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

on Wednesday, May 7th, 2008

le mercredi 7e mai 2008

at 5:30 pm

à 17h 30

Council Chamber, Tom Davies Square

dans la Salle du Conseil, Place Tom Davies

Greater | Grand Sudbury
www.greatersudbury.ca

Priorities Committee

Agenda

For the 28th Priorities Committee Meeting to be held on
Wednesday, May 7, 2008
in 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.*

(28th)

PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

AGENDA

For the 28th Priorities Committee Meeting
to be held on **Wednesday, May 7, 2008**
in 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. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

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

COUNCILLOR BRIEFING SESSIONS

2. Winter Sidewalk Maintenance Options Presentation
(ELECTRONIC PRESENTATION) (FOR DIRECTION ONLY)

   - Clive Wood, Advisor Infrastructure Operations

   (Request for Council's direction on which options Staff should pursue for future winter sidewalk maintenance.)

POLICY DISCUSSION PAPERS - PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION

3. Report dated April 10, 2008 from the Chief Financial Officer / Treasurer regarding 2008 Property Tax Policy. **11 - 28**
(ELECTRONIC PRESENTATION) (RECOMMENDATION TO BE READ)

   - E. Stankiewicz, Manager of Financial Planning & Policy

   (This report is to adopt the 2008 Property Tax Policy. Council's decision is requested at this evening's meeting in order to ensure that final tax due dates are met.)

POLICY DISCUSSION PAPERS - DECISION REQUESTED

4. Presentation of City of Greater Sudbury's Open Air Burning By-law
(ELECTRONIC PRESENTATION) (RECOMMENDATION PREPARED)

   - Donald Donaldson, Fire Chief

   RECOMMENDATION:

   THAT the recommendations contained in the presentation of the Fire Chief dated May 7th, 2008 regarding public input meetings on the Open Air Burning by-law be accepted and that By-Law 2004-160 be amended.

5. Report dated April 25, 2008 from the General Manager of Commmunity Development regarding Public Participation Policy. **35 - 39**
(RECOMMENDATION PREPARED)

   (The City of Greater Sudbury continues to be proactive in encouraging citizens to be involved in community decision making. Examples include the Healthy Community Cabinet, Advisory Committees and Panels and Community Action Networks (CANs). The Public Participation Policy is intended to help provide a framework for the City of Greater Sudbury to more effectively engage its citizens in local decision making. The draft was prepared through the Social Planning Council and is intended to guide future citizen engagement activities across the corporation toward standardized, consistent and sustainable civic engagement for all citizens.)

CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION ONLY

6. Report dated April 22, 2008 from the Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer regarding 2008 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund Report. **40 - 44**
   (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

   (This report summarizes the impact of the 2008 OMPF allocation notice as well as the potential impact on future years.)

7. Report dated April 29, 2008 from the General Manager of Infrastructure Services regarding Financial Report on the Union's Options for Enhanced Winter Control Service Levels. **45 - 48**
   (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

   (This is the financial report on the Union's options presented at the meeting of April 2, 2008.)

8. Report dated April 15, 2008 from the Chief Financial Officer / Treasurer regarding Revenue Loss for PIL Properties as a Result of Provincial Business Education Tax Reduction. **49 - 51**
   (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

   (This report identifies lost Education Taxes for PIL properties that the municipality keeps as a result of the Provincial initiative to reduce the Business Education Tax rate to 1.6% over the next four years for northern communities.)

MANAGERS' REPORTS

ADDENDUM

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

CITIZEN DELEGATIONS

9. Annual Update from Safe Communities Greater Sudbury
   (ELECTRONIC PRESENTATION) (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

   - Viola Tanner, Program Coordinator, Safe Communities Coalition
   - Tony Ingram, Chair, Safe Communities Coalition
   - Donald Donaldson, Fire Chief

   (The Safe Communities Coalition is making a presentation regarding their activities in 2007 and 2008.)

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

COMITÉ DES PRIORITÉS

ORDRE DU JOUR

Pour la 28e réunion du Comité des priorités
qui aura lieu le **7 mai 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 705-674-4455, 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

Partie I - 17h 30 à 19h

SÉANCES D'INFORMATION DES CONSEILLERS

2. Choix en matière d'entretien des trottoirs l'hiver
(PRÉSENTATION ÉLECTRONIQUE) (A TITRE DE DIRECTION)

   - Clive Wood, Conseiller, opérations d'infrastructure

   (Demande de directives du Conseil municipal sur les choix que devrait approfondir le personnel pour l'entretien à venir des trottoirs l'hiver.)

DOCUMENTS DE TRAVAIL SUR LES POLITIQUES – DISCUSSION PRÉLIMINAIRE

3. Rapport de la chef des services financiers / trésorière municipale , daté du 10 avril 2008 portant sur Politique de 2008 sur l'impôt foncier. **11 - 28**
(PRÉSENTATION ÉLECTRONIQUE) (RECOMMANDATION À LIRE)

   - Ed Stankiewicz, gestionnaire de la Planification et des politiques financières

   (Ce rapport a pour but d'adopter la Politique de 2008 sur l'impôt foncier. On demande la décision du Conseil municipal ce soir afin de veiller au respect des dates d'échéance des derniers versements d'impôt.)

DOCUMENTS DE TRAVAIL SUR LES POLITIQUES – DEMANDE DE DÉCISION

4. Règlement régissant les feux en plein air de la Ville du Grand
(PRÉSENTATION ÉLECTRONIQUE) (RECOMMANDATION PRÉPARÉE)

   - Donald Donaldson, Chef des pompiers

5. Rapport de la directrice générale des Services de développement communautaire , daté du 25 avril 2008 portant sur Politique sur la participation du public. **35 - 39**
(RECOMMANDATION PRÉPARÉE)

   (La Ville du Grand Sudbury continue d'être proactive en encourageant les citoyens à participer à la prise de décisions de la communauté. En voici des exemples : le cabinet Communauté en santé, les comités et groupes consultatifs et les réseaux d'action communautaire (RAC). La Politique sur la participation du public a pour but d'aider à fournir un cadre pour la Ville du Grand Sudbury afin de mobiliser plus efficacement ses citoyens quant à la prise de décisions locales. L'ébauche a été rédigée par l'entremise du Conseil de planification sociale et a pour but d'orienter les activités de mobilisation des citoyens à venir dans tous les coins de la municipalité en vue d'une mobilisation normalisée, constante et durable de tous les citoyens.)

CORRESPONDANCE À TITRE DE RENSEIGNEMENTS SEULEMENT

6. Rapport de la chef des services financiers / trésorière municipale , daté du 22 avril 2008 portant sur Rapport de 2008 sur le Fonds de partenariat avec les municipalités de l'Ontario. **40 - 44**
(A TITRE D'INFORMATION)

(Ce rapport résume l'impact de l'avis de subvention de 2008 du FPMO de même que l'impact possible sur les années à venir.)

7. Rapport du directeur général des Services d'infrastructure, daté du 29 avril 2008 portant sur Rapport financier sur les options du syndicat pour les niveaux améliorés de services d'entretien des routes l'hiver. **45 - 48**
(A TITRE D'INFORMATION)

(Il s'agit du rapport financier sur les options qu'a présentées le syndicat à la réunion tenue le 2 avril 2008.)

8. Rapport de la chef des services financiers / trésorière municipale, daté du 15 avril 2008 portant sur Perte de revenu pour les biens-fonds pour lesquels on fait des paiements tenant lieu d'impôt aux municipalités en raison de la réduction provinciale de la taxe pour l'éducation des immeubles à usage commercial. **49 - 51**
(A TITRE D'INFORMATION)

(Ce rapport indique les taxes pour l'éducation perdues pour les biens-fonds pour lesquels on fait des paiements tenant lieu d'impôt aux municipalités que la municipalité conserve en raison de l'initiative provinciale de réduire la taxe pour l'éducation des immeubles à usage commercial à 1,6 % au cours de quatre prochaines années pour les communautés du Nord.)

RAPPORTS DES GESTIONNAIRES

ADDENDA

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

DÉLÉGATIONS DE CITOYENS

9. Compte rendu annuel de la Coalition pour des communautés sûres de la Ville du Grand Sudbury
(PRÉSENTATION ÉLECTRONIQUE) (A TITRE D'INFORMATION)

- Viola Tanner, coordonnatrice des programmes, Coalition pour des communautés sûres de la Ville du Grand Sudbury
- Tony Ingram, président de la Coalition pour des communautés sûres de la Ville du Grand Sudbury
- Donald Donaldson, Chef des pompiers

(La Coalition pour des communautés sûres de la Ville du Grand Sudbury donne un exposé sur ses activités en 2007 et 2008.)

PÉTITIONS DE CITOYENS

MOTIONS

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

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

La Conseillère Gasparini,
Présidente

Franca Bortolussi,
Secrétaire du conseil

Presented To:	Priorities Committee
Presented:	Wednesday, May 07, 2008
Report Date	Thursday, Apr 10, 2008
Type:	Policy Discussion Papers - Preliminary Discussion

Request for Recommendation

2008 Property Tax Policy

Recommendations

(1)WHEREAS the City of Greater Sudbury continues the practice of having as many properties as possible pay their fair share of property taxes based on their Current Value Assessment (CVA); and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has provided tax tools to achieve this outcome;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY use these tools to the maximum, resulting in more business properties paying true CVA taxes, and the tools are as follows:

1) Implement a 10% tax increase cap rather than the mandatory 5% cap

2) Implement a minimum annual increase of 5% of CVA level taxes for capped properties

3) Move capped and clawed back properties within $250 of CVA taxes directly to CVA taxes; and

THAT the City Solicitor prepare the necessary by-law.

(2)WHEREAS to be consistent with this and previous...

recommendation continued...

Signed By

Report Prepared By
Ed Stankiewicz
Manager of Financial Planning & Policy
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Recommended by the Department
Lorella Hayes
Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Recommended by the C.A.O.
Mark Mieto
Chief Administrative Officer
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

(Recommendations continued from cover)

...Councils' decisions on property tax policy to lessen the impact on residential taxpayers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL approve the following ratios:

Residential 1.000

New Multi-Residential 1.000

Multiple Residential 2.0591

Commercial 1.720574

Industrial Occupied 2.438594

Large Industrial 2.764015

Pipelines 1.475204

Managed Forests .2500

Farmlands .2500 : and

THAT the City Solicitor prepare the necessary by-law.

(3)WHEREAS the Province of Ontario under Bill 140 has a maximum tax increase policy (capping) for business properties (Multi-Residential, Commercial and Industrial); and

WHEREAS the City of Greater Sudbury, through past practice has funded this cap on taxes by clawing back from properties realizing reduced taxation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following clawback percentages, as calculated by the Online Property Taxation Analysis (OPTA) System, be adopted by the City of Greater Sudbury;

Multi-Residential 68.1294%

Commercial 71.6995%

Industrial 35.2857% : and

THAT the City Solicitor prepare the necessary by-law.

(4)WHEREAS the $600 minimum property taxes requirement prevented individuals from taking advantage of the Elderly Property Tax Assistance Credit;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the $600 minimum tax requirement be eliminated from the criteria on the Elderly Property Tax Assistance Credit application; and

THAT the City Solicitor amend the necessary by-law.

Policy Implications

The recommendations contained in this report are consistent with policy direction by this and former Councils.

Executive Summary

This report deals with the adoption of 2008 property tax policy. A brief history of the transference of the function from the Province to the municipalities, as well as measures the City has taken over the year, the tax tools available to the City will be addressed.

Background

In 1998, the Province of Ontario introduced property tax reform, which valued each property in Ontario consistently, based on its market value. This system was developed to simplify the process so that Current Value Assessment (CVA) times the tax rate equals property taxes. Once this process was operationalized, major tax increases were identified as most areas of the Province had not been reassessed for many years (some as many as fifty years). For this reason, the Province provided tax tools in order for municipalities to help mitigate the effects of these large tax increases. Most municipalities failed to use the available tools as they wanted properties to pay their fair share of taxes based on their true market value. As a result, the Province intervened and introduced a 10-5-5 cap which translated to a maximum of a 10% increase in 1998 over 1997 taxes for business properties (multiple residential, commercial and industrial). For 1999 and 2000, a further maximum tax increase of 5% was allowed. In 2005, the provincial program has been extended to allow for maximum tax increases of 10% over the previous year's taxes plus the municipal levy change.

This capping program was a result of the property tax reform being implemented on outdated assessment models.

In Sudbury, there had been a reassessment every three or four years commencing in 1985 and up to 1998. The Region was assessed on a modified market value assessment system, which was linked to the market value of properties. As a result of the previous reassessments, Sudbury was in a good position for the provincial property tax reform and did not see the major increases in taxation that other municipalities had experienced. From 1985 to 1997, Sudbury was taxing properties based on market values within property classes.

Since 1998 up to and including 2007, Council tax policy direction has been to have properties pay taxes based on market values wherever possible. Even in light of the forced capping and clawback legislation, previous and current Councils have strived to have as many business properties as possible pay taxes based on CVA.

What the City has already adopted

From 1998 the Region and now the City have made a number of tax policy decisions that are currently in place. The City has complied with the three provincially mandated programs and these are:

1. Tax rebates for Registered Charities occupying Commercial and Industrial property,

2. Tax deferrals for Low Income Seniors and Low Income Disabled Persons residential property owners, and

3. Vacancy Rebate Program for properties in the Commercial and Industrial property classes.

In addition to this, the City has adopted the Optional Large Industrial Class, implemented tax reductions for vacant commercial and industrial properties and introduced the New Multi-Residential Class. For 2008, there is also a recommendation to modify the Elderly Property Tax Assistance Credit. The following provides a brief description for each of these.

Tax rebates for Registered Charities

Under provincial legislation, municipalities are required to rebate a minimum of 40% of the taxes paid by a registered charity occupying Commercial or Industrial property. Currently, the City provides a tax rebate of 40% to Registered Charities.

In addition, the City provides a 100% tax rebate to not for profit daycares in the residential class that are registered charities as well as legions, the Navy league and the Polish Combatants.

Tax deferrals for Low Income Seniors and Low Income Disabled Persons residential property owners

Under provincial legislation, municipalities are required to provide a tax relief policy for Low Income Seniors and Low Income Disabled residential property owners, beginning in a taxation year in which a general reassessment occurs. Currently, the City provides the option for these individuals to have a tax deferral on their property for any assessment related increase greater than $100 on their residential property tax bill.

Vacancy Rebate Program for properties in the Commercial and Industrial Property Classes

Under provincial legislation, municipalities are required to provide vacancy rebates to owners who have vacant units within their building and who apply for the rebate. Currently, the City reviews the application and provides the rebate to the property owners for the period that the units were vacant. The provincially imposed deadline for application is February 28 to be eligible for vacancy rebates for the previous year.

Tax reductions for vacant Commercial and Industrial properties

Under provincial legislation, municipalities are required to provide tax reductions for those properties that have excess land or vacant land. Currently, the City provides a 30% tax reduction to Commercial properties and a 35% reduction to Industrial properties.

Optional Class - Large Industrial Class

In 1998, Council chose to adopt the Large Industrial Class as an optional class within the Broad Industrial Class. This ensured that the tax burden placed on the large industrial property owners collectively in 1997 would be the same in 1998. This option ensured that the residual industrial property owners would not experience an additional tax burden as a result of the province wide reassessment and the new valuation methodology. If this optional class was eliminated the large industrial properties would realize less tax burden at the expense of the residual industrial properties as the tax burden must be kept within the broad class. Therefore removal of this optional class would not be recommended.

New Multi-Residential Class

In 2003, the City adopted a new Multi-Residential Class with a tax ratio of 1.0000 (same as residential). The creation of this new class was intended to spur development of additional multi-residential units. This ratio will remain in place for 35 years after the completion of building.

Recommended Modification to Elderly Property Tax Assistance Credit

In the 2008 operating budget deliberations, the Finance Committee approved the increase of this grant from $150 to $200 per year. One of the criteria currently in place to receive this grant is the taxes on the property must exceed $600. Some applications for this grant were denied as a result of the property owner's taxes being under the $600 threshold. Councillor Callaghan requested Finance staff to review this policy to ensure that individuals who were in need of the grant received this assistance.

The rationale for the $600 minimum taxes on a property preceded amalgamation when the former City of Sudbury provided this elderly assistance grant to seniors in their city. The former City of Sudbury collected taxes on behalf of the Region of Sudbury and the School Boards. Since both the Region and School Boards taxes were significantly higher than the City's local taxes, the grant was set at $100 if the total property taxes exceeded $600. For approximately every $600 collected on behalf of all three parties, the City's share was just over $100. The City was interested in refunding only the local taxes collected and did not want its taxpayers to pay for a rebate of Region and School Board taxes. The $600 threshold did accomplish that objective.

With the amalgamation in the City of Greater Sudbury and property tax reform relating to education taxes, the $600 threshold no longer has any relevance. Since the residential education taxes make up only approximately 14% of the total tax bill, the rebate of $200 will be the City's portion of taxes as long as the total bill exceeds $230. For this reason, it is recommended that the $600 minimum property tax criteria be eliminated from the application for the Elderly Property Tax Assistance Grant.

The taxation department has kept past years' applications of denied credits as a result of the $600 property tax criteria. If this recommendation is approved, the tax department will be sending out applications to these property owners and will also follow up with telephone calls to ensure they have the ability to apply and receive this credit.

It is anticipated that the budget impact on this item will be minimal and can be absorbed within the existing budget.

Capping

Under Bill 140, properties in the Multi-Residential, Commercial and Industrial classes can pay only an additional 5% in taxes over the previous year plus any levy increase. The difference between the amount of taxation that these business properties should have paid based on their Current Value Assessment (CVA) and what they do pay under Bill 140 has to be funded. The municipality has two choices in funding the cap:

1) from municipal funds i.e. Reserves or a levy increase

2) clawbacks from decreasing properties

CGS Councils have always chosen to fund the cap by clawing back from decreasing properties so as not to deplete our reserves. As a result, this becomes a revenue neutral exercise as the decreasing properties fund the cap.

The Province, through the 2004 Budget (Bill 83, The Budget Measures Act, 2004), added a number of options which are intended to have property owners pay their fair share of taxes sooner. The following options will allow properties to pay their taxes based on the Current Value Assessment (CVA) and reduce the number of properties affected by the capping and clawback formula:

1) Increase the amount of the annual cap from 5% to up to 10% of the previous year's taxes.

2) Implement a minimum annual increase up to 5% of the CVA level taxes.

3) Move capped or clawed back properties directly to CVA taxes if they are within $250 of their CVA taxes.

4) Phase out the "new construction treatment" by creating floors establishing a minimum percentage of CVA tax responsibility. For 2005 the floor has been set at 70%. For 2006 it was increased to 80%;for 2007 it was increased to 90%. For 2008, new construction will be taxed at its true CVA of 100%.

The aforementioned measures adopted by previous Councils has significantly reduced the number of properties affected by the protectionism measures that have been in place from 1998 to 2004.

Decisions Required for 2008 Tax Policy

Like other municipalities in the Province of Ontario, current and past City of Greater Sudbury Councils have supported the use of tools that would;

1) minimize the impact on the residential taxpayer.
2) eliminate capping and clawback wherever possible so that properties pay taxes on true market value

Decision #1

How to handle the industrial tax class ratio which is over the Provincial allowable level at 2.63?

There are two options:

a) Leave the ratio at 2.641 and pass only 50% of the 2008 levy increase to properties in this class. The residential class collectively (when the education tax rate is factored in) would realize a 5.3% tax increase.

b) Move the industrial tax ratio to 2.63 and pass on 100% of the tax levy to this class. The residential class would reflect a tax increase of 5.1% passing some of the tax burden back to the industrial class. This option would allocate $316,000 of tax burden back to the industrial class while relieving the residential class of $218,000 of tax burden and all other classes collectively of $98,000 of tax burden.

Both options are analysed and results identified in **Appendix 1.** Option 1(b) is recommended as it benefits the residential taxpayers.

Decision #2.

Which tax tools should be used when dealing with tax capping and clawbacks?

The analysis is reflected in **Appendix 2** and the recommendation is to adopt all three of the tax tools as it reduces the clawback percentages and removes properties from the capping exercise.

The following reflects the results for the business classes (multiple residential, commercial and industrial) if the recommended capping options are accepted:

	Multi-Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Total
Reduction in Clawback %	14.55%	10.60%	2.13%	
Properties Removed from Capping Exercise	88	1,615	274	1,977
Savings to Decreasing Properties	$4,988	$189,637	$27,384	$222,009

Based on the acceptance of the above noted tax tools, the Online Property Tax Analysis (OPTA) system that the City uses to determine the capping and clawback calculations has produced the following numbers:

Multi-Residential	68.1294%
Commercial	71.6995%
Industrial	35.2857%

Tax Impact based on recommendations

Given no changes to area rating and adoption of the revised industrial and large industrial tax ratios, the following reflects the property taxes (municipal and education) on properties assessed at $120,000 in each of the 4 service areas:

Residential Class

	Career/ Urban	Composite/ Commuter	Volunteer/ Commuter	Volunteer
2007 Taxes	2,372	2,258	2,177	2,109
2008 Taxes	2,494	2,368	2,286	2,218
Tax Increase	122	110	109	109
% Increase	5.1%	4.9%	5.0%	5.2%

Multiple Residential Class

	Career/ Urban	Composite/ Commuter	Volunteer/ Commuter	Volunteer
2007 Taxes	4,549	4,314	4,147	4,008
2008 Taxes	4,800	4,540	4,371	4,231
Tax Increase	251	226	224	223
% Increase	5.5%	5.2%	5.4%	5.6%

Commercial Class

	Career/ Urban	Composite/ Commuter	Volunteer/ Commuter	Volunteer
2007 Taxes	5,917	5,721	5,581	5,464
2008 Taxes	6,118	5,901	5,759	5,642
Tax Increase	201	180	178	178
% Increase	3.4%	3.1%	3.2%	3.3%

Industrial Class

	Career/ Urban	Composite/ Commuter	Volunteer/ Commuter	Volunteer
2007 Taxes	8,189	7,903	7,700	7,531
2008 Taxes	8,372	8,063	7,861	7,694
Tax Increase	183	160	161	163
% Increase	2.2%	2.0%	2.1%	2.2%

The education portion of the property tax bill for the commercial and industrial class is at a higher percentage than the residential class. In addition, in the 2007 Provincial budget, the ministry announced a graduated reduction in the Business Education Tax (BET) commencing in the 2008 property taxation year. The combination of these two items are responsible for the business classes reflecting an overall lower tax increase than the residential class. The reduction in education taxes for the commercial properties collectively is $18,500 while the industrial class reduction is $233,000.

Area Rating

During the 2008 budget deliberations, Finance Committee had questions regarding area rating of services and requested further information on this issue during 2008 tax policy.

For 2008 the current area rating section for fire services and separate rates would remain in place for Career, Composite and Volunteer districts. As well, there are no changes for area rating Transit Services, which is currently based on service hours. It is recommended for 2008 that the same area rating process remain in place.

See Appendix 3 to view the impact of eliminating part or all of area rating.

SUMMARY

In summary, it is recommended that Council adopt the tax ratios that benefit the residential class.

It is also recommended that Council adopt all the options available to ensure that more properties pay their CVA taxes.

For the capping program, it is recommended that Council adopt the clawback percentages identified in the report.

It is also recommended that the minimum $600 property tax criteria be eliminated as a qualification for the Elderly Property Tax Assistance Credit of $200.

Appendix 1

Effects of the Industrial Tax Ratio exceeding the Provincial Threshold of 2.63

Currently the starting 2008 tax ratio for the broad industrial class is 2.64 which is currently over the Provincial threshold of 2.63, which has relieved the industrial class of tax burden absorbed by all other classes. If this ratio is unaltered, only 50% of the levy increase can be passed on to property owners in this class. Impact of this decision is as follows:

Option 1a) Municipal Tax Increase by Class (Ratio at 2.64 and 50% Levy Increase)	
Residential	$6,373,605
Multi-Residential	$809,942
Commercial	$2,193,382
Pipeline	$55,958
Industrial (including L.I.)	$450,628

However, if the broad class industrial ratio is moved to the Provincial threshold of 2.63 then 100% of the levy increase can be passed onto all properties within the industrial class. The tax effects of this option is as follows:

Option 1b) Municipal Tax Increase by Class (Included at 2.63 Ratio)	
Residential	$6,155,644
Multi-Residential	$783,290
Commercial	$2,123,923
Pipeline	$54,020
Industrial (including L.I.)	$766,816

As you can see in this example, less tax burden is passed onto all other classes with the industrial class receiving an additional $316,000 in tax burden. For this reason, Option 1b, is recommended and that the 2008 starting tax ratios for the industrial class be reduced to 2.63 (provincial threshold) in order to pass 100% of the levy increase to the industrial class.

Recommended Ratios	
Residential	1.000000
Multi-Residential	2.059100
Commercial	1.720574
Pipeline	1.475204
Industrial Broad Class	2.630000
Industrial Residential	2.438594
Large Industrial	2.764015

Appendix 2

Eliminating Capping and Clawback wherever possible

The following are illustrations of how the tax tools can be utilized to eliminate properties from the capping and clawback exercise.

Table 1 illustrates the affects of implementing only the mandatory 5% cap on increasing business properties.

Properties affected by the Mandatory 5% Cap

Table 1				
	Multi-Residential	**Commercial**	**Industrial**	**Total**
Decrease Clawback %	82.6840%	82.3030%	37.4172%	
Clawback $	$16,104	$1,133,960	$225,186	$1,375,250
# of Capped Properties	12	234	55	301
# of Clawback Decreasing Properties	100	2,374	343	2,817
# of CVA Tax Properties	265	46	8	319
Total # in Class	377	2,654	406	3,437

Since previous Councils has always funded the cap from the decreasing properties, it is recommended that this practice continue as it will not deplete the City's reserves. For this reason, under this scenario a total 2,817 properties will have their tax reductions clawed back to fund the cap that was generated by providing protection to 301 properties. In total 3,118 properties are affected. In the past, Council has attempted to increase the number of properties that will pay CVA taxes.

Full Options Implemented to Fast Track Properties to CVA Taxes

The other options available to enable municipalities to have properties reach their true CVA taxes faster are as follows:

1) Increase the cap to a 10% increase over the 2007 taxes

2) Increase taxes of by at least 5% of CVA taxes

3) Move capped properties with $250 of CVA taxes directly to CVA taxes

These options will move more properties towards elimination from protection or will eliminate properties from the capping and clawback exercise. By choosing all of these option the following occurs.

Table 2				
	Multi-Residential	**Commercial**	**Industrial**	**Total**
Decrease Clawback %	68.1294%	71.6995%	35.2857%	
Clawback $	$11,116	$944,323	$197,802	$1,153,241
# of Capped Properties	7	194	41	242
# of Clawback Decreasing Properties	17	799	83	899
# of CVA Tax Properties	353	1,661	282	2,296
Total # in Class	377	2,654	406	3,437

Table 3 - for information purposes only			
Number of Properties Capped or Clawedback if recommendations are adopted			
	Base Cap - 5%	**With all Options**	**Properties Removed**
Multi-Residential	112	24	88
Commercial	2,608	993	1,615
Industrial	398	124	274
Total	3,218	1,141	1,977

RECOMMENDATION

With implementing the full option package (table 2), a total of 1,977 properties are eliminated from the capping and clawback exercise and more properties are paying true CVA taxes.

For this reason, the use of the full option package to achieve full CVA taxes faster is the recommended option and it is as follows:

1) Implement a maximum 10% tax increase

2) Increase taxes by at least 5% of CVA taxes

3) Move capped and clawedback properties with $250 of CVA taxes directly to CVA taxes.

Appendix 3

Effects of Elimination of Area Rating

This appendix will reflect the impact of area rating under the following scenarios:

1) eliminate area rating for Fire Services only,
2) eliminate area rating for Transit Services only,
3) eliminate all area rating.

Tax Impact

The following four charts reflect the impact on a home assessed at $120,000 in each of the four services areas:

Chart 1 - Area Rating for Fire and Transit Services on existing criteria
Chart 2 - No Area Rating for Transit Services
Chart 3 - No Area Rating for Fire Services
Chart 4 - No Area Rating for any services

Chart 1 - Current Practice on Area Rating

	Career/ Urban	Composite/ Commuter	Volunteer/ Commuter	Volunteer
2007 Taxes	2,372	2,258	2,177	2,109
2008 Taxes	2,494	2,368	2,286	2,218
Tax Increase	122	110	109	109
% Increase	5.1%	4.9%	5.0%	5.2%

Chart 2 - No Area Rating for Transit Services

	Career/ Urban	Composite/ Commuter	Volunteer/ Commuter	Volunteer
2007 Taxes	2,372	2,258	2,177	2,109
2008 Taxes	2,470	2,406	2,323	2,323
Tax Increase	98	148	146	214
% Increase	4.1%	6.6%	6.7%	10.1%

Chart 3 - No Area Rating for Fire Services

	Career/ Urban	Composite/ Commuter	Volunteer/ Commuter	Volunteer
2007 Taxes	2,372	2,258	2,177	2,109
2008 Taxes	2,447	2,386	2,385	2,317
Tax Increase	75	128	208	208
% Increase	3.2%	5.7%	9.6%	9.9%

Chart 4 - No Area Rating for any services

	Career/ Urban	Composite/ Commuter	Volunteer/ Commuter	Volunteer
2007 Taxes	2,372	2,258	2,177	2,109
2008 Taxes	2,423	2,423	2,423	2,423
Tax Increase	51	165	246	314
% Increase	2.2%	7.3%	11.3%	14.9%

Presented To:	Priorities Committee
Presented:	Wednesday, May 07, 2008
Report Date	Friday, Mar 28, 2008
Type:	Policy Discussion Papers - Decision Requested

Request for Recommendation

Presentation of City of Greater Sudbury's Open Air Burning By-law

Recommendations

For Information Only

Signed By

No signatures or approvals were recorded for this report.

GREATER SUDBURY FIRE SERVICES

OPEN AIR BURNING BY-LAW REVIEW
COUNCIL PRESENTATION
MAY 7, 2008

CGS FIRE SERVICES OPEN AIR BURNING BY-LAW REVIEW

- **PROCESS:**
  - Council presentation March 5, 2008
  - Fire Chief asked to come back with further info on:
    - Education Strategy
    - Enforcement strategy including repeat offenders
    - Urban versus rural land designation
    - Public Health input
    - Legal opinion – do we have authority over "SMOKE"

CGS FIRE SERVICES OPEN AIR BURNING BY-LAW REVIEW

- EDUCATION
  - Fire Services conducts annual Spring education via mass media and smaller group presentations on an on-going basis (e.g. Campers groups)
  - No need to change this strategy
  - Insufficient resources to change it anyway

CGS FIRE SERVICES OPEN AIR BURNING BY-LAW REVIEW

- ENFORCEMENT
  - Done through By-law with input from Fire Services as required
  - Repeat offenders – increasing fines (Part 3 of the POA) – Laying of Information - individual must attend court and fines at a maximum of $5000

CGS FIRE SERVICES OPEN AIR BURNING BY-LAW REVIEW

- URBAN VICE RURAL LANDS
  - No appropriate designation
  - Options
    - D18 zoning designation or above – will cover 80 % of population base – but they will not be allowed to burn – NOT IN PUBLIC INTEREST (Public input)
    - Lot size restriction – greater than 6,000 Feet Square – covers approximately 50 % of population base
    - Distance from structures – suggest change to 20 feet minimum from a residence and 10 feet minimum from any structure

CGS FIRE SERVICES OPEN AIR BURNING BY-LAW REVIEW

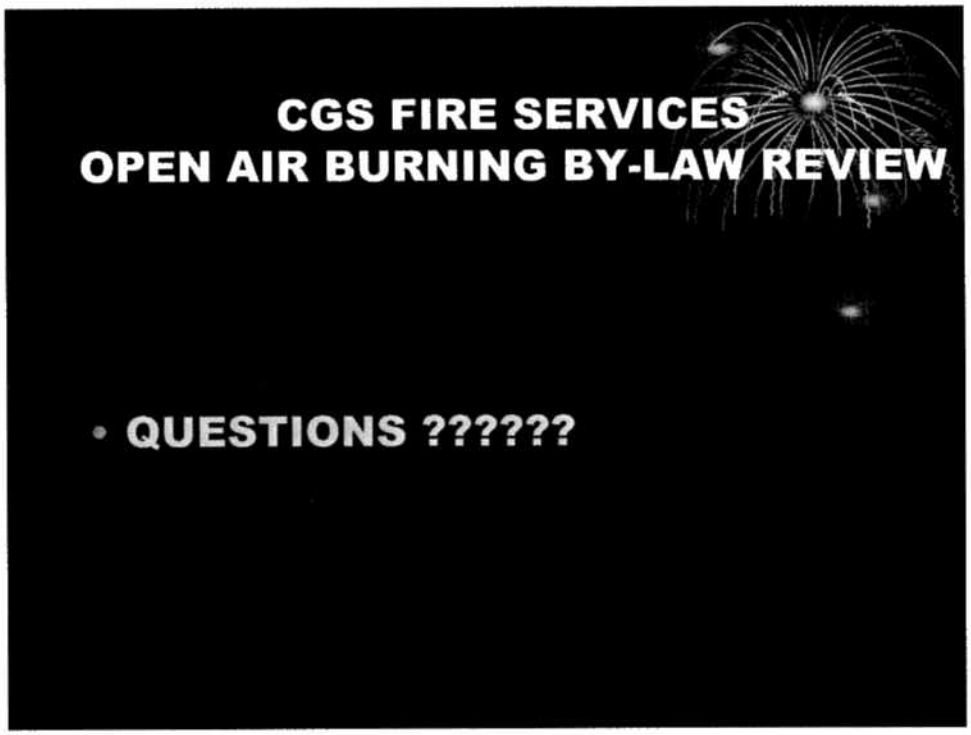
- Public Health Input
  - Smoke is not good for you
  - Many studies have shown this
  - Their expertise is more with regard to smoking or smoke indoors near food areas
  - For further input they suggested we contact a higher provincial authority e.g. M.O.E.

CGS FIRE SERVICES OPEN AIR BURNING BY-LAW REVIEW

- Legal opinion
  - Ron Swiddle, City Solicitor

CGS FIRE SERVICES OPEN AIR BURNING BY-LAW REVIEW

- RECOMMENDATIONS:
  - ALLOW WINTER DAYTIME BURNING
  - ALLOWANCE FOR CEREMONIAL AND OTHER CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
  - CHANGE DISTANCE FROM RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES TO 20 FEET (FROM 10 FEET)
  - CHANGE PROCEDURES SO THAT FIRE SERVICES WILL NOT RESPOND TO SMOKE COMPLAINTS


CGS FIRE SERVICES
OPEN AIR BURNING BY-LAW REVIEW
• QUESTIONS ??????

Presented To:	Priorities Committee
Presented:	Wednesday, May 07, 2008
Report Date	Friday, Apr 25, 2008
Type:	Policy Discussion Papers - Decision Requested

Request for Recommendation

Public Participation Policy

Recommendations

Whereas the value of civic engagement is recognized as a valuable means of encouraging public participation and involvement in municipal affairs,

And whereas the City of Greater Sudbury supports public participation through Advisory Boards and Panels, Committees, Community Action Networks, Neighbourhood Associations, public meetings/community consultations and other means of civic engagement,

Therefore let it be resolved that the City of Greater Sudbury adopt the proposed Public Participation Policy to help guide and implement current and future civic engagement opportunities for the citizens of our community.

Signed By

Report Prepared By
Chris Gore
Manager of Volunteerism & Community Development
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Division Review
Real Carre
Director of Leisure , Community and Volunteer Services
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Recommended by the Department
Catherine Matheson
General Manager of Community Development
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Recommended by the C.A.O.
Mark Mieto
Chief Administrative Officer
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Background

In the winter of 2007 the Social Planning Council of Sudbury conducted a survey of Civic Engagement Experiences within our community at the request of the City of Greater Sudbury for the purpose of providing feedback that could be used to develop a Public Participation Policy. Respondents to the survey had participated in a variety of engagement activities including Committees and Roundtables, Advisory Boards and Panels, public meetings/community consultation, Community Action Networks, Community Solutions Team and others. The results of the survey identified that respondents consider civic engagement to be extremely important. The report also identified concerns including the need to more specifically define the role which residents play within various methods of civic engagement. The need to be inclusive and to provide equal opportunities for all citizens to participate in community process was also identified as very significant.

Following the compilation of the data received and the review of the responses a draft Public Participation Policy was prepared and presented by the Social Planning Council of Sudbury and circulated to City staff. The framework of the policy was reviewed by staff and presented to the Healthy Community Cabinet in October of 2007. A summary of the proposed Public Participation Policy was presented to City Council in January of 2008 as a component of background information at the Council Retreat. The attached document outlines the framework and the key components of this policy including the core values of public participation for staff to follow in order plan appropriately for successful civic engagement. Reference materials including guides for citizen and government use as well as an inclusion lens to help facilitate the application of the policy.

The City of Greater Sudbury through Council and staff have always endeavoured to communicate effectively with citizens and to encourage their participation in municipal planning and direction. The Public Participation Policy attached to this report has been developed in response to the experiences of our citizens and with the objective of creating a corporate policy. A subsequent report which will be prepared for City Council in June of this year will outline the Terms of Engagement for Community Action Networks in consideration of the policy provided for public participation proposed in this report.

Public Participation Policy

Background

The City of Greater Sudbury recognizes that political decision-making is most effective when it includes public input from an active, engaged and educated public. The City of Greater Sudbury has been proactive in involving citizens in community decision-making: participatory budget processes, various planning and development initiatives, the Healthy Community Cabinet, numerous Advisory Committees and Panels as well as neighbourhood level involvement through the Community Action Networks (CANs). A policy will formalize and guide future citizen engagement activities across the corporation toward standardized, consistent and sustainable civic engagement for all citizens.

Purpose

The Public Participation Policy is intended to provide a framework for the City of Greater Sudbury to engage its citizens in local decision-making. One of the main goals of this policy is to ensure that civic engagement activities are given consideration throughout the corporation as well as ensure that citizens can initiate civic engagement activities through a number of available entry points. This policy recognizes, unless otherwise stated by law or regulations, that it is the responsibility of the City of Greater Sudbury (Council and Administration) to assess opportunities for public engagement.

Policy Statement

The City of Greater Sudbury (Council and Administration) recognizes that decisions are improved by engaging citizens and diverse stakeholder groups where appropriate and are committed to upholding engagement processes that are inclusive, transparent and standardized within the Corporation's ability to finance and resource them.

The City of Greater Sudbury assigns high priority to the factors impacting the challenge of civic engagement, specifically the diverse needs and backgrounds of citizens and the large geographic spread of citizens across communities.

The City of Greater Sudbury will work to build capacity within the Corporation, equipping staff and Council with the tools necessary to play a vital role in fostering a greater sense of belonging among all citizens within the community.

Recognizing the value of ongoing input from citizens and diverse stakeholder groups throughout the community, the City of Greater Sudbury commits to work closely with these groups through various venues to ensure the policy remains relevant and successful.

Guiding Principles

A growing consensus concerning what Greater Sudburians value has evolves over time and is reflected in the City of Greater Sudbury Official Plan, the Healthy Community By-Law implemented by City Council in 2001 and more recently the healthy Community Charter in 2007. In keeping with this, the Charter embraces civic engagement and social capital as one of its four main priority areas forming an integral part of the overall Healthy Community strategy.

Principles of Healthy Communities:

- Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well being
- Social, environmental and economic factors are important determinants of human health and are inter-related
- People cannot achieve their fullest potential unless they are able to take control of those things which determine their well-being
- All sectors of the community are inter-related and share their knowledge, expertise and perspectives, working together to create a healthy community.

*Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition, 2004

Core Values

The International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) offers the following core values of public participation to help guide the application of this policy.

1. The public should have a say in decisions about actions that affect their lives.
2. Public participation includes the promise that the public's contribution will influence the decisions.
3. The public participation process communicates the interests and meets the process needs of participants.
4. The public participation process actively seeks out and facilitates the involvement of those potentially affected.
5. The public participation process involves participants in defining how they participate.
6. The public participation process provides participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.

*International Association for Public Participation (IAP2)

Public Participation Spectrum

Different issues require different levels of public engagement. The following Public Participation Spectrum can be used as a guideline for action. The Public Participation Spectrum is a tool to assist with the planning of specific civic engagement activities. The pillars of this spectrum are; **inform**, **consult**, **involve**, **collaborate**, and **empower**, providing a mechanism to clarify complex issues, and to ensure that decision-making processes are transparent.

IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum

Developed by the International Association for Public Participation

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT

INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
Public Participation Goal:	**Public Participation Goal:**	**Public Participation Goal:**	**Public Participation Goal:**	**Public Participation Goal:**
To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problems, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	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 decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.
Promise to The Public:	**Promise to The Public:**	**Promise to The Public:**	**Promise to The Public:**	**Promise to The Public:**
We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for direct advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.
Example Techniques to Consider:	**Example Techniques to Consider:**	**Example Techniques to Consider:**	**Example Techniques to Consider:**	**Example Techniques to Consider:**
• Fact sheets • Web sites • Open houses	• Public comment • Focus groups • Surveys • Public meetings	• Workshops • Deliberate polling	• Citizen Advisory Committees • Consensus-building	• Citizen juries • Ballots • Delegated decisions

Presented To:	Priorities Committee
Presented:	Wednesday, May 07, 2008
Report Date	Tuesday, Apr 22, 2008
Type:	Correspondence for Information Only

For Information Only

2008 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund Report

Recommendations

For Information Only.

Signed By

Report Prepared By
Ed Stankiewicz
Manager of Financial Planning & Policy
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Recommended by the Department
Lorella Hayes
Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Recommended by the C.A.O.
Mark Mieto
Chief Administrative Officer
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Background

As Council will recall, the 2008 operating budget was approved subject to the finalization of the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) and the resolution approved by Council stated "and that should the 2008 Budgeted OMPF Grant materialize, that up to $1.0M be considered to offset the 2008 tax increase". In late December 2007, the level of OMPF funding for 2008 was confirmed at $58.7M, as budgeted. However, in March 2008, grant details were distributed and the portion of the grant related to the Ontario Drug Benefit component (ODB) upload has only been announced as one-time in the Provincial Allocation Notice as a "special 2008 ODB upload guarantee". It is Finance staff's understanding that if the OMPF grant portion related to the ODB upload was made permanent, Council may have considered applying the $1M to the 2008 budget, thus reducing the tax impact.

By 2011, the Province intends to fully upload the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), however, the Ministry of Finance has not confirmed the OMPF grant formula beyond 2008.

OMPF Grant Budget Compared to Allocation Notice

Refer to Appendix A, which reflects a breakdown of the City's OMPF budget and the Provincial Allocation Notice. In the Provincial Allocation Notice (Appendix B), an $3 million special 2008 ODB upload guarantee is reflected along with $.9 million of additional assistance. In the 2008 budget document, City staff reflected the $2.5 million figure as one-time funding related to the ODB upload, as the figure was the balancing item to provide the $58.7 million guarantee for 2008. The City's OMPF calculation was finalized in November of 2007 in order to have it incorporated into the 2008 operating budget document. The social program component of the grant was calculated based on expenditure estimates by staff. The Provincial Allocation Notice issued on March 13, 2008 used both 2006 and 2007 actuals to forecast the 2008 special program costs.

For both the Equalization Grant and the Northern Grant calculations, City staff made estimates of assessment differential and number of households, which were very close to the figures used by the Province. However, the City also estimated funding values for assessment differential and dollars per household based solely on patterns that the Province had previously used. These estimates proved to be inaccurate, as the Province had deviated for its previous pattern. The following charts reflect this issue.

Grant Per $10,000 Assessment Differential

	City's Estimate	Provincial Allocation
2005	$62	$62
2006	$60	$60
2007	$58	$58
2008	**$56**	**$54**

Grant Per Household

	City's Estimate	Provincial Allocation
2005	$225	$225
2006	$230	$230
2007	$235	$235
2008	**$240**	**$235**

Based on this change in philosophy by the Province, the breakdown of the City's OMPF allocation and the Provinces notice are different.

When the 2008 reconciliation of actual eligible social program expenditures is performed, the one-time funding level will be known and the contribution to reserve adjusted accordingly.

SUMMARY

As identified in the Provincial Allocation Notice, the additional funding as a result of the ODB upload will be considered one-time for 2008. Staff will be contacting ministry officials in advance of the 2009 budget to determine if any of the ODB upload will be considered permanent funding for OMPF.

Appendix A

City of Greater Sudbury OMPF Allocation

2008 City Budget

	($ millions)
1) Social Programs - based on Social Programs expenditure estimates by the Community Development department for 2008	22.1
2) Equalization Grant Calc. formula: Assess. Differential X no. of households/$10000 X $56 = 42,000 X 71,700 / 10,000 X $56 = $16.9 million	16.9
3) Northern Grant Calc. Formula: households X $240 =71,700 X $240 = $17.2 million	17.2
4) One Time Funding resulting from ODB upload	2.5
Total OMPF	58.7

2008 Allocation Notice Ministry of Finance

	($ millions)
1) Social Programs - 2008 projected expenditures for Social Programs based on 2006 and 2007 actual expenditures	21.6 *
2) Equalization Grant Calc. formula: Assess. Differential X no. of households/$10000 X $54 = 42,187 X 71,715 / 10,000 X $54 = $16.3 million	16.3
3) Northern Grant Calc. Formula: households X $235 =71,715 X $235 = $16.9 million	16.9
4) ODB upload gaurantee	3.0 *
5) Additional Assistance to ensure same total grant	0.9 *
	58.7

* Grant components will differ based on actual eligible expenditures.

Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF)
2008 Allocation Notice **(see enclosed insert)**

Ontario

City of Greater Sudbury 23103

2008 Highlights for the City of Greater Sudbury

- Despite the provincial upload of Ontario Drug Benefits in 2008, the City of Greater Sudbury's total OMPF allocation will be maintained at the 2007 announced OMPF allocation. This is an increase of $4,104,200 compared to 2004 CRF payments.
- The upload of Ontario Drug Benefits will save the City of Greater Sudbury an estimated $3,034,600 in 2008.

A. Sum of OMPF Grant Components	$57,806,200
1. Social Programs Grant	
a. Assessment Threshold Component	$21,581,000
b. Income Threshold Component	-
2. Equalization Grant	
a. Assessment Equalization Component	$16,337,500
b. Farmland and Managed Forest Component	-
3. Northern and Rural Communities Grant	
a. Rural Communities Component	-
b. Northern Communities Component	$16,853,100
c. Northern and Rural Social Programs Component	-
d. Stabilization Component	-
4. Police Services Grant	-
5. Special 2008 ODB Upload Guarantee	$3,034,600

B. Additional Assistance	$895,000

C. 2008 Announced Total Funding (Line A + Line B)	$58,701,200

D. Grant Allocation Summary	Funding Allocation	Funding Increase Over Prior Year	Funding Increase Over 2004 CRF
1. 2004 CRF Payments	$54,597,000	-	-
2. 2005 Announced Total OMPF Allocation	$55,122,800	$525,800	$525,800
3. 2006 Announced Total OMPF Allocation	$58,701,200	$3,578,400	$4,104,200
4. 2007 Announced Total OMPF Allocation	$58,701,200	-	$4,104,200
5. 2008 Announced Total OMPF Allocation	$58,701,200	-	$4,104,200

E. Other Provincial Initiatives	$10,663,500
1. 2008 Estimated ODB Upload Savings	$3,034,600
2. 2008 Estimated Public Health Net Benefit	$4,875,600
3. 2008 Estimated Provincial Gas Tax Revenue	$2,753,300

F. 2008 Announced Total Funding with Other Provincial Initiatives (Line C + Line E)	$69,364,700

G. Key OMPF Data Inputs	March 2008 Release
1 Total Municipal Social Program Costs	$40,237,621
2. Households	71,715
3. Total Assessment per Household	$147,813
4. Policing Costs per Household	$535
5. Rural and Small Community Measure	13.4%
6. Total Household Income	$3,443,790,920

Presented To:	Priorities Committee
Presented:	Wednesday, May 07, 2008
Report Date	Tuesday, Apr 29, 2008
Type:	Correspondence for Information Only

For Information Only

Financial Report on the Union's Options for Enhanced Winter Control Service Levels

Recommendations

For Information Only

Signed By

Report Prepared By
Shawn Turner
Manager of Financial & Support Services
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Division Review
Robert Falcioni
Director of Roads and Transportation
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Recommended by the Department
Greg Clausen, P.Eng
General Manager of Infrastructure Services
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Recommended by the C.A.O.
Mark Mieto
Chief Administrative Officer
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Background

Council adopted the current Winter Control service levels for the 2007/2008 season. On April 2, 2008, the Union representing the City's Outside Workers made a presentation recommending that the City increase Winter Control service levels. The Union recommended that service levels for Class 4-6 routes be enhanced from 12 to 24 hours, to 8 to 12 hours, while Class 1 to 3 routes remain unchanged.

The Union proposal also included a second 24/7 road patrol to help supplement the current single unit that covers all of the City.

Union Proposal

To provide the increased service levels, the Union is proposing that the City reassign contractors from the outside sections to the City core, while increasing the service to the outside sections using City Crews. This requires that the current contractors be retained plus the hiring of seventeen (17) additional City staff for the Winter Control period of November 1 to April 30, inclusive. The implementation of this service level change initially would have to be done through the use of temporary employees, however this will reduce our ability to respond to extended storm events.

The cost to implement this proposal for a full year in 2008 dollars is $2.236 Million. To implement this proposal for the 2008/2009 Winter Season would require an approximate $560,000 unbudgeted expenditure for November and December 2008, which maybe drawn from the Roads Winter Control Reserve Fund.

The change to the current winter control budget and the effect on the tax levy is summarized in the chart below. The cost to implement the proposal is quoted in 2009 dollars and totals $2.303 Million.

	ExistingCurrent Winter Control Budget	Union Proposal Winter Control Budget	Variance	Increase on Tax Levy for 2009
Administration & Supervision	1,697,610	1,697,610	0	0.0%
Sanding and Salting	5,942,530	7,868,237	1,925,707	1.1%
Winter Ditching/Spring Cleanup	1,288,220	1,288,220	0	0.0%
Snow Removal	922,840	922,840	0	0.0%
Snow Plowing	565,430	748,660	183,230	0.1%
Winter Mtce - Sidewalks	878,200	878,200	0	0.0%
Misc. Winter Roads Mtce	3,096,350	3,096,350	194,128	0.1%
TOTALS	14,391,180	16,500,117	2,303,065	1.3%

In addition to the above mentioned operating impact, there will also be an impact on the Fleet Capital Budget. In the short term (1-2 years) the City will be able to perform the proposed enhancements with the current compliment of equipment. However, the current fleet is beyond its recommended service life and a large capital investment in fleet would be required to continue with the implementation of these recommendations. The current price for a multi-functional plow truck is approximately $205,000. The 17 units would have to be replaced over the next three years requiring the Fleet Capital Budget to increase by $1.2 Million per year for the next three years. In year four and permanently thereafter, the annual Fleet Capital Budget will have to increase by $0.5 Million.

If the Union proposal is adopted by Council, City forces would be assigned to other winter control activities when not engaged in a storm event, and these costs are included in the budget costing presented.

Council has also requested what it would cost to provide the same enhanced service level using only contractors. The estimated annual cost to achieve these service levels utilizing contractors would be approximately $1,848,000, which is approximately $450,000 less than utilizing City Staff and equipment. The difference in cost is primarily because contractors are only paid per event with the exception of a standby charge. If this option was implemented, a one percent (1%) increase in the tax levy would be required.

Further, utilizing contractors to perform these service level enhancements would

require no additional investment in fleet beyond our current requirements.

Presented To:	Priorities Committee
Presented:	Wednesday, May 07, 2008
Report Date	Tuesday, Apr 15, 2008
Type:	Correspondence for Information Only

For Information Only

Revenue Loss for PIL Properties as a Result of Provincial Business Education Tax Reduction

Recommendations

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Signed By

Report Prepared By
Ed Stankiewicz
Manager of Financial Planning & Policy
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Recommended by the Department
Lorella Hayes
Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Recommended by the C.A.O.
Mark Mieto
Chief Administrative Officer
Digitally Signed May 2, 08

Background

Constitutionally, the Provincial and Federal governments are exempt from paying property taxes, however, the upper levels of government acknowledge that as property owners, they, their employees and occupants of Provincial and Federal property, utilize municipal services on a daily basis. Therefore the senior levels of government make payments in lieu of taxes.

Each year the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) provides the City of Greater Sudbury with a listing of Provincial and Federal properties eligible for payment in lieu of taxes. This listing includes the current value assessment, realty tax codes and realty tax qualifiers which recommend the appropriate tax rate to be applied to arrive at the payment in lieu of taxes and whether or not the PIL needs to be shared with the school boards. In some cases, the City receives the entire applicable tax rate against the current value assessment including education and sometimes the City receives the municipal portion only. CGS Finance staff regularly monitor not only the current value assessment supplied by MPAC but also the realty tax codes and realty tax qualifiers to ensure that the City is receiving the appropriate PIL revenue.

In most Provincially owned properties, the City of Greater Sudbury only receives the municipal portion of the applicable tax rate as a payment in lieu. However, with federally owned properties the City is able to retain the education portion as well.

In the Spring of 2007 the Province of Ontario in it's budget announced a gradual reduction in the business education tax (BET) of all commercial and industrial properties in the Province of Ontario. This reduction will be phased in commencing immediately for a duration of seven years. However, in the 2008 Provincial budget, it was stated that the Business Education Tax Reduction will be accelerated and will take place over a three year period in Northern Ontario only. These BET reductions are very positive for commercial, industrial and large industrial taxpayers. As stated in the 2007 Budget, this provincial policy change will cut local business education property taxes by $8.4M by 2010, when fully implemented. However, there is a reduction to the City's share of education PIL revenues retained. While the initial implementation will result in minimal PIL lost revenues to the City of Greater Sudbury, when fully implemented the City will lose approximately $222,000 in revenues.

The following chart reflects lost revenues by year.

Commercial / Industrial	
Year	Anticipated Loss
2008	$ 4,439
2009	$ 5,893
2010	$211,631
Total	**$221,963**

The City of Greater Sudbury is not alone in this matter and the City of Ottawa has advised that the PIL education loss when this provincial policy is fully implemented will mean a significant loss to that municipality. This is a significant issue in Ottawa, as a result of the large volume of federally owned buildings.

CGS Finance staff have been in touch with northern cities such as Timmins, North Bay, Sault Ste Marie and Thunder Bay and have requested comments from these municipalities regarding the anticipated losses, and to collaborate in an effort to offset this lost revenue. We are recommending that a request be made to the Province of Ontario to provide an annual grant equal to the lost PIL revenues, as a result of the reduction in BET rates. Such a strategy is not unprecedented since the Province of Ontario gave grants to

municipalities to make up for the lost revenue when the Province took over the revenues associated with Power Generation Dams.

Conclusion

CGS Finance staff will continue to liaise with the northern municipalities and the City of Ottawa regarding the Business Education Tax reduction.

Should City Council agree with this strategy, a resolution will be prepared for Council's consideration at the Council meeting of May 14, 2008.

Presented To:	Priorities Committee
Presented:	Wednesday, May 07, 2008
Report Date	Tuesday, Apr 22, 2008
Type:	Citizen Delegations

For Information Only

Annual Update from Safe Communities Greater Sudbury

Recommendations

For Information Only

Signed By

No signatures or approvals were recorded for this report.

safe communities™
greater sudbury

Safe Communities Greater Sudbury

Mission Statement:

'To make the City of Greater Sudbury the safest place in the world to live, work and play by creating a culture instilled with safety, education and commitment to injury prevention.'

safe communities
greater sudbury

Safe Communities Canada

- Founded by Paul Kells in 1996
- Created a template for communities to reduce injuries
- 54 Safe Communities in Canada
- Endorsed by the World Health Organization

Safe Communities Canada

- Safe Communities Canada along with safety experts across the country believes that all injuries are predictable and preventable.
- 2nd annual Safe Communities Day on October 1, 2008

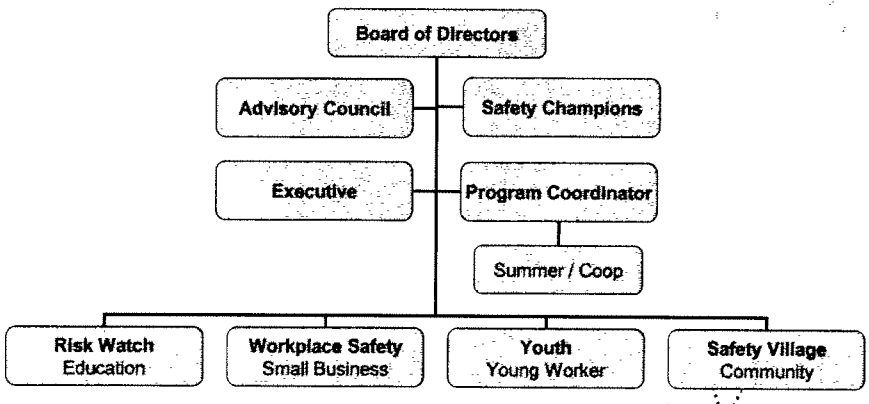
safecommunities greater sudbury

Safe Communities Greater Sudbury

- 2000 initiative to have the City of Greater Sudbury declared a Safe Community
- 2003-2004 development of a business plan
- June 2004 officially declared a Safe Community
- Led by a Board of Directors

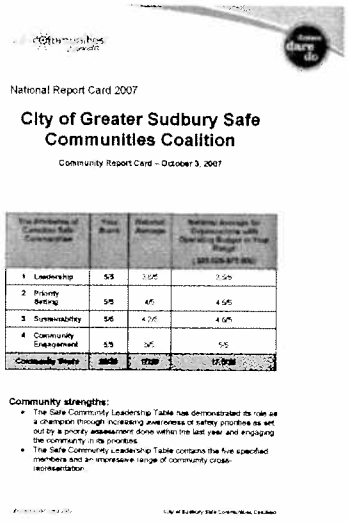
safecommunities greater sudbury

Safe Communities Greater Sudbury



safecommunities greater sudbury

Safe Communities Greater Sudbury



National Report Card 2007

City of Greater Sudbury Safe Communities Coalition

Community Report Card – October 3, 2007

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1. Leadership	5/5	[illegible]	[illegible]
2. Priority Setting	5/5	4/5	4.5/5
3. Sustainability	5/5	4.2/5	4.6/5
4. Community Engagement	5/5	3/5	5/5
Community Score	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Community strengths:

- The Safe Community Leadership Table has demonstrated its role as a champion through increasing awareness of safety priorities as set out by a priority assessment done within the last year and engaging the community in its priorities.
- The Safe Community Leadership Table contains the five specified members and an impressive range of community cross-representation.

safe communities greater sudbury

Current Initiatives

Risk Watch, its logo, and icons are copyrighted by NFPA.1998. All rights reserved.

- Injury prevention for elementary schools
- Now in all 4 areal school boards

Safe Community Incentive Program

- Over 220 companies
- Over $220,000 in rebates
- Taught by local health and safety professionals.

safe communities greater sudbury

Current Initiatives

"Just stack up the flammable chemicals in front of the fire exit so I can remember where they are."

safecommunities greater sudbury

Current Initiatives

Youth Expo on Safety
Wednesday, October 28, 2008
Koski Centre, Cambrian College
Featuring keynote speakers and hands-on interactive booths for Grade 10 and apprenticeship students from 4 school boards

Protect Your Investment: Fire Safety for your business

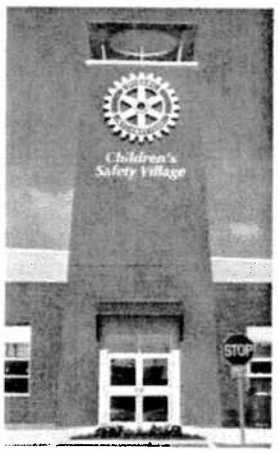
Thursday, October 9, 2008

Lionel E. Lalonde Centre

Designed for small businesses serving our area

safecommunities greater sudbury

Current Initiatives [continued]



- Sudbury Safety Village

We learned that there is no Safety Village in northern Ontario. We received a strong go ahead message from our Advisory Council to move forward.

Committee actively working towards feasibility request for proposal and looking for funding partners.

safe communities greater sudbury

Represented by a team of Safety Champions:

✓ Donald Donaldson, P.Eng.,
Fire Chief
Greater Sudbury Fire Services

✓Frank Elsner
Deputy Police Chief,
Greater Sudbury Police Service

safe communities greater sudbury

Advisory Council

Members have been involved since 2003, prior to our Safe Community Designation.

Representation from education, industry, government and union organizations.

safecommunities greater sudbury

Board of Directors

- Tony Ingram, Chair – NORCAT
- Marianne Matichuk, Vice Chair – City of Greater Sudbury
- Jamie Maher, Treasurer – NORCAT
- Angele Poitras, Secretary – IAPA
- Bart Albanese, MOL
- Candys Ballanger-Michaud, MOL
- Darwin Brunne, CARP

safecommunities greater sudbury

Board of Directors

- Nancy Dube, YMCA Employment Services
- Leo Frappier, Sudbury Fire
- Denise Fraser, Sudbury Police
- Mike Herrington, WSIB
- Gary Lavallie, Sudbury Hydro
- Craig MacTavish, Great-West Life
- Shelley Westhaver, SDHU

safecommunities greater sudbury

Live, Work and Play SAFE

Viola Tanner, Program Coordinator
Email: info@oursafecommunity.com
Url: www.oursafecommunity.com

safecommunities greater sudbury