



## **HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 1:00 pm**

The Committee met at 1:00 pm at the W & M Edelbrock Centre, 30 Centre St, Orangeville.

**Members Present:** Councillor Lisa Post (Chair)  
Councillor Guy Gardhouse  
Councillor Earl Hawkins  
Councillor James McLean (joined at 1:06 pm)  
Councillor Fred Nix  
Councillor Philip Rentsch  
Warden Darren White

**Members Present:** Councillor Gail Little (prior notice)

**Staff Present:** Sonya Pritchard, Chief Administrative Officer  
Michelle Dunne, Clerk  
Rebecca Whelan, Deputy Clerk  
Aimee Raves, Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer  
Brenda Wagner, Administrator, Dufferin Oaks  
Anna McGregor, Director of Community Services  
Tom Reid, Chief Paramedic

Chair Post called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

### **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT**

Chair Post shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

### **ROLL CALL**

The Deputy Clerk verbally took a roll call of Councillors in attendance.

### **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

## **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions from the public.

## **REPORTS**

1. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – February 22, 2024 – ITEM #1  
Dufferin Oaks Declaration of Compliance

A report from the Administrator of Dufferin Oaks, dated February 22, 2022, to request authorization to sign the Long Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement Declaration of Compliance.

**Moved by Warden White, seconded by Councillor Nix**

**THAT the report of the Administrator of Dufferin Oaks, dated February 22, 2024, regarding the Declaration of Compliance, be received;**

**AND THAT Council authorizes the Warden to sign the Declaration on behalf of Council for submission to Ontario Health – Central Region.**

**-Carried-**

2. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – February 22, 2024 – ITEM #2  
Funding Increase for Community Support Services

A report from the Administrator of Dufferin Oaks, dated February 22, 2022, to inform committee members of a recent one time and base funding increase for Community Support Services announced by the Central Region of Ontario Health.

Councillor McLean joined the meeting at 1:06 pm.

**Moved by Warden White, seconded by Councillor Gardhouse**

**THAT the report of the Administrator, dated February 22, 2024, regarding the funding increase to Community Support Services, be received.**

**-Carried**

3. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – February 22, 2024 – ITEM #3  
Quarterly Community Services Activity Report – Third & Fourth Quarter 2023

A report from the Director of Community Services, dated February 22, 2024, to provide Council with quarterly infographics that summarize the work undertaken by the Community Services Department, across Housing Services, Ontario Works and Early Years and Child Care (EYCC) Divisions.

**Moved by Councillor McLean, seconded by Councillor Nix**

**THAT the report of the Director, Community Services, titled Quarterly Community Services Activity Report – Third and Fourth Quarter, 2023, dated February 22, 2024, be received.**

**-Carried-**

4. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – February 22, 2024 – ITEM #4  
Access and Inclusion Framework and Start Up Grants

A report from the Director of Community Services, dated February 22, 2024, to share details about the County's implementation of the Access and Inclusion Framework within the scope of the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) System.

**Moved by Councillor Gardhouse, seconded by Warden White**

**THAT the report of the Director, Community Services, titled Access and Inclusion Framework and Start-Up Grants dated February 22, 2024, be received.**

**-Carried-**

5. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – February 22, 2024 – ITEM #5  
Dufferin Men's Shelter Update #3

A report from the Director of Community Services, dated February 22, 2024, to provide an update on the Dufferin Men's Shelter.

**Moved by Councillor Nix, seconded by Councillor Hawkins**

**THAT the report of the Director of Community Services, titled Dufferin Men's Shelter Update 3, dated February 22, 2024, be received.**

**-Carried-**

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

6. **Moved by Councillor Post**

**WHEREAS Dufferin County Council has identified our desire to create a community where everyone can live and thrive; and**

**WHEREAS the County of Dufferin as the upper tier government is the local service provider for Homelessness Prevention programs; and**

**WHEREAS the volatile economic situation has caused an influx in unhoused people in Dufferin County; and**

**WHEREAS creative solutions and advocacy are required to address the growing issue of homelessness in our community; and**

**WHEREAS a collaborative and comprehensive approach involving both community members and Council representatives working alongside County staff can contribute significantly to the development and implementation of effective solutions;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Dufferin County Council directs staff to establish a Homelessness Task Force and begin recruitment efforts with a proposed start date of Fall 2024 with terms of reference (to be approved by Council) that address the following objectives:**

- 1. To assess the current state of homelessness in Dufferin County, including the factors contributing to the issue**
- 2. To identify and evaluate existing Homelessness Prevention programs and services to determine effectiveness and gaps**
- 3. To explore and develop innovative and sustainable solutions to address homelessness across the County**
- 4. To engage with various stakeholders, including lower tier municipalities, community members, and local organizations currently providing services to ensure diverse perspectives are considered in the discussions**
- 5. To provide recommendations to Dufferin County Council for the implementation of effective strategies to prevent and alleviate homelessness**

**FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Homelessness Task Force shall consist of a balanced representation, including members from the community with expertise in social services, housing, mental health and addictions, and other relevant areas (i.e. Dufferin Men's Shelter, Family Transition Place, Choices Youth Shelter, The Lighthouse, etc.).**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:41 pm.

**NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, March 28, 2024  
W & M Edelbrock Centre, 30 Centre St, Orangeville

Respectfully submitted,

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Councillor Lisa Post, Chair  
Health and Human Services Committee