The Social & Public Health Services Committee presents report 05-010 and respectfully recommends:

1. 2006 NCB Strategy (SPH05035) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)
   
   (Merulla/Morelli)
   
   (a) That Report SPH05035 respecting the City of Hamilton's 2006 National Child Benefit (NCB) Strategy be received.

   (b) That staff be directed to explore funding the City of Hamilton's portion of the National Child Benefit Clawback deficit, on an annual basis, through Hydro Dividend funds, commencing in 2006, to an upset limit of 2.7 million dollars per annum and report back to Committee of the Whole at their meeting of August 10, 2005.

   CARRIED.
2. Sexual Health Clinic Community Consultation (SPH05039) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)

(Merulla/Kelly)
(a) That Council approve the closure of the Ancaster Sexual Health Clinic effective August 1, 2005.

(b) That Council approve the relocation of the Waterdown Sexual Health Clinic to the Waterdown Early Years Centre effective August 1, 2005.

CARRIED.

3. Review of Residential Health Care Facilities By-law 01-156 (20) (SPH05032) CITY WIDE) (Item 8.2)

(Merulla/Morelli)
(a) That the proposed timetable attached as Appendix A for the review of Schedule 20 of the Licensing Code By-Law with respect to the Residential Care Facilities be approved.

(b) That two members of the Social and Public Health Services Committee be appointed to the Advisory Group to assist in the review.

CARRIED.

4. Safe All Night Dance Events SPH00039(b) (City Wide) (Item 8.3)

(Kelly/Merulla)
That staff be directed to dissolve the Safe All Night Dance Events (SANDE) Task group.

CARRIED.

5. Public Health & Community Services Input Regarding Various Planning Initiatives (Item 10.1)

(Bratina/Morelli)
(a) That the Planning and Economic Development Department be requested to incorporate input on an on going basis from Public Health & Community Services staff in order to identify and assess jointly specific social and health issues, consistent with the triple bottom line approach, with respect to report (PED05015) entitled City Initiative 05-F to Amend the Official Plans for the Former Regional Municipality of Hamilton Wentworth, Former Town of Ancaster and the Former Township of Glanbrook to Recognize and Expand the Existing Airport Influence Area and to Create a Special Policy Area for Employment Purposes and report (PED05006) entitled Hamilton Goods Movement Study;
(b) That Planning and Economic Development staff be directed to bring a report back to Social & Public Health Services Committee on how this can be implemented by no later than September 30, 2005.

CARRIED.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

The Clerk advised that a Speakers List had been created for Item 7.1, the 2006 NCB Strategy Report and that staff would be providing a verbal update under General Information regarding Bill 164: Smoke-Free Ontario Act.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the June 14, 2005 meeting were approved as presented.

(d) PRESENTATIONS (Item 7.1)

2006 NCB Strategy

Ms. Priel advised that the 2006 NCB Strategy report has been prepared as an Information Report on how we might withdraw from the N.C.B. programs that we currently offer. She advised that staff would consult with NCB funded programs in 2006 and that the plan was to return NCB funds to OW/ODSP families in 2007.

Mr. Mark Wingartner made a power point presentation to Committee and outlined the following components regarding the Nation Child Benefit program;

- Proposed 2006 NCB Strategy
- Rationale for Proposed Strategy
- Alternative Strategies
- Challenges
- Consultation Process

A copy of Mr. Wingartner’s presentation was provided to the Clerk for the public record.
(i) 7.1.1 Mr. Jeff Wingard, Stop the Clawback Working Group

Mr. Wingard distributed a position paper on the National Child Benefit Supplement Clawback that had been prepared by his Working Group. Mr. Wingard felt that it was unfair to tax the poorest in our Community and requested that the members of Committee support the return of the clawback to OW/ODSP recipients as soon as possible. Mr. Wingard also suggested that Council forgo the consultation process which would allow the recipients to receive their money in 2006.

(ii) 7.1.2 Ms. Sally Palmer, Social Action Committee of the Ontario Association of Social Workers (Hamilton & District Branch)

Ms. Palmer thanked Committee for endorsing a motion last month requesting the Province of Ontario to discontinue the National Child Tax Benefit Supplement clawback. With respect to the staff report being presented in today’s agenda, Ms. Palmer voiced her support in favour of Proposing a Shift in 2006, as outlined on page 9 of the report as Alternative One.

(iii) Item 7.1.3 Mr. John Fawcett, Housing Emergency Loan Program

Mr. Fawcett provided a brief summary of what services his program provides. He urged Committee to return the Clawback to OW/ODSP recipients as soon as possible.

Committee discussed the staff report and raised concern over discontinuing the existing programs that were funded through the NCB Program. It was agreed that it would be difficult to add this type of cost to the budget and therefore funding would have to be obtained from alternate sources.

Chairman Bratina relinquished the Chair to Councillor Jackson in order to participate in the discussion.

The Committee approved a recommendation to receive the report and that staff be requested to explore funding options through the Hydro Dividend Funds so that the existing programs can continue. Due to the urgency of this matter, staff were requested to report back to the Committee of the Whole meeting in August.

Councillor Bratina assumed the Chair.

(e) Review of Residential Care Facilities By-law 01-156 (Item 8.2)

Recommendation (b) requested that two members of the Social and Public Health Services Committee be appointed to the Advisory Group to assist in the
review. Members of Committee agreed to make the appointments at a subsequent meeting.

(f) OUTSTANDING BUSINESS LIST UPDATES (Item 9)

(i) Transportation Accessibility–Item E on Outstanding Business List

Report to June 30, 2005 Committee of the Whole meeting.

(ii) Utility Assistance Program – Item F on Outstanding Business List

On a motion, the Committee agreed to change the due date to September 27, 2005 (Q3).

(g) MOTIONS (Item 10)

Chairman Bratina relinquished the Chair to Councillor Jackson in order to introduce two motions. Both of these motions were approved by Committee. (See Item 5 respecting Item 10.1 and 10.2 as noted below.)

(i) Air Quality Initiatives and Issues Summary (Item 10.2)

On a motion, moved by Councillor Bratina and seconded by Councillor Merulla, the Committee directed the Medical Officer of Health to bring a report back to Committee in Q4 summarizing air quality initiatives and issues in conjunction with other City Departments and outside agencies.

Councillor Bratina assumed the Chair.

(h) GENERAL INFORMATION (Item 12)

(i) Bill 164: Smoke-Free Ontario Act (Item 12.1)

Dr. Mathew Hodge and Mr. Kevin McDonald provided an update to members of Committee regarding Bill 164, the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, which received Royal Assent on June 13, 2005.

Under this Act all public places, workplaces, legion halls and private clubs in Ontario are required to be 100% smoke-free effective June 1, 2006. The only public premises which will allow restricted smoking are hotel rooms and long-term care facilities.

Staff advised that they would be bringing forward a report in September 2005 detailing Bill 164 and the affect it will have on establishments in the City of Hamilton.
Although this is a Provincial initiative, Councillor Morelli asked staff to provide all members of Council with an information sheet which includes contact names and telephone numbers so that they could forward this onto their constituents.

Rob Hall, Director of Health Protection agreed to provide this information as soon as possible.

Councillor Jackson requested staff to consider providing some sort of reimbursement to those businesses who in good faith, built designated smoking rooms and asked that this information be included in the September report. The Councillor also questioned if this was something that the City could appeal.

(ii) Poor Air Quality (Item 12.2)

Chairman Bratina advised that today was another red-flagged air quality day and noted that he was looking forward to receiving the staff report which had been requested at the last meeting.

(i) PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

On a motion (Jackson/Kelly), the Committee proceeded In-Camera to discuss two personal matters about identifiable individuals.

CARRIED.

On a motion (Morelli/Jackson), the Committee reconvened in Open Session.

CARRIED.

The Committee reconvened in Open Session and advised that direction had been provided to staff with respect to both matters.

(j) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor B. Bratina,
Vice-Chair

I. Sturgeon,
Legislative Assistant
June 28, 2005