

**THE FIFTY-FIFTH MEETING OF THE PRIORITIES COMMITTEE
OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY**

**Council Chamber
Tom Davies Square**

**Wednesday, October 4, 2006
Commencement: 5:40 p.m.**

Chair

COUNCILLOR CALDARELLI, IN THE CHAIR

Present

Councillors Berthiaume; Bradley; Callaghan; Craig; Dupuis; Gasparini (D7:30pm); Kett; Reynolds; Rivist; Thompson (A6:17pm); Mayor Courtemanche

City Officials

M. Mieto, Chief Administrative Officer; C. Matheson, General Manager of Community Development; D. Nadorozny, General Manager of Growth & Development; A. Stephen, General Manager of Infrastructure & Emergency Services; C. Hallsworth, Executive Director of Administrative Services; L. Hayes, CFO/Treasurer; S. Carpenter, Compensation Coordinator; G. Clausen, City Engineer; J. Beare, Children Services Planner; S. Harris, Business Development Officer; N. Benkovich, Director of Water/Wastewater Services; R. Skelly, Manager of Tourism, Programs & Partnerships; C. Ouellette, Director of Children Services; A. Haché, City Clerk; M. Laalo, Licensing & Assessment Clerk; CJ Caporale, Council Secretary

News Media

Sudbury Star; MCTV; CIGM; Channel 10 News; Le Voyageur; Northern Life; Big Daddy

Declarations of
Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

PART I

5:30 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

COUNCILLOR BRIEFING SESSIONS

Item 2
MCCFR Update

Report dated 2006-09-18 from the General Manager of Community Development regarding Mayor and Council's Children First Roundtable Update of Activities was received for information only.

Councillor Gasparini, Chair of the Mayor and Council's Children First Roundtable introduced Ms. Lois Mahon, Member, Mayor and Council's Children First Roundtable who provided an electronic presentation.

Item 2
MCCFR Update
(continued)

Ms. Mahon outlined the Roundtable's mission, objectives, and advocacy initiatives. She indicated that the most active committee of the Roundtable is the Research Sub-Committee who have had a second publication of the Children First Report Card and developed priorities and policies for Youth, School, Health and Family Success.

She stated that they were very proud of the development of the Children First Charter which endorses forty-three official charters (school boards, CAS, day cares, children's service agencies), has been nationally recognized by the J'Nikira Dinqinesh Education Centre, and has published the Children First Colouring book.

A small presentation was made to Ms. Geneviève Bruneau and Mr. Luc A. Houle, students from the 2D/3D Animation program, College Boréal, for their illustrations in the colouring book and their professor Luc Robert for his supervision and suggestions on facilitating the process.

Item 3
Drinking Water
Protection Zones

Mr. Nick Benkovich, Director of Water/Wastewater Services gave an electronic presentation for information only. He stated that protecting our municipal water supplies from contamination is part of the multi-barrier approach recommended to provide safe drinking water. He indicated that it was cheaper and safer to protect the water from contamination rather than cleaning it through treatment.

He stated that Drinking Water Protection Zones are areas that contribute to water to municipal supply wells. To help identify these sensitive areas and increase public awareness, signs will be posted. The location of the signs will indicate the fifty day time of travel for water to enter the capture zone of a well and possibly contribute to the municipal supply.

Mr. Benkovich provided examples of potential sources of contamination and what people could do to help protect their water supply.

POLICY DISCUSSION PAPERS - PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION

Item 4
Arts & Culture Charter

Report dated 2006-09-22 from the General Manager of Growth & Development regarding Arts and Culture Charter, Strategy and Grant Policy - Final Draft was received for preliminary discussion.

Mr. Rob Skelly, Manager of Tourism, Culture and Marketing provided the Committee with an electronic presentation.

He stated that the responsibility for the arts and culture portfolio was transferred to Growth and Development as part of the Blueprint 2007 and over the past year, staff has been working to move this priority forward. After consulting with the federal and provincial government,

Item 4
Arts & Culture Charter
(continued)

a community-based consultative approach was used to develop an arts and culture strategy. Three workshop sessions were held and approximately 28-35 organizations and individuals from the arts and culture sector attended each session.

These sessions lead to three guiding documents:

1. Arts & Culture Charter
2. Arts & Culture Strategy and Action Plan
3. Arts & Culture Grant Policy

He outlined the guiding principles of the Charter and provided four of the ten priorities of the Strategy and Action Plan:

1. encouraging new private sector partnerships by piloting a matching fund program
2. reviewing and modifying the municipal Arts and Culture Grant Policy
3. a facility needs assessment to assist with arts and culture space decision making
4. strengthening the marketing of arts and culture in Greater Sudbury

Mr. Skelly stated that the current municipal Arts and Culture Grant Policy was redesigned to support the new Arts and Culture Charter and Strategy. He explained that the Policy recognizes that the arts and culture organizations are not-for-profit and provide significant benefits to the quality of life of our community, they do not have the capability to be financially self sustaining. The new Arts and Culture Grant Policy incorporates changes and it has been recommended that the Arts and Culture Grant Advisory Panel continue to review grant applications.

He stated that a new element of the Arts and Culture Grant Program is the ArtsVest™ Sudbury, which is proposed for 2007. It is designed to encourage and assist arts and culture organizations in broadening their funding base by attracting new business sector supporters.

The following recommendation was presented:

WHEREAS the Economic Development Strategic Plan for Greater Sudbury identifies a vision for Greater Sudbury to become “A city for the creative, curious and adventuresome”;

AND WHEREAS the City of Greater Sudbury recognizes the important economic and social benefits of the Arts and Culture Sector;

Item 4
Arts & Culture Charter
(continued)

AND WHEREAS it is in the City's best interest to have an Arts and Culture Charter and Strategy to provide guidelines for a coordinated approach to developing and growing the Arts and Culture Sector;

AND WHEREAS it is important for the City to invest in the Arts and Culture Sector and to have a Grant Policy that supports the new Charter and Strategy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Greater Sudbury's Arts & Culture Charter, Strategy, Grant Policy be approved, and that, implementation of individual projects by the City of Greater Sudbury proceed, subject to budget approvals.

This matter will be included on the next Priorities Committee agenda for a decision.

Rules of Procedure

Council, by a two-thirds majority, agreed to dispense with the Rules of Procedure, to alter the order of the Agenda and deal with Item 6 (Nurse Practitioners - Part of the Solution).

CITIZEN DELEGATIONS

Item 6
Nurse Practitioners

Report dated 2006-09-28, with attachments, from the General Manager of Community Development regarding Nurse Practitioners - Part of the Solution was received.

Letter dated January 30, 2006 from Ms. Shelley Martel, MPP, Nickel Belt, supporting the Nurse Practitioners, was tabled.

Ms. Marilyn Butcher, Registered Nurse (Extended Class) and Ms. Roberta Healy, Registered Nurse (Extended Class) provided an electronic presentation entitled "*Nurse Practitioners - Part of the Solution*".

Ms. Healy stated that 20,000 to 30,000 Sudburians were without access to regular primary care and there are currently eight Nurse Practitioners (NP) in Sudbury unable to find work locally. She also stated that a typical NP practice contains 800 to 1000 patients and typically manage 70 to 80% of family practice needs.

She advised that local NP are having to work or move out of town, or work as Registered Nurses and pharmacy technicians. She also advised that there are currently twenty students enrolled at Laurentian University in the NP program.

Ms. Healy stated that a recent survey of job postings on the web for NP positions found that there were more jobs being offered south of Barrie than there were in the north (Timmins, Marathon).

Item 6
Nurse Practitioners
(continued)

Ms. Butcher provided NP patient scenarios and explained that there are clinics which are led by Nurse Practitioners, family practices are being managed by NP, they received a salary and not a fee-for-service. She also stated that in some cases, a physician will provide support for two to three hours per week.

She stated that currently efforts have been made through letters and personal conversations with municipal and provincial governments regarding this matter and they receive support from the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO) and Nurse Practitioner Association of Ontario. She also stated that the RNAO is lobbying Premier McGuinty. The Family Health Team proposals have been written without success.

The following recommendation was presented:

Dupuis: WHEREAS the Nurse Practitioner functions as a member of the primary care team in the provision of primary care services;

AND WHEREAS the Nurse Practitioner provides community based comprehensive primary health care with a focus on health promotion and disease prevention;

AND WHEREAS the role of the Nurse Practitioner is seen as optimizing the health care delivery in Greater Sudbury;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Greater Sudbury acknowledge the role of the Nurse Practitioner and their contribution to our underserved area and support the community's collaborative efforts necessary for the recruitment and retention of Nurse Practitioners;

AND FURTHER THAT Council petition once again the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care to increase the number of funded positions for Nurse Practitioners in the City of Greater Sudbury.

Friendly Amendment

With the concurrence of the mover, Councillor Bradley requested that the foregoing motion be amended by adding:

“AND FURTHER THAT this motion be sent to the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)”.

Main
Recommendation
(as amended)

RECOMMENDATION 2006-147: Moved by Councillor Dupuis:

WHEREAS the Nurse Practitioner functions as a member of the primary care team in the provision of primary care services;

AND WHEREAS the Nurse Practitioner provides community based comprehensive primary health care with a focus on health promotion and disease prevention;

Item 6
Nurse Practitioners
(continued)

AND WHEREAS the role of the Nurse Practitioner is seen as optimizing the health care delivery in Greater Sudbury;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Greater Sudbury acknowledge the role of the Nurse Practitioner and their contribution to our underserved area and support the community's collaborative efforts necessary for the recruitment and retention of Nurse Practitioners;

AND FURTHER THAT Council petition once again the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care to increase the number of funded positions for Nurse Practitioners in the City of Greater Sudbury;

AND FURTHER THAT this motion be sent to the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM).

CARRIED

POLICY DISCUSSION PAPERS - DECISION REQUESTED

Item 5
Council Remuneration

Report dated 2006-09-14 from the Executive Director of Administrative Services regarding Council Remuneration for the City of Greater Sudbury was received.

Report dated 2006-09-29 from the Director of Human Resources & Organizational Development regarding Remuneration - Elected Officials was received for information only.

Report dated 2006-08-31 from the Citizens' Panel on Council Remuneration regarding Review on Council Remuneration for the City of Greater Sudbury was received for information only.

The following recommendation was presented by Councillor Rivest:

RECOMMENDATION 2006-147: Moved by Councillor Rivest:

THAT we receive the report of the Citizens' Panel on Council Remuneration and refer it to the new Council.

DEFEATED

The Committee reviewed Schedule A and voted on the following six options:

1. That the salaries of mayor and councillors remain unchanged for the term of office beginning on December 1, 2006 and ending on November 30, 2010, which includes retaining the 1/3 tax free benefit.

With the concurrence of the Committee, Councillor Reynolds requested that the year 2010 be changed to 2007. With a show of hands, the above option was carried.

Item 5
Council Remuneration
(continued)

2. That the process for applying and reviewing inflationary increases be referred to staff for further review.

It was understood that this matter will be brought forward to Council at the end of 2007. With a show of hands, the above option was carried.

3. That the benefit package available is generous and should remain unchanged with council continuing to receive the same benefits as municipal employees.

It was understood that benefits would remain unchanged for the term of Council. With a show of hands, the above option was carried.

4. That it be recommended to the incoming Council that a Citizens' Panel be appointed in December 2009 to review council remuneration prior to the next election.

With a show of hands, the above option was carried.

5. That staff be directed to develop a by-law, which details how a missed meeting policy might be applied, and that the by-law consider those circumstances when absences would be permitted.
6. That staff be directed to explore how the recommendation that honorarium be channeled or pooled into a central fund to be equally divided among all Councillors, and that all Councillors be required to sit on at least two (2) boards/committees might be implemented.

With a show of hands, the above options were defeated.

7. That staff be requested to prepare options for staff support and office space for incorporation into the 2007 City of Greater Sudbury Budget.

With a show of hands, the above option was carried.

Proceed Past
8:30 p.m.

2006-148 Dupuis: THAT we proceed past the hour of 8:30 p.m.

CARRIED BY 2/3 MAJORITY

Item 5
Council Remuneration
(continued)

The following recommendation was presented:

RECOMMENDATION 2006-149: Moved by Councillor Bradley:

THAT the recommendations 1-4 and 7, as set out in Schedule A, as they relate to the recommendations from the Citizens' Panel on Council Remuneration, be approved by the Priorities Committee and recommended for adoption by Council.

CARRIED

Adjournment

RECOMMENDATION 2006-150: Moved by Councillor Dupuis:

THAT this meeting does now adjourn. Time: 8:36 p.m.

CARRIED

Councillor Caldarelli, Chair

Angie Haché, City Clerk

Schedule A: Recommendations			
Number	Recommendation	Yes	No
1	That the salaries of mayor and councillors remain unchanged for the term of office beginning on December 1, 2006 and ending on November 30, 2007, which includes retaining the 1/3 tax free benefit	✓	
2	That the process for applying and reviewing inflationary increases be referred to staff for further review	✓	
3	That the benefit package available is generous and should remain unchanged with council continuing to receive the same benefits as municipal employees	✓	
4	That it be recommended to the incoming Council that a Citizens' Panel be appointed in December 2009 to review council remuneration prior to the next election	✓	
5	That staff be directed to develop a by-law, which details how a missed meeting policy might be applied, and that the by-law consider those circumstances when absences would be permitted		✓
6	That staff be directed to explore how the recommendation that honorarium be channeled or pooled into a central fund to be equally divided among all Councillors, and that all Councillors be required to sit on at least two (2) boards/committees might be implemented		✓
7	That staff be requested to prepare options for staff support and office space for incorporation into the 2007 City of Greater Sudbury Budget	✓	