



The Corporation of the City of Stratford
Social Services Committee
Open Session
AGENDA

Date: Monday, June 3, 2024

Time: 6:05 P.M.

Location: Council Chamber, City Hall

Committee Present: Councillor Henderson - Chair Presiding, Councillor Briscoe - Vice Chair, Mayor Ritsma, Councillor Beatty, Councillor Biehn, Councillor Burbach, Councillor Hunter, Councillor McCabe, Councillor Nijjar, Councillor Sebben, Councillor Wordofa

Staff Present: Joan Thomson - Chief Administrative Officer, Kim McElroy - Director of Social Services, Tatiana Dafoe - City Clerk, Karmen Krueger - Director of Corporate Services, Taylor Crinklaw - Director of Infrastructure Services, Tim Wolfe - Director of Community Services, Adam Betteridge - Director of Building and Planning Services, Neil Anderson - Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief, Audrey Pascual - Deputy Clerk, Dave Bush - Director of Human Resources

To watch the Committee meeting live, please click the following link:

<https://video.isilive.ca/stratford/live.html>

A video recording of the meeting will also be available through a link on the City's website

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings> following the meeting.

Pages

1. Call to Order

The Chair to call the Meeting to Order.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

The *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* requires any member of Council declaring a pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof, where the interest of a member of Council has not been disclosed by reason of the member's absence

from the meeting, to disclose the interest at the first open meeting attended by the member of Council and otherwise comply with the *Act*.

Name, Item and General Nature of Pecuniary Interest

3. Delegations

None scheduled.

4. Report of the Director of Social Services

4.1 Homemakers and Nurses Services Contract Renewal June 1, 2024-May 31, 2026 (SOC24-006)

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Motion by

Staff Recommendation: THAT The Corporation of the City of Stratford enter into a renewal agreement with One Care Home and Community Support Services for Homemakers and Nurses Services for the period June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2026;

AND THAT the Director of Social Services be authorized to execute the renewal Agreement on behalf of the municipal corporation.

5. Report of the Manager of Housing

5.1 Management Report – Social Services Partnership with Spruce Lodge (SOC24-007)

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Motion by

Staff Recommendation: THAT the report Social Services Partnership with Spruce Lodge (SOC24-007) be received for information.

6. Adjournment

Meeting Start Time:

Meeting End Time:

Motion by

Committee Decision: THAT the Social Services Committee meeting adjourn.



MANAGEMENT REPORT

Date: April 9, 2024
To: Social Services Sub-committee
From: Alex Burgess, Manager of Ontario Works
 Kim McElroy, Director of Social Services
Report Number: SOC24-006
Attachments: None

Title: Homemakers and Nurses Services Contract Renewal June 1, 2024-May 31, 2026

Objective: To consider authorizing the renewal of the agreement with One Care Home and Community Support Services for the delivery of the Homemakers and Nurses Services program.

Background: The Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM) entered the original direct service contract in 2007 with Town and County Support Services (now known as One Care Home and Community Support Services) for the delivery of the Homemakers and Nurses Services program. The current contract terminates on May 31, 2024, and staff are recommending renewal for an additional two-year period. This partnership and the services provided to those in need addresses an extremely important need in the community and provides services to help residents stay in their homes and receive the appropriate support needed to maintain their homes.

One Care employees provide in-home cleaning supports to those that qualify both medically and financially. These supports allow clients to live independently in their own home and assist in learning basic skills to offer further independence. Co-ordination of services will assist in preventing evictions and provide a stable environment that is safe for both clients and support staff who enter the home.

Analysis: One Care Home and Community Services (herein referred to as One Care) has requested a funding increase for the 2024-26 renewal. Currently, One Care is paid an hourly rate of \$32.29 for the delivery of the services outlined in the agreement. One Care has requested an increase of approximately 11%, to a new hourly rate of \$35.91, to maintain these services. The rate in 2022 was \$31.44 and this increased by 2.7% to the current rate of \$32.29 in 2023. The Social Services Department has had no concerns related to the delivery of this program and the feedback from clients has been positive regarding the services delivered. The increase is consistent with market

changes to wages for this type of service. Currently, Ontario Works staff determines the financial eligibility for the program, and One Care determines medical eligibility. One Care provides the services needed by clients who are approved for the program and stay in regular contact with the Ontario Works staff responsible for monitoring the program. Billing is submitted monthly, and payments are made based on the actual expenditures detailed in the reports received.

The table below highlights spending and usage data over the course of the current contract cycle, providing a snapshot of services rendered in 2022 and 2023:

Year	Expenditures	Hours of Service	Senior Clients Served	Non-Senior Clients Served
2022	\$50,772.47	1615	15	23
2023	\$52,172.57	1615.75	14	23

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care confirms that subsidy continues to be available for our office and will fund this service at 80%. The municipalities fund the remaining 20% of the cost to operate this program. All administrative costs are absorbed within the Ontario Works budget.

Financial Implications:

Financial impact to current year operating budget:

The approved municipal budget for the 2024 year is \$55,000, with 80% (\$44,000) funded from the Ministry of Health and the remaining 20% funded through the municipalities. The City of Stratford is responsible for \$4,480 of this cost. With the proposed increase to the hourly rate, it is anticipated that the program expenditures will be within the approved budget.

Financial impact on future year operating budget:

The Homemakers and Nurses Services expenditure target has increased due to a request for more funding to meet the needs of the program. The 2025 budget submission will reflect the new total expenditure target of \$65,000, an increase of 18%. The provincial contribution will be a maximum of \$52,000, leaving a maximum of \$13,000 to be funded by the municipalities. This information will be submitted for Municipal Shared Services Committee and Council consideration during the 2025 budget period.

Alignment with Strategic Priorities:

Strengthening our Plans, Strategies and Partnerships

Partnering with the community to make plans for our collective priorities in arts, culture, heritage and more. Communicating clearly with the public around our plans and activities.

Alignment with One Planet Principles:

Health and Happiness

Encouraging active, social, meaningful lives to promote good health and wellbeing.

Staff Recommendation: THAT The Corporation of the City of Stratford enter into a renewal agreement with One Care Home and Community Support Services for Homemakers and Nurses Services for the period June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2026;

AND THAT the Director of Social Services be authorized to execute the renewal Agreement on behalf of the municipal corporation.

Prepared by:	Alex Burgess, Manager of Ontario Works
Recommended by:	Kim McElroy, Director of Social Services
	Joan Thomson, Chief Administrative Officer



MANAGEMENT REPORT

Date: May 14, 2024
To: Social Services Sub-committee
From: Jeff Wilson, Manager of Housing
Report Number: SOC24-007
Attachments: None.

Title: Management Report – Social Services Partnership with Spruce Lodge

Objective: To provide information and update to the Social Services Sub-committee of the partnership and support for affordable housing between the City of Stratford's Social Services Department and Spruce Lodge Non-Profit Housing Corporation "Spruce Lodge", also referred to as Woodland Towers.

Background: The City of Stratford's approach towards housing and homelessness is guided by the strategic priorities of the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan. These objectives include creating attainable housing options, sustaining community housing, and addressing a diversity of needs.

Analysis: As part of the effort to achieve the strategic objectives of the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan, the City of Stratford's Social Services Department has partnered with Spruce Lodge to financially support sustaining rent subsidized housing at Towers 1 and 2 of Woodland Towers. While this has been a long-standing partnership, over the past three years the breakdown of funding is as follows:

Year	Rent Subsidy	Operating Subsidy	Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative	Transitional Operating	Total
2021	\$254,180	\$42,056	\$71,383.53	\$81,000	\$448,619.53
2022	\$259,861	\$55,759	\$83,801.47	\$187,590	\$587,011.47
2023	\$271,732	\$70,678	\$61,900.00		\$404,310.00

The rent and operating subsidies are predominantly provided from the municipal tax levy and are intended to subsidize monthly rent for eligible tenants and to support administrative costs for housing providers. The Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative funding has been allocated to eligible repair and maintenance expenditures and is provided to the City of Stratford by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The Transitional Operating Grant is intended to support costs associated with operating rent-subsidized housing and has been provided through funding available from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Financial Implications:

Financial impact to current year operating budget:

As these amounts are known and budgeted at the time of this report, there are no financial impacts to the current year operating budget.

Financial impact on future year operating budget:

Continuation of the partnership between the City of Stratford's Social Services Department and Spruce Lodge may require additional financial support in the coming years, depending on levels of provincial funding and needs.

Alignment with Strategic Priorities:

Strengthening our Plans, Strategies and Partnerships

Partnering with the community to make plans for our collective priorities in arts, culture, heritage and more. Communicating clearly with the public around our plans and activities.

Alignment with One Planet Principles:

Health and Happiness

Encouraging active, social, meaningful lives to promote good health and wellbeing.

Staff Recommendation: THAT the report Social Services Partnership with Spruce Lodge (SOC24-007) be received for information.

Prepared by:

Jeff Wilson, Manager of Housing

Recommended by:

Kim McElroy, Director of Social Services

Joan Thomspon, Chief Administrative Officer.