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Item No. 3

Halifax Regional Council
January 15, 2008

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Jennifer Church
Jennifer Church, Advisor, Intergovernmental and Corporate Affairs

DATE: December 20, 2007

SUBJECT: HRM and Capital Health Memorandum of Understanding

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the HRM Chief Administrative Officer and Capital District Health Authority (CDHA) Chief Executive Officer on December 10, 2007.

BACKGROUND

The Municipality and Capital Health have many areas of shared interest, and agreed to formalize a strategic relationship aimed at increasing collaboration and coordination between the organizations. To affirm this, an administrative MOU was signed on December 10, 2007 by Dan English, CAO of HRM, and Chris Power, President and CEO of CDHA. This MOU agrees to foster strong and continued communication between the parties, and ensure coordination and alignment of issues in areas of shared interest - chiefly around developing a strong, healthy and vibrant community.

HRM and CDHA agreed to focus on specific areas on a yearly basis. Staff representatives will be appointed to lead their implementation, and work teams with representatives from both HRM and CDHA will undertake action and report back to senior staff on a regular basis. The municipality's CAO and the President of CDHA will meet twice annually. Outcomes and updates will be reported annually to HRM Council and CDHA's Board of Directors.

DISCUSSION

For the upcoming year staff will be developing work plans around two key topics:

- Integration of project specific communications initiatives
- Partnerships for Wellness Centres in new recreation facilities

Staff from HRM and CDHA are meeting in early 2008 to discuss work plans and next steps.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

No budget implications at this time. Any budget requirements would be requested through the 2008/09 budget/business planning process

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1: Memorandum of Understanding: Halifax Regional Municipality and Capital District Health Authority

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by : Anne Totten, Corporate Policy Analyst, 490-5623

Memorandum of Understanding
Halifax Regional Municipality
And
Capital District Health Authority

Objectives

HRM and Capital District Health Authority (Capital Health) have agreed to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to:

- evolve the positive relationship that currently exists between HRM and Capital Health
- ensure coordination and alignment of initiatives in areas of shared interest
- foster strong and continued communications
- maximize access and utilization of resources in our community for the benefit of each partner and its respective constituents to .

Background

Halifax Regional Municipality is recognized as one of the most liveable cities in the world committed to sustainability and fiscal responsibility that enhances the economic development, social, cultural and recreational attributes of the region.

Capital Health is striving to become a world-leading haven for people-centred health, healing and learning. This vision applies both to the individuals and the communities served by Capital Health.

HRM and Capital Health share several common interests. A fundamental one is related to developing and maintaining a strong, healthy and vibrant community. Although each organization has a different role in supporting this outcome, sharing expertise and aligning resources and activities could realize benefit to both organizations and the community at large.

Principles

- Through the MOU, HRM and Capital Health will commit to ensuring a community benefit is realized through the agreement.
- HRM/Capital Health will profile the partnership and the results in the community.
- HRM/Capital Health will focus on a balance of strategic and tactical partnership opportunities.
- Partner organizations will commit the necessary resources to undertake the agreed upon actions.
- Where required for legal or clarification purposes, HRM/Capital Health will formalize business partnerships.
- A timeline for implementation of initiatives will be agreed upon.
- Outcomes of the partnership will be monitored annually and an update provided to HRM Council and the Capital Health Board of Directors.
- HRM and Capital Health each acknowledge their legal independence.

Structure

The MOU is designed to help foster an environment conducive to consultation and ongoing two-way communication between Capital Health and HRM's executive staff and Council.

The CEO (Capital Health) and the CAO (HRM) will appoint staff representatives to lead the implementation of initiatives as outlined in the MOU. Regular reports will be prepared and reviewed by the CEO and CAO prior to an annual meeting. The CEO and the CAO will arrange annual joint meetings to review progress on initiatives as agreed to in the MOU, or other matters of mutual interest.

Initiatives

Initial initiatives will build upon work already under way, ie: Physical Activity MOU, and be reviewed annually by HRM and Capital Health. Replacement or additional actions for consideration will be discussed. Specific initiatives undertaken through the MOU will be in one or more of the following focus areas:

- Sustainability & the environment
- Transportation Issues
- Immigration & Diversity
- Innovation & Research
- Reciprocity Agreements
- Emergency Planning
- Communications & Advocacy
- Recreation, Healthy Living, and Health Promotion
- Citizenship

HRM and Capital Health will continue to foster a culture of innovation within their respective organizations by supporting initiatives that will promote the reciprocal transfer of best practices, knowledge capital, and technology.

HRM and Capital Health acknowledge the need for an effective, mutually-beneficial working relationship consistent with the mission, vision and values of both organizations.

Term

This MOU shall become effective from the date of execution by the HRM & Capital Health. Either party may terminate this agreement on written notice to the other party.

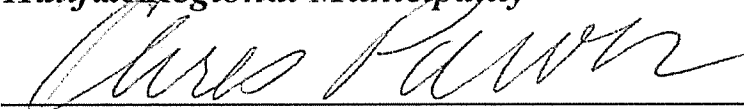
Costs and Expenses

Each party shall bear its own costs and expense unless otherwise mutually arranged and agreed to in writing.

Signatures -

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Dan English', written over a horizontal line.

Dan English
Chief Administrative Officer
Halifax Regional Municipality

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Chris Power', written over a horizontal line.

Chris Power
President & CEO
Capital District Health Authority

DATE: December 10, 2007