

The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes

Council Report

Report Number HS2020-003

Meeting Date: May 26, 2020

Title: Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force

Author and Title: Rod Sutherland, Director of Human Services

Recommendation(s):

That Report HS2020-003, **Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force**, be received for information purposes; and

That the Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force Terms of Reference, appended as Attachment A to Report HS2020-003, be approved; and

That Councillors Ashmore, Elmslie and Richardson, Fire Chief Mark Pankhurst, and Director Rod Sutherland be appointed to the Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force; and

That the appointed Task Force members be delegated the authority to appoint the community representatives to the Task Force from the sectors as identified in the Terms of Reference.

Department Head:_____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other:_____

Chief Administrative Officer:_____

Background:

On April 28, 2020 Council adopted the following resolution:

That the verbal report from Ron Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer, regarding a Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force, be received;

That a Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force be established;

That staff are directed to prepare the Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force Terms of Reference; and

That the final terms of reference and update to Council on interested stakeholders and volunteers be provided at the May 26 Council Meeting.

This report addresses that direction.

Rationale:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City declared a State of Emergency on March 24, 2020. The pandemic has had far-reaching impacts on virtually all aspects of people's lives.

Although the City is but one level of government, it is the closest to the community and, as a direct service provider, and as the service system manager for Housing and Social Services, it has a leading role to play in the community's pandemic recovery.

The impacts on the broader human services sector affect both those who rely on those supports and services, and the service providers or organizations who deliver them. As the community adapts to living in the new realities of the pandemic and post-pandemic period it will be imperative to fully understand the impacts on people and service providers. In order to assist in identifying and assessing these impacts, a Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force is being established to co-ordinate this planning at a high level.

The City is committed to working with, and supporting, community service providers to co-ordinate services and enhance capacity for improved outcomes. The existing relationship between the City and many service providers, whether through established planning committees, service networks or funding agreements will assist in launching the Task Force and securing positive outcomes.

The Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force Terms of Reference are appended as Attachment A. Members of the Task Force will include City Councillors appointed by Council, the City's Fire Chief and Director of Human Services, and two representatives of each of the local health care, children and

youth services, and community and social services sectors. The individual representatives from the external sectors shall be confirmed by the appointed Council representatives within 7-10 days of the Task Force being established.

In addition to the primary members, the Task Force will establish working groups that include City staff and other community representatives to address specific needs or sectors. The Chief Executive Officer of the Kawartha Lakes Public Library, the City's Community Partnership and Programs Supervisor and Accessibility Officer are part of the Task Force planning group and will have specific roles in their respective expertise. The Office of Strategy Management will lead the Task Force engagement initiatives and support the overall process.

Public participation will be sought through multiple methods including the City's online engagement tool, "Jump In, Kawartha Lakes."

While the work of the Task Force will focus on recovery from the pandemic, it is acknowledged that significant direct response efforts are continuing at this time. The recovery planning and implementation will overlap with response efforts and are expected to complement those response efforts.

In 2019, through the Police Services Act, the Ministry of the Solicitor General mandated the development of Community Safety and Well-Being Plans (CSWBP) by single-tier municipalities in Ontario. The planning process allows municipalities to take a leadership role in defining and addressing priority risks in the community through proactive, integrated strategies that ensure vulnerable populations receive the help they need from the providers best suited to support them.

A report on the development of a Kawartha Lakes CSWBP had been scheduled to be presented to Council at the April 7, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting. The Province has now extended the original December 31, 2020 deadline for the completion of a CSWBP. A specific deadline has not yet been set.

As they have similar goals of supporting community health and well-being, the work of the Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force is expected to lay the foundation for much of the CSWBP. The Task Force will consider the framework and goals of the CSWBP as it progresses in an effort to streamline the latter's work.

To support residents and businesses in accessing information on Financial and Food and Community supports, the following web pages have already been created on the City website.

Financial Help: <https://www.kawarthalakes.ca/en/business-growth/covid-19-financial-help.aspx>

Food & Community Supports - <https://www.kawarthalakes.ca/en/living-here/covid-19-food-and-community-supports.aspx>

Financial Impacts:

The financial impacts of the pandemic are currently being assessed by Corporate Services. The work of this Task Force is not expected to incur direct financial expenses beyond minimal administrative costs.

The Task Force may make recommendations to Council that have financial implications and may include the reallocation of existing budgets to shift resources to improve recovery efforts or secure matching subsidies from external sources.

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

The Task Force directly relates to the Strategic Priorities of An Exceptional Quality of Life and Good Government.

Attachments:

Appendix A: Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force Terms of Reference



Community
Pandemic Recovery ~

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