

**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS, THE COUNTY OF ELGIN,  
AND THE ST. THOMAS-ELGIN GENERAL HOSPITAL  
HEALTH RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

**COMMITTEE ROOM # 204, CITY HALL**

**January 24, 2017**

7:30 a.m. The meeting convened with Councillor C. McWilliam, Chair, presiding.

**Attendance**

Councillor C. McWilliam, Chair, County of Elgin  
Councillor S. Wookey, City of St. Thomas (Depart 8:05 a.m.)  
Dr. K. Scott, Elgin Medical Association (Arrive 7:50 a.m.)  
Cheryl Fish, Health Recruiter  
Mark McDonald, CAO, County of Elgin  
Wendell Graves, City Manager, City of St. Thomas  
Jon Hindley, Corporate Customer Service Assistant, City of St. Thomas

**Absent**

Dr. N. Whitmore, St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital

**Approval of Minutes – November 22, 2016**

The members confirmed the minutes as presented.

**Activity Report and Recruitment Projects - Cheryl Fish**

The members were provided with the Health Recruiter's Activity Report for the Months of December, 2016 and January, 2017.

Ms. Fish suggested that the Home for the Holidays event be placed on the agenda earlier to review its format and timing, as not many scholarship recipients were able to attend.

Ms. Fish advised that she has received positive feedback from her presentations to City and County Councils and that she had attended the Immigration Portal launch as well.

Ms. Fish advised that the new Chief of Staff at the St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital was Dr. Waleed Chehadi and that she had worked with the hospital to provide gift bags for doctors that had renewed their privileges with the hospital.

The members discussed the gift bags and the importance of physician retention.

Mr. McDonald asked about the Committee's composition and the lack of attendance by the St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital's representative, Dr. Nancy Whitmore.

Dr. Scott suggested that it would be good to have another physician regularly attending meetings and that there is merit to continuing to have hospital representation.

Dr. Scott advised that she is no longer part of the Medical Association and that it may be good to have a representative from the Association as well.

The members discussed sending Dr. Whitmore an e-mail to see if she was still interested in being part of the Committee and attending meetings.

Mr. Graves advised that he would send the e-mail to Dr. Whitmore.

Ms. Fish advised that some new graduates are interested in opportunities with the Central Community Health Centre.

Ms. Fish advised that the Elmdale Health Centre should be opening on March 1, 2017 and that there would most likely be some kind of Grand Opening event.

**Summary of Health Recruiter 2016 Expenditures**

Mr. Graves suggested that the expenditures are in line with previous years.

CONFIRMED\_\_\_\_\_CHAIR

### **Proposed 2017 Budget**

Mr. Graves advised that the budget for 2016 was increased because of the Elmdale Health Centre project and the large number of new physicians. He further advised that the proposed 2017 budget returns to previous levels, and that there may also be some accrued funds available.

Motion by Councillor Wookey – Chair McWilliam:

THAT: The Proposed 2017 Health Recruitment Partnership budget be approved as presented and forwarded to Elgin County Council and St. Thomas Council respectively for consideration.

Carried.

### **Update - Nurse Practitioner Led Clinic**

Correspondence was received from Phil Graham, Director, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care advising that there were limited opportunities for the creation of a Nurse Practitioner Led Clinic, but that the Committee's proposal would be kept on file.

The Chair advised that a meeting had taken place with Jeff Yurek at the end of 2016, before the correspondence from Mr. Graham was received. He further advised that Mr. Yurek was willing to assist if needed and that he received a copy of the correspondence from Mr. Graham.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **Francis Osih**

Mr. Graves advised that he had met with Mr. Francis Osih and that an update was supposed to have been provided to the Committee, which was never received.

Mr. Graves advised that the City's Solicitor has the next letter ready and that he would keep the Committee informed about his progress.

### **Other Business**

#### **Orientation Program for New Physicians**

Ms. Fish advised that she had discussions with Ms. Jane Tillmann, Regional Advisor, South West LHIN about an orientation program becoming formal and working with a committee.

Ms. Fish advised that many questions new physicians have are related to help with referral lists.

Dr. Scott advised that there is an online database for specialists already and suggested that the Committee should not necessarily be paying for the Health Recruiter's time on a committee for developing a program to be used outside St. Thomas-Elgin.

The members discussed having Ms. Fish begin participating as the development of an orientation program template is a good concept, but review the time commitment as it moves forward.

#### **South West Community Care Access Centre – Physician Billing Assistance**

Ms. Fish advised that the South West Community Care Access Centre offers physician billing assistance for a charge, but that they have leftover money in the budget and have decided to offer assistance free of charge to the Elmdale Health Centre as they set up their practice and system.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 28 at 7:30 a.m.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 a.m.