THE FAIRNESS TO HAMILTON CAMPAIGN PRESENTS REPORT 12-001 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Correspondence from the Honourable Denis Lebel, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, respecting the City of Hamilton request for Westmount Recreation Centre and Lower Stoney Creek Recreation Centre Projects to be fully cash flowed by October 31, 2011 (Council referral October 28, 2011) (Item 5.2)

   That the Correspondence from the Honourable Denis Lebel, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, respecting the City of Hamilton request for Westmount Recreation Centre and Lower Stoney Creek Recreation Centre Projects to be fully cash flowed by October 31, 2011, be received.

2. Provincial Budget 2012 and Implications to Ontario Works (CS12020) (City Wide) (Item 5.3)

   (a) That Report CS12020 respecting Provincial Budget 2012 and Implications to Ontario Works, be received;
(b) That Council representatives on; Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Large Urban Mayors Caucus, be requested to draw attention to the impacts of the 2012 Provincial budget on Ontario Works discretionary benefits funding.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Clerk advised of the following change to the agenda:

5.4 Resignation of Mia Wilkinson and the Jobs Prosperity Collaborative from the Fairness to Hamilton Campaign Sub-committee.

The agenda of the April 30, 2012 meeting was approved as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

None

(c) MINUTES (Item 3)

(i) July 13, 2011 (Item 3.1)

The Minutes of July 13, 2011 were approved as presented.

(d) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 5)

(i) Impact of Business Education Tax – (no copy) (verbal update) (Item 5.1)

David Adames provided an update to Sub-committee impact of the Business Education Tax (BET). Mr. Adames indicated that the recent provincial budget has placed a freeze on the BET until 2017-2018. He discussed that following this freeze the Province has indicated that it is committed to a uniform BET rates.

The update respecting the Impact of Business Education Tax, was received.
(ii) **Correspondence** from the Honourable Denis Lebel, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, respecting the City of Hamilton request for Westmount Recreation Centre and Lower Stoney Creek Recreation Centre Projects to be fully cash flowed by October 31, 2011 (Council referral October 28, 2011) (Item 5.2)

Mayor Bratina indicated that they had a teleconference on this issue with the Minister’s Office. He indicated the result of those discussions was essentially a reiteration of the contents of the letter. The Mayor discussed the difficulty in granting further extensions as there were many municipalities aside from Hamilton that would be seeking similar considerations.

For disposition on this matter refer to Item 1.

(iii) **Provincial Budget 2012 and Implications to Ontario Works (CS12020) (City Wide)** (Item 5.3)

Tom Cooper indicated that he was deeply concerned about the implications on Ontario Works. He discussed the discretionary benefits, dentures, eye glasses, funeral services. Mr. Cooper indicated that while we view these items as discretionary those who rely on them do not. He discussed several new programs that were in place to assist those on Ontario Works and disability and expressed concerns over what will occur to these programs with

Vice-Chair McHattie indicated that his understanding is that staff will be reporting back to the Emergency and Community Services on this issue.

for disposition on this matter refer to Item 2.

(iv) **Resignation of Mia Wilkinson and the Jobs Prosperity Collaborative from the Fairness to Hamilton Campaign Sub-committee** (Item 5.4)

Sub-Committee members indicated that they would like further information before removing the Jobs Prosperity Collaborative’s seat on the Committee.

On a Motion the resignation of Mia Wilkinson and the Jobs Prosperity Collaborative, was tabled.
(e) GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS (Item 6)

(i) Functioning of the Sub-Committee (Item 6.1)

Vice-Chair McHattie discussed how the committee originally was formed to address the issues of GTA pooling and the Local Services Realignment Exercise.

Councillor Partridge discussed how many of these issues are addressed directly at standing committee so possibly some of these issues could be addressed.

Mayor Bratina discussed how the Sub-committee is intended to deal with issues specifically related to Hamilton; however they appear to be dealing with issues that impact multiple municipalities and are being addressed by organizations like AMO and FCM.

On a Motion, the purpose and mandate of the Sub-committee was added as a discussion item at the next meeting of the Fairness to Hamilton Campaign Sub-committee.

(f) ADJOURNMENT (Item 7)

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

Councillor B. McHattie
Vice Chair, Fairness to Hamilton Campaign Sub-committee

Andy Grozelle
Legislative Co-ordinator
April 30, 2012