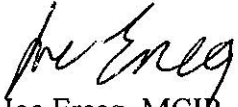




To: Planning Committee **Date:** December 20, 2007
From: Joe Erceg, MCIP **File:**
 General Manager, Planning and Development
Re: **2007 Annual Report and 2008 Work Program:**
Child Care Development Advisory Committee


Staff Recommendation

That, as per the General Manager, Planning and Development report dated December 20, 2007, entitled: "2007 Annual Report and 2008 Work Program: Child Care Development Advisory Committee," the 2008 Work Program (Attachment 1) of the Child Care Development Advisory Committee be approved.


 Joe Erceg, MCIP
 General Manager, Planning and Development

Att. 1

JE:ls

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY		
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER		
		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>93</i>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>CAO</i>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

The mission of the Child Care Development Advisory Committee (CCDAC) is to provide Council with advice regarding the development of quality, affordable and accessible child care in Richmond.

This report presents the:

- 2007 CCDAC Annual Report to Council, describing CCDAC activities, and
- proposed 2008 CCDAC Work Program & Budget.

Findings Of Fact

1. **CCDAC 2007 Annual Report:** See Attachment 1.
2. **Proposed CCDAC 2008 Work Program and Budget:** See Attachment 1.

Analysis

1. CCDAC 2007 Annual Report

CCDAC has had a productive year, particularly commendable considering that the majority of CCDAC members were newly appointed for 2007. Details are provided in **Attachment 1**.

2. Proposed CCDAC 2008 Work Program and Budget

CCDAC has an ambitious Work Program for 2008 (**Attachment 1**), including monitoring Provincial and Federal child care policy, advocacy through Council, presentations regarding child care, overseeing the Child Care Grants Program, May is Child Care Month activities, and providing advice to Council.


While CCDAC is requesting an additional \$1,000 to increase their annual operating budget from \$5,000 to \$6,000, to enhance Child Care Month celebrations, host more forums and seek more knowledge, given the late timing, the Committee will work within its existing budget and the requested increase may be considered in 2009.

Financial Impact

CCDAC receives an annual operating grant of \$5,000 as part of the approved 2008 base budget.

Conclusion

CCDAC is working to support the development of quality, affordable, accessible child care in Richmond. Staff recommend support for their 2008 Work Program.



Lesley Sherlock, Social Planner (4220)
LS:cas

**CHILDCARE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY OF RICHMOND
2007 ANNUAL REPORT
2008 WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET**

2007 ANNUAL REPORT

2007 was a challenging year for the CCDAC as we worked to reestablish our goals and objectives. We are pleased to have a small, but committed group who make every effort to attend our meetings regularly and we feel that we have had a productive year. Now that we have gotten to know each other a bit better, we have been able to make some plans for 2008, which will be set out in our Work Program.

We are pleased to outline for Council some of the initiatives that we have dealt with over the past year:

- reviewed and responded to the major cuts in the Childcare Operating Funding Program. Letters were sent to City Council regarding these critical cuts, urging them to inform the Provincial Government of the City's concerns in this regard
- followed the progress of the Hamilton Childcare Centre development and our Chair attended the official groundbreaking ceremony of this project
- attended various community events, such as the Richmond Chamber of Commerce Awards of Excellence and the Volunteers are Stars events, to ensure that child care was represented
- followed the changes in provincial and federal government child care policy
- arranged several presentations for the committee including:
 - the Childcare Resource and Referral Service to explain their role and how we could work together in a positive way to support childcare in our City,
 - the City Centre Area Plan,
 - Richmond Children First, and
 - the Hon. Linda Reid, Minister of State for Child Care.
- kept up to date on the various issues and initiatives related to child care in Richmond
- submitted a letter to Council expressing concern regarding staffing challenges in childcare, the systemic reasons behind these challenges and asking that this concern be addressed at the Provincial level
- two committee members and City Staff attended the "Cities Fit for Children" Conference in Kelowna, B.C.

- our Chair worked on a committee that organized a special dinner and event in recognition of childcare workers during Childcare Month and we contributed financially to this event.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Lesley Sherlock (City Staff) and Jane Boyd (contracted part-time Child Care Coordinator) for the support they have given us as we work to provide the information that Council requires in order for it to make decisions that are in the best interests of the children living in our city.

We would also like to thank Mr. Terry Crowe for his time and assistance in various matters concerning our committee and to Councilor Sue Halsey-Brandt (Council Liaison) for her ongoing commitment to our Board.

Prepared by:

Linda Shirley
Chair, Child Care Development Advisory Committee
December, 2007

Members of the 2007 Childcare Development Advisory Committee:

Voting:

Pamela Hoepfner
Sreedevi Kuttamkulangara
Ofer Marom
Teresa Pan
Linda Rosas
Linda Shirley
Lisa Tate

Non-voting:

Cllr. Sue Halsey-Brandt (Council Liaison)
Grace Tsang (School Board Liaison)

2008 WORK PROGRAM

1. With the goal in mind of developing and maintaining an effective child care system in Richmond that provides quality programs that are accessible and affordable, we will continue to work with Elected Officials and City Staff to implement the necessary changes to make these goals a reality.
2. In keeping with the City of Richmond's "Commitment to Child Care", we will continue to be an active partner with senior levels of government, parents, the private sector and the community in the development and maintenance of a comprehensive child care system in our City.
3. We will communicate information regularly to Mayor and City Council on important issues related to child care.
4. Explore the possibility of conducting a survey of companies and organizations that "do business" in Richmond, to determine the number of employees they have and their employees daycare needs. Since it is not always a matter of who *lives* in Richmond, but who *works* in Richmond, there are likely many families who would like to have their children in care near their place of employment. This would enable the CCDAC to advise City Council on which areas of Richmond have a greater demand for this type of care and this type of information would not necessarily be reflected in a standard Needs Assessment.
5. There has been a great deal of media attention to the infiltration of multinational childcare programs into the Province (i.e. "big box" companies). The CCDAC is aware that these organizations have been looking for space in Richmond. In an effort to "fact find", a request will be made to have a representative from one of these organizations speak to the Committee so that we can best respond to their entry into the industry.
6. Approach the Richmond Chamber of Commerce about the CCDAC doing a presentation with the purpose of building relationships with business and to explain the financial and labour ramifications of a poorly developed daycare system.
7. Provide input on the City Centre Area Plan and participate in the new Child Care Needs Assessment.
8. Childcare Month Events:
 - educate the public on the educational value of daycare through a planned "Play Fair" Event at Lansdowne Mall.
 - educate our young ones about the "City Process" by organizing an Open House Mock City Council Meeting for children. This type of event was recently held in another lower mainland City with great success!
 - assist and support the Annual Childcare Dinner in support of childcare workers.
9. Establish a "Media Watch" mechanism, whereby committee members would educate CCDAC and Council regarding child care issues in the media.
10. Encourage government to direct child care capital funding to municipal levels so that City's can use funding in areas that best suit their City's needs.

11. Advocate for improved education, working conditions and wages for childcare workers in an effort to raise the quality of childcare in the City and to encourage graduates to view childcare as a potential "career" and not just a stop-gap to other types of employment.

12. Arrange presentations at the high school level about the benefits and rewards of a career in childcare and invite post-secondary institutions (ie. Delta Continuing Education) to become involved in these presentations.

13. Issue a call for proposals for Child Care Grants, review applications and make recommendations to Council.

2008 BUDGET

Proposed Committee Budget: \$6000.00

Projected expenses for 2008:

1. Child Care Month Celebrations	\$2000.00
2. Forums and Conventions	\$3000.00
3. Meeting and Miscellaneous Expenses	\$1000.00

TOTAL \$6000.00

Submitted by:

Linda Shirley, Chair
Childcare Development Advisory Committee
December 2007