



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Service Canada Funding renewal for the Youth
Employment Toronto (YET) Program**

Date:	November 16, 2007
To:	Community Development and Recreation Committee
From:	Executive Director, Social Development Finance and Administration
Wards:	all
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

To seek authorization to renew an agreement with Service Canada for the Youth Employment Toronto (YET) program for an amount of up to \$540,000 gross and \$140,285 net.

The YET program is an on-going cost shared program providing a city wide mobile employment assessment, referral and case management service to unemployed, out-of-school youth 16 to 29 years of age. The current contract with Service Canada for the YET program ends on Dec. 31, 2007.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration Division recommends that:

1. the Deputy City Manager be authorized to sign a renewal agreement with Service Canada for the YET program for up to \$540,000 gross and \$140,285 net, dependant on City and federal budget approval processes.

Financial Impact

- (a) The total revenues related to the Service Canada agreement for the YET program will be up to an amount of \$399,715 for 2008.

- (b) The 2008 net City budget request is \$140, 285. The 2008 operating budget submission for the Social Development Finance and Administration Division includes this request.

Youth Employment Toronto Program	2007 Budget	2008 Budget	Variance \$	Variance %
Gross budget	\$488,294	\$540,000	\$51,706	10.5%
City net	\$130,394	\$140,285	\$ 9,891	7.6%
Service Canada	\$357,900	\$399,715	\$41,815	11.7%

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

DECISION HISTORY ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Youth Employment Toronto program is an on-going program in its 25 year of operation and has a current contract that ends on Dec. 31, 2007. Authorization is required now to enter into an agreement for the YET program for the 2008 fiscal year.

COMMENTS

The purpose of the YET program is to provide a mobile employment service to youth who have difficulty accessing services and resources in order to attach themselves to the labour market. This program employs six specialized workers who cover different geographic locations throughout the city.

The YET workers actively reach out to youth in the most appropriate locations in their community such as malls, hostels, housing complexes, youth drop-in centres, etc. The program serves youth aged 16-29 who are out of school and unemployed. Youth are provided a variety of supports ranging from employment assessment, career planning and counselling as well as referrals to employment services, skill development programs and educational opportunities. The staff take a holistic approach and also assist youth in dealing with other issues that will get in the way of their employability by linking them to resources such as housing, substance use treatment, legal advice etc. The program will serve 900 youth this contract year.

The YET staff have been very effective at supporting youth with these interventions. The Program outcomes were met and in some areas the targets were exceeded. In 2006 a total of 439 youth found employment, obtained training or returned to school. Detailed

performance statistics for the YET program during the 2006 agreement period can be found below:

Youth Employment Toronto 2006 Program Activity	Outcomes
1. Youth Provided with Employment Assessments	1,075
2. Referrals Made to Employment Supports and Resources Followed up on by youth	2,624*
3. Youth Who Received Case Management Support	530
4. Total Positive Outcomes (returned to school/other training, entered pre-employment program, found employment).	439

*Youth receive more than one referral on average

City staff are finalizing negotiations with Service Canada for the 2008 YET contribution agreement and require Council authority to enter into a new contract prior to December 31, 2007. Salary and youth transportation costs associated with the YET program will increase in 2008, requiring increases to both the City and Service Canada contributions to the program. The 2008 Social Development Finance and Administration operating budget submission includes this request.

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SIGNATURE

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