June 25, 2019

Social Services Committee Report #2019-06-05

REPORT TO: Mayor and Members
City Council

Your Social Services Committee submits the following recommendations from its meeting held on June 5, 2019:


   A. THAT Report 2019-162 National Housing Strategy – Canada Mortgage and Housing Initiatives BE RECEIVED; and

   B. THAT the Director of Housing BE AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED to write to the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) to share concerns about the limitations of the CMHC delivered National Housing Strategy initiatives and encourage that these be reviewed; and

   C. THAT the Director of Housing BE AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED to provide letters of support on behalf of the City of Brantford, as Service Manager, for funding applications made to CMHC programs by mandated non-profit housing providers as may be required from time to time; and

   D. THAT staff BE DIRECTED to explore opportunities to support partnerships with non-profit organizations experienced in the development and provision of affordable housing and to report back to Social Services Committee with details of any recommended opportunities.


   A. THAT Report 2019-285 regarding the Province of Ontario’s Community Housing Renewal Strategy BE RECEIVED; and

   B. THAT the Director of Housing BE AUTHORIZED to submit the comments outlined in Appendix “A” to Report 2019-285 to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on behalf of the City of Brantford regarding proposed changes to Ontario Regulation 367/11 of the Housing Services Act, 2011.
3. Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative and Ontario Housing Priority Initiative [Financial Impact: None], 2019-352

   A. THAT the report on the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative and the Ontario Housing Priority Initiative BE RECEIVED; and

   B. THAT staff BE DIRECTED to report back to the Social Services Committee at its August meeting for approval of an Investment Plan and Sustainability Plan for the funding allocations as required by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

4. Emergency Shelter System Update and Alternative Funding Solutions for Rosewood House [Financial Impact: Approximately $322,275 in increased bed usage], 2019-340

   A. THAT Report 2019-340 Emergency Shelter System Update and Alternative Funding Solutions for Rosewood House BE RECEIVED; and

   B. THAT Staff BE DIRECTED to increase the number of block-funded beds at Rosewood House from 20 to 30 for the remainder of 2019.

5. Planned Response to the Provincial Funding Reduction to the Ontario Works Addictions Services Initiative (ASI) Program [Financial Impact: None], 2019-335

   A. THAT Report 2019-335 Planned Response to the Provincial Funding Reduction to the Ontario Works Addictions Services Initiative (ASI) Program [Financial Impact: None] BE RECEIVED; and

   B. THAT staff BE DIRECTED to continue providing targeted assistance to individuals affected by addiction as an employment assistance intervention with costs transferred to the Ontario Works program budget given the withdrawal of dedicated provincial funding for the ASI program.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Weaver, Chair