



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Municipal Service Manager Nominations to the Social Housing Services Corporation

<b>Date:</b>	March 19, 2007
<b>To:</b>	Community Development and Recreation Committee
<b>From:</b>	Deputy City Manager
<b>Wards:</b>	All
<b>Reference Number:</b>	

#### SUMMARY

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The purpose of this report is to provide information on the Call for Nominations currently underway for municipal service manager representation on the Board of Directors of the Social Housing Services Corporation (SHSC) and recommends Council endorse a City of Toronto staff nomination to the City of Toronto position on the Board, and two other persons to the SHSC Board selected by Toronto City Council and the councils of the regional municipalities of Durham, Halton, Peel, and York.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

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**The Deputy City Manager recommends that:**

1. Council endorse Phil Brown, General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration as the City of Toronto service manager staff nomination to the Social Housing Services Corporation Board of Directors for a two and a half year term commencing June 30, 2007; and
2. Council endorse Mayor Larry O’Conner, Township of Brock, and Adelina Urbanski, Commissioner, Social and Community Services Department, Regional Municipality of Halton, as the nominees for the City of Toronto and municipalities of Durham, Halton, Peel, and York selected position on the Social Housing Services Corporation Board of Directors for a two and a half year term commencing June 30, 2007.

## **Financial Impact**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

The Social Housing Services Corporation (SHSC) is currently seeking nominations to a new term of its Board of Directors, commencing June 30, 2007. SHSC is a legislated organization under the Social Housing Reform Act.

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

The SHSC was created on February 1, 2002, by the Social Housing Reform Act (SHRA), 2000, as an independent non-profit organization. Under the Social Housing Reform Act, SHSC is mandated to provide pooled insurance and capital reserve fund programs for prescribed social housing providers. Former provincially funded providers are required to invest their capital reserve funds in an investment pool managed by SHSC. The pooling of reserves allows housing providers the benefit of being part of a much larger investment with the potential for higher returns. Under this program, SHSC has developed guidelines for building condition and energy audits, and provides investment newsletters and other technical tools.

SHSC is also responsible for group insurance under the SHRA and negotiates the best coverage and prices for liability property insurance for all housing providers. SHSC provides brokerage service for alternate and higher risk insurance and works with other brokers and an adjusting firm to offer housing providers comprehensive coverage and competitive rates. As part of their insurance program, SHSC provides risk and claims management training and resources, including sample policies and information about relevant legislation specifically designed for social housing.

City staff have been working with SHSC on a pilot energy consumption reduction project. Toronto Community Housing Corporation is participating in the pilot along with other social housing providers. Participating providers receive a free energy audit, data tracking, reporting through an on-line energy management system, and funding and access to low-interest revolving loans. The knowledge developed through the energy pilot will provide the data and information for a three year social housing energy conservation program starting at the end of 2007.

Under the SHRA, SHSC is also required to provide education in best practices and research services, as required, for housing providers and/or service managers.

SHSC is governed by a 15-member board of directors with eight municipal service managers, five housing providers and two provincial representatives. The Social Housing Reform Act is explicit in terms of the composition of the 15 member board, which includes:

- a) One person, selected by the council of the City of Toronto; and

- b) One person, selected by the council of the City of Toronto and the councils of the regional municipalities of Durham, Halton, Peel, and York.

To encourage a broad selection which reflects SHSC's diverse membership, SHSC has requested two nominations from the City of Toronto: one staff person and one elected official, of which one will be selected to fill the City of Toronto legislated position on the Board.

## **COMMENTS**

SHSC is currently calling for nomination for the eight service manager positions on the board of directors. The term for the new board members will be two and a half years, commencing June 30, 2007 and ending December 31, 2009. SHSC is seeking two nominations from each service manager; one staff person and one elected official. The intention is that the board have a balance of politicians and administrators.

This report recommends that Phil Brown, General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be the City of Toronto's staff nominee to the board. Phil Brown has previously served on the SHSC board from its inception in 2002 to 2005. The nomination of an elected official is being handled through the City's Striking Committee.

This report also recommends that Toronto City Council endorse the Regional CAOs group nominations of Mayor Larry O'Conner, Township of Brock, and Adelina Urbanski, Commissioner, Social and Community Services Department, Regional Municipality of Halton, as the nominees for the legislated position selected by the council of the City of Toronto and the councils of the regional municipalities of Durham, Halton, Peel, and York. The councils of the regional municipalities of Durham, Halton, Peel and York have already endorsed these two nominees and/or are in the process of doing so.

The SHSC Nomination Committee will review all nominations and make recommendations to the SHSC board for their decision in June 2007.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Sue Corke  
Deputy City Manager

