

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Division

Minutes of the Community Services Committee

Meeting No. 5

Thursday, October 7, 1999

The Community Services Committee met on Thursday, October 7, 1999, in Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 9:45 a.m.

Members Present:

	<u>9:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.</u>	<u>2:15 p.m.-5:15 p.m.</u>
Councillor Brad Duguid, Chair	X	X
Councillor Olivia Chow	X	X
Councillor Norman Gardner	X	X
Councillor Irene Jones	X	X
Councillor Norman Kelly	X	X
Councillor Chris Korwin-Kuczynski	X	X
Councillor Peter Li Preti	X	X
Councillor Joe Mihevc	X	X
Councillor Michael Prue	X	X
Councillor Michael Walker	X	X

Also Present:

Councillor Anne Johnston
Councillor Jack Layton
Councillor Pam McConnell

Confirmation of Minutes.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on September 9, 1999, were confirmed.

5.1 Final Report of the Seniors' Task Force.

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The Committee had before it a communication (September 20, 1999) from Councillor Anne Johnston, Chair, Seniors' Task Force, submitting the Final Report of the Seniors' Task Force, entitled "Toronto - Building A City For All Ages"; advising that the report represents input from both public consultations and members of the Task Force; noting that the recommendations outline a blue print which will be the subject of a follow-up report on the implementation strategy and development of the proposed Seniors' Assembly; and recommending that:

- (1) the 55 recommendations contained in the report be adopted;
- (2) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services submit a follow up report on the implementation strategy, the development of the proposed Seniors' Assembly and the funding required to support the Assembly.

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(Recommendations contained in the Final Report of the Seniors' Task Force)

- (1) The Information and Communication Division through Access Toronto consolidate information on all senior-specific programs or services operated by the City and, in partnership with Community Information Toronto and local community information centres, assess existing information for seniors and collaboratively seek ways to address gaps and identify promotional models to inform seniors of these services.
- (2) Access Toronto, Toronto Social Housing Connections, and Community Information Toronto develop strong linkages with the Community Care Access Centres for information sharing and elimination of duplication and that this linkage be communicated to the local information access points for seniors in the community.
- (3) All information delivery to seniors be based on best practices so that the communication is:
 - in clear language;
 - linguistically accessible;
 - clear in font, layout, print size and colour;
 - given by "real" people answering main information lines;
 - culturally appropriate;
 - disseminated through the community newspapers, community centres and libraries;
 - available to seniors with low literacy skills; and
 - able to use public service announcements on radio and cable TV which can be made available at no cost.

- (4) Training and Development conduct training sessions for City staff in both oral and written communication with seniors to develop effective skills to deliver information that is “senior-friendly.”
- (5) The City recognize that resources for technical upgrades at local community information centres has not kept up with the need and that community grants criteria recognize this as an important funding need in information provision.
- (6) The Province establish and fund a health information clearinghouse for seniors.

Health Care:

The Seniors’ Task Force recommends that:

- (7) The Provincial Government reinvest funding into the health care sector to ensure that the principles of access and high quality care are not compromised; and that the funding be significantly enhanced for nursing services, Community Care Access Centres (to expand community long term-care services), and mental health services for seniors.
- (8) The Province ensure that the criteria for funding health care services include access to services as a measure of meeting the needs of the diverse populations in the City of Toronto and address specifically the barriers to accessing health care services for ethno-cultural and linguistic seniors.
- (9) The Province eliminate co-payment charges for seniors for prescription drugs and expand the benefit coverage to include supplies required for the administration of prescription drugs such as insulin.

Public Health:

The Seniors’ Task Force recommends that:

- (10) City Council continue to support and fund local public health programs and services for seniors (including chronic disease and injury prevention, substance abuse prevention, communicable disease control, elder abuse prevention, informal/caregiver support initiatives and dental programs).
- (11) Toronto Public Health work with Community Care Access Centres and other agencies to address the needs of the “at risk” frail elderly.
- (12) Toronto Public Health continue to work with community agencies and groups to advocate for policies and practices which ensure equal access to health care and an equitable distribution of resources and services for seniors.

Housing:

The Seniors' Task Force recommends that:

- (13) The City urge the Province of Ontario to amend the Tenant Protection Act to restore rent control.
- (14) The City, as part of its affordable housing strategy, encourage a fair share of affordable housing units be developed within the City to target seniors.
- (15) The City urge the Provincial and Federal Governments to ensure the housing needs of seniors are included in any new housing developments, recognizing that a solution to the affordable housing crisis in Toronto must involve all levels of government.
- (16) The City of Toronto approach the Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association to facilitate discussions on accessible housing needs in Toronto, through its local Toronto network. The Toronto Housing Company, Co-op Housing Federation of Toronto and the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority should participate in these discussions so that a mutual exchange of learning and experience occurs between City-operated and community-based housing providers.
- (17) The City continue to negotiate with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to expand the City's administration of the federal Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program across the new City of Toronto.
- (18) The City of Toronto conduct public information sessions for seniors in the community explaining the details of the new Property Tax System, how to read the new bill, where the money is going and how the assessment worked.

Public Transportation:

The Seniors' Task Force recommends that:

- (19) The Toronto Transit Commission continue the discounted seniors' fare.
- (20) The TTC develop mechanisms which allow for reduced rates for seniors during off-peak times. One of these should be the development of a seniors' day pass which would be valid during off-peak times and available for purchase at stations and community outlets.
- (21) The TTC recognize that low-income seniors have difficulty having enough money to purchase transit fares even at a discounted seniors' rate. It is recommended that appropriate City staff explore the possibility of a transit subsidy for those seniors

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receiving the Provincial GAINS (Guaranteed Annual Income Supplement) and that staff approach the Provincial Government with a proposal .

- (22) The TTC change the current “courtesy seating” system to “designated seating” with the additional phrase “Be prepared to give up your seat.” The current “elderly and disabled” signage can still be used. The program be supported by the drivers and a marketing program using the International Year of Older Persons theme and logo.
- (23) Signage throughout the system be improved and include signs, brochures and schedules with larger print, information in languages other than English, and international graphic signage. Information on improvements should be communicated to seniors’ organizations, particularly ethno-racial groups and seniors’ centres.
- (24) Training for TTC staff on seniors’ special needs be introduced to enhance sensitivity and improve customer service. An effective course would facilitate staff understanding about what it is like for seniors to use the regular system and what they can expect to encounter.
- (25) Notification be posted in subway stations to advise passengers that escalators and/or elevators are out of service. If seniors can only exit that station using these services, they need to know before they exit to avoid paying an additional fare to travel to a station which they can exit.
- (26) The sound system be upgraded to make it useful for seniors and others.
- (27) The TTC and the Works Department install more benches at bus stops and shelters. Locations should be identified with the assistance of the Seniors’ Assembly.
- (28) The TTC develop an accessibility map which would plot out trips between stations that are accessible and link them with accessible bus routes.
- (29) A geriatrician be added to the Wheel Trans review panel to assess the needs of aging seniors who do not need mobility devices except for canes.
- (30) The ability to challenge the decision of the Wheel Trans review panel be addressed. Many seniors are unclear about the criteria and their rights. They have a fear about speaking out and many do not speak English easily. The review panel should offer community locations, perhaps at seniors’ centres, community or recreation centres. The panel should be prepared to provide services in languages other than English, with notices that reflect that service.
- (31) Community bus routes be expanded and the TTC staff work with the community to develop, support and promote these routes.

- (32) The City champion the Community Transportation Action Program that is vital to the transportation needs of a number of sectors and promotes efficient use of community agency vehicles.

City Services and Supports:

The Seniors' Task Force recommends that:

- (33) All public and community meetings sponsored by the City provide for seniors' full participation include:
- information that can be read easily, e.g., adequate font size, clear language;
 - a public address system to ensure all can hear the speakers; and
 - accessible buildings.
- (34) Parks and Recreation services and programs which value seniors be supported and developed to meet the needs of the growing seniors' population. Programs for seniors create a balanced program in each community centre.
- (35) Parks and Recreation continue to evaluate the impact of user fees on access and participation in seniors' programs.
- (36) Parks and Recreation staff develop a broad range of recreation and leisure opportunities that accommodate variances in interest, culture and level of ability to participate, and that seniors are involved and consulted in this process.
- (37) Works and Emergency Services continue to make regular formal inspection of sidewalks and curbs and that repairs to hazardous conditions be a priority.
- (38) Works and Emergency Services develop a well-publicized reporting system that enables members of the public to report hazardous sidewalk or curb conditions.
- (39) All sidewalk snow and ice clearing by-laws be rigorously enforced.
- (40) The Seniors' Assembly work with the Task Force on Community Safety, City Cycling Committee and the Pedestrian Committee on safer sidewalk strategies.
- (41) The Seniors' Assembly work with the Task Force on Community Safety, the Pedestrian Committee and Transportation Services on appropriate timing for multi-laned intersection pedestrian crossings.
- (42) The Fire Department promote the "Older and Wiser" program through public service announcements.

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- (43) The Fire Department promote a program to “train the trainer” through a wide range of seniors’ organizations especially groups in the ethno-racial community so that awareness can be promoted in languages other than English.
- (44) The Seniors’ Assembly work with members of the Task Force on Community Safety on common issues and that any brochures, campaigns or advertisements include seniors issues.
- (45) The membership of the Task Force on Community Safety include seniors.
- (46) City Council recognize the importance of anti-fraud community initiatives, such as The East York Community Task Force to Combat Fraud Against Seniors and the ABC’s of Fraud program.
- (47) Public service announcements be routinely developed on the latest fraud/scam, with encouragement to report incidents to police along with a list of community agency programs to contact. These should be announced by the Mayor and/or the Chief of Police and carried on television, radio and in community and City newspapers.
- (48) City Council support affordable access to life long learning.
- (49) Information on literacy programs for seniors at the Toronto Public Library be distributed to community and seniors’ organizations.
- (50) The City of Toronto’s Community Service Program Grants staff re-examine supports to community-based seniors’ services and target appropriate funding to vulnerable, at risk groups within seniors’ communities.
- (51) That prevention and awareness of elder abuse be an important criteria in awarding the Breaking the Cycle of Violence grants.

Burial Ground:

The Seniors’ Task Force recommends that:

- (52) Staff from the Aboriginal Office, Access and Equity meet with appropriate members of the Aboriginal community to develop a process to acquire a site for an Aboriginal burial ground and that the appropriate City staff be requested to provide any necessary expertise.

International Year of Older Persons:

The Seniors’ Task Force recommends that:

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- (53) City Council continue its support and fund the improved street signage program, and that funding be allocated each year until completion.
- (54) City Council encourage property owners to put well-lit numerical addresses on the building, offices and homes on their property. In the development of the improved street signage program, it was noted that many buildings do not display their numerical address.

Seniors' Assembly:

The Seniors' Task Force recommends that:

- (55) City Council adopt the model described as the "Seniors Assembly" and appoint a Seniors' Advocate for the City.

The Committee also had before it communications from the following:

- (September 16, 1999) from Ms. Mary Ellen Glover, Executive Director, Ontario Association of Residents' Councils, expressing concern that none of the recommendations deal with the improvement of the quality of life of seniors who live in long-term care facilities;
- (September 22, 1999) from Mr. Alex Ginou suggesting that the recommendations under Sidewalk and Traffic Safety be amended by adding the following Recommendation No. 37(b):

"That on any City street that has housing a sidewalk be constructed."; and
- (October 6, 1999) from representatives of the Ethno-Cultural Seniors Advocacy Project, Rexdale Women's Centre, expressing support with respect to the efforts and recommendations of the Seniors' Task Force; and outlining their particular areas of support.

The following persons appeared before the Community Services Committee in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Ms. Eileen Smith, Footprints Affordable Housing Inc.;
- Mr. Terry Fagan, Executive Director, Millennium Community Building Association;

- Ms. Beverly McClelland, Toronto Seniors' Coalition;
- Ms. Rosemary Duff, and submitted a brief in regard thereto; and
- Councillor Anne Johnston, Chair, Seniors' Task Force.

The Chair appointed Councillor Jones Acting Chair, and vacated the Chair.

On motion by Councillor Duguid, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the recommendations of the Seniors' Task Force embodied in the Final Report attached to the communication from Councillor Anne Johnston, Chair, Seniors' Task Force, subject to approval of the report requested in Recommendation No. (2) with respect to the implementation strategy and funding implications.

(Clause No. 1, Report No. 4)

Councillor Duguid resumed the Chair.

**5.2 Release of 1998 Community Services Grant -
Friends of Shopping Bag Ladies.**

The Committee had before it a report (September 3, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing an update on the actions taken by the Friends of Shopping Bag Ladies in response to the funding conditions placed on the agency through the 1998 Community Services Grants Program; and recommending that:

- (1) the outstanding amount of \$24,224.00 be released to Friends of Shopping Bag Ladies; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect hereto.

The Committee also had before it communications from the following urging that the funds for the 416 Drop-In Centre (Friends of Shopping Bag Ladies) continue to be withheld until such time as the conditions of the grant have been met:

- (October 4, 1999) from Mr. Don Purvis, Chair, Seaton Ontario Berkeley Residents Association Inc. (SOBRA);
- (October 6, 1999) from Mr. Graham Orwin;

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- (October 6, 1999) from Ms. Vanessa Magness and Ms. Iris Magness;
- (October 6, 199) from Ms. Gerri Orwin; and
- (October 6, 1999) from Ms. Colleen Watson.

The following persons appeared before the Community Services Committee in connection with the foregoing matter.

- Ms. Kelley McKinnon, Chair, Board of Directors, Friends of Shopping Bag Ladies; and Ms. Lynn Hemlow, Assistant Executive Director, 416 Drop-In Centre, and submitted a brief in regard thereto;
- Mr. Cameron Atkison, 51 Division Community Police Liaison Committee, and submitted a brief and communication in regard thereto;
- Councillor Pam McConnell, Don River; and
- Ms. Alison Kemper, Executive Director, 519 Church Street.

Councillor Prue moved that:

- (1) the Committee recommend to Council the adoption of the report from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; and
- (2) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to conduct a review of the 416 Drop-In Centre (Friends of Shopping Bag Ladies) prior to consideration of any future grants funding for the agency, such review to give particular attention to the male clientele currently being served by the Centre; and to report thereon to the Community Services Committee.

(Carried)

Councillor Gardner moved that part (2) of the foregoing motion by Councillor Prue be amended by adding thereto the words "in three months' time". **(Carried)**

Councillor Walker moved that the funds to Friends of Shopping Bag Ladies be withheld and that the concerns raised by Councillor McConnell and the community be addressed by the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services before such funds are released. **(Lost)**

The Chair appointed Councillor Jones Acting Chair, and vacated the Chair.

Councillor Duguid moved that the foregoing motion by Councillor Walker be amended to provide that the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services also review alternate programs to assist the male clientele currently accessing the Friends of Shopping Bag Ladies Program, and report thereon to the Community Services Committee. **(Lost)**

Councillor Duguid resumed the Chair.

The following is a summary of the action taken by the Committee:

“The Committee:

- (1) recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; and
- (2) directed that the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to:
 - (a) conduct a review of the 416 Drop-In Centre (Friends of Shopping Bag Ladies) prior to consideration of any future grants funding for the agency, such review to give particular attention to the male clientele currently being served by the Centre; and to report thereon to the Community Services Committee in three months’ time; and
 - (b) meet with both representatives of the 416 Drop-In Centre and the Ward Councillors prior to the report being submitted to the Community Services Committee.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; Councillor Pam McConnell, Don River; Councillor Jack Layton, Don River; All Interested Parties; c. Mr. Chris Brillinger, Manager, Social Development and Administration Division, Community and Neighbourhood Services - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 5, Report No. 4)

5.3 Funding for Homeless Services - Appeals Report.

The Committee had before it a report (September 20, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services responding to the request of the Committee to report on the staff review of the six community agency appeals under the Homeless Support Services Fund; outlining the process for the second Proposal Call for the City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund; and recommending that:

- (1) Council approve funding in the amount of \$128,000.00 from the City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund to the Fred Victor Centre for the operation of a Drop-in program for homeless women;
- (2) Council approve funding in the amount of \$25,000.00 from the City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund to the Syme Woolner Neighbourhood and Family Centre for the provision of a day time drop-in program for homeless people;
- (3) Council approve funding in the amount of \$30,000.00 from the City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund to The Massey Centre for Women for the provision of supports to homeless or potentially homeless young parents with no fixed address;
- (4) authority be delegated to the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services to allocate funding to projects selected from the City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund second Proposal Call as outlined in this report; and
- (5) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect hereto.

The Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report.

(Clause No. 6, Report No. 4)

5.4 Food-Related Capital Grants - Second Round Allocations.

The Committee had before it a report (September 23, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services respecting second round allocations under the Food-related Capital Grants; and recommending that:

- (1) STOP 103 be allocated funding up to \$11,000.00; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report.

(Clause No. 7, Report No. 4)

5.5 National Children's Agenda - Round Table Discussions.

The Committee had before it a communication (September 23, 1999) from the City Clerk advising that the Children and Youth Action Committee on September 21, 1999, recommended to the Community Services Committee that it be authorized to:

- (1) sponsor a round table discussion to invite a response from the community on the National Children's Agenda;
- (2) invite Federal Members of Parliament to the round table discussion to enable them to hear the community's response;

and noted that funds in an approximate amount of \$1,500.00 are available for this purpose in the Children and Youth Action Committee's 1999 Operating Budget.

The Committee also had before it a communication (undated) from Councillor Olivia Chow, Child and Youth Advocate, reporting on the recent Board meeting of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the issues of concern to the City of Toronto; and recommending that:

- (1) the FCM Budget submission to the Federal government be received for information.
- (2) the City of Toronto reiterate its support for the Federal firearms control legislation, and that this support be communicated to the Federal Justice Minister and the Solicitor General of Canada, and to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM);

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- (3) staff complete the survey regarding the establishment of a Local Crime Prevention Council and explore Federal funding sources in support of Council's work on safe community initiatives; and
- (4) various existing policies and initiatives on prostitution be collected and sent to the December board meeting of FCM for discussion.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Committee:

- (i) recommended to Council the adoption of the recommendation of the Children and Youth Action Committee embodied in the aforementioned communication from the City Clerk;
- (ii) received Recommendation No. (1) contained in the aforementioned communication from Councillor Olivia Chow; and
- (iii) referred to the Policy and Finance Committee for consideration the following recommendations contained in the communication from Councillor Olivia Chow:

“(2) that the City of Toronto reiterate its support for the Federal firearms control legislation, and that this support be communicated to the Federal Justice Minister and the Solicitor General of Canada, and to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM);

(3) that staff complete the survey regarding the establishment of a Local Crime Prevention Council and explore Federal funding sources in support of Council's work on safe community initiatives; and

(4) that various existing policies and initiatives on prostitution be collected and sent to the December board meeting of FCM for discussion.”

(Carried)

(Policy and Finance Committee; Councillor Olivia Chow, Child and Youth Advocate - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 9, Report No. 4)

5.6 Response to the Provincial Operational Review of Toronto's Implementation of Ontario Works and Child Care Fee Subsidy Programs.

The Committee had before it a report (September 22, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing an update on the Provincial Operational Review of Toronto's implementation of Ontario Works and Child Care Fee Subsidy Programs and the Final Report prepared by the consulting firm KPMG, on behalf of the Ministry of Community and Social Services; and recommending that:

- (1) City Council support in principle the recommendations contained in the consultant's Final Report that will contribute to the improvement of the Ontario Works program, and the child care required to support it, in Toronto;
- (2) based on Provincial endorsement of the directions contained in the Operational Review, and Provincial cost-sharing commitments, the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services provide City Council, in future reports:
 - (i) with further details about those recommendations that have funding or service delivery implications for the City; and
 - (ii) with an implementation plan, developed in conjunction with Provincial officials, outlining steps that will be taken to implement those recommendations requiring joint City and Provincial action;
- (3) with respect to Social Services, the Department evaluate and report back on the recommendations from the Operational Review which may be implemented immediately by the City within the current provincial legislation and the existing Council policies;
- (4) with respect to child care, the Department evaluate and report back on the recommendations from the Operational Review which may be implemented immediately by the City within the current provincial legislation and the existing Council policies; and
- (5) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Committee also had before it a synopsis of the KPMG review of Ontario Works, submitted by Councillor Olivia Chow.

The following persons appeared before the Community Services Committee in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Mr. Andy Mitchell, Community Social Planning Council of Toronto;
- Ms. Jane Mercer, Toronto Coalition for Better Child Care, and submitted a brief in regard thereto; and
- Ms. Anne Dubas, President, and Mr. Tim Maguire, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 79, and submitted a brief in regard thereto.

Councillor Chow moved that:

- (1) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to:
 - (a) provide the Community Services Committee with a comprehensive report concerning all pressures facing child care services in Toronto, and that such report include:
 - (i) the capital funding crisis;
 - (ii) impact of school closures; and
 - (iii) implementation of Ontario Works and the Learning, Earning and Parenting Program; and
 - (b) explore the feasibility of providing subsidies to fill the 2000 vacant child care spaces, and sending the bill to the Province;
- (2) the City of Toronto seek provincial cost-shared funding to pay actual costs of licensed child care centres and additional child care providers; and
- (3) in the event that the provincial cost-shared funding is not forthcoming, the City of Toronto continue to pay its share of the actual costs, and that the necessary funding be included in the year 2000 Operating Budget.

(Carried)

Councillor Mihevc moved:

- (1) the adoption of the report from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, subject to amending Recommendation No. (1) to provide that the following Recommendation No. 47, headed "Directly Provided Child Care:

Creating an Arm's Length Agency", contained in the KPMG report on Ontario Works, not be supported until a further review of such recommendation has been undertaken by the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and a report submitted thereon to the Community Services Committee:

"Recommendation No. 47

The City of Toronto should renew efforts to make its directly operated child care service an arm's length agency of the City. If the City is successful in establishing this new arrangement, it should avail itself of the opportunity to invite centres of excellence involved in the treatment of children at risk to participate in the governance and programme development of directly operated child care services. Should the Province devolve the licensing of child care to municipalities, it should not do so with the City of Toronto until the City has taken steps to eliminate the potential for conflict of interest in its provision of child care, by the means above or otherwise.";

- (2) that the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to do everything possible to find replacement child care locations when school closures occur.

(Carried)

The following is a summary of the action taken by the Committee:

"The Community Services Committee:

(A) recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee, and Council:

- (1) the adoption of the report dated September 22, 1999, from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, subject to amending Recommendation No. (1) to provide that the following Recommendation No. 47, headed "Directly Provided Child Care: Creating an Arm's Length Agency", contained in the KPMG report on Ontario Works, not be supported until a further review of such recommendation has been undertaken by the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and a report submitted thereon to the Community Services Committee:

'Recommendation No. 47

The City of Toronto should renew efforts to make its directly operated child care service an arm's length agency of the City. If the City is successful in establishing this new arrangement, it should avail itself of the opportunity to invite centres of excellence involved in the treatment of children at risk to participate in the governance and programme development of directly operated child care services. Should the Province devolve the licensing of child care to municipalities, it should not do so with the City of Toronto until the City has taken steps to eliminate the potential for conflict of interest in its provision of child care, by the means above or otherwise.';

- (2) the City of Toronto seek provincial cost-shared funding to pay actual costs of licensed child care centres and additional child care providers; and
 - (3) in the event that the provincial cost-shared funding is not forthcoming, the City of Toronto continue to pay its share of the actual costs, and that the necessary funding be included in the year 2000 Operating Budget; and
- (B) requested the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services to:
- (1) provide the Community Services Committee with a comprehensive report concerning all pressures facing child care services in Toronto, and that such report include:
 - (a) the capital funding crisis;
 - (b) impact of school closures; and
 - (c) implementation of Ontario Works and the Learning, Earning and Parenting Program;
 - (2) explore the feasibility of providing subsidies to fill the 2000 vacant child care spaces, and sending the bill to the Province; and
 - (3) do everything possible to find replacement child care locations when school closures occur.”

(Policy and Finance Committee; Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; c. Mr. Nazam Bacchus, Manager, Community and Neighbourhood Services, Budget Services Division, Finance Department - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 12(a), Report No. 4)

5.7 Enhanced Employment Placement - Ontario Works.

The Committee had before it a report (September 21, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing a description of the key features of the Provincial enhancements to job placement services under the Employment Placement component of Ontario Works; outlining a proposed model for delivering these services; noting that the mandatory changes to the Employment Placement stream of Ontario Works will be cost-shared on an 80/20 Provincial/Municipal basis, and that the 2000 budget submission incorporates costs associated with delivering the enhanced program; and recommending that:

- (1) City Council endorse the proposed model for delivering Enhanced Job Placement services in Toronto, as outlined in section II of this report; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report.

(Clause No. 8, Report No. 4)

**5.8 Request to Enact the Emergency
By-law to Assist Homeless People.**

The Committee had before it a communication (September 23, 1999) from Councillor Jack Layton, Co-Chair, Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons, advising that the Advisory Committee on September 22, 1999, recommended that the Community Services Committee and Members of Council ask the Mayor to invoke the emergency by-law and thereby enact the emergency plan in order to develop an appropriate plan of action to immediately address the critical shortfall of emergency shelter.

The Committee also had before it a copy of a report submitted to the Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons by staff of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Department respecting Emergency Planning in the City of Toronto.

The following persons appeared before the Community Services Committee in connection with the foregoing matter:

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- Ms. Kira Heineck, Toronto Disaster Relief Committee, and submitted a brief in regard thereto;
- Ms. Linda Torney, President, Toronto and York Region Labour Council, and submitted a brief in regard thereto;
- Ms. Kathy Hardill, Regent Park Community Health Centre;
- Councillor Jack Layton, Co-Chair, Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons, and submitted a list of the hostels and any vacant spaces for the evening of October 6, 1999;
- Ms. Sarah Shartal, and submitted a brief in regard thereto; and
- Ms. Barbara Craig, Street Health, and submitted a brief in regard thereto.

The Chair appointed Councillor Jones Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

A. Councillor Duguid moved that:

- (1) the Committee express its support for the efforts made by staff of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Department and agencies to create the shelter spaces required for this winter; and
- (2) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to:
 - (i) report to the Community Services Committee on the possibility of enacting the Emergency Plan should circumstances change;
 - (ii) continue to pursue other opportunities to create additional shelter spaces in excess of the 860 opened, or anticipated to be opened by December 1999, in order to provide a cushion for shelter space to accommodate potential unanticipated needs this winter, and to report thereon to the Advisory Committee for New Emergency Shelter Sites in October 1999;

(Carried)

Councillor Duguid resumed the Chair.

- B. Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski moved that the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to provide monthly updates to the Community Services Committee on the status of the shelter system. **(Carried)**
- C. Councillor Walker moved that the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons contained in the communication from Councillor Jack Layton, Co-Chair, be adopted. **(Redundant)**
- D. Councillor Jones moved that the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to ascertain from some of the larger municipalities in Canada their experiences, trends and numbers with respect to homelessness in their jurisdictions, and report thereon to the Community Services Committee. **(Carried)**
- E. Councillor Chow moved that:
- (1) Councillors who sit on the Boards of various hospitals in Toronto, and other interested Councillors, together with appropriate staff (as designated by the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services) form a team to meet with the Hospital Boards regarding their discharge policies and develop a protocol to ensure the appropriate placement of health-compromised individuals prior to them being discharged from hospitals;
 - (2) between now and the scheduled closure of the Fort York Armoury in December 1999, and in order to alleviate crowding in other shelters, extra cots be added at the Armoury and other shelter locations when there is over 90 percent occupancy in Toronto's shelter system; and
 - (3) if the shelter system is operating above 90 percent by December 1, 1999, the decision to close the Fort York

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Armoury be revisited by the Community Services Committee at its meeting on December 1, 1999.

(Carried)

- F. Councillor Prue moved that the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, in conjunction with the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and City Solicitor, be requested to develop a protocol to provide for the Mayor to enact the Emergency Plan if and when the City of Toronto finds itself in the position of being unable to provide shelter for those who need it, and report thereon to the Community Services Committee. **(Carried)**

The following is a summary of the action taken by the Committee:

“The Committee:

(A) recommended to Council that:

- (1) Councillors who sit on the Boards of various hospitals in Toronto, and other interested Councillors, together with appropriate staff (as designated by the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services) form a team to meet with the Hospital Boards regarding their discharge policies and develop a protocol to ensure the appropriate placement of health-compromised individuals prior to them being discharged from hospitals;
- (2) between now and the scheduled closure of the Fort York Armoury in December 1999, and in order to alleviate crowding in other shelters, extra cots be added at the Armoury and other shelter locations when there is over 90 percent occupancy in Toronto’s shelter system; and

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- (3) if the shelter system is operating above 90 percent by December 1, 1999, the decision to close the Fort York Armoury be revisited by the Community Services Committee at its meeting on December 1, 1999;
- (B) expressed its support for the efforts made by staff of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Department and agencies to create the shelter spaces required for this winter;
- (C) requested the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, in conjunction with the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and City Solicitor, to develop a protocol to provide for the Mayor to enact the Emergency Plan if and when the City of Toronto finds itself in the position of being unable to provide shelter for those who need it, and report thereon to the Community Services Committee; and
- (D) requested the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services to:
 - (i) report to the Community Services Committee on the possibility of enacting the Emergency Plan should circumstances change;
 - (ii) continue to pursue other opportunities to create additional shelter spaces in excess of the 860 opened, or anticipated to be opened by December 1999, in order to provide a cushion for shelter space to accommodate potential unanticipated needs this winter, and to report thereon to the Advisory Committee for New Emergency Shelter Sites in October 1999;
 - (iii) ascertain from some of the larger municipalities in Canada their experiences, trends and numbers with respect to homelessness in their jurisdictions, and report thereon to the Community Services Committee; and
 - (iv) provide monthly updates to the Community Services Committee on the status of the shelter system.”

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services; City Solicitor; Councillor Jack Layton, Co-Chair, Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons; All Interested Parties; c. General Manager, Shelter, Housing and Support Division; Ms. Susan Sheppard, Social Development and Administration Division - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 2, Report No. 4)

5.9 Lifting of Barring Policies in Hostels.

The Committee had before it a communication (September 23, 1999) from Councillor Jack Layton, Co-Chair, Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons, advising that the Advisory Committee on September 22, 1999, recommended that the Shelter, Housing and Support Division of Community and Neighbourhood Services institute a policy directing emergency shelters in Toronto to lift all barring practices except in cases involving physical violence.

The Chair appointed Councillor Jones Acting Chair, and vacated the Chair.

On motion by Councillor Duguid, the Committee referred the aforementioned communication to the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services for a report thereon to the next meeting of the Community Services Committee, to be held on November 4, 1999; and further directed that this matter be considered as the first item of business on the agenda and those interested in appearing before the Committee be advised accordingly.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; Councillor Jack Layton, Co-Chair, Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons; Ms. Gwen Yorston, Mary's Home; Ms. Cindy Cowan, Nellie's; c. General Manager, Shelter, Housing and Support Division - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 12(b), Report No. 4)

Councillor Duguid resumed the Chair.

5.10 Dental Care for Homeless People.

The Committee had before it a communication (September 23, 1999) from Councillor Jack Layton, Co-Chair, Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons, advising that the Advisory Committee on September 22, 1999, recommended that the City of Toronto develop a program to provide for the dental needs of people who are homeless; and that this program provide assistance for the range of dental care needs required, not limited to emergency care.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Committee referred the aforementioned communication to the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and the Medical Officer of Health for a joint report thereon to the Community Services Committee.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; Councillor Jack Layton, Co-Chair, Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons; Medical Officer of Health - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 12(c), Report No. 4)

5.11 Update on the Emergency Shelter System.

The Committee received an overhead slide presentation by Mr. John Jagt, Director of Hostel Services, providing an update on the emergency shelter system.

The Committee received the aforementioned update.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; c. General Manager, Shelter, Housing and Support Division - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 12(d), Report No. 4)

5.12 Aboriginal Homelessness Steering Committee.

The Committee had before it a report (September 21, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services recommending that:

- (1) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be authorized to establish an Aboriginal Homelessness Steering Committee to advise the City on the implementation of the Mayor's Homelessness Action Task Force recommendations pertaining to Aboriginal homelessness; and
- (2) the Aboriginal Homelessness Steering Committee be established for a two-year period, based on the Terms of Reference and membership selection process set out in this report, with annual reports to the City.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report.

(Clause No. 3, Report No. 4)

5.13 Proposed Framework for the Homelessness Report Card.

The Committee had before it a report (September 23, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing an outline of the proposed, framework for the City of Toronto's Homelessness Report Card, as directed by City Council in its response to the Mayor's Homelessness Action Task Force report; and recommending that:

- (1) the framework for the City's Homelessness Report Card as outlined in Appendix A be approved; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Gardner, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report.

(Clause No. 4, Report No. 4)

5.14 Mandate and Budget Allocation for the Mayor's Homeless Initiative Reserve Fund.

The Committee had before it a report (September 23, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services proposing a mandate and budget allocation for the Mayor's Homeless Initiative Reserve Fund; and recommending that:

- (1) (a) the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be authorized to create a Mayor's Homeless Initiative Reserve Fund, in accordance with Recommendation No. 16 in the approved 1999 Operating Budget for the Shelter, Housing and Support Program;
- (b) Council approve an initial amount of up to \$5 million to be transferred to the Mayor's Homeless Initiative Reserve Fund in 1999, from the 1999 Provincial Housing Download savings within the Shelter, Housing and Support Division's 1999 Operating Budget, contingent on the realization of such savings; and

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- (c) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services report to Council for approval of any further transfers into the Mayor's Homeless Initiative Reserve Fund that the Commissioner deems necessary;
- (2) the following mandate be approved for the Mayor's Homeless Initiative Reserve Fund:
 - (i) to help stabilize the housing of homeless people or those in identified high-risk groups, by providing one-time capital support to suitable projects that have short timeframes to completion;
 - (ii) to combine with federal capital funding, in the event that federal housing or homelessness capital funding announced within the timeframe of fiscal 1999/2000 requires a City contribution;
 - (iii) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services report to Council on all expenditures from the Mayor's Homeless Initiative Reserve Fund on a regular periodic basis; and
 - (iv) such funding to be administered by the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, in accordance with the Process for Project Development and Funding Approval set out in this report, including Council approval being required for each specific allocation from the fund in excess of \$25,000.00;
- (3) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer report back at the appropriate time with updated information on 1999 underspending in the Provincial Housing Download; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Chair appointed Councillor Jones Acting Chair, and vacated the Chair.

On motion by Councillor Duguid, the Committee recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee the adoption of the aforementioned report, subject to amending the mandate to provide that City-initiated initiatives also be eligible for funding from the Mayor's Homeless Initiative Reserve Fund.

(Policy and Finance Committee - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 12(e), Report No. 4)

Councillor Duguid resumed the Chair.

5.15 Status Report on the Proposed Add-A-Suite Incentive Program.

The Committee had before it a report (September 22, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing an update on the proposed Add-a-Suite Incentive Program; noting that the delayed timeline in regard to possible Federal contributions and the OMB hearing leads to the conclusion that the Add-a-Suite program be deferred at this time; and recommending that the report be received.

The Committee received the aforementioned report.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 12(f), Report No. 4)

5.16 Homes for the Aged - Uncollectible Account.

The Committee had before it a report (September 13, 1999) from the City Solicitor advising that D.M., a resident at Bendale Acres Home for the Aged, has accommodation arrears as of July 1, 1999, in the amount of \$33,165.92; and recommending that authority be granted to commence court action against D.M., J.O. and M.L., to appeal any decision where warranted, to discontinue or settle any such claim or action where it is concluded that it is reasonable to do so, and to execute any documents in furtherance thereof.

On motion by Councillor Li Preti, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report.

(Clause No. 10, Report No. 4)

5.17 Annual and Planned Giving Programs - Homes for the Aged.

The Committee had before it a communication (September 17, 1999) from the City Clerk advising that the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged on September 17, 1999, recommended the adoption of a report (August 31, 1999) from the General Manager, Homes for the Aged, recommending that the Community Services Committee be requested to support in principle the Homes for the Aged Division's strategic direction to establish annual and planned giving programs to enhance fundraising activities; and noting that suggestions by Members of the Advisory Committee had been referred to the General Manager, Homes for the Aged, for consideration.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged embodied in the aforementioned communication from the City Clerk.

(Clause No. 11, Report No. 4)

5.18 Kipling Acres - Accreditation Award.

The Committee had before it a communication (September 17, 1999) from the City Clerk advising that the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged on September 17, 1999, had before it a report (August 25, 1999) from the General Manager, Homes for the Aged, advising that the accreditation survey for Kipling Acres by the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation was carried out from June 15-18, 1999; attaching a copy of the survey report; and recommending that:

- (1) this report be forwarded to the Community Services Committee for its information; and
- (2) congratulations be extended to the staff and volunteers at Kipling Acres acknowledging their significant achievement;

and that the Advisory Committee directed that the aforementioned report be forwarded to the Community Services Committee for information.

On motion by Councillor Jones, the Committee received the aforementioned communication, and extended its congratulations to the staff and volunteers at Kipling Acres.

(General Manager, Homes for the Aged; Administrator, Kipling Acres - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 12(g), Report No. 4)

5.19 Lakeshore Lodge - Accreditation Award.

The Committee had before it a communication (September 17, 1999) from the City Clerk advising that the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged on September 17, 1999, had before it a report (August 27, 1999) from the General Manager, Homes for the Aged, advising that the accreditation survey for Lakeshore Lodge by the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation was carried out from June 20-22, 1999; attaching a copy of the survey report; and recommending that:

- (1) this report be forwarded to the Community Services Committee for its information; and
- (2) congratulations be extended to the staff and volunteers at Lakeshore Lodge acknowledging their significant achievement;

and that the Advisory Committee directed that the aforementioned report be forwarded to the Community Services Committee for information.

On motion by Councillor Jones, the Committee received the aforementioned communication, and extended its congratulations to the staff and volunteers at Lakeshore Lodge.

(General Manager, Homes for the Aged; Administrator, Lakeshore Lodge - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 12(h), Report No. 4)

**5.20 Toronto Ambulance Services to the
Greater Toronto Airport Authority Property.**

The Committee had before it a joint report (September 22, 1999) from the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and General Manager, Toronto Ambulance, recommending that:

- (1) City Council advise the Regional Municipality of Peel that Toronto Ambulance will discontinue the provision of routine day-to-day emergency and non-emergency services to the Greater Toronto Airport Authority (GTAA) effective June 30, 2000, while maintaining Toronto Ambulance's lead role in disaster and mass casualty services on the GTAA site; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be given the authority to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Kelly, the Committee deferred consideration of the aforementioned report and the following motions until the meeting of the Community Services Committee to be held on December 1, 1999, in order to allow time for further negotiation with the Regional Municipality of Peel:

Motion by Councillor Gardner

“That Recommendation No. (1) be amended by deleting the date ‘June 30, 2000’, and inserting in lieu thereof the date and words ‘January 1, 2001, or prior to that date’.”; and

Motion by Councillor Walker

“That the following options Nos. (3) and (4) be adopted:

- (3) Council direct the General Manager, Toronto Ambulance, through the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services, to obtain full funding for the services described in option No. (2) from the Regional Municipality of Peel or the Greater Toronto Airport Authority, or both, notwithstanding the parties' original positions on the issue. Failing this, the Commissioner report back to Council for further instructions.
- (4) Council advise the Regional Municipality of Peel that Toronto Ambulance will discontinue the provision of routine day-to-day emergency and non-emergency services to the GTAA effective June 30, 2000. This long-lead notice will permit the Region of Peel and the Ministry of Health to develop an appropriate plan for integrating the GTAA lands into its plans for service to the balance of the Region.”

(Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services; General Manager,
Toronto Ambulance - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 12(i), Report No. 4)

(DEFERRED)

5.21 Toronto Ambulance Marine EMS Rescue Program.

The Committee had before it a joint report (September 22, 1999) from the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and General Manager, Toronto Ambulance, providing an update on the Toronto Ambulance Marine EMS Rescue Program pilot project which was established in co-operation with the Toronto Police Service Marine Unit; and recommending that the report be received for information.

The Committee received the aforementioned joint report.

(Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services; General Manager,
Toronto Ambulance - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 12(j), Report No. 4)

5.22 Acquisition of Replacement Ambulances.

The Committee had before it a joint report (September 22, 1999) from the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and General Manager, Toronto Ambulance, advising that a response has been received from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care responding to a recommendation contained in Clause No. 3 of Report No. 2 of the Community Services Committee, headed "Acquisition of Replacement Ambulances", adopted, as amended, by City Council on July 27, 29 and 30, 1999, with respect to exploring alternative fuel other than diesel fuel; noting that the Ministry will work with Toronto Ambulance in examining the potential application of non-diesel engines for ambulance vehicles in future, but that the replacement ambulances for the 1999 budget year will be diesel powered; and recommending that the report be received for information.

The Committee received the aforementioned joint report.

(Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services; General Manager,
Toronto Ambulance - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 12(k), Report No. 4)

5.23 Continuing Evaluation of the Ambulance Act of Ontario - Response to Outstanding Items.

The Committee had before it a report (August 31, 1999) from the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services providing an update with respect to Minute No. 1.2 of the Emergency and Protective Services Committee from January 12, 1999, on the possibility of billing hospitals for the administration of the paperwork provided by Toronto Ambulance and the new Ambulance Act of Ontario and its Regulations as they relate to the issue of co-payments; advising that correspondence has been received from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care reaffirming that currently the legislation restricts the charging of fees for ambulance service to hospitals that either send or receive a patient by ambulance in the form of a co-payment of \$45.00 charged to the patient by the hospital; indicating that there is no Provincial initiative currently underway to make changes to either the Ambulance or the Health Insurance Act relating to land ambulance payment or fees; and recommending that the report be received for information.

The Committee received the aforementioned report.

(Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services; General Manager,
Toronto Ambulance - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 12(l), Report No. 4)

5.24 Toronto Fire Services - 1998 Annual Report.

The Community Services Committee on October 7, 1999, had before it a joint report (September 23, 1999) from the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and the Fire Chief submitting, for information, the Toronto Fire Services 1998 Annual Report.

The Committee received the aforementioned joint report.

(Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services; Fire Chief -
October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 12(m), Report No. 4)

5.25 Learning, Earning and Parenting (LEAP) Program.

The Committee had before it a report (September 30, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services respecting the Learning, Earning and Parenting (LEAP) Program, a mandatory Provincial program that will be delivered by municipalities under the Employment Supports (ES) component of Ontario Works; and recommending that:

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- (1) City Council endorse the proposed direction for delivering LEAP in Toronto;
- (2) funds for LEAP be included in the year 2000 budget requests of Toronto Social Services and Children's Services in the amounts of \$1.89 million gross/\$378,000.00 net and \$4.0 million gross/\$800,000.00 net respectively; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Committee recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee:

- (1) the adoption of the report from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services respecting the Learning, Earning and Parenting (LEAP) Program; and

- (2) that the provincial Ministry of Community and Social Services be advised that the City of Toronto will not implement the LEAP Program until such time as an adequate response has been received from the Province of Ontario through discussions of the KPMG recommendations on the implementation of Ontario Works, and the impact on child care services.

(Policy and Finance Committee - October 7, 1999)

(Clause No. 12(n), Report No. 4)

The Committee adjourned its meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Chair.