

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

**REPORT NO. 4
OF THE REGIONAL
HEALTH AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON MAY 12, 2005**

**For Consideration by
The Council of The Regional Municipality of York
on May 19, 2005**

Chair: Regional Councillor J. Frustaglio

Members: Mayor R. Grossi
Regional Councillor J. Heath
Regional Councillor B. Hogg
Regional Chair B. Fisch, ex-officio

Staff Present: D. Bladek-Willett, S. Cartwright, P. Casey, T. Chow, J. Churchill, H. Jaczek, H. Kassam, B. Meekin, S. Neill, S. Turner, M Woolhead

The Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee began its meeting at 2:00 p.m. on May 12, 2005.

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LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE REPORT 2004**
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INFORMATION SYSTEM (IPHS)**
- 4 BEACH SAMPLING PROGRAM**
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- 6 UPDATE - COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS**

The Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee advises Council of the following matters having been considered by Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee with the following action:

PRESENTATION

1. Penny Hubbert, Manager, Seniors Community Programs regarding 'Community Service Mapping Tool for Planning'. **Received**

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Town of Markham, dated March 31, 2005, regarding 'West Nile Virus 2004 Update and 2005 Action Plan'. **Received**
2. City of Toronto, dated April 12, 2005, regarding 'Point-of-Sale Promotion of Tobacco Products'. **Recommended for endorsement and referred to staff for consideration with future report**
3. City of Toronto, dated April 20, 2005, regarding 'Curbing Transboundary Air Pollution'. **Received**
4. Township of King, dated April 29, 2005, regarding 'Area Municipal Support for West Nile Virus Mosquito Control Plan'. **Received**
5. Hon. Harinder S. Takhar, Minister of Transportation, dated May 2, 2005, regarding 'proper installation and use of child car seats'. **Received**
6. Frank Klees, M.P.P. Oak Ridges, dated May 3, 2005, regarding 'Region of York's resolution regarding the use of alcohol and marijuana amongst our youth'. **Received**
7. Frank Klees, M.P.P. Oak Ridges, dated May 3, 2005, regarding 'Region of York's resolution relating to the LHIN boundaries'. **Received**
8. Porcupine Health Unit resolution, dated May 3, 2005, regarding 'Mandatory Vaccine Against Influenza for Health Care Workers'. **Received**
9. Premier Dalton McGuinty dated May 6, 2005 regarding Council's resolutions regarding physician availability in Ontario and ATV use among children and youth. **Received**
10. Premier Dalton McGuinty dated May 9, 2005 regarding Council's resolution regarding Local Health Integration Networks. **Received**

OTHER BUSINESS

11. Committee considered and recommended adoption of the following motion:

WHEREAS every person in Ontario should have access to the same level of health care services, no matter where they live;

WHEREAS the GTA/905 Regions of York, Halton, Peel and Durham have been and will continue to be the fastest growing regions in Ontario, collectively growing at twice the provincial rate of growth by adding more than 90,000 new residents each year;

AND WHEREAS each year until at least 2011, the GTA/905 Regions of York, Halton, Peel and Durham will welcome and accommodate almost half of Ontario's annual growth in population;

AND WHEREAS each year until at least 2011, the GTA/905 Regions of York, Halton, Peel and Durham will experience a rate of growth in its population of seniors at twice the provincial growth rate of seniors;

AND WHEREAS the GTA/905 Regions of York, Halton, Peel and Durham collectively receive three-quarters of the age-weighted per capita funding for total health care services when compared to 33 regions across Ontario (resulting in a funding gap of \$866 million in annual funding that includes a \$545 funding gap for hospitals and \$60 million funding gap for CCACs);

AND WHEREAS the GTA/905 Regions of York, Halton, Peel and Durham comprise more than 40 per cent of the Priority and Emerging Urban Centres as identified by the Ontario Government's 2004 report *PLACES TO GROW: Better Choice. Brighter Future. A Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe.*;

AND WHEREAS the GTA/905 Regions of York, Halton, Peel and Durham are on average some of the lowest cost providers of the five health care services being targeted by the Ontario Government for reduction in wait times;

AND WHEREAS the GTA/905 Regions of York, Halton, Peel and Durham will collectively contribute more than \$570 million each year in Health Premium revenue to Provincial coffers (once fully implemented for 2005/06) making up 26% of \$2.2 Health Premium Revenue being collected from Ontario residents;

AND WHEREAS the GTA/905 Regions of York, Halton, Peel and Durham are facing a collective funding short-fall of \$88 million for 2004/05 and a

deficit forecast of \$126 million for 2005/06 which will require a significant reduction in health care services for the GTA/905 Region, layoffs of nursing and other staff, and increased wait times for many important health care services;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has received over \$800 million in new health care funding from the Federal Government and stands to receive an additional \$1.2 billion in the 2005/06 fiscal year;

AND WHEREAS the provision of health care and treatment close to home for the more than three million residents living in the GTA/905 Regions of York, Halton, Peel and Durham is consistent with improving access to care and contributes to improved quality of care due to better services coordination from one level of care to another;

AND WHEREAS the building of hospital infrastructure and the purchasing of medical equipment and health care technology is essential for providing effective health care in GTA/905 communities;

AND WHEREAS the York Region Human Services Planning Coalition (HSPC) reported in the *Fair is Fair Report, 2003* that health services funding in York Region is well below the Ontario average and Toronto's funding levels on a per capita basis;

AND WHEREAS the HSPC found that the Province of Ontario short-changed health services funding in York Region by more than \$485 million in 2004;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Regional Municipality of York demand that the Ontario Government immediately address the funding shortfalls for GTA/905 hospitals including hospitals in York Region;

AND FURTHER THAT given the Ontario Government's creation of Local Health Integrated Networks, and the need to more equitably allocate health care funds to regions across Ontario, the Ontario Government make it a priority to create and use a population, needs-based funding formula for LHINs that reflects:

- Current population, future population growth and aging
- Increased costs of providing health care services in rural areas, and
- Increased costs of multi-site health care organizations
- A base funding system that considered the number of users for services

AND FURTHER THAT the Provincial Government make legislative/regulatory changes so that revenue generated by

municipalities/regions through Development Charges can be used to support the construction/renovations of hospitals.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be forwarded to AMO and the 905 area municipalities and hospitals in York Region.

The Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**May 12, 2005
Newmarket, Ontario**

**J. Frustaglio
Chair**

(Report No. 4 of the Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee was adopted, without amendment, by Regional Council at its meeting held on May 19, 2005.)

S. Neill
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