



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Service Canada Funding renewal for the Toronto Youth Job Corps (TYJC) Program

Date:	February 4, 2008
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 Toronto Youth Job Corps (TYJC) program for an amount of up to \$1,754,716 gross and \$225,453 (12.8%) net.

The TYJC program is an on-going cost shared program providing pre-employment preparation and subsidized job placements to unemployed, out of school youth 16 to 29 years of age. The current contract with Service Canada for the TYJC program ends on March 31, 2008.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration, be authorized to sign a renewal agreement with Service Canada for the TYJC program for up to \$1,754,716.00 gross and \$225,453.00 net, dependant on City and federal budget approval processes.

Financial Impact

The 2008/09 renewal agreement with Service Canada for the Toronto Youth Job Corps program has a total value of up to \$1,754,716 gross and \$225,453 net for the period April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009. The 2008 (April 1 – December 31) impact of \$1,316,037 gross and \$169,090 net is included in the 2008 recommended budget. The 2009 (January 1 – March 31) impact of \$438,679 gross and \$56,363 net will be included in the 2009 operating budget submission for the Social Development Finance and Administration Division.

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

DECISION HISTORY ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Toronto Youth Job Corps program is an on-going cost shared program in its 25th year of operation and has a current contract that ends on March 31, 2008. Authorization is required now to enter into an agreement for the TYJC program for the 2008/09 federal fiscal year.

COMMENTS

The Toronto Youth Job Corps program is a 29 week pre-employment preparation program designed to help “at risk” youth aged 16-29 who are no longer attending school secure and maintain employment through the provision of counselling, life skills workshops, hands-on work experience and a job placement with an employer. The target group for this program are youth with less than a high school education, with little or no work experience and who may also be in the hostel system or in receipt of social assistance.

Since the program’s inception in 1983, TYJC has operated as a partnership between Service Canada, the City, and community-based organizations that deliver the program. The TYJC program is currently delivered by the following three agencies: St. Christopher House in the downtown west end, JVS in the Jane and Finch area, and West Scarborough Neighbourhood Community Centre in the Scarborough area. The TYJC program will serve 218 youth during the course of this agreement period.

Recent changes in contracting processes by the federal government have posed some challenges with respect to the City-federal contracting process for this program. Service Canada staff have been working closely with City staff to resolve the contracting challenges over the past few years. As a result, the City was able to sign a 27 month agreement which ends March 31, 2008. The shift to a multi-year agreement for the TYJC program is the desired outcome of these negotiations. With this in mind City staff submitted a three year proposal to Service Canada to renew the current agreement. The

City has been informed that the federal Youth Skills Link program will undergo a review and new terms and conditions will be developed for the 2009/10 fiscal year. Therefore federal contracting cannot go beyond the upcoming fiscal year end of March 31, 2009. The City staff are attempting to minimize the challenges that this creates for the TYJC program by submitting all pertinent information for a full three year period with the plan to negotiate the remainder of the proposed three year period once the new Youth Skills Link program has been announced.

Toronto Youth Job Corps Feb. 13, 2006 to October 31, 2007 Current Contract Program Activity	Outcomes
1. Youth Who Entered the Program	377
2. Youth Who are Still Engaged in the Program	40
3. Youth Who Completed the Program	272
4. Youth who have Entered Education and Training Options Upon Completion	81
5. Youth Who Were Employed Upon Completion	143
6. Total Positive Outcomes	224 (82% of those completing program)

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SIGNATURE

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