



Committee Report

Special Joint Municipal Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee

Meeting Date: March 22, 2022
Meeting Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: Town Hall, Council Chambers
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON

The following are recommendations from the Special Joint Municipal Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee to be considered for adoption by Council

- [Receive Minutes \(March 22, 2022\)](#)

Recommended (Move, second)

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives The Blue Mountains Special Joint Municipal Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee Minutes dated March 22, 2022 as attached, for information purposes.

Note: Item D.1. Expansion of Owen Sound Family Health Team was previously considered by Council due to its time-sensitivity.



Minutes

The Blue Mountains, Special Joint Municipal Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee

Date: March 22, 2022
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: Town Hall, Council Chambers - Virtual Meeting
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON
Prepared by:
Kyra Dunlop, Administrative Assistant Committees of Council

Member Present: Municipality of Grey Highlands Councillor Tom Allwood, Town of Collingwood Councillor Yvonne Hamlin, Township of Clearview Mayor Doug Measures, Town of The Blue Mountains Councillor Rob Sampson, Chair June Porter

Staff Present: Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt

A. Call to Order

A.1 Traditional Territory Acknowledgement

We would like to begin our meeting by recognizing the First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples of Canada as traditional stewards of the land. The municipality is located within the boundary of Treaty 18 region of 1818 which is the traditional land of the Anishnaabek, Haudenosaunee and Wendat-Wyandot-Wyandotte peoples.

A.2 Committee Member Attendance

Chair Porter called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. with all members present. Mayor Doug Measures joined at 3:02 p.m.

Town staff present was Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt.

A.3 Approval of Agenda

Moved By: Councillor Allwood

Seconded By: Councillor Hamlin

THAT the Agenda of March 22, 2022 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda.

Yay (5): Councillor Allwood, Councillor Hamlin, Mayor Measures, Councillor Sampson, and June Porter

The motion is Carried (5 to 0)

A.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

NOTE: In accordance with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and the Town Procedural By-law 2021-76, Joint Municipal Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee Members must file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the Clerk for inclusion on the Registry.

None

B. Public Comment Period (each speaker is allotted three minutes)

NOTE: In accordance with the Town Procedural By-law 2021-76 fifteen minutes is allotted at the Meeting to receive public comments regarding Joint Municipal Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee matters included on the Agenda. The speaker shall provide their name and address, and shall address their comments to the Chair. Comments shall not refer to personnel, litigation or potential litigation matters, or matters that are a follow-up to a Public Meeting.

NOTE: Committee meetings are taking place virtually to assist with social distancing with respect to COVID-19. Comments received from the public that have not been included on the Agenda will be read at the meeting by the Executive Assistant.

None

C. Staff Reports & Deputations

C.1 Staff Reports, if any

None

C.2 Deputations, if any

None

D. Matters for Discussion

D.1 Expansion of Owen Sound Family Health Team

Chair Porter advised that as part of their strategic plan for 2022 the Owen Sound Family Health Team would be looking to expand into Meaford, Town of The Blue Mountains and Grey Highlands. The Family Health Organization, which included Meaford, Town of The Blue Mountains and Grey Highlands would be making an application to the Owen Sound Family Health Team at their April Board meeting. Councillor Sampson noted that Meaford Council had endorsed the concept and that Town of The Blue Mountains would have to make a similar recommendation at their Council.

The Committee members discussed how best to procedurally support the Family Health Organizations application to the Owen Sound Family Health Team and it was noted that many physicians want to join family health teams in order to have referrals to local resourcing be close by. Chair Porter noted that the expansion of the Owen Sound Family Health Team was a win for the area and for residents.

The Committee discussed whether financial support would be needed at this time. It was noted that their make be a request in future to assist with the business case assessment which would identify services offered through the expansion of the Owen Sound Family Health Team.

Chair Porter thanked the members for their participation and discussion.

Moved By: Councillor Sampson

Seconded By: Councillor Hamlin

WHEREAS the Ministry of Health has long declared the Municipality of Grey Highlands, Municipality of Meaford, and the Town of the Blue Mountains to be a designated Area of High Physician Need there has been no new net Family Physicians in the last ten years; and

WHEREAS the recent Census data which has confirmed an unprecedented growth of 3,479 residents in the aforementioned areas has only added to a shortage of ten Family Physicians for the now approximately 10,000 unrostered patients; and

WHEREAS a Family Health Team provides primary care by a team of family physicians, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, social workers, dietitians, and other professionals who work together to provide primary health care for their community; and

WHEREAS the Family Health Team model is also known to be the preferred practice setting for new graduating Family Physicians to set up a rural practice in our community;

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Joint Municipal Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee supports the Family Health Organizations' application to the Owen Sound Family Health Team to better serve the residents of those respective communities;

AND THAT the Committee requests that this recommendation be considered at the March 28, 2022 Town of The Blue Mountains Council meeting due to its time sensitive nature.

Yay (5): Councillor Allwood, Councillor Hamlin, Mayor Measures, Councillor Sampson, and June Porter

The motion is Carried (5 to 0)

E. Notice of Meeting Dates

Next Regular Committee Meeting is April 13, 2022

Town Hall, Council Chambers (virtual)

F. Adjournment

Moved By: Mayor Measures

Seconded By: Councillor Allwood

THAT the Joint Municipal Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee does now adjourn at 3:29 p.m. to meet again at the Call of the Chair.

Yay (5): Councillor Allwood, Councillor Hamlin, Mayor Measures, Councillor Sampson, and June Porter

The motion is Carried (5 to 0)