



Committee Report

To: Warden Chris Peabody and
Members of the Executive Committee

From: Christine MacDonald, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

Date: September 7, 2023

Re: Grey Bruce Health Services Addictions and Mental Health Wellness and Treatment Centre Funding Request

Staff Recommendation:

That the County of Bruce commit to supporting the Grey Bruce Health Services Addictions and Mental Health Wellness and Treatment Centre by contributing \$500,000 to the project over a five-year period; and,

That staff be directed to include the contribution in the 2024 to 2028 Budget and Forecast as outlined in Option 2.

Background:

On April 6, 2023, a delegation from Grey Bruce Health Services provided a [project summary](#) outlining the need for financial support to develop a purpose-built facility dedicated to supporting individuals with addictions and mental health needs through the provision of clinical services, community programming, and residential treatment that will all be provided under one roof.

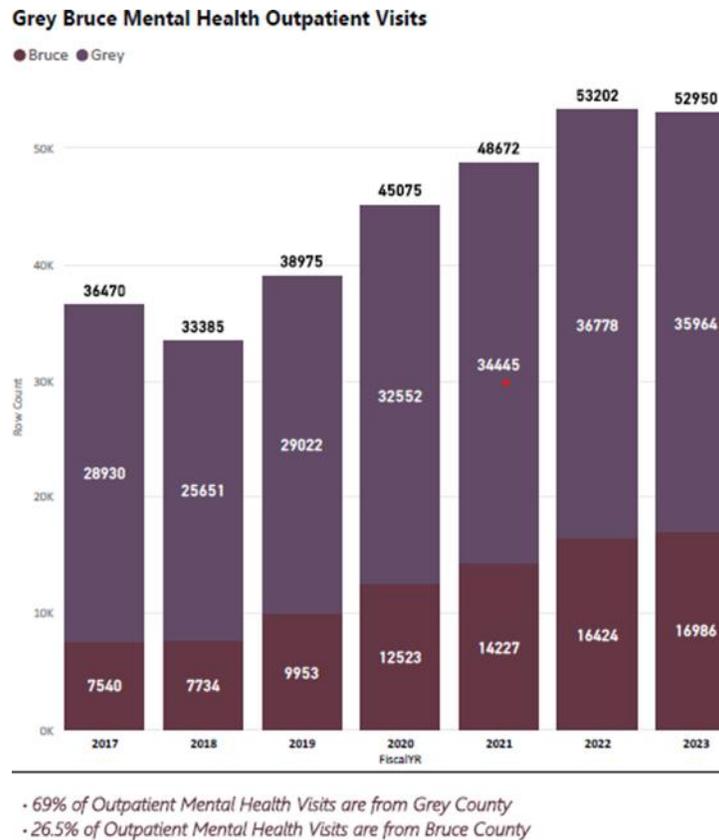
The service provisional model will develop patient-centred, wrap-around supportive care programs filling current gaps in available mental health and addictions support in the community. Further, it will provide a safe environment for people who need additional support following discharge from hospital, addictions services, or through an outpatient referral from community partners. It will also engage with community members to establish working relationships, including Indigenous groups.

Service Need and Alignment

The Grey Bruce Health Services Addictions and Mental Health Wellness and Treatment Centre Funding Request aligns with the goals and objectives of our provincially mandated work related to the delivery of social assistance including life stabilization supports.

Moreover, it aligns with our role of Housing and Homelessness Service System Management in alleviating homelessness and ensuring the provision of supports for sustained housing retention.

Below is a summary of service data from Grey Bruce Health Services over the past seven years, noting that 32% of Withdrawal Management admissions in Q1 of 2023 were individuals from Bruce County.



Community partners supporting the regions of Bruce and Grey Counties have a rich history of collaboration and service model development. The proposal presented by Grey Bruce Health Services is a unique opportunity to support the complex needs of individuals we mutually serve and will address service gaps and pressures in our region.

The support for those experiencing addictions and mental health concerns offered through this new Wellness and Treatment Centre will contribute to sustaining communities where everyone is safe, has a sense of belonging, and has opportunities to participate.

Financial Considerations

The community fundraising target for the facility is \$15 million with a request to Bruce County to invest \$500,000. A specific timeline for the contribution was not made as a part of the request, but discussions with the fundraising team have indicated support for receiving the contribution over a multi-year period. Staff are recommending that the contribution be made over five years in order to minimize the impact on the County levy increase given specific reserves are not available to fund the request at this time. Contributions would

commence in 2024 and will be incorporated into the 2024 to 2028 Annual Budget and Forecast.

Since 2019 the County has received \$141,734 from the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund to help with the implementation costs of recreational cannabis legalization. To date none of the received funds have been utilized. Upon reviewing the eligibility requirements of the funding, it does not appear that the Wellness and Treatment Centre would be eligible to utilize the funds. However, the review did identify that there is an opportunity to use said funding to offset expenses in the Strategic Community Initiatives Program within the Human Services budget that would be eligible and is currently funded by \$20,000 in levy dollars annually. By utilizing the Cannabis Legalization funding for existing expenses the county could free up \$20,000 to be reduce the levy increase required for the Wellness and Treatment Centre.

Contributions to the Centre could be divided equally over the five years, or, to further reduce the pressure on the tax levy, could be made on an increasing basis over the five-year period. Annual contributions and estimated levy impacts of these two approaches can be seen in the table below.

Options/Impact	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
Option 1						
Contribution	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$500,000
New Levy \$	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$400,000
Levy Impact	0.13%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
Option 2						
Contribution	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$100,000	\$125,000	\$150,000	\$500,000
New Levy \$	\$30,000	\$55,000	\$80,000	\$105,000	\$130,000	\$400,000
Levy Impact	0.05%	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%	

Once the five-year period is completed consideration could be given to redirecting the annual levy dollars to a reserve designated for addressing Health Care Funding requests in the local community.

Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

There is no staffing, legal or IT considerations associated with this report.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

Interdepartmental consultation between the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Corporate Services and Human Services Department has occurred to bring forward this recommendation.

Link to Strategic Goals and Elements:

Strategic Goal: Build a Strong and inclusive community.
 Strategic Objective: Drive community well-being.

Report Authors:

Lynn Hatten, Deputy Treasurer

Tina Metcalfe, Director of Human Services

Departmental Approval:

Christine MacDonald, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

Approved for Submission:

Derrick Thomson

Chief Administrative Officer