

## Reeves Report

For August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting

August 8<sup>th</sup> I attended a special closed meeting of County Council to deal with labour relations or employee negotiations, after which this was released (forwarded to the office and council previously):

## COUNTY OF RENFREW & ONTARIO WORKS CUPE LOCAL 4989 REACH SETTLEMENT

08/09/12

**Pembroke, (ON):** The Elected Body of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew has ratified a new Collective Agreement following a session of County Council on Wednesday August 8, 2012. The County of Renfrew Negotiating Team advised County Council that they were able to achieve the parameters of the mandate set out by Council heading into negotiations with CUPE 4989 (Ontario Works).

Some of the details of the contract include phased-in cost sharing for benefits over the course of the five-year contract; standardizing the Short Term Disability to match the benefits of other County of Renfrew CUPE employees; and shifting the costs of Long Term Disability from the employer to CUPE 4989 employees at the end of the five-year contract; currently, the County of Renfrew assumes 100% of the costs, however, it will be phased in over the next five years so that CUPE 4989 employees assume 100% of the costs in 2016.

Wage increases over the five-year term of the new Collective Agreement include a \$1,000 signing bonus, with 2.5% in 2012; 2% in 2013; 2% in 2014; 2.5% in 2015; and 3% in 2016. However, with the cost sharing of benefits negotiated and a reduction in the benefit program, the Social Services budget increase on wages and benefits will be approximately 7.03%, or 1.4% annually over five years.

County of Renfrew Warden Bob Sweet thanked the County of Renfrew Negotiating Team for their efforts to carry out the mandate of County Council. **"We are pleased with the ratification of this contract today. Whether it is a strike or a lockout, the ratepayers and residents of the County of Renfrew are inconvenienced. On behalf of all of County Council, I want to thank the residents of our county for their patience over the last few months during this labour disruption."**

Mayor Peter Emon, Chair of the Social Services Committee, explained that following the ratification of the contract, members of both the County of Renfrew Negotiating Team and CUPE 4989 will meet to outline the protocol to resume normal operations of all Ontario Works offices in the county. **"We are looking forward to staff returning to**

**work and pleased that we were able to reach an agreement. Offices located in Pembroke, Renfrew, Killaloe and Arnprior will resume full customary service on Friday August 10, 2012. The offices will be open from 8-4 Monday to Friday, and closed for lunch from 12 noon to 1 pm in all offices except the Pembroke location.”**

For more information on office locations and hours of operation, please access the County of Renfrew's website at <http://www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca>

David M. Anderson Director of Social Services, County of Renfrew 613-735-7784

Bruce Beakley Director of Human Resources, County of Renfrew 613-735-7288

*August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012, I received an email from Ashley Bursey, Communications Officer for the Ombudsman of Ontario. It was reference the Ombudsman's report on the investigation into whether the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria held improper closed meetings on October 21 and November 4, 2011. (Hard copies are now at the office and can be attached to this report)*

*The Ombudsman's report should be added on the agenda for Friday's meeting and then made available to the public and posted on the townships website as soon as possible.*

*Councillor Grills requested information on the committees I sit on at County Council, so I have provided a brief summary of the committees Composition and Scope of Responsibilities.*

## THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

### Composition:

The Social Services Committee shall be comprised of members of County Council. The number of members and the appointments (including the appointments of Chair and Vice-Chair) shall be determined annually by County Council from recommendation of the Striking Committee.

### General Scope of Responsibility:

1. Consider and make recommendations to County Council on policy matters relating to program standards, facility improvements, maintenance and funding of the County Social Services which includes Ontario Works, Child Care and Social Housing.
2. Review, consider and make recommendations to County Council on any matters pertaining to policy of any nature which has effect upon the County Social Services Committee. Receive from other committees and/or staff such reports as the Social Services Committee may require for purposes of reviewing the existing political or administrative structure or for formulating recommendations to County Council.
3. Review, consider, and make recommendations to County Council on matters involving political and administrative communication and reporting mechanisms after consultation with the committee(s) or board(s) that are affected.
4. Report in a timely fashion on all matters connected with the responsibilities under the purview of the Committee and shall recommend to County Council such action including all by-laws as the Committee may deem necessary.
5. Provide the Finance & Administration Committee with draft budgets for review and consolidation. Recommend for approval the annual departmental/operational budgets to County Council.
6. The Committee will continue to support the partnership held by the various levels of government, general public, and private sector. The development of shared programs and

working relationships will be maintained through the appointment of political or staff representatives to sit on relevant organizations.

7. The Committee is responsible for the dissemination and conveyance of information specific to County of Renfrew services to local municipal councils, agencies, boards, external organizations, and the general public.

Note: The Presiding Officer shall have authority to add functional responsibility to the committee in the event of special projects or service shifts.

## THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

### Composition:

The Health Committee shall be comprised of members of County Council and members of the City of Pembroke. The number of County Council members and the appointments (including the appointments of Chair and Vice-Chair) shall be determined annually by County Council from recommendation of the Striking Committee. The City of Pembroke shall be entitled to appoint two (2) members to the Committee for the Homes for the Aged activities of the Committee.

### General Scope of Responsibility:

1. Consider and make recommendations to County Council on policy matters relating to the improvements, maintenance and funding of the County Homes for the Aged.
2. Consider and make recommendations to County Council on program standards and means of program delivery for Land Ambulance service and the County-wide emergency plan. Responsible for policy development and program management.
3. Consider and make recommendations to County Council on program standards for an effective and efficient 911 emergency call system.
4. Report in a timely fashion on matters of Public Health through reports from the Renfrew County and District Health Unit.

5. Review, consider and make recommendations to County Council on any matters pertaining to policy of any nature which has effect upon the County Health Committee. Receive from other committees and/or staff such reports as the Health Committee may require for purposes of reviewing the existing political or administrative structure or for formulating recommendations to County Council.

6. Review, consider, and make recommendations to County Council on matters involving political and administrative communication and reporting mechanisms after consultation with the committee(s) or board(s) that are affected.

7. Report in a timely fashion on all matters connected with the responsibilities under the purview of the Committee and shall recommend to County Council such action including all by-laws as the Committee may deem necessary.

8. Provide the Finance & Administration Committee with draft budgets for review and consolidation. Recommend for approval the annual departmental/operational budgets to County Council.

9. The Committee will continue to support the partnership held by the various levels of government, general public, and private sector. The development of shared programs and working relationships will be maintained through the appointment of political or staff representatives to sit on relevant organizations.

10. The Committee is responsible for the dissemination and conveyance of information specific to County of Renfrew services to local municipal councils, agencies, boards, external organizations, and the general public.

Note: The Presiding Officer shall have authority to add functional responsibility to the Committee in the event of special projects or service shifts

## Extra Committee Appointments

### Land Division Committee

#### Composition:

The Planning Act is the legislation that provides for land use planning in Ontario

Section 56(1) The council of a County of an upper tier municipality may by by-law constitute and appoint a Land Division Committee composed of such persons, not fewer than 3, as the council considers advisable.

#### General Scope of Responsibility:

Council of the County of Renfrew delegates to the Land Division Committee the authority to hold hearings and decide whether to grant any disputed applications for consent made to the County of Renfrew, in accordance with the Act, and any regulations there under.

Straight Forward Consent- Means a consent which conforms to a municipality's planning documents (official plan or zoning By-law), the County Land Severance Policy (if applicable) has regard for the Provincial Policy Statement and has not raised concerns from the public, a public body or the municipality.

Disputed Consent- means a consent application which:

1. Does not conform with a municipality's planning documents (official plan or zoning by-law);
2. Does not conform with the County Land Severance Policy, if applicable;
3. Does not have regard for the Provincial Policy Statement
4. Has raised concerns from a member of the public or a public body; or
5. Does not satisfy the requirements of the municipality.