



CITY OF HAMILTON
COMMUNITY & EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Ontario Works Division

TO:	Chair and Members Emergency & Community Services Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	September 26, 2016
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Appointment of Administrator of Ontario Works (CES16049) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Linda Button 905-546-2424 Ext. 3104
SUBMITTED BY:	Joe-Anne Priel General Manager Community & Emergency Services Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the appointment of Steve Jacques as the Administrator of Ontario Works be approved; and,
- (b) That the appointment of Steve Jacques as the Administrator of Ontario Works be submitted to the Ministry of Community and Social Services for approval.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pursuant to the Ontario Works Act, 1997, (the Act), the Director of Ontario Works is required to approve the appointment of Administrators to oversee the administration of Ontario Works. Through this approval, Administrators are provided the authority to administer the Act and provide employment assistance and basic financial assistance according to provincial standards.

Report CES16049 requests that Steve Jacques be appointed as the Administrator of Ontario Works for the City of Hamilton.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not applicable

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial:

There are no financial implications associated with Report CES16049.

Staffing:

There are no staffing implications associated with Report CES16049.

Legal:

Section 43 of the Ontario Works Act, 1997, states that, “each delivery agent shall appoint an administrator to oversee the administration of the Act and the provision of assistance in the delivery agents’ geographical area.” This appointment is subject to the approval of the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

A review of Hamilton’s Ontario Works was undertaken in 2015 (Report CES15011). The review was conducted to ensure a sustainable organizational structure, efficient business processes and an allocation of resources that best meet the needs of Hamilton’s residents.

The implementation of some of the review’s recommendations will establish the foundation of a more person-centred, integrated model of service delivery and will align with the social services reform we are expecting from the Province.

During the review, employee consultations at all levels indicated consensus around the need for consolidating the two Ontario Works Divisions, Benefit Eligibility and Employment and Income Support, under the leadership of one Director.

To that end, on August 24, 2016 the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services Department announced the appointment of Steve Jacques as Director of the newly unified Ontario Works Division effective September 6, 2016.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

There are no policy implications associated with Report CES16049.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

The Ontario Works Act, 1997, was reviewed by the City of Hamilton’s Legal Department in 1997, when the Act was first instituted.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The appointment of an Administrator of the Ontario Works Act, 1997 ensures that provisions are in place to effectively deliver Ontario Works to address the needs of the residents of the City of Hamilton.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

There are no alternatives for consideration associated with Report CES16049.

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Economic Prosperity and Growth

Hamilton has a prosperous and diverse local economy where people have opportunities to grow and develop.

Healthy and Safe Communities

Hamilton is a safe and supportive city where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

Our People and Performance

Hamiltonians have a high level of trust and confidence in their City government.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

None.