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**REPORT TITLE:     Housing with Supports Contract Extension**

**FROM:                 Janice Sheehy, Commissioner of Human Services**

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

**That contract 2020-756N for the Extension of the existing contract for Domiciliary Hostel Services at Genesis Lodge be awarded to Genesis Lodge Ltd. for a twelve month period commencing January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021 in the estimated amount of \$249,086, excluding applicable taxes, in accordance with Procurement By-law 30-2018, as amended;**

**And further, that contract 2020-757N for the Extension of the existing contract for Domiciliary Hostel Services at Oliver House be awarded to Oliver House Corbett Residential Care Inc. for a twelve month period commencing January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021 in the estimated amount of \$79,919, excluding applicable taxes, in accordance with Procurement By-law 30-2018, as amended;**

**And further, that contract 2020-758N for the Extension of the contract for Domiciliary Hostel Services at Rotary Resolve House be awarded to St Leonard's Place Peel for a twelve month period commencing January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021 in the estimated amount of \$991,156, excluding applicable taxes, in accordance with Procurement By-law 30-2018, as amended;**

**And further, that contract 2020-759N for the Extension of the contract for Transitional Housing Services at New Leaf be awarded to St Leonard's Place Peel for a twelve month period commencing January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021 in the estimated amount of \$594,889, 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, in accordance with the business terms acceptable to the Commissioner of Human Services and legal terms acceptable to the Regional Solicitor;**

**And further, that the Commissioner of Human 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;**

**And further, that the Commissioner of Human Services be authorized to extend the subject contracts for one additional twelve month period in accordance with the business terms acceptable to the Commissioner of Human Services and legal terms acceptable to the Regional Solicitor, pending the outcome of the Housing with Supports Review.**

## Housing with Supports Contract Extension

### REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The Region of Peel has four long-standing service agreements in place with housing with supports (formally known as domiciliary hostels) providers in Peel that serve vulnerable clients with complex needs: Oliver House, Genesis Place, St. Leonard's Rotary Resolve and St. Leonard's New Leaf Program.
  - A review of these funding agreements was planned in 2020 but was delayed due to the redeployment of staff within Housing Services to address the pandemic response.
  - To maintain critical services, staff is seeking Council approval to extend the current contracts for Oliver House and Genesis Lodge, St. Leonard's Rotary Resolve House and for St. Leonard's New Leaf Program, in the estimated amount of \$1,915,050 annually, for an additional 12 months.
  - During 2021, a review of housing with supports will be undertaken to determine what changes are needed to implement a Housing First approach.
  - There are sufficient funds in the proposed 2021 Housing Support Service budget to fund these contracts.
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### DISCUSSION

#### 1. Background

The Region of Peel has entered into four service agreements to deliver support services within the homelessness system. The contracts are held with:

**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.

**Genesis Lodge.** A Home offering supervision and a supportive housing program for community residents who are homeless and have a mental health diagnosis.

**St. Leonard's Rotary Resolve House.** A facility that offers men a supportive living environment that are homeless or transitioning from federal institutions.

**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.

#### 2. Housing with Supports Review

As outlined in the Council Report *Extensions for Peel Homelessness Contracts, April 2019*, a review of these funding agreements was planned for 2020. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has delayed this review. Moreover, the complexities of providing housing supports to the homeless community during the pandemic has resulted in a significant impact on the sector, limiting their ability to participate in this review and respond to a competitive process. The long-term residential facilities Oliver House, Genesis Lodge and St. Leonard's Rotary Resolve House and St. Leonard's New Leaf work with vulnerable and complex clients, many of which have underlying medical concerns and/or psychological impairment. The discontinuation of service at this time could lead to adverse outcomes for this at-risk population. At present, staff at these facilities are focused on reducing the risk of a COVID-19 outbreak and ensuring that appropriate contingency plans are place.

## Housing with Supports Contract Extension

As Council has approved a Housing First Framework for all homelessness programs, staff need to review housing with supports in partnership with community stakeholders to determine what changes are required to implement this approach. Staff is seeking approval to extend the current contracts for Oliver House, Genesis Lodge, St. Leonard's Rotary Resolve House and the transitional facility St. Leonard's New Leaf work until December 31, 2021.

### RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Peel's long-term housing with supports, and transitional housing serve some of our community's most vulnerable. Continuation of high-quality supports is a priority and especially as we respond to this pandemic.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial impacts as a result of this report. There are sufficient funds in the proposed 2021 Housing Support Service budget to fund these contracts.

### CONCLUSION

Extending the existing contracts for housing with supports and transitional housing until December 31, 2021 will permit the extension of this critical service to at risk populations through the period of uncertainty associated with the pandemic. Further it will allow staff time to complete the review to reassess service needs and the implementation of a Housing First approach.

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*For further information regarding this report, please contact Aileen Baird, Director, Housing Services, ext. 1898, aileen.baird@peelregion.ca.*

*Authored By: Clare Hay, Housing Analyst, Client Services*

***Reviewed and/or approved in workflow by:***

Department Commissioner, Division Director, Financial Support Unit and Procurement.

Final approval is by the Chief Administrative Officer.



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J. Baker, Chief Administrative Officer