



Staff Report

Finance and IT Services

Report To: Committee of the Whole
Meeting Date: April 8, 2019
Report Number: FAF.19.031
Subject: Health Care Funding
Prepared by: Ruth Prince, Director of Finance and IT Services

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report FAF.19.031, entitled “Health Care Funding” for information purposes.

B. Overview

This report is to identify funding of health care by The Blue Mountains.

C. Background

At the January 30, 2019 Council meeting, the following motion was adopted:

Moved by: Alar Soever

Seconded by: Rob Sampson

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains does hereby receive Correspondence Item D.3 Meaford Hospital Foundation Re: Request for Support for New MRI Machine and Correspondence Item D.4 St. John Ambulance Re: Request for Support, dated November 6, 2018;

AND THAT Council directs staff to develop a staff report regarding the funding of health care by The Blue Mountains, Carried.

D. Analysis

The level of Health care funding provided by municipalities varies across Grey County. West Grey, Hanover, Southgate, Owen Sound and Meaford all have funding in their annual budget for contributions to health care. The amount varies from municipality and there is no formal policy or percentage of budget, rather a Council recommendation.

The County of Grey does not have a formal policy, however the following was endorsed by Council:

“That ½ of 1% of own purpose levy maximum per year for contribution to capital construction project of hospital be approved”.

This represents roughly \$276,500 annually, which equals a contribution from Town tax payers of \$71,890.

The County of Simcoe does have a formal “Hospital Alliance Funding Policy” that indicates it has been established to create a single and consistent point of contact and procedure for local hospitals to request capital funding from County of Simcoe municipalities. Simcoe County has an annual payment of \$3 million dollars per year for 15 years. The Simcoe County policy is for hospitals located within the County or eligible hospitals outside the County’s border, providing a minimum of 20% of their inpatient and day surgery services are to Simcoe County residents.

The County of Oxford also has a “Community Healthcare Capital Funding Policy” and it will consider requests for funding annually through the budget process and that construction projects must have the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care approval in place before Council will consider a grant for the project.

E. The Blue Mountains Strategic Plan

The Blue Mountains Strategic Plan

Goal #4: Promote a Culture of Organizational and Operational Excellence

Objective #4: To Be a Financially Responsible Organization

F. Environmental Impacts

N/A

G. Financial Impact

The Blue Mountains has provided health care funding in the past. The chart in Attachment 1 indicates the level of health care funding from the past 9 years.

Attachment 2 provides a summary of the health care funding provided by Southgate, Hanover, West Grey, Meaford, and Owen Sound, over the past four years, including the contribution as a percentage of the annual tax levy, as well as the contribution as a cost per household.

The Town currently has a Health Services Reserve with a balance of \$25,131, which has been relatedly unused for a number of years. Council could establish an annual contribution to this reserve through the budget process. This reserve could be used to fund Health Care requests as they come forward to Council, outside of the grants and donations process. If the Town adopted a similar practice as the County of Grey, this would represent an annual amount of roughly \$75,800. In addition, the Town carries \$10,000 in the annual grants and donations

program for Health Services. If this was adopted, Town taxpayers would pay \$157,690 annually on their property taxes or 1.05% (compared to the 2018 tax levy).

H. In consultation with

Sam Dinsmore, Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Accounting and Budgets
Shawn Everitt, Interim Chief Administrative Officer

I. Public Engagement

The topic of this Staff Report has not been subject to a Public Meeting and/or a Public Information Centre as neither a Public Meeting nor a Public Information Centre are required. Comments regarding this report should be submitted to Ruth Prince, Director of Finance and IT Services at directorfit@thebluemountains.ca

J. Attached

1. Health Care Funding
2. Municipal Health Care Contributions 2015-2018

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Prince
Director of Finance and IT Services

For more information, please contact:
Ruth Prince
directorfit@thebluemountains.ca
519-599-3131 extension 228

Health Care Funding

Health Care Centre	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Meaford Hospital Foundation	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
Collingwood Hospital Foundation	\$ 1,705	\$ 0	\$ 5,020	\$ 3,000	\$ 5,025	\$ 5,695	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
North East Grey Health Clinic	\$ 0	\$ 420,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Hospice Georgian Triangle Foundation	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,500
My Friends House, Collingwood Crisis Centre	\$ 5,140	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 0	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
Women's House Servicing Bruce and Grey	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500
St. John Ambulance Grey Bruce Huron Branch	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 450
Canadian Cancer Society	\$ 570	\$ 430	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Rural Ontario Medical Program	\$ 0	\$ 400	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 100	\$ 0
Canadian Red Cross	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
Meaford Medical Centre	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 600	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total	\$ 8,665	\$ 424,330	\$ 8,520	\$ 6,000	\$ 30,625	\$ 35,195	\$ 38,000	\$ 35,600	\$ 34,450
Percentage of Tax Levy	0.09%	4.07%	0.08%	0.05%	0.24%	0.26%	0.27%	0.24%	0.23%
Taxy Levy	\$ 9,775,884	\$10,419,636	\$11,192,991	\$12,132,790	\$ 12,747,998	\$13,550,432	\$14,105,311	\$14,768,777	\$15,148,582

Municipal Health Care Contributions 2015-2018

Municipality	2015 Total Contribution	2015 % of Tax Levy	2015 \$ per Household	2016 Total Contribution	2016 % of Tax Levy	2016 \$ per Household	2017 Total Contribution	2017 % of Tax Levy	2017 \$ per Household	2018 Total Contribution	2018 % of Tax Levy	2018 \$ per Household
The Blue Mountains	\$ 35,195	0.26%	\$ 4.78	\$ 38,000	0.27%	\$ 5.12	\$ 35,600	0.24%	\$ 4.61	\$ 34,450	0.23%	\$ 4.33
Southgate	\$ 60,000	1.21%	\$ 20.54	\$ 60,000	1.11%	\$ 22.14	\$ 60,000	1.02%	\$ 20.09	\$ 85,000	1.40%	\$ 26.85
Hanover	\$ 90,000	1.62%	\$ 25.57	\$ 90,000	1.50%	\$ 25.43	\$ 90,000	1.46%	\$ 25.40	\$ 90,000	1.39%	\$ 24.71
West Grey	\$ 25,000	0.29%	\$ 4.33	\$ 25,000	0.28%	\$ 4.30	\$ 25,000	0.27%	\$ 4.28	\$ 25,000	0.26%	\$ 4.24
Meaford	\$ 75,000	0.62%	\$ 13.29	\$ 75,000	0.61%	\$ 13.28	\$ 75,000	0.58%	\$ 13.28	\$ 75,000	0.55%	\$ 13.03
Owen Sound	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -
Grey County	\$ 260,041	0.51%	\$ 5.59	\$ 257,109	0.49%	\$ 5.53	\$ 264,500	0.49%	\$ 5.36	\$ 271,000	0.49%	\$ 5.38

The Council of The City of Owen Sound has approved a two year commitment of \$25,000 per year for the Owen Sound Hospital, starting in 2019. This amounts to roughly 0.1% of the annual tax levy or \$2.45 per household.