

Policy, Priorities and Budgeting Committee
Comité des politiques, des priorités et des budgets

Agenda 17
Ordre du jour 17

Thursday, October 28, 1999 - 9:15 a.m.
Le jeudi 28 octobre 1999 - 9 h 15

Victoria Hall, First Level
Bytown Pavilion, City Hall

Salle Victoria, niveau 1
Pavillon Bytown, hôtel de ville



City of
Ville d' **Ottawa**

**Confirmation of Minutes
Ratification des procès-verbaux**

Minutes 16 (October 13, 1999)

Procès-verbal 16 (Le 13 octobre 1999)

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Councillor/Conseiller Jim Bickford, Vice-Chairperson/Vice-président

Councillor/Conseillère Inez Berg

Councillor/Conseiller Richard Cannings

Councillor/Conseiller Ron Kolbus

Councillor/Conseiller Brian Mackey
SEF

October 20, 1999

ACS1999-CS-CSC-0002

(File: AIS3100/0140

LTO3295/0110)

Department of Corporate Services

Ward/Quartier

City Wide

- Policy, Priorities and Budgeting Committee / Comité des politiques, des priorités et des budgets

Information

1. Bill 108 - Streamlining of the Provincial Offences Act (POA)

Loi 108 - Rationalisation de la Loi sur les infractions provinciales

Information

In 1998, the provincial government passed Bill 108 which provided the legislative framework for the transfer of the administration and prosecution of most “provincial offences” under the Provincial Offences Act (the POA) from the provincial to the municipal level. Bill 108 will enable municipalities to manage court administration and courtroom support for charges laid under the POA, as well as to provide certain prosecution services, functions which are currently undertaken by the provincial court. The POA prescribes the procedures to be followed when charges are laid under provincial statutes, municipal by-laws and certain federal infractions. The transfer is currently slated to be complete by the Spring 2001.

The POA contains three sections:

- Part I: minor offences consisting of infractions to provincial acts or municipal by-laws, of which approximately 80% relate to speeding violations under the Highway Traffic Act (HTA). Locally, Ottawa issues the bulk of municipal by-law infractions.
- Part II: exclusively parking tickets, of which Ottawa issues the bulk of infractions in the region. Part II is not included in Bill 108 as responsibility for this section was transferred to most municipalities in 1995, including Ottawa.
- Part III: more serious offences consisting of infractions to provincial acts or municipal by-laws for which there are no set fines and where jail terms are a possibility. HTA offences comprise the bulk of the charges.

Once the transfer is complete, municipalities will:

- process POA charges, collect fines and retain most of the POA-related fine revenue
- prosecute most POA charges
- administer and staff POA courts
- pay operating costs such as facility leases and staff
- remit a surcharge to the province's Victim's Justice Fund
- pay for the Ministry of the Attorney General's ongoing POA-related costs, such as adjudication and some prosecution costs, and
- maintain service standards related to prosecutions and French language services

It is estimated that the annual net revenue in the Ottawa-Carleton area would be between \$2 M. to \$3 M. Currently, the City of Ottawa retains fine revenues for POA infractions issued under its municipal by-laws. Bill 108 does not impact these revenues.

The province has indicated that it will only transfer POA functions to one municipality within a court service area and consequently - and in accordance with a Council-approved direction (August 6, 1997) - an inter-municipal team was established in 1997 to develop a joint proposal to the province. On that date, Council approved the following recommendation:

That Council delegate the authority to the Chief Administrative Officer to authorize the filing of a joint submission to the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario provided the multi-city arrangement is in the best interest of the City and that the financial analysis estimates financial gains to the Corporation.

Since that date, Management Committee has dealt with this issue on several occasions and endorsed a recommendation from the Inter-Municipal POA Transfer Committee that the Region assume the role of the "lead municipality" in any application to the province. In part, this decision was taken in recognition of the fact that the Region already has jurisdiction over the police function which is responsible for the enforcement of most Highway Traffic Act offences, as well as the ability for the Region to disburse POA fine revenue back to area municipalities through its regional tax base. In the late spring of 1999, an inter-municipal agreement was drafted which identified the Region as the lead municipality which would be responsible for the administration and prosecution services related to POA. This agreement has subsequently been approved by all area municipalities, except for Kanata and Ottawa which chose to defer any decision on Bill 108 pending a final decision regarding local governance. Copies of Kanata's and Ottawa's letters to area municipalities regarding its decisions are attached.

Although Management Committee endorsed the Region as lead municipality, in September 1999, concern was expressed from the Departments of Urban Planning and Public Works, and Corporate Services, that having the Region undertake the provision of prosecution services on behalf of all municipalities may not be in the City's best interest. It was the City's intent to undertake further discussions on the matter with the Region; however, in light of the intervention of the province's municipal restructuring initiative, negotiations on the inter-

municipal agreement were suspended. Management Committee felt that the transfer could take place in a more efficient and seamless manner in a restructured municipal environment rather than attempting to administrate an agreement involving 12 municipalities over an interim period of a few months. The government's timetable for municipal restructuring would supercede any reasonable timetable for the implementation of the POA transfer program.

A verbal presentation detailing 1) the content of the inter-municipal agreement, 2) the status of discussions to date with area municipalities, and 3) the decision to defer further negotiations on Bill 108 until after a final decision regarding local governance has been taken will be provided at the October 28, 1999 PP&P Committee meeting.



R.T. Leclair
Commissioner, Corporate Services

MG:JB:mg

Contact: Michelle Gregoire - 244-5300 ext. 1-3228
Jerry Bellomo - 244-5300 ext 1- 3309
Rosemarie Leclair - 244-5300 ext. 1-3033

Financial Comment

Details regarding the financial implications of Bill 108 on the City of Ottawa will be presented in a future submission to PP&B and Council, which will seek endorsement of departmental recommendations.



October 21, 1999 (1:09p)

for Mona Monkman
City Treasurer

BEB/MG:cds

List of Supporting Documentation

Document 1: Letter of September 15, 1999 from Ottawa CAO to area municipalities regarding its position to defer a decision on Bill 108 until after a final decision on local governance.

Document 2: Letter of September 24, 1999 from Kanata City Manager to area municipalities regarding its position to defer a decision on Bill 108 until after a final decision on local governance.



September 15, 1999

Mayor Glen Books, Township of Rideau
 Ned Lathrop, C.A.O., City of Cumberland
 John Robison, City Manager, City of Kanata
 Pierre Tessier, City Manager, City of Gloucester
 Daniel Ouimet, C.A.O., City of Vanier
 Robert Letourneau, C.A.O., City of Nepean
 Murray MacLean, C.A.O., Village of Rockcliffe Park
 Moira Winch, C.A.O., Township of Osgoode
 Bob Townend, C.A.O., Township of Goulbourn
 Mayor Dwight Eastman, Township of West Carleton
 Merv Beckstead, C.A.O., Regional Municipality of Ottawa Carleton

Dear Colleague:

Subject: Bill 108 - Streamlining of Administration of Provincial Offences Act (POA)

Further to Bill 108, which authorizes a municipality to enter into an agreement with the Attorney General in regards to the transfer of Provincial Offences Act responsibilities, and to the work of the local Intermunicipal POA Transfer Committee to facilitate the transfer by means of an Intermunicipal Service Agreement, this will confirm that the City of Ottawa has deferred any decisions regarding Bill 108 until after a final decision regarding local governance has been taken.

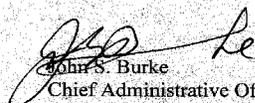
Given that the implementation of an Intermunicipal Service Agreement appears unlikely to occur before September 2000 and, as such, limits the savings potential in 2000, the City of Ottawa, in the context of local governance discussions, does not feel that it is feasible to proceed with a decision at this time. Rather, the City of Ottawa is of the opinion that efficiencies derived from the transfer of POA responsibilities are more likely in a restructured environment where there would be an opportunity to take advantage of existing resources from all municipalities.

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
 111 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5A1
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 Fax: (613) 244-5396
<http://www.city.ottawa.on.ca>
 E-mail: officeofcao@city.ottawa.on.ca

Bureau du Directeur général
 111, promenade Sussex, Ottawa (Ontario) K1N 5A1
 Tél. : (613) 244-5402
 Téléc. : (613) 244-5395
<http://www.ville.ottawa.on.ca>
 C. élec. : officeofcao@city.ottawa.on.ca

The next few months will be critical to the long term growth and development of the Ottawa-Carleton area, and will undoubtedly reshape our futures. I look forward to working with you as we embark on this most important process.

Yours truly,



John S. Burke
Chief Administrative Officer

c.c. David White, RMOC
Michele Giroux, City of Gloucester
Linda Anderson, City of Gloucester
Eric Cooper, City of Nepean
Sue Jones, City of Nepean
Larry Donaldson, City of Kanata
Marcel Robert, City of Vanier
Pat Flynn, Township of Rideau
Scott Campbell, Township of Osgoode
Gary Concordia, Township of Goulbourn
Monica Ceschia, Township of West Carleton
Department Heads, City of Ottawa



September 24, 1999

File: 1100-3

Mayor Glen Books, Township of Rideau
 Ned Lathrop, C.A.O., City of Cumberland
 John Burke, C.A.O., City of Ottawa
 Pierre Tessier, City Manager, City of Gloucester
 Daniel Quimet, C.A.O., City of Vanier
 Robert Letourneau, C.A.O., City of Nepean
 Murray MacLean, C.A.O., Village of Rockcliffe Park
 Moira Winch, C.A.O., Township of Osgoode
 Bob Townend, C.A.O., Township of Gouldbourn
 Mayor Dwight Eastman, Township of West Carleton
 Merv Beckstead, C.A.O., Regional Municipality of Ottawa Carleton

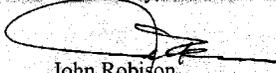
Dear Colleague:

RE: Bill 108 - Provincial Offences Act (POA) Transfer

This letter will serve to inform you that the City of Kanata has deferred any decisions regarding Bill 108 (the transfer of Provincial Offences Act responsibilities) until the outcome of the current local governance discussions is known.

Should you require further information please contact Larry Donaldson, Manager of By-Law Services at 592-4291, Ext. 299.

Yours truly,


 John Robison
 City Manager

C. David White, RMOC
 Michele Giroux, City of Gloucester
 Linda Anderson, City of Gloucester
 Eric Cooper, City of Nepean

C. Larry Donaldson, City of Kanata
Marcel Robert, City of Vanier
Pat Flynn, Township of Rideau
Scott Campbell, Township of Osgoode
Gary Concordia, Township of Goulbourn
Monica Ceschia, Township of West Carleton
Michelle Gregoire, City of Ottawa

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October 20, 1999

ACS1999-CS-CSS-0017
(File: ACS1300)

Department of Corporate Services

Ward/Quartier
City Wide

- Policy, Priorities and Budgeting
Committee / Comité des politiques, des
priorités et des budgets

Information

2. Bus Tickets for delegates and volunteers

Billets d'autobus pour les délégués et les bénévoles

Information

The Policy, Priorities and Budgeting Committee, on September 30, 1999, deferred consideration of the following motion to permit staff the opportunity to provide financial comments:

WHEREAS the City of Ottawa subsidizes the cost of parking in the City Hall garage for members of the public who come by car to attend standing and advisory committee meetings,

AND WHEREAS many other members of the public travel by public transit to such meetings at their own expense,

AND WHEREAS it is a stated purpose of the City of Ottawa's Official Plan to encourage the use of public transit,

AND WHEREAS members of the public who attend standing committee and advisory committee meetings should receive equal treatment,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the corporation of the City of Ottawa provide bus tickets to all members of the public who arrive by public transit to attend standing and advisory committee meetings and other such meetings for which we currently provide subsidized parking.

The extensive renovation made to Ottawa City Hall altered the parking situation from outdoors to indoor. The Council-approved policy (excerpted below) is to provide one-hour free parking to all City Hall visitors. Those people who visit City Hall for the purpose of attending Committee or Council meetings have their parking validated by the appropriate City official.

- i) The parking rate structure to allow for one hour free parking for members of the public.
- ii) That parking beyond the first free hour will be validated for the public where the length of the issues being dealt with warrant additional parking time. The meetings to be included, are Council meetings, standing committee meetings, citizen advisory group meetings, public meetings, public hearings, open houses, workshops and focus groups, where the public has been invited through public notification/invitation.

Validated parking beyond the first free hour for public attendees at formal meetings was approved in recognition of the participatory responsibility that the City of Ottawa has with the public and is compatible with the City's policy to promote public participation on issues of municipal concern.

Current City policy in regards to reimbursement of displacement costs apply only to members of the public who are appointed by Council to be full participating members in meetings such as Advisory Committees. The City does not have a policy which authorizes the reimbursement of members of the general public for travel expenses to and from City Hall. This is consistent with other municipalities within the Region.

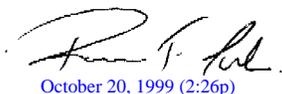
Few statistics are available to assist in scoping the potential cost associated with this proposal. We have consulted with other civic departments to establish an estimated number of individuals who attend City Hall for public meeting purposes. The determination of a reasonable cost estimate would require more work on the part of staff.

Estimated Numbers - Visitors Chart

| Event | Volume | Estimated Number of People per Year |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| 98 Budget Caucus | 2 days | 126 registered speakers |
| 1998 - Standing Committee meetings | PED - average 15/mtg PPB - average 2/mtg CSOC - average 4/mtg | 30040160 |
| 1998 - Corporate Advisory Committees | average 18/month | 180 |
| LACAC - Special Event | One Special Event | 150 |

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|----------|
| City Council | average 15/meeting | 300 |
| Cycling | | 255 |
| Archives volunteers | Daily - Business Hours | 720 |
| Archives (evening) | One evening - week night | 225 |
| Community Services Committees | | 180 |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS | | 2636 |
| COST OF REIMBURSEMENT @\$4.00 for bus tickets | | \$10,544 |

Should Council wish to proceed with the direction outlined in the September 30 motion, it is foreseeable that the policy to provide bus tickets (or the reimbursement of such costs) would have to be reviewed and broadened over time. Additionally, recognition must be given to members of the public who attend meetings which are initiated by Councillors or staff at City facilities other than City Hall, e.g. Ward budget meetings, zoning consultation. Once a precedent has been established, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to limit the scope of the policy to only bus transportation. Currently there are no budget provisions for such expenditures.



October 20, 1999 (2:26p)

R. T. Leclair
Commissioner of Corporate Services

EF:ef

Contact: Elaine Fleury - 244-5300 ext. 1-3623

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September 28, 1999

ACS1999-CS-PTY-0017
(File: RHI2470/3000)

Department of Corporate Services

Ward/Quartier
OT5 - Bruyère-Strathcona

- Policy, Priorities and Budgeting Committee / Comité des politiques, des priorités et des budgets
- City Council / Conseil municipal

Action/Exécution

3. Property - Civic - Disposal - Portion of 60 and 70 Waller Street to Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton for Road Widening Purposes

Propriété municipale - Cession - Partie des 60 et 70, rue Waller à la Région d'Ottawa-Carleton aux fins d'élargissement de la chaussée

Recommendation

That part of 60 Waller Street, described as Part 1 on Plan 4R-14865, and part of 70 Waller Street, described as Parts 2, 3 and 4 on Plan 4R-14865, as illustrated in Document 1, be declared surplus to City requirements in accordance with By-law 87-95 and be disposed of to the Region of Ottawa-Carleton in accordance with the Corporate Policy on Disposal of Surplus City-owned Property.



September 28, 1999 (9:32a)

R. T. Leclair
Commissioner of Corporate Services



September 28, 1999 (2:12p)

Approved by
John S. Burke
Chief Administrative Officer

NH:nh

Contact: Nancy Hay - 244-5300, ext. 3718

Financial Comment

Subject to City Council approval, the net proceeds from the disposal of these properties will be credited to the General Capital Reserve Fund.



September 28, 1999 (1:50p)

for Mona Monkman
City Treasurer

BEB:cds

Executive Report

Reasons Behind Recommendation

The portions of 60 and 70 Waller Street being recommended for surplus status are required by the Region of Ottawa-Carleton (ROC) in order to correct a potentially dangerous sidewalk/road alignment. The ROC expressed an urgent need to widen the Waller Street lane before a serious accident occurred. Therefore, a Consent to Enter was granted to the ROC in 1998 to proceed with the reconstruction which is now complete.

Finalization of this transaction was deferred pending the preparation of a Reference Plan to delineate an accurate description of the lands required for the realignment. The land to be transferred to the ROC is comprised of 3,050 sq. ft. An appraisal of the property has identified a market value of \$25.00 per square foot, which the ROC has agreed to pay for the required lands. The value of this transaction is, therefore \$76,250. In order to complete this transaction, the property to be transferred must first be declared surplus by City Council in accordance with By-law 87-95.

Disposition

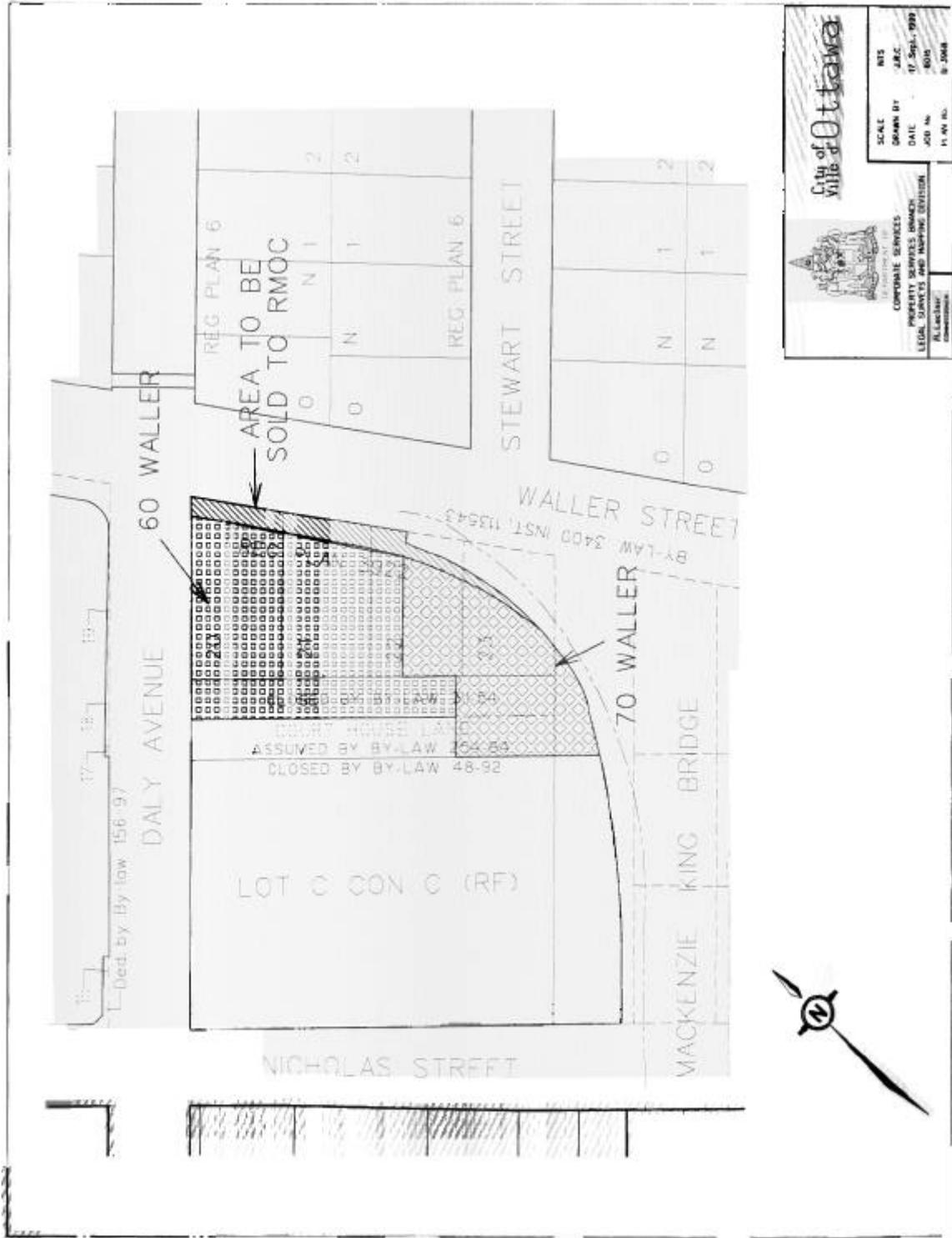
Originating Department.

List of Supporting Documentation

Document 1 Sketch illustrating location of subject property.

Part II - Supporting Documentation

Document 1



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September 17, 1999

ACS1999-CV-EQD-0003
(File: ACS1300)

Advisory Committee on Equity and Diversity Ward/Quartier
City Wide

- Policy, Priorities and Budgeting Action/Exécution
Committee / Comité des politiques, des
priorités et des budgets
- City Council / Conseil municipal

4. Advisory Committee on Equity and Diversity - 1998-99 Annual Report and year 2000 Objectives

**Comité consultatif sur l'équité et la diversité - 1998-99 rapport annuel
et les objectifs de l'an 2000**

Recommendations

1. That the Annual Report of the Advisory Committee on Equity and Diversity from July 1998 to August 1999, as detailed in Document 1, be received.
2. The Committee recommends that the objectives for 2000 be approved.
3. That the accompanying resource requirements, as described in this submission, be considered with the 2000 budget and make available to Council as part of the budget documentation.

Elizabeth Hung Sorfleet 洪貝

Elizabeth Hung Sorfleet
Chairperson

CL:cl

Contact: Elizabeth Hung Sorfleet - 523-3732
Carole Langford - 244-5300 ext. 1-3617

Financial Comment

Funds for the Advisory Committee on Equity and Diversity base budget of \$2,100 will be provided in account 2231971 in the Department of Corporate Services 2000 Operating Budget. The Advisory Committee is requesting an additional \$4,500 from the unallocated

bulk provision of \$10,000 provided in account 2231911. The distribution of this bulk allocation to the Advisory Committees will be dealt with by City Council during its deliberation of the 2000 Operating Estimates.



October 13, 1999 (8:27a)

for Mona Monkman
City Treasurer

BEB:cds

Executive Report

Reasons Behind Recommendations

Recommendation 1

ACED submits its 1998-1999 report (Document 1) for the information of Council, in accordance with the June reporting requirements for Advisory Committees.

Recommendation 2

The objectives for 2000 have been developed in accordance with ACED's mandate.

Objective 1 - March 21 Education Project

Continuation of our March 21 Annual Education Project for Ottawa children and youth to commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Liaison with the School Boards has been enhanced by direct contact with several key persons including principals, teachers, parents, and students. Discussions are underway to include school board representatives on the planning committee for the 2000 project. Response from principals, teachers, parents, students, sponsors, and the media has been unanimously positive and supportive.

Awards and expenses related to

Opening and Awards Ceremonies

Budget requested for Objective 1 from the bulk provision \$3,000

Note: The Committee actively fund-raised in 1998 and 1999, and is committed to do so for 2000; reducing the cost to \$1,500.

Objective 2 - Annual Human Rights Day, November-December

Approval was sought and received from Council in fall 1998 to hold two annual projects: The March 21 Education Project and the Human Rights Day Project.

Expenses related to event, communications
Budget requested for Objective 2 from the bulk provision \$500.00

Objective 3 - Community Outreach

Enhanced community outreach to identify and address community issues and support to Council and City Hall on issues affecting equity and diversity.

Meeting-related costs such as light refreshments, additional parking, travel related costs
Budget requested for Objective 3 from the bulk provision \$600.00

Objective 4 - Multiculturalism Policy, Human Rights Policy, Fire Fighters' recruitment Advisory Committee

Ongoing monitoring and support on Multiculturalism Policy, Human Rights Policy, Fire Fighters' Recruitment Advisory Committee, and advisory support to the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer related to human rights and employment equity:

No resources are required.

Objective 5 - Committee Development

Ongoing Committee development to enhance our ability for substantive, effective, and meaningful work objectives and outcomes related to our mandate and terms of reference.

No resources are required.

Recommendation 3

In addition to the funds requested for the Objectives for 2000, funding is also requested to cover expenditures associated with food, taxis and child care services since the Committee meets during the supper hour

Budget requested from the bulk provision \$400.00

Consultation

Public input was received from members of ACED at our regular monthly meetings throughout the year.

The Office of the Chief Administrative Officer and the Department of Community Services have reviewed and concurs with this report.

Disposition

Objectives 1 - 5 - Office of the Chief Administrative Officer and Community Services

List of Supporting Documentation

Document 1 ACED - Annual Report from June 1998 - August 1999

Part II - Supporting Documentation**Document 1****ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EQUITY AND DIVERSITY****1998-99 ANNUAL REPORT**

In preparing for our 1998-1999 Annual Report, we have reviewed our activities, ongoing work, new initiatives undertaken in 1998 and 1999, many of which we plan to continue as ongoing activities, and future directions to further enhance our capacity and effectiveness to assist Council, the community, and City Hall, on matters related to equity and diversity throughout Ottawa.

The Committee has two Sub-committees. Under the Community Outreach Sub-committee, there are three strands: Human Rights Project, March 21 Anti-Racism Education Project, and Community Concerns. Under the Planning and Policy Sub-Committee, there are four strands: Retreat Planning, Annual Report, Council Liaison, and Fire Fighters Recruitment.

March 21 Education Project

ACED launched the first Annual Ottawa-Region March 21 Education Project for students to Commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, an expansion from last year's project, which launched the first project by the City on this topic, in partnership with the Unity Institute. In 1998, over 100 students participated in the project to address the elimination of racism. For the second year, over 330 students participated. Our partners this year included the Unity Institute and the Odawa Native Friendship Centre, which represents the first time an Advisory Committee and City of Ottawa event has had an Aboriginal presence at City Hall.

The Opening Ceremony in March at City Hall focussed on presentations by three of last year's winners, ranging in age from 5 to 16, who addressed invited guests on the importance of eliminating racism. The May Awards Ceremony was attended by City Hall's largest delegation of children and youth (over 100 students), who were winners of this year's project. The Ottawa Public Library also participated with a display of inclusive library materials.

The degree of community sponsorship support for this important project quadrupled over last year's sponsorship. Sponsors included Mayor Watson of Ottawa, Mayor Nicholds of Kanata, Councillor Arnold, the regional Chief of Police, the Ottawa Fire Chief, the Department of Community Services, the Ottawa Muslim Association, The Jamaican (Ottawa) Community Association Inc., the Odawa Native Friendship Centre, the Unity Institute, the Capital Region Interfaith Council, banks, large and small businesses, and many other corporate, community, and individual sponsors. The majority of corporate and small business sponsors were new sponsors this year.

Four of the most outstanding entries of artwork were framed (thanks to the sponsorship of the Ottawa Muslim Association), and presented by the young artists to the Mayor and Councillors, the Chief Administrative Officer, the Commissioner of Community Services, and the City Clerk, in appreciation of the support to ACED by their departments and staff. Special thanks go to Don Lonie, Department of Community Services, and Carole Langford, Department of Corporate Services, for their outstanding support to the project.

Both the Opening Ceremony and the Awards Ceremony received very positive coverage by the media.

All entries were on display at City Hall for a week in May, 1999. Requests have been received from the Ottawa Public Library to display the entries.

Annual Human Rights Day

In our 1997-1998 Annual Report, we listed an objective to develop and deliver a second annual project.

ACED's First Annual Human Rights Day was launched November 28, 1998 at the SAW Gallery in partnership with the Dinqinesh Education Centre (an anti-slavery research and education group). The purpose of the event was to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of The International Human Rights Day; to examine the state of human rights in Ottawa; and to highlight and support the work of local organizations and groups promoting human rights.

The special guest speaker commenting on the state of human rights in Ottawa was former Ottawa mayor Marion Dewar. A panel of speakers included representatives from REACH (an advocacy and education organization promoting equity for persons with disabilities), the National Capital Alliance on Race Relations, and the Ottawa-Carleton Immigrant Services Organization. The event was attended by representatives of the Canadian Tribute to Human Rights, the Carleton University Disability Awareness Centre, the Black Rose Institute, the Unity Institute, the Earl of March Secondary School Black History Committee, the Capital Region Interfaith Council, and the Somali Community.

Enhanced support to Council, the community, and City Hall on issues affecting equity and diversity.

A main mechanism of this objective, begun in the spring of 1998, was conducting meetings with individual Councillors and meeting with the Mayor and Councillors 2-3 times yearly. This objective was not fully met in 1998-1999 for the following reason: the Committee has had a challenging year, during which ACED lost through attrition, 50% of its members, including its Vice-Chairperson, due to various personal reasons. The five members who resigned/whose terms expired and who did not seek re-appointment, comprised a 75% membership loss on the Policy and Planning Sub-Committee, and a 33.3% membership loss

on the Community Outreach Sub-Committee. These membership losses have contributed to difficulties achieving this objective.

Five new members were appointed to the Committee commencing July 1999.

Enhanced Community Outreach

The loss of 50% of our total Committee membership has had some effect on our ability to more fully achieve this objective. However, membership loss difficulties notwithstanding, the Committee explored several new directions and initiatives in proactive community outreach, including:

1. **Diversity and Ottawa's Rooming House Project:** We invited presentation from and supported the work of the City of Ottawa's Rooming House Project, Department of Urban Planning & Public Works, which serves socio-economically marginalized citizens, including some who come from backgrounds of racial diversity and of psychiatric disabilities. As the City's demographic profile changes, the representation of citizens from diversity and equity-seeking groups has also increased among rooming house residents. We will continue to monitor and support this project.
2. **Community-based conflict resolution and community cohesion:** We invited presentation from and supported the work of the Neighbourhood Coalition on Conflict Resolution, which originated from a project for social housing communities with increasingly higher representation of residents from ethno-culturally/racially diverse background.

We explored the viability of sponsoring a community-based Conflict Resolution Mediators' Training Project with the Neighbour Coalition on Conflict Resolution, to reduce ethno-cultural/racial/creed misunderstanding and conflict, and to enhance community integration and cohesion. ACED assisted NCCR in the writing of a proposal to the federal government's Millennium Fund, and supported NCCR's application.

3. **Celebrating International Women's Day:**
In the past, International Women's Day (IWD) was organized by Women's Place, and the Committee has participated in and actively supported IWD. Due to a re-organization, Women's Place was unable to organize IWD, and no other organization stepped in to substitute for WP. Instead, ACED was represented at Councillor Deans' International Women's Day celebration in March 1999.

4. Collaboration with the Disability Issues Advisory Committee (DIAC):
The Chairpersons of ACED and DIAC had maintained regular contact to share information on activities and to explore possibilities for collaboration. In 1998-1999, ACED voted to forward copies of our Minutes to DIAC; invited DIAC to present their activities; and in July 1999, established a protocol wherein DIAC now has a non-voting member on ACED.

5. Canadian Tribute to Human Rights:
The Committee was represented at the Canadian Tribute to Human Rights' November 1998 event at which special recognition awards were presented to the family of Canadian John Peters Humphrey, who drafted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and to President Nelson Mandela of South Africa, for their work on human rights.

6. Community Concern:
In July 1999, the Committee was consulted by the Quinterra-Riverwood Community Association on the planned rezoning of a property owned by Fines Flowers, which is planned to be rezoned for sale to a Tubman's funeral home. The consultation was sought to address cultural and spiritual issues and concerns raised by a substantial number of residents of Asian and South Asian background.

ACED responded with memos addressed to the Planning Division and to the ward Councillor, recommending that the cultural and spiritual concerns be given serious consideration, and advising that the process provide for further discussion before a recommendation is forwarded to Council

In August, ACED met with a delegation of citizens opposed to the rezoning plan, as well as with representatives of the Community Association, who also expressed their concern about the need for solutions which took into account the opposition of fellow citizens to the proposed funeral home.

The policy issue raised is the city's stated commitment to its Multicultural Policy, and the logical congruence to apply the commitment to the City's principles and practices in its planning process to take into consideration cultural and spiritual factors expressed by a significant proportion of the community. We will continue to monitor the situation, and will be preparing recommendations to the Planning Department.

The Committee is examining a community consultation process to regularly meet with different ward-based communities on concerns.

Multiculturalism Policy, Human Rights Policy, Fire Fighters' Recruitment Advisory Committee

In September 1998, the Committee responded and recommended to Council for the October Policy, Priority and Budgeting Committee meeting on the need for a Sponsorship Policy which included Ethical Screening to ensure that potential corporate sponsors are abiding by universal human rights principles in their employment practices, including observance of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, to ensure that products, services, and profit are not gained from exploitive employment practices nor from child labour.

The Committee also was invited to, and attended an interview and recommended on budget decisions for present and projected needs in Ottawa communities for the Department of Community Services, to ensure that planning and decisions are sensitive to needs, issues, and concerns of a demographically changing community.

The Committee continues to participate on the Fire Fighters Recruitment Advisory Committee. In December 1998 we promoted and advocated on the need to affirm employment equity in the hiring process of fire fighters, by communicating our recommendations to the Mayor, Councillors, the Commissioner of Community Services, and the Chief Administrative Officer. Our advocacy contributed to the successful selection of Ottawa's first female fire fighters. We will continue to monitor employment equity in this and other areas of the City.

In late 1998, we reviewed the proposed 1999 City Budget and monitored the budget process to ensure that the services, programs, and needs of equity-seeking groups and diversity groups were taken into consideration, and that no adverse impact would be felt by these groups resulting from budget deliberations.

Committee Development

In 1997-1998, the Committee began to examine and implement best practices approaches to Committee development. These included, and continue to include:

Orientation for new members:

An ongoing formal Orientation program for incoming new members, with presentations by the Department of Corporate Affairs (Council and Committee Services), the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (Division of Human Rights and Employment Equity), the Department of Community Services (Multicultural Programs and Services), and the ACED Chairperson.

Annual Retreat:

An ongoing Annual Retreat, for the purposes of reviewing the past Committee year, planning priorities for the current and upcoming Committee year, team-building, and Committee development. ACED is the only Advisory Committee which holds an annual retreat.