

Declarations of Interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.**Confirmation of Minutes – January 22, 2007****Speakers/Presentations - A complete list will be distributed at the meeting.****Communications/Reports**

CD2.1	ACTION		Transactional	
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Federal Homelessness Funding: Authority to Negotiate a New Federal Agreement and Manage the Transition to the New Program

(February 5, 2007) report from General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration

Recommendations

The General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, recommends that:

1. the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, in consultation with the City Solicitor, be authorized to enter into a contribution agreement with ServiceCanada or related entity for funding under the new Homelessness Partnering Strategy, and that the objectives, priorities and allocation levels, substantially as outlined in the report and summarized in Appendix A, form the basis for the agreement;
2. once the contribution agreement with ServiceCanada or related entity is in place, the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be authorized to enter into agreements with other City divisions, project sponsor agencies, and/or private expertise to deliver projects in line with the terms and conditions of the federal agreement, other than new housing development projects, which will be approved through the Affordable Housing Committee and Council;
3. once the contribution agreement with ServiceCanada or related entity is in place, the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be authorized to adjust funding between objectives as may be required to ensure maximum and appropriate use of available federal funds and to reflect input from community consultation, new Council directions/priorities or other changes which might occur in the future and result in adjustments being required;
4. any project currently funded under the Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI) program that is not completed by March 31, 2007, be approved as a priority for funding under the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS);
5. in light of the results of the City's 2006 Street Needs Assessment, indicating that 16% of the homeless population is Aboriginal, that 20% (net of administration) of the City's HPS allocation be directed to projects that address Aboriginal homelessness;

6. the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration work directly with the Aboriginal community to develop priorities for the funds under the HPS program, identified in Recommendation 5;
7. in the event that the current SCPI funds are not extended beyond March 31, 2007 by the last day of the City Council meeting in March 2007, the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be authorized to fund the existing SCPI funded service related projects delivered by community agencies, as outlined in Appendix B, for the three-month period April 1 through June 30, 2007, at a cost of up to \$1.6 million from the Social Housing Stabilization Reserve Fund;
8. if the Social Housing Stabilization Reserve Fund is utilised as recommended above, that the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration seek reimbursement for this expenditure from the federal government, under the new Homelessness Partnering Strategy with funds returned to source;
9. the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration report directly to Council on any further financial implications relating to the transition between the SCPI and HPS programs, as required;
10. in the event that the current SCPI funding is extended beyond March 31, 2007, the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be authorized to approve allocations of any unexpended SCPI funding to projects and initiatives that are in line with the objectives of the SCPI Community Plan, and to enter into any necessary agreements to give effect thereto;
11. the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration report to Budget Committee on the financial implications of the Homelessness Partnering Strategy and possible extension of the current SCPI program once details are known; and
12. that a copy of this report be forwarded to the February 23, 2007 meeting of Budget Committee for its immediate consideration and transmittal of comments to the March 5 and 6, 2007 Council Meeting for consideration with this item.

Financial Impact

Entering into a contribution agreement with the federal government to administer the Homeless Partnering Strategy (HPS) allocation will have an impact on the 2007 budget. The impact will be dependent on the amount of the, yet unknown, allocation and on when the contract with the federal government is signed, as that will impact how much time remains in 2007 to expend the funds. If the City's allocation is similar to previous years, a total of approximately \$36 M is anticipated, spread over the two years. All eligible HPS expenditures will be reimbursed by the federal government at 100%, on a claims basis. Once the allocation and details are known and the contract is in place, the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration will report to Budget Committee on the financial implications including impacts on the 2007 Capital and Operating Budgets.

If the SCPI program is extended in a timely fashion beyond March 31, 2007, the additional draw of \$1.6 million from the Social Housing Stabilization Reserve Fund will not be required to maintain the projects from April 1, 2007 to June 30, 2007. If the program is extended, the expenditures will be funded from SCPI and continue into the second and possibly third quarters of 2007.

Recommendation 7 represents a contingency plan if SCPI is not extended in a timely fashion beyond March 31, 2007. Thus, funds of \$1.6 million from the Social Housing Stabilization Reserve Fund will be returned to source pending confirmation of the extension of the existing SCPI program and/or eligibility under the HPS program.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to obtain the authority required for the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration to enter into a new contribution agreement with the federal government for funding under the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS), a two-year program, effective April 1, 2007. Included for approval is a high level plan outlining the City's objectives and priorities for investing the funds. It also seeks the authority needed to manage a smooth transition from the current federal homelessness program, Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI) to the new HPS program. And finally, authority is being sought for the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration to approve projects in line with the objectives of the current SCPI Community Plan, if the SCPI program is extended beyond March 31, 2007.

The City is managing the transition between the old and new federal programs, despite having few details about the new program, the uncertain timing for the new contract and not knowing whether the current SCPI program will be extended. The report provides a new Plan for investing federal funds and transition strategies to accommodate the uncertain circumstances.

Background Information

2007-02-19 cd02-1APPC

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1589.pdf>)

2007-02-19 cd02-1APPA

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1588.pdf>)

2007-02-19 cd02-1APPB

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1590.pdf>)

2007-02-19 cd02-1

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1587.pdf>)

CD2.2	Information		Transactional	
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Impact of Income Testing

(January 31, 2007) report from General Manager, Children's Services

Financial Impact

This report has no financial implications.

Summary

This report describes a regulation change under the Day Nurseries Act to the method of determining eligibility for child care subsidy. Effective January 2007, the Province introduced income testing as the method of determining eligibility for child care subsidy. Income testing will make more families eligible for child care subsidies, but will result in an estimated annualized loss of \$15 million in revenue from parent fees. Options to mitigate the loss of revenue to Toronto's child care system are presented in the report. The Division will be consulting with parents and other stakeholders on the options and will report in June 2007 on the results of the consultation and a recommended strategy to address the lost revenue.

Background Information

2007-02-19-cd02-2

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1566.pdf>

2007-02-19 cd02-2APP2

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1597.pdf>

2007-02-19-cd02-2-APP1

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1567.pdf>

CD2.3	ACTION		Policy	
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Progress Report: Meeting Current Nutrition Needs of Toronto's Children and Youth

(January 29, 2007) letter from Board of Health

Recommendations

Forwarding a report (January 15, 2007) from the Medical Officer of Health entitled "Progress Report: Meeting Current Nutrition Needs of Toronto's Children and Youth."

Summary

Letter from the Board of Health forwarding to the Budget Committee and the Community Development and Recreation Committee a copy of the report (January 15, 2007) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Background Information

2007-02-19-cd02-3-ATT1c

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1571.pdf>

2007-02-19-cd02-3-ATT1b

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1579.pdf>

2007-02-19-cd02-3-ATT1

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1570.pdf>

2007-02-19-cd02-3-ATT1d

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1580.pdf>

2007-02-19-cd02-3-ATT1a

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1573.pdf>

2007-02-19-cd02-3

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1569.pdf>

CD2.4	ACTION		Transactional	
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Impact of Poverty on Children's Current and Future Health**(Deferred from last meeting for public presentations and debate)**

(September 15, 2006) letter from Board of Health

Recommendations

Submitting, for information, a report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health respecting the impact of poverty on children's current and future health.

Summary

Providing an overview of the impact of poverty on children's current and future health.

Background Information

2007-02-19-cd02-4

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1582.pdf>

CD2.5	ACTION		Policy	
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Cost of the Nutritious Food Basket - Toronto 2006

(January 29, 2007) letter from Board of Health

Recommendations

That the Community Development and Recreation Committee recommend to City Council that the following recommendations of the Board of Health be endorsed:

1. the Board of Health request the Premier of Ontario to increase social assistance benefit rates so that the Basic Allowance includes a nutrition allowance which meets daily nutritional needs as determined annually by the cost of the Nutritious Food Basket, and that the remainder of the Basic Allowance be set to enable recipients to afford other basic needs including transportation, clothing, and personal care items;
2. the Board of Health request the Premier of Ontario to publish annually the details of current social assistance rate components and how they are determined, including the nutrition allowance portion of the Basic Allowance; and
3. the Board of Health recommend to the Government of Ontario that the minimum wage in Ontario be increased to \$10.00 per hour as a step towards ensuring that the Province's low wage earners are better able to afford nutritious food.

Summary

Letter (January 29, 2007) from the Board of Health submitting to City Council, through the Community Development and Recreation Committee, a number of recommendations for endorsement.

Background Information

2007-02-19-cd02-5-ATT1

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1585.pdf>)

2007-02-19-cd02-5

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1584.pdf>)

CD2.6	Information		Transactional	
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Impacts - Reduction in Permit Fees Policy

(February 5, 2007) report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications.

Summary

To report on the impact of the Reduction in Permit Fees Policy in 2006.

The Harmonized Permit Allocation and Permit Rate Framework were designed to ensure equitable, accessible and consistent permit rates for facilities across the City. Even though the permit rates are financially reasonable and below the pricing charged by other communities and organizations, there are still groups who experience financial hardships. The Reduction in Permit Fees Policy addresses these issues.

Background Information

2007-02-19-cd02-6

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1586.pdf>)

CD2.7	ACTION		Transactional	
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Study of Recreation Curling Opportunities

(January 9, 2007) letter from Councillor Cliff Jenkins

Recommendations

That the Community Development and Recreation Committee commission a study seeking to establish:

- the number of Toronto citizens who have lost the opportunity to curl as a result of closures and the latent demand for replacement curling facilities;
- the economics of building and operating a curling club;
- the interests of other stakeholders in addressing the demand for curling facilities; and
- recommendations for the City of Toronto in proceeding to address the question of the loss of curling opportunities for our citizens.

Summary

Letter (January 9, 2007) from Councillor Cliff Jenkins requesting the Community Development and Recreation Committee to commission a study in regard to recreational curling facilities.