



CITY OF HAMILTON
HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT
Ontario Works Division

TO:	Chair and Members Healthy and Safe Communities Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	February 26, 2018
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Appointment of Administrator of Ontario Works (HSC18001) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Lynn Martinello 905-546-2424 ext. 7869
SUBMITTED BY:	Paul Johnson General Manager Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On February 13, 2018 Bonnie Elder was appointed as the Acting Director of Ontario Works following the resignation of the current Director, Steve Jacques.

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 HSC18001 requests that Bonnie Elder 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 HSC18001.

Staffing:

There are no staffing implications associated with Report HSC18001.

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

With the departure of the Director of Ontario Works, Steve Jacques, a replacement Administrator of the Ontario Works Act needs to be identified and put forward to the Ministry of Community and Social Services for approval.

As the Acting Director of Ontario Works, Bonnie Elder has the responsibility of overseeing the sections who deliver services within the mandate of the Ontario Works Act.

The duties of the Administrator are as follows:

1. Receive applications for basic financial assistance from persons residing in his or her geographical area.
2. Determine the eligibility of each applicant for basic financial assistance.
3. If an applicant is found eligible for basic financial assistance, determine the amount of the assistance and direct its provision.
4. Determine the eligibility for employment assistance and direct its provision.
5. Carry out the prescribed duties.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

Ontario Works Act, 1997, Section 43

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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

None

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