



Hamilton

CITY OF HAMILTON

**COMMUNITY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Recreation Division**

TO: Chair and Members Emergency and Community Services Committee	WARD(S) AFFECTED: WARD 2
COMMITTEE DATE: December 9, 2013	
SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Hamilton Jewish Social Services Elderly Persons Centre (EPC) Funding (CS13044) (Ward 2) (Outstanding Business List Item)	
SUBMITTED BY: Vicki Woodcox Acting General Manager Community and Emergency Services Department	PREPARED BY: Steve Sevor 905-546-2424 ext. 4645 James O'Brien 905-546-2424 ext. 2065
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That a funding increase in the amount of \$7,930 be approved in 2013 for the Jewish Social Services for the operation of their Elderly Persons Centre in Dundas, to be absorbed within the 2013 Recreation Division Operation Budget or from departmental surplus;
- (b) That the funding increase in the amount of \$7,930 for the Hamilton Jewish Social Services for the operation of their Elderly Persons Centre in Dundas, be included in the 2014 Recreation Division Operation Budget with a corresponding reduction; and,
- (c) That the item respecting the Hamilton Jewish Social Services Elderly Persons Centre (EPC) Funding, be considered complete and removed from the Emergency and Community Services Outstanding Business List.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Correspondence from the Hamilton Jewish Social Services (Hamilton JSS) requesting an increase in the municipal portion of their Elderly Person's Centre (EPC) grant was presented to Council on June 12, 2013 (attached as Appendix A to Report CS13044). The request was referred to the General Manager, Community and Emergency Services Department for a report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee.

The Province of Ontario, through the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, offers maintenance and operating grants to municipalities and approved corporations that are maintaining and operating approved EPCs. The maintenance and operating grant may only be used for costs related to the maintenance and operation of an approved centre.

The City of Hamilton has partnered on a number of EPC grants with a cross section of community organizations in the City. These include partnerships with the Dundas Rotary Cattel Seniors Centre, Rosedale Seniors Club, Sackville Hill Seniors Centre, Winona Seniors Club, Main Hess Seniors Centre, Ancaster Senior Achievement Centre, MacNab Street YWCA Seniors Active Living Centre, and the Ottawa Street YWCA Seniors Active Living Centre.

Ministry EPC grant funding is provided according to the following funding formula:

- The Ministry provides a grant for up to 50% of the net operating cost of a centre, up to the maximum dollar value of \$42,700
- The Ministry's funding is contingent on the municipality contributing in cash or in-kind, at least 20% of net operating cost (for centres approved after 2008/09).

The net operating cost for the EPC in Dundas is \$85,400. Therefore, the Hamilton JSS receives an EPC grant of \$42,700 from the Ministry for the Centre (located at 30 King Street East in Dundas). Consequently, the municipal contribution towards the total net operating costs should be \$17,080 (20% of \$85,400). The City has been providing a grant of approximately \$7,750 since 1974. The Ministry has allowed a municipal property tax rebate to be added to the municipal contribution (\$1,400 annually). This brings the existing City of Hamilton contribution to a total of \$9,150, leaving a funding gap of \$7,930 for the 2013 fiscal year. A funding gap has existed for a number of years.

The City's 20% contribution for the other EPC's in the City (listed above), with the exception of the YWCAs, are covered off through in-kind contributions given that these centres are located in municipal facilities (e.g. provision of City staff support or utilities). The YWCAs receive significant grant support from the City to support the Active Living Centres that more than offsets the 20% requirement.

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An in-kind contribution to make up the funding gap for the EPC in Dundas is not feasible given that it is located in commercial, leased premises and is not staffed by City employees.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has informed the Hamilton JSS and City staff that if the municipal contribution does not comply with the funding guidelines, the Hamilton JSS's Ministry funding will be in jeopardy.

Staff is recommending that Council approve an increase of \$7,930 to the Hamilton JSS's grant in 2013 to bring them into compliance with the Ministry's EPC funding guidelines for the 2013 program year. The increase will be funded from the Recreation Division's 2013 operating budget or departmental surplus. The recommended increase will be mitigated by a corresponding savings realized through reduced purchases of camp supplies in 2013.

The Recreation Division will be permanently increasing the Hamilton JSS's existing grant by \$7,930 within the Division's 2014 operating budget request. The Recreation Division has made a corresponding reduction in its 2014 budget to mitigate the increase in the Hamilton JSS's grant.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not Applicable

FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial:

Staff is recommending that Council approve an increase of \$7,930 to the Hamilton JSS's grant in 2013 to bring the City's contribution into compliance with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's EPC funding guidelines in the 2013 program year. The increase will be funded from the Recreation Division's 2013 operating budget. A corresponding offset has been identified from the 2013 budget to mitigate the increase

The Recreation Division will be permanently increasing the Hamilton JSS's existing grant by \$7,930 within the Division's 2014 operating budget request. The Recreation Division has made a corresponding permanent reduction in its 2014 budget to mitigate the increase in the Hamilton JSS's grant.

Staffing:

There are no staffing implications associated with Report CS13044.

Legal:

There are no legal implications associated with Report CS13044.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Hamilton Jewish Social Services is a registered charity which was established in 1932. It has partnered with the City of Hamilton to provide senior recreation services for the community. The Hamilton JSS has received funding from the Province, City of Hamilton and private donations to support the Dundas Elderly Persons Centre for the past 40 years.

The Hamilton JSS provides a broad range of programs, services and activities to meet the recreational needs of all seniors in the Dundas area. The programs offered include computer training, friendship clubs, day programs, theatre club, bingo and others. A total of 391 members visit the Centre more than 15,000 times a year. The Centre is also assisted through the support of 40 volunteers who contribute approximately 1,250 of volunteer hours annually.

In late 2012, the Hamilton JSS was informed by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care that they were in jeopardy of losing their annual EPC funding for the seniors centre in Dundas if the municipal contribution to the EPC grant was not increased to meet the legislated 20% municipal contribution level. This precipitated the Hamilton JSS to write to the Mayor and Council (Appendix A to Report CS13044) requesting an increase in the municipal grant.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS/LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

There are no policy implications associated with Report CS13044.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

City staff worked with the leadership of the Jewish Social Services to review and understand the legislative requirement for the Elderly Persons Centre grant and the municipal contribution requirements.

Recreation staff met with Finance staff to identify and review the City's other EPC grant contributions and consulted with the Procurement Division on grant requirements for this report. Through consultation with Ministry officials, it was confirmed that the municipal contribution parameters are correct and that the City of Hamilton is meeting the municipal contribution levels for all other EPC grants.

Finance and Administration staff have reviewed the Report and their comments have been incorporated where required.

ANALYSIS / RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Approval of the recommendation will allow the City of Hamilton to continue to leverage Provincial Hamilton JSS funding for the benefit of all seniors in Dundas.

Approval of this recommendation will allow the City of Hamilton to be in full compliance with all EPC funding agreements within the City.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

None

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2012 – 2015 STRATEGIC PLAN:

Strategic Priority #1

A Prosperous & Healthy Community

WE enhance our image, economy and well-being by demonstrating that Hamilton is a great place to live, work, play and learn.

Strategic Objective

- 1.5 Support the development and implementation of neighbourhood and City wide strategies that will improve the health and well-being of residents.
- 1.6 Enhance Overall Sustainability (financial, economic, social and environmental).

Strategic Priority #2

Valued & Sustainable Services

WE deliver high quality services that meet citizen needs and expectations, in a cost effective and responsible manner.

Strategic Objective

- 2.2 Improve the City's approach to engaging and informing citizens and stakeholders.

APPENDICES / SCHEDULES

Appendix A to Report CS13044 - Letter to Mayor and Council from Jewish Social Services



Hamilton Jewish Social Services

Carol Krames, Director
carolkramesjss@hotmail.com

*We are a beneficiary agency of the United Way
and the United Jewish Appeal.*

June 5, 2013

Mayor and Members of Council
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main St. West
Hamilton ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

I am writing this letter to you to request a change in our present funding level from the City of Hamilton pursuant to the operation of an Elderly Persons Centre (EPC) which is run by our agency in Dundas Ontario.

The Jewish Social Services of Hamilton is a registered charity which was established in 1932. One of the programs that our agency runs is an Elderly Persons Centre which has been funded by the Ministry of Health, the City of Hamilton, and private donations for the past 40 years. We are most appreciative of the relationship that we have had with the City of Hamilton in providing valuable programming for the citizens of the greater Hamilton area during those 40 years.

It has been brought to our attention, by the Ministry of Health, that there is a shortfall in the municipal funding mandated by the Ministry putting our annual funding from them (\$42,700) at risk.

Provincial legislation requires local municipalities to contribute 20% of the net shareable expenses towards the operation of Elderly Persons Centres. The City of Hamilton has been contributing approximately \$7,750 per year toward our EPC for the past 40 years. To the best of our knowledge, this funding level has not changed during that time.

The net shareable expenses for our EPC in 2012/13 were \$85,700. 20% of this figure is \$17,080, making the municipal gross shortfall \$9,330. Since the Ministry recognizes property tax rebates as part of the 20% municipal obligation, and since that annual rebate is approximately \$1,400, the net municipal funding shortfall from the City of Hamilton is \$7,930.





Hamilton Jewish Social Services

Carol Krames, Director
carolkramesjss@hotmail.com

*We are a beneficiary agency of the United Way
and the United Jewish Appeal.*

We are therefore asking that the annual municipal funding for the EPC our agency operates to be increased from \$7,750 to \$15,680 for the 2013 funding year and beyond.

The need to close the gap as it relates to the municipal funding contribution that has been expressed by the Ministry as a priority for our continued access to EPC grant funding. While City of Hamilton staff in the Recreation Division are very supportive of our programming, we have been informed that the budget for 2013 has been committed and any further enhancement requires further council approval.

The Jewish Social Services of Hamilton is requesting this further approval so that we can continue to offer these valuable recreation programs. If you have any questions we would be glad to address any queries or set up a meeting to discuss this in person.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Terry Nyp
Comptroller

Cc Ann Scott
Program Supervisor
Ministry of Health

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK	
JUN 10 2013	
REC'D BY.....	DATE
REF'D TO.....	DATE
REF'D TO.....	DATE
REF'D TO.....	DATE
ACTION: for June 26 Council Agenda - be referred to GM	

*of CS for report to
ETCS Clerk*

