



## **The Business Development and Planning Advisory Committee (BDAPAC) Meeting**

Hybrid Meeting (in-person) – HCAB, 53 Thorburn Street South, Haldimand Room & virtual attendees; Monday September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022; 9:00am

**Present:** Phil Hauser (Chair), Mike Lessard (Vice-Chair), Mayor Hewitt (Virtual), Kellie Stephan, Tauri Caputo, Adam Peet, Art Bluhm (Virtual), John Vanderzanden

**Guest:** Sharon Moore (CEO, West General Hospital)

**Staff:** Mike Evers, General Manager of Community & Development Services, Lidy Romanuk, Manager of Economic Development & Tourism, Jaymie Nelson, Program Manager – Business Retention & Expansion

**Regrets:** John Edelman, Chris Hibbs (leave of absence)

### **1.0 Welcome and Introduction**

Meeting is called to order by Chair, P. Hauser at 9:03 a.m.

### **2.0 Council Update**

K. Hewitt provided a thank you and congratulatory remarks for the BDAPAC term; highlighting the committees success despite a number of challenges including the pandemic, noting the impact of the committee, and its value moving forward.

### **3.0 Haldimand Physician Recruitment Presentation**

M. Evers introduced guest presenter Sharon Moore, who provided some context for a recently launched initiative “Haldimand Physician Recruitment & Retention”. Welcoming guest presenter S. Moore.

S. Moore presented:

- Insights were shared into the drivers and key stakeholders behind the initiative: West General Hospital, Haldimand Family Health Team, Haldimand War Memorial Hospital and Haldimand County.
- Noting the County has been historically underserved by primary care physicians (General Practitioners). The County requires at a minimum an additional 3-4 physicians to be on par with the provincial averages.
- The pressures continue to build, with upcoming retirements and population growth.
- When looking at the information provided by Health Force Ontario, it is worth highlighting the roster size within Haldimand – on average local General Practitioner’s have a roster greater than 1,700 patients vs. 1,300 provincially.
  - A. Peete confirmed that the ratios are reflective of 2021 statistics, and do not factor in forecasted growth.

M. Evers presented:

- When we have a lack of adequate care, and residents don't have access to a primary care physician, this burdens the emergency services, increases call volumes with EMS and they also face significant off load-delays when transferring patients at the hospital.
- Haldimand County does not have a physician recruiter, and this taskforce (PRRC) is working collaboratively to look at options to address this need within the community.
- The PRRC includes representation beyond the four key stakeholders (noted above) such Health Force Ontario, the Chief Medical Officer of Health for Haldimand-Norfolk. It is requested BDAPAC also send a representative to sit on the committee.
- Other tasks that the BDAPAC could consider championing include:
  - Seeking business community to serve as community champions;
  - Fete the candidate, hosting General Practitioners and showcasing the quality of life in the community;
  - Working to assist with sourcing locations for practices; and
  - Providing employment opportunities for spouses and family.

Discussion ensued:

T. Caputo asked what are the limitations to recruit and “host” potential physicians? M. Evers responded that, as a municipality there are limitations regarding budgetary restraints and Human Resources capacity, and all activities must also fall within the bounds of the Municipal Act.

S. Moore contributed that at the hospital level, incentives are permitted (although budget is not currently available) to attract General Practitioners, as there are significant impacts to the health of community.

M. Evers added as an example, the City of Kingston, provided a relocation bonus for a term of four years, this financial incentive was supported by the business community.

S. Moore contributed that community ambassador programs have also been really critical to help other communities be successful in their recruitment.

T. Caputo if we forecast out 10 years, perhaps pre-engaging with youth that are going into the medical field, to establish relationships to bring them back to the communities where they are from could be beneficial.

K. Hewitt shared that some large employers with a significant footprint in Haldimand such as Empire Homes, Stelco, Xplornet or other large anchor businesses may be vested in an initiative such as this. They may have the potential to commit a larger budget to establish a funding pool. A recruiter would have to consider how to engage and partner with them.

T. Caputo would be pleased to volunteer as a standing BDAPAC member to volunteer for the position.

P. Hauser also indicated an interest in volunteering as a local pharmacist and business owner in the community.

M. Evers to bring forward T. Caputo and P. Hauser to the PRRC as recommended representatives from Business Development and Planning Advisory Committee for the remainder of the committee's term.

#### **4.0 Chair and Vice Chair Report**

No updates to report.

#### **5.0 Approval of Minutes**

Moved by T. Caputo and seconded by M. Lessard that the minutes of the Business Development and Planning Advisory Committee dated May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 be approved as presented.

#### **5.0 BDAPAC Budget – Business Case Development**

L. Romanuk noted that the e-vote is complete, all BDAPAC members were in favour, and that a report has been drafted for the upcoming Committee In Council meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup>. It was requested that (schedule permitting) P. Hauser (Chair) be present to speak to the business case as a delegation.

T. Caputo inquired about structure of the facilitated session, and impacts to budget.

L. Romanuk noted some important dates: seeking interest for attendance from BDAPAC Members to attend the following conferences as noted in the business case. Please consider and bring forward your name the week of September 19<sup>th</sup> if interested. Participants will be required to submit a summary of key learnings to the larger group following the noted conferences.

- EDAC – Kingston, October 1-4 (two representatives)
- TIAO – Oct 25-26 (one representative)
- Agri Forum – November 2-3 (one representative)

#### **7.0 BDAPAC Structure & Terms of Reference**

T. Caputo noted on the frequency of the reports to Council – is their value in increasing?

- J. Nelson shared that perhaps the format doesn't need to always be in person at Council meetings, and that the committee could consider alternate formats.
- L. Romanuk noted meeting minutes are public, and all BDAPAC meetings are open to the public.
- T. Caputo if we are leaning towards a working committee, public presentations do incentivize the committee to undertake the work, and follow through with commitments.

Moved by T. Caputo and seconded by A. Peet that the BDAPAC Terms of Reference, Section 4, be updated to reflect the following: *“The Business Development and Planning Advisory Committee Chair should report twice annually via an in-person presentation to Haldimand County Council on the progress that is being made and on the implementation of the Economic Development and Tourism strategies. In addition, the Chair (via staff) will submit two written memos to Council to provide further information on the activities, priorities, and work plan of the Committee.”*

T. Caputo noted that commenting on staff to implementation of strategies may be an overstep of bounds due to the municipal/managerial structure of the County.

T. Caputo asked if there is value of assigning one seat to a permanent Council representative to BDAPAC; and the secondary Council member be a rotating seat.

T. Caputo noted the expenditure approvals were aligned to the Manger of EDT. Determined this should be maintained, due to operating budget line within Economic Development & Tourism Division operating budget.

T. Caputo, is there a way to over-lap the terms of the committee so that there is continuity at the end of the term.

- A. Peet is there a way to initiate a sub-committee to “farm members from” to mimic continuity. Perhaps the subcommittee chair is a BDAPAC member, and the rest of the group is comprised from community at large or other committees of Council.
- T. Caputo if we know there are going to be sub-committee chairs/activities – that could spark interest or engagement when recruiting for next term.
- L. Romanuk will connect with Clerks to determine options prior to November meeting.

L. Romanuk inquired if the committee see itself as an advisory committee or a working committee. That obligation should be better reflected in the Terms of Reference.

- P. Hauser general sense that this is moving towards a working committee (pointing to the business case, conferences and other activities)
- A. Peet added that perhaps the subcommittee structure could be part of the working committee.

P. Hauser recommended a detailed review of Terms of Reference come forward as part of November agenda. Specifically: committee structure and sub-committees, continuity of BDAPAC membership.

## **8.0 Future work plan items and BDAPAC Term Accomplishments**

L. Romanuk advised the summary is meant to serve as list of recommendations to the next term of BDAPAC and a starting point for strategic planning.

P. Hauser recommended a detailed review come forward as part of November agenda.

## **9.0 EDT Updates**

L. Romanuk shared Economic Development and Tourism Divisional updates.

## **10.0 Homework**

Bring forward two individuals you would recommend a good candidates for the next Business Development and Planning Advisory Committee term.

## **10.0 Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 11:28 a.m., M. Lessard.

Next Meeting: November 14<sup>th</sup>, Haldimand Administration Building 9:00 -11:00 a.m.