

**THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE PRIORITIES COMMITTEE
OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY**

**Council Chamber
Tom Davies Square**

**Wednesday, March 24, 2004
Commencement: 7:09 p.m.**

Chair

COUNCILLOR TERRY KETT, IN THE CHAIR

Present

Councillors Berthiaume; Bradley; Caldarelli; Callaghan; Craig; Dupuis; Gainer; Gasparini; Reynolds; Rivest; Thompson

City Officials

M. Mieto, Chief Administrative Officer; D. Belisle, General Manager of Public Works; R. Carre, Acting General Manager of Citizen & Leisure Services; D. Nadorozny, General Manager of Economic Development & Planning Services; C. Matheson, General Manager of Health & Social Services; D. Wuksinic, General Manager, Corporate Services; H. Salter, Acting Director of Legal Services/City Solicitor; D. Mathé, Manager of Supplies & Services; L. Lesar, Secretary to the Manager of Supplies & Services; K. Rossi, Coordinator, Health Initiatives; P. McCauley, Communications Officer; J. Cameron, Economic Development Officer - Technology; H. Duff, Director of Social Services/Ontario Works; T. Mowry, City Clerk; F. Bortolussi, Receptionist/Stenographer; CJ Caporale, Council Secretary

C.U.P.E.

W. MacKinnon, President, C.U.P.E. Local 4705; F. Posadowski, Recording Secretary, C.U.P.E. Local 4705; D. Burke, CUPE National Representative

News Media

Sudbury Star; MCTV; CIGM; Channel 10 News

Declarations of
Pecuniary Interest

None.

Rules of Procedure

The Committee, by a two-thirds majority, agreed to dispense with the Rules of Procedure to alter the agenda in order to address the issue of the Northeast Medical Health Centre as a matter of urgency and concerns to the community.

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Northeast Mental
Health Centre

The following recommendation was presented:

WHEREAS with the formation of the Northeast Mental Health Centre (NEMHC) in 2000, the Health Services Restructuring Commission had directed the North Bay Psychiatric Hospital to divest its services to the NEMHC;

Northeast Mental
Health Centre
(continued)

AND WHEREAS the proposed divestment of the North Bay Psychiatric Hospital to the NEMHC has not been accomplished;

AND WHEREAS Network North - the community mental health group was dissolved and became the NEMHC with a new board structure;

AND WHEREAS the governance structure of the NEMHC board is not representative of the districts of Sudbury/Manitoulin through its 2 appointed representatives on the 12 member board;

AND WHEREAS this lack of representation for Sudbury has resulted in the threat of closure of local hospital and community mental health and addiction services which were developed and modeled over a period of many years;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Greater Sudbury call upon the Minister of Health, George Smitherman to immediately set in motion a review of NEMHC, the purpose of which is to cease the amalgamation of NEMHC and North Bay Psychiatric hospital and return governance control of the mental health services back to the people of the Sudbury area.

Dr. Marr & Dr. Veluri

The Chair introduced Dr. D. Marr, Psychiatrist, Northeast Ontario Medical Education Corporation and Dr. R. Veluri, President of the Medical Staff, Northeast Mental Health Centre to the Committee. Dr. Marr gave an electronic presentation regarding Repatriation of Control of Mental Health to Sudbury. Dr. Marr gave a brief history of the Hospital Services Restructuring Committee and the divestment of the North Bay Psychiatric Hospital to the Network North Board. Dr. Marr advised the Committee of the large shortfall in mental health service provisions and impending budget cuts. He has asked Council to endorse the foregoing recommendation to call upon the Minister of Health and Long Term Care to return governance control of the mental health services back to the Sudbury area and its people.

Motion to Amend

With the concurrence of the Committee, Councillor Kett moved to amend the foregoing motion by adding the following:

AND FURTHER THAT the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care be requested to develop an adequately funded spectrum of Mental Health Services from community to Hospital and longer term care for persons of all ages in the Sudbury and Manitoulin Districts as well as the City of Greater Sudbury.

CARRIED

Northeast Mental
Health Centre
(continued)

Recommendation
(as amended)

RECOMMENDATION 2004-26: Moved by Councillor Kett:

WHEREAS with the formation of the Northeast Mental Health Centre (NEMHC) in 2000, the Health Services Restructuring Commission had directed the North Bay Psychiatric Hospital to divest its services to the NEMHC;

AND WHEREAS the proposed divestment of the North Bay Psychiatric Hospital to the NEMHC has not been accomplished;

AND WHEREAS Network North - the community mental health group was dissolved and became the NEMHC with a new board structure;

AND WHEREAS the governance structure of the NEMHC board is not representative of the districts of Sudbury/Manitoulin through its 2 appointed representatives on the 12 member board;

AND WHEREAS this lack of representation for Sudbury has resulted in the threat of closure of local hospital and community mental health and addiction services which were developed and modeled over a period of many years;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Greater Sudbury call upon the Minister of Health, George Smitherman to immediately set in motion a review of NEMHC, the purpose of which is to cease the amalgamation of NEMHC and North Bay Psychiatric hospital and return governance control of the mental health services back to the people of the Sudbury area.

AND FURTHER THAT the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care be requested to develop an adequately funded spectrum of Mental Health Services from community to Hospital and longer term care for persons of all ages in the Sudbury and Manitoulin Districts as well as the City of Greater Sudbury.

CARRIED

Direction

With the concurrence of the Committee, Councillor Rivest requested that the foregoing recommendation be circulated to Mr. R. Bartolucci, Minister of Northern Development and Mines and Ms. S. Martel, MPP.

Item 2
Purchasing By-law &
Tendering Process

Mr. Darryl Mathé, Manager of Supplies & Services and Ms. Leigh Lesar, Secretary to the Manager of Supplies and Services gave an electronic presentation regarding the Purchasing By-law and Tender Web site. The presentation explained why a new By-law was passed, the philosophy of the new By-law, changes to the By-law, the use of procurement cards, and a demonstration on how to access tenders, quotations and proposals through the City of Greater Sudbury's web site.

MANAGERS' REPORTS

Item 3 Contract - First Steps

Report dated 2004-03-11 from the General Manager of Health & Social Services regarding Contract for First Steps was received.

RECOMMENDATION 2004-27: Moved by Councillor Bradley:

WHEREAS the City of Greater Sudbury Council approved the allocation of funds from the Federal Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI) to Overcomers Support Group of Sudbury;

AND WHEREAS the Overcomers Support Group of Sudbury contracted services from the Elgin Street Mission and the John Howard Society;

AND WHEREAS the Overcomers Support Group of Sudbury ceased to provide service on January 31, 2004;

AND WHEREAS the I Believe Network provides a similar service as Overcomers, called FIRST STEPS;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the remaining funds provided to Overcomers be divided and distributed three ways to the I Believe Network, the Elgin Street Mission and the John Howard Society;

AND FURTHER THAT the appropriate by-law be passed.

CARRIED

Item 4 NOW Alliance

Report dated 2004-03-05 from the General Manager of Health & Social Services regarding NOW Alliance - 2004 Rural Health Action Plan "Support of Petition" was received.

Ms. Kim Rossi, Coordinator, Health Initiatives, gave an electronic presentation regarding the NOW Alliance (Negotiating Ontario's Well-Being Alliance). The presentation outlined the history of NOW, the members involved, the 2004 Rural Health Action Plan, key components and educational initiatives, recruitment and retention, and a list of municipalities who have endorsed or plan to endorse the 2004 Rural Health Action Plan.

Ms. Rossi requested that the following recommendation be sent to the Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long Term Care and Dr. Larry Erlick, President, Ontario Medical Association.

Item 4
NOW Alliance
(continued)

RECOMMENDATION 2004-28: Moved by Councillor Bradley:

WHEREAS over 100 underserved Ontario communities encompassing up to one million Ontarians do not have access to a family physician;

AND WHEREAS the Collective Agreement signed by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) governs physicians' remuneration and working conditions;

AND WHEREAS the Negotiating Ontario's Well-Being Alliance (NOW Alliance) has completed its 2004 Rural Health Action Plan;

AND WHEREAS the City of Greater Sudbury recognizes the need to call on the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) and the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) to implement initiatives which will address the significant physician shortage in this province;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the City of Greater Sudbury adopt a resolution supporting the work of the NOW Alliance 2004 Rural Health Action Plan along with the Petition which calls on the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and the Ontario Medical Association, in negotiating their 2004 Collective Agreement, to include measures from the Rural Health Action Plan.

CARRIED

Item 5
Public/Private Sector
Partnership -
GeoSmart

Report dated 2004-03-19 from the General Manager of Economic Development & Planning Services regarding Public/Private Sector Partnership - GeoSmart was received.

RECOMMENDATION 2004-29: Moved by Councillor Bradley:

THAT Connected Insight Inc. be retained to provide Management Support Services and the development of a municipal GIS Strategic Plan in the proposed amount of \$74,970. This retainment will be carried out in accordance with a City legal contract agreement on a private sector partnership for GeoSmart.

CARRIED

Adjournment

RECOMMENDATION 2004-30: Moved by Councillor Bradley:

THAT this meeting does now adjourn. Time: 9:16 p.m.

CARRIED

Councillor Kett

City Clerk