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Report 2021-198

Report Title: Community Paramedicine – Long Term Care Funding Application

Committee Name: Community Health

Committee Meeting Date: November 29, 2021

Prepared by: Susan Brown
Chief
Northumberland Paramedics

Reviewed by: Jennifer Moore
CAO

Approved by: Jennifer Moore, CAO

Council Meeting Date: December 15, 2021

Strategic Plan Priorities: Economic Prosperity and Innovation
 Sustainable Growth
 Thriving and Inclusive Communities
 Leadership in Change

Recommendation

“That the Community Health Committee support and receive Report 2021-198 ‘Community Paramedicine Long Term Care Funding Application’ for information; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council approve the allocation and immediate spending of these funds for the purpose of implementing the Community Paramedicine and Long Term Care program to eligible residents within Northumberland County.”

Purpose

The purpose of this initiative is to receive funding and implement the Community Paramedicine Long Term Care program in Northumberland County.

Background

The Ontario Government has invested millions to expand Community Paramedicine for Long Term Care Program. The goal of this initiative is to help more seniors stay safe while living in the comfort of their own homes longer as they are on wait lists for admission to long term care. Phase 1 Funding of the CP LTC program was announced in October of 2020 and was made available to those Community Paramedic programs that were established and operating in 2019. There were five (5) services eligible and approved at this phase, they were: Brant County, Cochrane District, the City of Ottawa, Renfrew County, and York Region all provided with \$5M in funding.

AMO 2021 Delegation Request Phase 2 Funding of the CP LTC program was announced November 27, 2020. To be eligible and apply for this phase of funding communities had to have an existing paramedic program funded by the Ministry of Health through their Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) and wish to expand. There were 29 more municipalities added at this phase ranging in funding from \$2.8M up to \$9.75M.

On November 1, 2021 the Ontario Government, and locally MPP David Piccini announced there would be Phase 3 Funding opportunities for the remaining 22 Municipalities. Northumberland County received an invitation to apply for the CP-LTC funding. The application deadline is December 6, 2021.

Funding levels are determined by the wait lists for the Long Term Care homes within each County. Approximate funding has been determined incrementally based on the waitlist threshold of 1,000 residents. Below this threshold has seen funding in the amount of approximately \$1 million annually, whereas above this threshold approximately 3 million annually.

CP-LTC funding opportunities run on the Ministry Budget year from April 1 through to March 31. Phase 3 funding will include Quarter 3 (Oct 1 -Dec 2021) and Quarter 4 (Jan – Mar 2022) and run through to March 31, 2024. This allows for Communities to start planning and developing, with the financial support and assistance utilizing the Q3 and Q4 budget prior to launching the CP-LTC program live. Another challenge with the funding is the current supply and demand timeline challenges. The current shortage with the supply of vehicles, microchips for the technology of vehicles, electronics (laptops, cell phones) presents potential delays in receiving items and thus more important to acquire these assets quickly and where supply timing is a challenge.

There are three categories of people eligible for the CP LTC program:

- Those on the wait list for long term care
- Those who have been assessed as eligible for long-term care by a HCCSS Care Coordinator (but not yet on the wait list)
- Those who are soon to be eligible for long term care

The CP LTC program is an initiative to better serve our seniors who need additional support before admission into long term care. Supporting them in the comfort of their own homes and maintaining their independence safely.

Consultations

Ministry of Long-Term Care in collaboration with the Ministry of Health.

Legislative Authority / Risk Considerations

The Community Paramedicine and Long Term Care program is funded entirely by the Ministry of Long Term Care.

Participating communities are required to report regularly to the ministry on a set of indicators linked to outputs and outcomes that will be determined and adjusted as required.

Discussion / Options

There is a retroactive timeline gap between the submission of the application for the funding (December 6, 2021), and the ability to utilize potential funding starting Q3 (October 1, 2021).

Eligible Paramedic Services - Municipalities have been provided estimates of potential funding, and the outreach for support to be successful in their applications. This provides the foundation to claim purchases for the CP LTC program retroactively to the October 1, 2021 date.

In order to take advantage of the full funding opportunity, we are encouraged to start spending and develop the program based on our submission of application.

Financial Impact

There would be no financial impact to the County as the CP LTC funding program is 100% funded by the Province.

Member Municipality Impacts

All Municipalities and eligible residents would benefit equally with the expansion of the CP LTC program.

Conclusion / Outcomes

That County Council support the application for participation in the Community Paramedicine and Long Term Care program; and authorize the spending of funds to secure and purchase capital thereby taking full advantage of the current funding timelines, and furthermore authorize the full allocation of Ministry funds for the intended purpose of allocation of implementing the Community Paramedicine Long Term Care to those eligible citizens within Northumberland County.

Attachments

N/A