

Municipality Of Chatham-Kent
Community Human Services Department
Employment and Social Services Division

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Dr. April Rietdyk, General Manager, Community Human Services
Date: December 28, 2018
Subject: Ontario Works Assistance - Administrator Appointment

Recommendations

It is recommended:

1. That Polly Smith, Director of Employment and Social Services Division be appointed to the Ontario Works Administrator role pursuant to the requirements of the *Ontario Works Act, 1997*; and,
2. That the appointment of Polly Smith as the Administrator of Ontario Works in Chatham-Kent be submitted to the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services for approval on Council's behalf by the General Manager, Community Human Services; and,
3. That By-law 267-2003 be repealed.

Background

With the exit of Chatham-Kent's Director of Employment and Social Services in August of 2018, a replacement Administrator must be put forward to the Ministry of Community and Social Services Western Region Office for approval. Polly Smith is the new Director of Employment and Social Services as of December 23, 2018, and it is recommended that she be appointed as the Ontario Works Administrator for Chatham-Kent.

The *Ontario Works Act, 1997* (Section 43) stipulates that every delivery agent shall, with the approval of the Provincial Director, appoint an Administrator to oversee the administration of the Act and the provision of assistance in the delivery agent's geographic area.

Pursuant to the *Ontario Works Act, 1997* the Provincial Director of Ontario Works is required to approve the appointment of Administrators to oversee the administration of

Ontario Works. Through this approval, Administrators are provided with the authority to administer the Act, and provide employment assistance and financial assistance according to provincial standards.

Comments

The appointment of an Administrator of the *Ontario Works Act, 1997* ensures that provisions are in place to effectively deliver Ontario Works income and employment supports to address the needs of the residents of Chatham-Kent. The Ministry requires confirmation of appointments, in writing, by way of a resolution of appointment from Council; therefore, a new By-law is not required.

Areas of Strategic Focus and Critical Success Factors

The recommendations in this report support the following areas of strategic focus:

Economic Prosperity:

Chatham-Kent is an innovative and thriving community with a diversified economy

A Healthy and Safe Community:

Chatham-Kent is a healthy and safe community with sustainable population growth

People and Culture:

Chatham-Kent is recognized as a culturally vibrant, dynamic, and creative community

Environmental Sustainability:

Chatham-Kent is a community that is environmentally sustainable and promotes stewardship of our natural resources

The recommendations in this report support the following critical success factors:

Financial Sustainability:

The Corporation of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent is financially sustainable

Open, Transparent and Effective Governance:

The Corporation of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent is open, transparent and effectively governed with efficient and bold, visionary leadership

Has the potential to support all areas of strategic focus & critical success factors

Neutral issues (does not support negatively or positively)

Consultation

Regional Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services staff were consulted regarding the process required.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with the Ontario Works Administrator appointment.

Prepared by:

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Attachment: None

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