LONG-TERM CARE
PURCHASE OF SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH
ONTARIO SHORES CENTRE FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Community and Health Services Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report dated January 30, 2013, from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. Council authorize the purchase of service agreement between The Regional Municipality of York and Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Services to provide clinical psychogeriatric services for the Long-Term Care Integrated Psychogeriatric Outreach Program, for a one-year term effective January 1, 2013, in the amount of $284,802.84 inclusive of all fees and taxes.

2. The Commissioner of Community and Health Services be authorized to execute any necessary purchase of service agreements for 2013 and four further periods of one year each, in the amount of $284,802.84 in the first year with annual increases not to exceed the All-Ontario Consumer Price Index for the previous year as published by Statistics Canada.

2. PURPOSE

This report seeks authorization to approve a purchase of service agreement between The Regional Municipality of York and Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Services (Ontario Shores) to provide clinical psychogeriatric services for the Long-Term Care Integrated Psychogeriatric Outreach Program. This agreement will allow for three full time community psychogeriatric clinicians to provide required services to the program.

Schedule “A” of the Region’s Purchasing Bylaw lists purchases, expenditures, and expenses which are exempted from the purchasing procedures of the Bylaw. Payments to health agencies that are subject to purchase of service agreements are listed in Schedule “A” of the Bylaw.
3. BACKGROUND

In 2006 Council approved the establishment of an Integrated Community Psychogeriatric Outreach Team

In May 2006, Council approved the proposal submitted to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care for the Long-Term Care and Seniors Division to be designated as the sponsor agency for the development and implementation of an Integrated Community Psychogeriatric Outreach Team. The purpose of the team is to service older adults and their families living in the community in York Region with dementias and/or mental health issues by providing clinical assessments, treatment and care planning to this target population. York Region oversees the contract with Ontario Shores (formerly Whitby Mental Health Centre) with respect to administrative requirements, performance of services, compliance of duties of the clinicians, and achievement of performance targets that are reported to the Central Local Health Integrated Network as required under the Multi-Sector Service Accountability Agreement.

In 2008 Council approved the expansion of the services referred to as the Integrated Psychogeriatric Outreach Program

In June 2008 Council approved the expansion of the services to create an Integrated Psychogeriatric Outreach Program, to increase the services from one community psychogeriatric clinician to a total of three clinicians. Council also authorized the Long-Term Care and Seniors Division to enter into a purchase of service agreement with other partner agencies (Ontario Shores, psychiatrists and geriatricians) to provide clinical assessments, treatment and care planning to clients with mental health issues and/or responsive behaviours.

Ontario Shores has been a partner agency since 2007 and provides the equivalent of three full-time community psychogeriatric clinicians

A purchase of service agreement has been in place with Ontario Shores since 2007. This service agreement is for the services of three full-time community psychogeriatric clinicians. The duties of the clinicians are:

- Provide psychiatric clinical services, with a focus on geriatric mental health needs, to individuals living in the community. The clinician works in consultation with, and as a member of, a multi-disciplinary team, and includes access to a psychiatrist and/or a geriatrician as needed. The Integrated Psychogeriatric Outreach Program team provides liaison and advisory services between Ontario Shores, York Region Long-Term Care, community medical and mental health service providers.

- Refer medical conditions requiring attention to the appropriate medical practitioner.
• Work independently and collaboratively with community partners within the multi-disciplinary team context and within facility, ministry, legislative and professional practice parameters.

• Promotes the integration of community and hospital programs in the development of treatment programs which meet client/family/stakeholder needs and goals.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Community Psychogeriatric Outreach Services are required in York Region

There are a significant and growing number of clients with complex physical and mental health needs and associated behaviours in York Region. These include clients with the following types of conditions:
• Older adults with severe mental illness, including those who require acute and ongoing mental health care.
• People with long standing mental illness that now require long-term care.
• Vulnerable adults who are less than 65 years of age, with behaviours related to dementias and/or mental health issues.

Early identification and on-going management of behaviours and mental health issues helps to avert and/or facilitate management of crisis so that individuals can remain at home, avoid unnecessary transfers, and have safe transfers to hospital when necessary. This service also provides critical support to caregivers by providing assessments and strategies to cope and in accessing additional resources. A direct referral process to Ontario Shores is currently in place, i.e., admission to beds on the Ontario Shores seniors inpatient unit through the Community Psychogeriatric Clinicians of the Integrated Psychogeriatric Outreach Program team.

Link to key Council-approved plans

The delivery of specialized mental health services will contribute to the attainment of the Vision 2026 goals of developing quality communities for a diverse population and responding to the needs of York Region residents.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

York Region Long-Term Care has signed yearly purchase of service agreements with Ontario Shores since 2007 after Council approved the establishment of the Integrated Community Psychogeriatric Outreach Team.
The total value of the purchase of service agreement with Ontario Shores effective January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013 is $284,802.84 inclusive of all fees and taxes. The service provider will submit monthly invoices in the amount of $23,733.57. There will be no change in the service level currently provided by Ontario Shores. The costs relate to salaries and benefits for three community psychogeriatric clinicians, and are comparable to market value for such professionals with psychogeriatric qualifications and experience.

For the four further periods of one year each, the annual increases will not exceed the All-Ontario Consumer Price Index for the previous year as published by Statistics Canada.

The cost of the purchase of service agreement with Ontario Shores is fully funded by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Central Local Health Integrated Network Aging at Home fund.

Long-Term Care Integrated Psychogeriatric Outreach Program is the only service provider in York Region. The only other similar service is operated by St. Elizabeth Health Care in Toronto, comparable costs and service levels statistics are not currently available.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

The continued implementation of this program will sustain specialized psychogeriatric mental health services to the residents requiring these services in York Region and will enable them to receive these services in all local municipalities. Long-Term Care and Seniors Division is the only service provider that facilitates Ontario Shores in providing this kind of service for this population in York Region.

7. CONCLUSION

The purchase of service agreement with Ontario Shores will enable the Long-Term Care Integrated Psychogeriatric Outreach Program to support positive quality of life of older individuals with complex mental health needs by providing expertise in geriatric mental health.

For more information on this report, please contact Sylvia Patterson, General Manager of Housing and Long-Term Care at Ext. 2091.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.