

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE- FEBRUARY 10, 2009

GROWING COMMUNITIES HEALTHCARE ALLIANCE

Recommendation

Mayor Linda D. Jackson recommends:

1. THAT the City of Vaughan support the Resolution from the Town of Newmarket which was endorsed by Council at the meeting of November 10th, 2008, and submitted by the Growing Communities Healthcare Alliance;
2. THAT in order to improve timely and local access to hospital care in Vaughan and across high growth communities in Ontario, the City of Vaughan should request that the Government of Ontario:
 - a. Speed up implementation of hospital growth funding commitment ensuring that \$100 Million in growth funding is targeted to high growth hospitals and provide growth funding for social services;
 - b. Quickly implement "Health Based Allocation Model" (HBAM) ie. population-needs-based-funding for provincial health care funding and develop a population-needs-based funding formula for social services;
 - c. Develop a plan for health care and social services growth for Ontario to complement Places to Grow.
3. THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Minister of Finance, the MPP for Vaughan, High Growth Communities Mayors and Chairs and the Central Health Integration Networks (LHIN).

Economic Impact

There is no immediate budgetary impact from the adoption of this Resolution.

Communications Plan

No immediate communications plan is required.

Purpose

To support the Resolution submitted by the Growing Communities Healthcare Alliance.

Background - Analysis and Options

The high growth communities in Ontario grow at more than twice the rate of provincial population growth, adding more than 100,000 new residents each and every year. These regions are also aging at twice the provincial rate.

Population growth in these regions will further intensify due to Ontario's 30-year growth plan, Places to Grow. As of 2008/2009 Ontarian's residing in the Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) representing high growth communities are receiving \$258 less per resident for local hospital services when compared to the average Ontarian. As a result, there is \$1.4 Billion

annual operating funding gap for local hospital services. These provincial funding inequities are worsening each year.

More than four million Ontario residents living in high growth communities are receiving \$218 less per resident for provincially funded local social services compared to the average Ontario resident. As a result, there is a \$708 Million annual operating funding gap for local provincially funded social services. These funding inequities are becoming worst every year.

Since 2006, the Government of Ontario has announced that it will implement a new Health Based Allocation Model (HBAM) to allocate new health care resources to Local Health Networks based on patient care needs in a way that will address health care funding inequities in Ontario.

The Government of Ontario has acknowledged the growing funding gaps for hospital services in high growth communities by committing, during the 2007 provincial election, to provide \$100 Million in additional annual operating funding to high growth hospitals.

The promise of \$30 Million in growth funding for 2008/2009 still means that the funding gap continues to widen.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council.

Regional Implications

Not applicable.

Conclusion

For the well being of all our citizens, this recommendation should be approved to emphasize the need for healthcare in high growth communities and to attest that the Ontario Government should address the funding gap inequities.

Attachments

1. Resolution endorsed on November 10th, 2008, by the Council of the Town of Newmarket.

Report prepared by:

Ann Coletta, Office of the Mayor

Respectfully submitted,

Linda D. Jackson
Mayor



TOWN OF NEWMARKET

Anita Moore, AMCT
Town Clerk
905-953-5300, ext. 2202
amoore@newmarket.ca

November 13, 2008

Mayor Linda Jackson
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

Dear Mayor Jackson:

RE: Resolution – Growing Communities Healthcare Alliance

I am writing to advise that Council at its regular meeting on November 10, 2008 endorsed the following resolution submitted by the Growing Communities Healthcare Alliance:

WHEREAS Ontarians believe in the principle of fairness. That fairness defines who we are and how we live;

WHEREAS the high growth communities in Ontario grow at more than twice the rate of the provincial population growth rate, adding more than 100,000 new residents each and every year;

WHEREAS these regions are also aging at twice the provincial rate;

WHEREAS population growth in these regions will further intensify due to Ontario's 30-year growth plan, Places to Grow;

WHEREAS as of 2008/09 Ontarians residing in the Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) representing high growth communities are receiving \$258 less per resident for local hospital services when compared to the average Ontarian, which translates into a \$1.4 billion annual operating funding gap for local hospital services – and these provincial funding inequities are worsening each year;

WHEREAS more than four million Ontarians living in high growth communities are receiving \$218 less per resident for provincially funded local social services when compared to the average Ontarian, which translates into a \$708 million annual operating funding gap for local provincially funded social services – and these provincial funding inequities are also worsening each year;

Newmarket's vision: A community well beyond the ordinary

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WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has acknowledged the growing funding gaps for hospital services in high growth communities by committing during the 2007 provincial election to provide \$100 million in additional annual operating funding to high growth hospitals;

WHEREAS the promise of \$30 million in growth funding for 2008/09 still means that the funding gap continues to widen;

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has announced that it is developing since 2006 and will implement a new Health Based Allocation Model (HBAM) to allocate new health care resources to Local Health Integration Networks based on patient care needs in a way that will address health care funding inequities in Ontario;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT in order to improve timely and local access to hospital care in Newmarket and across high growth communities in Ontario, the Town of Newmarket asks that the Government of Ontario:

- 1) Speed up implementation of hospital growth funding commitment ensuring that \$100 million in growth funding is targeted to high growth hospitals and provide growth funding for social services;
- 2) Quickly implement "Health Based Allocation Model" (HBAM) i.e., population-needs-based-funding for provincial health care funding and develop a population-needs-based funding formula for social services;
- 3) Develops a health care and social services growth plan for Ontario to complement Places to Grow;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Minister of Finance, the MPP for Newmarket-Aurora, High Growth Communities Mayors and Chairs, and the Central LHIN.

Sincerely,



Anita Moore
Town Clerk
AM:jb