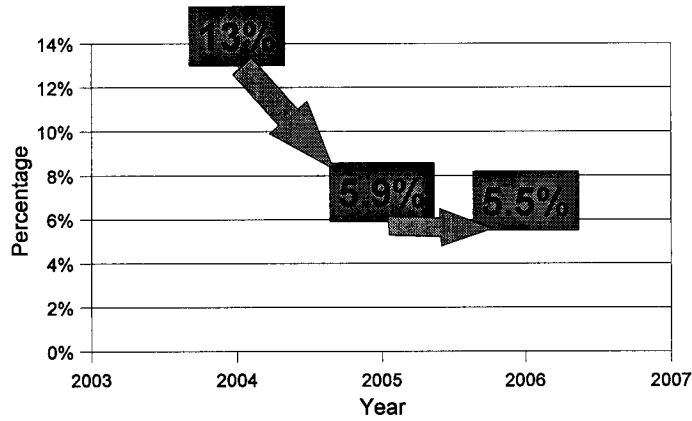


2004 Budget - Public Input

Summary of Projected Tax Impacts



**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Input

Two Possible Outcomes

- Reduce Expenditures
- Increase Revenue



**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Input

Alternatives

- New Ways of Doing Business
- Alternative Service Delivery Options
- E-Government
- Increase Revenue
- Partnerships



**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Update

Services - Mandatory

	\$ millions
Assessment	1.5
POA	(0.5)
Social Housing	17.0
Children's Services	3.0
Employment Support Services	(1.2)
Long Term Care	0.4
Ontario Works	10.9
Ontario Disability Support	11.6
Emergency Medical Services	6.0
Police	29.9
Health Unit	<u>5.7</u>
Total	\$84.3



**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Input

Services - Limited Discretion (10 - 25%)

\$ millions

Emergency Services	13.6
(Fire & Emergency Planning)	
Solid Waste	10.5
Planning	2.6
Legal	1.3
Finance	4.5
Libraries	5.5
Roads	31.7
Total	\$69.7



**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Input

Services - Greater Discretion (25 -100%)

\$ millions

Executive and Legislative	1.0
CAO	1.3
Corporate Services (other)	7.8
PWD (other)	9.8
Health & Social Services (other)	1.5
Economic Development	2.7
Leisure and Transit	18.3
Total	\$42.4



**Financial
Sustainability**



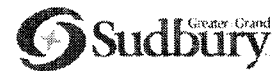
2004 Budget - Public Input

Services - Summary

	\$ millions
Mandatory (little or no control)	84.3
Limited Discretion (10-25%)	69.7
Greater Discretion (25-100%)	<u>42.4</u>
Total	\$196.4



**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Input

Efficiencies

- **Cost Reductions/Avoidance - \$5.3 million**

Examples:

- Benefit Plans
- Pay and Display (Parking)
- Reduced Accounting Fees
- On-Line Tendering
- Sudbury Regional Buying Group
- Grass Cutting
- Partnership - Cambrian College



**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Input

Efficiencies (Cont'd)

- **Enhanced or New Revenues - \$6.7 million**

Examples:

- Collections - Delinquent Taxes and Fines
- OntarioWorks
- Transit Fees



**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Input

Efficiencies (Cont'd)

- **Special Project Funding - \$41.0 million**

Examples:

- Pioneer Manor
- David Street
- Transit Buses
- Soccer Field
- Airport



**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Input

Efficiencies (Cont'd)

- **Improved Service**

Examples:

- On-Line Tendering
- Third Party Insurance
- Child Care
- Transit/Handi Transit
- 9-1-1 Signage
- Snow Plow/Spreader Trucks
- Paramedic Response Units



**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Input

Examples of Alternatives

- Reduce Expenditures
 - Close Facilities
 - Lessen Service Level
 - Get Out of a Business
 - Outsource
 - Technology
- Increase Revenue
 - User Fees (those who use it pay)
 - Taxes (everyone pays)
 - Provincial/Federal Government (New Deal)

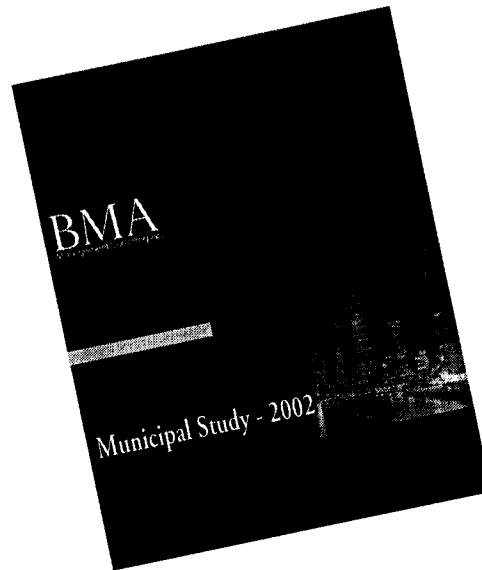


**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Input

BMA Competitiveness Study



**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Input

BMA Competitiveness Study

- **Levy Per Capita**
 - 2003 - 13th lowest
 - 2002 - 8th lowest
 - 2001 - 9th lowest
- **Taxes for a Detached Bungalow**
 - 2003 - 2nd lowest
 - 2002 - 3rd lowest
 - 2001 - 2nd lowest
- **Total Taxes & Utilities (Water, Wastewater, Hydro)**
 - 2003 - 5th lowest
 - 2002 - 4th lowest
 - 2001 - 2nd lowest



**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Input

Tax Rate and Relative Position

- City of Greater Sudbury's relative position in all property types are in the low to mid-range in comparison to the other municipalities.

Residential	Multi-Residential	Hotel/Motel	Shopping	Office	Industrial
Low-Mid	Low	Mid	Mid	Low	Mid

City of Greater Sudbury's taxes are low, well below the average of the other 61 cities that represent 75% of Ontario's population.



**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Input

Summary

- New Deal required from Federal and Provincial Governments
- Not unique to City of Greater Sudbury
- City is well positioned
- City (Taxes, Water/Wastewater/Hydro) are low



**Financial
Sustainability**



2004 Budget - Public Input

Next Steps

- Complete Public Input Session (January)
- Prepare Budget Alternatives
- Decisions:
 - January - Infrastructure Renewal
 - January - Water/Wastewater Expanded Capital Program
- Present Budget Alternatives to Public (February)
- Complete 2004 Budget Process
- Set Stage for Multi-Year (3) Capital and Operating Budgets
- Continue to Pressure Federal and Provincial Governments for New Deal



***Financial
Sustainability***



Financial Sustainability

2004 Budget - Public Input

January 2004

Format for Public Input



Towards Tomorrow Together * Vers l'avenir ensemble

Moderator's job:

1. To listen
2. To ensure everyone has an opportunity to speak

We are being recorded.

Those who signed up first - go first.

Please identify yourself.

Maximum of five minutes.

37

Please provide your
feedback on the
following:



Towards Tomorrow Together * Vers l'avenir ensemble

1. Should those who use a service pay for the service (user fees) and/or should everyone share in the cost (taxes)?
2. What level of municipal service do you expect? Should any services be reduced or eliminated?
3. Would you support a tax increase to maintain existing service levels?
4. Should the City borrow money and/or implement a special levy to fix roads, repair arenas, replace fire trucks, maintain police communications, etc.?
5. What service would you like to see improved or added?

38

M 62

**A 2nd Series of Public
Input and Information
Meetings will be held after
budget alternatives are
developed but before a
final budget is approved.**



All meetings begin at 7:30 pm

February 16 - Ward 1 - Caruso Club Lower Hall Boardroom
February 17 - Ward 2 - Dowling Citizen Service Centre
February 18 - Ward 3 - Valley East Citizen Service Centre/Library
February 23 - Ward 4 - Capreol Arena Hall
March 1 - Ward 5 - Lockerby Composite School Auditorium
March 2 - Ward 6 - Tom Davies Square Council Chamber

More information:
www.greatersudbury.ca or call 671-CITY-(2489)

Thank you. City Council values your input.

**2004 BUDGET PUBLIC INPUT SESSION
OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY**

**The Centre Lionel E. Lalonde Centre
239 Montee Principale, Azilda**

**Monday, January 19th, 2004
Commencement: 7:30 p.m.
Adjournment: 9:15 p.m.**

Chair

COUNCILLOR TED CALLAGHAN, IN THE CHAIR

Present

Councillors Berthiaume; Bradley; Rivest

City Officials

M. Mieto, Chief Administrative Officer; C. Hallsworth, General Manager of Citizen & Leisure Services; D. Nadorozny, General Manager of Economic Development & Planning; C. Matheson, General Manager, Health & Social Services; S. Jonasson, Director of Finance/City Treasurer; C. Mahaffy, Manager of Financial Planning/Policy; R. Carre, Director of Leisure, Community & Volunteer Services; D. Yachuk, Community Development Officer; A. Haché, Deputy City Clerk; K. Bowschar-Lische, Planning Committee Secretary

Citizens

24 Citizens

News Media

MCTV; Channel 10 News

Welcome and
Opening Remarks

Councillor Ted Callaghan welcomed those in the audience and advised the purpose of the meeting was to provide an overview of the budget and an opportunity for the public to comment on the 2004 Budget for the City of Greater Sudbury. He indicated that feedback should be provided using the following:

1. Should those who use a service pay for the service (users fees) and/or should everyone share in the cost (taxes)?
2. What level of municipal service do you expect?
Should any services be reduced or eliminated?
3. Would you support a tax increase to maintain existing service levels?
4. Should the City borrow money and/or implement a special levy to fix roads, repairs, arenas, replace fire trucks, maintain police communications, etc.
5. What service would you like to see improved or added?

Submissions would be heard in the order that they appear on the speaker's list. Councillor Callaghan introduced Councillors and staff who were in attendance.

SLIDE PRESENTATION

Budget04
Towards Tomorrow
Together

C. Hallsworth, General Manager of Citizen & Leisure Services, addressed the audience with an electronic presentation which provided an overview of the 2004 Budget.

Items in the overview included the National/Provincial Scene; financial update; mandatory, limited discretion and greater discretion services; efficiencies and service improvements; competitiveness study and next steps.

Mr. Henry Perry

Mr. Perry indicated that Inco placed the City on notice that they would no longer sell any water to the City of Greater Sudbury for Levack because they could not afford to upgrade the plant to meet the new drinking water standards. He feels that spending \$75,000.00 for a consultant to assess the situation is a waste of money and feels the City has staff to do the assessment.

Claude Gravelle

Mr. Gravelle, Vice-Chair of the Youth Centre in Rayside-Balfour, advised that the centre has been open since 1996 but operating on and off due to lack of funding. He advised they have had both centres opened all year for the last two years and have approximately 200 members. He outlined the Centre's accomplishments such as pool tournaments, resume writing, life sessions, bullying classes, karaoke nights, baseball, floor hockey, etc. The purpose of the centre is to keep youth busy and off the streets. He asked that the City of Greater Sudbury join in their vision to keep the Centre open so consistent services can be offered to youth. Their grant monies end in September but they cannot apply for a new grant until the end of the present term. It takes 3 to 4 months to receive grant approvals. He asked the City to provide funding for this 3 to 4 month period so they can keep the Centre open. It costs \$3,400.00 per month to cover insurance, Program supports and Program Coordinator.

Rod Furchner

Mr. Furchner, President of the Onaping Falls Old Age Club explained that approximately one year ago, the Club was made aware of a grant available through the Community Improvement Program (CIP). He said that because of this \$8,000.00 grant, many improvements were made to the Club. The grant was made on a 50-50 basis (50 City and 50 Old Age Club) and the total dollar value for the project was in the range of \$17,000.00. They purchased a new computer system, up-graded the parking lot, landscaped, bocce court, new tools, electrical upgrades, etc. They would like to see this CIP Program continue in the budget. They found it helpful and believe that other organizations would benefit from it as well. He asked to be notified of any further grants they could access.

He requested that fares for bus transit from Levack-Onaping to Dowling-Chelmsford be reduced to make them affordable. Many residents are seniors and on a fixed income. There is no grocery store in Levack and they need to go to Dowling or Chelmsford to get groceries and for doctor's appointments.

Gus Bergeron

Mr. Bergeron indicated there are many issues he would like to address but will concentrate on one – that being the terrible condition of roads. He does not believe we should borrow or spend money unless we get better value for the work being done. MR 35 was done 8 years ago, passing lanes were put in and all the work that was done 8 years ago was wiped out with the recent reconstruction this summer. Two years ago, the CPR bridge was repaired but now all of the barrier walls are cracked and scalded. Recently repaired sidewalks are already all scalded. The Kingsway/Barrydowne intersection will go through a major realignment even though a lot of work was done at this intersection in recent years. He is not in a position to have his taxes increased for work that is not at par. The roads are taking a beating because of slurry trucks moving materials. These slurry trucks need to be monitored. We must monitor all construction work to ensure all specifications are being met.

Evelyn Dutrisac

Ms. Dutrisac, former Councillor, advised that she has spoken with a lot of people who are concerned with tax and water increases. She said that the City should lobby with other levels of government to ensure that they are paying their fair share to municipalities. She questioned what was being done about people without City water, who have wells, to make sure they have potable water. It is extremely important that Council look at cuts in this budget. She asked Council to cut items such as consultants because we have competent staff. She requested that taxes be kept as low as possible. She asked that all City Departments examine essential services and cut what is not necessary because youth are leaving and maybe seniors will leave as well.

As a business owner, Ms. Dutrisac expressed concern regarding licensing fees which were \$25.00 and were increased to \$250.00 last year.

As a landlord, she has issues with Ontario Works and indicated that landlords should be paid directly.

Norm Pharand

Mr. Pharand, who lives on Elizabeth Street, between Azilda and Chelmsford, expressed concerns regarding the traffic hazard in this area. Many accidents have already occurred here and there has been 3 fatalities.

The Committee noted that a report from Public Works indicated that the traffic did not warrant lights being installed. The Committee also noted that residents will be signing a Petition for traffic signals or something to be done in this area.

Gerry St. Louis

Mr. St. Louis indicated that his concerns were addressed by Ms. Dutrisac and Mr. Perry.

Jeanne Mallette

Mrs. Mallette indicated that her concerns were also addressed.

Jeannine Robert

Mrs. Robert stated that her concerns about seniors issues were addressed by Ms. Dutrisac.

Bill Ryan

Mr. Ryan, retired citizen, indicated that this taxes increased \$250.00 last year. He cannot afford this kind of increase.

He also said that most people do not have sump pumps so water run-off is being cleaned in the City sewer system and taxpayers are being told the sewer system is overloaded and needs to be upgraded. There are savings in this area as we are spending money to clean water that is already clean.

With respect to the portion of taxes going towards education, he stated something needs to be done to try to control these taxes as schools are being torn down and new ones being built. The City should approach the School Boards to cut back on spending.

He stated taxpayers cannot afford to pay severance packages to employees and referred to a \$250,000.00 payment to a former City employee.

Citizen

A citizen stated that there should be a partnership with the School Boards for matters such as soccer fields and libraries.

Dale Richards

With respect to Mr. Pharand's problem concerning speeding on Highway 144 near Elizabeth Street, he indicated that traffic police should monitor the area as it is a speedway.

He expressed concern regarding the use of City vehicles by employees and the amount of money being spent.

Evelyn Dutrisac

Ms. Dutrisac indicated that City Staff and not consultants should conduct a survey as some bus routes are too busy and others not busy enough. The Committee noted that there is data on every bus route and service levels are adjusted accordingly.

She questioned whether recycling was being monitored as residents are advising that they do not have enough in their blue boxes for weekly pick-up and put their boxes out every two weeks.

Gus Bergeron

Mr. Bergeron once again spoke indicating that his main reason for attending tonight's meeting was to talk about assessment. Assessment is flawed. His assessment went from \$158,000.00 to \$558,000.00 and following appeals it was reduced to \$279,000.00. Businesses outside of Sudbury do not have the capacity for this type of increase. In his case, he was over assessed and there may be properties that could be under assessed. The City should check all assessments independently.

Roger Joliat

Mr. Joliat indicated that Rayside-Balfour currently has the best volunteer Fire Brigade and that it should be left as is.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

Community Action Network
Levack-Onaping

A written submission dated January 19th, 2004, from the Community Action Network Levack-Onaping was submitted at the meeting.

Bus Service Petition

A Petition regarding adding routes and more frequent bus pick-ups in the Levack/Onaping/Dowling areas was circulated at the meeting.

CLOSING REMARKS

Councillor Callaghan expressed his appreciation to all those who provided written or oral submissions. He advised Staff had taken note of all concerns and these matters would be identified through the budget process.

Adjournment

The public meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Councillor Ted Callaghan

Secretary

**Community Action Network- Levack-Onaping
Submission to the Budget Committee
City of Greater Sudbury
January 19th, 2004**

Prepared by: Martha Cunningham Closs
Chair,
Community Action Network Levack-Onaping
Box 464,
Levack, Ontario
P0M 2C0

For: The City of Greater Sudbury
Budget Public Input Session
January 19th, 2004

From: The Community Action Network-Levack Onaping

The Community Action Network of Levack-Onaping is happy to present some ideas to the Budget Committee. We would like to acknowledge that we are pleased that the City of Greater Sudbury is supportive of C.A.N.s and views them as a way for citizens to participate in the decision making and policy building process. We look forward to the City's continued support.

This presentation would like to bring two concerns to your attention. First is transportation. The Levack Onaping area is currently served by a transcab system which is more expensive than other transit in the City. The transcab service offers an infrequent route which makes it very inefficient for our citizens who want to commute to jobs in the City core or who wish to get around our own neighbourhood. If a child from Onaping wants to go to his local library, he cannot get there by bus. He needs someone to drive him because we do not have proper transit. If a woman from Levack wants to attend a program at our local pool, she cannot get there by bus. She needs someone to drive her. We do not have proper transit. If a senior citizen visits the Leisure Centre for a workout or to use the indoor track, he can use the transcab but must wait 5 hours before a transcab can return him home. One such senior is known to hitchhike home. This is unacceptable. We need proper transit. Inadequate transit not only impacts on lifestyle; it impacts directly on the viability of our facilities. We cannot use our neighbourhood facilities if we can't get to them. The Community Action Network of Levack -Onaping wants the City to put monies into providing effective and equitable transit for our area.

Secondly, our citizens walk, run and recreate at various areas in our community. One such area is the current Levack Public School grounds. These grounds are huge, scenic and green (in summer) and are often used through joint use agreements with the Rainbow District School Board. Walkers, joggers, golfers, tennis players as well as our very successful local youth soccer and youth baseball clubs use this space.

Currently, citizens access this site by way of 114 stairs. The stairs are unsafe and daunting for seniors and young children. They are in disrepair due to age and weather conditions can make them dangerous. Our Community Action Network has contacted both Rainbow District School board and City representatives to try to create a partnership. We want the City and the Board to work together to create a sensible, safe and appropriate walkway for our citizens and students to access the site from First Avenue. We are aware that public works already has allotted money to pave a shoulder for pedestrian use at a different location. We want Council to know that we have surveyed citizens and have determined that a walking path not a paved shoulder is the preferred option. Very few people would access the school site via a paved shoulder on High Street. Citizens surveyed preferred the idea of a walkway coming from First Avenue. The Community Action Network would like the budget committee to seriously consider the concerns and needs of our citizens and put monies aside for a partnership with the Rainbow District School Board to develop a walking trail for our citizens, both junior and senior.

Thank you for your time.
Respectfully submitted



Martha Cunningham Closs
Chair
Community Action Network
Levack-Onaping

Bus Service

This petition is in regard to obtaining more ^{bus} service in the Levack/Onaping/Dowling areas.

If the Greater City would please consider adding ^{bus} routes and more times.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
Denise Rivot	966-0065
Lanna W ^c Nichol	966-1998
Elna Jaters	966-2392
Marilyn Steeny	966-3834
Elyzbeth L. Arnie	966-2512
Rita Begetow	966-2623
Imogene Amyath	855-0952
Elaine Henning	966-2438
Loronna Brown	966-3524
Jeanne Cromo.	855-7746
Margaret Nicholls	966 1164
Dana MacRae	966-0146
Caroline Campbell	966-0207
Cindy Turgeon	966-0981
Bobie Cansell	
Notredine Wrennet	966-0976
Abbie J. Coles	966-1865
Honigau Fother	966-1809
Chris Allen	966-3321

BUS SERVICE

This petition is in regard to obtaining more service in the
Levack/Onaping/Dowling areas.

If the Greater City would please consider adding routes
and more times.

Name

Phone #

Margaret Macdonald

966-2173

Doreen

966-1551

Jean Henderson

966-2115

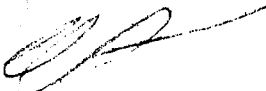
Luc Rivet

966-0065

Bus Service

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Levack/Onaping/Dowling areas.

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and more times.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
Poppy Pelletier	966-1387
Jocelyn Richard	966-1387
Mark Pedurbo	855-3790
Sally Beaton	855-3459
Rachel Green	966-2284
Rachelle Royer	983-2511
 ANDRÉ CHARTRAND	855-5151
André Chartrand	855-2649
JOHN F. LEFRASQUE	855-4593
Cathy Krauer	855-9983
Jake Krauer	855-9983
Cherelle Foyou	855-4622
Clairie Poirin	855-3516
Ray Poirin	" "
JARNELL CHATERS	855-0165
Craig Chaters	855-0165
Judith Shoman	966-3430
Chantal Montpelliore	855-1485
" "	" "

Bus Service

This petition is in regard to obtaining more service in the
Levack/Onaping/Dowling areas.
If the Greater City would please consider adding routes
and more times.

Name

Phone #

L. Hennings
E. Van Buskirk

966. 3444
966 - 2308

BUS SERVICE

This petition is in regard to obtaining more service in the Levack/Onaping/Dowling areas.

If the Greater City would please consider adding ^{BUS} routes and more times.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
Angela Caron	855-2741
Denise Woggy	966-1057
Lena Rowe	966-3493
Melinda Holt	966-2379
Maria Mills	966-3746
Shela Pardy	966-1363
Francine	966-3858
Carol Lynne	966-0033
Cris Rowe	855-2759
Jane Bruyan	966-3821
Shopi Inc.	966-3852
P. Mahlon	966-3331

Bus Service

This petition is in regard to obtaining more service in the Levack/Onaping/Dowling areas.

If the Greater City would please consider adding routes and more times.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
DAN Vienneau.	966-3055
P. Cloettee	966-3543
Harraine Luttrell	966-2289.
Grace Ethier	966- 3858
Larry Wajasky	966-3310
Velma Mallette	966-3494
Dawn Seurson	966-2722
Sherry Holme	966-2969
Carol Dorion	966-3557
John Dorion	966-3557
Bonnie Holmes	966-1844
Gail Brouse	966-3739
Ferne Selig	966-2362
Grace Spear	966-2255-
Jane Foster	966-2142
Sean Roberts	966-3869 M77
11 D "	

Sandra Mackesd

966-0529

Susan St. Germain

~~Susan~~

Doreen Desbarbier

966-2727

Wendy Purvis

966-3354

~~[Signature]~~

966-2216

W. Mc nichol

966-1673

J. Pandey

966-2245

Keith Peatth

966-0867

Andrea Maclean

966-0538

Debbie Myle

966-1911

Chad Baker

966-3302

Madeline Fraser

Levack

Patricia Gley

Levack

Marion Hurby

Levack

Debbie M'Queen

Levack

Philip Leonard

LEVACK

~~[Signature]~~

LEVACK

John Smith

LEVACK

~~[Signature]~~

Levack

Sudbury

Bus Service

This petition is in regard to obtaining more service in the Levack/Onaping/Dowling areas.

If the Greater City would please consider adding routes and more times.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
Bruno Pasik	966-0474
Yvonne Myre	966-2469
Wendy O'Sumner	966-2127
Shirley Ann Mackay	966-3564
Claudette Bromley	966-2386
Margaret Russee	966 254
J Paul	966 0527
Joan Matte	966-2049
Linda Smith	966-2746
Sylvio and Brenda Salonde	966-2791
Jucille Tatchai	966-1673
Adrian Tatchai	' '
Amanda Brooks	966-2831
Jessie Conway	966-2614
Suzanne Morgan	Levack
W. L. Lussard	LEVACK
Ronnie Quenelle	966-3661

DON EWING

-

966-2925

This petition is in regard to obtaining more service in the
 Levack/Onaping/Dowling areas.
 If the Greater City would please consider adding routes
 and more times.

Name

Phone #

M. Setchell m.B.	705-966-3368
May Jaccille	705-966-2764
Noella Olive	705-966-1852
GARY SARAZIN	705-966-0947
Sheri Blair	966-3053
DON GRAY	966-2608
Don Cook	966-2162
Don Cook	966-3457
Michelle Brissson	966-3750
Daniel Loughndse	966-0696
John	966-2644
K. Daddwin	966-2047
L. Desjardins	966-2096
Ruby Wilson	966-3649
Ryan Deafy	966-3055
Craty Burns	966-2234

hysa Hofford	966-2398
DOUG CALFORD	966 2741
Rn. Melbaume	966-2172
Trais Lausch	966-0504
Inge Berner	966-1928
Condie Johnson	523-4301
Gysile Ladman	966-2218
J. Dwyer	698 4078
Wendy Hull	966-2721
Betty Boham	966-3302
M. Johnson	966 3851
Melanie Duesnd	966- ¹⁰²¹ 3359
Fran Bouffard	966-2890
Ma. Hyris	855-2748
Darren Romain	966-2800
Brenda Edwards	" - "
Sarah Romain	" - "
Breaden Romain	" - "
Chita Kooki	966-2152
Allan Intreell	966 0647
James Bucher	966-3091
	ARR 2770

This petition is in regard to obtaining more service in the
 Levack/Onaping/Dowling areas.
 If the Greater City would please consider adding routes
 and more times.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
Charles [unclear]	966-1481
Barb Poole	
Fabian Poole	
Paul May	966-2762
Kelly Ann Duggan	966-2058
Wayne [unclear]	966-3357
DANNIE DIANNEAK	468-3055
Janet Arnold	966-2984
Carol [unclear]	966-3894
Gord Armstrong	966-1820
Wendy [unclear]	966-0230
Shirley [unclear]	966-2297
Valley Moussette	966-2506
John Moussette	966-2506
Leo [unclear]	966-2002
[unclear]	966-3597
Geraldine Allan	966-3475

STEVUS LIGHTFOOT

966-3511

Don Wilson
Dk [Signature]

966-3637

966-0494

Tammy Jim

966-0587

M. Mori

966-2646

Angela Janisee

966-3044

Jess Stone
Wanda Nelson
Cooper

966-3430

966-1668

966-1107

A. SEWREY

966-2974

966-3628

Mary Dittburner

Paula Matte

966-0023

Paulette Olive

966-2261

Sharon Hobbs

966-1764

966-1764

~~off [Signature]~~

Robert D. Hermer

966-2096

Jessica Henley

966-3036

Cathy Burns

966-2234..

Sheila Pardy

966-1363

966-2093

Jess mephree
Chantelle Nash

966-1560



Jessica Barchewitz
[Signature]

966-3113M84

966-0996

Bus Service

This petition is in regard to obtaining more service in the
Levack/Onaping/Dowling areas.
If the Greater City would please consider adding routes
and more times.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
Linda McDonald	966-2302
Ron Martel	966-2460
	966-2400
V. W. RALEC	866 2034
Carol Meyers	966-3585
D. D. RICHARDS	
Ruska Pond	966-3120
Kim March	966-1819
Kevin Cross	966-2076
BRIAN BEDARD	966-3086
SHERI SMITH	966-3086
Kristin Tuomi	966-3024
BRADLEY RIUTA	855-3227
Tammy Luhtala	966-3457
Davis BERTHELOT	966-0519
Elizabeth Phillips	966-3068
	966-3057

**2004 BUDGET PUBLIC INPUT AND INFORMATION SESSION
OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY**

**Valley East Citizen Service Centre
Library, Valley East**

**Tuesday, January 20, 2004
Commencement: 7:30 p.m.**

Chair

COUNCILLOR ELDON GAINER, IN THE CHAIR

Present

Councillors Bradley; Dupuis; Kett; Rivest; Mayor Courtemanche

City Officials

M. Mieto, Chief Administrative Officer; D. Belisle, General Manager of Public Works; D. Wuksinic, General Manager, Corporate Services; T. Beadman, Acting General Manager, Emergency Services; D. Dumontelle, Budget Technician; R. Clouthier, Manager/North Customer Service Centres/Libraries; T. Mowry, City Clerk; C-J Caporale, Council Secretary

News Media

Valley East Today; MCTV

Welcome and
Opening Remarks

Councillor Gainer welcomed the thirty-one people in attendance to the 2004 Budget Public Input and Information Session and advised the purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for the public to comment, in a public forum, on the 2004 Budget for the City of Greater Sudbury.

Specifically public input is being sought on the following topics:

1. Should those who use a service pay for the service (user fees) and/or should everyone share in the cost (taxes)?
2. What level of municipal service do you expect?
Should any services be reduced or eliminated?
3. Would you support a tax increase to maintain existing service levels?
4. Should the City borrow money and/or implement a special levy to fix roads, repair arenas, replace fire trucks, maintain police communications, etc.?
5. What service would you like to see improved or added?

Budget04
Towards Tomorrow
Together

General Manager of Corporate Services gave an electronic presentation to those present regarding an overview of the Budget such as the National/Provincial scene, Long-Term Financial Plan, update on the City's current status and projections for 2004, explanation of services and the levels of discretion, efficiencies and service improvements implemented, alternatives used for addressing the 2004 Budget and a review of the BMA Competitiveness Study.

Mayor Courtemanche

Mayor Courtemanche welcomed those present. He expressed the hope that this series of public input meetings would serve as a good example of what the residents of the City of Greater Sudbury can anticipate from the new Council.

A "Speakers' List" was available and submissions were heard in the order that they appeared.

Ms. Angele Butkevich
Human League
Association

Ms. Butkevich, Executive Director, The Human League Association, provided a detailed information package regarding the Breakfast Club for Kids program and the Positive Leisure Activities for Youth Program (PLAY).

Ms. Butkevich advised the Committee that the Breakfast Club feeds 3,000 children in area schools within the City of Greater Sudbury. The PLAY program provides help with registration fees, equipment, and transportation for soccer, piano, etc. for children of families living in a low income situation.

The Human League Association received a portion of their funding from the National Child Benefit (NCB) who will be reducing the funds by 15% for each program and possibly more reductions in the future. Ms. Butkevich, on behalf of the Human League Association, has requested funding in the amount of \$25,000 for the Breakfast Club and \$25,000 for the PLAY Program in order to maintain current funding levels.

The Human League has requested that Council take a close look at the budget, look at the programs and find where the kids and low income families need the biggest help.

Mr. Ron Minogue

Mr. Minogue addressed the Committee with the following items:

- ▶ have FONOM buy single insurance policies for all their members which would drop the premiums and form a larger group
- ▶ refrain from combining the water/wastewater fees with the tax fees
- ▶ why was the surplus of \$1,000,000 from last year used for the construction of the Rock Tunnel?
- ▶ City of Greater Sudbury should refrain from donating funds to the hospital and let the Provincial government step in

Mr. Ron Minogue
(continued)

- ▶ an increase in the recycling program would reduce the amount of garbage going to the landfill sites
- ▶ before closing the facilities send a survey to all citizens using the facilities asking if they would be willing to pay a user fee instead of closing the facilities
- ▶ why are we still funding the Farmers' Market?
- ▶ sell all surplus lots
- ▶ why has Public Works overspent their roads budget by 25%?
- ▶ have Council meetings on the internet for more citizens participation
- ▶ implement a freeze on hiring
- ▶ promote from within and reduce management
- ▶ reduce the use of City vehicles
- ▶ why are there separate tenders for police vehicles, passenger cars, trucks, etc. ? If these had been combined, there would have been a better price per unit.
- ▶ stop micro-managing local businesses such as store hours, testing cab drivers
- ▶ outline how the City will pay back borrowed money and maintain the infrastructure
- ▶ is Council introducing a surtax on tax bills to increase the funding for Police Services?
- ▶ have Members of Council set the budget

Ms. Agathe Dubé

Ms. Dubé, President, Valley East Rate Payers' Association and is a resident of Joe Lake. Her property assessment has increased by \$29,000 and there are no increases in the services provided such as garbage pick-up. She questioned the Committee about Area Rated Services and the benefits. She asked that the services provided coincides with the user fees that are allocated to their area.

Ms. Dubé stated that all residents of the City of Greater Sudbury contribute to a base amount for Emergency Services and also pay according to the services that are provided locally. If Area Rating does not continue, then will outlying areas have to contribute to the services within the City? Ms. Dubé asked Council to ensure that everyone is well informed about Area Rating. She also would like to know what will happen to her taxes if Area Rating does not continue.

Ms. Dubé also asked the Committee how the City of Greater Sudbury ranks on the BMA study and how this survey was implemented for this year.

Ms. Nancy Lacasse

Ms. Lacasse expressed her concern about the use of City vehicles for personal use among staff and how there would be savings if these vehicles were parked.

The Chair advised Ms. Lacasse that the use of vehicles will be reviewed by Council over the Budget process.

Ms. Aline Bérubé

Ms. Bérubé addressed the Committee as a taxpayer and feels that the increase in user fees is unacceptable. Being a single income family, such increases have made it difficult to make ends meet for her family.

Pensioners are making less money with these increases. She feels that the tipping fees create illegal dumping.

Ms. Bérubé also feels that City employees should not have the use of City owned vehicles for personal use.

Ms. Bérubé feels there is money being wasted in the Public Works Department on road construction and patching.

Ms. Bérubé suggests that Departments with a surplus of money at the end of the year should not have to spend it to keep the same amount for the following year.

Energy costs would be lower if lights in City office buildings were turned off at night and refrain from using Christmas decorations.

Mr. Fern Bérubé

Mr. Bérubé advised the Committee that Council should use common sense. His concerns included the following:

- the use of consultants for minor issues, such as signage
- road construction takes too long and funds are wasted
- the increase of fees for the use of water is not acceptable because the drinking water is unsatisfactory
- the use of City vehicles for personal use must come to an end

The 'Speakers' List' now complete, the Chair asked if there was anyone present who wished to address the Committee.

Mr. Jean-Marie Thériault

Mr. Thériault is a resident of Joe Lake and feels that the user fees do not match the services provided. He advised the Committee that emergency vehicles have a hard time locating the homes on Joe Lake Road because the street lighting is insufficient. The residents must bring their garbage to a large bin because the trucks refuse to traverse Joe Lake Road due to the road conditions.

Mr. John McNeil

Mr. McNeil is a resident of Flake Subdivision and advised the Committee that, as a pensioner, the tax increase will be difficult for him to meet. User fees are good but feels there are too many being implemented. Garbage fees create illegal dumping and Mr. McNeil feels that the public is not aware of what can be left at the roadside. Mr. McNeil feels that the former City of Valley East had better service before the amalgamation such as servicing the roads, draining overflowing ditches and installing culverts.

Mr. Henry LeBouthillier

Mr. LeBouthillier advised the Committee that the employees and Members of Council should have more input regarding the Budget.

Mr. LeBouthillier advised the Committee that the cost of re-opening some facilities such as the ski-hills and Barrydowne Arena would be great due to the fact that a new lift and equipment is required.

It is his opinion that City vehicles should only be used for employees on call and not personal use.

As well, salaries, benefits and bonuses should be clearly identified in the budget.

Mr. John Robert

Mr. Robert advised the Committee of the following:

- ▶ Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) is owned by the municipalities of Ontario
- ▶ if residents go to the landfill sites more than once per week they will be charged
- ▶ explain the increase in the assessments and the mill rates (which establish the amount of dollars being brought in) and how they are established
- ▶ is the increase of tipping fees used for operational costs or is this money being used elsewhere
- ▶ make the taxpayers aware of how much money is being brought in annually with all new construction (residential, commercial, industrial)
- ▶ agrees with borrowing money for road construction within the City of Greater Sudbury
- ▶ inform the public in advance what roads need to be repaired
- ▶ sell surplus property
- ▶ the 3% increase in fire protection for Valley East is not fair and should be the same for everyone in the City of Greater Sudbury

Mr. Robert stated that Area Rating of Services was not a fair practice. Residents should be asked if they would like to return to the same level and cost of services offered by local municipalities prior to amalgamation.

Mr. Roger Trottier

Mr. Trottier addressed the Committee regarding the following issues:

- why contract out for garbage collection when the City can save money using their own employees
- is Area Rating fair when we are paying for fire protection not only for Valley East but also for Rayside-Balfour and Capreol
- transit services is not a gift; we pay for it
- delivery of winter control is not the same
- the BMA Study is comparing Northern Ontario to Southern Ontario and this is not comparable
- how is the increase of assessment implemented into the budget?
- when increasing the taxes, increase them 8% instead of 13%

Mr. Don Wright

Mr. Wright advised the Committee that the sidewalk snow-plow should be eliminated and to extend the blades of the snow-plow to include the sidewalk.

Road construction should not include crack filling as this causes the road to deteriorate and there should be a central bin where everyone brings their own garbage and eliminate roadside pick-up.

Mr. Mike Huard

Mr. Huard resides in McCrea Heights and his concerns were as follows:

- the City should encourage more people, young and old, to move to the north
- McCrea Heights requires an increase in traffic lights and police service during the day through to the supper hour when traffic is at a peak
- the wild life is out of control and should be dealt with

Mr. George Perry

Mr. Perry spoke to the Committee regarding the use of City vehicles and that the vehicle numbers and logos should be more visible to the public. He also wanted staff to inform the public what the costs were for the vehicles such as fuel, insurance, etc.

Mr. Robert Kirwan

Mr. Kirwan's concerns were that the City should be marketing the City of Greater Sudbury and encouraging more people to come and reside here. He feels that students and retirees have more revenue and that they should be the target areas. By closing facilities, this will cause people to leave Sudbury, which creates more tax increases for the residents who stay.

Mr. Kirwan stated he was in favour of borrowing by the City provided it was spent in the right places.

Ms. Diane Wayworth

Ms. Wayworth addressed the Committee with the following:

- water, sewer and road construction should be better co-ordinated so costs are reduced and work is not repeated
- when the City contracts out, is the money being spent properly and time limits followed?
- marketing of City of Greater Sudbury for tourism should be increased
- information booths should have knowledgeable staff working and inform tourists of where all the sites are within the City of Greater Sudbury

Mr. Denis McLeod

Mr. McLeod spoke to the Committee regarding the expenditures for the City of Greater Sudbury.

Mr. McLeod feels that sewer and water should not be classified as a user fee and would like to know what are user fees. He also feels that the City is double-dipping into the tax base whether or not you pay into taxes or user fees. He also stated that instead of having individual user fees, why not take the fees out of the taxation rate?

The Chair then asked those present if they would like to speak a second time.

Mr. Jean-Marie Thériault

Mr. Thériault addressed the Committee regarding road construction and suggested that all construction such as sewer & water repairs and road construction should be co-ordinated together which might save the City 30%.

Mr. Fern Bérubé

Mr. Bérubé was of the opinion that the current level of management in the City, particularly Public Works, is too top heavy.

Mr. John Robert

Mr. Robert addressed the Committee regarding the following:

- more people would bring in more taxes
- improve the roads between Valley East and Sudbury especially McCrea Heights area
- Ward 3 is the only ward that has excess capacity in fully serviced lots in the City. It was his opinion that the City should direct and encourage people and businesses to build in this area.

Mr. Roger Trottier

Mr. Trottier suggested that the City of Greater Sudbury should petition the Provincial government to implement a special tax on containers used by the fast food industry. This tax could then be directed to municipal waste management. It would also encourage recycling of such waste products.

Closing Remarks

The Chair expressed his appreciation to all those who provided written or oral submissions. He advised Staff had taken note of all concerns and these matters would be identified through the budget process.

Attachments

The following is a list of attachments submitted at the meeting:

- Information package from The Human League Association

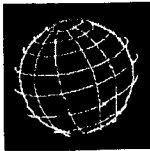
Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Councillor Eldon Gainer

City Clerk

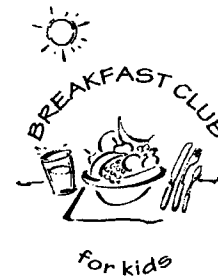
**THE
HUMAN LEAGUE**



Here to help.

January 20, 2004.

City Council
City of Greater Sudbury
P.O. Box 5000, Str. A.
Sudbury, ON
P3A – 5P3



Re: Request for Funding from City Budget

Breakfast Club for Kids programs are intended to address the needs of children, who for a variety of reasons: harried morning routines, lack of nutritional knowledge, long bus journeys, or poverty, are not receiving the nutrition they need to do well in school.

On behalf of the children we respectfully request funding in the amount of \$25,000 for our Breakfast Club for Kids Programs.

In the Greater District of Sudbury we currently provide over 3400 meals per day, in over twenty-one schools. Help us change the current statistic that indicates that 2 out of 5 children go to school hungry.

Please assist us in our efforts to enhance the nutritional health and well being of children in our community. Help us remove the most hindering barrier to a child's learning: hunger.

Yours Truly,

Angele Butkevich
Executive Director

"IT TAKES A WHOLE VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD." African Proverb

"Please help us feed the future."

Mailing Address: 471 Ontario Street, Sudbury ON, P3E 4K4
Phone: (705) 670-8633 **Fax:** (705) 670-8674
Website: www.humanleague.on.ca **E-mail:** humanleague@bellnet.ca

Registered Charity # 89307 2785 RR0001



Here to help.

PLAY Program

January 20, 2004

City Council
City of Greater Sudbury
P.O. Box 5000, Stn. A
200 Brady Street
Sudbury, ON P3A 5P3

Re: Request for Funding from City Budget

We respectfully request funding in the amount of \$25,000 for Positive Leisure Activities for Youth Program (PLAY).

PLAY provides support to children and youth, from birth up to and including age 17, helping with the cost of registration fees, equipment and transportation for recreational activities.

There are about 8000 children in Greater Sudbury living in a low-income situation.

Positive recreation gives children and youth an opportunity to develop new skills, make friends, experience creative outlets, be part of a team, build self-confidence and self-esteem. Positive recreation leads to a reduction in crime.

When young people participate in sports, cultural programs and other recreational activities they have a better emotional health and perform better academically.

As of January 2004, PLAY has helped over 1100 children get involved in a recreational activity of their choice since the program started in 2001. Please help us serve more.

Yours truly,

Angele Butkevich
Executive Director

“Please help us feed the future.”

Mailing Address: 471 Ontario St., Sudbury, Ontario P3E 4K4
Phone: (705) 670-8633 **Fax:** (705) 670-8674
Website: www.humanleague.on.ca **Email:** humanleague@bellnet.ca Registered Charity # 89307 2785 RR0001

M 95

Art Gallery of Sudbury
Benoit's Martial Arts
Cambrian College
Capreol Bowl*
Capreol Millenium Resource Centre
Capreol Minor Hockey
Capreol Skating Club
Capreol Ski Hill
Charm Plus*
Chelmsford Figure Skating Club
City of Greater Sudbury Leisure Dept.
Copper Cliff Minor Hockey Association
Coniston Minor Hockey Association
Coniston Karate Club
Diane Boulais Dance Studio
Dupont's Guitar Shop
Extreme North Gymnastics Club
Foothills Farm
Garson Bowl
Gatchel Pool
Gauvreau School of Dance
Girl Guides of Canada, Sudbury Nickel Division
Guitar Clinic
Hillsview Stables
Holiday Lanes Bowling Alley
Howard Armstrong Recreation Centre
Ida Sauve Dance Studios*
Jett Landry Music
Joe McDonald Football League
Ken Bu Kan Karate Dojo
Kim's Tae Kwondo
Lasalle Area Football Squad
Let's Dance (Onaping Dance Club)*
Minnow Lake New Sudbury Co-operative Nursery School
Navy League Sea Cadets
Nickel Centre Skating Club
Northern Martial Arts Centre
Notre Dame Bowl
Onaping Falls Soccer Club
Onaping/Levack Pool
Onaping Ski Hill
Ontario National Training Centre (Boxing)
Pak's Tae Kwon Do (Chelmsford)
Pak's Tae Kwon Do (Downtown)
Pak's Tae Kwon Do (New Sudbury)
Panhellenic Soccer Club
Paquette School of Music
Plaza Bowl
Princesses & Pirates
Puckmaster*

Rayside-Balfour Figure Skating Club
Rayside-Balfour Minor Baseball
Rayside-Balfour Minor Hockey
Rayside-Balfour Soccer League
Sampo Rhythmic Gymnastics Club
Scouts Canada
Science North
Sheryl Graham Dancers
St. Benedict's School Football League
St. John's Ambulance
Sudburnia Soccer Club
Sudbury Basketball League
Sudbury District Girls Hockey Association
Sudbury Indoor Tennis Centre*
Sudbury Laurels Gymnastics Club
Sudbury Lacrosse Association
Sudbury Minor Baseball Association
Sudbury Minor Girls Softball Association
Sudbury Minor Hockey Association
Sudbury Northerners Football Club
Sudbury Playground Hockey League
Sudbury School of Martial Arts
Sudbury Skating Club
Sudbury Sports North
Sudbury Theatre Centre
Sudbury Therapeutic Riding Program
Sudbury Yacht Club
Tole House*
Track North Athletic Club*
Trailsmen Rod & Gun Club (Archery)
Valley Bowl
Valley East Minor Baseball Association
Valley East Minor Hockey Association
Valley East Soccer League
Wagon Wheel Ranch
Walden Minor Hockey Association
Walden Soccer League
World Dahn Moo Do Association (Dowling)
World Dahn Moo Do Association (Sudbury)
YMCA

* have donated spots or discounts which haven't been used yet

**2004 BUDGET PUBLIC INPUT SESSION
OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY**

**Garson Arena
100 Church Street, Garson**

**Tuesday, January 20th, 2004
Commencement: 7:30 p.m.
Adjournment: 9:30 p.m.**

Chair

COUNCILLOR TED CALLAGHAN, IN THE CHAIR

Present

Mayor Courtemanche; Councillors Gasparini; Thompson

City Officials

C. Hallsworth, General Manager of Citizen & Leisure Services; D. Nadorozny, General Manager of Economic Development & Planning; C. Matheson, General Manager, Health & Social Services; S. Jonasson, Director of Finance/City Treasurer; C. Mahaffy, Manager of Financial Planning/Policy; R. Henderson, Director of Citizen & Leisure Services; L. Henri, Community Development Officer, Citizen & Leisure Services; R. Ahola, Manager of Municipal Arenas & Community Centres; J. Cappadocia, Assistant Manager of Arenas/Community Services; C. Salazar, Manager of Corporate Strategy & Policy Analyst; A. Haché, Deputy City Clerk; K. Bowschar-Lische, Planning Committee Secretary

C.U.P.E. Local 4705

W. McKinnon, President; M. Brady, Chief Steward

Citizens

23 Citizens

News Media

Sudbury Star

Welcome and
Opening Remarks

Councillor Ted Callaghan welcomed those in the audience and advised the purpose of the meeting was to provide an overview of the budget and an opportunity for the public to comment on the 2004 Budget for the City of Greater Sudbury. He indicated that feedback should be provided using the following:

1. Should those who use a service pay for the service (users fees) and/or should everyone share in the cost (taxes)?
2. What level of municipal service do you expect? Should any services be reduced or eliminated?
3. Would you support a tax increase to maintain existing service levels?
4. Should the City borrow money and/or implement a special levy to fix roads, repairs, arenas, replace fire trucks, maintain police communications, etc.
5. What service would you like to see improved or added?

Submissions would be heard in the order that they appear on the speaker's list. Councillor Callaghan introduced Councillors and staff who were in attendance.

SLIDE PRESENTATION

Budget04
Towards Tomorrow
Together

C. Hallsworth, General Manager of Citizen & Leisure Services, addressed the audience with an electronic presentation which provided an overview of the 2004 Budget.

Items in the overview included the National/Provincial Scene; financial update; mandatory, limited discretion and greater discretion services; efficiencies and service improvements; competitiveness study and next steps.

Ms. Lara Friedrich

Ms. Friedrich provided a written submission entitled "Spay and Neuter Program Needed Urgently" and requested that money collected from dog and cat licensing be put back into animal care or at least the \$50,000.00 which was saved from the previous year. This money should be spent exclusively on spay and neutering of animals and administered by a neutral group such as the soon to be formed panel on animal care.

Mr. Daniel Gingras

Mr. Gingras provided general comments regarding the City pushing a 13% tax increase and uses fees to get more revenue. He asked Council to look at every budget line and review every position to see if it is necessary. The municipality should concentrate on roads, garbage, water and recreation, etc. Services such as the two municipally run day cares and Pioneer Manor could be managed and operated by other organizations/corporations. He questioned why the City is paying \$5,000.00 per year to Police Service Board Members and \$8,000.00 per year to Greater Sudbury Hydro Utilities Board Members as it is not essential to pay members on Boards. He agrees with the City's need to borrow money to repair roads and invest in recreational facilities which will fight unemployment, but borrowing should only take place after reductions are made.

Ms. Tracy Saarkoski

Ms. Saarkoski, Centre Director for the First Baptist Church Teddy Bear Day Care, provided a written submission dated 2004-01-20 entitled "Request for Budget Enhancement". She outlined the history of the centre which presently has 107 children registered in the program. She requested an extension of the turning lanes which currently exist between the Cedar Green Subdivision and Metcalfe Street on Falconbridge Highway in Garson in front of the Church driveway access and to correct the entrance of the driveway on property owned by the City. She said that prior to amalgamation, Council agreed that they would revisit this issue the next time Falconbridge Highway needed repairs. There are a number of children, families, staff, seniors and buses that utilize the centre who are at risk of a fatality. There have already been 2 serious accidents in this area.

Ms. Joanne Nother

Ms. Nother indicated that she owns her own home in New Sudbury and pays taxes. Since she is in a wheelchair, she uses limited services. She is concerned about the amount of accessible transportation. For example, in the City of Sudbury, Handi-Transit runs from 7:00 a.m. to midnight and in the outlying municipalities from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Some of these hours will not increase until later this year or next year. She indicated that lack of these services puts a lot of strain on people for independence. The population is growing older and accessible transit users are increasing. There are fewer buses, more ridership and people need to get to the City for medical reasons.

Mr. Tom Lloyd

Mr. Lloyd indicated that he did not wish to speak at this time.

Mr. Gilbert Lux

Mr. Lux, Inco pensioner, indicated that user fees should be kept to a minimum as services are necessary to lower income families. He wants to keep the services he currently has but feels that the tax increase should be no more than 8%. He does not believe in borrowing money and that you should buy what you can afford. He would like to see improvement in roads.

Mr. Hank Richer

Mr. Richer recently read a newspaper article which stated there is a 10 minute emergency response time for 83% of the residents. He questioned what happens to the remaining 17%. He questioned why Valley East had to pay special rates for fire service and why everyone is paying for the South End Sewer Tunnel as he does not use it. He also expressed concern regarding paying long distance charges to call within the municipality. He questioned why his electrical service comes from Ontario Hydro instead of Sudbury Hydro which has cheaper rates. He sees many City buses travelling on their route empty and wants to ensure that this is being tracked by someone at the City. He asked whether the City has looked into joining other medium sized cities to lobby Federal and Provincial governments for funding. Mr. Richer was advised of a public input meeting at the Garson Arena on Thursday, January 22, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. regarding the Master Fire Plan.

Mr. Bud Kean

Mr. Kean does not agree that taxes should be increased on top of the 40% increase he got last year. He stated that our roads are in need of repair but wonders how the City can afford to pay the expensive cost of interlocking stone walkways in the downtown.

Mr. Mike Brady

Mr. Brady stated it is not fair to compare Sudbury to cities such as Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal as taxes in those cities will be much higher. Sudbury should be compared to similar sized cities. He recognizes there are extra dollars we need to spend on deteriorated infrastructure, parks not being kept up to standard, etc. He said that we cannot draw people to our community if our buildings and parks are dilapidated. Closing arenas and ski hills is not appropriate. He agrees that if we borrow money, it should be spent wisely.

Mr. Alfred Nicholls

Mr. Nicholls, President, Sudbury Northeast Ratepayers Association, provided a written submission entitled 'City of Greater Sudbury Budget Proposal 2004' dated 2003-12-15. With the election of the Liberal Government in Ontario, they believe this is the right time to correct a mistake made by the previous government. Under Bill 25, the unorganized townships to the northeast were amalgamated in the City of Greater Sudbury. The City now has opportunity to correct this situation and save a very substantial amount of money. Area roads need upgrading and hydro and phone service is not available. The area is isolated from the City and these taxpayers resent the service they receive for tax dollars they pay. He requested the City apply to the Ontario Municipal Board for removal of these previously unorganized townships.

Mr. Wyman McKinnon

Mr. McKinnon, Coniston resident, spoke regarding the 4.5 million dollar contribution needed for OMERS this year. He indicated that when the OMERS contribution holiday started, CUPE cautioned the municipality and its employees to plan for the reintroduction of OMERS contributions. He does not trust nor put faith in the Federal and Provincial governments in receiving additional funding. Roads are in deplorable condition. The road problem did not occur overnight but was created over 10-12 years by a 0 base budget. He said that other municipalities went through incremental increases and that is something we should look at in the future.

Mr. Scott Overton

Mr. Overton addressed his concerns regarding the following issues:

- it is better to increase the overall tax rate rather than the user fees in most cases
- could not point to any service that should be eliminated
- explore more partnerships for delivery of services such as volunteer organizations, other businesses--but not to divest, only to partner
- pleased to see a multi-year budget and is in favour of long term rather than short term thinking
- believes taxes have to be increased but look at providing lower income earners with a lower rate, similar to income taxes
- if City is going to grow, we need an attractive community not one that is crumbling and we will need to borrow money

He urged Council to look at the Smart Sudbury Project to attract business. Council should look at the long term and not the short term and we and future generations will be better off.

Mr. Ron Black

Mr. Black expressed concerns regarding the tremendous amount of money being spent on consultants fees. The City is hiring a consultant to assist the Mayor and asked if an existing employee could fill the position.

He indicated that we could save money on the blue box program and questioned its cost and whether it would be cheaper to put recyclables in the garbage.

He stated that the City has too many vacant buildings and questioned the cost.

Mr. Daniel Gingras

Mr. Gingras recommended that the City start selling the excess buildings and land they own to generate tax revenues and funds from the sale of these properties could be put into an endowment fund to invest in economic development, transit, etc.

It was noted that revenues from the sale of City properties is placed into a Land Acquisition Fund to maintain existing buildings and the sale of buildings and lands is actively pursued.

Jim Lanzo

Mr. Lanzo believes that Provincial and Federal governments need to be approached for new funds. The new deal will be driven by the larger municipalities and we will need to be on side with them. It is up to the citizens to call our local MPs and MPPs. Every political party has a policy process and suggested the City contact the policy person for each political association if we want a new deal to happen.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

Marc & Darrell Ranger

A written submission dated January 20th, 2004, from Marc and Darrell Ranger requesting that West Bay Road (Capreol) on Lake Wahnapiatae be renamed, that 911 signs be posted at all driveways, that the City plough an additional 3 ½ km of road and that a counter be put on the road to monitor traffic for future road repairs, was submitted at the meeting.

CLOSING REMARKS

Councillor Callaghan expressed his appreciation to all those who provided written or oral submissions. He advised Staff had taken note of all concerns and these matters would be identified through the budget process. He indicated that a summary of all input received would be compiled and reviewed by Council then posted on the City's website.

ATTACHMENTS

The following is a list of attachments submitted at the meeting:

- ▶ Spay and Neuter Program Needed Urgently prepared by Lara Friedrich (Sudbury Animal Advocates)
- ▶ Request for Budget Enhancement prepared by Tracy Saarikoski, Centre Director, First Baptist Church Teddy Bear Day Care, dated 2004-01-20
- ▶ Sudbury Northeast Ratepayers Association
- City of Greater Sudbury Budget Proposal 2004 prepared by Alfred Nicholls, President, dated 2003-12-15

Adjournment

The public input session adjourned at 9:30 p.m.