



Council Report

Report Number:	HS2023-011
Meeting Date:	November 21, 2023
Title:	Joint Agreement for Social and Housing Services with the County of Haliburton
Description:	Joint Agreement for Social and Housing Services Review
Author and Title:	Cheryl Faber, Director Human Services

Recommendation(s):

That Report HS2023-011, **Joint Agreement for Social and Housing Services with the County of Haliburton**, be received;

That the Joint Agreement for Social and Housing Services be amended substantially in the form provided in Appendix A to this report, be approved;

That the necessary amending by-law be brought forward for adoption; and

That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute any documents required by the approval of this amended agreement.

Department Head: _____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other: _____

Chief Administrative Officer: _____

Background:

The City of Kawartha Lakes is the designated Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) for the delivery of Children's Services, Housing Services, Homelessness Prevention and Social Assistance in the County of Haliburton since January 1, 1999. This followed the development of the CMSM framework by the Province under the *Services Improvement Act, 1997*.

To solidify the partnership and prior to the City of Kawartha Lakes amalgamation in 2001, the original Joint Agreement for Social and Housing Services between the County of Victoria and County of Haliburton was executed in January 1999. Successor agreements or amendments between the City of Kawartha Lakes and the County of Haliburton have been executed in 2001, 2006, 2011 and 2016.

The following report provides Council with an overview of the current Joint Agreement and the proposed recommended changes. As well, the corresponding review and amendment of the current by-law authorizing execution of the agreement will be done and brought back to Council for adoption. Upon adoption by the City of Kawartha Lake's Council, as the designated CMSM for the County of Haliburton, the adopted by-law will then be forwarded to the County of Haliburton Council for their subsequent adoption.

Rationale:

At the October 18, 2023 Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) meeting, JAC2023-09 Report brought forward the following recommendation, which was supported:

That Report JAC2023-09, "Joint Advisory Committee Service Agreement Review", be received; and

That the agreement received by the Joint Advisory Committee and found as Attachment B be approved for execution by the Mayor and Clerk, subject to amendments made by the City Solicitor and pending the final review and approval.

In the existing agreement under Article 16, Item 16.5, it states that the "Committee may conduct a full review of this Agreement once every four years and present any proposed amendments to both Councils". A full review of the Agreement has not been done since 2016.

To that end, staff conducted a comprehensive review of the Agreement and as stated, proposed changes were brought forward to the JAC in October. Staff noted that changes were minor in scale and reflected revisions to update:

- Current dates;
- Changes to Acts, legislation, program names and descriptions;
- Proper name of the Committee to read Joint Advisory Committee for Social and Housing Services;
- Item 9.5, 9.6 and Schedule C to reflect current practice; and
- Current signing authorities.

The main addition was the inclusion of a new Article 3 – Consolidated Municipal Service Manager. This article now included in the revised agreement outlines the obligations of the CMSM related to the legislated role pertaining to each of the services provided as part of this Agreement.

Based on a revised agreement between both parties, under current Article 16, Item 16.3, states that “The mutual consent of both parties to amend this Agreement shall be evidenced by a by-law from each of their respective Councils, approving execution of the agreement”. Currently By-Law 2011-135 authorizes the execution of an agreement between the County of Haliburton and the City of Kawartha Lakes for the delivery of Ontario Works, Social Housing and Child Care Services. Upon approval of the revised agreement, staff will amend the necessary By-Law and bring to Council for adoption, and subsequently to the County of Haliburton Council.

The City Solicitor has provided review of the Agreement.

Other Alternatives Considered:

As part of the review, alternatives were considered in all areas of the Agreement. The recommended changes represent a partnership and collaborative approach to the delivery and cost share of the programs and services under the Agreement.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities

The following report aligns with the strategic priorities to build and improve an Exceptional Quality of Life and for the establishment of Good Government.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

There are no financial impacts based on the revision of this agreement. Financial changes to cost sharing described in the revised agreement are current practice and updated accordingly. The annual operating budget is developed and prepared based on the foundation of this agreement and the cost sharing model proposed in Article 6.

Consultations:

City Solicitor
Chief Administrative Officer, County of Haliburton
Manager, Human Services – Housing Services
Manager, Human Services – Social Services

Attachments:

Appendix A –Joint Agreement for Social and Housing Services with the County of Haliburton



JOINT AGREEMENT
FOR SOCIAL AND HOI

Department Head email: cfaber@kawarthalakes.ca

Department Head: Cheryl Faber, Director, Human Services