Wilson, Chair, Board of Health Chair, Peterborough Public Health, dated March 8, 2023, entitled Medical Officer of Health Urges Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development to Explore Improvements to Ontario Building Code to Improve Indoor Air Quality. Peterborough Public Health implores Ontario's Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development to thoroughly examine the Ontario Building Code and to identify opportunities to make changes to the Code that can be implemented to improve indoor air quality and provide increased protection for residents of Ontario.
- 46 - 49 d) CC 05-08-23 A letter from Andrea Horwath, Mayor, City of Hamilton, dated April 3, 2023, supporting the call to the province for sufficient, stable and sustained funding for local public health agencies.
- 50 - 52 e) CC 05-09-23 A letter from René Lapierre, Chair, Board of Health, Public Health Sudbury & Districts, dated April 11, 2023, regarding its support of the Ontario Government's decision to increase of Ontario's minimum wage in the fall of 2023. The Board is urging Ontario's government to consider the living wage rate calculations for Ontarians, with the understanding that an adequate income aligned with a living wage can contribute to increased physical and mental health outcomes of Ontarians and reduce costs associated with premature morbidity and mortality.

B) Information Reports

Agenda: Lambton County Council (OPEN SESSION) - May 3, 2023

- 53 - 59 a) Information Report dated May 3, 2023 Regarding Rabies Prevention and Control Program Update.
- 60 - 62 b) Information Report dated May 3, 2023 Regarding Clinical and Family Services Activity Report.
- 63 - 66 c) Information Report dated May 3, 2023 Regarding Health Promotion - 2023 First Quarter Activity Report.

12. Items Not Requiring a Motion

- 67 - 70 a) Creative County Minutes dated November 24, 2022.
- 71 - 78 b) Sarnia Lambton Economic Partnership Board meeting minutes dated January 24 and February 21, 2023.

13. Reports Requiring a Motion

A) INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION

- 79 - 94 a) Report dated May 3, 2023 Regarding Bill 97 and Provincial Policy Statement (2023) Preliminary Summary.

B) SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

- 95 - 99 a) Report dated May 3, 2023 Regarding Homelessness Prevention Program Investment Plan 2023 to 2024.

14. Committee Minutes

- 100 - 103 a) Committee A.M. minutes dated April 20, 2023.
- 104 - 106 b) Committee P.M. minutes dated April 20, 2023.

15. Items Tabled from Previous Meetings

None at this time.

16. Notice of Motion

- a) Councillor Jeffery Agar gave Notice of Motion dated April 23, 2023, for the May 3, 2023, Lambton County Council meeting seeking the removal of the CSX Transportation rail crossing at Broadway Street in St. Clair Township (the "Crossing"). Councillor Agar is seeking Council consideration on the following motion:

WHEREAS that portion of the railway at the intersection of Broadway Street and McDonald Street in St. Clair Township, Ontario, remains in place notwithstanding CSX Transportation's longstanding discontinued use thereof as evidenced by CSX Transportation's removal of adjoining rail tracks between French Line and Holt Line;

AND WHEREAS The Corporation of the Township of St. Clair has received numerous complaints about the Crossing and specifically the need for school busses to continue to stop at the Crossing (despite it not being actively used for some time) and the current condition of the Crossing's railway signal lights;

AND WHEREAS The Corporation of the Township of St. Clair is seeking support in requesting that CSX Transportation officially discontinue the rail line in the area;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council for the Corporation of the County of Lambton support The Corporation of the Township of St. Clair regarding the proposed removal – and discontinuance – of the inactive railway and railway signal lights at the Crossing;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to CSX Transportation and the Canadian Minister of Transportation, the Hon. Omar Alghabra.

17. Other Business

18. Notice of By-Laws

- a) #15 of 2023 A By-Law to Set Tax Rate Reductions for Prescribed Property Subclasses for the Year 2023.
- b) #16 of 2023 A By-Law to Set Tax Ratios for Prescribed Property Classes for the Year 2023.
- c) #17 of 2023 A By-Law to Establish and Levy Tax Rates for Upper Tier Purposes for the Year 2023.
- d) #18 of 2024 A By-Law to Regulate the Operation of Low-Speed Vehicles on County Highways.
- e) #19 of 2023 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 3, 2023.

19. First and Second Reading of By-Laws

- a) #15 - #19 of 2023.

20. Third and Final Reading of By-Laws

- a) #15 - #19 of 2023.

21. ADJOURNMENT
Recommendation

That the Warden declare the meeting adjourned and that the next regular meeting of County Council be held on Wednesday, June 7, 2023 with the In-Camera Session to commence at 9:00 a.m.

22. O Canada!

A Non-Profit
on a Mission
to Help
Make
Mental
Health
Care
*Easier to
Find*



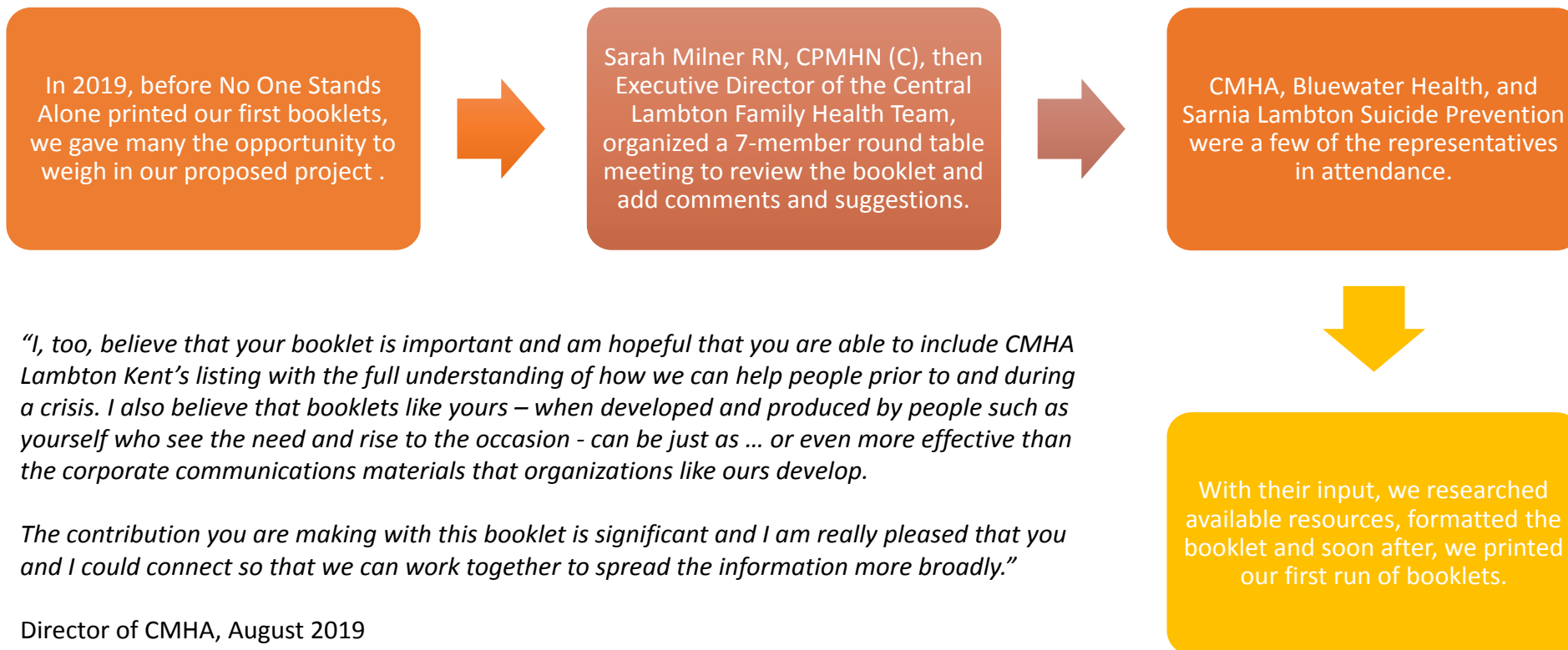
NO ONE
STANDS
ALONE



Mental health needs have increased considerably over the past few years, especially since the beginning of the pandemic. These needs continue to rise.

What was once 1 in 7 Canadians dealing with mental health issues in 2017 is now 1 in 4 people in 2023.

1 in 4 people means potentially *many thousands of people in the county* are in need



WE ARE FLATTENING THE CURVE

- I have had hundreds of interactions with others – email, phone calls and in-person conversations.
- People thanking me for producing the booklet
- People sharing their stories of mental health crises and how this booklet has made a difference/would have made a difference if it had been available years ago when needed

WHO IS ASKING FOR OUR BOOKLETS?

- Health care agencies and Blue Water Health staff are asking for copies on a weekly basis
- They've heard of it, they've seen it, and they say ***WE NEED IT!***

The Canadian Government has announced \$20 a month high speed Internet for hundreds of thousands of low-income families and seniors. They are spending 2.75 billion to implement this initiative, but unfortunately, it will be 4-7 years before there will be access everywhere to this low-cost service – perhaps as long as 2030.

Unfortunately, not everyone has access to the Internet. Many homeless and low-income families lack access to affordable internet services, and, not surprisingly, these are some of the people who may particularly need mental health care.

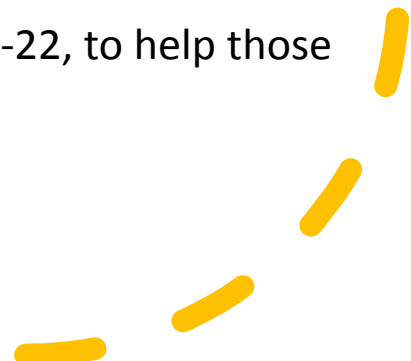
Why a booklet? Why not just look up help on the Internet?

Our booklet, however, is easily accessible and easily shareable!

That leaves vulnerable people in our midst who cannot access online services. People unable to access links or apps.

THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES THE NEED FOR MORE MENTAL HEALTH OPTIONS:

Budget 2021 provided significant funding for mental health care, including:

- \$100 million over three years, starting in 2021-22, to support the mental health of Canadians most affected by COVID-19;
 - \$140 million over five years, starting in 2021-22, to cover the mental health care costs of veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depressive, or anxiety disorders while their disability benefit application is being processed;
 - \$62 million in 2021-22 for the Wellness Together Canada portal;
 - \$45 million over two years, starting in 2021-22, to develop national standards for mental health care;
 - \$598 million over three years, starting in 2021-22, to support distinctions- based mental health and wellness strategies co-developed with Indigenous partners; and
 - \$50 million over two years, starting in 2021-22, to help those experiencing PTSD due to the pandemic.
- 

Continued:

- Providing \$45 million over two years, starting in 2021-22, to Health Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to help develop national mental health service standards, in collaboration with provinces and territories, health organizations, and key stakeholders.
- Providing \$100 million over three years, starting in 2021-22, to the Public Health Agency of Canada to support projects for innovative mental health interventions for populations disproportionately impacted by COVID 19, including health care workers, front-line workers, youth, seniors, Indigenous people, and racialized and Black Canadians.

That's 1.4 BILLION DOLLARS FOR MENTAL HEALTH

- Budget 2023 proposes to provide **\$158.4 million** over three years to support the implementation and operation of 988.
- As of November 30, 2023, Canadians would be able to call or text 988 at any time to access quality, effective, and immediate suicide prevention and mental health crisis support.

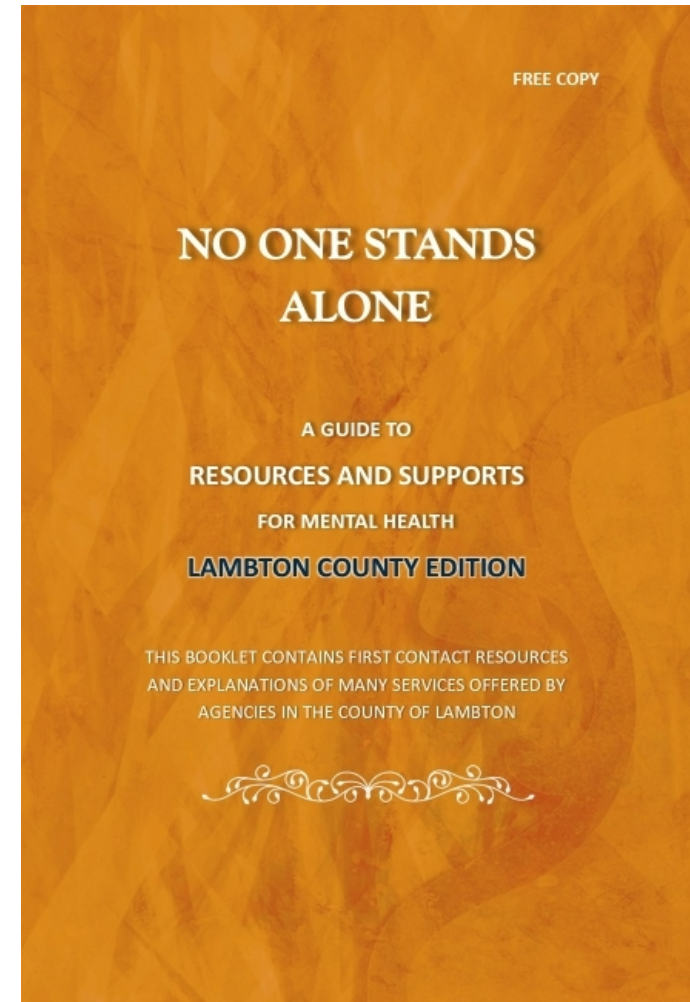
WHAT IS THE COST OF A LIFE?

For the past three years, we have supplied throughout the county, a minimum of 100 books per year to each of:

- 22 libraries
 - 11 municipal offices
 - 15 fire stations
 - and have donated booklets, 500 at a time, to minor hockey, figure skating and other sports clubs.
- 9 EMS Stations
8 Arenas

Approx. 8000 copies/year @ \$2.50/copy = \$20 000.00

All provided to county locations in support of the community, with no financial support from the county itself.



NO ONE STANDS ALONE

A GUIDE TO RESOURCES AND SUPPORTS FOR MENTAL HEALTH LAMBTON COUNTY EDITION

THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS FIRST CONTACT RESOURCES
AND EXPLANATIONS OF MANY SERVICES OFFERED BY
AGENCIES IN THE COUNTY OF LAMBTON



As you can see, if the county secured the funds for just these locations, the donations via fundraising events and municipal monies we are currently given could provide some of the funding we need for:

- Community copies
- YMCA Learning Centre
- Special Events coming up like Petrolia's 150th
- Tourism carts
- Special events across the 11 municipalities
- Youth and Senior organizations' events

With a commitment of \$20 000/year for 3 years from the county to continue to provide these booklets to county/municipal locations, we can confidently continue to fundraise and partner with local unions and service clubs to provide booklets to other county locations and fulfill agency requests.

It's important that people know they are not alone, and those suffering from suicidal thoughts need to be able to access timely, urgent support.



By helping those in need connect faster
and accurately we change the stigma and
save lives.

Can you put a number on that?

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**MINUTES
LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL**

April 5, 2023

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. The following members attended virtually: A. Broad, B. Loosley and D. Sageman. Also present was, Greg 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

#1: McRoberts/Ferguson: 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 February 1, 2023, pursuant to s. 239 (2)(d) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.
- b) to receive a report and provide instructions regarding the potential acquisition of property in the City of Sarnia, pursuant to s. 239(2)(c) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*
Carried.

Time: 9.02 a.m.

Open Session

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

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 February 1, 2023; and (b) provide staff instructions on the potential acquisition of property in the City of Sarnia.

Delegations

#2: Boushy/Case: That we invite the delegations within the Bar to speak to County Council.

Carried.

Lambton Federation of Agriculture and Ontario Federation of Agriculture

Brian Eves, President, Lambton Federation of Agriculture and Crispin Colvin, Vice President, Ontario Federation of Agriculture and Karen McLean, Member Services Representative, Federation of Agriculture spoke to County Council regarding potential Official Plan changes that would allow removal of agricultural lands from food production purposes in Lambton County either through expansion of settlement areas or any other reason. They also commented on suggestions of removing the development charges exemption from agricultural building permits.

Climate Action Sarnia Lambton

James Oatway, Climate Action Sarnia Lambton (CASL) spoke to County Council regarding City of Sarnia's Official Plan specifically regarding Bright's Grove land use. CASL also spoke to the several areas of concern regarding the much-enlarged area proposed for the development in Bright's Grove.

Sarnia Lambton Health Coalition

Shirley Roebuck, Co-Chair Sarnia Lambton Health Coalition spoke to Council regarding Healthcare in Sarnia-Lambton. Their belief is that solutions lie not in the privatization of services, but upon the better funding and staffing of our public hospitals.

#3: Bradley/White: That County Council endorse the Sarnia Lambton Health Coalition referendum and that County residents be urged to participate in this referendum.

Carried.

Lambton Farm Safety Association

Carlie (Douglas) Cox, Chair, Lambton Farm Safety Association presented Council with some areas of improvement in Lambton County to enhance safety for all residents and visitors in the region as well as programs that are ongoing across the County at various venues.

The Women of Ontario Say No

Tamara Batryn, representative of The Women of Ontario Say No spoke to County Council about the nature of Bill 5 and its importance as well as provide examples of incidents that are responsible for The Women of Ontario Say No to gain support needed to pass this Bill.

#4: Case/Ferguson: That County Council endorse Bill 5 and write a letter of support to local MPPs, Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and Liberal MPP for Orléans, Stephen Blais.

Carried.

Minutes of Council (Open Session)

The Lambton County Council (Open Session) minutes dated February 1, 2023 and County Council Budget Meeting minutes dated March 1, 2023 were presented.

#5: Agar/Atkinson: That the Lambton County Council (Open Session) minutes dated February 1, 2023 and the County Council Budget Meeting minutes dated March 1, 2023 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Correspondence to Receive and File

CC 04-02-23 A letter dated December 15, 2022 from Jasmin Ralph, Clerk, Lanark County regarding a motion passed to recognize the issues of violence in rural communities.

Motion #CC-2022-235

Moved by: R. Kidd Seconded by: B. Dowdall

Be it resolved that the Lanark County Council recognizes the issues of violence in rural communities as serious to health and wellness of local families; and

Be it further resolved that the Lanark County Council recognizes the rural Renfrew County Coroner's Inquest as important to all rural communities; and

Based on the statistics of 4815 crisis calls and service provision to 527 women and children in our local community, the Lanark County Council declares IPV (intimate partner violence)/VAW (violence against women) an epidemic as per recommendation #1 of the Renfrew County Coroner's jury recommendations; and

Lambton County Council (Open Session) April 5, 2023 (page 4)

That this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario, local MPs and MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Ministry of the Attorney General, Ministry of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, and the Federal Ministry of Women and Gender Equality.

CC 04-15-23 Sarnia-Lambton Ontario Health Team Collaboration Council Highlights from a meeting dated March 21, 2023.

#6: Veen/McRoberts: That correspondence CC 04-02-23 and CC 04-15-23 be received and filed.

Carried.

Correspondence from Member Municipalities

CC 04-01-23 A letter dated March 17, 2023 from Amy Burkhart, City Clerk, The Corporation of the City of Sarnia regarding the County of Lambton's Notice of Decision with respect to the new Sarnia Official Plan that was adopted on July 25, 2022. At its meeting held March 13, 2023, Sarnia City Council requested that Lambton County Council take a formal position on the County's decision to remove the Council directed settlement area boundary expansion that was included in the Plan adopted by Sarnia City Council:

Moved by Councillor Vandenberg, seconded by Councillor Dennis:

That Sarnia City Council direct staff to initiate the process requesting a CIHA Order for the directed Settlement Area 3 Boundary Expansion and that staff work with the proponents for separate CIHA applications for each landowner in Area 3 that pays an application fee and report back at the next council meeting.

Moved by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Dennis, and carried:

That Sarnia City Council table this matter pending a request to Lambton County Council to take a formal position on the County's decision to remove the Council directed settlement area boundary expansion that was included in the Plan adopted by Sarnia City Council.

*Correspondence was deferred to Item #12 (a) of the agenda.

CC 04-03-23 A resolution from Mandi Pearson, Clerk, Town of Petrolia dated March 14, 2023 regarding a call to the Provincial Government to End Homelessness in Ontario which was passed by Council on February 27, 2023. The Town of Petrolia is seeking endorsement on the resolution below.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Petrolia calls on the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a. Acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic, and health crisis;
- b. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario;
- c. Work with AMO and a broad range of community, health, Indigenous and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health; to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; County of Lambton Social Services.

#7: Loosley/Grimes: That County Council endorse the resolution in correspondence CC 04-03-23 as follows:

WHEREAS the homeless crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario;

WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is the result of the underinvestment and poor policy choices of successive provincial governments;

WHEREAS homelessness requires a range of housing, social service and health solutions from government;

WHEREAS homelessness is felt most at the level of local government and the residents that they serve;

WHEREAS municipalities and District Social Administration Boards are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity or tools to address this complex challenge; and,

WHEREAS leadership and urgent action is needed from the provincial government on an emergency basis to develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to prevent, reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Ontario.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Petrolia calls on the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a. Acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic, and health crisis;
- b. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario;
- c. Work with AMO and a broad range of community, health, Indigenous and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health; to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; County of Lambton Social Services.

Carried.

CC 04-14-23 A letter dated March 14, 2023 from Mandi Pearson, Clerk, Town of Petrolia regarding a resolution that was passed by the Town of Petrolia at its February 27, 2023 meeting to regarding future accuracy of the permanent register of electors. The Town of Petrolia is seeking endorsement on the resolution below.

THAT the Council of the Town of Petrolia support the Township of Ashfield-Colborne Wawanosh regarding Future Accuracy of the Permanent Register of Electors.

AND THAT the Council of the Town of Petrolia requests that the Province of Ontario, through Elections Ontario and the Chief Electoral Officer utilize any resources available to produce the highest quality Permanent Register of Electors;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to the Township of Ashfield-Colborne Wawanosh, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Elections Ontario, MPP Lisa Thompson, MPP Bob Bailey and Ontario Municipal Councils for their support.

#8: Loosley/Boushy: That County Council endorse the resolution in correspondence CC 04-14-23 as follows:

THAT the Council of the Town of Petrolia support the Township of Ashfield-Colborne Wawanosh regarding Future Accuracy of the Permanent Register of Electors.

AND THAT the Council of the Town of Petrolia requests that the Province of Ontario, through Elections Ontario and the Chief Electoral Officer utilize any resources available to produce the highest quality Permanent Register of Electors;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to the Township of Ashfield-Colborne Wawanosh, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Elections Ontario, MPP Lisa Thompson, MPP Bob Bailey and Ontario Municipal Councils for their support.

Carried.

Board of Health (Lambton Public Health)

Correspondence to Receive and File

CC 04-04-23 A letter from Trudy Sachowski, President, Association of Local Public Health Agencies, dated January 12, 2023, regarding the success of local public health campaigns in the past year to increase coverage against a range of vaccine preventable diseases.

CC 04-05-23 A letter from Stacy Wight, Board of Health Chair, Timiskaming Health Unit, dated February 8, 2023, advising of the passing of a motion supporting an amendment to the *Food and Drug Act* to make it mandatory that all alcohol beverage containers have enhanced alcohol warning labels.

CC 04-06-23 A letter from Trudy Sachowski, President, Association of Local Public Health Agencies, dated February 14, 2023, providing input on the financial requirements for a stable, locally based public health system as part of the provincial government's 2023 Pre-Budget consultation.

CC 04-07-23 A letter from Penny Sutcliffe, MOH and CEO, Public Health Sudbury & District, dated February 24, 2023, advising of the passing of a Resolution regarding funding for consumption and treatment services sites. Public Health Sudbury & District Board is urging the provincial government to immediately approve funding for Sudbury's Consumption and Treatment Services site.

CC 04-08-23 A letter from Penny Sutcliffe, MOH and CEO, Public Health Sudbury & District, dated February 24, 2023, advising of the passing of a Resolution regarding community engagement to address food insecurity. Public Health Sudbury & District Board is calling on the provincial government to incorporate local food affordability findings in determining adequacy of social assistance levels. The Board will be intensifying its work with relevant area agencies and community groups, and municipalities to shift the focus of food insecurity initiatives from food charity to income-based solutions.

CC 04-09-23 A letter from Fabio Costante, Chair, Windsor-Essex County Board of Health (WECHU) dated February 28, 2023, regarding physical literacy for healthy active children. WECHU Board of Health supports the letter from Sudbury & Districts Public Health to Directors of Education, Local School Board, Sports and Recreation Organizations and Early Learning Centres, encouraging them to work to improve physical activity levels among children and youth.

CC 04-10-23 A letter from Rick Champagne, Chairperson, Board of Health, North Bay Parry Sound Health Unit dated March 3, 2023 regarding food insecurity in Ontario. The Board is urging the provincial government to take action against food insecurity in Ontario.

CC 04-11-23 A letter from Trudy Sachowski, President, Association of Local Public Health Agencies, dated March 9, 2023, to congratulate the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health's (CMOH) on the release of its 2022 Annual Report to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, Being Ready, Ensuring Public Health Preparedness for Infectious Outbreaks and Pandemics and to reinforce the calls for investments in public health therein.

CC 04-12-23 A joint letter from Joe Preston, Chair, Board of Health and Cynthia St. John, Chief Executive Officer, Southwestern Public Health, dated March 24, 2023 expressing strong support for the Association of Local Public Health Agencies' 2023 Pre-Budget Submission (CC 04-06-23).

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CC 04-13-23 A letter from Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health dated March 24, 2023 regarding Lambton's Public Health's one-time funding amounts for the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 funding years to support the provision of public health programs and services in Lambton County.

#9: Miller/Veen: That correspondence CC 04-04-23, CC 04-05-23, CC 04-06-23, CC 04-07-23, CC 04-08-23, CC 04-09-23, CC 04-10-23, CC 04-11-23, CC 04-12-23 and CC 04-13-23 be received and filed.

Carried.

Information Reports

#10: Ferguson/Cook: That the following Information Reports from the Board of Health be received and filed:

- a) An Information Report dated April 5, 2023 regarding Lambton Public Health 2021 Annual Report.
- b) Information Report dated April 5, 2023 regarding Electronic Medical Record Implementation Update.
- c) Information Report dated April 5, 2023 regarding Food Safety Program Update.
- d) Information Report dated April 5, 2023 regarding After Action Review of Lambton Public Health's Covid-19 Pandemic Response and Summary of Lessons Learned.
- e) Information Report dated April 5, 2023 regarding Vapour Product Use among Lambton County Youth.

Carried.

Report Requiring a Motion

Board of Health

Report dated April 5, 2023 Regarding Lambton Drug and Alcohol Strategy – Next Steps for Implementation

#11: Bradley/White: That County Council approve the attached Lambton Drug and Alcohol Strategy for 2022-2023, and direct staff to work collaboratively with community stakeholders to pursue the implementation and evaluation of same.

Carried.

Information Report

INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION

Information Report dated April 5, 2023 Regarding Sarnia Official Plan Reconsideration

#12: Bradley/Dennis: That Staff return to Council with a report before or at the June 2023 Council meeting addressing and setting out a potential plan for the re-opening of the County Official Plan to address, amongst others, settlement boundaries set out therein.

Carried.

#13: Bradley/Dennis: Does County Council endorse Staff's decision to modify the Sarnia Official Plan amendment by removing therefrom the Bright's Grove settlement area from the City of Sarnia Official Plan amendment.

A recorded vote starting with Councillor Loosley was requested by Councillor Bradley on motion #13 of this day's minutes:

Councillor	Vote
J. Agar	No (3)
G. Atkinson	Yes(3)
D. Boushy	No (3)
M. Bradley	No (3)
A. Broad	No (1)
T. Case	No (2)
D. Cook	Yes (2)
B. Dennis	No (3)
D. Ferguson	Yes (1)
G. Grimes	No (1)
B. Loosley	No (2)
K. Marriott	Yes (1)
C. McRoberts	No (3)
S. Miller	No (2)
D. Sageman	Yes (2)
I. Veen	Yes (1)
B. White	No (3)

Yeas - 11; Nays - 26.

Items Not Requiring a Motion

#15: That the following Items not Requiring a Motion be received and filed:

a) Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership Board minutes dated November 22, 2022.

b) Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership Board minutes dated December 2, 2022.
Carried.

Lambton County Council (Open Session) April 5, 2023 (page 10)

Reports Requiring a Motion

INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION

Report dated April 5, 2023 Regarding Approvals of Official Plans and Official Plan Amendments for Local Municipalities

#16: Veen/McRoberts: That County Council adopt the proposed Amendment to By-Law 38 of 2002, as contained in By-Law 12 of 2023.

Carried.

CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION

Report dated April 5, 2023 Regarding Source Protection Committee – Lambton County Municipal Nominees

#17: Miller/Atkinson:

- a) That County Council nominate/appoint the individual listed in Schedule “A” attached to hereto as its municipal appointee to the T-S Region SPC.
- b) That once nominated by County Council, County Staff inform, in writing the T-S Region and the individual nominated/appointed, by no later than April 14, 2023.

Carried.

SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

Report dated April 5, 2023 Regarding Housing Supply Challenge

#18: White/McRoberts:

- a) That Staff partner with Wildscape Co. for a development on Kathleen Avenue under the Housing Supply Challenge.
- b) That Staff be authorized to commence the re-zoning process for the parcels of land on Kathleen Avenue in Sarnia.

Carried.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Report dated April 5, 2023 Regarding Deputy Clerk Appointments

#19: Cook/Case:

Lambton County Council (Open Session) April 5, 2023 (page 11)

- a) That Ryan Beauchamp and Ron Van Horne each be appointed Deputy Clerk of The Corporation of the County of Lambton for the period starting on April 2, 2023 and terminating on December 31, 2023.
- b) That an appropriate By-Law effecting the above-noted appointment be presented to County Council for its consideration.

Carried.

Committee Minutes

Mr. I. Veen presented the Committee A.M. minutes (including Board of Health) dated February 15, 2023.

#20: Veen/Agar: That the Committee A.M. minutes (including Board of Health) dated February 15, 2023 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Warden Marriott presented the Special Joint Meeting of the Standing Committees dated February 15, 2023.

#21: Case/Cook: That the Special Joint Meeting of the Standing Committees dated February 15, 2023 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Mr. D. Ferguson presented the Committee P.M. minutes dated February 15, 2023.

#22: Ferguson/Boushy: That the Committee P.M. minutes dated February 15, 2023 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Notice of Motion

Budget Procedure Changes

#22: Loosley/Bradley: That Council endorse the following resolution:

WHEREAS annually, when receiving the proposed County of Lambton Budget, the documents provided do not include imperative information from the previous years, as we are not provided actual amounts on the Analysis on the Tax Base—Combined and total expense comparison;

AND WHEREAS as members of County Council making important decisions of financial planning, without receiving the actuals from the previous year, it is difficult to understand

the financial picture we are deciding on, as we are being asked to approve a proposed next year budget without comparing amounts to the actual expenses of the previous year;

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that beginning with the 2024 budget and forward, a line be included to show the actuals of the previous year. It would be recommended that this information be placed between the previous year budget amounts and the proposed year budget amount and anywhere else deemed necessary.

A recorded vote starting with Councillor Ferguson was requested by Councillor Loosely on motion #21 of this day's minutes:

Councillor	Vote
J. Agar	No (3)
G. Atkinson	No(3)
D. Boushy	No (3)
M. Bradley	Yes (3)
A. Broad	No (1)
T. Case	No (2)
D. Cook	No (2)
B. Dennis	Yes (3)
D. Ferguson	No (1)
G. Grimes	Yes (1)
B. Loosley	Yes (2)
K. Marriott	Yes (1)
C. McRoberts	Yes(3)
S. Miller	No (2)
D. Sageman	No(2)
I. Veen	No (1)
B. White	No (3)

Yeas - 11; Nays - 26.

Motion Defeated

Other Business

Enbridge Communication

That a report be brought to the next County Council meeting regarding Enbridge's announcement of their intention to implement a new charge to third party contractors and other utilities for utility locates.

Lambton County Council (Open Session) April 5, 2023 (page 13)

By-Laws

#23: Cook/Atkinson: That By-Laws #11 to #14 of 2023, as circulated, be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried.

#24: Atkinson/Cook: That By-Laws #11 to #14 of 2023, as circulated, be taken as read a third time and finally passed.

Carried.

Adjournment

#25: Grimes/Atkinson: That the Warden declare the meeting adjourned and that the next regular meeting be held on Wednesday, May 3, 2023.

Carried.

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Kevin Marriott
Warden

Stéphane Thiffeault
County Clerk



All Ontario Municipalities

December 15, 2022

To Whom it May Concern:

On Wednesday December 14th, 2022 Lanark County Council passed the following motion:

MOTION #CC-2022-235

MOVED BY: R. Kidd **SECONDED BY:** B. Dowdall

Be it resolved that the Lanark County Council recognizes the issues of violence in rural communities as serious to the health and wellness of local families; and

Be it further resolved that the Lanark County Council recognizes the rural Renfrew County Coroner's Inquest as important to all rural communities; and

Based on the statistics of 4815 crisis calls and service provision to 527 women and children in our local community, the Lanark County Council declares IPV (intimate partner violence)/VAW (violence against women) an epidemic as per recommendation #1 of the Renfrew County Coroner's jury recommendations; and

That this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario, local MPs and MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Ministry of the Attorney General, Ministry of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, and the Federal Ministry of Women and Gender Equality.

Further background on the Renfrew Inquest Recommendations can be found at this link: https://lukesplace.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/CKW-Inquest-Verdict-Recommendations-SIGNED_Redacted.pdf

Thank you,

Jasmin Ralph, Clerk

Cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Scott Reid, MP, John Jordan, MPP, Ministries of the Attorney General, Justice, Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, and the Federal Ministry of Women's Issues.

99 Christie Lake Road, Perth, Ontario K7H 3C6
Tel: 1-888-9-LANARK or (613) 267-4200 Fax: (613) 267-2964 www.lanarkcounty.ca

CC 05-11-23



April 5, 2023

C00.2023

Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queens Park
Toronto, ON, M7A 1A4

Re: Barriers for Women in Politics

Please be advised that Council of the Township of Clearview, at its meeting held on April 3, 2023, passed a resolution supporting the correspondence/resolution from the Township of Lucan Biddulph regarding Barriers for Women in Politics:

Whereas, the Township of Clearview values equality and inclusivity in all areas of life, including politics;

Whereas, women have historically been underrepresented in politics, and continue to face barriers and discrimination in their pursuit of elected office;

Whereas, misogyny and harassment have been identified as significant challenges for women in politics, both in Canada and around the world;

Whereas, the Township of Clearview believes that all individuals have the right to participate in a political environment that is free from discrimination, harassment, and misogyny;

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Township of Clearview expresses its support for women in politics and their right to participate in a political environment that is free from misogyny and harassment, and where everyone feels equal.

Be It Further Resolved, that the Township of Clearview commits to taking steps to ensure that our political environment is inclusive and welcoming to all individuals, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or other identity factors.

Be It Further Resolved, that the Township of Clearview encourages other municipalities in Ontario and across Canada to join us in supporting women in politics and promoting gender equality in all areas of society.

Be It Further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all Ontario Municipalities for endorsement and the Premier of Ontario, to express the Township of Clearview's commitment to this issue and encourage action at the provincial level to create legislation to ensure equality, safety, and security.

Box 200, 217 Gideon St. • Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0 T: 705.428.6230 F: 705.428.0288

***.clearview.ca



If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sasha Helmkey".

Sasha Helmkey, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC
Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

cc: All Ontario Municipalities

Box 200, 217 Gideon St. • Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0 T: 705.428.6230 F: 705.428.0288

***.clearview.ca

CC 05-12-23

Staci Landry, Deputy Clerk
City of Owen Sound
808 2nd Avenue East
Owen Sound, ON N4K 2H4



Telephone: 519-376-4440 ext. 1235
Facsimile: 519-371-0511
Email: slandry@owensound.ca
Website: www.owensound.ca

April 4, 2023

Via email

To All Ontario Municipalities

Re: Support for Municipality of Chatham-Kent's Resolution re Reducing Municipal Insurance Costs

City Council, at its meeting held on March 27, 2023, considered the above-noted matter and passed Resolution No. R-230327-009 as follows:

"WHEREAS escalating insurance costs are one of this Council's Advocacy Priorities in the 2022-2023 Intergovernmental Action Plan;

AND WHEREAS at the January 12, 2023 Corporate Services Committee meeting, staff presented Report CR 23-008 that highlighted the City's annual insurance premiums have increased from \$782,331 to \$1,281,512 from 2020 to 2023, representing an accumulated increase of 64% over this period;

AND WHEREAS the annual increases to the City of Owen Sound's insurance premiums have been one of the most significant constraints in limiting yearly tax levy increases over the past four years;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT City Council directs staff to send a letter to all other municipalities in Ontario supporting the Municipality of Chatham-Kent calling for action to reduce insurance costs;

AND THAT the City Manager have staff participate in any groups that may be formed through the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) or directly with other municipalities to support this effort;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the AMO, Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Steve Clark, Attorney General, Doug Downey, MPP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound, Rick Byers, Premier Doug Ford, and MPP Marit Stiles, Leader of the Ontario New Democratic Party and Leader of the Opposition."

Staci Landry, Deputy Clerk
City of Owen Sound
808 2nd Avenue East
Owen Sound, ON N4K 2H4



Telephone: 519-376-4440 ext. 1235
Facsimile: 519-371-0511
Email: slandry@owensound.ca
Website: www.owensound.ca

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Staci Landry".

Staci Landry
Deputy Clerk

cc: Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Doug Downey, Attorney General
Rick Byers, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
Marit Stiles, Leader of the Ontario New Democratic Party and Leader of the Opposition
Association of Municipalities of Ontario



**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SARNIA
City Clerk's Department**

255 Christina Street N. PO Box 3018
Sarnia ON Canada N7T 7N2
519-332-0330 (phone) 519-332-3995 (fax)
519-332-2664 (TTY)
www.sarnia.ca clerks@sarnia.ca

April 20, 2023

Stéphane Thiffeault
Chief Administrative Officer
The Corporation of the County of Lambton
789 Broadway Street Box 3000
Wyoming, Ontario N0N 1T0
stephane.thiffeault@county-lambton.on.ca

Dear Mr. Thiffeault:

Sarnia City Council received the attached sponsorship request from Ms. Debb Pitel, the founder of No One Stands Alone, to support the production and distribution of mental health resource booklets in the community.

At its meeting held on April 17, 2023, Sarnia City Council adopted the following resolution:

That Sarnia City Council refer the request from No One Stands Alone regarding the Need for Mental Health Help to Lambton County Council for consideration.

On behalf of Sarnia City Council, I am requesting that the sponsorship request be placed before Lambton County Council for its consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy Burkhart'.

Amy Burkhart
City Clerk

Attached: Request from No One Stands Alone

The Need for Mental Health Help is High – Will You Help Us Save Lives?

Debb Pitel is the founder of No One Stands Alone – a non-profit in support of mental health. What do we do here? In a nutshell, we research local, first contact mental health agencies and compile them into a booklet that we make available to our communities, free for the taking, in many locations where you can grab one and go. These booklets have a plethora of good information to help those who need mental health help and don't know where to turn.

Debb knows the frustration of not being able to easily find help when someone is struggling. Over 20 years ago, she lost a son to suicide, and since then, she has been an advocate for mental health. When, after years of talking to agencies about compiling a community resource book and not getting a lot of support to get it off the ground, she decided to tackle it herself.

No one else was willing to do the research and put together all local resources in one book. And now, No One Stands Alone exists, printing and distributing 10's of thousands of copies of the No One Stands Alone Guide to Mental Health Resources throughout local communities in Lambton and Chatham-Kent.

Even our government recognizes the need for easily accessible mental health care, as seen by the publications they've set out recently.

<https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1002662/ontario-expanding-mental-health-services-for-children-and-youth-in-every-corner-of-the-province>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2022/06/government-of-canada-invests-86m-in-mental-health-promotion.html>

Presently, we receive no provincial funding to do this. We count on the generosity of sponsorships and donations to be able to keep producing our booklets, updating them as new resources become available. Many of our local community governments contribute funding to keep booklets in their areas, but we are still working on funding in other communities, because ALL communities need this resource to be easily accessible. We place them in public places so you never need an appointment to get one. It's small enough to tuck into a purse or backpack, and easy to give to someone in crisis when you don't know how else to help them. These booklets have the potential to save lives.

Accurate. Easy to use or share when words aren't there. We've done the research so that you can get the 'who and how' *instantly*.

We welcome sponsorships from local governments, local businesses and from those in the community who want to help us in our mission, connecting community with care. For more information, see (this link on the site).

BOH 05-05-23



210 First Street North
Kenora, ON P9N 2K4

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., MP
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

via email: justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca**Re: Alcohol Health Warning Labels**

On March 3, 2023, at a regular meeting of the Board of Health for the Northwestern Health Unit, the Board received a report titled *Update to Canada's Guidance on Alcohol and Health*.

The report outlined the following:

- Northwestern Health Unit (NWHU) catchment area has the highest rates in the province for ER visits and hospitalizations attributable to alcohol:
 - o ER visits due to alcohol: NWHU rate of 7,486.6 per 100,000 in 2021, **13 times as high as the provincial rate** of 543.3 per 100,000⁸
 - o Hospitalization due to alcohol: 1,498.9 per 100,000, **7 times as high as the provincial rate** of 210.9 per 100,000⁹
- NWHU Self-report data from 2019/20 also reveals higher heavy drinking rates than the province:¹⁰
 - o Proportion of people reporting heavy drinking in the NWHU is 20.2%, statistically higher than the province (15.6%). This rate has decreased from the 25.5% reported in 2015/16.

Considering the health harms associated with alcohol and the benefits of alcohol health warning labels, the Board of Health passed the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northwestern Health Unit (NWHU) Board of Health call on the Government of Canada to amend the Food and Drug Act to make mandatory that all alcohol beverage containers have enhanced alcohol labels affixed:

1. Indicating what constitutes a standard drink;
2. Illustrating the number of standard drinks in the beverage container; and
3. Displaying health messages regarding adverse health outcomes, including the cancer risks associated with the consumption of alcohol.

AND FURTHER THAT the Northwestern Health Unit Board of Health endorse, in principle, [Bill S254](#) – An Act to Amend the Food and Drug Act (Warning Labels on

Celebrating 75 years of local public health

Alcoholic Beverages) and [Motion M-61](#) A National Warning Label Strategy for Alcoholic Products.

The Northwestern Health Unit fully supports the above recommendation, and thanks you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Douglas Lawrance
Chair, Board of Health, Northwestern Health Unit

Copy to:

- Hon. Eric Melillo, Member of Parliament, Kenora
- Hon. Marcus Powlowski, Member of Parliament, Thunder Bay - Rainy River
- Hon. Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Health
- Dr. Theresa Tam, Chief Public Health Officer of Canada
- Hon. Greg Rickford, Member of Provincial Parliament, Kenora - Rainy River
- Hon. Sol Mamakwa, Member of Provincial Parliament, Kiiwetinoong
- Hon. Kevin Holland, Member of Provincial Parliament, Thunder Bay - Atikokan
- Dr. Kieran Moore, CMOH
- Chair of the *Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health*
- Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies
- Ontario Boards of Health
- Canadian Public Health Association
- Rainy River District Ontario Health Team
- All Nations Health Partners Ontario Health Team
- Kiiwetinoong Healing Waters Ontario Health Team

**BOH 05-06-23**

Jackson Square, 185 King Street, Peterborough, ON K9J 2R8
 P: 705-743-1000 or 1-877-743-0101
 F: 705-743-2897
peterboroughpublichealth.ca

March 3, 2023

Medical Officer of Health Urges Province to Explore Improvements to Ontario Building Code to Improve Indoor Air Quality

The Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP
 Minister of Health, Ontario
sylvia.jones@ontario.ca

The Honourable Steve Clark, MPP
 Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Ontario
minister.mah@ontario.ca

Dear Honourable Ministers:

Re: Improved Indoor Air Quality in Public Settings

We've learned a great deal about COVID-19 since the pandemic began, most notably, is that **COVID-19 is an airborne virus**,¹ and does not spread as easily as we once thought by touching contaminated surfaces.² The Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety states that "the virus that causes COVID-19 spreads from a person that is infected through the air, by respiratory droplets and aerosols."³ Additionally, the Ontario Science Table noted that "aerosols play a role in the transmission of SARS-CoV-2, especially in poorly ventilated indoor areas."⁴

While provincially legislated 'lockdowns', mask mandates, and gathering limits may be behind us, the COVID-19 pandemic is not over. With all that we have learned, **improvements to indoor air quality of the spaces we occupy are necessary and life-saving** to truly control how the SARS-CoV2 virus and other respiratory/airborne pathogens spread. One important strategy to support this change would be through consideration of simple amendments to the Ontario Building Code (OBC).

Canada's Chief Science Advisor recommends that owners and operators of indoor public facilities "scale-up and monitor effective prevention interventions, such as improving ventilation in schools, workplaces and public places as part of a first line of prevention of SARS-CoV2 infection and other respiratory/airborne pathogens."⁵ These sentiments are echoed by the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) Indoor Air Quality group who have created many tools and resources to help Ontarians. [Recommendations](#) OSPE have developed, include:

- increasing the minimum number of air exchanges to at least 6 per hour in any indoor occupied space;
- improving ventilation requirements to follow the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) and the Canadian Standards Association;
- ensuring that HVAC systems and portable units use at least MERV 13 rated filters, and that portable filters with HEPA filters are in occupied spaces where air quality is a concern;
- having certified technicians install upper room ultraviolet germicidal systems; and
- committing to public transparency about the air quality of a space.⁶

Plainly, we need to action these evidence-based approaches and apply science to the laws that protect the residents of Ontario. O. Reg. 332/12: Building Code, Part 9 (Housing and Small Buildings), subsection 9.32.1.3 (3) speaks to the ventilation of rooms and spaces, however, falls short of OSPE recommendations of at least 6 air exchanges per hour and the use of HEPA filters or filters with a MERV 13 rating in HVAC systems.⁷

Amending the OBC to include these requirements would bolster the defined purpose of the Building Code, which includes standards for public health and safety.

We must start including the quality of the air we breathe when we think of and refer to the safety of indoor settings. The OBC, like other building and construction codes in Canada, emphasizes air tightness and energy efficiency to cope with winter cold and summer heat, and while these too are important objectives, this may unintentionally result in poorly or under-ventilated public and private settings, creating additional threats to public health and safety.⁸

While we recognize the cost-implications of these changes, they could be operationalized in a way to minimally impact builders. Building housing supply is also a critical priority and so, economic considerations should factor in to changes to OBC. However, low to no cost solutions exist to improve indoor air quality.

Peterborough Public Health (PPH) recently identified that because of local and provincial protections, 265-291 lives were saved in the area served by our Health Unit⁹, while the CD HOWE Institute found that vaccines alone contributed to a “cost/benefit of -\$0.4 billion to \$2.1 billion without considering mortality.”¹⁰ Including the value of reduced mortality, this figure balloons to “\$27.6 billion, dwarfing the costs of the vaccines and savings associated with averting more minor cases.”¹¹ Given that a multilayer approach – including improved ventilation – is needed when preventing the transmission of COVID-19, **it is clear that the costs of inaction with the toll of COVID-19 transmission and other respiratory viruses is significant.**

As the Chair of our Board of Health, I am writing to you today, imploring you to thoroughly examine the OBC, and to identify opportunities to make changes to the Code that can be implemented to improve indoor air quality and provide increased protection for residents of Ontario.

The staff at PPH and I are ready to support your teams in moving this forward; please don’t hesitate to reach out if we can be of assistance.

Respectfully,

Original signed by

Councillor Kathryn Wilson
Chair, Board of Health

/ag

cc: Local MPPs
Curve Lake First Nation
Hiawatha First Nation
Association of Local Public Health Agencies
Ontario Boards of Health

-
- ¹ Public Health Agency of Canada. (2022). COVID-19: Main modes of transmission. Retrieved October 18, 2022 from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/health-professionals/main-modes-transmission.html>
- ² Chen T. (2021) Fomites and the COVID-19 pandemic: An evidence review on its role in viral transmission. Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health. Retrieved October 12, 2022 from <https://ncceh.ca/documents/evidence-review/fomites-and-covid-19-pandemic-evidence-review-its-role-viral-transmission>
- ³ Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). (2022). COVID-19 transmission through short and long-range respiratory particles. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario. Retrieved October 11, 2022 from https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/Documents/nCoV/phm/2022/01/covid-19-respiratory-transmission-range.pdf?sc_lang=en
- ⁴ Science M, Thampi N, Bitnun A, et al. (2022). Infection prevention and control considerations for schools during the 2022- 2023 academic year. Science Briefs of the Ontario COVID-19 Science Advisory Table. Retrieved October 11, 2022 from https://covid19-sciencetable.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Infection-Prevention-and-Control-Considerations-for-Schools-During-the-2022-2023-Academic-Year_20220825_published.pdf
- ⁵ Chief Science Advisor of Canada. (2022). Post-COVID-19 Condition in Canada: What We Know, What We Don't Know and a Framework for Action. Retrieved December 15, 2022 from, https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/science/sites/default/files/attachments/2022/Pre-Report_PCC_Dec2022.pdf
- ⁶ Ontario Society of Professional Engineers. (2022). Indoor Air Quality Reports. Retrieved December 8, 2022 from <https://ospe.on.ca/indoor-air-quality/>.
- ⁷ Ibid.
- ⁸ Eykelbosh A. Public health and public libraries in partnership to promote healthy indoor air quality [blog]. Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2022 Sep 14. Retrieved October 18, 2022 from: <https://ncceh.ca/content/blog/public-health-and-public-libraries-partnership-promote-healthy-indoor-air-quality>
- ⁹ Peterborough Public Health. (2022). Peterborough Public Health Thanks Community for Efforts in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic to Date. Retrieved March 2, 2023 from <https://www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/peterborough-public-health-thanks-community-for-efforts-in-response-to-the-covid-19-pandemic-to-date/>
- ¹⁰ Wyonch, Rosalie, and Tingting Zhang. 2022. Damage Averted: Estimating the Effects of COVID-19 Vaccines on Hospitalizations, Mortality and Costs in Canada. Commentary 634. Toronto: C.D. Howe Institute. Retrieved March 3, 2023 from https://www.cdhowe.org/sites/default/files/2023-01/Commentary_634.pdf
- ¹¹ Ibid.

**BOH 05-07-23**

Jackson Square, 185 King Street, Peterborough, ON K9J 2R8
P: 705-743-1000 or 1-877-743-0101
F: 705-743-2897
peterboroughpublichealth.ca

March 8, 2023

Medical Officer of Health Urges Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development to Explore Improvements to Occupational Health and Safety Act to Improve Indoor Air Quality

The Honourable Monte McNaughton, MPP
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Ontario
Minister.MLTSD@ontario.ca

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Improved Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) in Public Settings

We've learned a great deal about COVID-19 since the pandemic began, most notably, is that **COVID-19 is an airborne virus**,¹ and does not spread as easily as we once thought by touching contaminated surfaces.² The Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety states that "the virus that causes COVID-19 spreads from a person that is infected through the air, by respiratory droplets and aerosols."³ Additionally, the Ontario Science Table noted that "aerosols play a role in the transmission of SARS-CoV-2, especially in poorly ventilated indoor areas."⁴

While provincially legislated 'lockdowns', mask mandates, and gathering limits may be behind us, the COVID-19 pandemic is not over. With all that we have learned, **improvements to indoor air quality of the spaces we occupy are necessary and life-saving** to truly control how the SARS-CoV2 virus and other respiratory/airborne pathogens spread. One important strategy to support this change would be through consideration of simple amendments to the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA), to include the recommendations listed in many of the resources linked from the Province's own COVID-19 and workplace health and safety website⁵.

Canada's Chief Science Advisor recommends that owners and operators of indoor public facilities "scale-up and monitor effective prevention interventions, such as improving ventilation in schools, workplaces and public places as part of a first line of prevention of SARS-CoV2 infection and other respiratory/airborne pathogens."⁶ These sentiments are echoed by the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) Indoor Air Quality group who have created many tools and resources to help Ontarians. [Recommendations](#) OSPE have developed, include:

- increasing the minimum number of air exchanges to at least 6 per hour in any indoor occupied space;
- improving ventilation requirements to follow the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) and the Canadian Standards Association;
- ensuring that HVAC systems and portable units use at least MERV 13 rated filters, and that portable filters with HEPA filters are in occupied spaces where air quality is a concern;
- having certified technicians install upper room ultraviolet germicidal systems; and
- committing to public transparency about the air quality of a space.⁷

Plainly, we need to action these evidence-based approaches and apply science to the laws that protect the workers of Ontario. Given that there are currently no regulations beyond 'general duty' clauses in the OHSA that regulate IAQ,⁸ amendments would ensure protections are in place to keep workers safe, and subsequently keep the economy open.

O. Reg. 332/12: Building Code, Part 9 (Housing and Small Buildings), subsection 9.32.1.3 (3) speaks to the ventilation of rooms and spaces, however, falls short of OSPE recommendations of at least 6 air exchanges per hour and the use of HEPA filters or filters with a MERV 13 rating in HVAC systems.⁹ **Amending the OHSA to include these requirements would bolster the defined purpose of the Act** which states that the Minister shall "promote occupational health and safety and to promote the prevention of workplace injuries and occupational diseases."¹⁰

We must start including the quality of the air we breathe when we think of and refer to the safety of indoor settings, and protection of Ontario workers.

While we recognize the cost-implications of these changes, they could be operationalized in a way to minimally impact owners and operators of fixed premises. Keeping workplaces open is also a critical priority and so, economic considerations should factor in to changes to OHSA. However, low to no cost solutions exist to improve indoor air quality.

Peterborough Public Health (PPH) recently identified that because of local and provincial protections, 265-291 lives were saved in the area served by our Health Unit¹¹, while the CD HOWE Institute found that vaccines alone contributed to a "cost/benefit of -\$0.4 billion to \$2.1 billion without considering mortality."¹² Including the value of reduced mortality, this figure balloons to "\$27.6 billion, dwarfing the costs of the vaccines and savings associated with averting more minor cases."¹³ Given that a multilayer approach – including improved ventilation – is needed when preventing the transmission of COVID-19, **it is clear that the costs of inaction with the toll of COVID-19 transmission and other respiratory viruses is significant.**

As the Chair of our Board of Health, I am writing to you today, imploring you to thoroughly examine the OHSA, and to identify opportunities to make changes to the Act that can be implemented to improve indoor air quality and provide increased protection for workers in Ontario.

The staff at PPH and I are ready to support your teams in moving this forward; please don't hesitate to reach out if we can be of assistance.

Respectfully,

Original signed by

Councillor Kathryn Wilson
Chair, Board of Health

/ag

cc: Local MPPs
Curve Lake First Nation
Hiawatha First Nation
Association of Local Public Health Agencies
Ontario Boards of Health

-
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- ⁹ Ontario Society of Professional Engineers. (2022). Indoor Air Quality Reports. Retrieved December 8, 2022 from <https://ospe.on.ca/indoor-air-quality/>.
- ¹⁰ Occupational Health and Safety Act. (2022). Retrieved March 6, 2023 from <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90o01>
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- ¹³ Ibid.

BOH 05-08-23



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HAMILTON

April 3, 2023

VIA: Mail and Email

ATTN: Hon. Sylvia Jones
Minister of Health
Ministry of Health
5th Floor
777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Sylvia.Jones@pc.ola.org

**RE: 2023 PHS Annual Service Plan & Budget Submission; Support for
Sufficient, Stable and Sustained Funding for Local Public Health
Agencies**

Dear Hon. Sylvia Jones,

The Board of Health (BOH) for the City of Hamilton Public Health Services is committed to achieving our mandate of keeping Hamiltonians healthy, preventing disease, and reducing health inequities as articulated in the Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS). However, we have concerns about our ability to meet the growing needs of our community with current provincial funding. At its meeting on March 20, 2023, the BOH endorsed the following recommendations included in Board of Health Report BOH23011:

- That the Board of Health reiterate their call to the Ministry of Health to fully fund the provincial portion, at least 70%, of the total costs of the mandatory public health programs and services provided under the Ontario Public Health Standards;

71 MAIN STREET WEST, 2ND FLOOR, HAMILTON, ONTARIO L8P 4Y5 PHONE 905.546.4200 FAX: 905.546.2340

- That the Board of Health reiterate their call to the Ministry of Health to continue the current mitigation funding until such time as the cost-shared arrangement is restored to 75%/25% for all cost-shared programs and that the Province once again assumes 100% funding for those programs identified as such in the public health budget for 2018-2019; and,
- That the Board of Health call on the Ministry of Health to include expectations for on-going COVID-19 response in the Ontario Public Health Standards and provide permanent funding to sustain these requirements.

As with other health units across the province, the deployment of significant Hamilton Public Health Services (HPHS) staff to the COVID-19 emergency response for over 2.5 years meant less ability to focus on other important public health issues. This impacted service delivery in many program areas and resulted in service backlogs and deficits of care in our community. Now that we have emerged from the crisis phase of the COVID-19 response, HPHS has been working to resume OPHS-mandated programs and services and address the deficits of care, while also continuing to respond to COVID-19. In addition, many long-standing health issues have been worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic and require focus and attention in planning and resourcing in order to achieve significant gains. HPHS has identified priority action areas to address Hamilton's priority population health needs of child and youth healthy growth and development, climate change, health equity, and mental health and substance use.

In October 2021, Hamilton's previous BOH wrote to the previous Health Minister endorsing letters from Peterborough Public Health and the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit identifying the need for additional ongoing support as Ontario's public health units continued to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, support was requested to relieve the following financial pressures:

- Increased wage, benefit and operational costs due to inflation;
- New and expanded programs that were added to the OPHS;
- Resources required to address deficits of care;
- Increased demand for public health services to support community pandemic recovery; and,
- Continued support for COVID-19 response.

In 2022, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aLPHa) submitted a report to the provincial government to further demonstrate the need for additional investments in public health required to clear the service backlog, resume routine programs and services, and maintain an effective pandemic response. Recently, as part of their 2023 pre-budget submission, aLPHa re-iterated their call to the Province to immediately revert to the 75%/25% provincial-municipal public health cost-sharing formula, along with a pledge to continue 100% funding for programs that have been traditionally underwritten by the Province. Furthermore, in his 2022 Annual Report entitled "Being Ready, Ensuring Public Health Preparedness for Infectious Outbreaks and Pandemics" the Chief Medical Officer of Health calls for sustained investments in strengthening the

public health sector to ensure preparedness. Hamilton's BOH endorses these calls for sufficient and sustained funding for public health and agrees that it is more efficient and effective to invest in preparedness than to pay the much higher and heavier costs of being unprepared.

Through HPHS' 2023 ASPB submission it has been assessed that even with the provincial mitigation funding, the anticipated provincial subsidy will only be approximately 70% of the total costs of mandatory programs in 2023, a shortfall of \$2.3M. With the mitigation funding expected to end in 2023, HPHS will have substantial cost pressures in 2024 and beyond. For HPHS to fully address Hamilton's priority population health needs, restoration of the mixed 75%/25% Provincial/Municipal and 100% Provincial funding model is required.

Additionally, COVID-19 requires dedicated resources to sustain the on-going response, including case and contact management, outbreak management, infection prevention and control, immunization, surveillance, communication, pandemic preparedness and enforcement activities. The Hamilton BOH agrees with alPHA that language in the public health mandate (i.e., OPHS) and permanent funding is required to sustain these efforts.

Realizing these substantial cost pressures in 2023 and beyond, the Hamilton BOH urges the provincial government to:

- Fully fund the provincial portion, at least 70%, of the total costs of the mandatory public health programs and services provided under the OPHS;
- Continue the current mitigation funding until such time as the cost-shared arrangement is restored to the mixed 100% and 75%/25% model as it was in the public health budget for 2018-2019; and,
- Include expectations for on-going COVID-19 response in the OPHS and provide permanent funding to sustain these requirements.

The work of public health, done in collaboration with local partners and within the broader public health system, results in a healthier population that contributes to a stronger economy while preserving costly and scarce health care resources. For the health of our population, it is critical that public health be adequately resourced. A clear commitment by the Province to developing a process that ensures timely, predictable and sufficient funding is needed. While mitigation funding from the Province has been helpful, clearer and more timely assurances of funding for both routine and extraordinary public health activities will be required to inform budgets over multiple years.

Our Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, would be happy to meet with your staff to discuss this further as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrea Horwath", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Andrea Horwath

Mayor

City of Hamilton

CC:

Hon. Neil Lumsden, MPP, Hamilton East – Stoney Creek

Monique Taylor, MPP, Hamilton Mountain

Sarah Jama, MPP, Hamilton Centre

Sandy Shaw, MPP, Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas

Donna Skelly, MPP, Flamborough-Glanbrook

Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health

Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa)

Ontario Boards of Health



BOH 05-09-23

April 11, 2023

VIA EMAIL

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

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Minimum Wage Increase

Public Health Sudbury & Districts (Public Health) would like to extend its sincere congratulations to the Ontario government for the increase of the minimum to \$16.55 an hour in the fall. Public Health supports the government's efforts to help individuals and families combat the cost of living. The announced 6.8 per cent pay raise is a positive step to assist workers who are still struggling post-pandemic with rising costs of housing, food, and transportation.

Our support for an increase in minimum wage comes from overwhelming evidence confirming the link between income and health, whereby health improves every step of the income ladder. Adequate income not only removes the barriers, stressors, and challenges to achieving health but also decreases the risk of premature morbidity and mortality and increases physical and mental health across the life course. In relation to health and income, the Board of Health passed a Motion (#53-19), Opportunities for All – Poverty Reduction on November 21, 2019:

WHEREAS income is one of the strongest predictors of health and local data show that low income is associated with an increased risk of poor physical and mental health in Sudbury and districts; and

WHEREAS Public Health Sudbury & Districts annual Nutritious Food Basket reports demonstrate that individuals and families reliant on the current provincial social assistance rates or that earn a minimum wage will experience challenges in supporting their health including meeting their nutrition requirements; and

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Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

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phsd.ca



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

Letter to the Premier of Ontario
Re: Minimum Wage Increase
April 11, 2023
Page 2 of 3

WHEREAS income solutions incorporate the health enhancing influence of work while addressing food security and the health damaging impacts of insufficient income; and

WHEREAS the Sudbury Workers Education and Advocacy Centre calculated a living wage for Sudbury of \$16.98 (current provincial minimum is \$14.00), and the City of Greater Sudbury proclaimed November 3 – 9, 2019 as Living Wage Week; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts formally endorse the principle of living wage employment and direct the Medical Officer of Health to pursue certification; and

FURTHER that the Board encourages all employers across our service area to recognize the serious health and societal costs of inadequate income.

While we welcome this increase, we think it is important to underscore that minimum wage is the lowest wage rate an employer can pay an employee, which is different from a living wage. A living wage is an income sufficient for families to pay for the basic necessities of life so they can live with dignity and participate as active citizens in our society. The current living wage calculation for Sudbury and districts is \$19.70 per hour compared to the newly announced minimum wage for the province in the fall of \$16.55.

Our agency is dedicated to building a resilient and healthy workplace and to encouraging this approach across employers in the communities that we serve. In support of this, Public Health is certified as a Living Wage Employer. All staff members qualify for a living wage, which reflects the income workers must bring home to meet their basic living needs and participate more fully in life, work, and community.

Public Health Sudbury & Districts is a progressive public health agency committed to improving health and reducing social inequities in health. The minimum wage, even with the upcoming increase, will fall short of the income needed for individuals to pay for basic needs. As your government considers future adjustments to the minimum wage, we urge you to consider the living wage rate calculations for Ontarians, with the understanding that an adequate income aligned with a living wage can contribute to increased physical and mental health outcomes of Ontarians and reduce costs associated with premature morbidity and mortality.

Sincerely,



René Lapierre
Chair, Board of Health

Letter to the Premier of Ontario
Re: Minimum Wage Increase
April 11, 2023
Page 3 of 3

cc: All Ontario Boards of Health
Association of Local Public Health Agencies
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
Honourable Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and
Skills Development
Jamie West, Member of Provincial Parliament, Sudbury
France Gélinas, Member of Provincial Parliament, Nickel Belt
Michael Mantha, Member of Provincial Parliament, Algoma-Manitoulin-
Kapuskasing



PUBLIC 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 3, 2023
INFORMATION ITEM:	Rabies Prevention and Control Program Update

BACKGROUND

The Ontario Public Health Standards require public health departments 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.

This report provides an update on the Rabies Prevention and Control Program in Lambton County and provides an update on raccoon rabies in Ontario. The last update on this program was provided to County Council through the Committee A.M. report dated May 18, 2022.

DISCUSSION

Human rabies is rare in Canada, due largely to excellent prevention and control programs. Since 1924, a total of 25 people in six provinces have died of rabies in Canada: Quebec (12), Ontario (6), 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, 2022).

In Ontario, the prevention and control of rabies involves the collaborative effort of multiple stakeholders. Public health departments, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) 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.

Lambton Public Health (LPH) and other public health departments 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 2013-2022.

If necessary, Public Health Inspectors enforce provincial legislation that requires all cats and dogs over three months of age to be vaccinated for rabies. In 2022, LPH issued 16 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, seven low-cost rabies vaccination clinics are held within Lambton County each spring. The clinics are always well attended. LPH sponsors these low-cost clinics by providing advertising for them. Clinics were cancelled in 2020 and in 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions but resumed in 2022 with 404 dogs and 114 cats being vaccinated. Seven clinics are scheduled across the County during the spring of 2023. See Appendix B for the list of scheduled clinics.

Positive cases of animal rabies remain low in Lambton County with only six cases identified since 2013. All six cases were in bats. In 2022, there were 61 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.

In July 2021, a dog imported from Iran tested positive for rabies in Ontario. In January 2022, a second dog, also imported from Iran, developed symptoms of rabies and tested positive for the disease in Toronto. Both cases were found to have been infected with a canine rabies virus variant that is known to circulate in Iran. These two cases mark the first time the rabies virus has been seen in imported dogs in Canada. Both dogs met import rabies vaccination requirements at the time of entry to Canada. These two canine rabies cases resulted in 51 people receiving rabies post-exposure prophylaxis, and many hours of follow-up by staff in several different health departments (CCDR, 2022, 2023).

Due to these cases, and similar instances occurring in the USA, the Government of Canada instituted a ban on the importation of commercial dogs from over 100 countries considered to be high risk for canine rabies. Commercial dogs include dogs that are

imported for resale, adoption, fostering, breeding, show or exhibition, research, and other purposes (Government of Canada, 2022). While this ban should help to reduce the threat of imported canine rabies into Canada, vigilance and education is still needed among the public health and veterinary communities, as well as for those would-be recipients of adopted dogs.

Public education continues to be an important part of the rabies prevention and control program. While educational initiatives in the community were largely paused during the pandemic, they have resumed in 2023. 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.

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 6, 2023, there have been 518 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.

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 arctic fox strain rabies as well as live trapping and vaccinating (trap-vaccinate-release) in designated areas. The Ontario MNRF, OMAF, Ontario Ministry of Health and affected health units continue to work closely to monitor and contain the raccoon rabies strain. On-going 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. At the time of writing this report, the MNRF had not yet finalized and communicated the details of the 2023 baiting program plan. Details are expected to be announced within the next month.

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-shared 70% provincially and 30% municipally.

CONSULTATIONS

None.

STRATEGIC PLAN

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

Appendix "A"**Summary of Rabies Investigations Conducted by Lambton Public Health 2013-2022**

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

* Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis

Appendix "B"

Low-cost Rabies Vaccination Clinics Offered in Lambton County – 2023

Protect your pets

Rabies Vaccination Clinic

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)

Dawn-Euphemia March 25, 2023 Rutherford Public Works Garage 4590 Lambton Line 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Dawn-Euphemia Community Centre 6213 Mill Street, Florence 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. April 1, 2023 Cairo Public Works Garage 4465 Rokeby Line, Petrolia 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Brooke-Alvinston April 15, 2023 Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre 3310 Walnut St 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Oil Springs May 6, 2023 Oil Springs Fire Hall 4589 Oil Springs Line 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Bright's Grove April 15, 2023 Bright's Grove Animal Hospital 2684 Lakeshore Road 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Enniskillen May 13, 2023 Enniskillen Works Garage 4465 Rokeby Line 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

 **Lambton Public Health**
www.lambtonpublichealth.ca

Table 1
Animal Rabies Cases in Ontario in 2022

Summary of rabies cases by region in 2022 (with data from the [Canadian Food Inspection Agency](#))

Species	Strain type	County	Number
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Brant	1
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Bruce	2
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Dufferin	1
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Durham	1
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Haldimand	1
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Halton	1
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Hamilton	6
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Huron	1
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Lanark	1
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Niagara	1
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Norfolk	2
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Peel	2
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Peterborough	1
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Prescott & Russell	1
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Prince Edward	1
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Simcoe	3
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Toronto	4
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Kawartha Lakes	1
Big Brown Bat	Bat	Wellington	1
Dog	Dog ¹	Toronto	1
Little brown bat	Bat	Ottawa-Carleton	1
Raccoon	Raccoon	Niagara	5
Silver-haired bat	Bat	Dufferin	1
Silver-haired bat	Bat	Toronto	1
Skunk	Bat	Hamilton	1
Skunk	Raccoon	Niagara	18
Skunk	Bat	Waterloo	1

Notes:

- ¹ imported dog with Iranian dog strains



PUBLIC 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 3, 2023
INFORMATION ITEM:	Clinical and Family Services Activity Report

BACKGROUND

Clinical and Family Services provides legislated public health programs, in accordance with the Ontario Public Health Standards. 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. Child Health programs are designed to ensure that all families with children at risk of physical, cognitive, communicative and/or psychosocial problems have access to effective and early intervention services.

Reproductive Health programs are designed to prevent unwanted pregnancies, reduce the burden of sexually transmitted infections and prevention of blood borne illness and opioid overdose through harm reduction. School programs include dental and vision screening. Early identification and treatment of oral health and vision problems can improve long term health outcomes.

2022 was a challenging year for Public Health. In the first 6-9 months, most staffing resources were redeployed to assist with pandemic emergency response, continuing with case and contact management, and coordinating planning and delivery of the COVID-19 vaccination effort. Priority programs including Harm Reduction, Naloxone distribution, urgent Sexual Health clinical services, harm reduction outreach and others have continued throughout the Pandemic. Lockdowns and controlled access to schools have affected staff's ability to carry out many school-based programs including Vision and Dental Screening and Sexual Health teaching. These programs have resumed in 2023.

The purpose of this report is to provide County Council with an update on activities from the Clinical and Family Services team that were delivered in 2022.

DISCUSSION**Child Health / Healthy Growth and Development Activities:**

Activity	Numbers served in 2022
Family Health Line	329 calls Breastfeeding 52% Growth and Development 21%
Liaison Services	376 families seen in hospital- (services resumed May 2022)
Prenatal Teaching sessions	90 sessions, including young parent prenatal, virtual classes and one on one in the home
Home Visiting	253 families visited with Family Service Plan 1286 home visits completed
Parent Drop In	710 parents connected with at Parent Drop In – various locations (baby weights and growth and development main topics)
Post Partum Support Group	8 sessions, the first session held in Fall 2022

Reproductive and Dental Health and Harm Reduction Activities

Activity	Numbers served in 2022
Ontario Seniors Dental Program	351 eligible seniors received dental treatment.
Harm Reduction	3185 client transactions completed
* in partnership with North Lambton Community Health Centre	582,700 needles distributed *
	62,211 safe inhalation kits distributed *
	4639 Naloxone nasal spray kits distributed *
Community Sharps Disposal Inspections	42 inspection reports filed. 25 full bins exchanged.
Sexual Health Clinic	1186 clinic visits
School Dental Screening	0 (screening resumed in 2023)
School Vision Screening	0 (screening resumed in 2023)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All costs associated with the Clinical and Family Services programs are included in the approved 2022 LPH budget which is cost shared with the province at 30% municipal share and 70% provincial. Ontario Seniors Dental and Healthy Babies Healthy Children are 100% funded by the province of Ontario.

CONSULTATIONS

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

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 these programs were delivered in partnership with local community agencies, fulfilling the Partnerships Area of Effort.

CONCLUSION

This report provides an overall snapshot of Clinical and Family Services programs and activities delivered in 2022. These programs and services make a vital contribution to maintaining a safe, healthy community for all Lambton Residents.



PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION

REPORT TO:	WARDEN AND LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL
DEPARTMENT:	LAMBTON PUBLIC HEALTH
PREPARED BY:	Michael Gorgey, Manager, Health Promotion
REVIEWED BY:	Andrew Taylor, General Manager Stéphane Thiffeault, Chief Administrative Officer
MEETING DATE:	May 3, 2023
INFORMATION ITEM:	Health Promotion – 2023 First Quarter Activity report

BACKGROUND

The Health Promotion team is responsible for meeting the Ontario Public Health Program Standards in the areas of: School Health, Health Equity, Chronic Disease Prevention, Injury Prevention, and Substance Misuse Prevention. The team is divided into three sub-teams, the Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention team, the Health Systems and Community Engagement team, and the Central Resources team. This team is also responsible for implementation of the Ontario Tobacco Strategy and the Lambton Drug and Alcohol Strategy. Health Promotion staff also provide internal supports for all programs and services within Lambton Public Health (LPH) including program planning and evaluation, communications, and the social determinants of health.

The purpose of this report is to provide County Council with an update on activities from the Health Promotion team.

DISCUSSION

A. Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention

Tobacco/Vape/Cannabis

The tobacco/vape/cannabis (TVC) program aims to increase the capacity of schools and community organizations to prevent TVC initiation and promote cessation among youth. The team developed a prevention strategy with school boards, held six meetings, trained 20 teachers, and developed an implementation plan for each school board. The team also provided presentations reaching a total of 870 primary and secondary school students. They have also trained 30 Child and Youth workers, administration staff, community partners, and LPH staff to prevent TVC initiation and promote cessation among youth.

Built Environment

The team aims to implement the Physical Activity Liaison (PALS) program to improve physical activity levels among students and teachers. They are on target, with resources being updated by an inter-Public Health Units workgroup. Additionally, the team is taking steps to increase shade in schoolyards and raise awareness of trail amenities. They are exploring opportunities to expand partnerships and apply for grants to run the shade program again in 2024.

Food Literacy

The team aims to increase access to vegetables and fruit. A total of three (3) new Garden Fresh Box (GFB) sites were added for a total of ten (10) locations. They are on target to improve the food environments of children and youth by supporting school nutrition programs and updating the Bright Bites website. They aim to advocate for food affordability through income-related policies to end food insecurity. The team completed a virtual School Nutrition Program Coordinator Workshop on Food Literacy, developed eight "Fun Food Fact Sheets," and provided support for new parents. They have created 12 GFB newsletters, and five presentations for high-risk clients are complete.

B. Health Systems and Community Engagement**Harm Reduction Enhancement & Community Outreach**

During the 1st quarter, the LPH outreach nurse had a total of 835 interactions with vulnerable clients in the community. Collaborations with various organizations such as West Lambton Community Health Centre Housing Connector, Salvation Army, and Inn of the Good Shepherd were made to assist clients in accessing primary care, food banks, shelters, and other community supports. Additionally, general assessments of wounds/health concerns were made, and problem-solving strategies were implemented to help clients access care. Six naloxone training sessions were conducted, training approximately 50 people from five agencies and distributing about 50 naloxone kits. Naloxone resources were also updated during this period.

System Navigation & Health Care Provider Engagement

Thirteen Age-Friendly Sarnia Lambton website presentations were provided between January to March 2023 to, amongst others, physicians, health care partners, Red Cross, Petrolia Health & Well-Being Committee, Petrolia YMCA Boomers, church groups, ESSO Retirees, North Lambton & West Lambton Community Engagement Groups, and local schools.

Since the relaunch of the Age-Friendly Web site in November 2022, program data analytics are showing a steady increase in website users. From January 1st- March 31st, 2023, there have been:

1. 7,897 Total Website Users (an average of 2,632 visits per month);
2. 7,472 New Users (85.1% of all users are new); and
3. 26,963 Page Views (an average of 2.67 page views per session).

Top Searches have included: help at home, housing, social participation and active living, transportation, and walk-in clinics.

Additionally, to assist LPH in improving engagement of primary care providers, a strategic plan for Health Care provider engagement was developed with the goal of modernizing communication processes. A Health Care Provider Engagement Survey was developed to guide future training opportunities, engagement, and resource offerings. The internal Health Care provider engagement team has reconvened to move strategic plan activities forward, including an urgent notification system, monthly updates for Health Care Providers and a dedicated website section devoted to supporting the needs of LPH Health Care Partners.

C. Central Resources

Customer Service

Program Support staff provide excellent customer service for residents calling LPH for services. LPH implemented reception call reporting to better access staffing demand. LPH reception received approximately 2000 calls in March of 2023. These figures may underestimate total LPH call volume as calls directed to a team extension are not recorded. Reception staff also assisted in a mail-out campaign for school catch-up vaccine clinics. Throughout the first quarter of 2023, the LPH vaccine supported COVID-19 clinics and School Catch-up Clinics. The average Call Centre call volume was approximately 500 calls per month.

Communications

Communications staff have undertaken various major communication projects both internally and externally. The internal projects include the HUBCast campaign, which features pertinent updates on program and service areas, strategic priorities, or project updates for internal staff. LPH's Communications team also provides support for the development of internal consultant access to aid LPH programs in their development and delivery to the public. External projects included securing a pre-event communication timeline for the Lambton Drug and Alcohol Strategy (LDAS), which allowed LPH to talk about its programs and services. The Communications team also collaborated with partners to develop a campaign for the launch of the Lambton Drug and Alcohol Strategy, which was presented for use by over 20 partner organizations. Additionally, LPH reintroduced the Ask A Public Health Nurse service, promoting its benefits to the community through in-house media (Instagram) and external media (Your TV Sarnia). LPH also supported the development of an evidence brief ahead of two major local events, the Housing & Homelessness Summit and the LDAS proposal to County Council.

Furthermore, LPH communications aim to maintain the reach achieved during the COVID-19 pandemic on its website and social media platforms. In the first quarter of 2023, LPH achieved a reach of approximately 20,000 views a month on Facebook and 3-5 thousand views a month on both Instagram and the LPH website homepage.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All costs associated with health promotion programs and interventions are included in LPH's approved budget, which is cost-share funded 70% provincial and 30% municipal.

CONSULTATIONS

Health Promotion works collaboratively with other County divisions and departments, including Social Services, Planning and Cultural Services. In addition, we partner with many community agencies, including local municipalities, the health care sector, local police agencies, Lambton College, schools, parent councils and school boards, workplaces, non-profit organizations, faith groups and others.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Health promotion activities delivered by the Health Promotion team align with the mission, principles, and values identified in the County's Strategic Plan and support the values of Lambton County as a healthy community.

CONCLUSION

The Health Promotion team is carrying out programs throughout Lambton County, in compliance with the Ontario Public Health Standards. These initiatives have a significant impact on the daily lives of numerous residents, and they assist LPH in achieving our strategic goal of creating a community that supports all people to strive for safety, health, and well-being.

DRAFT MINUTES
LAMBTON CREATIVE COUNTY COMMITTEE

Gurd Room, Judith & Norman Alix Art Gallery

November 24, 2022

Present: Warden Kevin Marriott, Beverly Bressette, Kirsty Kilner-Holmes, Brad Loosley, Barbara Prescott, Brian White (Chair). Also, Ron Van Horne, Andrew Meyer, Tara Pounds, Bonnie Lavergne (Recording Secretary).

Regrets: Alan Broad, Paul Smith.

1. Welcome/Call to Order

Chair, B. White called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

#1: B. Loosley / B. Prescott: That the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

The following members of the Committee made declarations of pecuniary interest with regards to the grant applications being presented for review: B. Prescott for application #1259; and R. Van Horne for application #1271.

4. Approval of Minutes – September 29, 2022

#2: K. Kilner-Holmes / B. Bressette: That the Minutes of September 29, 2022 be approved as presented.

Carried.

5. Unfinished Business

Nothing to report.

Warden K. Marriott joined the meeting at this time.

6. New Business

a) Review of 2023 Creative County Grant Program Applications

Approved distribution of funds to successful candidates is conditional upon clarification of eligible expenses under the Creative County Grant Program criteria.

The Committee reviewed the 2023 Intake Summary of Creative County Grant applicants, as presented by A. Meyer.

#3: B. Prescott / K. Kilner-Holmes: That the Committee accept the recommendations from County staff related to the **County-wide** applicants for 2023, approving funding for applicants #1256 *Explore the Arts Summer Camp*, funding total \$5,500; #1251 *Indigenous Film and Food Festival- Celebrating Together*, funding total \$1,500; #1271 *Kid Food Nation*, funding total \$6,000, #1254 *Live Performance of Talon White Eye as Young Gull*, funding total of \$6,500; and #1257 *Food for Thought*, funding total \$5,000.

Carried.

#4: B. Bressette / K. Marriott: That the Committee accept the recommendations from County staff related to the **Sarnia Quadrant** applicants for 2023, approving funding for applicants #1264 *Bluewater Wind Ensemble Music Project*, funding total \$6,400; and #1253 *Inclusion and Diversity*, funding total \$2,500.

Carried.

#5: B. Loosley / B. Prescott: That the Committee accept the recommendations from County staff related to the **North Quadrant** applicants

for 2023, approving funding for applicants #1270 *A Story through Time: Warwick Township 1832 to the 1950s*, funding total \$890; #1265 *Forest Mural Project*, funding total \$1,800; #1260 *Restoration of the 1932 Chevrolet Pumper at Wyoming Fire Station*, funding total \$6,700; and #1262 *Skilled Trades and Small Business Persons Portrait Exhibit*, funding total \$1,200.

Carried.

#6: B. Loosley / K. Kilner-Holmes: That the Committee award 2023 funding to the **Central Quadrant** applicant #1259 *Petrolia 150 Events Calendar and Publication*, funding total \$2,500.

Carried.

#7: K. Kilner-Holmes / B. Loosley: That the Committee accept the recommendations from County staff related to the **Central Quadrant** applicants for 2023, approving funding for applicant #1266 *LCCVI Theatre Productions*, funding total \$2,000; #1267 *Student Mindfulness and Dance Program*, funding total \$2,205; and #1261 *Canadian Rig Restoration*, funding total \$5,795.

Carried.

#8: B. Prescott / B. Loosley: That the Committee accept the recommendations from County staff related to the **South Quadrant** applicants for 2023, approving funding for applicants #1258 *History Book about Port Lambton*, funding total \$2,500; #1252 *Reproduction of Auditorium Murals*, funding total \$1,540; #1263 *Rolling Under the Waves: When the Grand Trunk Railroad Conquered the St. Clair River*, funding total \$5,000; and #1273 *Sombra Community Mural*, funding total \$5,000 to be utilized for artist fees.

Carried.

7. Scheduling of Meetings

- a) The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Creative County Committee will be held on March 30, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at a location to be determined.

Lambton Creative County Committee, Page 4

November 24, 2022

8. Adjournment

#9: K. Kilner-Holmes: That this meeting be adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Carried.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, February 21st 3:30 pm
LOCATION: Videoconference

Attendance:

Bradley, Mike	Cayea, David
Lee, Adrienne	Marriott, Kevin
McEachran, Carrie	Perdeaux, Rick
Thiffeault, Stephane	Walker, Katherine
Dochstader, Nick	Kabbes, Don
Kardas, Rob	
Taylor, Dan (CEO)	
Moore, Brittany (Executive Assistant)	

Regrets: Reaume-Zimmer, Paula Peters, Mark

Call to Order- A. Lee Chair of meeting in P. Reaume-Zimmer absence
Quorum Present

Agenda

Motion: To approve Agenda as submitted.

Moved by S. Thiffeault. Seconded by K. Walker. Carried.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None declared.

Motion: To go in camera.

Moved by K. Walker Seconded by S. Thiffeault. Carried.

Motion: To rise from camera.

Moved by R. Kardas Seconded by N. Dochstader. Carried.

**CEO Updates—JUST Transition**

- D. Taylor provided a proposal and response to JUST transition.
 - Suggests a three-month trial, suggesting we use our reserves to fund this proposal.

Discussion, Q&A- JUST Transition

- Warden Marriott concerned there is no legislation yet in place, not to mention if there is an election this year. It could be dramatically different. Would be more comfortable to see the legislation first.
- D. Cayea agrees with Warden, also firm believer in advocacy. Message needs to be from the community. Engaging community, business, and government. Should we be engaging community stakeholders first? Agreed message moving forward.
- R. Kardas similar thought in terms of a community group- SLEP may lead it. More stakeholders at the table.
 - Short-term advocacy approach- what would we be advocating for?
 - D. Taylor reacting to the immediate response.
 - Advocacy- where is S-L today in the scheme of low-carbon, no carbon, and the thread of JUST transition; in the absence of a plan or strategy; there are barriers now. Paint the picture of threat to our economy and opportunities waiting in the wings.
- K. Walker alternative thought to waiting. After legislation is released and we don't have any strategy what are the risks? How do we handle it after vs. taking action in advance of the legislation. Window for feedback has been closed for input/influence.
- R. Perdeaux not having legislation in place makes things difficult. Our biggest problem as a community is we don't tell the story of what we do. Lack of understanding how our community works presents a problem to telling the story. Hiring a sub-contractor group outside Sarnia-Lambton is challenging as they spend all their time trying to get to know our area. Would like to see SLEP create a plan, not hire out, use resources within.
- C. McEachran already have the Carbon Capture and Sequestration subcommittee for the Energy and Chemistry Committee, advocacy has started. Starting there may be a good starting point for advocacy.
- S. Thiffeault; As mentioned, Sarnia-Lambton has been transitioning for quite some time. Soft-approach without knowing what legislation is at this time maybe has 3 components. 1) Tell your story- communicate to the province and to the feds what our local economy is about; what is the backbone. Get support from local industry and their associations and trade unions. Many, particularly trade unions will have economists on this. 2) Have a roster of advocates and/or lobbyists at the ready once we have developed our own story internally. 3) when we have a clear picture of what issues are we will be at the ready to advise and consult with those



advocates who are lobbyists on precisely what we wish to address with the federal and/or provincial government.

- In the meantime, nothing holds us back from communicating to federal and provincial government what our local story currently is and always asking for the opportunity to meet and/or consult with on the draft legislation
- K. Walker posed question do we have the bandwidth with the existing workload to put something meaningful together? Or are we looking to contract this out or does it need to come from reserves?
- D. Taylor advised advocacy is not an in-house area of expertise and we would need assistance and funds for.
- Stakeholder and industry outreach at this point.
- D. Taylor will come back at the March board meeting with an update based on feedback received today with an assessment and next steps.
- D. Cayea at next board meeting share who the identified stakeholders in the community are and who we should be aligning with for this initiative and message and thoughts are on after doing a community assessment.

Motion to Adjourn

Moved by D. Cayea, Seconded by R. Perdeaux. Carried.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paula Reaume-Zimmer'.

Chair
Paula Reaume-Zimmer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephane Thiffeault'.

Secretary-Treasurer
Stephane Thiffeault



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, January 24th, 7:30am

LOCATION: Videoconference

Attendance:

Bradley, Mike

Cayea, David

Kabbes, Don

Lee, Adrienne

McEachran, Carrie

Thiffeault, Stephane

Peters, Mark

Reaume-Zimmer, Paula

Dochstader, Nick

Kardas, Rob

Marriott, Kevin

Perdeaux, Rick

Walker, Katherine

Taylor, Dan (CEO)

Kinchen, Brittany (Executive Assistant)

Regrets: N/A

Call to Order

Quorum Present

Agenda

Motion: To approve Agenda as submitted.

Moved by R. Kardas Seconded by N. Dochstader. Carried.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None declared.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: That the minutes of the Board Meetings held November 22nd and December 2nd, 2022 be approved as submitted.

Moved by A.Lee, Seconded by K. Marriott. Carried.



Chair Update

- P. Reaume Zimmer provided an update, welcoming opportunity to meet with board members to get to know them and their vision for Sarnia-Lambton and SLEP.
- Consultant to be hired conduct annual CEO performance review; good timing with the strategic plan. Will consult with county on their resources to determine if using county or external consultant review is most appropriate.
 - Consider defining what role we want the county to take in the review. In the past the chair was asked to be a part of it and did not feel this was appropriate to be involved from beginning to end.

CEO Update

- D. Taylor provided CEO report on activities of the organization and of staff

Motion: To go in camera.

Moved by D. Cayea, Seconded by K. Walker. Carried.

Motion: To rise from camera.

Moved by R. Kardas, Seconded by D. Kabbes. Carried.

- D. Taylor brought forward the need to up our awareness and approach on Diversity, there is an opportunity is for the board to join staff for a training session provided by Crystal Fach
 - M. Bradley asked if there was a open process to select the right individual to conduct the training? D. Taylor advised no.
 - P. Reaume-Zimmer advised Crystal provides specific training on a specific sector of diversity-2SLGBTQ+ sector
- C. Fach provided a proposal on diversity training and what they will be discussing during the proposed session.
- Voluntary for board members to participate as many members have received training within their corporations/organizations already
- Governance will get a detailed outline of the training and share with the Board.
- D. Taylor to verify with the staff they are comfortable doing the training with the Board.
- Value in joint session, staff can have an additional session if required.



Motion: We support a joint session with staff with Crystal Fach on diversity ed, and for the training to be completed by the end of 2023 with governance reviewing the material in advance to provide appropriate direction to move forward.

Moved by S. Thiffeault, Seconded by R. Perdeaux. Carried.

Committees

Governance Committee:

- A. Lee provided an update on by-law review and recommendation revisions underway
 - Pronouns will be revised in the by-laws, and C. Fach will also be reviewing. Adding electronic voting process, succession planning and including fiduciary obligations
 - All updates will be brought forward for full review once complete, will be waiting until the diversity ed training is complete
- A. Lee provided a member update
 - K. Walker term comes to an end in June, M. Peters also indicated he will not be extending a second term
- A. Lee confirmed she will be extending second term
- Governance reviewed the advertisement and removed the sector and skills to try and have broad number of applicants
 - Once applications received, those factors will be evaluated
- First Nations position is also still vacant
 - M. Bradley has spoken to Chiefs, need to go beyond those contacts as it is an important position to fill
 - Board members encouraged to reach out to first nations contacts to find a representative who may be interested in sitting on the board
 - The college reaches out through a formal letter to the Chief of council making the request and rotates through the three communities
 - M. Bradley supports this approach

Motion: Advertisement for recruitment be approved as submitted.

Moved by A. Lee, Seconded by R. Perdeaux. Carried.

- S. Thiffeault recommended amend slightly to say residents/business owner, and/or a member of the three first nations communities in Lambton County, and then also include first nations position open



- Strategic Plan Update; consultants are fully engaged. To date have been doing behind the scenes research. Working to schedule stakeholder interviews when consultants are here in February.
- Rynic Presentation by Chris Fields of Rynic Communications. Discussed their experience and background, their timeline for our strategic plan, and the direction they are envisioning for our strategic plan.
 - Leaning a little more towards engagement vs. data (data only tells us where we are right now)

Finance Committee:

- D. Kabbes provided an update on draft year-end financials.
- D. Kabbes presented 2023 budget for approval.
- K. Walker requested an update on reserves for the next board meeting.

Motion: That the 2023 budget presented be approved as submitted.

Moved by R. Kardas, Seconded by R. Perdeaux. Carried.

New Business:

- M. Bradley suggests that the JUST transition cannot wait until the strategic plan, looking for direction; our organization needs to take action and develop a plan.
- K. Walker supports that SLEP fund some sort of initiative, supports what resources we can reasonably put towards it.
- M. Bradley will ask CAO to come back to us with a plan, working with the research park and other community players as soon as possible.
- P. Reaume-Zimmer suggested a special board meeting once some direction is given as the next board meeting is not until March.
- R. Perdeaux agrees about taking positive action.
- K. Walker suggested ECC could also be a good format as there is already industry at the table.
- A. Lee suggested governance along with CAO, creates a plan that builds on all the stakeholders to have a plan of action to move forward.

Next Meeting

- March 28, 2023 at 7:30AM

Motion to Adjourn

Moved by P. Reaume-Zimmer, Seconded by C. McEachran. Carried.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paula Reaume-Zimmer".

Chair
Paula Reaume-Zimmer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephane Thiffeault".

Secretary-Treasurer
Stephane Thiffeault



INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION

REPORT TO:	WARDEN AND LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL
DEPARTMENT:	PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
PREPARED BY:	Kenneth Melanson, RPP, MCIP Manager
REVIEWED BY:	Jason Cole, P. Eng., General Manager Stéphane Thiffault, Chief Administrative Officer
MEETING DATE:	May 3, 2023
SUBJECT:	Bill 97 and Provincial Policy Statement (2023) Preliminary Summary

BACKGROUND

On April 6, 2023, the Government of Ontario released the proposed Provincial Policy Statement 2023 (PPS 2023) for comments via the Ontario Environmental Registry (ERO). PPS 2023 integrates the Growth Plan for the Golden Horseshoe and PPS together into a singular, province-wide document. The Province has also tabled Bill 97, referenced as the “*Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants Act, 2023*”. Bill 97 contains legislative changes to several statutes, including the *Planning Act*.

The comment period for PPS 2023 closes June 5, 2023, and the comment period for Bill 97 closes May 6, 2023. The purpose of this report is to provide a preliminary summary of both Bill 97 and PPS 2023 and recommend Council write a response to the ERO for PPS 2023.

DISCUSSION

The summary provided in this report is based on a **preliminary review** since the release of the EROs. There have been several analysis documents released on both Bill 97 and PPS 2023 – not all of which show consensus of the changes. That said, it is clear the proposed changes represent a significant shift in planning. A breakdown and some preliminary analyses are provided in Attachment 1. These comments should be treated as preliminary at this time.

Bill 97 Changes

Bill 97 is described by the province as a bill that will “take steps to make life easier for both renters and home buyers”¹. However, Bill 97 essentially makes changes to the *Planning Act*, Bill 23, and the *Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Act* to enable or refine

¹ Taken from Province of Ontario ERO: Bill 97 Summary.

planning processes. There does not appear to be anything specifically that provides relief to renters/home buyers directly; rather via changes to processes – more housing is enabled, thus making “life easier” for renters and home buyers.

A summary of changes in Bill 97 is provided on Page 11 of Attachment 1. The housekeeping and clarifications provided and related to Additional Dwelling Units (ADUs) will assist in providing clear guidance to local municipalities. Re-establishing some level of Site Plan Control for buildings under 10 units is helpful. It is too soon to determine an overall positive or negative impact of the changes contained in Bill 97.

Provincial Policy Statement 2023

The proposed PPS 2023 would combine the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe and the Provincial Policy Statement into one, province-wide policy document. This combined PPS 2023 proposes those changes set out and briefly discussed in Attachment 1. There are two major changes that will have impacts to the County and local municipalities that relate to Settlement Area Expansions and Agriculture and Rural development.

Settlement Area Expansions

PPS 2023 proposes to remove the requirement that expansions occur through a Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR). This will mean that a landowner, applicant, or a municipality (due to the tiered system) could expand a Settlement Area at any time. The MCR was a means to limit expansions of the Settlement Areas to curb continuous expansion out into valuable farmland (known as urban sprawl).

Urban Sprawl has cost implications to municipalities resulting from the increased need to expand various services. These capital costs could normally be recovered through Development Charges (DC); however, Bill 23 now reduces DC to 80% at year one, moving up to 100% by year five. Greater costs are now placed on ratepayers not developers (through the typical ‘growth pays for growth’ model). Unrecovered capital costs will now end up in capital budgets, paid by ratepayers. This increase in services also has future implications to operating budgets for upkeep of increased infrastructure and expansion of services (like recreational facilities, libraries, schools, etc.).

Expansions at the local municipal level will still need to be consistent with the County Official Plan (OP); however, this change will likely see increased requests for amendment to the County OP. Staff are in the process of preparing a report for Council to review the County OP. Should this change be retained, the review of the County OP is timely and may enable the County to get ahead of potential requests.

Agriculture and Rural Development

PPS 2023 changes to Settlement Area Expansions have implications to farmland consumption. The proposed PPS 2023 would enable rural lands (existing as of January 1,

2023) to be able to sever up to three lots for future residential development if appropriate servicing can be provided. In addition, ADUs would also be enabled for rural properties, if appropriate servicing can be provided.

Rural development requires balancing impacts to agriculture/other rural development. While residential may be positive, it creates inherent conflicts with rural development activities. Despite efforts to educate new residents on life in a rural community (with farm activities), municipalities field numerous complaints for residents. Three new residential lots plus ADUs have implications to agricultural/livestock farming and aggregate activities. Increased residents will create limitations in rural development, a significant economic activity in the County. These concerns could be offset if the application of the MDS on new lots and ADUs is made mandatory (no variances permitted). If this interpretation of the PPS change is correct, then lot creation would be restricted if MDS cannot be satisfied. If this is not the case, the concerns remain.

The need for rural development is recognized, however additional residential lots from farm sites is likely not the best way forward. Using the ability to expand existing settlement areas within our rural communities would create a better scenario. While this would result in reducing agricultural land, this would have the least level of impact for farm/livestock or aggregate operations.

Natural Heritage Policies absent from PPS 2023

It is significant that the proposed PPS 2023 has no policies related to Natural Heritage – these policies are still under review by the Province. These policies provide for the protection of Wetlands, Woodlots, and other environmentally sensitive features. To ask Municipalities to comment on a PPS draft requires commentary on a document not yet completed. This will lead to misunderstanding of application of policy and incomplete understanding of the ‘complete picture’.

Ongoing understanding of proposed changes

The level of understanding of the proposed changes continues to develop. Planning Staff have reviewed several circulations from various legal firms, which have informed Attachment 1. Planning Staff also attended a meeting of the County Planning Directors of Ontario on April 19, 2023, where the changes were discussed. County Planning Directors have reached out to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to see if training will be provided. Responses referred the group back to the ERO. Therefore, we can expect no training (at this time) from the Ministry. Staff will continue to monitor and review further commentaries to further refine our understanding.

Options for County Council Consideration

Given the limited time to respond and review the material provided, the following options are available for Council at this time in responding to the ERO:

1. Direct a letter be written by the Warden to the Ministry indicating that Council cannot support the proposed PPS until the complete document (including Natural Heritage) is provided and requesting more time to review/respond;
2. Direct a letter be written by the Warden to the Ministry indicating that Council is not in support of the proposed PPS (regardless of the lack of a complete document);
3. Provide no official response to the ERO, which is not recommended.

If either option #1 or #2 or any variation therefore be Council's preference, such communication will be drafted by Planning Staff. Staff recommends that Council direct some sort of response to the ERO.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications of this report to the County budget.

CONSULTATIONS

County Planning staff have attended the County Planning Directors' meeting and reviewed several circulations from various legal firms. Staff have also been in touch with our Planning legal team and consultants to further expand our understanding of the changes.

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:

- Identifying, sharing with, and learning from individual stakeholders including the public; municipal partners; County Councillors and staff; indigenous residents; First Nation Band Councils; senior levels of government; and the news media.

CONCLUSION

Planning Staff will continue to expand our understanding of the proposed changes as more information is provided. It is recommended that County Council provide some form of response to the ERO for PPS 2023. It is also recommended this report be shared with member Municipalities within the County.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Warden submit a letter to the Ontario Environmental Registry indicating that:

Bill 97 and Provincial Policy Statement (2023) Preliminary Summary (page 5)

May 3, 2023

- a) Lambton County Council cannot support the proposed Provincial Policy Statement until the complete document (including Natural Heritage) is provided and requests more time to review and respond.**
- b) Lambton County Council does not support the severance of rural agricultural lands for residential lots and views this policy as ineffective, compared to the option to expand settlement areas within our rural communities.**

Attachment 1

Summary of Provincial Policy Statement (2023) (PPS 2023) and Bill 97 Changes

Topic:	Amendments/changes:
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies “large and fast-growing municipalities’ where growth must be directed to strategic growth areas (as a schedule to the PPS 2023). • Removes mandatory intensification and density targets for municipalities originally in the Growth Plan. • Establishes broader permissions for residential intensification. • Expands the definition of ‘housing options’. • Removes the definition of ‘affordable’ as it applies to housing. • Provides additional options for rural housing by allowing up to three (3) severances off existing agricultural parcels. Also enables ADUs in rural areas. • Limits abilities of municipalities to apply stricter policies than those in the PPS 2023.
<p>Preliminary comments:</p> <p><i>Definition of Large and Fast-growing Municipalities and removal of intensification/density targets</i> Proposed changes related to mandatory intensification and density targets apply to Municipalities that were subject to the Growth Plan. The Growth Plan had these mandatory targets, but this did not apply to Municipalities in the County of Lambton. County Municipalities could set their own intensification and density targets. The definition of “Large and Fast-growing municipalities” does not impact any municipalities in the County of Lambton.</p> <p><i>Establishing broader permissions for residential intensification</i> The proposed PPS 2023 provides three permissions for residential intensification to provide new housing options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The conversion of existing commercial and institutional buildings for residential use. 	

2. Development and introduction of new housing options within previously developed areas.
3. Redevelopment that results in a net increase in residential units.

These new permissions largely impact urban areas; but item 1 has already been actively encouraged in the County of Lambton. This has been done through encouraging the adaptive reuse of closed school or place of worship buildings to convert to residential uses and there are several examples throughout the County where this has occurred. It is unclear what the intent of items 2 and 3 are as the language of the PPS 2023 is vague and uncertain. However, these policies may already be largely in place within the County OP (encouraging adaptation of upper floors of commercial buildings to convert to residential, or adaptive conversion of existing buildings to add floors/space for residential units).

Removal of definition of “affordable”

The removal of the definition of “affordable” from the PPS 2023 causes concerns. The recent provincial approach (around inclusionary zoning) has been to focus on housing that is 80 percent of average resale purchase price or average market rent. Commentary around this approach has been that this will not do enough for low-income families and even fail to provide ‘middle income’ households with relief from the high costs of housing.

Change of definition of “housing options”

The definition of “housing options” is being expanded to provide a broader range of “gentle density” examples in existing communities and has added institutional uses, additional needs housing, multi-generational housing, and long-term care homes to this definition. Expansion of housing options is generally positive given general negative reaction of residents in some cases to long-term care homes and other care type facilities. The definition change provides more policy weight to building to complete communities by seeking the widest array of housing options.

Additional Rural housing options

The proposed PPS 2023 provides for the ability to create up to three (3) lots from existing farm parcels (as of January 1, 2023). The PPS 2023 would also enable ADUs in existing residential forms throughout the rural area, provided that appropriate sewage and water servicing can be provided, or where private servicing can be accommodated. Municipalities may consider “locally appropriate” rural characteristics when directing development in the rural settlement area, however, the ability for new lots cannot have more restrictive policies applied.

This creates the potential for significant land use conflicts between new housing (residents) and local farmers as the potential for complaints related to farm operations (hours of operation, odour, etc.) will rise. This also has the potential to significantly restrict the expansion of or creation of new livestock operations due to land use conflicts via the MDS and new residents. With ADUs, this further expands the potential conflict between agricultural activity and new residents.

Prohibition of more restrictive policies by local Municipalities

PPS 2023 provides specific and clear language preventing local municipalities from imposing more restrictive policies on housing policies. This creates a potential conflict in the County OP considering the Province specifically modified the plan to set minimum farm lot sizes across the County (38 and 30 hectares depending on municipalities). The language of this policy was to be applied also in the case of reduction of the farm lot for severances of surplus farm dwellings (if a severance created an undersized farm lot to the appropriate size, it could not be supported).

This policy is imposed in the County OP via a failed attempt to appeal the Minister's Modification. This creates a potential legal 'circle' on whether this would be seen as more restrictive policy and overwritten by PPS 2023 or not. Legal advice is being sought on this matter, as it is unclear.

Settlement Area Expansion

- Removes the need for an MCR
- Reduces the requirements to permit a settlement area boundary expansion or identification of new settlement areas.

Preliminary comments:

Removal of the need for a Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR)/Reduction of the requirements for a boundary expansion or new Settlement Area

The removal of the need for an MCR for expansion of Settlement Areas is a shift in Planning in the Province. Limiting expansions to MCRs was a means to curb urban sprawl and limit the impacts of loss of agricultural land. No parameters are proposed on how to evaluate general applications for expansions. This means expansion applications could be made at any time, with very little means to evaluate whether the expansion is reasonable. This creates the possibility of significant loss of agricultural land and inefficient use of land to expand settlement areas – not achieving goals of providing a broad range of housing options.

The removal of the “needs test” eliminates the requirement to examine a variety of expansion locations before creating or expanding settlement areas. The focus now is simply on whether there is sufficient capacity in infrastructure and public services to support creation of a new or expansion of existing settlement areas. Policies to avoid and minimize impacts on agricultural land and operations are still maintained.

In a two-tier system – expansion of Settlement Areas by Lower Tier Municipalities in the County of Lambton requires the County OP be amended first, before an MCR can occur at the local level. The County would not be isolated from the potential of a rush of applications for expansion, without reasonable criteria to evaluate requests. Regardless, the final decision of expansion of any Settlement Areas in the County OP rests with County Council and cannot be appealed if refused.

Employment area protection and conversion

- Revises the definition of employment areas, to prohibit any commercial uses that are not

	<p>associated with the primary employment use and institutional uses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scopes and clarifies the test for employment conversion requests and removes the requirement for an MCR. • Does not carry forward the concept of Provincially Significant Employment Zones found in the Growth Plan to the proposed PPS 2023.
<p>Preliminary comments:</p> <p><i>Revised definition of employment areas/Prohibition of any commercial uses not associated with primary employment/institutional uses.</i></p> <p>Currently PPS 2020 and Growth Plan define Employment areas in the same manner:</p> <p>“Those areas designated in an OP for clusters of businesses and economic activities <i>including but not limited to</i>, manufacturing, warehousing, offices, and associated retail and ancillary facilities”. The emphasized wording above provided municipalities with some discretion about the types of uses that could be included in an employment area in an OP. The definition specifically included office uses. The proposed PPS 2023 will significantly revise the definition of employment areas to prohibit institutional uses and commercial uses unless those commercial uses are associated with the primary employment use, which are manufacturing uses, research and development uses and/or warehouse uses.</p> <p>The <i>Planning Act</i> would also be amended to add a new term called “area of employment” which would mean “an area of land designated in an OP for clusters of businesses and economic uses, those meeting the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The uses consist of business and economic uses, other than those referred to in paragraph 2, including any of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Manufacturing uses. b. Uses related to research and development in connection with manufacturing anything. c. Warehousing uses, including uses related to the movement of goods. d. Retail uses and office uses that are associated with uses mentioned in (a) to (c). e. Facilities that are ancillary to the uses mentioned in (a) to (d). f. Any other prescribed business and economic uses. 2. The uses are not any of the following uses: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Institutional uses. b. Commercial uses, including retail and office uses not referred to in 1 (d). 	

Retail and offices uses were included in employment areas as there had been an apprehension at the Ontario Land Tribunal (and Municipalities) to look into the relative value of retail/commercial jobs versus manufacturing and industrial jobs. The change in definition has the potential to create a clear distinction: commercial/institutional uses and retail/office uses are **not** associated with the primary employment use and are prohibited in employment areas.

This potentially means that the creation of industrial or business parks would have to focus on those items listed in item 1 above – with no ability to allow any of the uses in item 2. On the surface, this change may seem logical. However, employment area (also known as Business or Industrial Parks) workers still need retail uses for day to day needs. Removing these features outright removes needed ancillary services for employees (unless those ancillary services are provided by the employer). For example: A car manufacturing plant could have a coffee shop franchise (Starbucks/Tim Horton's etc.) but a stand-alone coffee shop on a separate site could not occur under these changes.

While the proposed changes make some sense, it is a rather significant change to react to some municipalities using employment lands to allow for large scale institutional uses (large churches for example) or enabling more office uses outside of downtown cores or transit station areas. A more systematic approach may be to enable limited ancillary commercial uses by limiting size and scale. By simply prohibiting these ancillary functions, workers will then be forced to drive outside of these employment areas for these services.

Conversion of employment lands

Conversion of employment lands under PPS 2020 can only occur when it can be demonstrated that there is a surplus of employment lands and there is a need for conversion. Otherwise, employment lands should be protected/preserved for current and future employment uses. The proposed PPS 2023 will allow the conversion of employment lands at any time. Applicants will not have to wait for a municipality to undertake an MCR. There is no change to appeal rights of a local municipality decision on whether to approve or deny the employment land conversion.

The proposed tests for conversion of employment lands are like those found in the Growth Plan, with some exceptions.

Planning authorities may remove lands from employment areas only where it has been demonstrated that:

- a) There is an identified need for the removal and the land is not required for employment areas uses over the long term.
- b) The proposed uses would not negatively impact the overall visibility of the employment area by:
 - a. avoiding, or where avoidance is not possible, minimizing and mitigating potential impacts to existing or planned employment area uses in accordance with policy 3.5; and
 - b. maintaining access to major good movement facilities and corridors.

- c) Existing or planned infrastructure and public service facilities are available to accommodate the proposed uses.

Provincial Significant Employment Zones

Provincially Significant Employment Zones is a term introduced into the Growth Plan in 2019. Since this definition does not apply to any lands in the County of Lambton – there will be no impact to the removal of this designation (it was not applicable).

Schools

- Establishes schools as an element of a 'complete community' and collaboration between planning authorities and school boards is specifically required.
- Recognizes innovative approaches in the design of schools, including schools located in high rise developments.

Preliminary comments:

Schools as an element of "complete communities" and collaboration with school boards

In the proposed PPS 2023, schools are part of what makes a 'complete community' in the Growth Plan. The County OP also includes policies related to school locations as "Improving Quality of Life" consideration (section 2.1). PPS 2023 directs planning authorities to collaborate with school boards to ensure schools are planned for as part of development. This direction is new to the Provincial Policy Statement, although it reflects what has long been considered a matter of Provincial Interest (despite a lack of mention in PPS 2020). This would be an expectation of both the upper and lower tier municipalities in the County.

Innovative approaches to design of schools

PPS 2023 also recognizes innovative approaches to the design of schools including schools located in high rise developments. This will be a welcome change by school boards in urban areas, where rapid redevelopment and intensification has created challenges for accommodation of increases in school aged children in areas where land is at a premium. While this will have little impact to the County, examining alternative forms of school site development and mixing of uses (such as co-location of schools and recreational services or even some housing options) has long been encouraged by the planning community.

Land Use Compatibility

- Maintains current protections for existing or planned industrial and manufacturing uses or other major facilities.
- Removes requirement for proponents of sensitive land uses to demonstrate need or evaluate alternative locations for sensitive

	<p>land uses where avoidance of adverse effects is not possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increases restrictions on uses in employment areas. • Encourages industrial, manufacturing, and small-scale manufacturing uses in strategic growth areas and other mixed-use areas where frequent transit service is available.
<p>Preliminary comments:</p> <p><i>Protections for existing or planned industrial/manufacturing uses or major facilities</i> PPS 2023 enhances protections for industrial and manufacturing uses as well as other major facilities from encroachment of sensitive uses. PPS 2023 removes the reference to “other uses that are vulnerable to encroachment” and limits the focus to industrial and manufacturing uses and other major facilities.</p> <p><i>Removes requirement for proponents of sensitive land uses to demonstrate need or evaluate alternative locations</i> PPS 2023 revises the test planning authorities must consider where it is not possible to avoid adverse effects from odour, noise, and other contaminants. There is no longer a requirement for a proponent of a sensitive land use to demonstrate there is a ‘need’ for the proposed use or to evaluate ‘alternative locations’. References to adverse effects to the proposed sensitive use being minimized or mitigated are removed, creating greater focus on protecting the long-term viability of industrial and manufacturing uses, as well as major facilities.</p> <p><i>Increases restriction on uses in employment areas</i> PPS 2023 encourages industrial, and manufacturing uses that do not give rise to the potential adverse effects from odour, noise, and other contaminants to be developed outside of employment areas in strategic growth areas and other mixed-use areas where frequent transit service is available. It also promotes the transition of uses in lands outside of employment areas to prevent adverse effects on sensitive land uses. The list of prohibited uses in employment areas is expanded to residential uses, commercial uses, public service facilities and other institutional uses, while maintaining permissions for other sensitive uses that are ancillary to the primary employment use to maintain compatibility.</p>	
Natural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Heritage policies and related definitions remain under consideration by the Province and were not provided in the proposed PPS 2023.

Preliminary comments:

The Natural Heritage policies and related definitions remain under consideration by the Province and were excluded from the proposed PPS 2023. This is significant and greatly concerning as these are features such as woodlots and wetlands that provide natural environmental buffers to deal with flooding and reduce pollution.

There is some indication of the direction the Province wants to take in the Vision Statement of PPS 2023 – being a shift from conserving biodiversity and protecting essential ecological processes to an approach that balances the use and management of natural resources with attention to housing supply. This will have significant implications for achieving environmental goals.

Agriculture

- Eliminates alternative evaluations for settlement area expansions.
- Establishes potentially less protection for specialty crop areas.
- Eliminates the alternative evaluations for mineral aggregate extraction rehabilitation.
- Eliminates the requirement to use the provincially mapped Agricultural System.
- Permits ADUs and ground-extensive energy facilities.

Preliminary comments:

Elimination of alternative evaluations for Settlement Area Expansions

Under the current PPS 2020, expansion of Settlement Areas into prime agricultural areas requires an evaluation of alternative locations for expansion, with a determination that no reasonable alternatives exist that avoid:

- a) prime Agricultural areas; and
- b) on lower priority agricultural lands within the prime agricultural area.

Settlement Area expansions would now give consideration to avoidance or where avoidance is not possible, minimizing and mitigating impacts to the extent feasible on agricultural lands and operations adjacent or close to the settlement area. The impact would be assessed through an agricultural impact assessment (a new defined term) based on provincial guidance.

Establishing potentially less protection for specialty crop areas

PPS 2020 requires proponents of Settlement Area expansions to demonstrate that the lands did not compromise specialty crop areas. Under PPS 2023, planning authorities “should consider” whether the applicable lands compromise special crop areas. This new (and potentially lower) threshold applies to the impact assessment noted above, and compliance with MDS formulae.

This potential weakening of the tests may lead to more consumption of prime agricultural land – this will have an impact on County municipalities with an economic base focused on agriculture. This concern may be offset by retention elsewhere in PPS 2023 of a mandatory policy to designate and protect prime agriculture areas, including specialty crop areas, for long-term use for agriculture, and mandatory compliance with the MDS formulae in the creation of new lots and establishing new uses. However, the language of PPS 2023 is unclear if this interpretation is correct – further clarification is necessary as this view is not universal in terms of interpreting PPS 2023.

Staff are concerned of the impacts to Agricultural operations with the cumulative changes in PPS 2023. While the paragraph above may provide an ‘optimistic view’ of impacts to specialty crop areas – the mitigation assumes that protections in PPS 2023 and mandatory compliance of the MDS are the case (meaning no further variances to MDS would be permitted). Addition of new lots will further complicate the already challenging relationship of residential uses around agricultural operations. Rural farmers have significant challenges to maintaining operations (rising costs of inputs, lack of labour) – further conflicts by adding more residential will be a further pressure to their operations.

Minister’s additional powers

- Minister can make regulations and orders related to planning functions done by local Municipalities.
- Prohibits municipalities enacting policies that are more restrictive than certain policies of the proposed PPS 2023 and establishes greater role for Ministerial Zoning Orders.
- All municipal decisions, including Zoning By-laws and permitting processes must be consistent with the proposed PPS 2023, even before a municipality’s OP has been updated.

Preliminary comments:

Minister can make regulations and orders related to Planning Functions done by Municipalities

Bill 97 gives the Minister new powers which allow direct intervention into certain planning functions. Both the *City of Toronto Act* and the *Municipal Act, 2001* are amended to provide the Minister the Authority to make wide-ranging regulations which govern municipal powers. These regulations can:

- impose restrictions, limits and conditions on the powers of municipalities to regulate the demolition and conversion of residential rental properties;
- prescribe requirements to be contained in by-laws;

- prescribe conditions that must be included as requirements for obtaining a permit; and
- prescribe requirements the municipality must impose on owners of land.

One proposed regulation under the *Planning Act* would prescribe areas where site plan control could apply to developments containing 10 or fewer residential units, specifically within 120 metres of a shoreline and within 400 metres of a railway line. This ERO is available for comment until May 21, 2023.

Changes to the *Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Act* allow the Minister to appoint up to four (4) Deputy Facilitators, along with the Provincial Land and Development Facilitator to advise and make recommendations to the Minister in respect of growth, land use and other matters. The intent of these roles appears to relate to the transition of planning functions from upper-tier municipalities “without planning functions” (a change from Bill 23). However, it may be that these roles would apply to other functions and municipalities across Ontario.

Prohibition on municipalities enacting policies more restrictive than certain policies proposed in PPS 2023 and greater role of Ministerial Zoning Orders (MZO)

Several policies in PPS 2023 prohibit municipalities from imposing more restrictive policies and regulations than those set out by the Province (with some exceptions for public health and safety where noted). Some of those concerns have been noted earlier in this document and may pose challenges for Provincially imposed policies in the County OP.

PPS 2023 also provides for increased involvement of the Minister in the planning process. The MZO term is used in PPS 2023 for the first time, and it states that when an MZO is in place, the resulting development potential shall be in addition to projected needs over the planning horizon established in the OP.

All Municipal Decisions, including Zoning By-laws and permitting processes, must be consistent with PPS 2023 even before a local OP has been updated

The implementation and interpretation policies proposed in PPS 2023 emphasize the ability of the Minister to set planning priorities and require municipalities to abide by these directives. PPS 2023 states that the Minister can take into account other government priorities when implementing the Provincial Policy Statement. Policies are proposed that would require municipalities to make planning decisions consistent with PPS 2023 even before OP or By-law updates. These policies were not previously found in PPS 2020.

Bill 97 Amendments related to the *Planning Act* or Planning functions:

- Enacting that fee refunds mandated under Bill 109 do not take effect until July 1, 2023, and enable the Minister to create regulations to exempt Municipalities from this refund in the future.
- Clarification amendments to Bill 23 related to parking for ADUs and housekeeping around terminology.

- Enabling legislation to re-establish Site Plan Control for buildings with 10 units or less when in proximity to a lakeshore or railway crossing.
- Re-establishing appeal rights for establishing an Interim Control By-law and reducing the notice of passing of an Interim Control By-law to 20 days.
- Establishing powers to the Minister to require landowners to enter into Development Agreements in relation to lands that have been assigned to the Provincial Land and Development Facilitator.
- Modify the definition of Employment Areas to include only heavy industrial and other employment uses that cannot locate near sensitive uses and scope the ability to appeal municipal refusals and non-decisions.
- Create regulation-making authority to modify the application of provincial policy statements to decisions on matters to support the implementation of provincial policies on a case-by-case basis.
- Amend the *Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Act* to provide ability to appoint four (4) Deputy Provincial Land Development Facilitators.



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 3, 2023
SUBJECT:	Homelessness Prevention Program Investment Plan 2023/2024

BACKGROUND

On March 24, 2023, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) announced an increase to the current Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) allocation, as well as multi-year funding to assist in planning and delivery of services in the County of Lambton.

The Ministry noted the government is investing an additional \$202 million annually under the HPP and Indigenous Supportive Housing Program (ISHP) beginning in 2023-24. This ongoing investment in supportive housing and homelessness prevention services will help vulnerable Ontarians and demonstrates a commitment to serving the needs of diverse communities across Ontario. With this significant commitment, the Ministry will be investing a total of over \$695 million per year to provide housing services to those most in need. This additional funding will help get shovels in the ground on new supportive housing, which is widely considered a key element in preventing and addressing homelessness. This funding will also help address increasing pressures in the emergency shelter sector including the complex needs of those experiencing homelessness and shelter capacity issues.

Lambton County will receive annualized funding of \$5,615,600 to assist vulnerable residents who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness. This represents an increase of \$2,045,100 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year for the County of Lambton budget. Staff have analyzed the available data to determine the most strategic and appropriate way to allocate the additional funding.

DISCUSSION

Through the new HPP funding, the County of Lambton Social Services Division will continue to fund various community and internal initiatives that aim to prevent and reduce

chronic homelessness. The goals of the HPP align with ongoing work and goals of the Lambton County 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan to ensure everyone in Lambton County has an affordable, suitable, and adequate home.

The increased funding comes at a very critical time for Lambton County and other areas of the province. We have seen increased housing costs, low vacancy rates, and rising community needs. In addition, individuals and families experiencing homelessness are presenting with increased needs for support more so than in previous years.

The increase in funding will be utilized to address the pressures on homelessness locally, primarily by:

- covering the increased costs of operating the Out of the Cold shelter program;
- covering the increased costs of the short-term rent supplement program to provide financial supports to low-income individuals and families to find and retain safe and affordable housing;
- covering the increased costs of the rent/energy arrears programs operated by community partners as well as the Ontario Works Department to ensure individuals and families remain housed;
- support costs associated with supportive housing as these supports are proven to provide an increased success rate of long-term tenancy than those individuals who are housed without supports in place; and
- plan for the development of supportive and affordable housing within the County of Lambton over the next five years. To achieve this, housing allowances presently in the base budget and funded from the County levy will be funded by the additional HPP funding, allowing staff to utilize the levy dollars for new supportive housing.

Service Managers are required to submit an annual Investment Plan for review and approval by MMAH. This Investment Plan must also be approved by the Service Manager's local Council.

The plan is comprised of two parts:

1. a financial forecast and outline of the anticipated quarterly spending in the upcoming fiscal year and projected number of households assisted for the program year across all HPP service categories, and
2. the HPP Proposed Plan, which provides written details on the proposed use of funds, including information on the types of services and activities that will be funded for each service category.

In summary, as further detailed below, the funds in question will be allocated as follows:

Community Outreach and Supportive Services - \$701,750

- staffing to support tenants at risk of homelessness or requiring community supports;
- transitional housing supports provided by Community organizations to ensure successful tenancies; and
- funds to address food insecurity.

Emergency Shelter Solutions - \$380,500

- provides base funding to the Inn of the Good Shepherd for the Good Shepherd's Lodge and The Haven youth shelter; and
- provides additional funds required for the Inn of the Good Shepherd to operate the Out of the Cold overflow shelter. There is a significant increase in funding for an Out of the Cold overflow shelter due to increased community demand, longer stays in shelter, more complex needs of the individuals and families experiencing homelessness, and the phasing out of Social Services Relief Funding.

Housing Assistance - \$2,246,986

- funding for long-term rent supplements to ensure tenants have financial assistance to remain housed;
- funding for rent and utility arrears to ensure tenants remain housed, provided to community agencies and County delivered programs;
- funding for the Landlord Engagement position to work with landlords to deliver the rent supplement program; and
- additional funds to support with last month's rent and transitioning costs for participants of the Short-Term Shelter program experiencing homelessness.

Supportive Housing - \$2,005,584

- funding to the domiciliary hostels to provide supports, meals etc. to 30 individuals;
- funding to Lambton Elderly Outreach to provide supportive housing within retirement homes in the County;
- funding to community agencies to provide supports to ensure individuals retain their tenancies including mental health supports and life skills training; and
- to provide rent supplements along with support services through various County programs.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The HPP is 100% provincially funded through MMAH. The introduction of this program will result in an increase of \$2,045,100 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year for the County of Lambton budget. There is no impact to the County of Lambton budget.

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. Consultations with community service providers will continue as there continue to be concerns regarding the reporting guidelines from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

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.
- Actively pursuing joint opportunities with community partners that contribute to the well-being of the Lambton Community.

CONCLUSION

The additional HPP funds will be allocated to existing initiatives that meet the directives of the funding guidelines and address the goals of building system capacity to prevent homelessness and drive reductions in chronic homelessness. Work will continue under the HPP whereby 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 supports and services. In addition, having a three-year funding commitment from the province will allow staff to plan for the development of much needed affordable and supportive housing within the County.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) **That staff be authorized to submit the proposed Homelessness Prevention Program Investment Plan for the 2023-24 fiscal year as follows:**

	Planned Financial Commitments by Quarter				
Operating	Q1 Apr-Jun	Q2 July-Sept	Q3 Oct-Dec	Q4 Jan-Mar	Total
Community Outreach &	162,062	162,062	162,062	215,562	\$701,750

	Planned Financial Commitments by Quarter				
Support Services					
Emergency Shelter Solutions	87,250	87,250	87,250	118,750	\$380,500
Housing Assistance	561,747	561,747	561,747	561,747	\$2,246,986
Supportive Housing	501,396	501,396	501,396	501,396	\$2,005,584
Total Operating	1,312,455	1,312,455	1,312,455	1,397,455	\$5,334,820
Administration Fees	28,078	84,234	84,234	84,234	\$280,780
Grand Total	1,340,533	1,396,689	1,396,689	1,481,689	\$5,615,600

- b) That staff be authorized to re-allocate program funds between the program components in response to local needs, the updated County of Lambton Housing and Homelessness Plan, and to ensure full utilization of allocations.

**MINUTES
COMMITTEE A.M.**

(Infrastructure & Development Services/Public Health Services/Cultural Services)

April 20, 2023

A meeting was held at the Lambton Heritage Museum at 8:30 a.m. on the above date.

Present

Chair I. Veen and Members T. Case, D. Sageman attended in person. Members M. Bradley, A. Broad, B. White and Warden K. Marriott 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; Mr. R. Beauchamp, Deputy Clerk; and, Mr. S. Thiffeault, Chief Administrative Officer.

Absent

D. Boushy.

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest: None.

INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION

Correspondence to Receive and File

I&DS 05-01-23 A letter dated March 27, 2023, from the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) to Heads of Councils and Councillors, to raise awareness and solicit support for objecting a new fee proposed by Enbridge Gas. This new fee is a charge to third party contractors and other utilities for locate services. The correspondence also includes consideration of a motion to oppose the proposed fees.

#1: Case/Sageman: That Council support correspondence I&DS 05-01-23 as follows:

WHEREAS, Enbridge recently made an announcement of their intention to begin charging third-party contractors and other utilities \$200 CAD (plus applicable taxes) for utility locates where a field locate is required;

AND WHEREAS, third-party contractors include Ontario municipalities;

AND WHEREAS, these locate requests are only required as Ontario municipalities have allowed utilities to use municipal right of ways at no charge to the utilities;

AND WHEREAS, this announcement of new downloaded costs will negatively impact the budgets of Ontario municipalities which are already burdened;

Committee A.M. – April 20, 2023 (page 2)

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the Corporation of the County of Lambton strongly opposes these utility locate costs being downloaded to Ontario municipalities by Enbridge Gas or other utilities;

AND THAT, the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery make it clear that these costs must be borne by the utilities themselves;

AND THAT, this decision be forwarded to Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery Kaleed Rasheed, Minister of Infrastructure Kinga Surma, Minister of Energy Todd Smith, Premier Doug Ford, Bob Bailey MPP, the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Carried.

I&DS 05-02-23 A letter dated February 21, 2023, regarding Notice of Project Change and Public Information Sessions for an Environmental Study for Enbridge's Proposed Watford Pipeline Project. The letter outlines details of the Enbridge Pipeline Project and several pipeline routing alternatives.

I&DS 05-03-23 A Notice of Commencement of Environmental Assessment from Waste Management Canada regarding the Twin Creeks Landfill Optimization Project to be held April 19, 2023, at 5768 Nauvoo Road, Watford from 4 - 8 pm.

I&DS 05-04-24 Notice of Public Information Session from Waste Management Canada regarding a Proposed Renewable Natural Gas Facility at the Twin Creeks Landfill Site, 5768 Nauvoo Road, Watford from 4 - 7 pm on March 30, 2023.

#2: Bradley/SageMan: That correspondence items I&DS 05-02-23, 05-03-23 and 05-04-24 be received and filed.

Carried.

Information Report(s)

#3: SageMan/Case: That the following Information Reports from the Infrastructure and Development Services Division be received and filed:

- a) Information Report dated April 20, 2023, regarding 2023-2027 Roads Construction Program.
- b) Information Report dated April 20, 2023, regarding Emergency Management Coordinator Activities Report.
- c) Information Report dated April 20, 2023, regarding Woodlands Annual Report 2022.
- d) Information Report dated April 20, 2023, regarding Upcoming 2023 Public Works Conferences.

Carried.

Committee A.M. – April 20, 2023 (page 3)

Report Requiring a Motion

Report dated April 20, 2023, Regarding Low-Speed Vehicles Pilot Program

#4: Bradley/Sagean:

- a) That Staff present a By-Law to County Council to permit the use of low speed vehicles (LSV) on specific County Roads in the City of Sarnia and Village of Point Edward;
- b) That County Council restrict the permitted use of LSV on County Roads in the City of Sarnia and Village of Point Edward to business and commercial purposes for passenger transport or delivery services.

Carried.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION

Emergency Medical Services Department

Information Reports

#5: Agar/Sagean: That the following Information Reports from the Public Health Services Division – Emergency Medical Services Department be received and filed:

- a) Information Report dated April 20, 2023, regarding 2022 Ambulance Response Times.
- b) Information Report dated April 20, 2023, regarding 2022 Ambulance Service Review.

Carried.

CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION

Information Report

Information Report Dated April 20, 2023, Regarding Lambton Heritage Museum – Status Update on Exhibition Gallery Renovations

#6: Marriott/Case: That the Information Report dated April 20, 2023, Regarding Lambton Heritage Museum – Status Update on Exhibition Gallery Renovations be received and filed.

Carried.

Report Requiring a Motion

Report dated April 20, 2023, Regarding Museums, Gallery & Archives Collections Management, January and February 2023.

Committee A.M. – April 20, 2023 (page 4)

#7: Broad/Sage: That the Museums, Gallery & Archives Collections Management, January, and February 2023 Report be accepted, and items recommended for acceptance be approved for inclusion in the respective permanent collections, and letters of appreciation be sent in accordance with the County's Recognition Policy.

Carried.

IN-CAMERA

No In-Camera items.

ADJOURNMENT

#8: Broad/Agar: That the Chair declare the meeting adjourned with the next meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the County Building, Wyoming, Ontario.

Carried.

Time: 8:34 a.m.

Ian Veen
Chair

Ryan Beauchamp
Deputy Clerk

**MINUTES
COMMITTEE P.M.**

(Long-Term Care/Corporate Services/Finance, Facilities and Court Services/Social Services)

April 20, 2023

A meeting was held at the Lambton Heritage Museum at 1:00 p.m. on the above date.

Present

Chair D. Ferguson and Members G. Atkinson, B. Dennis, B. Hand, J. Field, C. McRoberts attended in person. Warden K. Marriott and Member S. Miller attended virtually. Various staff were also present including the following: 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; Mr. R. Beauchamp, Deputy Clerk; and, Mr. S. Thiffeault, Chief Administrative Officer.

Absent

D. Cook.

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest: None.

LONG-TERM CARE DIVISION

Information Report dated April 20, 2023, Regarding 2022 Inspections

#1: Hand/Dennis: That Information Report dated April 20, 2023, regarding 2022 Inspections be received and filed.

Carried.

FINANCE, FACILITIES AND COURT SERVICES DIVISION

Information Report dated April 20, 2023, Regarding 2022 Councillor Remuneration and Related Expenses

#2: Atkinson/Field: That Information Report dated April 20, 2023, regarding 2022 Councillor Remuneration be received and filed.

Carried.

Reports Requiring a Motion

Report dated April 20, 2023, Regarding Year-End Monitoring Report

Committee P.M. - April 20, 2023 (page 2)

#3: McRoberts/Dennis: 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 preliminary 2022 year-end surplus of \$525,000 to the County's Stabilization Reserve.

Carried.

Report dated April 20, 2023, Regarding 2023 Tax Policy

#4: Hand/Dennis:

- 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 2022 Taxation year, and that these ratios continue to apply in the 2023 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 18.362938.

Carried.

SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

Information Report dated April 20, 2022, Regarding Maxwell Park Place Affordable Housing Development Update

#5: Atkinson/McRoberts: That Information Report dated April 20, 2023, regarding Maxwell Park Place Affordable Housing Development Update be received and filed.

Carried.

Reports Requiring a Motion

Report dated April 20, 2023, Regarding Devine Street Update

#6: McRoberts/Dennis: That the building and grounds located at 244 Devine Street, Sarnia, be designated as Smoke Free.

Carried.

Report dated April 20, 2023, Regarding Housing Funding Allocations Year 5&6

#7: Dennis/Hand:

- a) That the following Investment Plan for Year 5 and Year 6 of the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative and the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative be submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing:

Committee P.M. - April 20, 2023 (page 3)

	COCHI Planned Financial Commitment	
	Year 5 (2023-24)	Year 6 (2024-25)
Capital Repairs	\$906,210	\$1,138,380
Rent Supplement	\$40,000	\$40,000
Administration	\$45,590	\$62,020
Allocation	\$911,800	\$1,240,400
	OPHI Planned Financial Commitment	
Homeownership	\$50,000	\$50,000
Ontario Renovates	\$284,300	\$261,120
Rental Assistance	\$325,000	\$325,000
Administration	\$34,700	\$33,480
Allocation	\$694,000	\$669,600

- b) That staff be authorized to re-allocate program funds from time to time between the program components in response to local needs, and the updated Housing and Homelessness 5-Year Plan, so to ensure full utilization of annual allocations.
Carried.

IN-CAMERA

No In-Camera items.

ADJOURNMENT

#8: Field/Dennis: That the Chair declare the meeting adjourned with the next meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at the County Building, Wyoming, Ontario.

Carried.

Time: 1:06 p.m.

Ian Veen
Chair

Ryan Beauchamp
Deputy Clerk