CITY OF WINDSOR MINUTES 03/01/2023

Community Services Standing Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, March 01, 2023
Time: 9:00 o'clock a.m.

Members Present:

Councillors
Ward 2 - Councillor Fabio Costante
Ward 3 - Councillor Renaldo Agostino
Ward 4 - Councillor Mark McKenzie
Ward 5 - Councillor Ed Sleiman (Chairperson)
Ward 6 - Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac

ALSO PARTICIPATING VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE ARE THE FOLLOWING FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Sandra Gebauer, Council Assistant

ALSO PARTICIPATING IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ARE THE FOLLOWING FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Andrew Daher, Commissioner, Human & Health Services
Ray Mensour, Commissioner, Community Services
Jen Knights, Executive Director of Recreation & Culture
James Chacko, Executive Director of Parks & Facilities
Kirk Whittal, Executive Director of Housing & Children's Services
Tanya Antoniw, Executive Director, Employment & Social Services
Alina Sirbu, Executive Director, Long Term Care & Administration
Michelle Staadegaard, Manager, Culture & Events
Jennifer Tanner, Manager of Homelessness & Housing Support
Stephen Lynn, Manager Social Policy & Planning
Kelly Goz, Coordinator Housing Administration & Development
Leonardo Gil, Executive Initiatives Coordinator
Anna Ciacelli, Deputy City Clerk / Supervisor of Council Services

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson calls the meeting of the Community Services Standing Committee to order at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None disclosed.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

3.1. Minutes of the Community Services Standing Committee meeting held February 1, 2023

Moved by: Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Fabio Costante

THAT the minutes of the Community Services Standing Committee meeting held February 1, 2023 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 57/2023

4. REQUEST FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS OR WITHDRAWALS

None presented.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

None presented.

6. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

6.1. United Way - ProsperUs Collective Impact Initiative - Progress of the PropserUS Cradle to Career Strategy for Windsor

Shelley Fellows, and Jessica Sartori Co-Chairs of the ProsperUs Leadership Council

Shelley Fellows, and Jessica Sartori Co-Chairs of the ProsperUs Leadership Council appear before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the presentation "United Way – ProsperUs Collective Impact Initiative – Progress of the Prosper Us Cradle to Career Strategy for Windsor" and provide a brief overview of the ProsperUs organization, provide details regarding the

high Childhood Poverty Rate and specific neighbourhoods where this tends to occur as well as the area of focus. An explanation of equality and equity is provided giving young people equal opportunities to success. Ms. Sartori provides details related to their Mission Statement and the leadership structure; changing systems to tackle childhood poverty; collective impact; a comparison of current system of silos and moving to a collective approach; common agenda; requires sharing data; continuous improvement; aligning resources; backbone organization for ProsperUs is United Way. Ms. Fellows provides information related to the Leadership Council for their organization; their mandate is reviewed; cradle to career and milestones are explained; tools used; Community Action Network; human centred design and collective impact model; details related to milestones and accomplishments and funding sources are provided; and concludes by providing information related to upcoming programs.

Lorraine Goddard, CEO of United Way Windsor-Essex

Lorraine Goddard, CEO of United Way Windsor-Essex appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the presentation "United Way – ProsperUs Collective Impact Initiative – Progress of the Prosper Us Cradle to Career Strategy for Windsor" and is available for questions.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac inquires about the after school programs, and whether other community groups programs are being utilized. Ms. Fellows indicates that when they apply the collective model, they bring all the other agencies in and those lessons learned to carry out the programs collaboratively.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac inquires about the nutritional programs in the school. Ms. Sartori indicates that they are aligning all the programs towards a shared goal; collecting the data and determining what works and what doesn't; reaching out to the organizations to provide a consistent approach which bolsters the assistance in the most affected neighbourhoods. Ms. Sartori adds that it was a great deal of work to establish the data framework for the information sharing.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about community engagement. Ms. Fellows provides details related to data gathering and community engagement, including the visibility and awareness going forward towards future projects.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about the model and whether other municipalities use it. Ms. Fellows indicates it came from Pathway to Potential. They investigated the collective impact in other communities in North America, and brought in experts. Ms. Fellows adds that this model has proven successful in other areas. Ms. Sartori explains the Cradle to Career strategy derived from the United States, which has proven very successful, and is intended to be very impactful bringing it into the Canadian system; anticipating that it will be successful in Windsor as well.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about how this model is focused and how gaps are filled. Ms. Fellows indicates an asset map was completed at the beginning of the process and continues to be completed as things change. Ms. Fellows adds that they leverage the human resources and commitments of residences to build resiliency in the neighbourhoods.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires how the group engages with New Canadians. Ms. Fellows indicates they build the community tables and recruit residents to join the resident tables, this reflects the demographics, different cultures, and different needs in neighbourhoods.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires about new Canadians and whether after school programming is involved in this initiative. Ms. Fellows indicates that an after school program was the first project through ProsperUs. She adds that these programs promote physical activity, mental health, self esteem, math and literacy skills using a defined curriculum including being active.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac requests an overview related to the City involvement with this organization. Stephen Lynn, Manager, Social Policy & Planning appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the presentation "United Way – ProsperUs Collective Impact Initiative – Progress of the Prosper Us Cradle to Career Strategy for Windsor" and indicates that the City is working closely with ProsperUs, from the beginning part of the ProsperUs Leadership Council, and over a number of years. The City has provided in kind, staff support/expertise, to several committees with various departments involved. Administration assists with providing feedback as ProsperUs works with the resident, and help to provide information regarding existing programs that can assist families and youth including pathway to potential and transit discounts, and many others.

Moved by: Councillor Fabio Costante
Seconded by: Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac

Decision Number: **CSPS 203**
That the presentation entitled "United Way – ProsperUs Collective Impact Initiative – Progress of the ProsperUs Cradle to Career Strategy for Windsor" **BE RECEIVED.**
Carried.

Clerk's File: MB2023

8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

8.2. Asylum Claimants Transferred to Windsor Hotels by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) – City Wide

Mike Morency, Executive Director, Matthew House Refugee Welcome Centre

Mike Morency, Executive Director, Matthew House Refugee Welcome Centre appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the administrative report "Asylum Claimants Transferred to Windsor Hotels by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) – City Wide," and provides information related to the broader role his organization plays. Mr. Morency indicates that the number of displaced people has soared around the world and the situation is getting worse with the number of claimants across ports of entry which has risen. Mr. Morency provides details related to the number of entrants which is expected to rise. Mr. Morency indicates

that his organization is currently providing shelter to 78 people, 38 in host homes; providing settlement supports to 458 refugee claimants in Windsor/Essex. Mr. Morency indicates that his organization is a settlement support agency, specializing in Asylum claimants, refugee seekers, providing a temporary home and support and assisting them to become self-sufficient, to access services and supports to see them thrive. Mr. Morency indicates that without the supports a lower percentage integrate into the community.

David Cote, Immigration Lawyer & Marion Overholt, Executive Director, Legal Assistance of Windsor and Community Legal Aid

David Cote, Immigration Lawyer & Marion Overholt, Executive Director, Legal Assistance of Windsor and Community Legal Aid appear before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the administrative report "Asylum Claimants Transferred to Windsor Hotels by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) – City Wide," and provide details related to the services provided by their organization in support of the administrative recommendation and request that a provision related to legal assistance services be added to the recommendation. Mr. Cote indicates Legal Assistance of Windsor has been assisting with legal services at the local hotels as well as liaising with Legal Aid Ontario to ensure that legal services are provided to the refugees. Information related to the stages of the refugee process are detailed. Mr. Cote adds that there is a wider diversity of claimants, with systems not put in place prior to their arrival, local services providers have stepped up. Mr. Cote urges different levels of government to continue to support these individuals. Mr. Cote provides details related to the four stages of the refugee process and concludes by suggesting an increased provision of legal services similar to dedicated law offices in Toronto.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac inquires about the length of time for 4 stages. Mr. Cote indicates that the first stage is the eligibility stage with recent portals being introduced which should alleviate the wait time. Mr. Cote indicates approximate timeline for this stage which is one or two months.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac requests a comment related to the request made by Legal Assistance related to a provision regarding legal assistance services being added to the recommendation. Andrew Daher, Commissioner, Human & Health Services appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the administrative report "Asylum Claimants Transferred to Windsor Hotels by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) – City Wide," and indicates that administration has no concerns adding the request although the decision remains with the Federal and Provincial governments to agree to it.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires about the legal services that are offered currently. Mr. Cote indicates that legal services are offered through the dedicated refugee law office which is located in Toronto and in Ottawa. Mr. Cote adds that there is no dedicated legal aid refugee office currently in Windsor.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about the stages of supports including housing needs. Mr. Daher indicates that the influx has had an impact on the housing supply and shelters. Mr. Daher indicates that housing is part of the application process along with work permits being expedited. It

is the hope of administration that the process can be expedited so that people can become employed, help themselves and support themselves, although the background information is unknown at this time. Administration has already met with several government agencies raising concerns.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about the process related to their Ontario Works applications. Mr. Daher indicates that they have already processed 333 Ontario Works applications and granted 333 applications for basic needs.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about the strain related to administrative resources and whether assistance has been provided by the government. Mr. Daher indicates that they are the first City to put forward a request to the Ministry for additional resources, although they haven't heard back yet.

Moved by: Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Fabio Costante

Decision Number: **CSPS 204**
That the report of the Manager, Social Policy and Planning regarding the report dated February 10, 2023, entitled "Asylum Claimants Transferred to Windsor Hotels by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)-City Wide" **BE RECEIVED** for information; and,

That City Council **BE REQUESTED** to submit a letter to Immigration, Refugees, Citizenship Canada (IRCC) to state the City of Windsor does not have the capacity or resources to support additional asylum claimants beyond those estimated based on the current number of secured temporary accommodations; and,

That City Council **BE REQUESTED** to submit a letter to the appropriate senior levels of government, such as the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (MLITSD), to have them identify and resource a local lead settlement agency to coordinate a response in Windsor and Essex County; and, that the correspondence **INCLUDE** a request to establish legal representation from the Refugee Law Office of Legal Aid Ontario.

Carried.

Report Number: S 22/2023
Clerk's File: SS2023

8.1. 2023 Municipally Significant Event Status, Wards 2,3,4,6,7

Moved by: Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Decision Number: **CSPS 205**

That the request from; 1933900 Ontario Ltd; Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare Foundation**;** Northern Heat Rib Series**;** Poutine Feast Ontario Inc.; Rotary Club of Windsor (1918)**;** Windsor Eats Inc.; and Windsor-Essex Pride Fest**;** for approval of designation as 'municipally significant' for the purpose of applying for their Special Occasions Permit – Public Event **BE APPROVED** by Council subject to the terms and conditions of the Special Event Agreement with the City; and further,

That City Council **APPROVE** the following proposed significant event dates for 2023:

Saturday May 27, 2023
Heart Breaker Challenge (Malden Park) hosted by Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare Foundation

Thursday June 1, 2023 through Sunday June 4, 2023
Windsor Rib Fest (Riverfront Festival Plaza and Riverfront Civic Terrace) hosted by Northern Heat Rib Series

Friday June 2, 2023 through Sunday June 4, 2023
Art in the Park (Willistead Park) hosted by Rotary Club of Windsor (1918)

Thursday June 8, 2023 through Sunday June 11, 2023
Poutine Feast (Riverfront Festival Plaza and Riverfront Civic Terrace) hosted by Poutine Feast Ontario Inc.

Thursday July 20, 2023
Dinner on the Pier (Assumption Park) hosted by Windsor Eats Inc.

Friday August 11, 2023 through Sunday August 13, 2023
Pride Fest (Lanspeary Park and Outdoor Rink) hosted by Windsor-Essex Pride Fest

Friday October 13, 2023 and Saturday October 14, 2023
Windsor Eats Craft Beer Fest (Willistead Park) hosted by 1933900 Ontario Ltd.
Carried.

Report Number: S 21/2023
Clerk's File: SR/14497

7. COMMITTEE MATTERS

None presented.

9. QUESTION PERIOD

None presented.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting of the Community Services Standing Committee is adjourned at 10:04 o'clock a.m. The next meeting of the Community Services Standing Committee will take place on April 5, 2023.
Carried.

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Councillor Sleiman (Chairperson)	Deputy City Clerk / Supervisor of Council Services

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Mayor City Clerk