
REPORT TITLE: Housing with Related Supports - Proposed Contract Increases and Extensions

FROM: Janice Sheehy, Commissioner of Human Services

RECOMMENDATION

That contract 2020-756N, previously awarded to Genesis Lodge Ltd. for Domiciliary Hostel Services at Genesis Lodge, be extended for a twenty-four-month period commencing January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2023 in the estimated amount of \$582,779.00, excluding applicable taxes, in accordance with Procurement By-law 30-2018, as amended;

And further, that contract 2020-757N, previously awarded to Oliver House Corbett Residential Care Inc. for Domiciliary Hostel Services at Oliver House, be extended for a twenty-four-month period commencing January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2023 in the estimated amount of \$191,009.00, excluding applicable taxes, in accordance with Procurement By-law 30-2018, as amended;

And further, that contract 2020-758N, previously awarded to St. Leonard's Place Peel for Domiciliary Hostel Services at Rotary Resolve House, be extended for a twenty-four-month period commencing January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2023 in the estimated amount of \$2,089,184.00, excluding applicable taxes, in accordance with Procurement By-law 30-2018, as amended;

And further, that contract 2020-759N, previously awarded to St. Leonard's Place Peel for the provision of Transitional Housing through the New Leaf program, be extended for a twenty-four-month period commencing January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2023 in the estimated amount of \$1,211,378.00, excluding applicable taxes, in accordance with Procurement By-law 30-2018, as amended;

And further, that the Commissioner of Human Services be authorized to sign the subject contract extensions and any related further documents, on business terms satisfactory to the Commissioner of Human Services and on legal terms satisfactory to the Regional Solicitor;

And further, that the Commissioner of Human Services and the Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services be authorized to further increase the amounts in any of the subject contracts in accordance with the terms of the contract to cover additional costs associated with the operation of the domiciliary hostels and transitional housing to the limit of the approved budget.

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REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The Region of Peel has four long-standing service agreements in place with organizations that provide housing with supports to vulnerable clients with complex needs: Oliver House, Genesis Lodge, St. Leonard's Rotary Resolve and St. Leonard's New Leaf Program. These agreements expire on December 31, 2021.
 - To maintain critical services, staff is seeking Council approval to extend the current annual contracts at an estimated amount of \$2,037,175 (an increase of \$122,125 or 6 per cent), for a 24-month period at an estimated total cost of \$4,074,350.
 - There are sufficient funds in the Housing Services base budget to fund these contracts.
 - In the next 24 months, a review of housing with supports will be undertaken to provide Regional Council with recommendations about the Region's ongoing role in funding supportive housing in Peel.
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DISCUSSION

1. Background

The Region of Peel, through the Housing Supports budget, provides funding to support the operation of four supportive housing programs in congregate care settings. Program details are below.

Oliver House - Located in Caledon, Oliver House is housing with support (formerly known as a domiciliary hostels) that provides supervision and supportive housing for community residents who are homeless with psychiatric disorders. The Region funds up to 7 beds at Oliver House monthly.

Genesis Lodge – Located in Brampton, Genesis Lodge is a home offering supervision and a supportive housing program for community residents who are homeless and have a mental health diagnosis. The Region funds up to 19 beds at Genesis Lodge monthly.

St. Leonard's Rotary Resolve House – Located in Brampton, St. Leonard's Rotary Resolve House is a facility that offers men a supportive living environment that are homeless or transitioning from federal institutions. The Region funds up to 24 beds at St. Leonard's Rotary Resolve House monthly.

St. Leonard's New Leaf Program – Located in Brampton, St. Leonard's New Leaf Program provides housing for up to two years and wraparound supports to men in the community who are overcoming homelessness due to mental illness and/or substance abuse. The Region subsidizes up to 18 beds at St. Leonard's New Leaf Program monthly.

The current funding agreements expire on December 31, 2021. As such, staff is seeking Council approval to extend the agreements until December 31, 2023.

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2. Proposed Contract Extensions

Staff is seeking approval to extend the current contracts for Oliver House, Genesis Lodge, St. Leonard's Rotary Resolve House, and the transitional program St. Leonard's New Leaf until December 31, 2023.

Since the implementation of the new purchasing by-law, staff have returned each year to seek Council approval to renew these agreements.

Over the last 5 years, there have been no increases to the contract amounts, and this is creating financial hardship for the organizations and their vulnerable clients. During this period the average cumulative rate of inflation was 9 per cent.

Therefore, to avoid operational deficits and to ensure adequate funding to care for the vulnerable adults they support, it is proposed that the annual contract amounts be increased as follows: for Genesis Lodge, Oliver House and St. Leonard's Rotary Resolve House the daily per diem rate of \$48.90 will be increased by \$6.10 to a new total of \$55 per day. For St. Leonard's New Leaf Program, the monthly rate of \$250 will be increased by \$50 to a new total of \$300 per month. These adjustments represent an average increase in total of per cent.

Total contract extension details are as follows:

	Current Annual Payment	Annual Increase requested	Total 1 Year Contract	Total 2 Year Contract
Genesis Lodge	249,086	42,304	291,390	582,779
Oliver House	79,919	15,586	95,505	191,009
St. Leonard's - Rotary Resolve House	991,156	53,436	1,044,592	2,089,184
St. Leonard's New Leaf Program	594,889	10,800	605,689	1,211,378
Total	1,915,050	122,125	2,037,175	4,074,350

The Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services ceased the per diem funding model in 2012 with the introduction of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) funding stream which gives communities local flexibility to fund programs for the homeless. A jurisdictional scan indicates that there are other municipalities using a portion of their CHPI funding to provide additional funding to Housing with Related Supports and Transitional Housing.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Supportive housing in congregate care settings serves some of our community's most vulnerable individuals. Continuation of these high-quality supports is essential. As detailed in the report from the Commissioner of Human Services, listed on the November 11, 2020 Regional Council agenda, titled "Housing with Supports Contract Extension", and the report from the Commissioner of Human Services, listed on the April 25, 2019 Regional Council agenda, titled "Extensions for Peel Homelessness Contracts", staff plan to undertake a review of supportive housing. A review of these funding agreements is necessary and was planned for 2020-2021, however, shifting COVID priorities have caused this review to be delayed. It is anticipated that this work will be done in 2022 and will include proposing a funding model that will ensure financial sustainability for the sector. As a result of the review not being completed

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in 2021, existing contracts need to be extended to ensure supports continue uninterrupted, to these very vulnerable residents.

Staff will complete the review and return to Council with recommendations about the Region's role in funding supportive housing in congregate care settings before the proposed contract extension date ends on December 31, 2023.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Staff is seeking Council approval to extend the current annual contracts for Oliver House and Genesis Lodge, St. Leonard's Rotary Resolve House and for St. Leonard's New Leaf Program at an estimated amount of \$2,037,175 (an increase of \$122,125 or 6 per cent overall), for a 24-month period (January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023) at an estimated total cost of \$4,074,350. There are sufficient funds in the Housing Services base budget to fund these contracts.

CONCLUSION

The Region of Peel, through the Housing Supports budget, provides funding to support the operation of four supportive housing programs in congregate care settings in Peel. Staff is seeking approval to extend the current contracts for Oliver House, Genesis Lodge, St. Leonard's Rotary Resolve House, and the transitional program St. Leonard's New Leaf until December 31, 2023.

Extending the existing contracts will permit the extension of these critical supports to some of the most vulnerable in Peel. Further, it will allow staff time to complete the review of housing with supports, in order to provide Council with recommendations about the Region's ongoing role in funding supportive housing in congregate care settings before the proposed contract extension date of December 31, 2023.

Authored By: Jennifer Ravenberg, Housing Program Analyst