



Human Services Committee Agenda

Thursday, April 5, 2018
Council Chambers
County Administration Centre, Walkerton

1. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

2. Information Items

- A. Consultant to Perform New Affordable Development Proposal Evaluations (attached)
- B. EarlyON Spring Guide (attached)
- C. Social Assistance Modernization Strategy Update (attached)
- D. Strategic Community Initiatives Fund Grant Recipients 2018 (attached)

3. Next Meeting

May 3, 2018

4. Adjournment



Committee Report

To: Warden Paul Eagleson
Members of the Human Services

From: Christine MacDonald
Director of Human Services

Date: April 5, 2018

Re: Consultant to Perform New Affordable Development
Proposal Evaluations

Recommendation:

The Consultant to Perform New Affordable Development Proposal Evaluations Report is for information.

Background:

With the announcement of Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH) Extension program in 2014 and the Social Infrastructure Fund in 2016, Bruce County developed Program Delivery and Fiscal Plans indicating financial allocations to specific program components including Rental Housing; Home Ownership; Ontario Renovates; Operating; and Administration.

Specifically, in 2018/2019 Bruce County allocated \$1,046,555 and \$281,675 for New Rental development in the IAH Extension and the SIF programs respectively.

As a housing provider Bruce County Housing Corporation (BCHC) is entitled to submit a proposal to build new affordable rental housing in the county. It is anticipated BCHC may submit a proposal for the 2018/2019 available funds when the Request for Proposals is released in May.

With BCHC planning to submit a proposal, it will create a conflict of interest for Bruce County staff to form the Evaluation Committee. Therefore, in consultation with Purchasing staff and other Service Managers in Ontario, it has been determined that the preferred course of action is to hire a consultant, through a Request for Quotations. The consultant will provide an independent review and evaluation of submitted proposals.

Looking forward, Housing Services staff anticipate the RFQ to hire a consultant to review proposals will be released on April 6, 2018, with a closing date of April 13, 2018. On May 3, 2018, staff will present an information report for the Human Services Committee to inform committee and the public of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for New Affordable Rental Housing. The RFP will be released to the public on May 4, 2018 with a closing date of May



25, 2018. It is expected that the consultant will complete the evaluations by mid-June in order that a recommended proponent could be before committee in July.

Financial Considerations:

The cost of the consultant will be covered with program administration dollars available in the program budget.

Staffing Considerations:

Staff time will be minimal, and less than if staff evaluated the proposals in house.

Legal Considerations:

The RFQ details requirements to be maintained by the potential bidders and successful proponent.

IT Considerations:

There are no IT considerations associated with this report.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

Housing Services staff have consulted with the Purchasing Division to ensure appropriate transparency and timelines with this initiative are met. The Purchasing Division will administer the call for proposal and ensure alignment with Bruce County's Purchasing Policy.

Link to Strategic Goals and Elements:

Goal #6. Explore alternate options to improve efficiency and services
Goal #7. Stimulate and reward innovation and economic development

Written by: Tania Dickson, Housing Services Manager

Approved by:

Kelley Coulter
Chief Administrative Officer



Committee Report

To: Warden Paul Eagleson
Members of the Human Services

From: Christine MacDonald
Director of Human Services

Date: April 5, 2018

Re: Spring 2018 EarlyON Program Guide

Recommendation:

The Spring 2018 EarlyON Program Guide Report is for information.

Background:

In February 2016, the Ministry of Education announced its intention to transform Ministry-funded child and family programs into a system of services and supports for children ages 0-6 and their families and caregivers known as Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres (OEYCFCs). Through 2018, the Ontario Early Years Centre (OEYC) will be transformed into EarlyON Child and Family Centres.

In preparation for transformation, the County of Bruce conducted a Needs Assessment and developed an Initial Plan for OEYCFC programs and services. The Initial Plan as well as the Ministry of Education's *Planning Guidelines for Service System Managers* outlines several actions to be taken by Service Managers. As part of this transformation, EarlyON staff are working to:

- review existing services, locations and program options for families
- streamline the delivery of EarlyON programs through the creation of a consistent and direct service delivery model for all of Bruce County
- enhance service levels by working to develop responsive targeted services to better meet the needs of Bruce County's most vulnerable and high risk populations (i.e. teenage parents, children managing mental health concerns, Indigenous families who are living off reserve and whom may be isolated, our Mennonite and/or Amish communities, children living in high risk homes and/or beneath the poverty line etc.)
- build awareness about EarlyON Child and Family programs by creating a seasonal EarlyON Program Guide that clearly outlines service options and program availability in each community



As part of the County's effort to improve communication and build awareness with residents about EarlyON programs, staff are excited to launch the very first EarlyON Program Guide for spring 2018. The first EarlyON Program Guide outlines services offered between April 1, 2018 and June 30, 2018 and was released on March 16, 2018. The guide has been distributed locally to community centres, lower tier municipalities, libraries, the Bruce County Museum, Public Health, School Boards, LHIN Local Health Teams, through the Early Learning Planning Committee and has been posted online for quick and easy access, on EarlyON Facebook pages and on the Bruce County Website.

The [Spring 2018 EarlyON Program Guide](#) can be reviewed online.

Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

Expenses associated with the EarlyON Transformation, including the creation of the EarlyON Program Guide have been included as part of the 2018 Children Services budget.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

This project involved interdepartmental consultation from Corporate Services (IT), along with staff input from both the Bruce County Library and the Bruce County Museum.

Link to Strategic Goals and Elements:

As the ministry appointed Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM), Bruce County recognizes that quality EarlyON programs and services play a vital role in supporting the healthy development of our children and in supporting family literacy.

Element # E - Focus on the internal and external customer/client needs first through providing community based services.

Written by: Andrea Riley, Children's Services Manager, Human Services

Approved by:

Kelley Coulter
Chief Administrative Officer



Committee Report

To: Warden Paul Eagleson
Members of the Human Services Committee

From: Christine MacDonald
Director of Human Services

Date: April 5, 2018

Re: Social Assistance Modernization Update

Recommendation:

The Social Assistance Modernization Update is for information.

Background:

The Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) is committed to modernizing social assistance, including service delivery, as a part of [Income Security Reform](#) and in alignment with broader government benefits transformation and human services integration.

MCSS has worked with delivery partners to develop a strategy for modernizing Social Assistance Service Delivery. These changes will enable great access and more flexibility for the client journey. This will be achieved through smaller continuous improvements and implementing new tools. The changes will be focused in key areas including: Streamlining Intake; Expanded Digital Tools and Processes; Client Focused Communications; Streamlined Benefits Delivery; and Payment Administration efficiencies.

This update provides detail on two changes being implemented in 2018 as part of the social assistance modernization. First, the Ministry is simplifying income-reporting requirements for employment income and secondly in 2018 the paper drug card for social assistance recipients will be eliminated.

Effective April 2018, individuals on Ontario Works will only be required to report their gross and net pay. The only deductions they will be required to report are those for spousal and/or child support payment and wage garnishments. This change will reduce the time clients spend reporting information and reduce staff administration time required to input data in the Social Assistance Management System (SAMS). Individuals were notified of the change through inserts enclosed with their April benefits.



BRUCE county

Since December 2016, individuals on Ontario Works have used their Ontario Health card to access the Ontario Drug Benefit program. For those who did not have an Ontario health card, a paper drug card was provided. July 2018 will be the last benefit month individuals on Ontario Works will receive a paper drug card. Individuals on Ontario Works will use their Ontario health card for verification of eligibility for prescription drug coverage. For those who do not have an Ontario health card, other forms of government identification will suffice such as a driver's licence, passport etc. If the individual does not have government identification, the statement of assistance can be used to verify eligibility for prescription drugs or other health related services. This was a phased in initiative allowing individuals time to acquire an Ontario health card.

There are several benefits to using the Ontario health card rather than a paper drug card. It is convenient as the individual does not have to wait for their drug card to arrive in the mail, there is no need to visit an Ontario Works office for replacement of a paper drug card and each member of the household can access health related services using their own identification.

Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

There are no financial, staffing, legal or IT considerations associated with this report.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

There was no interdepartmental consultation in the writing of this report.

Link to Strategic Goals and Elements:

Goal #3 - Find creative ways to engage our public

Goal #6 - Explore alternate options to improve efficiency and service

Written by: Nancy Reinhart, Income and Employment Supports Manager

Approved by:

Kelley Coulter
Chief Administrative Officer



Committee Report

To: Warden Paul Eagleson
Members of the Human Services Committee

From: Christine MacDonald
Director of Human Services

Date: April 5, 2018

Re: Strategic Community Initiatives Grant Recipients 2018

Recommendation:

The Strategic Community Initiatives Grant Recipients 2018 Report is for information.

Background:

The Strategic Community Initiatives Granting Process is intended to contribute to the advancement of human services goals and priorities. Investments are targeted to community-based initiatives and services that complement the core services of the Human Services Department. The County of Bruce recognizes that by investing in community-based initiatives it will service to forward strategic goals, both economic and social. Additionally the investment demonstrates the County's commitment to strengthening the community's capacity to be responsive to changing needs and serves to leverage additional funding sources.

Staff administered a call for proposals at the February 1, 2018 Human Services Committee Meeting with a deadline of March 1, 2018. A staff panel reviewed and evaluated the proposals based on a standardized evaluation format that first considered if the proposal specifically expanded the capacity of the community to address gaps in services and/or unmet needs of low income residents to strengthen the service system. If proposals met this criterion, they were then evaluated on whether they met the following criteria: alignment with corporate strategic values; responsiveness to community needs; included best practices/research; and lastly that the proposal was not a duplication.

The following proposals were evaluated, met the criteria and were awarded a grant:

- Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force - \$20,000; and
- Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy - \$20,000.



Staff will specify in the acceptance letters the expected deliverables and reporting requirements. Staff will monitor the progress of the initiatives and require report back on the outcomes of the funding.

Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

The County of Bruce has been expected to maintain community investments as a result of the Social Assistance Restructuring (SAR) Reinvestment. The SCIF grants contribute to the community investment made by the County of Bruce. The \$40,000 granted has been included in the 2018 approved budget. There are no staffing or IT considerations associated with this report.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

SCIF is considered a "Program Specific" grant managed by the Human Services Department based on the committee approved process and application criteria separate from the Bruce County Community Grant Policy.

Link to Strategic Goals and Elements:

Goal #3 - Find creative new ways to engage our public.

Goal #5 - Eliminate our own red tape.

Element E - Focus on the internal/external customer/client needs first.

Goal #6 - Explore alternate options to improve efficiency, service.

Element D - Coordinate working with other agencies.

Approved by:

Kelley Coulter
Chief Administrative Officer