



Community Development and Recreation Committee

Meeting No.	11	Contact	Candy Davidovits, Committee Administrator
Meeting Date	Monday, December 3, 2007	Phone	416-392-8032
Start Time	9:30 AM	E-mail	cdrc@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 2, City Hall		

The Decision Document is for preliminary reference purposes only. Please refer to the Committee’s Report to City Council or to the Minutes for the official record.

How to Read the Decision Document:

- *Recommendations of the Committee to City Council appear after the item heading*
- *Any amendments by Committee to recommendations appearing in a staff report are italicized.*
- *Other action taken by the Committee on its own authority, which does not require Council’s approval, is listed in the decision document under the heading “Decision Advice and Other Information” .*
- *Declarations of Interest, if any, appear at the end of an item.*

Minutes Confirmed – November 5, 2007

CD11.1	ACTION	Amended		
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Tied in Knots: Unlocking the Potential of Social Housing Communities in Toronto

(November 19, 2007) Report from General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration

Committee Recommendations

The Community Development and Recreation Committee recommends that City Council:

1. thank the boards and volunteers of the more than 240 non-profit and co-operative housing providers for helping to create and maintain social housing communities across the City;
2. request the federal and provincial governments to recognize the unique challenges faced by the non-profit and co-operative housing providers and invest in strategies over the next decade to ensure that social housing providers are able to attract and keep qualified volunteer board members and staff;
3. request the provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to re-open the *Social Housing Reform Act, 2000* in order to provide service managers, including the City of Toronto, with flexible and high level principles that:
 - a. allow the City to establish its own local rules around the management and administration of social housing, and ensure the City and its social housing providers have administrative control of social housing while respecting three fundamental principles:
 - i. an agreed-to number of rent geared-to-income units;
 - ii. the level of subsidy provided; and
 - iii. the maintenance of a centralized waiting list;
 - b. maximize repair, renovation, regeneration and redevelopment opportunities within the social housing stock;
 - c. allow the City to manage its social housing waiting list within the context of its own local needs;
 - d. reduce the number of Ministerial approvals required; and
 - e. replace the service level standard with a requirement to use all provincial funding provided for geared-to-income subsidies solely for that purpose;
4. request the provincial Minister of Finance to remove the contingent social housing liability as a barrier to the repair, renovation, redevelopment and refinancing of social housing communities;
5. support a full financial upload of all social housing operating and capital costs;
6. request the provincial Minister of Finance and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to ensure that when operating agreements end, the social housing portfolio remains affordable to tenants and members, housing providers and the City;

7. request the provincial Ministers of Finance, Municipal Affairs and Housing, and Community and Social Services to harmonize social assistance subsidies between the private market and social housing for an estimated annual saving to the City of \$77 million;
8. request the federal government to reinvest the funds from expiring federal social housing agreements back into social housing to ensure the continued viability of the existing social housing stock;
9. request additional funding for the City from the Province when the GTA pooling of social housing costs ends in 2013 such that Toronto is given a financial benefit equivalent to that given to its GTA partners;
10. request that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Minister of Community and Social Services reconsider the use of the social housing portfolio as a policy instrument for victims of domestic violence and instead fund a long term, ongoing rent supplement program with supports exclusively for victims of domestic violence;
11. request that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing make available the details on how the annual social housing funding of \$525 million provided by the federal government has been used; and
12. forward this report to the provincial Ministers of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Public Infrastructure and Renewal, Community and Social Services and Finance and the federal Minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Community Development and Recreation Committee:

1. referred the request by the Cooperative Housing Federation of Canada and the Cooperative Housing Federation of Toronto, to have the funding and administration of cooperative housing uploaded to the Agency of Cooperative Housing, to Deputy City Manager Sue Corke for her review in light of the City's participation in the ongoing Provincial Municipal Fiscal Delivery Accountability Review process;
2. requested the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, to report to the Community Development and Recreation Committee on:
 - a. the Non-Profit and Co-operative housing in Ward 11, in particular those that are City Administered and those that are not; and
 - b. the history of changes in residency eligibility for social housing, especially social housing for seniors.

Financial Impact

Currently, the taxpayers of the City of Toronto pay \$218 million (2007 budget including administration) for the on-going operation of social housing communities. The City's social housing reserves have been used since 2002 to help fund this amount. It is expected that the City's social housing reserves will be empty in 2008.

Failure on the part of the provincial and federal governments to act on the recommendations in this report, including the full financial uploading of all social housing costs, will result in escalating costs for Toronto taxpayers, a rapidly deteriorating social housing infrastructure, together with a much weakened volunteer sector.

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

Summary

Everyone agrees that well-funded, well-managed social housing is essential for communities to be socially and economically viable. The City of Toronto has taken all the action it can to ensure the continued value of this city asset. But still the social housing stock continues to be at risk. At best, the City does not have the fiscal capacity to continue to meet its current social housing responsibilities. At worst, it cannot manage the growing costs of the existing stock, let alone provide the needed new stock. Doing nothing or tinkering with the status quo is not an option if the very fabric of the City is not to be worn down by the continuing deterioration of social housing communities.

A number of issues are converging which bring us to the breaking point:

- Withdrawal of funding by the federal and provincial governments
- Underfunding of capital repairs since buildings were constructed
- Limited ability on the part of community based housing providers to leverage innovative financing
- A shortage of willing and capable volunteers to work with community-based housing providers

To address these issues, a three-part strategy is recommended:

- Adequate funding that does not expire over time. Ongoing, adequate and stable operating and capital funding is required from the federal and provincial governments to ensure the long-term viability of the City's social housing stock.
- Local decision-making ability. Greater authority under a more flexible federal and provincial legislative framework is necessary so that cities can make the most appropriate decisions on the future of social housing in their communities, including taking advantage of opportunities associated with redevelopment and regeneration of neighborhoods.

- Strategies and tools to increase community capacity to build, maintain and manage social housing. Housing providers need new tools, strategies and legislative amendments to make more effective use of scarce volunteer resources, to enhance their ability to attract and retain qualified staff and to adapt to current and future challenges.

The long term viability of community-based social housing can only be assured if all three of these issues are addressed concurrently and with the appropriate intervention from the federal and provincial governments. Central is the City's request for a full financial upload of all social housing costs.

Background Information

cd11.1-Staff Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8980.pdf>)

Communications

(December 3, 2007) Submission from Keiko Nakamura, Chief Operating Officer, Toronto Community Housing Corporation (CD.New.CD11.1.1)

(December 3, 2007) Submission from Harvey Cooper, Manager of Government Relations, Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada (CD.New.CD11.1.2)

(December 3, 2007) Submission from Brian Eng, Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto (CD.New.CD11.1.3)

(December 3, 2007) Submission from Sharad Kerur, Executive Director, Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association (CD.New.CD11.1.4)

(December 3, 2007) Submission from Angie Hains, Executive Director, Ecuhome Corporation (CD.New.CD11.1.5)

(December 3, 2007) Submission from Colin Cage, Vice-Chair, Social Housing Services Corporation (CD.New.CD11.1.6)

1a In a Fix: The Good Repair of Toronto's Social Housing

(November 13, 2007) Letter from Chair, Social Housing Services Corporation

Summary

Chair, Social Housing Services Corporation, submitting a discussion paper titled "In a Fix: The Good Repair of Toronto's Social Housing," and requesting an opportunity to address the Community Development and Recreation Committee.

Background Information

cd11.1a-Letter from Social Housing Services Corporation

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8983.pdf>)

cd11.1a-Attachment

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8984.pdf>)

CD11.2	ACTION	Amended		
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2008 Per Diem Rates for the Purchase of Service Shelter System and Related Matters

(November 19, 2007) Report from General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration

Committee Recommendations

The Community Development and Recreation Committee recommends that City Council:

1. authorize the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration and/or his designate to:
 - a. enter into purchase of service agreements with community agencies and motel operators for the provision of shelter services and the issuance of personal needs allowance, up to the maximum contract values as outlined in Appendix A, subject to the approval of the 2008 Operating Budget;
 - b. contract with and issue payments of up to \$8.506 million(gross)/\$1.703 million (net) to Mental Health Program Services of Metropolitan Toronto (Habitat Services) for the provision of housing and supports for psychiatric consumer survivors living in Habitat contracted boarding or rooming houses subject to the approval of the 2008 Operating Budget;
 - c. contract with and issue payments to the Toronto Hostels Training Centre for the administration and provision of training for shelter staff up to a maximum amount of \$198,000 subject to the approval of the 2008 Operating Budget; and
 - d. purchase up to \$42,000 in training for staff of the directly operated shelters from the Toronto Hostel Training Centre in order to meet the training requirements laid out in the Council approved Toronto Shelter Standards, subject to the approval of the 2008 Operating Budget;
2. direct the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, to undertake a consultation process with relevant stakeholders, shelter providers and other service providers which will be used to evaluate options related to the future funding direction for shelter services which includes integration of a strategy to support people who are homeless to access and maintain permanent housing in the funding structure, and report back to the Community Development and Recreation Committee in 2008;
3. authorize the General Manager, Shelter, Support, and Housing Administration, to enter into an agreement with the Province, should they wish to continue a project such as Hostels to Homes, which uses per diem funding in a flexible manner to support people who are homeless to access and maintain permanent housing, provided that the funding and payments do not exceed the Annual Approved Operating Budget;

4. authorize the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, to directly invoice the Province at 100 per cent of what the Province funds for Violence Against Women Shelters, for the length of time women and children fleeing abuse stay in the City's shelter system;
5. *advise the Premier of Ontario that the Provincial generated shortfall relative to 2008 Per Diems for the Purchase of Services shortfall, from \$29 million to \$31 million, continues to frustrate and aggravate the City's ability to combat poverty; and*
6. *request the Province to recognize that current Per Diem rates fail to meet the requirements under the Ontario Works Act.*

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Community Development and Recreation Committee:

- a. deferred consideration of the following Recommendation 1 in the report (November 19, 2007) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, to the meeting of the Community Development and Recreation Committee to be held on February 21, 2008:
 - "1. Council approve the recommended per diem rates, bed capacities and personal needs allowances rates for the shelter system as set out in Appendix A subject to the approval of the 2008 Operating Budget;" and
- b. requested the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, to:
 - i. meet with the Youth Shelter Interagency Network to discuss their issues with them and to invite a representative from the Ministry of Community and Social Services to attend this meeting; and
 - ii. invite representatives from the Ministry of Community and Social Services to attend the Community Development and Recreation Committee meeting on February 21, 2008.

Financial Impact

The summary of Financial Impacts from approving the service agreements outlined in this report are noted in the table on page 3 of the report.

Funding for the per diem and personal needs allowance (PNA) payments for purchase of service shelters, motels, and payments to Habitat Services and the Toronto Hostels Training Centre are included in the proposed 2008 Operating Budget for Shelter, Support and Housing Administration.

As per the table on page 3, the proposed 2008 Operating Budget includes \$58.71 million (gross), \$18.82 million (net), for these various contracts. Adopting the recommendations in this report would increase the gross and net budget, incrementally above the 2007 Approved Base Budget, by \$0.040 million and \$0.535 million, respectively. The increased pressure from the contract changes is offset by efficiencies included in the 2008 Budget Submission.

As in 2007, the Provincial government has increased its capped per diem and personal needs allowance rate by 2 per cent. The new Provincial per diem rate for 2008 is \$40.75 (80 per cent capped rate is \$32.60) up from \$39.96 (80 per cent capped rate at \$31.96). The combination of a decline in available beds and the 2 per cent increase in subsidy lowers the Provincial contribution for the purchase of service shelters from \$31.3 million in 2007 to \$30.7 million in 2008. The decrease in estimated bed nights is from 980,375 in 2007 to 941,324 in 2008, due to the closure of 175 beds in 2007. Three of the four shelter closures were expected and the 2007 operating budget had already been adjusted to reflect these partial year operations. The bednights are also lower because of increased efforts to assist people to access housing and the projected successes of the pilot project Hostels to Homes.

Although the number of projected bed nights in 2008 has decreased by 4 per cent, or 39,000, the Division is recommending that the savings from the reduced volumes be used to offset an increase in contracted rates for purchase-of-service shelters providers. While the overall rate increase for the system creates a net \$0.395 million pressure for 2008, the Division has been able to offset this pressure with efficiencies in other areas.

The 2008 Operating Budget Submission also includes up to \$8.746 million (gross)/\$1.844 million (net), for Habitat Services and the Toronto Hostels Training Centre. This is an increase of \$.248 million (gross), \$.139 million (net) over 2007, as a result of the budgeted 2% increase in Provincial funding, which offsets a portion of the increases for this agency. Funding for the motel program of \$0.781 million gross, with no net incremental impact is also recommended.

Shelter, Support and Housing Administration operates within its funding authorities up to the approved Operating Budget. In the event that occupancy levels exceed the 2008 approved budget, Shelter, Support and Housing administration would report out to Community Development and Recreation Committee and to Budget Committee and seek to mitigate cost pressures within the overall divisional envelope.

The expenditures proposed for 2008 are subject to the 2008 Operating Budget process.

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

Summary

This report provides: recommendations on the 2008 Bed Capacities and Per Diem rates for the purchase of service shelter system and funding levels for other various operating contracts; a report back on the Youth Shelter Interagency Network report a “System in Crisis”; information on the preliminary findings and consultation process regarding the Hostel Services Funding Model Review; and an update on shelter system directions.

Background Information

cd11.2-Staff Report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8991.pdf>

cd11.2-Appendix A

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8986.pdf>

cd11.2-Appendix B

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8987.pdf>

cd11.2-Appendix C

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8988.pdf>)

cd11.2-Appendix D

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8989.pdf>)

cd11.2-Appendix E

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8990.pdf>)

cd11.2-Appendix F

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8992.pdf>)

cd11.2-Appendix G

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8993.pdf>)

cd11.2-Appendix H

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8994.pdf>)

cd11.2-Appendix I

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8995.pdf>)

cd11.2-Appendix J

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8996.pdf>)

cd11.2-Appendix K

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8997.pdf>)

cd11.2-Appendix L

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8998.pdf>)

CD11.3	ACTION	Amended		
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Toronto Central Ambulance Communications Centre (CACC) Performance Agreement with the Province

(November 9, 2007) Report from Chief and General Manager, Toronto EMS

Committee Recommendations

The Community Development and Recreation Committee recommends that:

1. *authority be granted to enter into a Performance Agreement with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care for the operation and funding of the Central Ambulance Communications Centre operated and managed by Toronto Emergency Medical Services for a one-year term beginning on January 1, 2008 and renewable thereafter for successive one-year terms; and*
2. *authority be granted to the Chief and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services, to execute the agreement referred to above on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Chief and General Manager and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.*

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact to the City. The CACC is fully funded by the MOHLTC.

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

Summary

Since 1999, Toronto Emergency Medical Services (EMS) has managed and operated the Central Ambulance Communications Centre (CACC) for the purposes of call receiving and dispatching of ambulances as outlined in the Ontario Ambulance Act (O. Reg. 257/00). All CACC operators in Ontario are required to have Performance Agreements with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC). EMS has worked with Ministry staff to draft a Performance Agreement for the operation of the CACC for the City of Toronto. Legal Services provided input and guidance throughout the process.

Based on staff review and consultation, EMS on behalf of the City of Toronto is seeking authority to sign the Performance Agreement with the MOHLTC for the operation of the CACC.

Background Information

cd11.3-Staff Report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-8999.pdf>

CD11.4	ACTION	Adopted		
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Donation of Decommissioned Ambulances

(November 15, 2007) Report from Chief and General Manager, Toronto EMS

Committee Recommendations

The Community Development and Recreation Committee recommends that:

1. Toronto EMS be authorized to donate two of its decommissioned ambulances, vehicles that would normally go to auction, to the City of Soyapango, El Salvador, without cost, and to the country of Uruguay, for a nominal sum of \$5,000, respectively.

Financial Impact

Each decommissioned ambulance sold at the City's public auction normally generates revenues averaging between \$6,000 to \$10,000 per vehicle. These revenues (auction proceeds) are deposited in EMS' Vehicle Reserve to partially offset the costs to replace an estimated 30 ambulances per year. The Vehicle Reserve is funded from a yearly contribution from the operating budget of \$3.635 million that is cost shared at 50% by the Province and 50% by the City.

Other than the loss of auction revenues (offset by a nominal fee of \$5,000 from the Country of Uruguay), there will be no other financial impact involved with this donation. Each country will be responsible for all preparation and shipping costs, and the City of Toronto will have no liability for their operation or condition once the vehicles leave City property.

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 seek Council approval for Toronto Emergency Medical Services to be authorized to donate two decommissioned ambulances, one ambulance to the City of Soyapango, El Salvador at no cost, and one ambulance to the country of Uruguay for a nominal fee of \$5,000.

The Toronto EMS ambulance life-cycle process results in the replacement of thirty ambulances on an annual basis. Many of these vehicles have a number of years of service still available for purposes other than emergency response. Toronto EMS is seeking Council's approval to donate two of its decommissioned ambulances to countries for use in humanitarian purposes. The overall value of the benefit to these countries will far surpass the relative market value of the revenues received by the City through the normal auction disposal process.

Background Information

cd11.4-Staff Report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-9000.pdf>

CD11.5	Information	Received		
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In Case of Emergency (ICE) Program Update

(November 6, 2007) Report from Chief and General Manager, Toronto EMS

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Community Development and Recreation Committee received the report (November 6, 2007) from the Chief and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services, for information.

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts beyond what has already been approved in the current year's budget.

Summary

At its meeting of July 3, 2007, Community Development and Recreation Committee received for information a staff report from the Chief and General Manager of Toronto EMS in response to a letter and recommendation from Councillor Ootes. The staff report outlined a plan to implement the ICE program in an efficient and economical way.

ICE is a simple program that educates people to store an emergency contact phone number under the common name - ICE. In the event of an emergency, responders can quickly access the patient's emergency contact information. In July 2007, Toronto Emergency Medical Services (EMS) updated its website to include a description of ICE and communicated this to its program partners as well as Toronto Fire Services and Toronto Police Services. In October 2007, Toronto EMS worked with CFTO to develop an educational news story for the public regarding ICE that aired on the evening news.

The ICE cell phone program fits well with other Toronto EMS safe city programs such as Window and Balcony safety, Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) and citizen first aid and will continue to be promoted and rolled out in the future.

Background Information

cd11.5-Staff Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-9001.pdf>)

CD11.6	Information	Deferred		
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Additional 2007 Draw from the Child Care Expansion Reserve Fund (CCERF) and 2008 Projected Service Impacts

(November 14, 2007) Report from General Manager, Children's Services

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Community Development and Recreation Committee deferred consideration of the report (November 14, 2007) from the General Manager, Children's Services, until its meeting to be held on January 14, 2008.

Financial Impact

This report will have no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in the current year's budget.

Summary

This is a report back for information requested by the Community Development and Recreational Committee, Budget Committee and Executive Committee as a result of two reports in June 2007 and July 2007 respectively: 2007 Best Start Update to Child Care Service Plan and Report Back on Income Testing and 2007 Additional Best Start Funding and New Funding for Aboriginal Child Care. It was anticipated that an additional draw from the CCERF would be necessary in 2007 due to the impact of income testing, but this will not be necessary due to subsequent funding received from the Provincial and Federal budgets. Based on current service levels, it is expected that the Reserve will not be exhausted until 2010. The current service level is expected to be maintained in 2008.

Background Information

cd11.6-Staff Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-9002.pdf>)

CD11.7	Information	Received		
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The Health of Toronto's Young Children Volume 3 - The Growing Child

(November 12, 2007) Letter from Board of Health

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Community Development and Recreation Committee received the letter (November 12, 2007) from the Board of Health for information.

Summary

Letter from the Board of Health forwarding for information a report (October 29, 2007) from the Medical Officer of Health entitled "The Health of Toronto's Young Children Volume 3 - The Growing Child."

Background Information

cd11.7-Letter from Board of Health

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-9003.pdf>

cd11.7-Staff Report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-9004.pdf>

cd11.7-Attachment

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-9005.pdf>

CD11.8	ACTION	Adopted		
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Service Agreement between the City of Toronto Homes for the Aged and the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI)

(November 13, 2007) Report from General Manager, Homes for the Aged

Committee Recommendations

The Community Development and Recreation Committee recommends that:

1. approval be given for staff to negotiate and enter into a service agreement with the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) with respect to the City's submission of, access to and use of CIHI's electronic Continuing Care Reporting System;
2. the General Manager, Homes for the Aged, be given authority to execute the service agreement in a form and content satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and
3. the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications arising out of this report.

Summary

In June 2005, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) introduced a new assessment tool for Ontario's long-term care homes, through the Long-Term Care Homes (LTCH) Common Assessment Project. The purpose was to introduce a standardized assessment form and process called the Resident Assessment Instrument – Minimum Data Set (RAI-MDS). The RAI MDS has undergone extensive testing in over 21 countries and has been found to be a very reliable tool.

The RAI MDS is comprehensive assessment tool that “flags” actual and potential care needs in a timely fashion. It provides a structured, standardized, interdisciplinary approach to care planning and provides statistical data for quality improvement, performance assessment and benchmarking.

Since the introduction in June, 2005 with ten (10) homes involved in the initial pilot project, the MOHLTC has proceeded under a phased implementation plan; there are now over two-hundred and thirty (230) homes across the province participating in the RAI-MDS project, with MOHLTC plans to expand further in the near future. The long-range goal is to have all long-term care homes in the province using the RAI-MDS system.

When the MOHLTC implemented RAI-MDS, participating long-term care homes reported their data for quality improvement, performance assessment and benchmarking directly to the MOHLTC. With the significant expansion of the RAI-MDS project, the MOHLTC wishes to revise the system to require long-term care homes to submit their data directly to the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), so that the MOHLTC is able to utilize CIHI's expertise in health information systems.

CIHI is an independent, national, not-for-profit organization with the mandate to improve the health of Canadians and the health care system by providing quality health information. Canada's federal, provincial and territorial governments created CIHI as an independent organization dedicated to form a common approach to Canadian health information. CIHI has a Privacy Secretariat headed by a Chief Privacy Officer who has delegated authority from the President and CEO to manage the privacy program.

One of the components of RAI-MDS includes providing specific personal information (non-identifying) and personal health information (non-identifying) about residents in long-term care homes to the MOHLTC. When this information was directly submitted to the MOHLTC, City Legal verified that the transmission was mandated by the MOHLTC and thus required by the homes as the service delivery agent. City Legal advises that the revised process in which the homes would be submitting health information directly to CIHI requires specific City Council approval. The report outlines the requirements and the rationale.

Background Information

cd11.8-Staff Report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-9006.pdf>

CD11.9	ACTION	Adopted		
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Ontario Works Special Diet Allowance - 2007 Update

(November 15, 2007) Report from General Manager, Social Services

Committee Recommendations

The Community Development and Recreation Committee recommends that:

1. City Council reaffirm its position from its April 11, 2006 report, 'Systems of Survival, Systems of Support: An Action Plan for Social Assistance in the City of Toronto', calling on the Province to adjust the Ontario Works Benefit Rate Structure so that the basic needs component maximum for Ontario Works is increased by 21.6 percent and thereafter adjusted annually to reflect the findings of yearly Nutritious Food Basket surveys conducted by local Boards of Health based on protocols established by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term-Care.

Financial Impact

This report has no financial implications.

Summary

This report is in response to Community Development and Recreation Committee direction, on February 19, 2007, that Toronto Social Services (TSS) provide an update on the actions taken to ensure that social assistance recipients receive the Special Diet Allowance, if eligible, and that TSS staff are properly trained in the administration of this benefit.

The Special Diet Allowance is a mandatory benefit that municipal deliverers of social assistance are directed to provide as part of provincial legislation. This benefit is available to recipients and dependants who have specific dietary requirements as a result of a medical condition verified by an approved health professional.

Background Information

cd11.9-Staff Report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-9007.pdf>

CD11.10	Information	Deferred		
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Moving Towards a Quality Assurance Scorecard

(November 19, 2007) Report from General Manager, Social Services

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Community Development and Recreation Committee deferred consideration of the report (November 19, 2007) from the General Manager, Social Services, until its meeting to be held on January 14, 2008.

Financial Impact

There are no immediate financial implications with respect to the 2007 budget.

Summary

Quality assurance standards are an integral part of how Toronto Social Services (TSS) is informed on service quality and how it is making a difference on the lives of people. As a municipal service delivery agent, TSS is legislatively responsible for effectively delivering Ontario Works (OW) to social assistance recipients. At the same time, TSS as a City service, has a longstanding commitment to quality services and supports to Toronto's most vulnerable residents.

The development of a scorecard provides the opportunity for TSS to report out on its continuous improvement efforts to identify, evaluate and replicate best practices in the system as well as to focus on opportunities for improvement. This report will highlight the Division's systems, successes and ongoing developments in place to enhance service quality in the areas of program management, client-focused service and program integrity.

Background Information

cd11.10-Staff Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-9008.pdf>)

CD11.11	ACTION	Adopted		
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Service Canada Funding Renewal for the Youth Employment Toronto (YET) Program

(November 16, 2007) Report from Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration

Committee Recommendations

The Community Development and Recreation Committee 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.

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.

Background Information

cd11.11-Staff Report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-9009.pdf>

CD11.12	ACTION	Adopted		
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Neighbourhood Action - Councillor Protocol

(November 19, 2007) Report from Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration

Committee Recommendations

The Community Development and Recreation Committee recommends that:

1. the Neighbourhood Action - Councillor Protocol in Appendix A be adopted.

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts arising from the adoption of this report.

Summary

This report recommends adoption of a protocol for Councillor engagement in Neighbourhood Action work.

Background Information

cd11.12-Staff Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-9010.pdf>)

CD11.13	ACTION	Amended		
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Potential Partnerships between the City of Toronto and the Toronto Catholic District School Board

(November 14, 2007) Report from Deputy City Manager Sue Corke

Committee Recommendations

The Community Development and Recreation Committee recommends that:

1. Staff be authorized to enter into interest based discussions with Toronto Catholic District School Board staff to review and assess possible property partnerships and *report back to the Community Development and Recreation Committee and the Executive Committee, if appropriate, in February 2008, regarding any sites that merit further consideration; and that securing St. Bernadette Catholic School for a community health centre/community hub be considered a priority.*

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Community Development and Recreation Committee requested Deputy City Manager Sue Corke to submit a status report to the Community Development and Recreation Committee on this issue every six months.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact arising from this report. Should specific property partnerships be identified, the financial impact will be analyzed and included in the report back to Council.

Summary

The Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) has identified a number of potential property related partnership opportunities with the City of Toronto. City staff see utility in pursuing these discussions within the parameters recommended in this report and are asking for Council direction regarding these discussions.

Negotiating property related agreements between the City and School Boards is often complicated and protracted due to the nature of the respective bureaucracies, legislative requirements and political considerations. There may be an opportunity to enter into an interest based conversation with TCDSB regarding specific properties of mutual interest to both the City and TCDSB. The anticipated outcome of such discussion would be more effective use of TCDSB and City property and new community and school infrastructure development.

Background Information

cd11.13-Staff Report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-9011.pdf>

CD11.14	Information	Adopted		
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Full Day Junior Kindergarten/Senior Kindergarten Preschool

(November 8, 2007) Letter from Children's Services Advisory Committee

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Community Development and Recreation Committee requested the General Manager, Children's Services, to report to the Community Development and Recreation Committee on the research findings and best practices of Toronto First Duty that should inform the development of a full day program for junior and senior kindergarten children in the province.

Summary

Letter from the Children's Services Advisory Committee forwarding a recommendation respecting full day junior and senior kindergarten preschool.

Background Information

cd11.14-Letter

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-9233.pdf>

CD11.15	Information	Adopted		
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Potential Issues Related to the Expansion of Corporate, For-Profit Child Care

(November 29, 2007) Letter from Children's Services Advisory Committee

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Community Development and Recreation Committee requested the General Manager, Children's Services, to:

1. commission a report on the issues related to the expansion of corporate for-profit chain child care in light of current Council policies concerning for-profit child care; such report to review quality of child care, salaries, training of staff, and other relevant issues, and determine what impact such services may have on the child care system in the City of Toronto;

2. work with other child care organizations, advocates, and the Chair of the Children's Services Advisory Committee, to facilitate a public education forum in 2008 dealing with the potential issues related to the expansion of corporate, for-profit chain child care; and
3. submit a report to the Community Development and Recreation Committee.

Summary

Letter from the Children's Services Advisory Committee forwarding recommendations respecting potential issues related to the expansion of corporate, for-profit child care.

Background Information

cd11.15-Letter

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-9234.pdf>)

Meeting Sessions

Session Date	Session Type	Start Time	End Time	Public or Closed Session
2007-12-03	Morning	9:35 AM	2:30 PM	Public