# CITY OF RICHMOND

## *REPORT TO COMMITTEE*

To Community Safety - June 12/01

**TO:** Community Safety Committee **DATE:** June 1, 2001

**FROM:** Parissa Aujla **FILE:** ~~5355-01~~ 3425 - 02
Manager, Finance & Administration

**RE:** **Terms of Reference - Youth Intervention Program**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the proposed Terms of Reference for the Youth Intervention Program (attached to the report dated June 1, 2001 from the Manager, Finance and Administration) be adopted.

Parissa Aujla
Manager, Finance & Administration

Att. 1

| FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY | | |
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| ROUTED TO: | CONCURRENCE | CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER |
| | | |



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STAFF REPORT

ORIGIN

A recommendation was made by staff to the Community Safety Committee to review the Youth Intervention Program to ensure that the program is structured to meet the City's expectations of service to the community's youth.

At its meeting held on April 24, 2001, the Community Safety Committee resolved *"that the staff report to the Community Safety Committee with Terms of Reference for a review of the Youth Intervention Program and provide comments for inclusion in the review."*

ANALYSIS

The Youth Intervention Program has evolved over the past 20 years mainly due to changes in the Young Offenders Act. The Youth Intervention Program was established as an alternative measure to deal with first-time offenders or troubled youth 14 and under. Today, as a result of changes to the Young Offenders Act, the client base for the Youth Intervention Program is youth between the ages of 12 and 18.

Youth Intervention Program staff, RCMP, representatives from the Citizens' Advisory Committee on Policing and representatives from the Family and Youth Court Committee were consulted in the development of the Terms of Reference.

Due to vacation schedules, staff was unable to meet with the union representative; however, it is expected that the union will be involved in the review process.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Sufficient funds are available within the Community Safety Division budget to conduct this review.

CONCLUSION

The Community Safety Committee endorse the attached Terms of Reference for the Youth Intervention Program.

Parissa Aujla
Manager, Finance & Administration

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# Youth Intervention Program – Terms of Reference

## Introduction:

At its meeting held on April 24, 2001, the Community Safety Committee resolved *"that staff report to the Community Safety Committee with Terms of Reference for a review of the Youth Intervention Program and provide comments for inclusion in the review."*

The Citizens' Advisory Committee on Policing and the Acting Officer in Charge, Richmond Detachment, support this review.

## Objectives:

The objectives of the review are:

1. Outline the mandate and scope of the current Youth Intervention Program (YIP)

2. Identify value received for money spent on the YIP

3. Establish the need for the YIP, including:

    a) Scope of needed services

    b) Identify delivery mechanisms for "needed services" including order of magnitude costs for each

4. To determine the most effective linkages with other community agencies (i.e. social workers, RADAT, Chimo Crisis, etc.) in order to improve the effectiveness of all these programs to ensure that there is no duplication or overlapping of services

## Process:

The project is to be undertaken by the Manager, Finance and Administration under the general direction of the General Manager, Community Safety, with comment, advice and recommendations from the CACP. The product of the review will be a report to the Community Safety Committee of City Council providing recommendations on all of the objectives noted above as well as any other relevant recommendation.

Staff propose the use of an "outside expert" to do the evaluation of the YIP, performing an analysis of the program itself, and making suggestions to improve the program.

**Tasks:**

The YIP has evolved over the past 20 years mainly due to changes in the Young Offenders Act. Twenty years ago, the YIP program was established as an alternative measure to deal with first-time offenders or troubled youth 14 and under. Today, as a result of changes to the Young Offenders Act, the YIP serves youth between the ages of 12 and 18.

It is expected that the primary focus of the review will be as of 1995 with the following tasks to be undertaken in the course of the review:

- Seek comment from other stakeholders of YIP, including but not limited to:
  - City staff responsible for the program,
  - RCMP
  - CUPE 718
  - CACP
  - Parks and Recreation, Leisure Services youth programs
  - citizens of Richmond
  - youth participating in YIP: past and present participants
  - parents of youth participating in YIP: past and present participants
  - other community agencies offering similar services (RADAT, Chimo Crisis)
  - Family and Youth Court Committee
  - Richmond School Board (school counsellors and Outreach program)
  - Probation Services of the Ministry of Attorney General
  - social workers of the Ministry of Family and Children
  - Crown Counsel

- Compare Richmond's program with that of similar jurisdictions across British Columbia, noting any differences. A determination needs to be made of the advantages and disadvantages of Richmond taking on such a model for the delivery of YIP services. There needs to be a review of the client base (numbers and types), budget, features of restorative justice, etc.

- Compare Richmond's program with that of similar jurisdictions across Canada, noting any differences. A determination needs to be made of the advantages and disadvantages of Richmond taking on such a model for the delivery of YIP services.

- Obtain a clearer understanding of the approach undertaken by Richmond with respect to restorative justice and determine the need for restorative justice panelling.

- To clarify the roles and responsibilities of the City staff and the RCMP in the administration of the YIP.

- A review of youth court statistics (reduction and recidivism) needs to be done.

- A determination needs to be made as to the extent to which the YIP is reaching its intended target population; that is, the percentage of Richmond Detachment's young offenders diverted to YIP). An assessment needs to be done as to whether or not delivery mechanisms are consistent with program design and roles and responsibilities of RCMP and YIP staff.

- A review of the hours of operation of the YIP. An assessment needs to be done to determine whether a change in hours would enhance services for parents and youth.

- In order to perform annual reviews, ongoing evaluation measures need to be established based on the following:
  - counselling aspects: confidentiality and access to information
  - program aspects: program success

- Detailed review of YIP, along with a value for money audit, including a review of statistical data

- Process mapping needs to be done with reference to the referrals to the YIP program.

- A business plan outlining the revenues and expenditures of the YIP, including an operational plan outlining the functions of YIP.

- A determination needs to be made regarding the need for a mechanism to be developed in order for better communication and education of stakeholders of YIP

- A determination needs to be made if the YIP should only be an assessment and referral service to other community agencies to provide preventative counselling.

- A determination needs to be done to determine what, if any, influence there is of YIP being a police-based versus community-based program. Are parents and youth more likely to participate in YIP versus RADAT or vice-versa. Is there a perception of favourtism towards a police-based program or are parents and youth apprehensive of participating in a police-based program?

- An analysis needs to be done to determine the feasibility of Records staff creating or modifying existing DQ codes/OSR codes used for statistical tracking purposes. In this way, the RCMP members could conduct random samples for surveying parents and youth and for assessment purposes.

Last modified: June 4, 2001