

Bill Fisch, B.Com., LLB, J.D.
Chairman and CEO



The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street, Box 147
Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 6Z1

Tel: 905-895-1231
905-731-0201

email: bill.fisch@york.ca

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Commission for the Review of Social Assistance in Ontario
2 Bloor Street West
4th Floor, Suite 400
Toronto ON
M4W 3E2

Dear Commissioners Lankin and Sheikh:

Re: Invitation to Participate in York Region Community Consultation

On behalf of The Regional Municipality of York, I would like to invite you to a consultation our Region is organizing to help bring together perspectives from the Service Manager and the community on the upcoming Options Paper.

As a Service Manager, York Region has a critical stake in the options being presented. We are involved as both a funder and manager of Ontario Works and other integrated human services, plus as a level of government striving to create strong, caring and safe communities for all residents within a fiscally challenging environment.

The consultation is being hosted by the York Region Human Services Planning Board (HSPB-YR). The HSPB-YR is a multi-sector collaborative of human service organizations/agencies/networks and community leaders. Its main purpose is to enhance human services within York Region through community capacity building and engagement, and collaborative advocacy. A list of HSPB-YR members is attached for your information. Additional information about HSPB-YR is available at www.york.ca/hspb

HSPB-YR will work with the York Region Food Network, Social Planning Council of York Region and other community groups to promote the consultation among stakeholders.

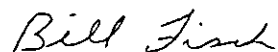
The work of the Commission for the Review of Social Assistance in Ontario (the Commission) provides an important opportunity to bring the community together to respond to the options put forward and provide suggestions that result in better outcomes for people receiving social assistance.

The consultation will build on the input already provided by Regional Council and the York Region Social Audit, co-convened by the Poverty Action for Change Coalition and the York Region Food Network, on the Commission's *Discussion Paper: Issues and Ideas*.

In the past, the Commission has held consultations in various areas of the province to gather input for their work. We hope to add York Region to this list through our community consultation.

Janet Rurak, our Program Manager of Human Services Collaboration, will follow-up with the Commission on possible dates once the Options Paper is released.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Fisch".

Bill Fisch
Chairman and CEO

Attachment - 1

Human Services Planning Board of York Region (HSPB-YR)

Member List - 2010-2014

HUMAN SERVICES PLANNING BOARD OF YORK REGION (HSPB-YR)

Mandate

To enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of human services in York Region through capacity building in the human services sector and collaborative advocacy.

Vision

A healthy and vibrant community enhanced through inclusive, collaborative and innovative human services.

Mission

To develop and implement system solutions which enhance community health and well-being.

Seven Guiding Principles

Accountability and Transparency
Collaboration
Communication
Community Engagement
Creating a Healthy Community
Mindset of Sharing
Respect and Diversity

Member Organizations

Regional Government Sector:

Bill Fisch, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), The Regional Municipality of York

John Taylor, Regional Councillor, Town of Newmarket and Co-Chair of the Human Services Planning Board of York Region

Adelina Urbanski, Commissioner of Community and Health Services, The Regional Municipality of York

Education Sector:

Susan LaRosa, Director of Education, York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) and Co-Chair of the Human Services Planning Board of York Region

Ken Thurston, Director of Education, York Region District School Board (YRDSB)

Hospital-based Healthcare Sector:

David Cox, Director, Human Resources and Occupational Health and Safety, Southlake Regional Health Centre and Vice Chair of the Human Services Planning Board of York Region. Mr. Cox represents all three York Region hospitals.

Community-based Healthcare Sector:

Carol Lever (Alternate Member), Director, Integration & Quality Improvement, Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) York Region

Isabel Araya, Executive Director, Vaughan Community Health Centre (VCHC)

Non-Profit Community Investment Sector:

Daniele Zanotti, CEO, United Way of York Region

Community Safety Sector:

Chief Eric Jolliffe, York Regional Police

Children, Youth and Family Services Sector:

Sylvia Pivko, Executive Director, Blue Hills Child and Family Centre and Co-Chair of the Forum for Children, Youth and Their Families in York Region

Seniors/Healthy Aging Sector:

Wyn Chivers, Chief Executive Officer, CHATS Community & Home Assistance to Seniors

Training-Education / Labour Market / Business Community Sector:

Tina DiSimone, Dean, Faculty of Applied Arts and Health Sciences, Principal of King Campus, Seneca College

Deborah Bonk Greenwood, President and CEO, Vaughan Chamber of Commerce

Newcomer/Immigrant Support Services Sector:

Elizabeth McIsaac, Executive Director, Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council (TRIEC)

Patricia Cousins, Chief Executive Officer, Social Enterprise for Canada (SEC). Ms. Cousins represents the Welcome Centre Immigrant Services and its five lead agencies.

Community and Social Support-Based Services Sector:

Kirsten Eastwood, Executive Director, Women's Centre of York Region

Community Leader Members

Housing and Community Planning Sector:

Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services, Town of Markham

Community Development Sector:

Bill Hogarth, Former Co-Chair, Human Services Planning Coalition (HSPC)

Homelessness Sector:

Stephen Gaetz, Associate Dean, Research and Field Development, Faculty of Education, York University

Faith and Homelessness Sector:

Rehana Sumar, Executive Director (Acting), Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold (MIOTC)

Government Advisor and Resource Members

Sandy McMillan, Service Delivery Manager, Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities

Victoria van Hemert, Senior Director, Central Local Health Integration Network (CLHIN)

Catherine Campbell, Regional Advisor, Ministry of Culture, Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion (Sport and Recreation Branch)