

Vision: *The City of Greater Sudbury is a growing, world-class community bringing talent, technology and a great northern lifestyle together.*

Vision: *La Ville du Grand Sudbury est une communauté croissante de calibre international qui rassemble les talents, les technologies et le style de vie exceptionnel du Nord.*

Agenda

Ordre du jour

Councillor / Conseillère
Janet Gasparini

Chair / Président(e)

Councillor / Conseiller
Jacques Barbeau

Vice-Chair / Vice-président(e)



For the **Priorities Committee** meeting to be held
Pour la réunion du **Comité des priorités** qui aura lieu

Wednesday, June 18th, 2008 mercredi 18^e juin 2008

at 5:30 pm à 17h 30

Council Chamber, Tom Davies Square dans la Salle du Conseil, Place Tom Davies



Priorities Committee

Agenda

For the 31st Priorities Committee Meeting to be held on
Wednesday, June 18, 2008
Council Chamber, Tom Davies Square

5:30 pm

***Vision:** The City of Greater Sudbury is a growing, world-class community bringing talent, technology and a great northern lifestyle together.*

(31st)

For the 31st Priorities Committee Meeting
to be held on **Wednesday, June 18, 2008**
Council Chamber, Tom Davies Square at **5:30 pm**

COUNCILLOR JANET GASPARINI, CHAIR

Jacques Barbeau, Vice-Chair

(PLEASE ENSURE CELL PHONES AND PAGERS ARE TURNED OFF)

The Council Chamber of Tom Davies Square is wheelchair accessible. Please speak to the City Clerk prior to the meeting if you require a hearing amplification device. Persons requiring assistance are requested to contact the City Clerks Office at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting if special arrangements are required. Please call (705) 671-2489, extension 2471. Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TTY) (705) 688-3919. Copies of Agendas can be viewed on the City web site at www.greatersudbury.ca.

1. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

PART I - 5:30 PM TO 7:00 PM

COUNCILLOR BRIEFING SESSIONS

2. Report from Councillor Joscelyne Landry-Altmann regarding Junction Creek Safety Committee Report.

**(ELECTRONIC PRESENTATION) (RECOMMENDATION PREPARED)
(REPORT TO FOLLOW)**

- Councillor Joscelyne Landry-Altmann, Chair, Junction Creek Safety Committee

(City Council appointed the Junction Creek Safety Committee to establish Terms of Reference aimed at developing educational and safety programs, and to review infrastructure criteria for the area along Junction Creek. The Committee is presenting their findings and recommendations.)

3. Report dated May 6, 2008 from the General Manager of Community Development regarding Best Start Update.

(ELECTRONIC PRESENTATION) (RECOMMENDATION PREPARED)

- Carmen Ouellette, Director of Child Services
- Lois Mahon, Chair, Best Start Network

(The Chair of the City of Greater Sudbury Best Start Network is presenting an update on the accomplishments of Best Start over the last year as well as plans for the year to come. Council is being asked to approve the Best Start "Status Update" report which must be submitted to the Ministry of Children and Youth Services before June 30, 2008.)

11 - 15

4. Report dated June 10, 2008 from the General Manager of Community Development regarding Hôpital régional de Sudbury Regional Hospital Vertical Expansion.

(RECOMMENDATION PREPARED)

16 - 18

POLICY DISCUSSION PAPERS - PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION

5. Report dated June 9, 2008 from the General Manager of Infrastructure Services regarding Implementing a City-wide Residential Curbside Green Cart Organics Program.

(ELECTRONIC PRESENTATION) (RECOMMENDATION TO BE READ)

- Chantal Mathieu, Manager of Environmental Services

(Staff is presenting the positive results of the Organics Pilot Project and requests direction from Council for a city-wide residential curbside 'Green Cart' program for 2009. Two options will be presented. The first option is to immediately commence the implementation process, continue services to the residential pilot project participants (fund from reserves) and include city-wide costs in the 2009 Base Budget. The second option is to continue services to the residential pilot project participants (fund from

19 - 28

reserves) and present the city-wide option as a 2009 Budget Enhancement.)

6. Report dated June 6, 2008 from the General Manager of Community Development regarding Community Action Networks Terms of Engagement. **(ELECTRONIC PRESENTATION) (RECOMMENDATION TO BE READ)** **29 - 37**

- Chris Gore, Manager of Community Partnerships

(In December of 2007, a draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for Community Action Networks was presented to the Priorities Committee. The TOR was developed as a result of a recommendation within the Constellation City Report (January of 2007) suggesting a need for clarification of the role of CANs, review of support provided by the City of Greater Sudbury and the level of staffing required to support their efforts. The Priorities Committee requested a working group of Council and staff to review and modify the proposed TOR and request input from existing CANs regarding the revised Terms of Engagement. This report requests that Council approve the revised Terms of Engagement and consider enhancing staff levels in the Community Partnerships Section to enable the support for CANs and other community initiatives to be adequately addressed by this section.)

POLICY DISCUSSION PAPERS - DECISION REQUESTED

CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION ONLY

MANAGERS' REPORTS

7. Report dated June 10, 2008 from the General Manager of Community Development regarding Ontario Child Benefit. **(RECOMMENDATION PREPARED)** **38 - 46**

(A major focus of the 2007 Provincial Budget was the creation of the Ontario Child Benefit (OCB) for children in low-income families. With the introduction of the OCB, the Province will also restructure social assistance benefits, impacting the way benefits will be delivered for families with children. The report provides an overview of the key characteristics of the OCB, implications the OCB will have on Ontario Works families, the steps being taken to ensure a smooth transition for these families, as well as recommendations.)

ADDENDUM

PART II 7:00 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M. (POLICY MATTERS ONLY)

CITIZEN DELEGATIONS

8. Summerfest Update
(ELECTRONIC PRESENTATION) (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

- Elaina Groves, Summerfest Foundation

(A presentation to Council regarding an update on Summerfest.)

CITIZEN PETITIONS

MOTIONS

8:30 P.M. ADJOURNMENT (RECOMMENDATION PREPARED)

(Two-thirds majority required to proceed past 8:30 pm)

Councillor Gasparini
Chair

Franca Bortolussi
Council Secretary

Pour la 31^e réunion du Comité des priorités
qui aura lieu le **18 juin 2008**
dans la Salle du Conseil, Place Tom Davies, à 17h 30

CONSEILLÈRE JANET GASPARINI, PRÉSIDENT(E)

Jacques Barbeau, Vice-président(e)

VEUILLEZ ÉTEINDRE LES TÉLÉPHONES CELLULAIRES ET LES TÉLÉAVERTISSEURS) La salle du Conseil de la Place Tom Davies est accessible en fauteuil roulant. Si vous désirez obtenir un appareil auditif, veuillez communiquer avec la greffière municipale, avant la réunion. Les personnes qui prévoient avoir besoin d'aide doivent s'adresser au bureau du greffier municipal au moins 24 heures avant la réunion aux fins de dispositions spéciales. Veuillez composer le 705-671-2489, poste 2471; appareils de télécommunications pour les malentendants (ATS) 705-688-3919. Vous pouvez consulter l'ordre du jour au site Web de la Ville à l'adresse www.grandsudbury.ca.

1. Déclaration d'intérêt pécuniaire

SÉANCES D'INFORMATION DES CONSEILLERS

2. Rapport de la Conseillère Joscelyne Landry-Altmann portant sur le rapport du Comité sur la sécurité du ruisseau Junction
**(PRÉSENTATION ÉLECTRONIQUE) (RECOMMANDATION PRÉPARÉE)
(LE RAPPORT SUIVRA)**

- La conseillère Joscelyne Landry-Altmann, présidente du Comité sur la sécurité du ruisseau Junction

(Le Conseil municipal a créé le Comité sur la sécurité du ruisseau afin d'établir des paramètres visant à élaborer des programmes d'éducation et de sécurité, et à examiner les critères d'infrastructure pour la zone longeant le ruisseau Junction. Le Comité présente ses constatations et ses recommandations.)

3. Rapport de la directrice générale des Services de développement communautaire , daté du 06 mai 2008 portant sur Compte rendu sur Meilleur départ . **11 - 15**
(PRÉSENTATION ÉLECTRONIQUE) (RECOMMANDATION PRÉPARÉE)

- Carmen Ouellette, directrice des Services d'enfants
- Lois Mahon, présidente du Réseau Meilleur départ

(La présidente du Réseau Meilleur départ de la Ville du Grand Sudbury donne un compte rendu sur les réalisations de Meilleur départ au cours de la dernière année de même que des projets pour l'année qui vient. On demande au Conseil municipal d'approuver le rapport de situation de Meilleur départ qui doit être présenté au ministère des Services à l'enfance et à la jeunesse avant le 30 juin 2008.)

4. Rapport de la directrice générale des Services de développement communautaire , daté du 10 juin 2008 portant sur Agrandissement vertical de l'Hôpital régional de Sudbury Regional Hospital. **16 - 18**
(RECOMMANDATION PRÉPARÉE)

DOCUMENTS DE TRAVAIL SUR LES POLITIQUES – DISCUSSION PRÉLIMINAIRE

5. Rapport du directeur général des Services d'infrastructure , daté du 09 juin 2008 portant sur Mise en œuvre d'un programme de chariots verts pour la collecte des déchets organiques résidentiels en bordure de la rue dans toute la Ville. **19 - 28**
(PRÉSENTATION ÉLECTRONIQUE) (RECOMMANDATION À LIRE)

- Chantal Mathieu, gestionnaire des Services environnementaux

(Le personnel présente les résultats positifs du projet pilote de collecte des déchets organiques et demande une directive du Conseil municipal en vue d'un programme de chariots verts pour la collecte des déchets organiques résidentiels en bordure de la rue dans toute la Ville pour 2009. Deux options seront présentées. La première, c'est de commencer immédiatement la mise en œuvre, de continuer à offrir les services aux

participants au projet pilote résidentiel (fonds provenant des réserves) et d'inclure les coûts à l'échelle de la Ville dans le budget de base de 2009. Cette option est recommandée par le Groupe consultatif sur les déchets solides. La seconde option, c'est de continuer à offrir les services aux participants au projet pilote résidentiel (fonds provenant des réserves) et de présenter l'option à l'échelle de la Ville dans le cadre d'une amélioration au budget de 2009. Cette option est recommandée par le personnel.)

6. Rapport de la directrice générale des Services de développement communautaire , daté du 06 juin 2008 portant sur Mandat des réseaux d'action communautaire.

29 - 37

(PRÉSENTATION ÉLECTRONIQUE) (RECOMMANDATION À LIRE)

- Chris Gore, Gestionnaire des partenariats communautaires

(En décembre 2007, une ébauche de mandat pour les réseaux d'action communautaire a été présentée au Comité des priorités. Le mandat avait été élaboré en raison d'une recommandation du rapport Ville-constellation (janvier 2007) suggérant un besoin de clarification du rôle des RAC, l'examen du soutien fourni par la Ville du Grand Sudbury et le niveau de dotation en personnel nécessaire pour appuyer leurs efforts. Le Comité des priorités a demandé à un groupe de travail composé de membres du Conseil municipal et du personnel d'examiner et de modifier le mandat proposé et de demander l'avis des RAC existants qu sujet du mandat révisé. Le présent rapport demande que le Conseil municipal approuve le mandat révisé et envisage d'augmenter les niveaux de dotation en personnel dans la Section des partenariats communautaires afin de permettre le soutien aux RAC et à d'autres initiatives communautaires d'être abordées de façon suffisante par cette section.)

DOCUMENTS DE TRAVAIL SUR LES POLITIQUES – DEMANDE DE DÉCISION

CORRESPONDANCE À TITRE DE RENSEIGNEMENTS SEULEMENT

RAPPORTS DES GESTIONNAIRES

7. Rapport de la directrice générale des Services de développement communautaire , daté du 10 juin 2008 portant sur Prestation ontarienne pour enfants .

38 - 46

(RECOMMANDATION PRÉPARÉE)

(Le budget provincial de 2007 s'est concentré en particulier sur la création de la Prestation ontarienne pour enfants (POE) à l'intention des enfants de familles à faible revenu. Avec l'instauration de la POE, la Province restructurera aussi les prestations d'aide sociale, ce qui aura un effet sur la façon dont les prestations seront remises aux familles ayant des enfants. Le présent rapport donne un aperçu des caractéristiques clés de la POE, des répercussions qu'aura la POE sur les familles du programme Ontario au travail, les mesures que l'on prend pour veiller à la transition en douceur pour ces familles, de même que des recommandations.)

ADDENDA

Partie II 19 h à 20 h 30 (Questions de politique seulement)

DÉLÉGATIONS DE CITOYENS

8. Compte rendu du Festival d'été
(PRÉSENTATION ÉLECTRONIQUE) (A TITRE D'INFORMATION)

- Elaina Groves, Fondation du Festival d'été

PÉTITIONS DE CITOYENS

MOTIONS

LEVÉE DE LA SÉANCE À 20 H 30 (RECOMMANDATION PRÉPARÉE)

(Une majorité des deux tiers est requise pour poursuivre la réunion après 20h 30.)

La Conseillère Gasparini,
Présidente

Franca Bortolussi,
Secrétaire du conseil

Councillor Briefing Sessions



Request for Recommendation

Best Start Update

Presented To:	Priorities Committee
Presented:	Wednesday, Jun 18, 2008
Report Date	Tuesday, May 06, 2008
Type:	Councillor Briefing Sessions

Recommendations

Whereas Best Start is Ontario's plan for integrated early learning and child care services and the City of Greater Sudbury is the lead partner in the local Best Start initiative; and

Whereas, the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) has requested a Best Start Integrated Status Update, to describe progress implementing the 2007/08 Best Start Community Plan and to outline next strategies for continuing to implement the plan; and

Whereas the Children Services Section has consulted widely with all Best Start Partners in developing the Best Start Integrated Status Update which will provide direction for 2008-09 and beyond;

Therefore be it resolved that City of Greater Sudbury Council approve the City of Greater Sudbury Best Start Integrated Status Update and direct staff to submit it to MCYS.

Finance Implications

The City receives Best Start funding from MCYS at 100%. Activities proposed in the Status Update will be funded by Best Start funding or as part of the City's regular funding for children's services.

Signed By
Report Prepared By Kate Barber Policy & Community Developer Child Care <i>Digitally Signed Jun 12, 08</i>
Division Review Ron Henderson Director of Citizen Services <i>Digitally Signed Jun 12, 08</i>
Recommended by the Department Catherine Matheson General Manager of Community Development <i>Digitally Signed Jun 12, 08</i>
Recommended by the C.A.O. Mark Mieto Chief Administrative Officer <i>Digitally Signed Jun 13, 08</i>

Policy Implications

The Best Start Integrated Status Update reports on progress in meeting the goals as set out in the 2007-2008 Best Start Community and Child Care Plans. These reports and the updated strategies in the Best Start Update will provide policy direction for 2008-09 and beyond. Activities proposed in the Plans support the Section's business plan and overall goals.

Background

On November 25, 2004, the Ministry of Children and Youth Services introduced their Best Start initiative which included a \$5 billion commitment over a five-year period starting in 2005-2006. The framework for the Best Start Initiative has been built on the premise that all children and youth should have the opportunity to succeed and families should have access to service regardless of income. According to MCYS, Ontario's Best Start Plan will "provide for the healthy development, early learning and child care of Ontario's children in their first years. Research shows these investments will reap economic and social benefits as children grow up and become happy, healthy and contributing members of society."

MCYS, through the City of Greater Sudbury, has invested in a major expansion of licensed child care and improvements to the child care subsidy system which have made more families eligible for child care subsidy. The City of Greater Sudbury Best Start Network was created, made up of partners from all four school boards and the child care, family support and specialized children services sectors.

Greater Sudbury has been a leader in the Province in moving forward with the Best Start Vision. With leadership of the City, the Best Start Network has led a significant re-organization of the delivery of children's services which has resulted in the opening of Best Start Hubs throughout the City where parents will receive coordinated access to a large range of services. Through collaboration of our many partners, Greater Sudbury was one of the first non-demonstration community in the Province and the first in Northern Ontario to have Best Start Hubs operating in school settings.

MCYS has requested that the Best Start Network submit an update of their progress over 2007-08 in meeting the goals set out in the 2007-08 Best Start Community and Child Care Plans, and an outline of proposed activities for 2008-09. The update is attached and a synopsis is provided below.

Best Start Integrated Status Update- Summary

The Best Start Integrated Status Update has been developed with the ongoing input and participation of all Best Start partners and includes a description of the progress made implementing Best Start as well as an outline of the Best Start Network's next strategies to implement the Best Start vision of an integrated system of early learning and care for all children in Greater Sudbury.

Building a System of Best Start Hubs

Strategies and projected Activities for 2008-2009

-open remaining 3 Hub sites.

- implement a Quality Assurance program in Hubs.
- implement strategies to assist families with barriers to attending existing hubs.
- implement a plan for Hubs to reach out to other neighbourhood schools.
- implement the evaluation plan, which will include indicators to measure parent engagement, service utilization, and level of service integration.
- work on joint training initiatives that includes education partners.
- pilot the “Prescription to Read” program in conjunction with the Neo-Natal follow up clinic.
- review communications strategies among Best Start Network partners.
- implement the Early Literacy Partners’ work plan.
- implement a strategy to coordinate and expand early ID and screening activities.
- review existing supports for women experiencing, or at risk of, Post -Partum Depression.
- develop strategies for Hubs to assist with improving access to Primary Health Care (for example- focus on immunizations, partnership with new Family Health Teams.)

Advocate to the Ministry of Education for funding for schools to make space available at no cost to child care centres and Hubs.

Conduct community wide surveys and consultations to identify parents’ needs and perceptions about child care and early years services.

Launch the online Centralized Application and Waitlist for child care.

Create and implement public education campaigns about the value of licensed child care, early learning, early ID, parenting and early childhood professionals.

Continue to support the development of new infant and toddler child care programs in priority areas.

Support the development of a new Family Home child care agency.

Support the development and launch of the Aboriginal Child Care centre.

Continue to work with Northern Partners to determine the feasibility of a base-funded model.

Continue to review operating polices and levels of funding for all mandated programs (fee subsidies, family reosurce, wage subsidies and special needs resources).

Support the development and implementation of a community wide Recruitment/ Retention strategy for Early Childhood Educators.

2008-2009 Community Activities

The City receives Best Start funding from MCYS at 100%. Activities proposed in the Best Start Integrated Status Update that have a financial impact will be funded by Best Start funding or as part of the Children’s Service Section’s regular funding for child care and related services. Most activities in the plan will move forward as part of the regular business of the Children Services Section. The following Special Initiatives, listed below, are outside of the City's Children Services activities and have been given a specific allocations and timelines. These amounts are available within the Best Start budget, so there will be no budget impact.

Allocation and time-lines for Child Care and Best Start Special Initiatives

Initiative	Allocation for 2008/09
Launch the online Centralized Application and Waitlist for child care.	Up to \$180,000
Implement the Early Literacy Partners’ work plan including- piloting the Read to Grow program, distribution of Early Literacy Kits, and enhancing early literacy training opportunities for Francophone early years professionals.	Up to \$100,000
Continue to provide financial support for front line child care educators to participate in Best Start training initiatives.	Up to \$50,000
Develop and implement strategies to assist families with barriers to attending existing hubs.	Up to \$60,000
Create and implement public education campaigns about the value of licensed child care, early learning, early ID, parenting and early childhood professionals.	Up to \$60,000
Support the Best Start Network to coordinate Early Identification and Screening initiatives and expand these to reach more children.	Up to \$20,000
Continue to offer joint training initiatives for all Best Start partners with a focus on including education partners. Develop a mechanism for partners to apply for matching funding for joint training initiatives.	Up to \$15,000
Gain wider parent input through large scale surveys and consultations.	Up to \$5,000
Pilot the “Prescription to Read” program in conjunction with the Neo-Natal follow up clinic at the Children’s Treatment Centre.	Up to \$5,000

The City’s Best Start partners have been involved in the development of the Best Start Integrated Status Update through consultation with the Best Start Network and its committees and the Early Learning and Child Care Supervisors Network of Greater Sudbury. As the Service System Manager for the City, Children's Services, is well positioned to take on the leadership role in Best Start and to oversee the implementation of community plans to improve the delivery of children's services and enhance children's well being.

Council Approval

Following approval by City Council, the City of Greater Sudbury Best Start Integrated

Status Update will be submitted to the Ministry of Children and Youth Services. When approval has been received from MCYS, the Children Services Section and the Best Start Network will move forward to continue to implement the Best Start Vision for Greater Sudbury, as outlined above.

Request for Recommendation

Hôpital régional de Sudbury Regional Hospital Vertical Expansion

Presented To:	Priorities Committee
Presented:	Wednesday, Jun 18, 2008
Report Date	Tuesday, Jun 10, 2008
Type:	Councillor Briefing Sessions

Recommendations

WHEREAS, the Hôpital Régional de Sudbury Regional Hospital (HRSRH) has identified an urgent need for an immediate expansion;

and WHEREAS, the HRSRH will be pursuing funding for vertical expansion of the Centre Tower to accommodate the urgent needs;

and WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Greater Sudbury recognizes and supports the health care services for the citizens of our community;

Therefore be it RESOLVED that, the Council of the City of Greater Sudbury support and advocate for the Hôpital Régional de Sudbury Regional Hospital in securing funding from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care for the vertical expansion of the new hospital site.

Signed By

Report Prepared By

Rob Blackwell
Coordinator of Quality, Assurance &
Performance Measurement
Digitally Signed Jun 13, 08

Recommended by the Department

Catherine Matheson
General Manager of Community
Development
Digitally Signed Jun 13, 08

Recommended by the C.A.O.

Mark Mieto
Chief Administrative Officer
Digitally Signed Jun 13, 08

Background

In February of 2006, Hôpital Régional de Sudbury Regional Hospital (HRSRH) initiated a capital planning process to address future space requirements to service the residents of the Northeast Local Health Integration Network (LHIN). The existing hospital sites currently have an operating total of 529 beds. A total of 429 beds were originally planned for the new one-site hospital. Forecasting exercises regarding bed requirements for HRSRH suggest that additional beds will be required by 2010/2011, with a forecasted total requirement of 540 beds (resulting in a shortfall of 111 beds, assuming no ALC patients). The new one-site hospital, which has now entered Phase 2 of its construction, could be structurally modified to house the required beds, but creating a supply of beds and services will require capital and operating dollars. Construction of any expansion would commence as soon as possible upon substantial completion of the one-site hospital in order for the HRSRH to maintain their commitment to the community. Approval from the Ministry would need to be secured for funding of the expansion within the next 3 months to make the project viable.

HRSRH has identified the following urgent needs necessitating an immediate expansion, including:

- Alternative Level of Care impact
- Accommodation of space requirements for the Northern Ontario School of Medicine
- Addressing program need for additional space

Several possible construction scenarios for the facility expansion were examined by the HRSRH. The most viable option from a cost, operational efficiency and site circulation perspective was a vertical expansion of the existing structure, specifically, adding floors to the Centre Tower structure. Each additional floor would provide space for 36 beds.

In order to effectively provide the services required by the community, expansion options have been prepared by the HRSRH Board:

1. A five (5) storey vertical expansion as per the HRSRH Business Plan
2. A two (2) storey vertical expansion: one floor shelled in as buffer and one floor "fit out"
3. A one (1) storey vertical expansion: shelled in buffer to mitigate decanting costs of future expansion

The Issues

The existing facility has been planned and structured for vertical expansion and can support and accommodate the construction. Additionally, this option will provide for direct tie-in to existing mechanical and electrical systems, as well as potential for linkage to the North and South Towers of the facility, through the use of large continuous floor plates. The major challenge with this option however, is that construction cannot take place once the floor directly below the floor being built is occupied. However, the cost of un-occupying and then re-occupying (decanting) the existing floor to allow for construction of the vertical expansion is deemed to be cost prohibitive and logistically not possible.

The HRSRH Plan

The HRSRH is recommending Option #3, that would see a one (1) storey buffer (shelled-in space) constructed on top of the Centre Tower. Essentially, a shelled-in floor would be constructed prior to the occupancy of the existing floor. Although this option would not immediately address the bed shortfall or some of the other identified urgent needs, it would:

- Provide an opportunity for a quicker approval process from MOHLTC as this option would not require a full business plan approval
- Establish a buffer floor for future expansion and avoid the decanting costs (approximately \$35 million)
- Construction can be accomplished without impacting construction schedule (and will avoid triple that cost if completed post closing)

Historically, MOHLTC has not funded “shelled spaces” until they are occupied. The HRSRH will be presenting its business case to create an appetite for the ministry to consider the funding for this project. It will be necessary for MOHLTC to allocate the planning and design funds so that more detailed planning can occur.

It is estimated that planning and design will require approximately six (6) months and an estimated construction phase of approximately eight (8) months could commence after a tendering/RFP process.

The Ask

The Hôpital Régional de Sudbury Regional Hospital is seeking the funding from the province to move forward with the vertical expansion of the Centre Tower to construct a “shelled” floor that will facilitate future expansion, and provide the most cost effective and time efficient solution. As a shortfall of 111 beds is forecasted by 2010/2011, future expansion could be developed to address this need once the "shelled" floor is completed. HRSRH would require MOHLTC approval within the next 3 months in order for the recommended option to remain viable. The opportunity for vertical expansion will exist in the future, but the opportunity to construct the "shelled" floor prior to occupancy of the existing floor will need to be approved and funded in an expedited manner. A meeting with the ministry has been scheduled for July 17, 2008.

HRSRH requests that the Council of the City of Greater Sudbury pass a resolution in support and advocacy of its efforts to secure funding from the provincial government for the vertical expansion of the Centre Tower.

Policy Discussion Papers - Preliminary Discussion



Request for Recommendation

Implementing a City-wide Residential Curbside Green Cart Organics Program

Presented To:	Priorities Committee
Presented:	Wednesday, Jun 18, 2008
Report Date	Monday, Jun 09, 2008
Type:	Policy Discussion Papers - Preliminary Discussion

Recommendations

OPTION #1 is being recommended by staff and the Solid Waste Advisory Committee:

- That a residential 'Green Cart' organics curbside co-collection system be approved for approximately 57,000 households; and
- That the program be launched once the MOE approvals to process the materials are received (anticipate in mid 2009 if program is approved in mid 2008); and
- That funding for the approved collection containers, sample compostable bags, distribution, staffing and educational materials be funded from the Capital Financing Reserve Fund - Solid Waste at an estimated cost of \$1.72 million; and
- That the organic pilot project collection service continue until the City-wide residential collection program is implemented and that this cost be funded from the Capital Financing Reserve Fund - Solid Waste at an estimated cost of...

Signed By

Report Prepared By

Chantal Mathieu
Manager of Environmental Services
Digitally Signed Jun 13, 08

Recommended by the Department

Greg Clausen, P.Eng
General Manager of Infrastructure Services
Digitally Signed Jun 13, 08

Recommended by the C.A.O.

Mark Mieto
Chief Administrative Officer
Digitally Signed Jun 13, 08

[recommendation continued...](#)

Finance Implications

Fund the pilot from July 2008 to June 2009 and the one-time cost of \$1.72 million by a contribution from the Capital Financing Reserve Fund - Solid Waste in the amount of \$2.06 million leaving a ba...

finance implications continued...

Report Title: Implementing a City-wide Residential Curbside Green Cart Organics Program
Report Date: Monday, Jun 09, 2008

(Financial Implications continued from cover)

...balance of \$3.5 million in the reserve fund.

Option #1 - add the \$151,000 to the 2009 base operating budget (annualized to \$354,000 in 2010) with a tax levy impact of 0.08% (annualized 0.2%).

Option #2 - Refer to the 2009 Budget Process.

(Recommendations continued from cover)

...\$28,200 per month or \$338,400 per year; and

- That once the pilot project is completed, the Industrial Commercial & Institutional (IC&I) pilot project participants be permitted to deliver source-separated organics to the designated organic composting area within the Sudbury Landfill Site at no charge until Council reviews the recommendations from the IC&I Waste Diversion Study; and
- That staff organize an annual 1 tonne compost giveaway program; and
- That replacement containers be provided at no cost to encourage continued participation; and
- That residents purchase or provide their own approved compostable liner bags; and
- That the annual operating cost plus inflation be incorporated in future base operating budgets, with an estimated tax levy of 0.2%.

All in accordance with the report from the General Manager of Infrastructure dated June 9, 2008.

Introduction

The City has set a 65% residential waste diversion goal in support of local environmental initiatives and to assist the province in meeting its goal of diverting 60% of Ontario's waste from disposal.

Over the last decade the City has established various programs to meet these goals and this report outlines an initiative that targets a large portion of the residential waste stream, household organics.

Background

In February 2005, the results of the Waste Optimization Project administered by staff and the Technical Steering Committee was presented to Council. The recommendations were accepted in principle and staff was directed to report back to Council with detailed plans and detailed financial costs for implementing each of the recommendations for Council's consideration and review. The project recommendations and the status of each are summarized below:

	Recommendations	Status
1	New Garbage and Leaf & Yard Trimmings/Christmas Trees Co-collection System	Implemented in 2007

2	New Blue Box Recyclables and Organics Co-collection System	Implemented single-stream blue box recycling collection in 2006 Organics pilot collection is ongoing
3	Upgraded Facilities	Single-stream blue box processing equipment operational in 2006 Other facility upgrades on-going
4	Selection of Curbside Household Organic Containers	Conducted and selected by the Technical Steering Committee in April 2006
5	Continue to operate and promote: Source Reduction Programs; Reuse Initiatives; Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Services; Home Composting Programs and the Bulky Item Collection Service	Ongoing
6	Generate Electricity with Landfill Gas	Launched in September 2007
7	Continue to lobby the federal and provincial governments to support municipalities with waste management programs with appropriate legislation, funding and fiscal policy	Ongoing
8	Monitor the waste composition regularly to provide feedback on the effectiveness of the overall waste management system and public communication program	Conducted 4 waste audits during the 2007/2008 period Participating in a Provincial Waste Audit - Spring/Summer 2008 Ongoing public communication plan
9	Review additional waste diversion options for the high density residential, multi-type, commercial, institutional and industrial sectors	IC&I Waste Diversion Study - to commence in 2009

This report and the presentation will focus on the implementation and financial costs for a City-wide curbside residential Organic 'Green Cart' program.

What are Organics?

For this purpose, organics are defined as all food waste; household plants, including potting soil and non-recyclable paper products such as disposable paper cups, napkins and plates; waxed paper and cardboard; soiled newsprint; freezer paper; flour, sugar, salt and popcorn paper bags and ice cream paper cartons.

Organic Pilot Project and Waste Audit

Approximately 1110 homes were selected to participate in the pilot project. The pilot project was conducted for a number of reasons.

Firstly, it was necessary to determine any issues with the approved collection containers and liners. The 'Kitchen Collector' was provided to the resident as a convenient indoor storage unit, and sized small enough to fit under the kitchen sink.

The 'Green Cart' curbside container design was easy to use for both the resident and the waste collector. One important feature of the cart was its ability to be bear and pest resistant, especially in rural areas. The Ministry of Natural Resources supports this cart, noting that if the secure latching lid is used properly, resident's should not experience difficulties.

Various liner bags were provided to contain the organics in the 'Kitchen Collector'. Liner bags are an important feature to both the resident and the collector. They contain the wet organics in the kitchen collector and reduce the requirement to wash the container by the resident. Once the liner bags are full, they are tied/closed and placed in the 'Green Cart' which keeps the cart cleaner and contains odours. They also reduce the chance of the organics freezing in the 'Green Cart' and in the collection vehicle.

Secondly, it provided an opportunity to test our outdoor 'Windrow' composting method and potential operational issues such as contamination, testing various quantities and the application of bulking agents to balance the carbon and nitrogen mixture, determining the impact of various liner bags, potential odour problems and most importantly determining whether the process would produce an unrestricted product as defined by the Ministry of the Environment.

The processing was conducted within an area at the Sudbury Landfill Site, where on-site equipment and staff could be used to monitor the program. Odours were controlled effectively with the proper mixture of on-site wood chips and the small quantity of contamination was easily removed by the attendants at the initial dumping stage and again during final screening. It was during the processing stage, that the breakdown of liner bags was evaluated and plastic bags were disqualified and only compostable plastic bags certified with the organic biodegradable logo were approved.

Thirdly, the pilot project identified areas where education was required to improve organic quality (e.g. remind residents to remove plastics) and areas where additional information on what could actually be included in the program (e.g. include meats and dairy products).

Lastly, the pilot project was very useful to identify the anticipated participation rate and the amount recycled from the program and what quantities could actually be recycled from the current household garbage stream.

The pilot households generated 110 tonnes of organics at a 41% participation rate. Using this rate, staff estimates that a city-wide program would divert a minimum of 5,700 tonnes in the first year. New programs typically start with low participation and recycling rates. Over time, rates increase as residents become more educated and accept that very little effort is required to participate. Based on blue box increases in the first few years, staff estimates that the amount recycled will increase by 15% in year 2 (to 6600 tonnes) and an additional 15% in year 3 (to 7600 tonnes).

The waste audit process (a process whereby all waste streams from a number of households are sorted and analyzed), identified that the actual participating households recycling rates were closer

to 4.8 kilograms of material per household per week. This translates to 250 kilograms per household per year or approximately 14,000 tonnes per year City-wide. The waste audit also revealed that an additional 1.6 kilograms per household per week could have been diverted. Of the 1.6 kg placed in the garbage stream, soiled paper products, meat and bones were the most commonly noted materials that could have been placed in the 'Green Cart'. A city-wide program based on full participation and a 100% capture rate could then divert up to 19,000 tonnes per year.

Proposed City-wide Residential Organics 'Green Cart' Program

City-wide Residential Organic Curbside Containers, Sample Liners, Initial Educational Materials and Implementation Staff

A Norseman 'Green Cart' and the 'Kitchen Collector' would be provided to each low-density residential home on a curbside collection route. The 'Green Cart' and the 'Kitchen Collector' are valued at approximately \$15 and \$5, respectively. A specifically designed educational kit would be produced and one sample compostable plastic bag box would be placed in the 'Green Cart' and the equipment and material distributed at an estimated cost of \$5 per container. Residents would be required to provide their own liner bags.

The estimated cost to implement the new program, including the temporary staff required for this initiative is \$1.72 million. This would be a one time investment and it would be funded from the Capital Financing Reserve Fund - Solid Waste.

City-wide Residential Organic Curbside Collection Services

Weekly collection would be provided to low-density residential units on a curbside collection program. The co-collection vehicles currently collecting residential blue box recyclables would now also collect the organic waste in one of the two compartments.

The additional collection costs are relatively low, since the vehicles are already collecting blue box materials.

The estimated annual cost to collect in 2009 would be \$144,000. This rate is based on a per household tendered cost and would fluctuate annually based on the Canadata Cost Index and fuel prices.

City-wide Residential Organic Curbside Processing Services

The blue box recyclables and organics co-collection vehicles would continue to deliver the mixed blue box materials to the Recycling Centre and would then drive a few kilometres to deliver the organics to the designated processing site within the Sudbury Landfill. The proven and relatively low cost outdoor 'Windrow' Composting method would continued to be used to produce a high quality material.

The annual cost to process the estimated quantity of 5,720 tonnes is anticipated to be \$159,000. This rate is based on a per tonne rate provided by the current operator at the Sudbury Landfill and would fluctuate based on actual quantities processed and annual Canadata Cost Index increases.

City-wide Residential Organic Miscellaneous Services

Allowance for replacement containers, temporary staff hours, and the annual compost giveaway would also be required in the base budget commencing in Year 2 of the program. The annual cost for these miscellaneous items is estimated at \$41,000. The Solid Waste Advisory Committee felt very strongly that replacement containers be provided at no charge and that educational efforts be increased to ensure the success of the program. It was also discussed that staff ensure that the approved compostable liners become available for sale at numerous outlets within Greater Sudbury.

To recap, the total estimated annualized cost to implement the residential 'Green Cart' organic program is:

Year 1 - \$303,000; Year 2 - \$352,000; and Year 3 - \$384,000.

Benefits of Organic Composting

The most significant benefit to composting organic municipal waste is that it lowers our requirement for landfill capacity and preserves existing landfill capacity for other wastes (a value of \$60/tonne). Finished compost is also a valuable soil amendment and when added to soil it can improve current plant growth, reduce soil erosion and nutrient runoff, alleviate soil compaction, and help soil retain water. Compost can also reduce the need for artificial fertilizers, which require natural gas to produce certain materials, can result in water contamination, can deplete soil health and produce greenhouse gases during tillage.

Although home composting would continue to be encouraged, homeowners would now have two options available to them. Backyard composters could continue to be used and then the 'Green Cart' could be used for dairy products, oils and fatty foods, meat and fish and the non-recyclable paper products.

Implementation of a City-wide Residential Organic Program

The following steps would be completed if and when the City-wide program is approved:

1. Notify the pilot project participants regarding service levels. The cost to continue this service is estimated at \$28,200 per month. This cost would be funded from either the remaining capital funds allocated for the project or the Solid Waste Reserve Fund.
2. Hire temporary staff to oversee program development, implementation and additional pilot projects as part of the Industrial, Commercial & Institutional Waste Diversion Study.
3. Submit the Ministry of the Environment Certificate of Approval amendments for a permanent organics processing site at the Sudbury Landfill Site. The commencement of the City-wide program would be conditional on receiving this amendment.
4. Order approved collection containers and the sample compostable bags to be provided during launch.
5. Organize the distribution outlets for replacement compostable bags based on pilot project results.
6. Develop and produce the educational materials.

7. Distribute equipment and educational materials.
8. Update Waste Management By-law.
9. Review additional processing methods as approved in the 2008 Capital Budget.
10. Review an organics program for the IC&I sector as part of the IC&I Waste Diversion Study.

Financial Implications

Approval of either option would require the City to purchase and distribute the collection container kits ('Green Cart', 'Kitchen Collector', sample liner bags, education material etc.) for all households at a cost of \$1.72 million. This one-time cost would be funded from the Capital Financing Reserve Fund - Solid Waste.

Option #1 - Implement program with a target commencement date of mid 2009 would allow the program to be expedited for approval by the Ministry of the Environment. The monthly charge to provide the residential service City-wide would be \$25,250 per month and would be incorporated into the 2009 operating budget (6 months - \$151,500). The pilot project serving the 1,110 households and nine IC&I locations at \$25,000 and \$3,200 per month respectively, would continue to be funded from the reserve until mid 2009.

Option #2 - Delay the decision to the 2009 Budget process would delay the approval by the MOE and the earliest estimated date that the program could be initiated is expected to be late 2009 or early 2010. This would require the continuation of the pilot project serving 1,110 households and nine IC&I locations at \$25,000 and \$3,200 per month respectively funded from the reserve until the MOE approval was secured.

The cost difference between the options is minimal, but the service would essentially be provided to an additional 55,000 households, 3 to 6 months sooner if Option #1 is approved.

Recap of Financial Implications:

<u>2008</u>	Option 1	Option 2
Continue Pilot – July to December 2008	\$169,200	\$169,200

It is recommended that the extension of the pilot be funded from the Capital Financing Reserve Fund - Solid Waste.

<u>2009</u>	Option 1	Option 2
Continue Pilot from January to June 2009	\$169,200	\$169,200
Continue Pilot from July to December 2009	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$169,200</u>
	\$169,200	\$338,400
City Wide Service (July to December 2009)	<u>\$151,500</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total 2009 Operating Costs	<u>\$320,700</u>	<u>\$338,400</u>

Financed as follows:

Solid Waste Reserve Fund	<u>\$338,400</u>	<u>\$338,400</u>
Tax Levy	<u>\$151,500</u>	<u>\$169,200</u>
2009 Tax Levy Increase	0.08%	0.08%
Annualized Tax Levy Increase	0.2%	0.2%

Historically, the City's process encourages service enhancement decisions to be delayed to budget. However, since there is a service level enhancement and a savings of \$17,700 by proceeding with the City Wide implementation at this time, it is recommended that Option 1 be approved.

The estimated savings may not materialize if there are Ministry of Environment delays.

Recommendation

Two options are being presented for Council's consideration and direction.

Option #1 is being recommended by staff and the Solid Waste Advisory Panel and recommends that a city-wide residential organics program be implemented as per the General Manager of Infrastructure's report dated June 9, 2008.

Option #2 provides for Option #1 to be referred to the 2009 Budget as an enhancement option.

Request for Recommendation

Community Action Networks Terms of Engagement

Presented To:	Priorities Committee
Presented:	Wednesday, Jun 18, 2008
Report Date	Friday, Jun 06, 2008
Type:	Policy Discussion Papers - Preliminary Discussion

Recommendations

That Council approve the adoption of the attached Terms of Engagement for Community Action Networks in recognition of recommendations made within the Constellation City Report [January 2007] and consultation with CAN representatives; and

1] That annual funds be allocated to help address the administrative costs of Community Action Networks in the City of Greater Sudbury; and

2] That one additional full time Community Development Co-ordinator be approved for support for community partnership initiatives.

Finance Implications

1] Allocate \$40,000 annually within the Community Development budget to address administrative costs for CANs at \$2,500 each; and

2] Allocate \$85,000 within the Community Development budget [a...

Signed By

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Digitally Signed Jun 12, 08

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Recommended by the C.A.O.

Mark Mieto
 Chief Administrative Officer
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[finance implications continued...](#)

(Financial Implications continued from cover)

...[annual] to recruit and hire one additional Community Development Co-ordinator. Financial implications for 2008 would be \$28,500 [4 months] and financial implications for 2009 would be \$85,000.

Funds for the above items to be drawn from funds allocated to respond to recommendations within the Constellation City Report which contains \$125,000 within the operational budget.

Background

The Constellation City Report prepared through broad community consultation and presented to City of Greater Sudbury Council in January of 2007 identified Community Action Networks (CANs) as the best option for community engagement and empowerment. The report recognized the true grass routes nature of CANs and the affiliation to the priority issues outlined in the Healthy Community Strategy earlier adopted by City Council. The report continued by highlighting the potential CANs hold for contributing to the environmental, social and economic sustainability of our community.

The Constellation City Report however also indicated that the structure of CANs is currently very loose and that the role of CANs has yet to be clearly defined. Clarification is also required in describing the role the City of Greater Sudbury in supporting CANs. The report suggested the need for the adoption of clear terms of reference for CANs. Additionally identifying the risk that the creation of terms of reference may present to the essential grass routes nature of CANs was noted as a caution.

A working group comprised of CAN representatives and City of Greater Sudbury staff reviewed examples of similar community groups in other municipalities and developed a draft Terms of Reference representative of our community. In December 2007 the draft Terms of Reference (TOR) was presented to City Council by the CAN representatives supported by City of Greater Sudbury staff. Council received the information and reviewed the draft TOR at the Council Retreat in January of 2008. Following this review Council requested that City of Greater Sudbury staff along with Councillors Gasparini and Berthiaume meet to consider alterations to the draft TOR in an effort to streamline the document and to further clarify the role of the community, Council and staff. The draft Terms of Engagement were forwarded to all existing CANs for review and comment at the beginning of May 2008. There was significant support received from many CANs and also suggestions and questions regarding the draft Terms of Engagement. Efforts were made by City staff to incorporate and fine tune the Terms of Engagement as a result of this feedback where possible.

Many aspects from the original TOR were retained within the revised document including the nature and benefits of Community Action Networks. The nature of support to be provided by the City of Greater Sudbury to CANs while slightly modified in the new Terms of Engagement still reflects the support suggested within the original TOR. The recommendation to provide annual funds to assist with CAN administrative expenses still exists although at a modified level and more in line with support to neighbourhood associations. Liaison staff support from the Community Development Department still remains as does access to copying services for newsletters, meeting space, website training and liability coverage for CAN members engaged in regular CAN activities.

The Terms of Engagement have been redefined along the lines of the newly developed Public Participation Policy which was approved by Council in May of this year. The Public Participation Policy identifies the different levels of engagement which occur within the interaction between the community, Council and staff reflected within each level. CAN activity may fall anywhere along this continuum depending on the nature of the project, the experience of the CAN and the level of involvement required of the City. The Public Participation Policy recognizes the opportunity for the involvement of Council at all levels along the continuum and the understanding that Council as the elected body is the ultimate decision making mechanism for all municipal matters.

This report requests that Council consider an annual budget item of \$40,000 in order to provide all eligible CANs with annual operating funds in the amount of \$2,500 to be allocated by each CAN under the guidelines indicated within the attached Terms of Engagement. The funds would be drawn from the approved budget line allocated to respond to the recommendations contained within the Constellation City Report.

A second budget request is to enhance the compliment of Community Development Co-Ordinators within the Community Development department. The current compliment of staff is 3 Community Development Co-Ordinators (CDCs) plus 1 manager. There are currently 14 CANs in existence within the City of Greater Sudbury. Each of the existing CDCs already liaises with greater than the maximum number of CANs recommended within the Constellation City Report. The CDCs spend significant time working with other community groups and on other initiatives in addition to the responsibilities presented by CANs. (Trail Development, Graffiti Eradication, Civic Awards, facility partnerships, Diversity, Healthy Community, Community Events, etc., and capital initiatives). In order to provide the level of support required to enable CANs to reach their potential for civic engagement and to also enable the success of other community development and Healthy Community initiatives, the staffing level within the Community Partnerships section requires 1 additional full time CDC. It is anticipated that the cost (annualized) for the additional CDC would be approximately \$80,000. The funds required annually to support this position would be drawn from the Council approved budget allocated to respond to the recommendations contained within the Constellation City Report. This position could be in place by the end of September of 2008.

Background

On June 10, 2001, City Council unanimously adopted recommendations from the Mayor's Task Force on Community Involvement and Volunteerism, including a recommendation to initiate Community Action Networks.

Community Action Networks bring people together to build a Healthy Community. Healthy Communities are strong and vibrant. They emerge from the collaborative efforts of citizens who care about where they live and want to make their neighbourhoods the best they can possibly be. Community Action Networks provide resources to make this happen.

Working in partnership with the Roundtable on Health, Economy and the Environment, the City of Greater Sudbury introduced Community Action Networks to help in the planning, budgeting and implementation of community initiatives.

Community Action Networks have also been identified as a valuable means of encouraging civic engagement within the Healthy Community Strategy and the Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development documentation.

Benefits of Community Action Networks

- They enhance the overall quality of life in Greater Sudbury in social, environmental, and economic sectors.
- They enable citizens to participate, appreciate, and fully understand the services offered by community organizations and groups.
- They help to identify community needs and establish co-operative working relationships.
- They promote democracy and inclusiveness by giving participants (Community, Council, City Staff) a unique vehicle to work in harmony towards common goals.
- They provide a mechanism for planning at the Ward level by identifying the different projects with which individual Community Action Networks will be involved.
- They provide a "win-win" experience for everyone involved.

What Community Action Networks are Not

- Ratepayers associations
- Groups focusing on a single issue or mandate
- Political entities
- Policy creators

The Need for Terms of Engagement

Since 2004, fourteen Community Action Networks have been created in the City of Greater Sudbury with the support of Council and staff from the Community Development Department. Each CAN is unique to the area that it represents. The manner in which CANs operate varies significantly from one CAN to the next.

The Constellation City Report (January 2007) called for the development of a Terms of Reference to better define the role of CANs and to detail their responsibilities to the communities they represent. The report noted that in developing a Terms of Reference for CANs, that "the city risks losing the grassroots nature that has made the CANs a success to this point."

The revised Terms of Engagement are intended to accomplish the following:

- Reflect and embrace the grassroots nature of CANs and the unique communities that each represents.
- Provide a fluid framework that is more representative of how CANs develop and change over time.
- Set minimum eligibility criteria for a group to be considered a CAN.
- Allow individual CANs to decide how they will operate and how they are structured.
- Detail the expectations for CANs and their responsibilities to the community which they represent and to the City as a whole.
- Ensure that relationships between CANs, Council and city staff are mutually respectful.
- Outline the administrative and financial support for CANs from the City.
- Ensure that ultimate responsibility and decision making rests with the elected Council.

CAN Minimum Eligibility Requirements

- Community driven and lead
- Association must be non-profit in nature
- Open and transparent to the public
- Strive to represent the broad interests of the community or neighbourhood represented
- Encourage active participation from all residents
- Reflects the cultural diversity of the community or neighbourhood
- To actively take part in educational learning and training opportunities provided by CGS

How will Eligibility Be Measured?

- Each CAN should conduct a Visioning Session identifying Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT). Issues and priorities developed can be reviewed annually and amended to help guide future direction
- Meetings should be advertised and open to the public
- The staff liaison should be informed of CAN activities
- Chair and any executive positions appointed/elected will be community members
- The CAN should seek community input and participation for projects and initiatives
- Each CAN should endeavour to engage the various service clubs and associations within their respective community
- CAN should take advantage of educational learning and training opportunities

Terms of Engagement for Community Action Networks

Using the City of Greater Sudbury's Public Participation Policy, the Terms of Engagement helps to defines how Council and City staff will Inform, Consult, Involve and Collaborate with CANs.

Inform

- Provide a staff liaison who will regularly attend meetings and is the primary point of contact for the CAN
- Facilitate communication with other departments within the CGS
- Provide information about City programs, policy change and opportunities
- Respond to inquiries from CANs
- CANs assist to disseminate information to the local community
- CANs work with the CGS to increase compliance with regulations or participation in existing CGS programs
- Provide a forum for CANs to exchange information and best practices with one another (concept of a 'CAN summit')
- Provide educational learning opportunities to ensure that CANs are sustainable

Considerations:

This type of engagement is information sharing and communication. It is important that all information provided is timely, clearly defined and easily understood as well as relevant to CANs.

Consult

- Encourage feedback when considering policy change or developing new ways of doing business requiring community input
- Survey attitude of local communities through CANs
- Attendance at CAN meetings to discuss issues or projects relevant to the CAN
- CAN provides feedback representative of the broad community
- Key community champions identified and engaged

Considerations:

This type of engagement involves seeking community views regarding specific issues. The feedback is usually of a one-time nature.

Involve

- Work directly with CANs to understand concerns at the community level
- Cooperatively develop alternatives which will address the identified community needs
- Ensure CAN input is reflected in any alternatives chosen
- Communicate with CANs on how public input impacted final decisions
- CANs lead and mobilize community groups and members

Considerations:

This type of engagement is more of a process than consultation and requires that all relevant groups and individuals within a community are involved. The CAN requires a high level of organization for involvement to be effective, which details how decisions are made and the roles of all involved.

Collaborate

- Develop partnerships with CANs to deliver outcome based projects and programs
- Encourage partnerships with other community groups to benefit from existing networks and nurture civic pride and engagement
- CAN is working in each of the four pillars of the Healthy Community Strategy (Active Living/Healthy Lifestyle, Civic Engagement/Social Capital, Natural Environment, Economic Growth)
- CANs reflect the cultural diversity of the community or neighbourhood they represent

Considerations:

To have successful collaboration, CANs must be truly representative of their communities. They should have representation from youth, seniors and the private sector. Participation of service clubs and other active community associations/groups will enhance the effectiveness of collaboration .

Administrative Support

Those CANs meeting the minimum eligibility requirements will receive the following administrative support from the City of Greater Sudbury:

- Meeting space
- Office space (as available)
- Printing of up to 3 newsletters annually (max 6 pages each)
- Mysudbury.ca website space and training
- Promotional space in Leisure Guide (general CAN info)
- Liability coverage for approved CAN activities

Funding Recommendations

In addition to the administrative support previously outlined, it is recommended that Council approve financial support for each CAN in the amount of \$2,500 per year. The funds are intended to cover costs associated with promotion of activities, purchase of supplies, mailings, websites development (other than mysudbury.ca sites), and other day-to-day expenses. CANs looking for additional financial support for outcome based projects have the option of requesting funds from their Council representative, working with community sponsors and submitting grant applications where eligible.

Currently, the City of Greater Sudbury supports Neighbourhood Associations in the amount of approximately \$1200 per year. The rationale for requesting \$2500 in support for each CAN is that the work of Community Action Networks is wider in scope than that of Neighbourhood Associations. Similar to the process already used for Neighbourhood Associations, each CAN will be required to submit a brief annual report outlining the allocation of the funds provided. The report should also include identification of recent accomplishments and groups/ associations the CAN is working in keeping with the minimum eligibility requirements

Ensuring CANs are Sustainable

In an effort to assist all CANs to maintain and enhance administrative and organizational skills, it is proposed that a series of educational and training opportunities be organized and funded. CANs are expected to take part in these opportunities as part of their eligibility to be recognized as a CAN. CANs are encouraged to provide suggestions for appropriate topics to be covered which would benefit to all CANs.

Topics to be addressed could include:

- Volunteer recruitment
- Facilitating group discussions and effective meetings
- Conflict resolution/Consensus building
- Engaging youth/seniors/private sector
- Strategic planning
- Special event organization
- Developing project proposals

Reporting back to Council

CANs have been providing updates to Council during Priorities Meetings scheduled in their respective communities. Should Priorities meetings continue to be held in various communities, it is recommended that each CAN have the opportunity to present to Council during this cycle. Using the current schedule of Priorities meetings, this would allow for a presentation by each CAN every two years. As with all community groups, CANs may request to speak before Council at other meetings if desired.

HOW THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY ENGAGES CANS (A VISUAL REPRESENTATION)

	Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate
Overview	To provide information to increase community's understanding of issues and decisions	To seek community level input regarding plans, policy and procedures	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered	To partner with the public in each aspect of the process and decision, including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution
Staff/City Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to inquiries from CANS about policies and procedures Provide information through brochures, media releases, public meetings, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey CANS regarding potential policy changes Attend initial meetings with CANS to discuss plans and alternatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage CANS at the onset when considering changes to policies, procedures, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with CANS at all stages to realize outcome based projects (trails, parks, etc.)
CAN Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminate information received to local community Work with CGS to increase compliance with regulations Work with CGS to increase participation in City programs (Clean Sweep, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide feedback which represents the broad community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead and mobilize community groups and members Using visioning & Strengths-Weakness-Opportunities-Threats (SWOT) analysis to identify community priorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involve and engage existing local community associations Explore external funding opportunities where feasible
CAN Stages of Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few active members Informal operating structure Narrow focus Undeveloped ties with local associations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loose structure (Co-Chairs) One or two active projects Some key community organizations involved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some working committees Working in multiple Healthy Community pillars but not all Well organized with regular meetings and executive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth, senior and business representation Community associations well represented Functioning sub-committees and executive Four Healthy Community pillars represented
CDC Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help navigate/guide Provide information Keep other departments/Council informed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animator Keep other departments/Council informed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enable Facilitate Keep other departments/Council informed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project support Resources Keep other departments/Council informed
Council Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To listen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To solicit feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To involve in decisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To use CAN as a community sounding board
Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff leading process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key community champions identified and working with staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transfer from staff to community Executive in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Truly community lead CAN Executive developing new leaders



Request for Recommendation

Ontario Child Benefit

Presented To:	Priorities Committee
Presented:	Wednesday, Jun 18, 2008
Report Date	Tuesday, Jun 10, 2008
Type:	Managers' Reports

Recommendations

WHEREAS the introduction and implementation of the Ontario Child Benefit has resulted in the restructuring of the social assistance benefits, impacting the way benefits will be delivered for families with children;

THEREFORE be it resolved that staff bring forward in the fall for Council's consideration, recommendations on the allocation of the savings of approximately \$210,000 (OW \$130,000 and \$80,000 ODSP) resulting from the implementation of the Ontario Child Benefit.

Finance Implications

The impact of the introduction of the Ontario Child Benefit and the changes to the National Child Benefit Supplement will be reflected in the 2009 Budget.

Signed By

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the spring of 2007, the Province released the 2007 Ontario Budget: Investing in People Expanding Opportunities. A major focus of the budget addressed the issue of poverty and supporting those most vulnerable in society. A cornerstone to the budget was the creation of an Ontario Child Benefit (OCB) for children in low-income families. This is seen by the Provincial government as a significant step forward in helping children and their families living in poverty.

This brought forward the following two important and related changes:

1. To no longer deduct the National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS) from social assistance cheques, and,
2. To upload a portion of benefits paid to children of parents who are on Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program through a new program called the Ontario Child Benefit (OCB).

These changes will begin effective July 2008 for Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) clients and August 2008 for Ontario Works (OW) clients, with full implementation by 2011.

This report provides:

1. An overview of the key characteristics of the new OCB program,
2. The implications the OCB will have on Ontario Works families in the City of Greater Sudbury as well as the steps being taken to ensure a smooth transition for these families, and,
3. Information in support of the positions of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA), and the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) in regards to the request that the Province issue the full amount of the Back to School and Winter Clothing Allowances for social assistance recipients in 2008 as Year 1 strategy to reduce hardship through the transition of consolidating these benefits within the new Ontario Child Benefit.

BACKGROUND

With the introduction of the OCB, the Province will also restructure social assistance benefits, impacting the way benefits will be delivered for families with children.

The strength of a child benefit outside of the social assistance system is that it will ensure all low-income families with children can access a more secure, reasonable and sustainable source of income. It would also allow families on social assistance to retain the additional support that might otherwise be considered income and deducted as part of the National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS).

With implementation of the new program changes, clients on social assistance will continue to receive the National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS). The NCBS and the Canada Child Tax Benefit will be consolidated into one child benefit cheque that will be sent directly to families by the Canada Revenue Agency.

Municipal funding that currently results from the NCBS claw back will instead be realized from social assistance restructuring and the introduction of the new 100% provincially funded OCB. The impact on actual funding will be included in the City's budget submission for 2009.

The Ontario Child Benefit (OCB)

The OCB provides financial assistance to all children under 18 years of age living in low-income families, whether the parents are in receipt of social assistance or not. It is estimated that nearly 1.3 million children in low-income families across the province will benefit from the OCB.

Key characteristics of the new benefit include:

1. A five year phase-in period commencing in 2007 with full implementation by 2011 (See Attachment 1)
2. Unlike social assistance, which is means tested, the OCB will be income tested and delivered through the income tax system
3. OCB payments will be based on the number of children in a family and the family's income from the previous year
4. To receive the OCB, the primary caregiver(s) must file their income tax with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) who will administer the benefit
5. A one-time payment of up to \$250 per child under age 18 was provided to all low-income families in July 2007
6. OCB is funded entirely by the Province
7. Families receiving either Ontario Works (OW) or Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) will be eligible for the OCB

The maximum benefit will be paid to families with children under eighteen years of age whose adjusted net income is \$20,000 annually or less and will be reduced incrementally based on their adjusted net income over \$20,000.

Social Assistance Restructuring

As part of the implementation of the OCB, the Province is also restructuring social assistance, which may affect approximately 1,100 Ontario Works families within the City of Greater Sudbury, based on local statistical data of May 2008.

Outlined below are the key changes to social assistance:

1. Restructuring of the Ontario Works Benefit rates as follows:
 - The 'Basic Needs' amount for children will be removed,
 - Back-to-School and Winter Clothing Allowances will be removed from social assistance, and,
 - A sole support parent supplement and age-related supplement for families with children 13 and older will remain.
2. The National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS) will no longer be deducted from social assistance benefits
3. Shelter, health and employment benefits for social assistance families will not be impacted by the restructuring
4. For social assistance families that do not receive the full OCB the Province is establishing a Transition Child Benefit (TCB)

Transitional Child Benefit (TCB)

In certain circumstances, families on social assistance may either not receive an OCB payment or will receive less than the full OCB amount. These circumstances may include the following situations:

1. Did not file an income tax return for the previous taxation year
2. Is a newcomer to Canada (i.e. refugee claimant)
3. Has recently moved to Ontario
4. Has a newborn child
5. Experienced a significant income change
6. Is facing administrative delays for receipt of the OCB

To ensure that no family on Social Assistance is worse off as a result of the implementation of the OCB, the Province has introduced a Transitional Child Benefit (TCB). The TCB is fully funded by the Province and administered by municipalities through the social assistance system.

Initially, those families that do not receive any OCB will receive the TCB for four months. It is expected that CRA will be able to process any new income tax returns within that time period, thereby ensuring a family will be eligible for the OCB. However, for those recipients that either are not eligible to receive the OCB (such as refugee claimants) or do not receive the full OCB, they will continue to receive the TCB beyond this four month period as long they are making reasonable efforts to pursue the OCB.

National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS)

In July 1998, the federal government introduced the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) which combined existing federal programs assisting low income families, and introduced the NCBS. At that time, the Province of Ontario as well as most other provinces and territories agreed to count the NCBS as chargeable income, in effect deducting monthly NCBS benefits from social assistance payments. As well, they agreed to reinvest any savings from these deductions into programs and services that support NCBS program objectives.

As part of the social assistance cost sharing agreement in Ontario, NCBS savings are allocated on an 80 provincial/20 municipal basis. Municipalities were required by the province to reinvest their savings into programs and services that meet NCBS program objectives established jointly by the federal and provincial governments.

In 1998 the provincial government provided specific objectives for NCBS reinvestment:

- To help prevent and reduce the depth of child poverty; and,
- To promote attachment to the workforce - resulting in fewer families having to rely on social assistance - by ensuring that families will always be better off working.

In the past, the City of Greater Sudbury has invested in a range of initiatives that provide supports to OW, ODSP and low income families with children.

As part of restructuring, the province will no longer determine objectives for municipal reinvestment of the NCBS but has stated the expectation is that the reinvestment be maintained and local programs for families and children not be negatively impacted by these changes.

Staff will continue to monitor the changes in the size and composition of the social assistance caseload and will be monitoring the financial impact of the new program following its implementation this summer. The impact of these changes will be known by the fall of 2008 and any implications will be considered during the 2009 budget process.

Back to School and Winter Clothing Allowances

The Back to School and Winter Clothing Allowances serve a specific need for families receiving social assistance. Beginning in 2008, these benefits will no longer be provided in August and November as in previous years. In 2008, families receiving social assistance will not have adequate finances or notice period to save money to address these particular needs.

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA), and the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) have advocated that the Province issue these allowances in 2008 as a transition strategy (one-time payment in 2008) and be paid 100% by the Province. They have also advocated that any new initiatives, programs or expenditures related to social and health programs be fully funded by the Province.

It is encouraged that Council support the positions of AMO, NOSDA and OMSSA in regards to the one time transition strategy of issuing the allowances in 2008.

The Province's intention with restructuring and the new OCB program is to change the way it provides benefits for children of low-income families regardless of source of income. Ultimately, families with children on OW and the ODSP will be slightly better off and the programs will benefit all children of low-income families in Ontario, whether the parents work or receive social assistance. Also the OCB will help families make the transition from social assistance to employment because parents would continue to receive the OCB after they begin working.

STRATEGY

As a result of the restructuring of social assistance, Ontario Works families will see the amounts and source of their incomes change. They will receive lower benefits through social assistance, but new income through the OCB that compensates for this reduction (see Attachment 2). Social assistance recipients will first notice a change to their August 2008 assistance payments. Attachment 3 compares what different family types on Ontario Works received prior to the OCB and what they will receive the first year the OCB is issued on a monthly basis.

To support the successful introduction and implementation of the OCB in the City of Greater Sudbury, the Social Services Division is taking a number of steps to inform, prepare and engage social assistance recipients, community stakeholders and CGS staff.

Families Receiving Social Assistance

To assist families through the restructuring process, a comprehensive communication strategy has been developed. The strategy includes:

- In-person interviews – staff will conduct one-on-one OCB orientations as well as financial reviews with social assistance families
- Direct mail-outs – separate mail-outs will be sent to OW recipients to encourage them to file their income taxes to be eligible for the benefit as well as to inform them about the change to social assistance
- Communication material – pamphlets and posters have been developed and are being used.

Community

To engage community agencies across the city who provide services to families with children on social assistance who may receive the OCB, Social Services Division, jointly with the ODSP office, is holding an

information session and providing communication packages to the legal clinic, shelter services, Homelessness Network, non-profit agencies and community partners. Over 30 city-wide community groups and agencies have been invited to the information session.

City Staff

To prepare staff on the OCB implementation, a two phase training plan has been developed and supported by information sessions and tools. Over 90 staff from across the Social Services Division were involved in the Phase 1 training held in February 2008 and further in-depth Phase II training occurred in May 2008.

RECOMMENDATIONS

According to the Province, the introduction of the OCB will result in savings to the City.

In December 2007, the MCSS provided municipalities with an estimate of those savings for the period of August 2008 to March 2009. Savings for the City of Greater Sudbury, based on the caseload as of September 2007, is estimated to be \$210,000 (OW \$130,000 and ODSP \$80,000) [1]. However the size and composition of the OW and ODSP caseload after July 2008 will impact the final amount. Social Services Division will include estimates of the impact as part of its 2009 budget submission.

The impact to the City of Greater Sudbury resulting from restructuring and the introduction of the OCB will be included in the City's budget submission for 2009 as the actual amount of funding will be determined by the size and composition of the OW and ODSP caseload after the program is introduced in July 2008.

The Social Services Division, through consultation with community agencies, stakeholders, staff and other City of Greater Sudbury departments will bring forward recommendations on the allocation of the OCB savings in the fall for Council's considerations.

It is also encouraged that the Council support the positions of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA), and the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) in regards to the request that the Province issue the full amount of the Back to School and Winter Clothing Allowances for social assistance recipients in 2008 as a year 1 strategy and be paid 100% by the Province to reduce hardship through the transition of consolidating these benefits within the new Ontario Child Benefit.

CONCLUSION

The introduction of the OCB represents a significant development for Ontario in addressing child poverty and assisting some of most vulnerable in society. The creation of such a benefit to be delivered separate from the social assistance system to all low-income families regardless of their source of income is a significant step forward. Recognizing the importance of the OCB and its role in the restructuring of social assistance, the Social Services Division will continue to work closely with the clients, community, City partners and provincial staff to ensure the successful implementation of the OCB for families on social assistance within the City of Greater Sudbury.

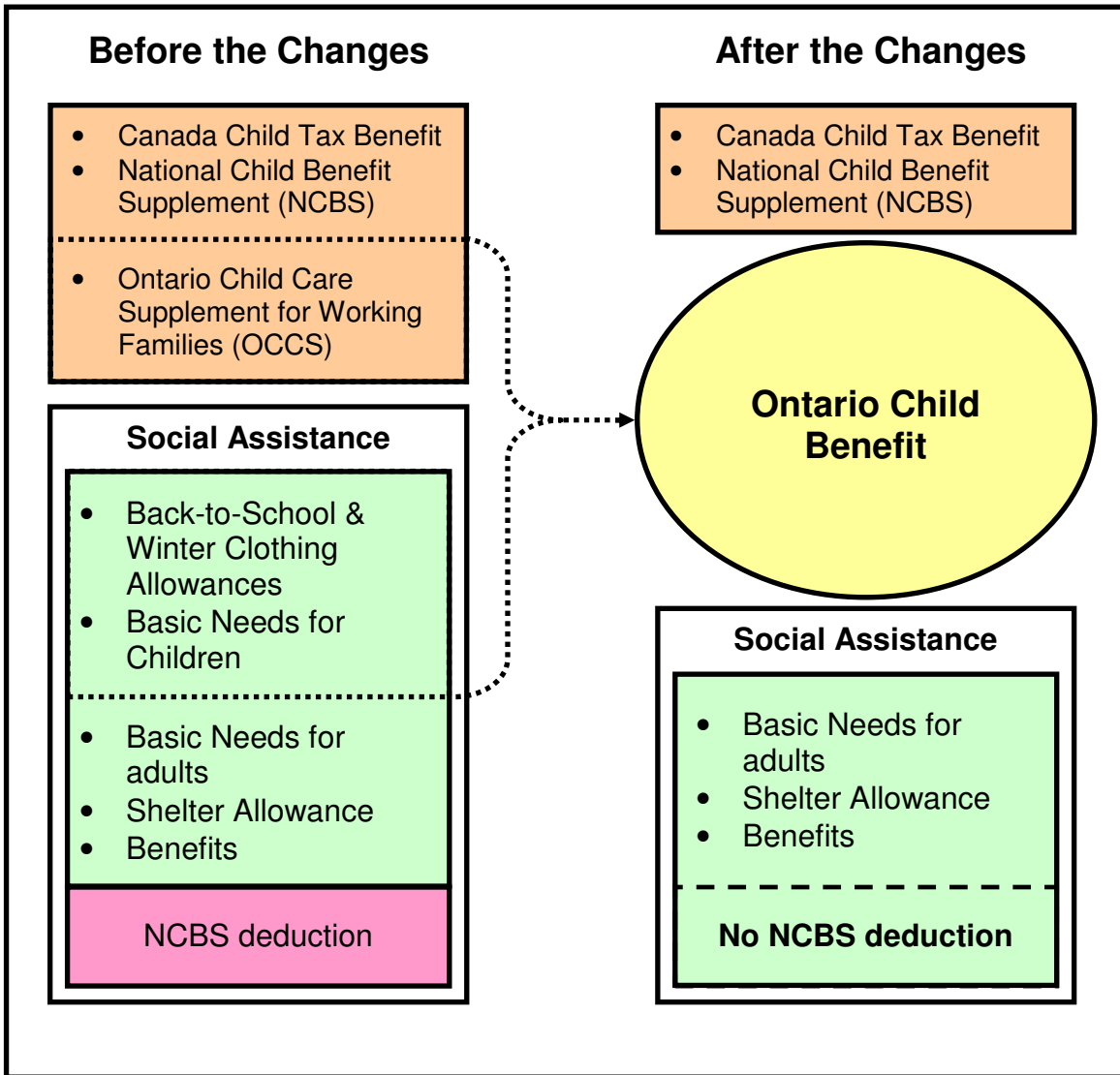
[1] Estimated savings were obtained for each CMSM/DSSAB by computing the difference between social assistance payments before July 2008 (basic needs, shelter, back-to-school and winter clothing allowances, net of the NCBS deduction) and social assistance payments effective July/August 2008 (adult portion of basic needs, shelter). Estimates were based on the Ontario Works and ODSP caseloads as of September 2007.

Attachment 1 - Annual and Monthly Maximum OCB payment

The following chart shows both the annual and monthly breakdown of the maximum OCB payment per child throughout the five-year phase-in period:

Maximum Ontario Child Benefit Payment Per Benefit Year and Month					
Year	2007*	2008	2009	2010	2011
Annual Benefit**	\$250	\$600	\$805	\$900	\$1,100
Monthly Benefit	–	\$50.0	\$67.08	\$75.0	\$96.67
*A one time lump sum payment per child below 18 in July **Maximum annual benefit per child for families with a net income of up to \$20,000 a year					

Attachment #2 - Changes to Social Assistance Overview



Maximum Annual Benefits for Families on OW for December 2007 and August 2008

Maximum Annual Benefit Per OW Family Type as of December 2007						
Family Type	Ontario Works ¹	CTB ²	NCBS ³	Winter Clothing ⁴	Back-to-School ⁵	Annual Total
Single Parent, one child (0-6)	\$12,348.00	\$1,283.04	\$525.00	\$111.00	\$73.00	\$14,340.04
Single Parent, two children (age 5 and 13)	\$14,520.00	\$2,566.08	\$1,028.88	\$222.00	\$207.00	\$18,543.96
Couple, two children (age 13 and 16)	\$16,116.00	\$2,566.08	\$1,028.88	\$222.00	\$268.00	\$20,200.96
¹ OW includes basic allowance and shelter allowance ² Canada Tax Benefit provides \$106.92 for one child per month and \$213.84 for two children per month. ³ Maximum NCBS deduction factored in. \$121.91 deducted per month for one child and \$226.42 deducted per month for two children ⁴ Winter clothing is \$111 annually per dependant ⁵ Back-to-school is \$73 for children under 13 and \$134 for children over 13 annually						

Maximum Annual Benefit Per OW Family Type as of August 2008					
Family Type	Adult Portion ¹	Child Portion			Annual Total
	Ontario Works ²	OCB ³	CTB	NCBS ⁴	
Single Parent, one child (0-6)	\$10,848.00	\$600.00	\$1,283.04	\$1,987.92	\$14,718.96
Single Parent, two children (age 5 and 13)	\$11,604.00	\$1,200.00	\$2,566.08	\$3,745.92	\$19,116.00
Couple, two children (age 13 and 16)	\$13,212.00	\$1,200.00	\$2,566.08	\$3,745.92	\$20,724.00
¹ Adult portion does not factor in other mandatory and discretionary benefits ² OW includes basic allowance and shelter allowance ³ A maximum monthly OCB payment of \$50.00 per dependent under 18 for eligible families and \$600.00 annually. OCB incorporates Back-to-School and Winter Clothing Allowances. ⁴ NCBS is no longer deducted as chargeable income.					