

<p><b>2. Motions – Physical Distancing Centres</b></p> <p><b>Motions – centres de distanciation physique</b></p>
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**Committee Recommendations**

- 1. BE IT RESOLVED THAT, as part of the report to Committee and Council in Q2 2023 outlining options to transition out of Physical Distancing Centres (PDCs), staff be directed to:**
  - a. Outline a strategic approach focused on providing individuals experiencing homelessness the supports needed to transition to permanent housing;**
  - b. Explore all alternative options to using recreation/community centres to provide temporary emergency housing as needed;**
  - c. Include measures to ensure that community programming can resume at Heron Road and Dempsey within one month of the transition of residents out of the centers and that ice time at Jim Durrell and Bernard-Grandmaître be reinstated for 2023-2024 skating season;**
  - d. Identify factors and considerations for choosing recreation/community centres as short-term centres opened to respond to emergencies in the housing and homelessness sector, including applying a diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) lens; and**
- 2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff be directed to regularly update Council on the progress of the approved transition plan until the resumption of programming in facilities used for PDCs; and**
- 3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the General Manager of Community and Social Services work with the City Treasurer to include considerations for the 2024 budget process and develop a financial plan to execute the options.**

4. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the City explore supportive housing options using the third round of Rapid Housing Initiative by working with non-profits, community organizations, and housing providers for eligible clients housed in shelter or PDCs and report back to Community Services Committee and Council with evidence of these efforts and final projects selected for funding;
5. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** in order to keep all Council members up-to-date on the housing and homelessness emergency and crisis staff will continue to report annually via a Progress Report to Council and will report bi-annually to Committee via an Information Previously Distributed update: Using an anti-racism and women and gender equity lens, report on:
  - a. The current number of families being housed in hotels and motels
  - b. the number of families in family shelters
  - c. the number of single youth, men and women in emergency shelters
  - d. the cost of hotels
  - e. the cost of emergency sheltering
  - f. the number of singles and families who have moved from shelters to permanent housing through rent-g geared to income housing or with a housing subsidy.
6. **BE IT RESOLVED** that Staff complete the report to Committee and Council in Q2 2023 outlining options to transition out of Physical Distancing Centres, and
7. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that staff be directed to:
  - a. Expand on the criteria used to identify factors and considerations for choosing recreation/community centres as short-term centres opened to respond to emergencies in the housing and homelessness sector to include applying a diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) lens in the future; and their proximity to schools

- or licensed childcare centres; and to consult with those entities to understand the potential impacts;
- b. Provide the criteria and scoring used since 2020 to pick which city facilities to be used as Physical Distancing Centres, and specifically the scoring for all facilities considered in 2023, before picking Heron Road and Dempsey Jim Durrell and Bernard-Grandmaître locations; and
8. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the funding not spent on recreational programming in those recreation and community centres due to their use as a Physical Distancing Centre, Respite Centre in 2023 or any use that meets the zoning definition of a shelter, be reallocated for new and/or additional programming in those centres by the end of 2023; and
9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that staff develop a comprehensive and robust security plan to ensure the safety of both users of the Physical Distancing Centres and the neighbouring communities and schools, and that plan be presented to councilor(s) for collaboration and consultation.

### Recommandations du comité

1. **IL EST RÉSOLU QUE**, dans le cadre du rapport qu'il soumettra au Comité et au Conseil au deuxième trimestre de 2023 sur les options de transition des centres de distanciation physique, il soit demandé au personnel :
- a. de décrire une approche stratégique visant à ce que les personnes en situation d'itinérance reçoivent les soutiens nécessaires pour obtenir un logement permanent;
  - b. d'examiner toutes les autres possibilités d'utiliser les centres récréatifs et communautaires pour fournir un hébergement de secours temporaire au besoin;
  - c. d'inclure des mesures visant la reprise des programmes communautaires au Centre communautaire Heron et au Centre communautaire Dempsey dans le mois suivant le départ des

résidents et la réinstauration du temps de glace au Centre récréatif Jim-Durrell et à l'aréna Bernard-Grandmaître pour la saison de patinage 2023-2024;

- d. de repérer les facteurs et les éléments à prendre en considération lors de la sélection de centres récréatifs ou communautaires comme centres à court terme visant à répondre aux urgences en matière de logement et d'itinérance, tout en appliquant une optique de diversité, d'équité et d'inclusion;
2. **IL EST EN OUTRE RÉSOLU QU'il soit demandé au personnel de régulièrement mettre le Conseil au courant de l'avancement du plan de transition approuvé jusqu'à ce que les programmes reprennent dans les installations utilisées comme centres de distanciation physique;**
3. **IL EST EN OUTRE RÉSOLU QUE la directrice générale des Services sociaux et communautaires travaille avec la trésorière municipale à inclure les éléments à prendre en compte pour le processus budgétaire 2024 et à l'élaboration d'un plan financier pour mettre les options en marche.**
4. **IL EST RÉSOLU QUE la Ville envisage des options de logements avec services de soutien dans le cadre de la troisième phase de l'Initiative pour la création rapide de logements en collaborant avec des organismes sans but lucratif, des organismes communautaires et des fournisseurs de logements pour les personnes admissibles logées dans des refuges ou des centres de distanciation physique, et fasse rapport au Comité des services communautaires et au Conseil des fruits de ce travail et des projets qui recevront du financement;**
5. **IL EST EN OUTRE RÉSOLU QU'afin de tenir tous les membres du Conseil au courant de la situation d'urgence en matière de logement et d'itinérance, le personnel continue de faire rapport au Conseil chaque année par l'entremise d'un rapport d'étape, et au Comité deux fois par année par des nouvelles sur l'information distribuée auparavant : Que le personnel, en employant une optique d'antiracisme, de la condition féminine et d'équité des genres, fasse rapport sur :**
  - a. le nombre actuel de familles logées dans des hôtels et des motels;

- b. le nombre de familles logées dans des refuges pour familles;
  - c. le nombre de jeunes, d'hommes et de femmes seuls logés dans des refuges d'urgence;
  - d. le coût des hôtels;
  - e. le coût des refuges d'urgence;
  - f. le nombre de personnes seules et de familles qui sont passées d'un refuge à un logement permanent grâce au loyer indexé sur le revenu ou à une subvention au logement.
6. **PAR CONSÉQUENT, IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** le personnel présente au Comité et au Conseil, au deuxième trimestre de 2023, un rapport décrivant les options de transition relatives aux centres de distanciation physique;
7. **IL EST EN OUTRE RÉSOLU QU'il soit demandé au personnel :**
- a. de préciser les critères servant à repérer les facteurs et les éléments à prendre en considération lors de la sélection de centres récréatifs ou communautaires comme centres à court terme visant à répondre aux urgences en matière de logement et d'itinérance, afin d'inclure une optique de diversité, d'équité et d'inclusion à l'avenir; préciser également la distance de ces centres par rapport aux écoles et aux centres de garde agréés; et consulter les intervenants de ces établissements pour comprendre les répercussions possibles;
  - b. de fournir les critères et la notation utilisés depuis 2020 pour la sélection des installations municipales destinées à servir de centres de distanciation physique, et plus précisément les notes de chaque installation prise en considération en 2023, comme le Centre communautaire Heron, le Centre communautaire Dempsey, le Centre récréatif Jim-Durrell et l'aréna Bernard-Grandmaître;
8. **IL EST EN OUTRE RÉSOLU QUE** les fonds non dépensés pour des programmes récréatifs dans ces centres récréatifs et communautaires en raison de leur utilisation en 2023 comme centres de distanciation physique ou centres de répit, ou toute autre utilisation comprise dans la définition de « refuge » du Règlement de zonage, soient réalloués à de

- nouveaux programmes dans ces centres d'ici la fin de 2023;
9. **IL EST EN OUTRE RÉSOLU QUE le personnel élabore un plan de sécurité complet et solide pour garantir la sécurité des usagers des centres de distanciation physique et celle des quartiers et des écoles avoisinants, et que ce plan soit présenté au Conseil aux fins de collaboration et de consultation.**

Documentation/Documentation

1. Extract of Draft Minutes 1, Community Services Committee, February 28, 2023

Extrait de l'ébauche du procès-verbal 1, Comité des services communautaires, le 28 février 2023

**Community Services Committee  
Report 1A  
March 8, 2023**

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**Comité des services  
communautaires  
Rapport 1A  
Le 8 mars 2023**

**Extract of Draft Minutes 1  
Community Services Committee  
February 28, 2023**

**Extrait de l'ébauche du procès-verbal 1  
Comité des services communautaires  
Le 28 février 2023**

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Additional item – Motions – Physical Distancing Centres

Committee carried Motion No. CSC 2023-01-03 to add this item to the agenda, then discussed the motions below.

Donna Gray, General Manager, Community and Social Services, and Dan Chenier, General Manager, Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services, answered questions from Committee on the motions.

Nathalie Carrier (Vanier BIA) spoke to Committee on this item.

Following discussions, the Committee considered motions no. CSC 2023-01-03 to 06 below.

**Motion No. CSC 2023-01-03**

Moved by M. Carr

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Community Services Committee approve the addition of this item for consideration by the Committee at today's meeting, pursuant to subsection 89(3) of the Procedure By-law (being by-law no. 2022-410), so that the transition plan for physical distancing centers may be brought back to Council by in Q2 of 2023.**

**Carried**

**Motion No. CSC 2023-01-04**

Moved by M. Carr

**WHEREAS Physical Distancing Centres began operating in May 2020 as a temporary measure to reduce the overall capacity within the single adult community shelter system and provide adequate space for users to physically distance and mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and**

**WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected low-income households for a number of reasons including the loss of community and recreational spaces and programming as a result of Physical Distancing Centres (PDCs), Isolation Centres, vaccination clinics, testing centres and emergency supply storage being located in recreation and community centres; and**

**WHEREAS the Council Memo title “Spring COVID-19 Response to Support Single Adults Experiencing Homelessness”, dated February 14, 2023, outlines Recreation facilities/Community Centres that will be used as Physical Distancing Centres from now until mid-August 2023; and**

**WHEREAS the demand for emergency shelter services in the City of Ottawa continues to exceed the system’s permanent bed capacity and that the City of Ottawa has taken the approach that no one should be left unsheltered if they seek temporary shelter; and**

**WHEREAS affordable and supportive housing remains a key priority for the City and a Housing First model, which moves people from shelters or the street to permanent housing with supports, is recognized as the desired alternative to chronic homelessness; and**

**WHEREAS there are currently 180 units of supportive housing under development which will be available by the end of 2024, and will serve individuals experiencing homelessness; and**

**WHEREAS the City continues to prioritize options that provide permanent housing for individuals experiencing homelessness; and**

**WHEREAS the Council report titled “Respite Services Sustainability Plan” (ACS2022-CSS-GEN-002) approved on April 13, 2022, directed staff to conduct a review of the single adult community shelter requirements and develop a longer-term plan to support the transitioning out of Physical Distancing Centres and respond to the needs of those experiencing homelessness; and**

**WHEREAS Housing Services staff have been actively identifying and evaluating opportunities for permanent medium to long term housing and will report back to Committee and Council in Q2 2023; and**

**WHEREAS recognizing that the need for PDCs may be required in the future in the event there is increased demand for shelter services that exceeds current**



capacity, and/or in response to unforeseen emergency situations within the housing and homelessness sector;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, as part of the report to Committee and Council in Q2 2023 outlining options to transition out of Physical Distancing Centres, staff be directed to:

1. **Outline a strategic approach focused on providing individuals experiencing homelessness the supports needed to transition to permanent housing;**
2. **Explore all alternative options to using recreation/community centres to provide temporary emergency housing as needed;**
3. **Include measures to ensure that community programming can resume at Heron Road and Dempsey within one month of the transition of residents out of the centers and that ice time at Jim Durrell and Bernard-Grandmaître be reinstated for 2023-2024 skating season;**
4. **Identify factors and considerations for choosing recreation/community centres as short-term centres opened to respond to emergencies in the housing and homelessness sector, including applying a diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) lens; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** staff be directed to regularly update Council on the progress of the approved transition plan until the resumption of programming in facilities used for PDCs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the General Manager of Community and Social Services work with the City Treasurer to include considerations for the 2024 budget process and develop a financial plan to execute the options.

**Carried**

**Motion No. CSC 2023-01-05**

Moved by R. King

**WHEREAS** Council declared a housing and homelessness emergency and crisis in January 2020;

**WHEREAS Physical Distancing Centres began operating in Ottawa in May 2020 as a temporary measure to reduce the usage within the single adult community shelter system and provide adequate space for users to physically distance and mitigate the spread of COVID-19;**

**WHEREAS the demand continues to exceed the temporary basis of these PDCs;**

**WHEREAS the Council Memo: Spring COVID-19 Response to Support Single Adults Experiencing Homelessness, dated February 14, 2023, outlines Recreation facilities/Community Centres to be used as Physical Distancing Centres from now until mid-August 2023;**

**WHEREAS the intent is to ensure clients utilizing these temporary shelters be transitioned to permanent housing;**

**WHEREAS affordable and supportive housing is a key priority for the City and a Housing First model, which focuses on moving people from shelters or the street to permanent housing with supports;**

**WHEREAS affordable housing stock in the City is already at an all-time low and a recent building fire in Overbrook resulted in the loss of 32 units, owned by non-profit organization Centretown Citizens Ottawa Corporation, displacing 53 people;**

**WHEREAS the shift of work-from-home and hybrid workspaces has evolved due to the COVID-19 pandemic, creating commercial buildings in the City to become vacant;**

**WHEREAS Council has committed to pursuing the conversion of such types of office buildings in the downtown core to residential buildings;**

**WHEREAS the Federal Government Rapid Housing Initiative provides funding to facilitate the rapid construction of new housing and the acquisition of existing buildings for the purpose of rehabilitation or conversion to permanent affordable housing units;**

**WHEREAS everyone deserves a safe and affordable place to call home;**

**WHEREAS Council requires data and low-level reporting to make informed decisions and understand the fluctuating city-wide housing and homelessness crisis and emergency;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the City explore supportive housing options using the third round of Rapid Housing Initiative by working with non-profits, community organizations, and housing providers for eligible clients housed in shelter or PDCs and report back to Community Services Committee and Council with evidence of these efforts and final projects selected for funding;

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** in order to keep all Council members up-to-date on the housing and homelessness emergency and crisis staff will continue to report annually via a Progress Report to Council and will report bi-annually to Committee via an Information Previously Distributed update:

**Using an anti-racism and women and gender equity lens, report on:**

- 1. The current number of families being housed in hotels and motels**
- 2. the number of families in family shelters**
- 3. the number of single youth, men and women in emergency shelters**
- 4. the cost of hotels**
- 5. the cost of emergency sheltering**
- 6. the number of singles and families who have moved from shelters to permanent housing through rent-geared to income housing or with a housing subsidy.**

**Carried**

**Motion No. CSC 2023-01-06**

Moved by S. Plante

**WHEREAS** the City Zoning bylaw Part 5, section 134 defines a shelter as “shelter means an establishment providing temporary accommodation to individuals who are in immediate need of emergency accommodation and food, and may include ancillary health care, counselling and social support services. (refuge)”; and

**WHEREAS** Physical Distancing Centres, and Respite Centres fall within that definition, and Warming Centres and emergency shelters in response to natural disasters do not;

**WHEREAS** in spite of this Zoning by-law, the Council report titled “Respite Services Sustainability Plan” (ACS2022-CSS-GEN-002) approved by Council on April 13, 2022, provided the General Manager, Community and Social Services with the delegated authority to “maintain the Human Needs Command Centre as well as the municipally operated Respite and Physical Distancing Centres”; and

**WHEREAS** the Council report titled “Respite Services Sustainability Plan” directed staff to conduct a review of the single adult community shelter requirements and develop a longer-term plan to support the transitioning out of Physical Distancing Centres and respond to the need of those experiencing homelessness “by Q1 2023”;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Staff complete the report to Committee and Council in Q2 2023 outlining options to transition out of Physical Distancing Centres, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that staff be directed to:

1. Expand on the criteria used to identify factors and considerations for choosing recreation/community centres as short-term centres opened to respond to emergencies in the housing and homelessness sector to include applying a diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) lens in the future; and their proximity to schools or licensed childcare centres; and to consult with those entities to understand the potential impacts;
2. Provide the criteria and scoring used since 2020 to pick which city facilities to be used as Physical Distancing Centres, and specifically the scoring for all facilities considered in 2023, before picking Heron Road and Dempsey Jim Durrell and Bernard-Grandmaître locations; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the funding not spent on recreational programming in those recreation and community centres due to their use as a Physical Distancing Centre, Respite Centre in 2023 or any use that meets the zoning definition of a shelter, be reallocated for new and/or additional programming in those centres by the end of 2023; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that staff develop a comprehensive and robust security plan to ensure the safety of both users of the Physical Distancing Centres and the neighbouring communities and schools, and that plan be presented to councilor(s) for collaboration and consultation.

**Carried**

The following resolutions were included in Motion No. CSC 2023-01-06 when the motion was introduced, but were severed and withdrawn with the will of the Committee:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no Physical Distancing Centres be opened or extended in City recreation or community centres post August 2023 without Council approval; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no recreation centre that has been used since March of 2020 as a homelessness shelter, respite centre, emergency physical distancing centre that meets the definition of a shelter in the zoning bylaw be used for any similar purpose again within a period of 5 years.