



City of Hamilton
EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
ADDENDUM

Meeting #: 24-004
Date: May 16, 2024
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Loren Kolar, Legislative Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 2604

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- *5.1 Correspondence from the Municipality of St. Charles respecting Support for the Resolution Passed by Public Health Sudbury & Districts on January 18, 2024, regarding Household Food Insecurity

Referred by the Public Health Committee, April 29, 2024

Recommendation: Be received

- *5.2 Correspondence from J. Bishop, S. Bainbridge, D. Savage, D. Jaffray, K. Sahai, respecting Ontario Child Care Workforce Strategy, Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Funding (HSC24025) (City Wide)

Recommendation: Be Received and referred to Item 10.1

6. DELEGATION REQUESTS

- *6.1 Dr. S. Palmer, Hamilton Social Work Action Committee, respecting Social Assistance Rates (for a future meeting)

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

- *12.1 Ward 2 Community Grants - Food Insecurity Programming Q1 and Q2 2024 (Ward 2) (A request to waive the rules will be introduced)

Referred from Public Health Committee - April 29, 2024

The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 8.3.
Resolution Number 2024-071
Title: Resolution stemming from February 21, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #8
Date: March 20, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Pothier
Seconded by: Councillor Laframboise

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by Public Health Sudbury & Districts on January 18, 2024, regarding household food insecurity;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, Michael Parsaco; Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR



January 24, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Recipient:

Re: Household Food Insecurity

At its meeting on January 18, 2024, the Board of Health carried the following resolution #06-24:

WHEREAS food security is a chronic and worsening health issue as documented by annual local data on food affordability and as recognized by multiple Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA) resolutions: [A05-18](#) (Adequate Nutrition for Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program), [A18-02](#) (Minimum Wage that is a Living Wage), [A15-04](#) (Basic Income Guarantee), and [A23-05](#) (Monitoring Food Affordability in Ontario and the Inadequacy of Social Assistance Rates)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts call on the provincial government to incorporate local food affordability findings in determining adequacy of social assistance rates to reflect the current costs of living and to index Ontario Works rates to inflation going forward; and

THAT in the context of the Public Health Strengthening roles and responsibilities deliberations, the Board of Health urge all health system partners to remain committed to population health assessment and surveillance as it relates to monitoring food environments and, specifically, to monitoring food affordability; and share this motion broadly with local and provincial stakeholders.

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phsd.ca



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Household food insecurity is one of the strongest predictors of poor health, making it a serious public health issue (PROOF, 2023). Individuals who are food insecure are at higher risk of diet-related diseases like diabetes and are at higher risk for a wide range of chronic conditions such as depression and anxiety disorders, arthritis, and chronic pain. Household food insecurity leaves an indelible mark on children's health and well-being (PROOF, 2023). The experience of food insecurity in childhood is associated with mental health concerns throughout childhood and into early adulthood (PROOF, 2023). In Ontario, the healthcare costs of individuals who are the most food insecure can be more than double that of individuals who are food secure (PROOF, 2023, Tarasuk et al., 2015).

Thank you for your attention to this important issue – the solutions for which will not only help many Ontarians in need but also protect the sustainability of our critical health and social services resources.

Sincerely,



Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
Honourable Peter Bthlenfalvy, Ministry of Finance
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
France Gélinas, Member of Provincial Parliament, Nickel Belt
Jamie West, Member of Provincial Parliament, Sudbury
Michael Mantha, Member of Provincial Parliament, Algoma-Manitoulin
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Jacqueline Edwards and Jennifer Babin-Fenske, Co-chairs, Greater Sudbury Food Policy Council
Richard Lathwell, Local Food Manitoulin
Colleen Hill, Executive Director, Manitoulin Family Resources
All Ontario Boards of Health
Association of Local Public Health Agencies

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PROOF (2023). What are the implications of food insecurity for health and health care? Identifying Policy Options to Reduce Household Food Insecurity in Canada. Retrieved from:
<https://proof.utoronto.ca/food-insecurity/what-are-the-implications-of-food-insecurity-for-health-andhealth-care/>

Tarasuk, V., Cheng, J., de Oliveira, C., Dachner, N., Gundersen, C., Kurdyak, P. (2015). Association between household food insecurity and annual healthcare costs. *Canadian Medical Association Journal*. 187 (14) E429-E436. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1503/cmaj.150234>

5.2

Comments on the Discussion Paper Of the Children's and Community Department "Ontario Workforce Strategy; Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Strategy Funding " to the Emergency and Community Committee, May 16 2024.

Hamilton Child Care Advocates, a group of board members of child-care agencies, working to support the goals of the Canada -Wide Early Learning and Child Care project, respectfully offer the following:

Child care is an essential service for Hamilton. Accessibility to quality child care services improves work force participation and earnings, reduces poverty, and benefits the child's overall positive growth and development.

According to a the May 2024 paper of the Institute on Municipal Finance and Governance in "The Municipal Role in Child Care":

"In the next few years, child care is set to become one of the largest areas of municipal government expenditure in Ontario, rivalling roads, transit, wastewater, and policing. By 2026, funding to make child care more affordable and accessible – most of it managed and distributed by municipalities – will reach about \$5 billion annually in Ontario. The Financial Accountability Office of Ontario believes that an additional 227,000 child care spaces will be needed beyond what is planned for 2026, so \$5 billion is certainly not the final figure."

As long-term advocates for child care in Hamilton, we have appreciated how our Hamilton Children's Department has managed subsidies for children of low-income families, operational funding and wage enhancement grants, They have provided the funds to allow children with special needs to participate in children's programs, and made local plans in conjunction with school boards and other partners that reflect the special characteristics of our community. City Council has determined the development of child care that is attuned to local needs and preferences. We heartily support the local planning role that the Children's department has played and want to see it continue. We envisage a continued municipal role in child care planning, and Hamilton prioritizing child care as integral in its community planning in line with "Hamilton: the Best Place to Raise a Child".

However, the municipal role in child care, so valuable for local autonomy, does not appear to be supported by the present Ontario government. Municipal representation has not been included at the table when policy decisions are made, or their experience consulted for future child care development. Hamilton can no longer determine the number of child care subsidies available, in a community which has had high poverty levels, as the total number has been frozen provincially. Municipal discretion has been undermined in other ways, so that the City will not be able to use measures of quality to determine from which child care operators the City will purchase of child care services orders. A compulsory

5.2

value for money audit of Red Hill Child Care centre has been ordered, when the quality of care, concern for children with special needs, and the properly remunerated work force are models for what child care of the future should look like. Above all, funding to municipalities for the administration of child care is being reduced, for Hamilton by about \$2.5 million, at a time when their role in planning of the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) project is most needed. The downsizing of costs to municipalities is particularly concerning as

*property taxes will not rise as women's labour-force participation and GDP rise, but provincial and federal income taxes will. **Therefore, municipalities should not be expected to rely on the property tax base to share the costs of child care services with the provincial government ("The Municipal Role in Child Care").'***

Municipalities are being sidelined while the Ontario government has been doing a poor job of child care planning. It has not dealt with the work force crisis which impedes growth of child care services. Although there is some new enhanced funding for child care workers, mentioned in this City report, this will not be enough to attract and retain child care workers in the sector, as there is no wage grid, and pay continues around the level for secondary school graduates, rather than those with a two-year diploma. More provincial funding is required to meet demand for more child care. Capital funding is inadequate to build more non-profit and public spaces. Although equity is being used to prioritize child care expansion to low income, racialized, indigenous, francophone, new immigrant, and children with special needs, the needed extra funding for increased childcare subsidies and for children with special needs has not materialized.

The experience and knowledge of municipalities is vital if CWELCC is to be successful. Quebec has shown that it took 20 years to develop their child care system and access, so expansion, adequacy of funding and quality will continue to be issues. These are concerns with which municipalities are familiar. They need to continue to have decision making powers regarding the local allocation of child care funding and Ontario needs to accept the advice of municipalities, through an advisory committee.

In summary: we appreciate the past work of the Children's Department in the administration of local child-care, and we hope to see continued Hamilton Council support for local and integrated child care planning ; we believe the continued ability of municipalities to make local child- care decisions is important for higher quality in child-care provision; and we ask you to work with OMSSA to safeguard local municipal child care planning and to advocate for the establishment of a Municipal Advisory Committee to advise on child care matters to the provincial government ..

Respectfully submitted.

Judith Bishop, Shirley Bainbridge, David Savage, Don Jaffray, Katherine Sahai.

From: clerk@hamilton.ca
To: [Kolar, Loren](#)
Cc: [Blen-Bruzon, Dami](#)
Subject: FW: Webform submission from: Request to Speak to a Committee of Council
Date: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 8:28:29 AM

FYI/Action

From: City of Hamilton <hello@hamilton.ca>
Sent: May 6, 2024 8:22 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Webform submission from: Request to Speak to a Committee of Council

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Submitted on Mon, 05/06/2024 - 20:22

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Committee Requested

Committee
Emergency & Community Services Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?
In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?
No

Requestor Information

Requestor Information
Dr. Sally Palmer
Hamilton Social Work Action Committee

[REDACTED]

Preferred Pronoun
she/her

Reason(s) for delegation request
This is a followup to a delegation on Feb. 16, 2023, asking for the support of City Council in advocating

for an increase in Ontario's social assistance rates. Some of the promises were carried out, but the Director of Government Relations was unable to meet with the Minister of Children, Community & Social Services, who cancelled at the last minute. He did send his Associate Minister, but said that she was not willing to discuss social assistance rates. The most critical issue is that recipients of Ontario Works have not had a raise in 5 years, despite unusually high inflation over this time. We would like someone representing the city to advocate with the Minister for unfreezing the rates of Ontario Works, and for giving a much needed raise to recipients of ODSP.

Will you be requesting funds from the City?

No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?

Yes

The sender designated this message as non-commercial mandatory content with the following note:

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71 Main Street West
Hamilton, ON, L8P 4Y5
Canada

12.1

CITY OF HAMILTON NOTICE OF MOTION

Emergency & Community Services Committee: May 16, 2024

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR C. KROETSCH.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR N. NANN

Ward 2 Community Grants - Food Insecurity Programming Q1 and Q2 2024 (Ward 2)

WHEREAS in 2023 funds from the Ward 2 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account (3301609602) were allocated to organizations that address poverty and food insecurity, including Compass Community Health, 541 Eatery & Exchange, Helping Hands Street Mission, and the Queen Victoria Elementary School Nutrition Program;

WHEREAS each of these organizations applied through the Ward 2 Community Grants application process and specified that their programming relates to food provision and insecurity;

WHEREAS any applications related to food programming will be funded from the Ward 2 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account (3301609602), as long as there are funds available; and

WHEREAS the following \$15,750 allocated to four (4) individual organizations fulfills Q1 and Q2 2024 of the Ward 2 Community Grants applications for programs addressing food insecurity and provision

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

- (a) That free school-wide pizza lunch to the Dr. J. E. Davey School Council be funded from the Ward 2 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account 3301609602 at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$750;
- (b) That purchase of supplies for a breakfast program to the Hamilton Downtown Mosque be funded from the Ward 2 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account 3301609602 at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$5,000;
- (c) That breakfast programming at Hess Street School to Tastebuds Hamilton be funded from the Ward 2 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account 3301609602 at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$5,000;

- (d) That purchase of supplies for their foodbank to Living Rock Ministries be funded from the Ward 2 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account 3301609602 at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$5,000; and
- (e) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute any required agreement(s) and ancillary documents, with such terms and conditions in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.