

**THE CITY OF TORONTO**

**City Clerk's Division**

**Minutes of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee**

**Meeting No. 4**

**Thursday, April 22, 1999**

The Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee met on Thursday, April 22, 1999, in Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 9:45 a.m.

Members Present:

	<u>9:45 a.m.-11:25 a.m.</u>
Councillor Chris Korwin-Kuczynski, Chair	X
Councillor Elizabeth Brown	X
Councillor Gordon Chong	X
Councillor Olivia Chow	X
Councillor Michael Feldman	X
Councillor Joan King	X
Councillor George Mammoliti	X
Councillor Michael Prue	X

Regrets:

Councillor Raymond Cho  
Councillor Rob Davis  
Councillor John Filion

Also Present:

Councillor Ron Moeser X

Members were present for some or all of the time period indicated.

**Confirmation of Minutes.**

On motion by Councillor Prue, the Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee held on March 24, 1999, were confirmed.

**4.1 The Learning Enrichment Foundation's Business**

**Plan for an Ontario Works Project in Ontario.**

The Committee had before it a communication (April 8, 1999) from the City Clerk advising that York Community Council on March 30, 1999, recommended to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee that consideration be given to the Business Plan submitted by The Learning Enrichment Foundation regarding an Ontario Works Project for social assistance recipients in Toronto, over a three-year period; and that York Community Council endorsed the aforementioned proposal.

The Committee also had before it a report (April 12, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services respecting the proposal for an Ontario Works Project in Toronto submitted by The Learning Enrichment Foundation (LEF); advising that staff of the Department are meeting on April 19, 1999, with LEF and Ministry representatives to discuss the proposal in greater detail; and recommending that staff report back to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee for its May 19, 1999, meeting, after consultation with the appropriate parties has occurred.

Mr. Peter Frampton and Mr. Donald McDonald, President, The Learning Enrichment Foundation, appeared before the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee in connection with the foregoing matter; and submitted a brief requesting that the Terms of Reference for the LEF pilot project evaluation include items Nos. (1) to (8) outlined in such brief.

Councillor Chong moved that the Committee concur in the recommendation contained in the report from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, and referred the aforementioned communication from the City Clerk and the brief from The Learning Enrichment Foundation to the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services for report thereon to the May 19, 1999, meeting of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee. **(Carried)**

Councillor Mammoliti moved that the Committee support the proposal by The Learning Enrichment Foundation; and that the word “potentially” be added after words “Terms of reference to” in the brief from LEF. **(Redundant)**

Having regard to the action taken by the Committee, the foregoing motion by Councillor Mammoliti was declared redundant.

Councillor Mammoliti challenged the ruling of the Chair that his foregoing motion was redundant.

Upon the question that the ruling of the Chair be upheld, it was carried.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services;  
Ms. Eunice Grayson, Executive Director, The Learning Enrichment  
Foundation; c. General Manager, Social Services Division - April 22, 1999)

**(Clause No. 6(a), Report No. 5)**

**4.2 Client Services and Information Unit Annual Report.**

The Committee had before it a report (April 6, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services respecting the role of the Client Services and Information Unit (C.S.I.U.); providing a summary of the C.S.I.U.'s activities in 1998, and an update of ongoing development by the Social Services Division to ensure consistent application of policy across the Division, and the creation of new service quality initiatives; and recommending that the report be received for information.

The Committee received the aforementioned report.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services - April 22, 1999)

**(Clause No. 6(b), Report No. 5)**

**4.3 Final Report on the Review of the  
Use of Motels for Homeless Families.**

The Committee had before it a report (April 8, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services respecting the Final Report on the Review of the Use of Motels for Homeless Families; and recommending that:

- (1) contingent on provincial funding for replacement affordable housing units, the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services develop a plan to phase-out the use of motels over a three to five-year period;
- (2) the Chair of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee communicate with the provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to request funding for affordable housing units as a replacement for the use of motels for homeless families;
- (3) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services report on an implementation plan to develop family shelter capacity on an equitable basis City-wide, and identify the planning tools required to make this goal a reality;

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- (4) to enhance accountability of the family shelter system, the Commissioner report on a plan to:
  - (a) establish standards for the use of motels as emergency shelter;
  - (b) develop a new process for the management and issuance of motel contracts, including consultation to respond to community interests; and
  - (c) dedicate appropriate staffing resources to monitor contracts with motel operators;
- (5) Toronto Hostel Services, as part of its service planning, engage in ongoing consultation with:
  - (a) community reference groups and local Councillors about motel capacity and contract issues which affect the local community; and
  - (b) a range of service providers to better co-ordinate services, improve service access, and enhance the quality of services available to homeless families;
- (6) the Chair of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee immediately convene a meeting with the Chairs of the Toronto District School Board, the Toronto Catholic District School Board, the Steering Committee Reviewing the Use of Motels, and the Child and Youth Advocate to address the need for additional resources in local schools and for co-ordinated service planning City-wide;
- (7) the Chair of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee communicate with the provincial Minister of Community and Social Services to request provincial funding for children's counsellors in schools in the Wards of Scarborough Bluffs and Scarborough Highland Creek;
- (8) the Chair of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee communicate with the federal Minister of Citizenship and Immigration to request federal funding for dedicated community-based settlement services to meet the need of refugees entering emergency shelters along Kingston Road;
- (9) the Chair of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee communicate with the Settlement Directorate, Ontario Region, to request that the Settlement and Education Partnerships in Toronto program allocate funding to schools in the Wards of Scarborough Bluffs and Scarborough Highland Creek which reflects the level of need in those communities, and that eligibility for this program be assured for refugee claimant children;

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- (10) this report be forwarded to the provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the provincial Minister of Community and Social Services, the federal Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, the Chair of the Toronto District School Board, and the Chair of the Toronto Catholic District School Board; and
- (11) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Committee also had before it a communication (April 21, 1999) from Councillor Ron Moeser, Chair, Steering Committee to Review the Use of Motels for Homeless Families, advising that the Steering Committee on April 19, 1999, recommended that:

- (a) Recommendation No. (1) of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be amended by deleting the words “contingent on provincial funding for replacement affordable housing units”, so that such recommendation reads as follows:
  - “(1) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services develop a plan to phase-out the use of motels over a three to five-year period;”;
- (b) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services report to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee in September 1999 with a plan to implement the recommendations in the final report; and
- (c) staff report on the amount of federal funding required to ensure appropriate settlement services for families accommodated in motels.

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

- Ms. Gretta Vosper, Scarborough East Community Analysis Group; and submitted a brief in regard thereto;
- Mr. Peter Vanderyagt, The Caring Alliance; and
- Councillor Ron Moeser, Scarborough Highland Creek, and Chair of the Steering Committee to Review the Use of Motels for Homeless Families.

Councillor Chong moved that:

- (i) the Committee recommend to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and
- (ii) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to report to the Community Services Committee:
  - (a) in September 1999, providing a plan to implement the recommendations contained in the Final Report on the Review of the Use of Motels for Homeless Families; and
  - (b) on the amount of federal funding required to ensure appropriate settlement services for families accommodated in motels.

**(Carried)**

Councillor Prue moved that part (i) of the foregoing motion by Councillor Chong be amended by adding thereto the following:

“subject to amending Recommendation No. (8) by deleting the word ‘refugees’ and inserting in lieu thereof the words ‘refugee claimants’.”

**(Carried)**

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; Councillor Ron Moeser, Scarborough Highland Creek; Ms. Gretta Vosper; Mr. Peter Vanderyagt - April 22, 1999)

**(Clause No. 1, Report No. 5)**

**4.4 Expansion of Hostel Services - Public Health Initiatives to Reduce the Spread of Communicable Diseases, In Particular TB.**

The Committee had before it a report (March 26, 1999) from the Medical Officer of Health advising of the expansion of public health initiatives which would be required to reduce the spread of communicable diseases with an expansion of hostel services, in particular TB; and recommending that:

- (1) the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee continue to support the optimal service level for the Toronto Public Health's TB program;
- (2) current Public Health initiatives pertaining to communicable diseases other than TB should be harmonized across the City and workloads associated with both the current and new hostels should be monitored with a view to considering provincial cost-sharing of hostel-specific public health services;
- (3) prior to the construction of any new hostels, Toronto Public Health should be consulted regarding ways to minimize the risk of communicable diseases within the new environments;
- (4) the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee continue to advocate with the Province for provincial funding for appropriate accommodation for people without housing who have active TB in order to reduce disease transmission and promote stability and health, as requested by the Board of Health on January 25, 1999; and
- (5) the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee continue to support the recommendations in the Report of the Mayor's Homelessness Action Task Force, which state that no one should be discharged from an institution to the street and that the Ministry of Health should fund infirmary beds in appropriate locations for homeless people recovering from illness or surgery.

On motion by Councillor Chong, the Committee:

- (1) recommended to Council the adoption of Recommendations Nos. (2) to (5) contained in the aforementioned report of the Medical Officer of Health; and
- (2) received Recommendation No. (1), in that the Public Health's Operating Budget is being considered by Council on April 26 and 27, 1999.

**(Clause No. 2, Report No. 5)**

#### **4.5 "On The Move" Pilot Project.**

The Committee had before it a communication (March 26, 1999) from the General Secretary, Toronto Transit Commission, advising that the Toronto Transit Commission on March 23, 1999, had before it Clause No. 15 of Report No. 5 of The Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee, headed "Evaluation of the 'On the Move' Pilot Project," wherein it recommended that the Commission be requested to consider a discount on bulk ticket purchases, beyond the one percent currently provided to TTC ticket agents, for community-based agencies providing services for the homeless and socially isolated persons; and that the Commission approved the following:

- (1) That the sale to the City of Toronto Community and Neighbourhood Services Department of \$100,000.00 of fare media for appropriate 'On the Move' projects, as certified by the City of Toronto, be subject to a 5 percent discount, and if the Province of Ontario matches this funding, a discount of 10 percent apply on the sale of \$200,000.00 in TTC fare media to the City of Toronto Community Services Department; and further that staff conduct a review after one year to measure the success of this initiative.
- (2) That the City of Toronto Community and Neighbourhood Services Department be requested to develop a long term plan for this initiative which would provide a non-TTC funding source.

On motion by Councillor Chong, the Committee referred the aforementioned communication to the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services for a report thereon to the Committee.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services - April 22, 1999)

**(Clause No. 6(c), Report No. 5)**

#### **4.6 Management of the Capital Revolving Fund for Affordable Housing.**

The Committee had before it a joint report (April 6, 1999) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer recommending that Council:

- (1) adopt Terms of Reference for a Reference Group to advise the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services on management of the Capital Revolving Fund for Affordable Housing, as set out in Appendix A;
- (2) adopt Management Guidelines for the Capital Revolving Fund for Affordable Housing, as set out in Appendix B;



- (3) appoint Councillor Feldman as the Council representative to the Reference Group for the Capital Revolving Fund;
- (4) authorize the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services to select community members of the Reference Group per the criteria in the Terms of Reference; and
- (5) authorize appropriate City officials to take the necessary action to give effect to these recommendations.

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

**(Clause No. 3, Report No. 5)**

#### **4.7 Change in Membership - Children and Youth Action Committee.**

The Committee had before it a communication (April 6, 1999) from the City Clerk, advising that the Children and Youth Action Committee on March 25, 1999, recommended that Mr. Ian Wood be appointed as the alternate member to Mr. David Rew for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Toronto.

On motion by Councillor King, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the recommendation of the Children and Youth Action Committee embodied in the aforementioned communication from the City Clerk.

**(Clause No. 4, Report No. 5)**

#### **4.8 Operational Review of Ontario Works and Child Care.**

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee on April 22, 1999, directed that, given the delay by the Provincial Government in releasing its Operational Review of Ontario Works and Child Care, the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to report directly to Council for its meeting on May 11, 1999, providing an update on the number of children in need of child care now that their parents qualify for Ontario Works.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; c. General Manager, Children's Services Division; General Manager, Social Services Division - April 22, 1999)

**(Clause No. 5, Report No. 5)**

#### **4.9 Update on StreetCity.**

The Director of Hostel Services provided a verbal update on the situation at StreetCity, and the discussions that have been held with Homes First Society, the Toronto Police Service and residents of the facility; and noted that a written report will be submitted to a future meeting of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee.

The Committee received the aforementioned verbal update.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; c. General Manager, Shelter, Housing and Support Division; Director of Hostel Services - April 22, 1999)

**(Clause No. 6(d), Report No. 5)**

The Committee adjourned its meeting at 11:25 a.m.

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Chair.