

TERMS OF REFERENCE: Mayor and Council's Committee on Seniors' Issues

Mayor and Council's Committee on Seniors' Issues

1.0 MISSION STATEMENT

In keeping with the City of Greater Sudbury's goal "to promote the well-being of our citizens in a health, safe and stimulating community", The Mayor and Council's Committee on Seniors' Issues represents the diversity of older adults fifty-five years of age and over, within the City of Greater Sudbury, working together to promote, maintain and enhance their quality of life through consultation, education, advice and advocacy.

2.0 PURPOSE

To act as a Mayor and Council's Advisory Committee on Seniors' Issues.

3.0 GOALS

- 3.1 To respond to requests from the Mayor on matters relating to older adults.
- 3.2 To promote the development and creation of opportunities for self-help and personal growth of older adults.
- 3.3 To enhance the sense of self-worth of older adults in order to maximize their contribution to society.

4.0 OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 To foster effective communication between older adults and the community at large.
- 4.2 To ensure older adults are actively involved in planning for their concerns.
- 4.3 To make recommendations on the development of policies and programs to address the needs of older adults in the City of Greater Sudbury.

5.0 STRUCTURE

The Mayor and Council's Committee on Seniors' Issues shall consist of a membership of twelve (12), two (2) from each of six (6) wards, and the Mayor or his Designate, who will act as Chair.

6.0 CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1 Twelve (12) seniors (persons aged 55 years of age or over), two (2) representing each of six (6) wards in the City of Greater Sudbury.
- 6.2 Seniors must reside in the ward they represent.

7.0 SELECTION OF MEMBERS

- 7.1 Positions on the Mayor and Council's Committee on Seniors' Issues will be advertised in all local media.
- 7.2 Application for membership must be made on an approved application form that will include the following:
 - a) prospective member's experience and/or interest in seniors' issues
 - b) knowledge of their ward
 - c) request for references
 - d) candidate's willingness to submit to a police check
- 7.3 Selections will be made using standardized selection criteria.
- 7.4 Selection will be made by City Council.
- 7.5 City Council will make recommendations to fill vacancies on the Committee until the next election.
- 7.6 Initially two members will serve a term of one year; two members will serve a term of two years, and two members will serve a term of three years. Subsequently, terms will be of three years duration.
- 7.7 Bilingualism will be considered an asset in the membership selection process

8.0 OPERATIONS

- 8.1 Members must attend meetings. Members who miss three consecutive meetings without good reason will lose their membership.
- 8.2 Members have a responsibility to communicate with their communities, with assistance from the Mayor and Council's Committee.
- 8.3 All communications regarding the Committee must go through the Committee.
- 8.4 Expert Panels will be formed to assist on the development of issue-specific recommendations

9.0 REPORTING

Article 34, Advisory Panels, in the Council Procedure By-Law sets out the authority under which the Mayor and Council's Committee on Seniors' Issues will operate.

10.0 STRATEGIC ISSUES

The Mayor and Council's Committee on Seniors' Issues will focus on the following strategic issues:

10.1 Long-Term Care

10.2 Safety and Security

10.3 Injury Prevention

10.4 Technology and Seniors

Other strategic issues will be addressed as appropriate.

11.0 ACTIVITIES

The following are approaches to pursue the following issues, to potentially maximize economic and community development opportunities, and are subject to approval by the Mayor, or his designate(s). Issues and approaches include, but are not limited to:

Long-Term Care:

- ▶ Memory Assessment Project at Pioneer Manor
- ▶ Identify and Address opportunities for community involvement and support for the re-development of Pioneer Manor

Safety and Security:

- ▶ Promote "Eye in the Sky" security programs across urban areas in the City of Greater Sudbury
- ▶ Work with and promote Seniors Liaison position at the Sudbury Police Services; liaise with, and develop synergies between the police, the Crown Attorney system and the Victim Witness Assistance Program through public education

Technology and Seniors:

- ▶ Develop Seniors Web Portal
- ▶ Develop Internet Training opportunities for seniors
- ▶ Develop business and e-business opportunities for older workers, in partnership with FEDNOR, SRDC.

Injury Prevention and Seniors:

- ▶ Work with Injury Prevention Coalition, the School of Human Movement etc. on community education on injury prevention, as well as the identification of manufacturing opportunities for the development of injury prevention and assistive devices
- ▶ support public education of consumers; service providers

Other issues will be pursued as appropriate.

Report To: CITY COUNCIL

Report Date: March 9, 2001

Meeting Date: March 13, 2001

Subject:

**Council and Citizen Appointments to The City
of Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation**

Department Review:


Doug Wuksinic,
General Manager of Corporate Services

Recommended for Agenda:


J.L. (Jim) Rule,
Chief Administrative Officer

Report Authored by:

Thom Mowry, City Clerk

Executive Summary:

The Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation is the successor to the former Sudbury Regional Development Corporation. The purpose of this report is to appoint a new 15-member Board of Directors, consisting of 3 Members of Council and 12 Citizen appointments.

Appointments to the Board of Directors will be staggered at 1, 2, and 3 year to ensure Board continuity and strength.

A Selection Committee composed of Members of Council and Senior Staff met on Friday, March 9th, 2001 for the purposes of reviewing the 43 Applications that were submitted in order to make recommendations to City Council.

Recommendations:

1. Resolution:

THAT the following Members of Council be appointed to the Board of Directors for the City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation for the term ending November 30, 2003:

1. Councillor _____
2. Councillor _____
3. Councillor _____

2. Resolution:

THAT the following Citizens be appointed to the Board of Directors for the City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation for a one (1) year term ending November 30, 2001.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

3. Resolution:

THAT the following Citizens be appointed to the Board of Directors for the City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation for a two (2) year term ending November 30, 2002.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

4. Resolution:

THAT the following Citizens be appointed to the Board of Directors for the City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation for a three (3) year term ending November 30, 2003.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

5. **THAT The City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation maintain the practice of advertising vacancies and appointments to its Board of Director in local newspapers and the City's Internet Web Site;**

AND FURTHER THAT the Board of Directors establish a Nominating Committee to submit recommendations for future Board appointments to the Council of the City of Greater Sudbury.

Background:

Council Resolution #2001-104 (February 27th, 2001):

This report provides for the appointment of three (3) Members of Council and twelve (12) Citizens to the Board of Directors of the City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation.

The english language version of the advertisement which appeared in the *Sudbury Star* is attached to this report for the information of Members of Council.

Council at its February 27th, 2001 meeting adopted Resolution 2001-104, which provided for a 15 member Board of Directors for The City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation, and directed staff to advertise for twelve (12) Citizen appointments.

In making these twelve (12) Citizen appointments, consideration is to be given to geographic, demographic and economic representation, as well as experience with prior economic development boards and groups.

Council also approved a recommendation that Councillors Dupuis, Kilgour and Lalonde, the General Manager of Economic Development and Planning and one other representative from the office of the General Manager, review the applications submitted for the appointment to the Board of Directors. Recommendations were then to be forwarded to Council for its consideration.

Advertising:

Advertising for these positions was conducted in both the *Sudbury Star* and *Le Voyageur*.

A photocopy of the English language version of the advertisement is attached to this report for the information of Members of Council.

The deadline for applications was 4:00 p.m., Thursday, March 8th, 2001.

A total of 43 applications were received. Photocopies of these applications are also attached.

Recommendations of Selection Committee:

The Selection Committee established by Council met on Friday, March 9th, 2001 and made the following recommendations for staggered appointments to the Board of Directors of The City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation:

Four (4) Citizens for a one (1) year term ending November 30, 2001	
1.	John Caruso
2.	David Langlois
3.	Ene Querney
4.	John Ratuszniak

Four (4) Citizens for a two (2) year term ending November 30, 2002	
1.	Carol Ann Coupal
2.	Richard Dupuis
3.	Tom Di Francesco
4.	Manfred Herold

Four (4) Citizens for a two (3 year term ending November 30, 2003	
1.	France Bélanger-Houle
2.	Steve Irwin
3.	Ron Martin
4.	Shirley Plexman

Council may, if it chooses, either accept the recommendations made by the Selection Committee or conduct its own election process in accordance with Article 36 of the Procedural By-law.

Appointment of three (3) Members of Council:

It is recommended that Council first deal with the appointment of the three (3) Members of Council to the Board of Directors and then with the appointment of the twelve (12) Citizen appointments.

The Council vacancy is to be filled in accordance with Article 36 of the Procedural By-law. A copy of Article 36 is attached to this report. Where only the exact number of Councillors are nominated for a vacancy, a motion to appoint the Councillors shall be presented and voted upon. If there are more nominations than positions available, then a roll call vote of Council shall be taken.

Where all Members of Council are in attendance, seven (7) votes are required to fill the vacancy. Each Member is entitled to three (3) votes for these positions. It is always in order for a Member of Council to nominate himself or herself and to vote for themselves.

In the event not all Members of Council are in attendance, a Majority Voting Chart is attached for Council's reference.

Under *Robert's Rules of Order* a nomination does not need a second.

Appointment of Twelve (12) Citizens:

As indicated above, Council has the option of either adopting the Report of the Selection Committee or conducting its own election to fill these twelve (12) Citizen appointments to the Board of Directors.

Appointments to the Board of Directors will be staggered at 1, 2 and 3 years to ensure Board continuity and strength.

Accordingly, there will be a series of three appointment selections to fill the vacancies by the staggered terms, as follows:

- 1. Four (4) Citizens for a one (1) year term ending November 30, 2001;**
- 2. Four (4) Citizens for a two (2) year term ending November 30, 2002;**
- 3. Four (4) Citizens for a three (3) year term ending November 30, 2003.**

Article 36 - Procedure By-law:

In the event that Council chooses to conduct an election, then the Citizen appointments are to be filled in accordance with Article 36 of the Procedural By-law. A copy of Article 36 is attached to this report for the convenience of Members of Council. As there are more qualified applicants than positions available, a roll call vote of Members of Council shall be taken.

One motion containing the names of all of the above applicants for each Board has been prepared.

It is recommended that all of the applicants' names be placed in nomination by Council using one motion containing the names of all the applicants. **Because of the number of applicants for these positions, the Mayor, as Chair, has the option of waiving the reading of the motion.**

As there are more qualified applicants than positions available, a roll call vote of Members of Council shall be taken.

Where all Members of Council are in attendance, seven (7) votes are required to fill each vacancy. Each Member of Council will be entitled to four (4) votes for each group of appointments.

In the event not all Members of Council are in attendance, a Majority Voting Chart is attached for Council's reference.

If on the first vote no nominee receives the votes of more than one-half of the number of all Members of Council present (that is: 7 or more votes), then the nominee receiving the fewest number of votes is excluded from the voting. The vote shall be taken again by the Clerk, and if necessary more than one vote, excluding in each successive vote the candidate who received the fewest number of votes in the preceding vote, until one candidate receives more than one-half the votes of the Members of Council present and voting.

Where the votes cast in any one ballot are **equal for all the nominees:**

- ➡ if there are three or more nominated or remaining, the Clerk shall, by lot, select one such candidate to be excluded from the subsequent voting;
- ➡ if only two candidates remain, the tie shall be broken and the vacancy shall be filled by the candidate selected by lot conducted by the Clerk.

Where no applicant receives the majority required for appointment on a roll call vote, and where **two or more applicants are tied with the least number of votes** a special roll call vote shall be taken to decide which of the tied applicants with the least number of votes shall be dropped from the list of names to be voted on in the next roll call vote.

The term ***lot*** means the method of determining the candidate to be excluded or the candidate to fill the vacancy, as the case may be, by placing the names of the candidates on equal size pieces of paper placed in a box and one name being drawn by the Clerk.

It is quite likely, because of the number of candidates seeking the vacancy, that on the first vote one or more candidates may not receive any votes. Those candidates receiving zero votes will all be excluded from the next round of voting.

For the convenience of Members of Council a series of charts have been prepared and are appended to this Report which show examples of various tie votes.

When the number of nominee(s) required to fill the vacancy or vacancies on each Board receives 7 or more votes (assuming that all 13 Members of Council are in attendance), then an appropriate resolution shall be introduced for consideration by Council.



The City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Board
12 Citizens to be appointed for staggered terms of 1, 2 and 3 years
Each Member is entitled to four (4) votes for each group of appointments

Applicant's Name	Address
Lynda F. Beavis	37 Wagner Street, Sudbury
France Bélanger-Houle	200 Brookside Street, Chelmsford
Claude Berthiaume	108 Main Street, West, Chelmsford
Nancy Beynon	3-367 Harrison Drive, Sudbury
Bettina Bockerhoff-Macdonald	24-889 Chestnut Crescent, Sudbury
David Bronicheski	1091 LaSalle Boulevard, Sudbury
Cummy Burton	476 Howey Drive, Sudbury
John Caruso	2125 LaSalle Boulevard East, Sudbury
Darren Ceccarelli	59 Thornecliffe Court, Sudbury
Carol Ann Coupal	63 Oak Street, Dowling
Philippe Cousineau	574 Grandview Blvd., Sudbury
Richard Dupuis	77, rue Morin, Chelmsford
Tom Di Francesco	1692 Agincourt Avenue, Sudbury
Maurice O. Gagnon	518 Greenbriar Drive, Sudbury
John M. Herold	3 Sutherland Avenue, Sudbury
Manfred Herold	3075 Herold Drive, Sudbury
Gerry Hunder	277 Hyland Drive, Sudbury
Steve Irwin	822 Tulane Avenue, Sudbury
Andrew Johnston	329 Laval Street, Sudbury
W. Dick Johnstone	203 Anderson Drive, Lively

40

Applicants for the continued:

The City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Board

The City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Board

12 Citizens to be appointed for staggered terms of 1, 2 and 3 years

Each Member is entitled to four (4) votes for each group of appointments

Applicant's Name	Address
Rod Jouppe	41 Simon Lake Drive, Naughton
Marvin Julian	23 Willow Road, Wahnapiatae
Eric Kannen	606 Telstar Avenue, Sudbury
Daniel C. Kaltiainen	301 Oak Street, Sudbury
Kevin Kilbey	4-135 College Street, Sudbury
Cindy Komarechka	100 Pine Street, Garson
Marek Krasuski	3-306 Riverside Drive, Sudbury
Paul Kusnierczyk	1233 Paquette Street, Sudbury
David Langlois	880 Corsi Hill, Sudbury
Ray Legros	451 Melvin Avenue, Sudbury
John Lindsay	1439 Bancroft Drive, Sudbury
Muiriel A. MacLeod	2069 Sunnyside Road, Sudbury
Paul J. McNeil	14 Cana Court, Sudbury
Ron Martin	1722 Windle Drive, Sudbury
Robert Nistico	1865 Covewood Crescent, Sudbury
Shirley Plexman	1706 Second Street, Val Caron
Angele M. Poitras	4215 Theresa Street, Hanmer
Ene Querney	1220 Dew Drop Road, Sudbury

HI

Applicants for the continued:

The City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Board

**The City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Board
12 Citizens to be appointed for staggered terms of 1, 2 and 3 years
Each Member is entitled to four (4) votes for each group of appointments**

Applicant's Name		Address	
John Ratuszniak		1546 Canterbury Street, Sudbury	
Victor J. Skot		15 Kincora Court, Sudbury	
Michael Skuce		70 Maurice Street, Hanmer	
Armand A. Therrien		739 William Street, Sudbury	
Daniel C. Thomson		536 Galaxy Court, Sudbury	

VOTING CHART

Majority Vote

(7 Members of Council are required for quorum)

Number of Members Present and Voting	Majority Vote
13	7
12	7
11	6
10	6
9	5
8	5
7	4

ARTICLE 36

APPOINTMENTS - BOARDS - COMMISSIONS - COMMITTEES - ADVISORY PANELS - CORPORATIONS

36.1 Made - by Council - procedure - set out

Appointments to the various boards, commissions, committees, advisory panels and corporations of the Corporation shall be made by Council. In making such appointments, the procedure set out in this article shall apply unless otherwise provided in the shareholders declaration.

36.2 Advertising - position - requirements - to local citizens

At least 30 days prior to the Council meeting at which the appointment is scheduled for any board, commission or advisory committee, as the case may be, the Clerk shall place an advertisement in a local newspaper to run on at least two occasions and place an advertisement on radio or television or both, as the Clerk deems advisable, on at least one occasion outlining the position to be filled on such board, commission or advisory committee and inviting applications from interested citizens.

36.3 Applications - in writing - time limitation

All applications for appointment must be in writing and received by the Clerk at least four clear days prior to the meeting of Council concerned.

36.4 Qualifications - of applicants - determined - by Clerk

Unless otherwise authorized by by-law, all applicants must meet the same qualifications as electors in the municipality and the Clerk shall determine the qualifications of each applicant.

36.5 Applications - qualifying - included - Council agenda

Copies of all applications received for each position from qualifying applicants shall be included with the agenda material for the Council meeting concerned.

36.6 Applicants - qualified - exact number - motion

Where there are only the exact number of qualified applicants as required for any position or positions, a motion to appoint the applicants to the position or positions concerned shall be presented and voted upon.

36.7 Applicants - qualified - more than required - selection

If there are more qualified applicants than positions available, then Council shall select from the qualified applicants the ones to fill the position or positions concerned.

36.8 Roll call vote - Council - taken - regarding applicants

A roll call vote of the Council shall be taken with respect to the qualified applicants for each position available.

36.9 Appointment - determined - by vote - exception

If upon the first roll call vote no applicant receives the votes and the majority of members are present, the name of the applicant receiving the least number of votes shall be dropped and the members shall proceed to vote anew and so continue until either an applicant receives the votes of the majority of members present, at which time such applicant shall be declared appointed; or, it becomes apparent by reason of an equality of votes that no applicant can be appointed by the voting process.

36.10 Voting - unsuccessful - position selected - by lot

Where by reason of an equality of votes, it becomes apparent that no applicant can be appointed by the voting process, then the vacancy shall be filled by the applicant selected by lot by the Clerk.

36.11 Special vote - applicants tied - least number of votes

In the case where no applicant receives the majority required for appointment on a roll call vote, and where two or more applicants are tied with the least number of votes, a special roll call vote shall be taken to decide which of the tied applicants with the least number of votes shall be dropped from the list of names to be voted on in the next roll call vote.

36.12 Staff member - appointment - conditions

Except where prohibited by law, Council may appoint a member of staff to a board, commission or outside agency when no member of Council wishes to be appointed.

36.13 Further votes

If no person receives more than half the votes, the Clerk shall take another vote, excluding the person who received the fewest votes in the previous vote; if two or more persons received the fewest votes, the Clerk shall choose the person to be excluded by lot.

36.14 Committee Appointments - ballots

At the first regular meeting of a new Council, or as soon thereafter as is reasonable, Council shall appoint members to Committees by way of simultaneous, written, signed ballots which will be read aloud by the Clerk and recorded in the minutes.

36.15 Ballots - destruction

These ballots, as well as ballots used for simultaneous roll-call votes generally, may be destroyed by the Clerk and need not be retained following the confirmation of the minutes.

46

EXAMPLES OF TIE VOTES
(All Members of Council Present - Four Nominees)

Candidate	Votes Received
A	6
B	4
C	3
D	0

Result: Candidate D is dropped from the next vote.

Candidate	Votes Received
A	5
B	4
C	3
D	1

Result: Candidate D is dropped from the next vote.

EXAMPLES OF VOTES
(All Members of Council Present)
(Three Nominees Remaining)

Candidate	Votes Received
A	6
B	4
C	3

Result: Candidate C is dropped from the next vote.

Candidate	Votes Received
A	5
B	3
C	3
D	1

Result:

- 1. Candidate D is dropped.**
- 2. A special roll call vote is taken to decide which of the tied Candidates B or C shall be dropped from the list of names to be voted on in the next roll call vote.**
- 3. Then a roll call vote shall be taken of the remaining two Candidates: A and one of B or C.**

**THE CONSEQUENCES OF SAMPLE TIE VOTES
(All Members of Council Present -Five Nominees)**

Candidate	Votes Received
A	3
B	4
C	2
D	2
E	2

Result:

- 1. A special roll call vote is taken to decide which of the tied Candidates (C, D, or E) shall be dropped from the list of nominees to be voted on in the next roll call vote.**
- 2. Then a roll call vote shall be taken of the remaining four Candidates: A, B and two of C, D or E.**

THE CONSEQUENCES OF SAMPLE ZERO VOTES
(All Members of Council Present -Six Nominees)

Candidate	Votes Received
A	4
B	4
C	2
D	3
E	0
F	0

Result:

- 1. Candidates E and F are dropped from the next vote.**
- 2. Then a roll call vote shall be taken of the remaining four Candidates: A, B, C and D.**

Citizen Appointments

To The City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation

The City of Greater Sudbury benefits greatly from the involvement of local residents who help City Council make decisions about the programs and services provided to our citizens. The Council of the City of Greater Sudbury recognizes that our City is best served by special purpose bodies that have diverse members reflecting the community's diversity. Council makes citizen appointments to various agencies and boards on the basis of equal opportunity.

It is Council's policy that appointments to local Boards be reflective of the demographic and geographical make up of the City of Greater Sudbury.

You are invited to get involved. Take an active role in your community.

Who is eligible?

Any resident of the City of Greater Sudbury who is an owner or tenant of land in the City of Greater Sudbury, or the spouse or same-sex partner of someone who is; a Canadian Citizen; and, at least 18 years old.

How to Apply

Written applications and résumés may be addressed to the City Clerk, P.O. Box 5000, Station "A", Sudbury, ON P3A 5P3. Applications can be delivered to the City Clerk's Office, City of Greater Sudbury, located on the 2nd Floor, Place Tom Davies Square, 200 Brady Street, Sudbury, Ontario P3E 5K3, during normal office hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. Facsimile applications may be faxed to (705) 671-8118.



Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation 12 Citizens to be appointed

The City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation is a non-share, not-for-profit corporation, incorporated under the *Business Corporations Act* and *Municipal Act*.

Responsible to the General Manager of Economic Development and Planning Services, the role of the Board of Directors will be to strengthen and enhance economic development within the City of Greater Sudbury. The Board will actively promote the economic health and prosperity of the City of Greater Sudbury by advancing the City as a world centre for excellence in information technology/telecommunications, mining technology, environmental technology, education and training, business services, tourism and retail, health, government, transportation and distribution services.

Time Commitment: The Board of Directors meets once a month; ten times a year. Members of the Executive Committee of the Board may be required to meet prior to the regular Board meeting.

It is expected that meetings will be held on a regular day each month, commencing at 12:15 p.m. Board meetings typically last 2 hours. Occasionally, Members of the Board may be required to hold their meeting in various locations throughout the City of Greater Sudbury. Applicants should either have their own vehicle or access to one.

Agendas are circulated prior to each meeting and provide the necessary background for discussions and decisions.

Remuneration: This is an unpaid volunteer position.

Term of Appointment: Appointments to the Board of Directors will be staggered at 1, 2 and 3 years to ensure Board continuity and strength.

All applications should clearly indicate the name of the Board; your reason or reasons for wishing to serve on the Board; and, a *brief* personal résumé. Please note that your résumé will be placed on the public portion of Council's Agenda.

Time Commitment

Time requirements vary among the various City boards. Estimates of time demands are included in the following description. Please review this estimate to ensure that you have sufficient time to devote to the Board.

How are Appointments Made?

When the application deadline is reached, staff in the City Clerk's Office will include all the applications received on the City Council Agenda for its **Tuesday, March 13, 2001** meeting. Council will then vote on the appointment. After the Council meeting, a letter will be sent to all those who applied to inform them of Council's decision.

Questions

For more information, call either the City Clerk's Office at 671-CITY (2489), extension 2471 (Mrs. Gloria Ward, Council Secretary) or by e-mail at gloria.ward@city.greatersudbury.on.ca.

Deadline

The Deadline for applications is 4:00 p.m., Thursday, March 8, 2001.

THOM M. MOWRY
City Clerk

March 8, 2001

Members of Council
City of Greater Sudbury

Dear Councillors:

Bag 5000, Station A
200 Brady Street
Sudbury, Ontario
P3A 5P3

705.671.2489
www.city.greatersudbury.on.ca

Sac 5000, Succursale A
200, rue Brady
Sudbury (Ontario)
P3A 5P3

705.671.2489
www.city.greatersudbury.on.ca

In my Inaugural Address to Council I said that one of the challenges and priorities we, as a Council and staff, would have to focus on is customer service. Our recently adopted Vision, Values and Goals for our City committed Council to "providing high quality service with a citizen focus".

It is my belief that the lack of a common toll-free calling area within the City of Greater Sudbury poses a significant barrier to ensuring that all our Citizens have a level playing field when dealing with their government. Every Citizen of the City of Greater Sudbury should have access to their local government and be able to afford that access at a just and reasonable rate.

The Telecommunications Policy adopted by the Council of the former City of Sudbury stated that:

Telecommunications today, like roads in the past, is infrastructure that will impact the lives of all citizens and must be regarded as a "common good", beneficial to the entire community.

A community is only as strong as the ties that bind all its citizens together. Barriers such as distance which formerly put rural communities at a disadvantage can be reduced or eliminated by the use of telecommunication technologies and determined local leadership. The current boundaries for local telephone calling areas were created when technological limitations restricted the distances over which voice communications could take place. These limitations no longer apply.

In a 1995 Report prepared for the Canadian Information Highway Advisory Council, entitled *Affordable and Equitable Access to the Information Highway*, the authors observed that "long distance costs are a significant portion of the cost of access for some rural and all remote areas. The introduction of competition is supposed to contribute to lower long distance rates, but local rural rate increases have been ...raising the total costs of access for many rural and remote subscribers."

"Access to content-based services," the authors noted, "is a particular problem for remote and rural areas. In urban areas, people have other options for obtaining information of importance to them, and which may be designated as a requisite service. Access to business tax information, for example, may be a local phone or fax call away for an urban resident, but a long distance call for those in non-urban areas. This situation is, of course, ameliorated by the use of 1-800 numbers or reduced rates schedules, but the urban advantage still prevails. ... However, the gap between the remote/rural and urban dweller can be greatly reduced by wise public policy, and the gap virtually removed."

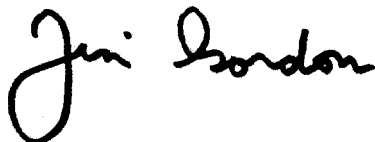
The authors of this report recommended that consideration be given to special reduced rate schedules for remote areas or the use of Extended Area Service plans to provide toll-free regional calling for remote and rural areas.

Some Members of Council may recall that in 1992 Councillor Bradley and I put forward a motion at Regional Council authorizing an intervention in a CRTC Hearing for an order to seek toll-free calling throughout the Region of Sudbury. Unfortunately, that initiative was not successful.

Much has changed and it is time that we, as a Council, act to eliminate the inconsistencies and inequities in local calling areas. To that end, I have placed on Council's Agenda a motion directing staff to work in partnership with Bell Canada in developing a plan for toll-free telephone calling within the City of Greater Sudbury so that an application can be made to the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Committee.

Your support of this motion is most appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Gordon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jim Gordon
Mayor