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Date: December 5, 2017
To: Mayor and Council
Author: Peggy Van Mierlo-West
RE: Leamington and Area Family Health Team Contribution Agreement
Report No.:

AIM

To provide Council with information regarding the Leamington and Area Family Health Team Contribution Agreement

BACKGROUND

The Town of Kingsville continues to be recognized provincially as an underserviced area for physicians despite some recent improvements in the arrival of family physicians to the region. While most of Essex County and Windsor has made sufficient gains to fall out of the classification, the municipality of Kingsville remains one of the area's across the province with the designation. Recognizing that the provision and funding of health care is beyond the jurisdictional of lower tier government and further that funding and regulation reside primarily at the provincial level, the Town of Kingsville has identified access to health care and family physicians is a key priority in the overall development of the municipality. Previously the Town of Kingsville has attempted to address the shortage of medical services within our area by directing funds towards a number of health care and physician recruitment initiatives, in keeping with the original strategic plan goals.

The Town historically has provided funding in various forms to entice medical practices to the area including;

I. Contributions to a Health Care Reserve

In 2008, through a motion of council and budget approval, a new health care reserve was established to build a fund that could be used to financially support health care initiatives in our area. As of the writing of this report, \$38,144 remains in the reserve and available for use by council.

II. Public/Private Partnership – Kingsville Family Health Care Clinic (Dr. Kelton/Dr. Maytham)

In 2009, Dr. Maytham approached the town noting that modern clinical space was limited in Kingsville and suggested that creating facility space would help to address the physician shortage. In response, Council entered into a 10 year commercial lease agreement with Rock Developments, the developer of the Shopper's Drug Mart Plaza (now IDA) to construct a health clinic. Subsequently, a Letter of Understanding was entered into with Dr. Kelton and Dr. Maytham for the same 10 year time frame, the intent of which was to provide financial support for the relocation/modernization of their practice in exchange for their recruitment and retention of up to three new doctors at that location. Since that time the plaza has been sold and the lease agreement transferred to DH Investments.

III. Community for Doctors

In 2010, a contribution was made to the Southern Essex County Community for Doctors Committee. This committee, working in conjunction with the Leamington District Memorial Hospital Foundation and The Hospice Erie Shores Campus, works to attract doctors to our area by highlighting what our communities have to offer physicians from both a professional and personal perspective.

IV. Leamington & Area Family Health Team Partnership

In 2012, a contribution was made to the health team to attract two physicians and a part time nurse practitioner to the renovated clinic space at the ATM Pharmacy (known locally as Malott Guardian Drug). The town has entered into a lease agreement with the property owner for this clinic space for a 5 year period.

V. The Hospice of Windsor Essex County

In 2013, a contribution was made to support palliative care services in our region.

VI. LDMH Foundation Contribution

In 2013, a payment was made to the foundation in support of attracting Dr. Dawood to our community.

VII. LDMH Foundation – Physician Recruitment Gala

Council and members of senior administration have attended the annual fundraising gala in support of physician recruitment.

Since 2013 Council has chosen to direct those funds to other recruitment initiatives.

DISCUSSION

As noted above, the town has undertaken many different methods of contributing to health care initiatives in our community. In summary, these methods have included:

- Town reserve contributions
- Lease agreements (Eg. Monthly rental payments / property tax payments)
- Leasehold improvements (Eg. Equipment, computers)
- Donations/grants to recruitment agencies/foundations

Based upon review of the success of these funding models and also that Kingsville does remain an underserviced area, it was believed that a new funding arrangement with the LAFHT was required.

The attached contribution arrangement concentrates on:

- levels of services for the Town,
- improved communication with Council,
- increased urgent hours of service
- performance monitoring
- physician recruitment

One change within this agreement is the removal of a Capital expenditure portion. Should the LAFHT request a capital improvement, a request will be made to Town under a separate request and be brought to Council for deliberation.

This agreement is subject to Board approval. This meeting will occur on Jan 22nd, 2018.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Support growth of the business community.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The annual cost of \$59,125.00 has been allocated within the 2018 Operational Budget for deliberation. This allocation will replace the current two rental contracts of the new medical building (Approved 2017) and the Health Centre located at 59 Main Street East. The combined 2017 budgeted amount for these initiatives was \$46,000.00.

The IDA Medical Centre is a 10 year agreement separated from this agreement. This was signed in 2009. It is anticipated that once this agreement has expired it will be included within the agreement.

CONSULTATIONS

Leamington Area Family Health Team
J. Astrologo, Director of Corporate Services
S Zwiers, Director of Financial Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the attached contribution agreement between the Leamington and Area Family Health Team and the Corporation of the Town of Kingsville, and that the Clerk and Mayor be authorized to sign this agreement

Peggy Van Mierlo-West

Peggy Van Mierlo-West, C.E.T.
Chief Administrative Officer