



**INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT/  
SOCIAL & HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, January 19, 2005, 9:00 a.m.**

**County Building, Wyoming - Committee Room #1**

1. Public Works – J. Kutyba ..... **PW1 – PW33**
2. Planning & Development/Building Services – J. Kutyba..... **PD1 – PD16**
3. Social Services – K. Dick ..... **SS1 – SS49**
4. Community Health Services – K. Dick..... **CHSD1 – CHSD17**

**INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION**  
**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

January 19, 2005

**PUBLIC WORKS and FACILITIES SERVICES**

**PART A Follow-up from Previous Month(s)**

1. None

**PART B Monthly Activities**

1. Accounts and Verification

Total for the months of November & December:

Roads	\$ 2,408,161.69
Waste Management	\$ 387,781.18
Facilities Services	\$31,393.87

A listing of the accounts will be available at the meeting.

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| i) Are there any items significantly over Budget?               | No  |
| ii) Are there any items significantly under Budget?             | No  |
| iii) Were all items purchased in accordance with County Policy? | Yes |
| iv) Are there any items that were not in the Budget?            | No  |

2. Revenue and Verification

Revenues received during the months of November & December:

Roads	\$ 1,444,964.00
Waste Management	\$ 403,078.00
Facilities Services	\$ 89,654.00

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| i) Were any receipts not included in the current year's budget? | No |
| ii) Were any receipts significantly less than budgeted?         | No |
| iii) Were any receipts significantly more than budgeted?        | No |

3. Items of Committee Interest

Pages 8-13

- a) Capital Project C-RDS-164

Capital Project C-RDS-164 (Budget \$55,000) for the replacement of a one ton utility truck was approved as part of the 2004 Capital Program. The vehicle was tendered in October 2004 with seven (7) suppliers submitting bids. Gord Anderson Pontiac/Buick/GMC submitted the lowest tender meeting the County's requirements in the amount of \$51,821.00 and a

**PART B**     **Monthly Activities (continued)**

purchase order was issued. The supplier could not guarantee delivery of the equipment in 2004 and has suggested the equipment is to arrive in early February 2005. The transaction will appear in the 2005 fiscal year and only impacts the Equipment Reserve in the amount approved as part of the 2004 Capital Program. This item is brought to the Committee's attention due to the year end carry-over of this purchase commitment.

b)     Review of Bill 133     Pages 8-13

Bill 133 (Environmental Enforcement Statute Law Amendment Act, 2004) received 1<sup>st</sup> reading on October 27, 2004 and was listed on the Environmental Registry (AA04E0003) for comment the next day. The Bill addresses wastewater and is to amend provisions of the Ontario Water Resources Act (OWRA) and Environmental Protection Act (EPA). Although the intent of the Bill is to "...get tough on industrial polluters" there is also considerable focus on municipalities to improve wastewater treatment. Attached is a report from the City of London analyzing impacts. I have also been contacted by the Sarnia-Lambton Environmental Association, Sarnia Chamber of Commerce and the Municipal Engineers Association with concerns related to the proposed legislation. I will forward correspondence/information as Bill 133 proceeds through the approval process.

c)     Waste Management (Warwick) Landfill

Staff continues to review and prepare a position on the Environmental Assessment for the above project. Discussion Papers 7, 8 & 9 were released in early November 2004. Committee will note that we are in to our 10<sup>th</sup> year of the long term waste management agreement with Waste Management. Due to the long approval process for waste management projects, Council will need to give some thought to starting a planning process in the next five years. Staff will be including funds in the five year capital budget process to reflect this approaching need.

4.     General Manager's ReportRecommendation

That the General Manager's Report as set out in Part A and Part B be accepted as presented.

**PART C**      **Other Matters Requiring a Motion**

1.      Correspondence

Pages 14-31

- a)      2-2-05 Letter dated December 1, 2004 from the County of Wellington requesting support in its campaign to see the Province establish a permanent, transportation infrastructure (road and bridges) program.

Wellington's motion flows from the Province's focus on using a portion of the gas tax to fund transit systems rather than a broader program that would benefit all municipal transportation infrastructure. OGRA has supported the initial transit focus as a "let's get our foot in the door" approach to additional broader funding. Lambton Council has been supportive of efforts (staff and other municipal resolutions) over the last 8 to 10 years to find a sustainable source of funding for transportation infrastructure. With the new government at Queen's Park it would be appropriate to canvas and gain support of our MPPs on the issue.

Recommendation

That County Council support the efforts of the County of Wellington in seeking a sustainable transportation program funded by a portion of the Provincial gas tax; and further

That local MPPs be canvassed for their support.

- b)      2-3-05 Letter dated November 24, 2004 from the Village of Point Edward regarding the Highway 402 Planning and Preliminary Design Study, Blue Water Bridge to Lambton County Road 26 (Mandaumin Road).

As a result of local public opinion the MTO and consultant have brought the option of a marshalling yard back into the study. The opinions on a marshalling yard are varied. The Blue Water Bridge Authority thinks that some of the initiatives currently being developed (i.e. F.A.S.T.) will go a long way towards reducing the problem.

Recommendation

That the County support the inclusion of a marshalling yard in the options to be developed further by URS Cole Sherman and the MTO as a short term solution to the truck queuing problem on Highway #402 approaching the Blue Water Bridge.

**PART C      Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

- c) 2-5-05 Letter dated October 26, 2004 from The Township of St. Clair regarding their request to install no truck signage for Hill Street. There was concern expressed at their Council meeting about trucks driving through Corunna using Hill Street (County Road #4) as an access to Highway #40. (see following correspondence).
  
- d) 2-7-05 Letter dated November 9, 2004 from The Township of St. Clair regarding heavy traffic on Hill Street in Corunna. The residents of Corunna feel that tankers carrying dangerous goods are a real safety issue and should not be allowed to travel through Corunna. Council is suggesting signage on Hill Street to restrict trucks from using this street as access to Highway 40. The issue of restricting trucks on the County Road System (County Road #22) was referred to staff late last year. I would suggest that this correspondence be included with the earlier motion to allow a uniform approach across the entire road system.

Recommendation

That correspondence items 2-5-05 and 2-7-05 be referred to staff to be included in the review of options addressing trucks on the County Road System.

- e) 2-6-05 Letter dated October 26, 2004 from The Township of St. Clair regarding excessive truck idling on County Road #80 (Courtright Line) and Brigden Road at a local restaurant. The concern was raised by a resident in the vicinity of the restaurant concerned about trucks idling while the drivers were inside. I checked with Community Health Services staff to see if there was some way to reduce the idling but there are no enforceable methods in place. Some municipalities have passed no-idling by-laws with mixed results and effectiveness. The best approach would be for the resident to work with the restaurant owner to “encourage” drivers to shut off their trucks while in the restaurant.

Recommendation

That no action be taken on correspondence item 2-6-05.

- f) 2-9-05 Members’ Advisory dated December 9, 2005 from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. FCM’s National Board of Directors unanimously adopted a proposal for sharing the federal fuel tax, starting next year, which means that fuel tax money should begin flowing to our communities in 2005.

**PART C      Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

Recommendation

That the County of Lambton continue to support the principle that the Federal and Provincial Governments dedicate a portion of the federal and provincial gas tax to support a sustainable transportation infrastructure program; and further

That support mechanisms be implemented in the 2005 fiscal year.

- g) 2-10-05 Letter dated December 7, 2004 from the Township of Wellington North. They are requesting that the Province of Ontario provide a portion of the gas tax collected to all Ontario municipalities for the improvement and maintenance of municipal roads and bridges since numerous provincial highways have been transferred to area municipalities.

This effect of this motion is similar to that of Wellington County (1a above) but has been broadened to include all municipalities. Wellington North is asking for funding that is directed to transportation infrastructure rather than the present focus on transit system funding.

2-13-05 Memo dated November 2, 2004 from The Corporation of the Municipality of West Nipissing. Their Council will be urging the Province of Ontario to revisit and adjust the formula used for sharing the provincial gasoline tax to include all municipalities in Ontario.

2-14-05 Letter dated December 1, 2004 from The Township of Essa with a similar request to that of item 2-13-05 in that the Provincial Government will be asked to provide a portion of the gasoline tax to all municipalities, regardless of size or the operation of transit services.

Recommendation

That County Council support the efforts of the Townships of Wellington North and Essa as well as the municipality of West Nipissing in seeking a sustainable transportation program funded by a portion of the Provincial gas tax.

- h) 2-12-05 Memo dated November 18, 2004 from The Township of Algonquin Highlands regarding the implementation of a system of deposit returns for metals, glass and plastic beverage containers in order to divert waste from the landfill.

A deposit return system for metal, glass and plastic beverage containers has been an issue in Ontario for 10+ years. Proponents feel that such a system is the only way Ontario will meet its commitment to 60% diversion of waste from disposal by 2008. A deposit return system has been resisted largely by

**PART C      Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

the soft drink industry who would prefer to fund the system through the Blue Box program. The County has always been a supporter of a deposit return system for soft drink containers and should continue to do so.

Recommendation

That the County of Lambton continue to support the establishment of a deposit return system for metal, glass and plastic beverage containers to assist the Province in achieving its stated goal of 60% diversion of waste from disposal by 2008.

- i) 2-15-05 Letter dated December 7, 2004 from The Municipality of Lambton Shores regarding street lighting at intersections on Lakeshore Road (County Road 7) at Glendale Drive and Lake View Haven Drive to improve visibility and safety.
- Staff undertook a review of these two intersections utilizing the Transportation Association of Canada Manual titled "Illumination of Isolated Rural Intersections" as is our practice for determining warrants for this type of lighting. Neither intersection meets the warrant; therefore; I do not recommend that the County install illumination. In one other instance, the local municipality decided to fund the installation themselves rather than wait until the installation met warrants.

Recommendation

That intersection illumination at County Road #7 (Lakeshore Road) and Glendale Drive and C.R. #7 and Lake View Haven Drive not be installed by the County until these intersections meet TAC warrants.

- j) 2-25-05 Letter dated December 14, 2004 from The Municipality of Lambton Shores regarding the use of County Road allowance for Lambton Shores' water system expansion. The municipality would like to ensure that the road allowance at the intersection of Northville Road and Ravenswood Road remains available for the location of water system reservoir and booster pump. Consent was given to the former Town of Bosanquet in the late 90's and the municipality would like to proceed with the engineering design and just need confirmation that the consent remains valid.
- Consent to utilize the lands in question was not given to Bosanquet. At the time the water system study was undertaken, the County was approached to see if the lands in question might be available for locating a reservoir and booster station at some point in the future. I indicated that it was possible but that the County would like to keep its options open with respect to County Road #9 and #79. In 1997 as part of the rationalization of the County Road

**PART C      Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

System (following Provincial downloading of secondary highways) Council had indicated its desire to look at improving County Road #6 (Thomson Line) to hard surface and then transferring either C.R. #9 (Nauvoo Road/Northville Road) or C.R. #79 (Arkona Road) to the local municipality. From a road system point of view it makes sense to develop C.R.#9/79 as a through road from Hwy #402 directly north to tie into C.R. #79 at Ravenswood Line and then northward to Hwy #21. The present C.R. #79 (Arkona Road) could then be transferred to Lambton Shores and Warwick. In order to do so, improvements will need to be made to the intersection of C.R. #9 and C.R. #12 (Townsend Line) as well as to the intersection of C.R. #9/79/Ravenswood Line. With respect to the intersection in question (C.R. #9/79/Ravenswood Line) the land to be taken by the water system improvements proposed by Lambton Shores would negate the option of re-aligning traffic flow effectively hamstringing future options. There is nothing magic to siting the water system improvements on the County property other than it is the least costly option available. I expect that Lambton Shores could acquire other property in the area that would be suitable. Based on this rationale, I would recommend that the property in question be retained for future road purposes.

**Recommendation**

That the County road allowance at the intersection of County Road #9 (Northville Road), Ravenswood Line and County Road #79 (Northville Road) be retained for future road purposes.

2. **Bridge Network Sustainability Project**

Pages 32-33

A staff memo is attached regarding the Canada-Ontario Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (COMRIF) Intake One Submission pertaining to the County's bridge system.

**Recommendation**

That the County of Lambton identify as its highest priority project the Bridge Network Sustainability Project at an estimated gross cost of \$1,455,000; and further

That this project be submitted as the County's COMRIF (Canada-Ontario Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund) Intake One submission (applications due January 10, 2005).

**INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION**  
**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

January 19, 2005

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT and BUILDING SERVICES**

**PART A**      **Follow-up from Previous Month(s)**

1. Motions #2 and #3 of the Infrastructure & Development/Social & Health Services Committee meeting dated November 17, 2004 with respect to the County Emergency Response Plan.

*#2: That the changes as proposed in the plan by staff be incorporated into the document immediately.*

*#3: That the amended plan be approved, in principle, and that it be circulated to the local Municipalities for their comments by December 31, 2004.*

The changes have been made in the Emergency Response Plan and it was mailed to the local Municipalities for comment on December 14, 2004. A report summarizing local municipal comments will be brought to Committee in the next month or so.

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities**

1. Accounts and Verification

Totals for the months of November & December:

Planning & Development	\$ 5,362.67
Emergency Services	\$ 22,718.94
Building Services	\$ 21,795.12

A listing of the accounts will be available at the meeting.

- i) Are there any items significantly over Budget? No
- ii) Are there any items significantly under Budget? No
- iii) Were all items purchased in accordance with County Policy? Yes
- iv) Are there any items that were not in the Budget? No

2. Revenue and Verification

Revenues received during the months of November & December:

Planning & Development	\$ 140,685.00
Emergency Services	\$ 48,818.00
Building Services	\$ 146,577.00

- i) Were any receipts not included in the current year's budget? No
- ii) Were any receipts significantly less than budgeted? No
- iii) Were any receipts significantly more than budgeted? No

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities (continued)**

3.      Items of Committee Interest

Pages 6-9

a)      Work in Progress

Township of Enniskillen Official Plan

The revisions suggested by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs have been made. Staff is making last minute red-line revisions. It is expected that the plan will be adopted very soon and staff can then move on to development of the new zoning by-law.

Village of Point Edward Official Plan and Zoning By-law

Although the new Official Plan has been drafted and reviewed with Council, the project has been on hold for some time pending the submission and gathering of information on significant projects. It is our desire to include this additional information in the draft of the OP document prior to it being scheduled for public meetings and circulated to affected agencies. A meeting was scheduled with Point Edward Council for January 11 to discuss the project.

Town of Plympton-Wyoming Comprehensive Zoning By-law

An appeal has been received regarding the zoning regulations in the Blue Point Area. Patton Cormier & Associates submitted an appeal on behalf of a Blue Point Drive property owner on November 15, 2004.

Village of Oil Springs Official Plan

We have a change to make on a specific property and then the OP will be adopted at the next meeting of council.

Township of St. Clair Parking Study

The Downtown Corunna Comprehensive Parking Study has been completed.

Planning and Development Workplan for 2005

pages 6-8

A Workplan outlining anticipated projects and activities for the coming year has been prepared for the Committee's review. The report is attached.

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities (continued)**

b)      Township of St. Clair Official Plan Amendment # 6

This amendment was passed by the Township of St. Clair on November 15, 2004 by By-law 90 of 2004 and was received by the County on December 8, 2004. (The County became the approval authority for Official Plans and Official Plan Amendments on January 3, 1998).

The purpose of this amendment is to change the land use designation of certain lands, as shown on Schedule “A” from “Central Commercial” to “Courtright Commercial”, and to set forth additional policies governing the area affected by this amendment to address the “Courtright Commercial” designation land use policies. This amendment is site-specific for all properties within the “Central Commercial” land use designation in Courtright within the Township of St. Clair Official Plan. Generally speaking, the subject lands consist of lots abutting the east side of the St. Clair Parkway between (and including) Roll Number 21-105 (Becker Milk Co.) in the north to Roll Number 21-033 in the south, in addition to 21-042, 21-035 and 21-038 fronting on Milton Street.

There is a concurrent zoning by-law amendment that would rezone the site-specific lands from the Central Commercial (C1) Zone to the Courtright Commercial – holding (C6-h). In addition to the permitted uses of the C1 Zone and where appropriate sewage capacity can be demonstrated to the Township, multiple residential uses may be permitted after the removal of the “h” symbol.

c)      Official Plan Amendment #11 – Town of Plympton-Wyoming

This is a site-specific amendment for the purpose of changing the designation on a portion of the lands described as Part Lots 34, 35, 36 & 37, Front Concession in the former Township of Plympton, Town of Plympton-Wyoming from the “Restricted Agriculture Area” to the “Lakeshore Residential Area” designation. This change will initially permit the creation of a new residential subdivision. The current designation “Restricted Agricultural Area”, “Lakeshore Area” and “Significant Woodlot” on the balance of the property will remain unchanged.

There is a concurrent Zoning By-law Amendment to change the zoning on the property from Hazard (H), Environmental Protection – Lakeshore 4 (EP-L4), Woodlot (WD) and Restricted Agriculture (A2) Zones to Hazard (H), Woodlot (WD), Environmental Protection – Lakeshore 4 (EP-L4) and Residential and Restricted Agriculture (A2) Zones.



**PART C**      **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

2.      Hydro Corridors Secondary Use Project

Pages 14-16

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is seeking submissions from municipalities for possible secondary land uses within its main transmission corridors across the province. A report has been prepared for the Committee's review and is attached.

Recommendation

That the Manager of Planning and Development Services be authorized to determine the interest of the affected municipalities, the Lambton County Regional Trails Committee and other partners in pursuing a coordinated submission to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding secondary uses in hydro transmission corridors within Lambton County by June 1, 2005, and report back to the next Committee meeting.

**SOCIAL & HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION**  
**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

January 19, 2005

**SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

**PART A**      **Follow-up from Previous Month(s)**

1.      No matters to report at this time.

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities**

1.      Accounts and Verification

Total for the months of November/December      \$3,805,200.97

A listing of the accounts will be available at the meeting.

- i)      Are there any items significantly over Budget?      No
- ii)     Are there any items significantly under Budget?      No
- iii)    Were all items purchased in accordance with County Policy?      Yes
- iv)    Are there any items that were not in the Budget?      No

2.      Revenue and Verification

Revenues received during the months of November/December      \$5,076,905.00

- i)      Were any receipts not included in the current year's budget?      No
- ii)     Were any receipts significantly less than budgeted?      No
- iii)    Were any receipts significantly more than budgeted?      No

3.      Items of Committee Interest

- a)      Social Services Department - Ontario Works Policy Changes

On December 15, 2004 the Ministry of Community & Social Services announced twenty policy changes in Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Programs that were made effective the date of the announcement. The policy changes were partially informed by the Deb Matthew's report, *Review of Employment Assistance Programs in Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Programs*.

The changes encompass a number of areas including definitions of income and assets, provision of benefits, elimination of liens, self-employment and sponsorship obligations. Ontario Works staff was provided with interim implementation information on December 17, 2004 with full training provided on January 6, 2005.

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities (continued)**

b) Matthew's Report – Review of Employment Assistance Programs    Pages 12-18

On December 1, 2004 the Ministry of Community and Social Services released Deb Matthew's report titled, *Review of Employment Assistance Programs in Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Programs*. The report summarizes the findings of her discussions with clients, community organizations and municipalities in 2004 and is intended to serve as a focus for future discussions and as a guide for improvements to the social assistance system.

On December 15, 2004 the Ministry announced changes to the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program which incorporated a few of Matthew's recommendations. There has been no indication whether further implementation of her recommendations may be anticipated. A full copy of this report (50 pages) is available on the Ontario Government website: <http://www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/NR/MCFCS/OW/Report/EmploymentAssistanceProgram.pdf>

c) Social Services Department – Child Care Subsidy Policy Changes    Pages 19-20

On November 26, 2004 the Ministry of Community and Social Services advised of policy changes affecting eligibility determinations for child care subsidy.

Effective December 1, 2004 Registered Retirement Savings Plans and Registered Education Savings Plans are no longer considered liquid assets. In addition, annual contributions up to federally established maximums are to be allowed as monthly budgetary expenses when conducting the needs test.

Effective December 1, 2004, the new Provincial policy statement, *Improving Access to Subsidized Child Care* was implemented. The new policy statement requires balanced consideration of the needs of children and parents when making decisions regarding eligibility for child care subsidy and replaces the previous approach based on the number of hours a parent was involved in approved activities.

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities (continued)**

The new policy statement also recognizes additional situations that may be considered in determining the amount of subsidized child care, including social needs for children, study/preparation time in relation to education or training for parents, and other parental needs beyond participation in activities.

The attached '*notices*' were mailed to parents and agencies December 8, 2004 which provided information on the changes and advised that current subsidy approvals remain in effect until files are reviewed. Caseworkers have identified parents with RRSP and RESP assets for priority reviews as the change is retroactive to December 1, 2004 for existing cases. Implementation of the new policy statement is effective the date of the file review or reassessment. All files must be reviewed on a 'touch the file basis' by May 31, 2005.

d)      Social Services Department – Child Care Fee Subsidy      Pages 21-25

In December, Committee was provided with the *2004 Child Care Subsidy Review Report* regarding the recent audit of Purchase of Service agencies conducted by program compliance staff. Managers from the Children's Services Department, Ontario Works, and Social Planning & Program Support reviewed the report and prepared a plan of action regarding implementation of the recommendations. The *Response to Recommendations Report* outlined in the December 30, 2004 memorandum is included for information purposes.

e)      Social Services Department – Homelessness

Committee members will recall that due to a significant funding shortfall The Inn of The Good Shepherd was faced with closing Bethany House, a housing program for young females. At that point in time The Inn planned to continue to utilize the grant from Ministry of Community & Social Services (MCSS) to operate St. John's House, a home for young males. Council provided a one-time transition grant and requested that Social Services staff work with The Inn to develop a sustainable program that addressed the needs of both young females and males.

Staff facilitated a meeting of stakeholders which included The Inn, Housing Services Department, Ontario Works, and the Ministry of Community & Social Services staff. The end result was the establishment of the "*The Haven*" managed by The Inn of The Good Shepherd to provide emergency shelter for youth (male and female.)

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities (continued)**

The County's involvement was approved as part of the Homelessness Plan and a separate report to the Community Services Committee. The funding arrangement includes the continuation of the MCSS grant, a Housing Services unit provided at the current market rate and emergency hostel per diem for a maximum 30 day period through the Ontario Works program. Committee members will recall that Ontario Works is mandated to provide emergency hostel programming, cost shared 80/20.

Since its inception, there have been one hundred and fifty-four (154) homeless youth housed at The Haven of which twenty-four have been returnees.

A key component to this program has been the outreach service provided after the youth has moved out of the emergency shelter provided by The Haven and into permanent accommodation. All three parties (Housing Services, Ontario Works and The Inn of The Good Shepherd) view the program a success. This program is an example of the success of partnerships amongst community based agencies supported by volunteers and charitable donations, and various levels of government.

The Agreement with The Inn will be reviewed early in 2006 to ensure that any identified issues, including the provincially recommended 2004 per diem rate are incorporated. Unless directed otherwise, staff will move forward to renew the Agreement.

f) **Social Services Department – Statistical Report**

Pages 26-28

The attached Ontario Works statistical report is for the month of December 2004. The increase of 76 cases represents an increase of 4.75% over the previous month. Year-to-date, the caseload has increased by 9.05% with the average caseload at 111.7 cases per caseworker.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Budget Estimate</b>	<b>Actual</b>
December, 2001		1,770
December, 2002		1,534
December 2003	1,536	1,536
January 2004	1,536	1,577
February 2004	1,536	1,582
March 2004	1,536	1,640
April 2004	1,536	1,640
May 2004	1,536	1,672
June 2004	1,536	1,703

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities - (continued)**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Budget Estimate</b>	<b>Actual</b>
July 2004	1,536	1,695
August 2004	1,536	1,691
September 2004	1,536	1,647
October 2004	1,536	1,586
November 2004	1,536	1,599
December 2004	1,536	1,675

g)      Social Services Department – Lambton Shared Services Centre      Page 29

Committee members will recall that several years ago the County of Lambton determined that there were a number of agencies delivering employment and income support programs throughout Lambton County that would benefit from relocating to a single facility.

The community responded overwhelmingly to the concept of a single access facility and following extensive research and planning, it was concluded that 53,203 useable square feet was required and an Agreement was entered into with Bayside Mall owners to lease the required space. Consequently, the County entered into a partnership with other levels of government, the private sector and non-governmental organizations in the establishment of a single access facility called the Lambton Shared Services Centre (LSSC.)

Authorized by Council, staff engaged the services of a space planner for the purposes of redesigning and expanding the lobby of the LSSC to accommodate the needs of a new partner (OHIP - Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care) and the existing LSSC Partners. Committee will also recall that due to the unique operational needs of the existing partners and the new partner, as well as the timelines associated with this project, staff has been in negotiations with OHIP and Bayside Mall for the purposes of moving this project forward.

The timeline requirements of the new partner to move into the LSSC by March 31, 2005 and established timelines of the County budget process will necessitate the issuing of the construction tender prior to Capital Budget approval for this project. It should be noted that there is no impact on the Levy as costs for this project will be bourn by the new and existing tenants that are expanding. The closing of the tender, awarding and signing of the Agreement will occur post Capital Budget approval, based on existing timeline schedules as referenced in the attached *Construction Schedule – LSSC First Floor Lobby Improvements*.

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities (continued)**h) Children's Services Department - Best Start Plan

Minister Bountrogianni recently announced the *Best Start Plan* and related initiatives to support children and families. The announcement provided the framework of the first phase of a 10 year + *Best Start* plan. The first phase will be introduced over the next four to five years. The investment in the Best Start plan is made possible by the federal government's commitment of \$1B per year, over the next five years to create a national child care program. Ontario's share will take the form of the municipal 20% contribution and is expected to be approximately \$400M per year.

The vision is to create an integrated system of early learning and care for children and families – with the goal that children be ready to achieve success in school by grade one. The system will be comprised of Early Learning and Care Hubs (physical and/or virtual hubs) in communities across Ontario. The Hubs will reflect the needs and realities of local communities and will be shaped by plans developed through Best Start planning networks facilitated by the Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM), in this case the County of Lambton. When fully implemented, the Early Learning and Care Hubs will serve as a central place for screening, assessment and access to services for all children and families. Examples of services in this integrated approach include child care, public health, children's mental health, child welfare, Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC), infant development, infant hearing, pre-school speech and language, junior and senior kindergarten etc.

Key components of the plan include increased spaces for 4 & 5 year old children to create child care programs wrapped around Junior and Senior Kindergarten. The number of spaces and speed with which they are introduced has yet to be confirmed. Eventually, over the course of 10+ years, early learning and care programs will be expanded to children as young as 2.5 years of age.

There are to be three demonstration projects established – one each in a northern, urban, and rural community. The demonstration projects will reflect the full vision for Early Learning and Care Hubs.

Other components include the creation of three panels (Early Learning and Curriculum, Quality and Human Services and Eighteen Month Well Baby Check-Up) to inform the government on needs and service delivery issues, and the establishment a professional college for early childhood educators.

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities (continued)**

For the provincial government’s fiscal year 2005/06 CMSMs will not be required to cost share the expansion of spaces occurring in that year. Beginning 2006, the legislated 20% municipal contribution will be required. Capital dollars will be provided to non-profit child care providers at 100% provincial dollars.

Undoubtedly the County of Lambton will be required to develop a business plan. Staff will continue to update Committee as more detailed information is received.

i)      Children’s Services Department – Statistical Report

Number of Children, by Age Groups

Age Group	Age	# of Children December 31, 2003	# of Children December 31, 2004
Infant	0 – 17 months	40	52
Toddler	18 – 31 months	91	89
Preschool	32 months – 5 yr.	291	251
Kindergarten	5 – 6 years	120	103
School Age	6 – 9 years	132	167
Other	Over 9 years	67	82
<b>TOTAL</b>		741	744

Total Exits (Children) in December

Age Group	Age	# of Children December 31, 2003	# of Children December 31, 2004
Infant	0 – 17 months	3	3
Toddler	18 – 31 months	27	11
Preschool	32 months – 5 yr.	62	22
Kindergarten	5 – 6 years	12	8
School Age	6 – 9 years	14	8
Other	Over 9 years	4	4
<b>TOTAL</b>		122	56

4.      General Manager’s Report

Recommendation

That the General Manager’s Report as set out in Part A and Part B be accepted as presented.

**PART C**      **Other Matters Requiring a Motion**

1.      Correspondence Pages 30 - 48
- a)      2-39-05 Correspondence from the Ministry of Community & Social Services regarding Child Care Fee Subsidy Policy changes.
  - b)      2-40-05 Correspondence from the Ministry of Community & Social Services advising of changes to the Ontario Works program.
  - c)      2-41-05 Correspondence from the Ministry of Community & Social Services regarding the implementation of a one-step application process.
  - d)      2-20-05 A resolution from the City of Kingston calling on the Provincial government to stop the National Child Benefit Supplement claw back.
  - e)      2-42-05 Press release from Lambton College acknowledging the County of Lambton for 30 donated computers.
  - f)      2-37-05 Correspondence from the Ministry of Community & Social Services approving the County of Lambton – Early Learning Child Care Initiative Plan.

**Recommendation**

That correspondence 2-39-05, correspondence 2-40-05, correspondence 2-41-05, correspondence 2-20-05, correspondence 2-42-05, and correspondence 2-37-05 be noted and filed.

- g)      2-43-05 Correspondence for the Huron House Boys' Residential Home requesting a grant.

Historically the Huron Boys Home received a \$20,000 grant from County Council. The Home withdrew its grant request in 2002 in light of an improved financial situation. The attached letter indicates that due to declining bingo revenues and continued fund raising uncertainty in 2005 the Home is again requesting a grant.

**PART C**      **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

Mr. Innes has requested the Home's most recent audited financial statement for both its operating and Foundation accounts. The requested documents will be presented to Council along with other grant requests February 2005. Since Huron Boy's Home is a provincially funded organization additional information is being requested from the Ministry of Community & Social Services to determine MCSS's possible response.

Pending Council direction staff have not set aside funding in the 2005 draft budget. An examination of the NCB Reinvestment Strategy indicates that there is no ability to accommodate the request without discontinuing funding for an existing committed project.

Recommendation

Committee direction is sought.

2.      Elimination of Intake Screening Units

On November, 30, 2004 the Ministry of Community & Social Services provided municipalities with the AtFocus *Review of the Intake Screening Units Final Report* dated September 30, 2004. This third party consultant conducted a review of Intake Screening Units in 2004 and recommended a move to a single consolidated call centre based on a public-private partnership model.

Although the parameters for the review had focused on improvements to the two step application process, one of the findings noted a "redundancy and overlap of work effort with the Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSM) sites and as a result increased costs, rather than decreased costs to determine eligibility."<sup>1</sup>

On December 1, 2004 the Ministry released Deb Matthew's report on the review of Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Programs. One of the recommendations contained in the Matthew's report called for the elimination of Intake Screening Units citing they were "an unnecessary layer of bureaucracy" which caused more work for caseworkers and frustration for applicants.<sup>2</sup>

On December 15, 2004 the Ministry announced that Intake Screening Units would be eliminated and that Ontario Works would move from a two-step to a one-step application process conducted in local offices by June 16, 2005.

---

<sup>1</sup> AtFocus Report, pg.3

<sup>2</sup> Mathew's Report, pg.25

**PART C      Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

The one step process is to be complemented over time by a simplified application form and streamlined documentation and verification standards.

It is premature to project the funding implications of the move to the one-step application process for the department. In 2004, the County of Lambton's share of the Grey County Intake Screening Unit expenditures totaled \$66,224.00.

The Ministry contributed an equal share, or an additional \$66,224.00. In addition, Ontario Works currently has one FTE caseworker dedicated to crisis intakes and one FTE receptionist-clerk dedicated to intake scheduling, file preparation and third party information checks.

Initial screening will be required prior to booking application appointments with caseworkers. Application data that had been gathered by Intake Screening Unit (ISU) staff must be entered into the Service Delivery Model Technology (SDMT) computer application by caseworkers. Employment orientation sessions and literacy screening remain required elements in the application process; however there may be some flexibility in the timing of these steps that could contribute towards efficiencies and a more streamlined approach.

Staff is conscious of the fact that Anderson Consulting and the Ministry had projected savings 5 years ago with the introduction of ISUs which did not materialize. MCSS decreased funding based on the erroneous assumptions made at that time. As well, staff is cognizant that MCSS has not increased the allocation over the five year period of the contract with Grey Bruce nor was the Ministry prepared to recognize the significant Pay Equity settlement awarded Grey Bruce staff.

Staff is particularly concerned that the ministry has indicated it will 'reinvest a portion of the provincial share of funding' into the delivery agents' local intake based on caseload and the reduction in the duplication of services. Funding for the ISU will no longer be redirected to Grey Bruce from the Ontario Works administration budget effective with the implementation of the one-step application process and no later than June 16, 2005. The reinvestment planning is to be addressed as part of the 2005 Cost of Administration and service planning process. Given that the funding allocation was reduced five years ago based on the assumption that savings would be realized which did not occur, and that funding has not kept up with increases awarded through the collective agreement process nor Pay Equity settlements, the General Manager has indicated to Regional MCSS staff that the Ministry's plan to "reinvest a portion of the provincial share" is not acceptable.

**PART C**      **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

Additional staff will be required to take up the work no longer undertaken by Grey Bruce. While it is premature to accurately project needed staffing resources without the finalization of a business plan, we will work towards implementing this change within that anticipated financial resources redirected to the Grey Bruce ISU, adjusted to reflect current fiscal and collective agreement realities.

A Local Implementation Plan is to be developed and submitted to the Regional Office for approval. The Ministry has indicated that it will provide a 100% Provincial transition fund to assist with one-time costs. The implementation plan and business case for transition funding must be submitted by February 18, 2005. The Department will prepare and submit the required implementation plan and business case by the due date, subject to approval of Lambton County Council.

Recommendation

That the County of Lambton,

- commend the Province of Ontario for its effort to streamline the application process;
- restore funding, adjusted to reflect current fiscal and collective agreement realities, previously redirected to Grey Bruce, and which reflect the program needs resulting from a single step application process, and further;
- encourage the Province to continue its efforts to develop a program that promotes opportunities, encourages success and seeks to address particular needs and challenges that each individual faces.

3.      Signing Authorizing Listing

Page 49

The attached revised signing authorization list reflects the designated positions who on behalf of the Social & Health Services Division have authority to sign the documents listed. The changes are of a housekeeping nature.

Recommendation

That the signing authorization list, revised January 11, 2005 be accepted as presented.



**PART B**      **Monthly Activities (continued)****Safe Water**

The Minister of Environment has commissioned an Advisory Council on Drinking Water and Testing Standards to provide advice on small drinking systems in accordance with Ontario Regulation 170/03. The initial review concluded that the Regulation, as it applies to smaller systems, is considered to be too costly, complex, and not well understood. In order to gain a broader understanding of the issues, the advisory council held 12 consultation sessions across Ontario. In these consultations, they have met and heard from interested stakeholders, such as scientific and technical experts in drinking water, parties concerned with the quality of drinking water and parties responsible for compliance. Community Health Services Department is part of a working group that has been established by the Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care to provide feedback from public health professionals with ground level experience dealing with small rural and remote facilities as applied to Regulation 170/03. The Minister's report is expected to be released shortly.

**Tobacco Control**

One charge was laid for the sale of tobacco to a minor.

The Community Health Services Department has completed the 2004 compliance monitoring of tobacco retailers in Lambton County, which at present is separate from the enforcement of the 100% Lambton Smoke-Free By-law. The purpose of compliance testing is to find out if retailers are asking for identification before selling cigarettes to young people as required by Ontario's Tobacco Control Act (TCA).

In Lambton County, test shoppers age 15-17 years old, work with enforcement staff to conduct compliance checks. In 2004, eighty-five of Lambton's tobacco retailers were monitored, which was mainly comprised of convenience stores, gas stations, and supermarkets. Private clubs and establishments licensed under the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario were not visited.

The overall results are positive with a slight increase in compliance over last year. In 2003, 75.3% refused to sell to the test shoppers compared to 77.7% in 2004. These numbers are also higher than the 2003 national figures of 67.7% compliance with the federal Tobacco Act.

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities (continued)**

Compliance monitoring does not end here. Tobacco retailers are continually monitored throughout the year. Thus far, three stores have been charged with selling tobacco to a person who is less than 19 years of age. Enforcement action was taken because these stores had previously failed a compliance check within the last 2 years.

All clerks and cashiers are reminded to ask for photo identification from anyone who appears to be less than 25 years of age. If proper identification cannot be provided, the sale should be refused. A ticket for selling tobacco to a person who is less than 19 years of age carries a fine of \$215.00 or greater for repeat offences. Repeat offences may result in automatic prohibition which restricts all tobacco sales for a period of time.

West Nile Virus

A presentation was conducted for the Lambton County Clerks & Treasurers Association regarding *Over-wintering of Mosquitoes in Agricultural Barns*. As a result of this presentation the municipal Clerks expressed an interest in promoting more public education in rural areas. Community Health Services Department is working through the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture & Food to develop a strategy to reach farm owners.

The final WNV Working Group meeting was held on December 13, 2004 to review the 2004 WNV program. Attendees included St. Clair Parks Commission, Ministry of Transportation, First Nations Communities, Ministry of Natural Resources and Health Canada. The Department continues to work with these partners to address WNV issues in the County of Lambton

Staff attended the 2004 Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care WNV wrap-up meeting in Toronto. The *Mosquitoes Over-wintering in Agricultural Barns* presentation was also presented to this group.

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities (continued)**

Communicable Disease /Outbreak Control

To date, influenza has not yet been identified in Lambton this season. However, numerous respiratory infections are circulating throughout the community, which is not unusual for this time of the year. Influenza outbreaks have been reported in eastern Ontario earlier this month, as well as in the western provinces. With travel and family visiting over the holiday season, it is very likely that Lambton will be documenting influenza cases by early in the New Year.

Two long-term care facilities have been dealing with enteric outbreaks among residents and staff, and communicable disease staff have met regularly with the infection control committees of these facilities regarding the implementation of the necessary measures to control the outbreaks. One outbreak has already been declared over. Laboratory confirmation has not yet been received regarding the causes of these outbreaks, but Norwalk-like viruses could potentially be the causative agents.

Laboratory confirmation has been received regarding one local case of Lyme disease. At this time, the investigation is incomplete, and it is unclear as to whether this person's exposure was local or travel-related.

Vaccine Preventable Diseases

The 2004 influenza drop-in clinics are complete however, area residents continue to call and schedule appointments to receive the vaccine. A final count as to the number of doses given in 2004 is not presently available.

Travel clinics have been very busy, with residents planning winter vacations. In addition, recent news of malaria concerns in several resort areas of the Dominican Republic has sparked a large number of telephone calls and drop-in clients concerned about trips they have already booked to the affected areas. Advice concerning prophylactic medication and other precautions to help prevent malaria infection is being provided by public health nurses in the immunization program.

An electronic scheduling program has been introduced to Department staff. This new program will go "live" in January and should enable all staff in the immunization and sexual health program areas to book client appointments from their desk-top computers, and will help to keep better inventory as well.

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities (continued)**Rabies

A shortage of rabies vaccine continues, and data is being sent to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care weekly as to the status of vaccine that is available to the Department.

Sixteen biting incidents have occurred this past month, and no one required post-exposure vaccine as a result of any of these incidents. Typically the numbers of biting incidents reported are fewer during the winter months.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Hepatitis 'C' funding from Health Canada will end by March 2005 and plans are underway to utilize the balance of the monies available to provide educational sessions and materials targeted toward local young people regarding the risk of this blood borne infection.

Provincial Tobacco Funding

Pages 10-11

The Smoke-Free Ontario initiative was announced in December. This initiative is one of the most comprehensive tobacco control and prevention programs in the world. Components include:

- The *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* (Bill 164) is an act that will ban smoking in all public places and workplaces effective May 31, 2006. The main difference between this act and County By-Law #10-2004 is that all workplaces and public places covered by a roof are included in the provincial law, where current Lambton guidelines allow for smoking in outdoor roofed areas with open wall space;
- *Smoke-Free Ontario/Ontario Tobacco Strategy funding*, 100% provincial funding is available to public health departments upon application for programs including Policy Promotion and Enforcement, Worksite innovations, Innovative Smoking Intervention Programs, and Youth Action Alliance. An allocation letter from the Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) indicates that up to \$33,000.00 is available for start-up funding, as well as up to \$100,000.00 per year to meet specific program objectives, under the Policy Promotion and Enforcement grant, as referenced in the attached correspondence. Additional funding for Worksite, Innovative Smoking Intervention Programs and Youth Action Alliances will be awarded through a competitive application process.

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities (continued)**

The Smoke-Free Ontario programs are regarded as an opportunity to significantly decrease the negative health effects and health care costs associated with tobacco smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke.

**Healthy Weights, Healthy Lives Report**

On November 23, Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Sheela Basrur, released her first Chief MOH report, entitled *Healthy Weights, Healthy Lives*. This report is a call to action for all sectors to become engaged in an effort to address the overweight and obesity “epidemic,” and contains recommendations and actions for communities, provincial and municipal government, the health system, the food industry, workplaces, schools and school boards, individuals and caregivers. Recommendations for municipal governments include:

1. Examine community planning policies and processes to identify how local communities can promote physical activity, reduce barriers to physical activity for everyone, and engage young people in physical activity;
2. Provide education and training for community planners, engineers, architects and decision-makers in ‘active living by design’;
3. Provide more opportunities for people to be active by enhancing park land and recreational areas, providing safe walking and cycling routes, and designing neighborhoods with shops and schools within walking distance;
4. Ensure young children in day care settings have healthy food choices, daily physical activity, and day care providers who are trained and knowledgeable about healthy eating and daily physical activity;
5. Identify people in leadership positions – elected officials or managers – to act as role models;
6. Integrate healthy eating and physical activity opportunities into new and existing community programs such as prenatal classes, Early Years Centers, and after school programs.

Over the coming months, the Health Promotion & Program Support team will be working on a plan to address the recommendations in the report, and engage community leaders and partners in a multi-stakeholder effort to create the conditions for a healthier community. This direction is consistent with goals stated in the County Strategic Plan. It is expected that funding will be made available to support this work and build on strengths of current program initiatives in this area such as Healthy Living Lambton.

**PART B**      **Monthly Activities (continued)**

Councilors and senior municipal staff are encouraged to read the full report.

Please follow the link below to the report:

[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/pub/ministry\\_reports/cmoh04\\_report/cmoh\\_04.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/pub/ministry_reports/cmoh04_report/cmoh_04.html)

4.      General Manager's Report

Recommendation

That the General Manager's Report as set out in Part A and Part B be accepted as presented.

**PART C**      **Other Matters Requiring a Motion**

1.      Correspondence

Pages 12-16

a)    2-35-05 Correspondence from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care regarding funding for public health programs and services.

b)    2-36-05 Correspondence from the Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario regarding Local Health Integration Network Boundaries.

Recommendation

That correspondence 2-35-05 and correspondence 2-36-05 be noted and filed.

2.      Mosquito Control Conference

The Michigan Mosquito Control Association-Annual Conference-will be held February 2-4, 2005 in Mount Pleasant, Michigan. This conference includes topics such as the effectiveness of larviciding catch basins to reduce mosquito population; mosquito vectored diseases, and new technologies and products for mosquito abatement. There are sufficient funds within the West Nile virus budget line to accommodate this expense.

**PART C**      **Other Matters Requiring a Motion** (continued)

Recommendation

That Committee approves the attendance of two Community Health Services Department staff to attend the Michigan Mosquito Control Association – Annual Conference - in Mount Pleasant, Michigan, February 2-4, 2005.

3.      Control of West Nile Virus in Lambton County

The 2004 West Nile virus Control Plan included the following components:

- Public education to reduce mosquito breeding sites and methods of personal protection;
- submission of dead crows for identification of the West Nile virus and setting mosquito traps throughout the County;
- monitoring catch basins for mosquito larvae;
- larviciding 15,000 catch basins when larvae were identified.

The primary vector of the West Nile virus is the Culex Pipiens mosquito. This species is primarily urban. Catch basins and storm drains provide the ideal habitat for breeding this species of mosquito because of the debris and organic material. Control of the Culex Pipiens is an early intervention to the build up of West Nile virus in a community and reduces the number of human cases of infection.

Methoprene is the larvicide of choice for treating catch basins. It does not kill larvae but rather interferes with the development of the mosquito and consequently, adults do not hatch from the pupal stage. Methoprene has a low toxicity and poses little risk to people. It degrades rapidly in sunlight both in water and inert surfaces. It also rapidly metabolizes in soil and does not leach.

It is likely that Methoprene will be degraded and diluted by the time it reaches fresh water bodies. In 2003, an Agreement was made with PCO Services to provide monitoring of 35 strategically located catch basins. When mosquito larvae were found in 90% of them, Methoprene was applied to 13,500 catch basins throughout the County.

The 2004 West Nile virus control plan was the same as 2003 and the Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care have verbally committed the same funding. St Clair Parkway was contracted to provide larviciding services in 2004. This was determined to be the most cost effective solution.

**PART C**      **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

The Commission, a long-time partner of the County of Lambton, owns and operates a number of recreational based properties throughout the County including the St. Clair Parkway Golf Course in Mooretown. As part of this stewardship, the Parkway employs individuals who regularly manage and use pesticide, herbicide and the like and possesses a variety of classes of licenses to apply these products. They have a vast amount of experience in the safe and efficient application of this type of products as well as a reputation as an environmentally friendly organization.

For a number of years the St. Clair Parks Commission has experienced severe financial pressures due to many economic reasons. During this time it has been challenged with locating alternate sources of funding in order to reduce its need for operating grants. This partnership aided the Commission by creating a new source of revenue that could be grown in the future. A relationship of this nature is in keeping with the County's Strategic plan in the area of partnerships. In addition it provides more control for the County through the Medical Officer of Health to control any larvaciding operation either through application by zones or timing. This level of control was not possible in the previous arrangement.

In summary, the continuation of the partnership established in 2004, provides significant benefits to both parties as well as the residents of the County of Lambton.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the County of Lambton enter into a partnership Agreement with the St. Clair Parks Commission to provide catch basin larvaciding services and monitoring, as part of the County's West Nile virus control program for 2005 subject to the negotiation of a final contract acceptable to both parties.

4.      **Staff Announcement**

Page 17

The attached memorandum is to advise Committee of Andrew Taylor's acceptance of the position of Manager, Environmental Health & Prevention Services. Committee may recall that this position was vacant due to the retirement of Iris Murtha, in December 2004.

**Recommendation**

That the January 6, 2005 memorandum regarding Andrew Taylor, Manager Environmental Health & Prevention Services be noted.