

The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes
Committee of the Whole Report

Report Number SOC2020-001

Meeting Date: March 10, 2020

Title: Community Drug Strategy

Author and Title: Jamie Clysdale, Program Supervisor

Recommendation(s):

That Report SOC2020-001, **Community Drug Strategy**, be received; and

That the formation of a community-based Advisory Group to support the Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland Drug Strategy, facilitated by City staff, be endorsed; and

That this recommendation be brought forward to Council for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Department Head:_____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other:_____

Chief Administrative Officer:_____

Background:

On October 8, 2019 a presentation of the Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland Drug Strategy was made at Committee of the Whole by Megan Deyman, Strategy Co-ordinator, and Mark Mitchell, Chief of Kawartha Lakes Police Service.

At the Council Meeting of October 22, 2019, Council adopted the following resolution:

CW2019-188

That Human Services staff be directed to report back to Council by end of Q1 2020 with options for convening a community-based advisory group to support the Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland Drug Strategy.

This report addresses this direction.

Rationale:

Across Ontario approximately 33 community drug strategies have been developed to respond to substance use-related harms and issues faced by communities, service providers, health care systems, and all levels of government.

The purpose of the Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland (HKLN) Drug Strategy is to facilitate a collaborative, evidence-based approach to minimize the risks and harms associated with substance use in each community.

The Strategy was developed under the direction of a Steering Committee and supported by a Co-ordinator funded through the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The three-year funding term for the Co-ordinator position and the development of the Strategy ended in December 2019.

The October 8th presentation at Committee of the Whole summarized the Strategy and discussed strengths and challenges related to its implementation in the three regions. Most partners participating in the development of the strategy identified the need for an organizing body to help with the implementation. Currently there is no organization or body overseeing the priorities or recommendations.

To assist in monitoring and addressing the priorities of the Strategy, it is recommended that an independent, community-based advisory body be established.

City staff, through the Human Services Department, are able to facilitate the process to establish this body. Similar to the development of the Poverty

Reduction Roundtable in 2016, City staff will co-ordinate a meeting of community partners and stakeholders to seek a community-based structure.

The outcome of this process will be communicated to Council at its conclusion.

Other Alternatives Considered:

Other options exist to develop this advisory group, primarily with other organizations facilitating the process. However, as the municipality has extensive experience in similar processes and has a significant role to play in broader community well-being, it can co-ordinate this process relatively quickly and seamlessly.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

There are no financial commitments relating to this process to establish an advisory group. It is anticipated that participation will be on a voluntary basis or with the assignment of in-kind contributions of existing resources.

Relationship of Recommendation(s) To The 2020-2023 Strategic Plan:

The development and implementation of the Drug Strategy relates directly to improving the health and well-being of residents.

Department Head E-Mail: rsutherland@kawarthalakes.ca

Department Head: Rod Sutherland, Director Human Services