

York Regional Council approved the disbursement of \$1,058,170 to community agencies under its Community Development and Investment Funding (CDIF) Strategy for 17 human community services projects.

Projects range from \$20,000 for counselling services for low-income families to address the effects of abuse and violence to \$225,000 for basic needs, counselling, employment services and community resource referrals for at-risk and homeless youth.

York Region invests \$1 million in human community services for vulnerable residents

Under its CDIF Strategy, York Region manages a number of community funding initiatives. These include the National Child Benefit, the Ontario Works Performance Bonus, the Municipal Purchase of Service fund and the Homelessness Initiatives Fund.

Earlier this fall, York Region held a Request for Proposals for the purchase of community-based services for the 2004 year. Proposals were reviewed by an evaluation team comprised of staff from York Region and three external York Region funding bodies: Human Resources Development Canada, the Trillium Foundation and the United Way of York Region.

The 17 projects selected support the Region's *Vision 2026* goal of supporting a safe, caring and healthy community, and maintaining and promoting a high quality of life.

Regional Council approves hiring of five temporary staff for Infectious Diseases Control Division

Regional Council approved the hiring of five temporary full-time employees for York Region Health Services' Infectious Diseases Division. These temporary positions will be fully funded by the provincial government to March 31, 2004 to assist York Region in monitoring and controlling infectious diseases, as well as enhance the Region's ability to maintain business continuity during infectious disease outbreaks.

Council also authorized the Regional Chair to write to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care requesting that the 100% provincial grant for these positions be provided on a permanent basis.

Council makes appointments to committees and to external agencies, boards and commissions for the term of Council

Appointments were made to the 16 Committees of Regional Council and 14 external Agencies, Boards and Commissions for the 2003 – 2006 term of York Regional Council.

The complete list of these appointments is available on the Region's Web site at www.region.york.on.ca

Vaughan Regional Councillor Joyce Frustaglio, Co-Chair of the York Region Human Services Planning Coalition (HSPC), informed Regional Council of the HSPC release of its report titled *Towards a New Model for Social Services Funding In York Region*.

The report highlights the need for social service investment in York Region based on fair and equitable funding formulae.

York Region Human Services Planning Coalition advocates for fairness in provincial funding

In 2000/01, York Region received substantially less per capita funding compared to the provincial average and Toronto. The evidence also indicates a growing need for social services in York Region. The HSPC believes a solution exists in the *Rozanski Report* on education funding, and makes four recommendations to the Province.

To review *Towards a New Model for Social Services Funding in York Region*, visit www.region.york.on.ca under Departments > Planning and Development > Human Services > Human Services Planning Coalition > Social Services Funding Task Group. Printed copies of the report are also available by calling 1-877-464-9675, Ext. 1515.

York Regional Council today authorized an agreement with King Township to service King City through a local sewage collection system and connection with the York Durham Sewage System (YDSS).

York Region and King Township agree to proceed with local sewage collection system for King City

The agreement, approved by King Township Council on December 8th, includes the Township abandoning its court appeal of Regional By-law S-0060-2001-071 that gives the Region control of the King City local sewage collection system in conjunction with the YDSS.

The YDSS incorporates a proven, gravity-based technology that is simple and environmentally sound. It will connect King City to the YDSS in phases – with the first phase slated for completion by December 2004. The entire project is expected to be complete by December 2008.

Regional Council wishes Deputy Clerk farewell

Regional Council took a moment to wish Deputy Clerk Harold Brown farewell on his early retirement, effective December 31, 2003. Council acknowledged and thanked Mr. Brown for his 11 years of dedicated service at the Region.

Next Regional Council Meeting

Thursday, January 22, 2004 at 9:30 a.m.

Compiled by Wendy Lewis, Communications Account Specialist, York Region Corporate Communications, (905) 830-4444 or 1-877-464-9675, ext. 1238. Email: wendy.lewis@region.york.on.ca

The contents of this summary are intended to be for informational purposes only. Actual text of Council resolutions and official copies of reports to Council can be obtained from the Office of the Regional Clerk at (905) 830-4444 or 1-877-464-9675, ext. 1300.