



INFORMATION REPORT

TO: Chair and Members Audit, Finance and Administration Committee	WARD(S) AFFECTED: CITY WIDE
COMMITTEE DATE: March 2, 2011	
SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Water for People-Canada Donation Request (FCS11018/PW11015) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item)	
SUBMITTED BY: Roberto Rossini General Manager, Finance & Corporate Services Department Gerry Davis, CMA General Manager Public Works	PREPARED BY: John Savoia (905) 546-2424 x7298 Dan McKinnon (905) 546-2424 x5941
SIGNATURE: 	

Council Direction:

Council at its meeting of September 15, 2010, received correspondence from Harold MacNeil, President of Water For People-Canada respecting a donation request and referred the request to the General Managers of Public Works and Finance and Corporate Services for a report to the Audit and Administration Committee.

Information:

Water For People-Canada (WFPC) is a charitable, non-profit, international humanitarian organization dedicated to the development and delivery of clean, safe water and sanitation solutions in developing nations. It is the Canadian equivalent of the U.S.-based charity, Water For People. Canadian water industry professionals established WFPC in 1995, to support and promote the mission of WFPC among the public and the water community.

**SUBJECT: Water for People-Canada Donation Request (FCS11018/PW11015)
(City Wide) – Page 2 of 2**

The correspondence received from WFPC (refer to Appendix “A” to Report FCS11018/PW11015) requests that the City participate in their municipal sponsorship program to meet WFPC’s fundraising goal of \$250,000 from municipalities across Canada. WFPC has a variety of sponsorship levels available ranging from \$1,000 to \$1 million with the correspondence suggesting a municipal donation target of \$0.05 per resident, which for Hamilton on that basis would equate to approximately a \$25,000 donation request.

A review of the website for WFPC does provide a listing of private sector corporate donors, but does not provide any information identifying any donations made by a Canadian municipality under their municipal sponsorship program. Whereas, the City to date has not financially supported WFPC, the City’s Water and Wastewater section does, as part of its outreach and education initiatives, host an annual walkathon to raise funds for the provision of clean water in Haiti. Over the last six years the “Hamilton Walks for Haiti” walkathon has raised over \$120,000 for the provision of communal wells in the Artibonite Valley in Haiti. These very important works in Haiti are facilitated through the Rotary Club of Ancaster and as a result of the Hamilton initiative over twenty wells have been constructed in Haiti to date. The Walkathon is attended by local Grade 5-6 students and simulates the journey that children in Haiti make on a daily basis to fetch clean water for their families. While Hamilton provides staff to organize and host the walk, the City’s commitment has strictly been limited in the form of “sweat equity” and there has not been a financial donation to this initiative by the City. The City through its on-going partnership with the Rotary Club of Ancaster supports efforts to perform outreach respecting the value and importance of our water resources.

Staff were unable to identify any City policy implications regarding the City providing a financial donation to an international non-profit organization (NPO). Discussions with Community Services staff noted that the City has provided on a few instances direct financial support to local NPOs, for example to local food banks, but not to an international NPO. Similarly, the City’s Community Partnership Program provides significant financial support (2010 budget of \$3.8 million) to local charities and/or NPO’s with the condition that any funding requested will not be used to fund an event or exchange program that takes place outside of the City of Hamilton.

There has been an instance where the City did provide direct financial support that was beyond its local boundaries in January 2004 when Council supported donating \$25,000 from its 2005 Operating Contingency to the Red Cross for tsunami relief.

While staff are familiar with the good works that WFPC and appreciate the spirit of this campaign the WFPC financial donation request is inconsistent with financial support the City has historically provided to NPOs with the aforementioned notable exception of the Red Cross donation in 2005. Given the international nature of the financial request it is not recommended to support the WFPC financial donation request.

255 Consumers Road, Suite 300
Toronto, ON M2J 5B6

T 416 499 4042
F 416 499 4687

Charitable Registration 898221973RR0001
www.waterforpeople.org



July 17, 2010

Fred Eisenberger
Mayor
City of Hamilton
77 James Street North
Suite 230
Hamilton ON
L8R 2K3

Our vision: a world where all people have access to safe drinking water and sanitation; a world where no one suffers or dies from a water- or sanitation-related disease.

Our goal: \$250,000 to help 5,000 people gain easy access to fresh clean water and sanitation.

Dear Mayor and Councilors,

Most Canadians take water for granted. But it takes a lot of engineering, ingenuity, and money to supply fresh, clean water. As elected officials, we expect you have a good understanding of local water utility issues. But our challenges are nothing compared to those who live without a safe, reliable water supply – like in Bolivia, Guatemala, Honduras, Malawi, and West Bengal, India. There, the difference between life and death is a matter of fresh, clean water.

Water For People is a nonprofit organization that was created by engineers, operators, suppliers and consultants in the water industry. Our goal is to help people in developing countries improve their quality of life by supporting the development of locally sustainable drinking water resources, sanitation facilities and health and hygiene education programs.

In Canada, I believe we have an especially important role to play. Canada is home to more than 20% of the world's fresh water. I wish there was a way we could simply deliver water to people the way we ship wheat, corn, and even steel half way around the world – but you and I know that it doesn't work that way. Water is always a local resource and water professionals know how best to provide fresh, clean and reliable water to people.

Water For People provides sustainable solutions that are community based. We don't fly in million-dollar solutions. Instead, we work with community members and teach them about the connection between water, sanitation and their own health. We show them how to build wells and latrines, and train them how to operate and maintain them. Our help goes to people, not concrete. We keep solutions simple and sustainable. A typical project in Guatemala, for example, includes a safe water supply, a gravity-fed



water system, a storage tank, an underground distribution system, and tap stands at each household. Simple, but effectively provides safe drinking water to people in desperate need of assistance.

The link between the lack of water and poverty is clear. Water For People uses water-related programs as catalysts for change in communities that lack access to drinking water and sanitation. Our actions change more than water availability – they change people and economies. As water conditions improve, the burdens on their backs grow lighter, water-borne diseases disappear. Communities become healthy, strong, and able to take care of themselves.

Our Guiding Principles

We believe in people. We respect the dignity of all people.

We keep it local. We believe that water, sanitation and hygiene problems are most effectively solved using local resources

We keep good company. We search out trusted partners who share our vision and work together to build long-term relationships based on trust.

We keep our promises. We believe we owe it to the communities we serve, our volunteers, staff and donors to act with integrity and manage our resources effectively and efficiently.

Last year, Water For People helped 209,336 people receive improved water; 118,055 people receive adequate sanitation; and 191,670 people receive health and hygiene training. Water For People worked in 379 communities and in 244 schools. That was an amazing 77 percent growth over 2008.

This year, our goal is to raise \$250,000 through the municipal sponsorship program, an amount that will provide fresh, clean water and sanitation to more than 5,000 people.

Donation Request:

Please help us reach our goal. It's simple to give the gift of life. A dollar given to Water For People is a very magical dollar – it multiplies itself a hundred fold. Water For People-Canada is seeking your support and requesting that your municipality join our Sponsor Program.

Water For People-Canada suggests that your municipality donate \$0.05 (five cents) per resident to provide safe water and sanitation services to less fortunate people in the developing world.

Or your municipality may wish to select a different sponsorship level (see attached Sponsor Program), which will be very much appreciated and recognized by the many thousands who need your help.

Very truly yours,



Harold MacNeil
President, Water For People-Canada

WATER FOR PEOPLE-CANADA SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Below are the levels of sponsorship for Water For People-Canada Donations:

LEADER'S CIRCLE - \$1 MILLION AND ABOVE

GLOBAL SPONSOR —\$100,000 TO \$999,999

CONTINENTAL SPONSOR —\$50,000 TO \$99,999

COUNTRY SPONSOR —\$10,000 TO \$49,999

VILLAGE SPONSOR —\$5,000 TO \$9,999

FAMILY SPONSOR —\$1000 TO \$4,999

**Donations at any of the sponsorship levels will be recognized by
Water For People-Canada by:**

- Listing in the Water For People-Canada *Annual Report* insert
- Listing on Water For People-Canada website