

COUNCIL REPORT

Meeting Date: January 20, 2025

Legal & Legislative Services **Department:**

Report No.: LLS-2025-02

Submitted by: Brianna Hammer-Keidel, Director of Legal & Legislative Services/Clerk

Approved by: Trisha McKibbin, Chief Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: Strathroy-Caradoc Housing Corporation - Council Member

Appointees

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT: Report LLS-2025-02 "Strathroy-Caradoc Housing Corporation – Council Member Appointees" be received for information, and further; THAT: Councillor(s) be appointed to the Strathroy-Caradoc Housing

Corporation as Council appointees for the balance of the term, and further;

THAT: staff prepare an amendment to the Municipality's Appointment By-law for a future Council meeting.

BACKGROUND:

Strathroy-Caradoc Housing Corporation (SCHC) notified of the resignation of a number of individuals from its Board of Directors toward the end of 2024, including the resignations of two members appointed by Strathroy-Caradoc Council. The membership of the Board of Directors is now composed of two Directors—the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor—which is below the Board's required guorum of three (3). As such, the SCHC Board is currently unable to meet and advance its objectives.

COMMENTS:

In accordance with SCHC's By-law No. 1, the composition of the Board of Directors is to be as follows:

- The current Mayor of the Municipality (ex officio);
- The current Deputy Mayor of the Municipality (ex officio);
- A minimum of two (2) and a maximum of three (3) residents of the Municipality, at least one (1) of which is a tenant in a building owned by the Corporation; and
- A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of two (2) additional duly elected councillors of the Municipality (ex officio).

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While Members of Council are noted as serving ex officio in SCHC By-law No. 1, as Director Members they do retain voting rights and count toward quorum. It is recommended that Council fill at least one of its vacancies on the SCHC Board of Directors so it may achieve quorum and begin recruitment to re-establish itself. One (1) member would be required, however, if Council chooses to appoint two (2) members, one Councillor from Ward 1 and one Councillor from Ward 2 would be required under SCHC's by-law.

Legal counsel has emphasized that as the SCHC Board of Directors operates independent of the Municipality, and should maintain such independence, it is not advisable for Municipal Council or its Striking Committee to recruit and recommend the remaining resident and tenant appointees.

CONSULTATION:

Legal Counsel

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

ALTERNATIVE(S) TO THE RECOMMENDATION:

1. Council to provide alternate direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This matter is in accord with the following strategic priorities:

Community Well-being and Quality of Life: Residents of all ages in Strathroy-Caradoc will have access to community amenities and activities that are accessible and support active lifestyles and wellbeing.

ATTACHMENTS:

None