

Clause embodied in Report No. 8 of the Policy and Finance Committee, as adopted by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on July 22, 23 and 24, 2003.

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Child Care Capital Reserve Fund Approvals

(City Council on July 22, 23 and 24, 2003, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)

The Policy and Finance Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendation of the Community Services Committee embodied in the following communication (July 3, 2003) from the City Clerk:

Recommendation:

The Community Services Committee on July 3, 2003, recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee, and Council, the adoption of the attached report dated June 18, 2003, from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services respecting Child Care Capital Reserve Fund approvals.

(Report dated June 18, 2002, addressed to the
Community Services Committee, from the
Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services)

Purpose:

This report seeks approval to spend funds from the Child Care Capital Reserve in accordance with the City's Child Care Service Plan to support the development and expansion of a child care program facing relocation and the development of a child care facility to support a women's shelter.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

This report proposes allocating up to \$500,000.00 from the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund to support the relocation of Child's Space II Child Care Centre and recommends an interest-free repayable loan to Woodgreen Community Centre from the Child Care Capital Reserve of up to \$300,000.00 for the construction cost of new child care facility supporting a women's shelter. The loan would be recovered through child care per diems. The Child Care Capital Reserve Fund has sufficient resources to support the recommendations contained within this report. The loan satisfies the Reserve's criteria as amended by Council.

Approval of this report will result in an increase of \$500,000.00 in the Children's Services 2003 gross budget with a matching amount in the revenue budget, but it will not affect the net operating budget.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and concurs with the information provided.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) authority be granted to the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services to negotiate with the Toronto Catholic District School Board and provide funding of up to \$500,000.00 from the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund to support the renovation costs associated with the relocation and expansion of Child's Space Child Care Centre within St. Patrick's Catholic High School;
- (2) authority be granted to the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services to negotiate the provision of an interest free repayable loan of up to \$300,000.00 from the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund for Woodgreen Community Centre to support the construction of Woodgreen's new child care centre located at 249 Cosburn Avenue;
- (3) authority be granted to adjust the Children's Services 2003 operating budget by adding \$500,000.00 to the gross budget and offsetting \$500,000.00 to the revenue budget; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Background:

The Child Care Capital Reserve Fund was first established by the former Metropolitan Toronto Council in 1997 and its criteria were amended in 1998 to assist child care centres in school facilities facing capital costs as a result of relocations resulting from increased school enrolment. Toronto Council later again amended the Reserve's criteria at its meeting of June 26, 27 and 28, 2001 to support the growth of child care in accordance with the Child Care Service Plan.

Comments:

This report outlines the needs of two child care programs, which require assistance in meeting their renovation or construction costs. Child's Space II Child Care Centre, located in St. Bridgid's Catholic School, has been required to relocate a portion of its program to shared space as a result of increasing school enrolment and has now received notice from the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) that it needs to recover the exclusive use space used for the pre-school children. Alternate exclusive use space is available at St. Patrick's Catholic High School providing an opportunity to relocate the existing pre-school and also to add additional infant and toddler capacity. The additional capacity will ensure the ongoing viability of the program and is consistent with the Child Care Service Plan's objective to improve age equity. This report seeks City approval for up to \$500,000.00 from the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund

for the capital costs subject to securing appropriate space and security of tenure for Child's Space II.

Woodgreen Community Centre of Toronto is developing a child care centre at 249 Cosburn Avenue to serve women in the attached transitional shelter program. The organization has raised most of the funds necessary to complete this project but has a capital shortfall of \$295,860.00 and is seeking assistance from the City. The Division proposes an interest free repayable loan in the amount of \$300,000.00 from the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund. Because the program will serve primarily families eligible for fee subsidy, the loan repayment costs may be managed through the operating per diem paid to the program. The loan vehicle allows Woodgreen to meet the initial capital costs and return the funds to the reserve through payments from the operating per diem rates.

Conclusion:

This report requests authority to provide a capital grant of \$500,000.00 from the Child Care Capital Reserve to support the renovation and relocation of Child's Space II Child Care Centre and an interest free repayable loan of \$300,000.00 from the Child Care Capital Reserve to support the construction of a child care centre associated with a transitional shelter program.

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