

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

REPORT NO. 5 OF THE REGIONAL HEALTH AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON JUNE 8, 2006

**For Consideration by
The Council of The Regional Municipality of York
on June 22, 2006**

Vice-Chair: Regional Councillor B. Hogg

Members: Regional Councillor J. Heath
Regional Councillor L.D. Jackson
Regional Councillor T. Van Bynen
Regional Chair B. Fisch, ex-officio

Staff Present: P. Casey, J. Davidson, K. Kurji, B. Meekin, J. Mitchell, S. Neill, L. Russell,
J. Simmons, S. Turner, M. Woolhead

The Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee began its meeting at 2:00 p.m. on June 8, 2006.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1 LTC FACILITY LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE REPORT 2005
(FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY, OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND
SAFETY)**
- 2 NEWMARKET HEALTH CENTRE
2006 MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LONG-TERM CARE
COMPLIANCE REVIEW (PROGRAM STANDARDS)**
- 3 LONG TERM CARE AND SENIORS BRANCH
MISSION STATEMENT APPROVAL**

- 4 **FINAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH CAPACITY REVIEW COMMITTEE**
- 5 **PESTICIDE LABELLING**
- 6 **2006 SMOKE-FREE ONTARIO FUNDING UPDATE**
- 7 **YEAR END ACTIVITY REPORT (JANUARY 1–DECEMBER 31, 2005)**
- 8 **ONTARIO STROKE STRATEGY**
- 9 **HOSPITAL OFFLOAD DELAY PROJECT**
- 10 **EMS EFFICIENCIES REVIEW
IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS REPORT 2**
- 11 **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:

DEPUTATION

1. Ms Sue Fusco, Chair, STOP regarding E.M.F. exposure. **Received and referred to staff, together with communication dated April 5, 2006, speaking notes and hand-out material.**

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Eastern Ontario Health Unit to the Honourable Dalton McGuinty, dated April 20, 2006, regarding 'Eastern Ontario Health Unit Board of Health Resolution – Food Premises Regulation. **Received.**
2. Sandra Kranc, City Clerk, The Corporation of the City of Oshawa, May 29, 2006, regarding Funding for Local Hospitals and Health Care Services. **Recommended to Council for endorsement as follows:**

WHEREAS local access to hospital and other health care services is essential for building strong, prosperous and healthy communities;

WHEREAS the GTA/905 Regions of Durham, Halton, Peel and York are among the fastest growing regions in Ontario, expanding by over 100,000 residents each year and representing half the annual population growth in Ontario;

WHEREAS Provincial funding for Ontario's hospitals fails to take into account the increasing need for local hospital services in high growth regions of Ontario, such as the GTA/905 Regions of Durham, Halton, Peel and York such that there is a large and growing funding gap for hospital services in the GTA/905 compared to the rest of Ontario;

WHEREAS the GTAH Mayors and Chairs fully support Premier McGuinty's request for a fairer share of federal transfer payments and that Ontario's argument with the Federal Government parallels the GTA/905's hospital funding situations vis-à-vis other Ontario regions;

WHEREAS new or expanded hospitals facilities across the GTA/905 Regions will not result in additional hospital operating funding until construction is completed over the next number of years;

WHEREAS the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care in July 2005 committed to a 'growth and efficiency adjustment' in hospital funding for the 2006/07 fiscal year and this funding has yet to be allocated;

AND WHEREAS GTA/905 residents are now contributing more than \$570 million to the Province of Ontario by the way of the health care tax;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Mayor and Chairs ask the Province of Ontario to:

- 1) Provide immediate growth funding to GTA/905 hospitals so they can meet the hospital care needs of the growing number of residents in GTA/905 communities
- 2) Commit to funding new Local Health Integration Networks (LHIN) for hospital and other health care services on the basis of LHIN population size, growth and characteristics; and
- 3) Begin developing a hospital and health services plan for Ontario's high growth region to help build the 'complete communities' envisioned in *Places to Grow*

AND THAT this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Minister of Finance and the Councils of the GTA/905 area municipalities for endorsement.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. The following resolution regarding 'Internationally Trained Physicians' was recommended for endorsement:

WHEREAS the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) predicts that the physician

shortage in Ontario will reach 2,347 in 2006 and 2,648 in 2008 in its report entitled *Ontario Physician Shortage 2005: seeds of progress, but resource crisis deepening*; and,

WHEREAS it is estimated that 1.2 million Ontarians are without a Family Physician; the population of Ontario continues to grow and age and this problem will grow worse over time as more physicians retire; and

WHEREAS qualified International Medical Graduates (IMGs) can make a valuable contribution to Ontario's health care system, particularly with respect to alleviating the current and predicted future physician shortage; and

WHEREAS in York Region, Georgina and East Gwillimbury are designated by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long – Term Care as underserved areas for Family Physicians; and

WHEREAS it is noted that the MOHLTC [in conjunction with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) and Council of Ontario Faculties of Medicine] has recently created up to 200 postgraduate International Medical Graduates training or evaluation positions per year for fully qualified IMGs who are residents of Ontario or require postgraduate training ; and

WHEREAS internationally trained experienced physicians who currently practice outside of Ontario may be eligible for the new Registration through Practice Assessment Program, (RPA); and

WHEREAS The Regional Municipality of York recognizes that although some positive progress has been made, the physician shortage in Ontario necessitates even more progress in this area;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Regional Municipality of York urges the Government of the Province of Ontario and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario take immediate action to:

1. devote more resources to manage the increase in the numbers of International Medical Graduates applying to the IMG Program
2. take action to make the temporary/pilot IMG program permanent and self-sufficient
3. prevent delays and remove barriers to the assessment of experienced internationally – trained physicians through the RPA program so that they practice in Ontario without unnecessary delays; and

THAT the Regional Clerk forward a copy of this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Health, the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the CPSO, all municipalities in Ontario, all York Region MPPs and MPs, the Leaders of the Opposition Parties, and the College of Family Physicians of Canada.

The Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**June 8, 2006
Newmarket, Ontario**

**B. Hogg
Vice-Chair**

***(Report No. 5 of the Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee was adopted,
as amended, by Regional Council at its meeting held on June 22, 2006.)***

S. Neill
(905) 830-4444 x 1305