




Hamilton

INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Emergency and Community Services Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	October 17, 2019
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Update on the Elimination of the Transition Child Benefit (HSC19050(a)) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Shelley Opperman-Wylie (905) 546-2424 Ext. 3133
SUBMITTED BY:	Bonnie Elder Director, Ontario Works Division Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION

Emergency and Community Services Committee at its meeting of September 19, 2019 approved the following:

"That staff be directed to bring forward recommendations to the next Emergency and Community Services Committee meeting outlining the costs and administrative elements required to implement a temporary housing allowance program beginning November 1, 2019, assisting families previously eligible for the Transition Child Benefit and would seek to help such families avoid having to use resources designated to purchase food, clothing and other basic needs to pay for their housing costs;

That a letter from the Mayor of Hamilton be sent to Todd Smith, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, calling for the reversal of the elimination of the Transition Child Benefit, including an articulation of the impact on children and families in Hamilton, informed by the recommendation report set out in Sub-Section (a) above;

That staff reach out to the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, Ontario Chamber of Commerce, and the Association of Municipalities Ontario to articulate the economic development impact of these cuts; and,

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.

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That Report HSC19050, respecting the Elimination of the Transition Child Benefit, be received.”

INFORMATION

Pursuant to Council direction, staff from the Ontario Works and Housing Services Divisions commenced collaboration to develop the framework for a temporary housing allowance benefit to mitigate the impacts of those families affected by the elimination of the Transition Child Benefit.

On the evening of October 2, 2019, the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services informed all Ontario Works Administrators and Ontario Disability Support Program offices that the changes to the Transition Child Benefit would not be implemented. The Transition Child Benefit will continue to be delivered in its current form to all recipients in accordance with existing policies and regulations.

Therefore, a mitigation strategy in response to the elimination of the Transition Child Benefit is no longer required.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

None