1. **Opening of the Meeting**
   The Committee Chair, Mr. Daniel Lafleur, called the meeting to order.

2. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**
   n/a

3. **Adoption of Agenda**
   Moved by Robert Kirby
   Seconded by Pierre Leroux
   Be it resolved that the Agenda be adopted as presented.
   Carried

4. **Petitions and Delegations**
   n/a.
4.1 Nicole Normand, Prescott-Russell Private Residence Association - Per Diem for Subsidized Residents

Mr. Normand Tremblay and Mrs. Nicole Normand of the Prescott-Russell Private Residence Association presented their request for an increase in per diem per resident, which is currently $ 55. Mr. Tremblay summarized the tasks and responsibilities as an owner of residences and mentioned the annual review of residents' files to verify their eligibility for the various programs and to ensure compliance of residences, according to provincial standards.

According to the Prescott-Russell Private Residence Association, the current per diem does not reflect the quality of services offered in residences across the United Counties of Prescott and Russell.

Ms. Sylvie Millette explained where the funds for the per diem come from: the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) and how the funds are distributed by the Counties under this program. The bulk of the budget, 85%, under the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative envelope goes to the Residential Service Centers. The other 15% of this budget is reserved for Emergency Shelter Solutions, Homelessness Prevention, Services and Supports and Cost of administration. All low-income people of the United Counties of Prescott and Russell can benefit from this initiative.

The chair of the committee, Mr. Lafleur, recommended that there be an increase of $ 0.50 on the per diem of $ 55. A discussion continued on the budgetary impact of this increase.

Mr. Stéphane Parisien proposed to add the subject to the agenda of the Committee of the Whole following the meeting of the Social Services Committee today.

5. Subjects

5.1 Early Years Services

5.1.1 Update on renovations of EarlyON Child and Family Centres

Ms. Sylvie Millette provided an update on the construction and renovation of the Early ON Child and Family Centers. The Rockland Center is almost ready, therefore, within a week or two, they will be able to start welcoming families. There were delays in construction for the Hawkesbury Center. The structure of the building had to be repaired by the owner and they should be ready to open in the month of March 2020. The Casselman Center will be
ready as well in March of 2020. The three centres will offer the same services, but will have various themes. The Rockland Center will focus more on children with special needs, such as autism; Hawkesbury, on behavioural difficulties and finally, the Casselman Center will be more focused on Aboriginal culture.

5.2 Housing Services

5.2.1 The challenges encountered for the construction of new affordable housing. Guest: Alain Lacelle

Mr. Alain Lacelle summarized the programs offered in the context of affordable housing, namely the National Housing Strategy, which is a federal program, as well as two provincial programs, the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) and the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI). Some scenarios were presented and a discussion was pursued on this subject. Mr. Lacelle explained to the members of the committee the amounts that are received from these provincial programs and in which case they are used.

In short, it is difficult for the private sector to embark on a construction project for affordable housing because there is no return on the investment. The National Housing Strategy co-investment fund provides a loan to build a multi-unit building, which can be amortized over up to fifty (50) years, but the cost of affordable rent is not enough to cover the costs of the loan.

The challenge is to find investors interested and willing to embark on such a project.

5.3 Ontario Works

n/a

5.4 General

5.4.1 Request from the Van Kleek Senior Citizens Manor Board

The request from Gary J. Barton, President of the Van Kleek Senior Citizens Manor, for a letter of support was accepted by the Social Services Committee.

Moved by Pierre Leroux
Seconded by Robert Kirby

The Committee recommends that a supporting letter from The Corporation of the United Counties of Prescott and Russell be
prepared and sent to Mr. Gary J. Barton, President of the Van Kleek Senior Citizens Manor, for the construction of a 30-unit building adjacent to the 40-unit seniors' building at 71 Derby Avenue in Vankleek Hill, Ontario.

Carried

6. **Closed Session**

   n/a

7. **Next Meeting**

   The next Social Services Committee meeting will be in February 2020.

8. **Adjournment**

   Moved by Pierre Leroux
   Seconded by Robert Kirby

   Be it resolved that this Social Services Committee meeting be adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

   Carried

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   Daniel Lafleur, Committee Chair

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   Robert Kirby, Warden

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   Mélissa Cadieux, Clerk