



CITY OF HAMILTON
HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT
Children's Services and Neighbourhood Development Division

TO:	Chair and Members Emergency and Community Services Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	May 19, 2022
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Children's Services and Neighbourhood Development Divisional Name Change (HSC22026) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Sarah Van Sickle (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4849
SUBMITTED BY:	Jessica Chase Director, Children's Services & Neighbourhood Development Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

That the Children's Services and Neighbourhood Development Division in the Healthy and Safe Communities Department be renamed the Children's and Community Services Division.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

With the transfer of Neighbourhood Development staff from the Children's Services and Neighbourhood Development Division to the Housing Services Division the current division name no longer is an accurate reflection of the remaining services and portfolios that the division is responsible for. As a result, staff are recommending to change the existing divisional name of the Children's Services and Neighbourhood Development Division to the Children's and Community Services Division.

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: Any costs associated with phasing out the previous divisional name will be covered in the existing budget.

Staffing: N/A

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.

Legal: N/A

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Children's Services and Neighbourhood Development Division was created in April 2018 following approval of Report HSC18018 to merge the Neighbourhood and Community Initiatives Division with the Children's and Home Management Services Division.

In August 2021, as per the recommendation in Report HSC21032, the staff complement responsible for the neighbourhood development work within the Children's Services and Neighbourhood Development Division were moved to the Housing Services Division. This was previously recommended and approved to support the efforts of local human services integration work moving forward. Neighbourhood Development was better positioned in the Housing Services Division to inform new housing development and improve existing housing or neighbourhood hubs to connect residents to the services needed to keep people housed.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

NONE

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Consultation on the recommendation has occurred with the Director, Housing Services Division.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The renaming of the Children's Services and Neighbourhood Development Division to the Children's and Community Services Division will more accurately reflect the remaining portfolios within this division as depicted below.

Early Years Operations and Youth – This section is responsible for planning, monitoring, development of programming and financial assistance for eligible families, children and youth. This is achieved through various consultations with early years operators, community partners and youth to ensure appropriate programs and supports are made available. Activities include the Hamilton Early Years Quality Program, Child Care Fee Subsidy, Special Needs Resourcing, and Strategic Youth Initiatives which includes the Youth Strategy, the Xperience Annex and the Learning, Earning and Parenting (LEAP) program.

Business Supports - This section is responsible for planning and funding for the licensed child care system and ensures operational compliance with all applicable legislation, policies, contracts, agreements, regulations and guidelines. Activities include the development and integration of division-wide strategies, system analysis and decision support, business procedures and processes and data base management to support long range planning, consultation and service delivery.

Performance, Planning and Evaluation – This section is responsible for providing a broad range of services that support Divisional, Departmental and Corporate program planning, policy development, evidence-based decision making, evaluation, and community capacity building and development. Through the development of divisional, departmental and community work groups they ensure a coordinated and integrated policy development and evaluations of programs and service delivery (including customer satisfaction evaluation), in order to improve program effectiveness and/or efficiencies.

Community Strategies-This section is responsible for the development of an integrated early years system in response to local needs and provincial guidelines. This includes the development and implementation of a community plan and the development and ongoing management of EarlyON Child and Family Centres. Activities include system planning and development and community provider funding, the Age Friendly Plan, Early Years Community Plan and the EarlyON Child and Family Centre system and the departmental lead for the City Enrichment Fund.

Indigenous Relations – This section is responsible for the implementation of the Urban Indigenous Strategy which is working to carry out the Calls to Action for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) Calls to Justice at the local level. This team supports corporate strategy by helping to promote a better understanding among all residents about Indigenous histories, cultures, experiences and contributions and is responsible for strengthening the City's relationship with the Indigenous community.

Direct Services - This section is responsible for the City's only directly operated licensed Child Care Program (Red Hill Family Centre) and the Home Management Program. Red Hill Family Centre is an inclusive family-based child care centre for children 18 months to five years. The qualified team of Registered Early Childhood Educators, Resource Teachers, Home Management Workers and other community professionals encourage children and families to develop to their highest potential. The Home Management Program is responsible for teaching individuals, families and groups through practical instruction and coaching, the life skills necessary for day-to-day living. Activities include budgeting, advocacy and community support, housing issues, nutrition and meal planning, and parenting.

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All these services align with the goal of the division to develop a responsive, high quality, accessible and increasingly integrated system of programs and services for all citizens, youth, children and families.

The division has a strong focus on increasing community engagement by promoting a culture of public participation, advances collaborative action taking by community partners and ensures the diverse voices of residents continue to influence and shape divisional priorities. This would be well reflected in a divisional name of Children's and Community Services.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

None

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

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