



**CITY OF HAMILTON**  
**HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT**  
**Housing Services Division**

<b>TO:</b>	Chair and Members Emergency & Community Services Committee
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	September 24, 2020
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Wesley Day Centre (HSC20044) (City Wide)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	Edward John (905) 546-2424 Ext. 8035
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Paul Johnson General Manager Healthy and Safe Communities Department
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

### RECOMMENDATION

That the General Manager of Healthy and Safe Communities, or his designate, be authorized and directed to:

- (a) Enter into agreements, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, with Wesley Urban Ministries (or alternative Service Provider) to continue enhanced drop-in services to June 30, 2021 at a new location to be determined and at the previously approved budget; and,
- (b) That a Communication Plan be developed in conjunction with the Ward Councillor and implemented prior to the opening of any newly City funded drop-in service.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On September 16, 2020, Wesley Urban Ministries provided confirmation that their month to month lease arrangement with Wesley Community Homes would be ending November 1, 2020.

Previous Council approval of June 19, 2020 provided the authority to fund ongoing extended opening operations at the Wesley Day Centre (amongst other day

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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.

centre/drop-in services), recognizing the need for greater access to sanitary and laundry services (in addition to other services) during the restrictions placed upon regular business operations as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic.

This report seeks authority to assist with ensuring the services continue without interruption through assisting either Wesley or an alternative service provider fulfil the expectations.

As part of this ongoing financial support and recognizing the community interest within any future location of such services, a robust communications plan, developed in conjunction with the Ward Councillor, will be implemented prior to any occupation of new space.

**Alternatives for Consideration** – See Page 4.

### **FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Financial: N/A

Staffing: N/A

Legal: N/A

### **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

At the meeting of June 19, 2020, the Emergency & Community Services Committee approved the following recommendation through Report HSC20020:

- (a) That the General Manager of Healthy and Safe Communities, or his designate, be authorized to enter into agreements, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, with Living Rock Ministries, Mission Services, Wesley Urban Ministries and the YWCA Hamilton to continue enhanced drop-in services at Living Rock, Willow's Place, Wesley Day Centre and Carole Ann's Place respectively to June 30, 2021 to a maximum of \$3.2 M;

On September 16, 2020, the City of Hamilton received formal notification (attached as Appendix "A" to Report HSC20044) that the current location of the Wesley Urban Ministries (195 Ferguson Ave. N.) were required to relocate following the cessation of their existing month to month lease agreement. As of November 1, 2020, either a new location or a suspension of services will occur.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS**

None

## **RELEVANT CONSULTATION**

### Sector Planning Meeting

The sector planning team were updated of the closure of 195 Ferguson Ave. N. on September 21, 2020. This table will be used going forward to explore opportunities for an interim location.

## **ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION**

Authorization of the General Manager of Healthy and Safe Communities, or his designate, to enter into and execute an Agreement with Wesley Urban Ministries or an alternate service provider is recommended to facilitate the ongoing and uninterrupted services currently being provided by Wesley Urban Ministries at a new location within the City of Hamilton.

These services are vital to men and women who are unwilling or unable to access shelter beds. Continued and potential future restrictions on public facilities will mean these programs will continue to be important sources of hygiene and support.

As detailed in the letter provided by Wesley Urban Ministries, no interim or permanent location has at the time of writing been selected. Should a location not be found, or the services provided at an interim location not be sufficient, staff seek the authority to select a new provider and negotiate a similar contract.

In addition, given the significant community interest, it is recommended that a communication plan be developed in conjunction with the Ward Councillor, to ensure the new location and or service provider are effectively communicated with the community.

## **ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION**

Council could bring forward a reconsideration motion to revisit the approval to fund the ongoing services and redirect funding to alternative housing and homelessness initiatives. However, staff do not recommend at this time reallocating this funding given the continued and potential increased barriers to accessing hygiene and support services for the homelessness serving system as a result of the pandemic.

## **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.

**APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

Appendix "A" to Report HSC20044: Communication from Wesley Urban Ministries.