

DECISIONS

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Johanna Downey
Annette Groves
Jennifer Innis
Ian Sinclair

The following are decisions made by Regional Council on Thursday, May 9, 2019.

Topics in this Issue:

- [Approach to the Development of the 2020 Budget](#)
- [Modernization of Ontario Public Health Units in the 2019 Ontario Budget](#)
- [Review of the Region of Peel Project Lifesaver Program](#)

Staff Presentations

Approach to the Development of the 2020 Budget

Regional Council received a presentation from Norm Lum, Director, Business and Financial Planning, who provided an overview of the estimated provincial budget impact on the Region of Peel budget for Regionally controlled services over the next three years, as well as for external agencies including the Conservation Authorities and Peel Regional Police. It is expected that for 2020 – 2021, total provincial funding will decrease by \$45.1 million. As a result of the recent provincial funding announcements, the three-year tax supported impact forecast has been adjusted from 4.5 per cent in 2020 to 8 per cent; 3.8 per cent in 2021 to 4.4 per cent; and, 3.3 per cent will remain in 2022. Norm Lum reviewed the timelines for staff to report to Regional Council with further details related to the provincial funding impact and transition pressures on individual services, as well as, the consolidated impact and options and risks to achieving budget targets.

Regional Council directed staff to report to the next Regional Council meeting with an advocacy plan and public awareness campaign on the impact of the provincial funding cuts to taxpayers.

For more information, please visit: [Report - Item 8.1](#)

Modernization of Ontario Public Health Units in the 2019 Ontario Budget

Regional Council passed a resolution directing that the Regional Chair, as Chair of the Board of Health, write a letter to the Minister of Health Long-Term Care to request, among other things, that the mandate and core functions of local public health, as well as, the 75 per cent provincial and 25 per cent municipal funding formula, be maintained. The resolution also endorses the resolution from the Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario regarding public health funding cuts.

Regional Council heard from Dr. Jessica Hopkins, Medical Officer of Health, that changes announced by the provincial government aim to achieve a savings of \$200 million annually by 2021 – 2022. Ontario's 35 local public health units will be replaced by ten new regional health entities. For cost-shared programs, funding provided by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care is currently 75 per cent and 25 per cent is provided by the Region, although historical provincial underfunding has resulted in the Region covering 34 per cent. As of April 1, 2019, funding will shift to 70 per cent provincial and 30 per cent Regional funding; and, on April 1, 2021, will further shift to 60 per cent provincial and 40 per cent Regional. This will likely entail reductions in the total provincial allocation to public health. The 2019 Ontario budget also includes investment in a new low-income seniors' dental program across Ontario, but the allocation for Peel is still unknown. With respect to governance changes, there will be autonomous boards of health that will have municipal and provincial representation.

For more information, please visit: [Report - Item 8.2](#)



■ **Health**

Review of the Region of Peel Project Lifesaver Program

Project Lifesaver is a tracking technology to locate missing persons who have wandered using a radio-wave transmitter wrist band.

Regional Council passed a resolution to transition existing Project Lifesaver Peel participants to an updated wandering support technology of their choosing. The Region of Peel will support the transition by reviewing Global Positioning Services (GPS) options with participants and their caregivers, covering the cost of a one-time purchase of their chosen GPS technology and the first year's associated fees, and ensuring participant and family referrals for ongoing support to appropriate community agencies will be completed.

Regional Council had previously approved that the Region of Peel cease administration of Project Lifesaver Peel and transition the funds to two community agencies who would provide subsidies to those wishing to purchase updated GPS technology; however, no agencies expressed interest to the Request for Proposals (RFP).

After meeting with key stakeholders to understand their decision to not bid on the RFP and to determine next steps, staff recommended that the existing Region of Peel staff position be used to provide increase community support services navigation to additional vulnerable seniors living in the community.

For more information, please visit: [Report - Item 15.3](#)

Meetings at a Glance

Next Regional Council Policies and Procedures Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 23, 2019 – 9:15 a.m.

Next Regional Council Meeting
Thursday, May 23, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

All meetings are held in the Region's Council Chamber, Fifth Floor, 10 Peel Centre Dr., Suite A, Brampton, unless otherwise noted.

For additional information on any of the items or to obtain a copy of a report included in Decisions, please contact the Region of Peel, Clerk's Office at 905-791-7800, ext. 4526.

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