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**COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE****AGENDA  
MEETING No. 4**

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>Thursday, May 1, 2003</b>	<b>Enquiry:</b>	<b>Rosalind Dyers</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>		<b>Committee Administrator</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Committee Room 1</b>		<b>416-392-8018</b>
	<b>City Hall</b>		<b>e-mail:rdyers@toronto.ca</b>
	<b>100 Queen Street West</b>		

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**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST PURSUANT TO  
THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT****CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****DEPUTATIONS:               List to be Distributed at Meeting****PRESENTATIONS:****COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS****1.     Toronto Fire Services - Reflections on the Year 2002**

Joint Report (April 16, 2003) from the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and the Fire Chief and General Manager providing a copy of the Toronto Fire Services Reflections on the Year 2002; and recommending that the report be received for information.

**2.     Assembly Occupancy Safety Inspections by Toronto Fire Services**

Joint Report (April 16, 2003) from the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and the Fire Chief and General Manager providing information on the Assembly Occupancy Safety Inspections Program conducted by Toronto by Fire Services; and recommending that the report be received for information.

### **3. Toronto Emergency Medical Services - 2002 Quality Assurance Report**

Report (April 15, 2003) from the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services submitting, for information, the 2002 Quality Assurance Report for Toronto Emergency Medical Services.

### **4. Cost of Nutritious Food Basket in Toronto, 2002**

Communication (April 17, 2003) from Councillor Pam McConnell, Co-Chair, Food and Hunger Action Committee advising that the Committee on April 16, 2003, had before it a report (February 10, 2003) from the Medical Officer of Health, entitled “The Cost of Nutritious Food Basket in Toronto”; and that the Committee recommended to the Community Services Committee, and Council, the adoption of the following motion:

“That City Council appoint a delegation to include members of the Food and Hunger Action Committee to meet with the Provincial Ministers of Community, Family and Children’s Services and Labour; that the delegation advise the Ministers that the provincially-mandated costing of a Nutritious Food Basket in Toronto for 2002 indicated that the costs of frugal but nutritious foods had gone up 13 percent since 1999, and that this price increase compromised the health of many Toronto residents; and that the delegation advise the Ministers of the City of Toronto’s views that the rates of social assistance and minimum wage, which have been frozen since 1995, need to be adapted to remain consistent with the rising cost of living.”

### **5. Ontario Works Benefit Rates: Loss of Purchasing Power Since 1995**

Communication (April 17, 2003) from the City Clerk advising that City Council on April 14, 15 and 16, 2003, struck out and referred back to the Community Services Committee for further consideration Clause No. 7 of Report No. 3 of The Community Services Committee, headed “Ontario Works Benefit Rates: Loss of Purchasing Power Since 1995”, wherein it recommended that:

- (1) in light of the substantial reduction in purchasing power experienced by social assistance recipients since 1995, and the hardship that OW recipients living in Toronto face due to the City’s high cost of living, City Council advocate that the Province significantly increase social assistance allowance rates to compensate for increases in the costs of shelter, food, transportation and other basic needs;
- (2) City Council endorse the “Ontario Child Supplement” proposal put forward by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario;
- (3) this report be forwarded to the Minister of Community, Family and Children’s Services; and

- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto;

and further referred, for consideration therewith, Notice of Motion F(4) by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Moscoe, headed “Proposal for a Two-Year Rent Freeze”, wherein it recommended as follows:

**“NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the City of Toronto petition the Provincial Government to freeze rents for two years until there has been a fair review of the Tenant Protection Act and a levelling of the playing field in landlord-tenant relations;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Toronto City Council continue to lobby the Provincial Government and the Opposition parties to adopt and publicly endorse this two-year rent freeze.”

## **6. The Evolution of Ontario Works: Critical Issues for Service Delivery**

Report (March 5, 2003) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services responding to City Council’s request in March 2002 to report regarding the operational and program impacts on the City resulting from the implementation of the Provincial Service Delivery Model; identifying and assessing the overall Provincial policy directions that have influenced the evolution of Ontario Works since its inception more than five years ago; providing a review of the main features of the current Ontario Works Program environment and the implications for the City; and recommending that:

- (1) Council endorse Toronto Social Services continuing efforts to streamline the delivery of Ontario Works and obtain maximum value for the resources invested in the program by the City, consistent with the Province’s stated goals for Ontario Works and with the legislation governing the program;
- (2) Council urge the Province to immediately provide municipal delivery agents with the flexibility to meet unique local client needs and respond to local labour market conditions as an essential prerequisite to achieving the Province’s stated goals for the OW program; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect hereto.

**7. Christmas Bureau 2002**

Report (April 9, 2003) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing an update on the activities and accomplishments of the City's 2002 Christmas Bureau Program administered by Toronto Social Services; and recommending that the report be received for information.

**8. Final Report for Toronto Response for Youth**

Report (April 10, 2003) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing an update on the successful completion of the Toronto Response for Youth (TRY) project; and recommending that:

- (1) the City provide advice and technical support to MENTORS (Muslim Educators Network and Outreach Services) in the development of future TRY projects;
- (2) this report to be forwarded to the Ministry of Human Resources Development Canada; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

**9. Update on Ontario Works Incentive Fund Youth-At-Risk Initiatives**

Report (April 14, 2003) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing a status of the first round of youth-at-risk projects funded through Ontario Works (OW) incentive funds (2002-2003); and recommending that:

- (1) Council endorse the allocation process and criteria described in this report for the second round of youth-at-risk projects funded through the Ontario Works (OW) incentive fund (2004-2005); and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

**10. Toronto - Peel Mental Health Implementation Task Force**

Communication (November 1, 2002) from Ms. Lobin Ling, Toronto-Peel Mental Health Implementation Task Force, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, advising that Mr. Michael Wilson, Chair of the Task Force would like to address the Committee on the work of the Task Force.

**11. Status of the Open Door Drop-In Program**

Report (April 8, 2003) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services responding to the request of the Committee to provide an update on the status of tenancy of the Open Door Drop-In Centre; and recommending that the report be received for information.

**12. Update on Central Neighbourhood House Drop-In at 60 Richmond Street East (Ward 28, Toronto Centre-Rosedale)**

Report (April 15, 2003) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing an update on the Central Neighbourhood House Drop-in program at 60 Richmond Street East; and recommending that:

- (1) Council approve one time funding of \$50,000.00 from the 2002 City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives appeals fund for Central Neighbourhood House to maintain the current level of drop-in services at 60 Richmond Street East until June 20, 2003;
- (2) a review of the programs at the 60 Richmond Street East site be conducted on a priority basis; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

**13. Update on the Tenant Support Grants Program under the Tenant Defence Fund and Trends in Applications for Above-Guideline Rent Increases and Appeals to the Divisional Court on Related Tribunal Orders**

Report (April 17, 2003) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing an update on the Tenant Support Grants Program under the Tenant Defence Fund and analysis of trends in above-guideline rent increases and appeals to the Divisional Court on Tribunal Orders; and recommending that the report be received for information.

**14. Update Regarding the Status of Litigation with The Learning Enrichment Foundation**

Communication (April 17, 2003) from the City Clerk advising that City Council on April 14, 15 and 16, 2003:

- (a) struck out and referred back to the Community Services Committee for further consideration Clause No. 24 of Report No. 3 of The Community Services Committee, headed “Update Regarding the Status of Litigation with The Learning Enrichment Foundation”, wherein it recommended the adoption of a confidential joint report dated March 11, 2003, from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and the City Solicitor, having regard that the subject matter relates to the receiving of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege; and
- (b) requested the City Solicitor to:
  - (1) meet with the solicitor for the Learning Enrichment Foundation, and submit a report thereon to the next regular meeting of Council scheduled to be held on May 21, 2003; and
  - (2) provide the Learning Enrichment Foundation’s Statement of Claim and the City of Toronto’s counterclaim to Members of Council upon request.

**(NOTE: A copy of the confidential joint report referred to in item (a) was forwarded to Members of Council and Special Officials only.)**