

Municipal Council of the County of Oxford
Council Meeting - Oxford County

Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Moved By: Bernia Wheaton

Seconded By: Phil Schaefer

Whereas the County of Oxford recognizes that challenges of mental health, addictions, specifically opioids, and homelessness are complex issues that have a significant and detrimental impact on the residents of the County of Oxford and surrounding areas within Ontario;

Whereas addressing and responding to these issues has placed extreme stress on all levels of municipal and non-municipal programs and services, including various not-for-profit organizations and provincially funded health services within the County of Oxford and surrounding areas;

Whereas mental health, opioids and homelessness trends are, in recent years, at an all-time high and such prevalence is impacting the overall well-being of the people of the County of Oxford and surrounding areas;

Whereas Council acknowledges that approaches to addressing and responding must include diverse and inclusive approaches to these issues, and should not be viewed as a single solution response;

Whereas addressing and responding will require strategies and practices specific and uniquely designed for the County of Oxford and surrounding communities;

Whereas Council accepts that the responsibility to address these challenges rests with community stakeholders, partners, residents, as well as federal and provincial governments and agencies;

Whereas challenges of mental health, addictions and homelessness are not unique to the County of Oxford and surrounding areas within Ontario;

Now therefore be it resolved that Council provide direction to staff to send a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health, the Minister of the Solicitor General, MPP Ernie Hardeman, the MP of Oxford County, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and all area municipalities advocating for additional resources to combat the opioid crisis in Ontario.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Chloe Senior