



10:00 a.m.

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DISPOSITON: Motion Carried

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

- Area Municipalities DEI Charter follow-up – Norwich
 - The destruction of a pride flag at a Norwich school was discussed.
 - The County CAO has been in discussions with the new Norwich CAO to advise of the request to adopt the Charter.
 - Warden Ryan will consider making another delegation to Norwich Council on the matter.
- 2025 Summit: Location and date determination
 - S. Hamulecki is investigating three locations further and will determine the final location in June.
- Use of Space Policy Update
 - The draft procedure has been shared with area municipalities for input.
- Canadian Index of Well-Being Survey
 - Approximately 900 responses have been received thus far.
 - The survey closes June 15.
 - The Committee was encouraged to continue promoting the survey to assist with the response rate.
- Oxford County Grant Program
 - The application period closes August 30.
- Updated Community Safety and Well-Being Plan
 - The RFP was awarded to Strategy Corp. S. Hamulecki will be meeting with them in early June.

5. Action Coalition Updates (Round Table)

- Oxford Housing Action Collaborative (TBD)
 - The Committee discussed the need to reinstate this Collaborative now that Oxford County's Homelessness Response Strategy is complete. A follow-up will be included on the June 23rd, 2025 agenda.
- Oxford Mental Health and Addictions Action Coalition (Peter Heywood)
 - A comprehensive refresh of the Oxford County Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy is set to begin this year, marking a significant step toward addressing substance use challenges in the region. This initiative aims to enhance existing strategies and develop a more effective framework that

reflects the community's evolving needs. The process is expected to conclude by December 2025.

- Southwestern Public Health will lead this effort and work closely with the Action Coalition, other stakeholders, and community members to ensure a broad and inclusive approach.
- A key part of this renewal will be incorporating a mental health scope, recognizing that there is not always a direct causal relationship. This component will require additional time and resources to ensure its thorough development, and it is anticipated to be completed by September 2026. The aim is to create a more integrated strategy that addresses substance use and strengthens mental health support within the community, promoting overall well-being for residents of Oxford County.
- Members of the Action Coalition have agreed to include "Housing for All, 2024-2033" as a key strategic document. This plan will guide decision-making over the next decade and inform the Action Coalition's priorities and actions.
- The OCCDAS website will be transformed from a multi-page to a single-page webpage to better highlight the Action Coalition's work. This decision aims to streamline website maintenance while continuing to promote the Coalition's mandate, membership, and key priorities.
- The \$459,830 investment over three years in Oxford County Community Health Centre to expand its Oxford Sexual Assault Services was highlighted, which supports victims of sexual assault.
- The Planet Youth application for Public Health Agency of Canada Grant Stream 2 funding has been filed.
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Action Coalition (Ayesha Sajid)
 - Chelsea Martin attended the last DEI Action Coalition Meeting to discuss the effects of climate change on equity-seeking groups for Oxford County's Climate Action Plan.
 - A DEI Postcard explaining DEI's connection with the Ontario Human Rights Code has been drafted. Coalition members have provided suggestions on the draft, and a final version will be developed.
 - The DEI Action Coalition webpage has received further updates and improvements.
 - The Action Coalition members recommend recognizing June as Pride Month on the webpage and sharing a link to the Oxford Pride website. The Coalition is considering setting up a table at the Pride Family Day event, but is working to determine the purpose, messaging, and availability of its members.
 - A. Sajid requested that consideration be given to providing a stipend or honorarium to the Action Coalition members, similar to some Committees of Council. Warden Ryan suggested the discussion be tabled with the CAO's Office to ensure process and consistency. P. Heywood commented that the Oxford Mental Health and Addictions Action Coalition provides a stipend to volunteers.

- Domestic Abuse Resource Team (Ashley Brown)
 - DART continues to undergo a restructuring process to strengthen its ability to respond to high-risk cases of femicide in Oxford County. As part of this work, progress is being made on the community training plan, with only a small number of table members still needing to complete 'Make It Our Business' and BSAFER risk assessment training.
 - The recent federal grant application to support the table's development was unsuccessful. One region in Ontario was funded under this proposal, which included funding for evaluation by the Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children (CREVAWC) at Western University. That evaluation will be accessible to all and will support continued efforts to make high-risk response a priority for both municipal and federal funding.
 - DART continues to engage in prevention, awareness, and advocacy. Workshops are regularly facilitated at Brightside Youth Hub, teaching teens about healthy relationships, setting boundaries, and preventing human trafficking. Half-day workshops are also delivered at the Women's Employment Resource Centre, helping service users understand intimate partner violence, early warning signs, safety planning, and community supports available to them.
 - The annual Snapshot is still in development. This year's focus is shifting toward a more iterative, story-driven approach that centers the voices of member agencies and better reflects the realities and priorities in our community. This storytelling model will help strengthen advocacy efforts and ensure the final product is useful to all members.
 - May is Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, and an online campaign with educational posts, resources, and conversation starters has been launched. Resources have been shared through our meetings and listserv to encourage engagement across sectors.
 - The Anti-Human Trafficking Story Walk has been launched, timed with Victims and Survivors of Crime Week. This community-based awareness initiative features an interactive walking route through downtown Woodstock, incorporating a survivor-informed story and local resources for individuals seeking to exit exploitation. The online map and accompanying resource guide have garnered over 100 views to date. The protocol and resource guide can be viewed on Instagram or by emailing amaddress@ingamohomes.com.
 - Strangulation and elder abuse have been identified as growing concerns for lethality in our region. These will be focus areas for community education and prevention strategies, particularly in terms of cultural awareness and risk recognition. Together, we can build a community that responds earlier, listens more deeply, and prevents more lives from being lost.

- Household Food Insecurity Municipal Primer
 - P. Heywood inquired if the Committee would be interested in hearing a presentation from SWPH about this Primer.
 - The Committee agreed that the presentation would be helpful ahead of the new Plan being developed.

- Next meeting on June 23rd
 - A. Humphries and R. Wilkinson are not available to attend.

Resolution No. 4 Moved by: R. Wilkinson
Seconded by: P. Heywood

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