

**The Corporation of the City of Guelph
Community & Social Services Committee
February 14, 2012, 5:00 p.m.**

A meeting of the Community & Social Services Committee was held on Tuesday February 14, 2012 in the Council Chambers at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Councillors Dennis, Burcher (arrived 5:05), Laidlaw, and Mayor Farbridge

Absent: Councillor Van Hellemond

Also Present: Councillors Bell, Furfaro, Guthrie and Hofland

Staff Present: Ms. C. Bell, Executive Director, Community & Social Services; Ms. T. Agnello, Deputy Clerk; Ms. J. Sweeney, Council Committee Coordinator

There was no disclosure of pecuniary interest.

1. Moved by Councillor Laidlaw
Seconded by Mayor Farbridge

THAT the minutes of the Community & Social Services Committee meeting held December 6, 2011 be confirmed as recorded and without being read.

VOTING IN FAVOUR: Councillors Dennis, Laidlaw and Mayor Farbridge
(3)

VOTING AGAINST: (0)

Carried

Consent Agenda

The following items were extracted from the Consent Agenda to be dealt with separately:

CSS-2012 A.1 Recreation Program Passes

2. Moved by Mayor Farbridge
Seconded by Councillor Laidlaw

THAT the balance of the Community & Social Services Committee February 14, 2012 Consent Agenda, as identified below, be adopted:

- a) **Proposed Change to Non-Prescribed (Discretionary) Social Services Funeral Rates**

REPORT

THAT City funding for non-prescribed (discretionary) social services funeral rates be increased by 20% retroactively to January 1, 2012 to align with the County of Wellington's Funeral Directors Fees and to more closely reflect actual costs for funeral services;

AND THAT the process for subsequent rate increases be negotiated as part of an agreement on social services between the City and County of Wellington as Consolidated Municipal Service Manager.

VOTING IN FAVOUR: Councillors Dennis, Laidlaw and Mayor Farbridge (3)

VOTING AGAINST: (0)

Carried

Councillor Burcher arrived at 5:05 p.m.

Anti-Bullying Coalition

Lynne MacIntyre advised of her son's experiences with bullying and the poem that he wrote which has received considerable attention. She further advised that she has spoken on radio shows and met with various levels of government on this issue. She provided information on the various organizations invited to form an Anti-Bullying Coalition. She requested the City be the first municipality to publicly take a stand against bullying and to be an active member of the Coalition to make the City a safe community.

3. Moved by Mayor Farbridge
Seconded by Councillor Laidlaw

Ms. C. Bell

THAT the request for the City to participate on the Guelph Anti-Bullying Coalition be referred to staff to meet with members of the organization to discuss the opportunities and possible alliances and to report back to the Community & Social Services Committee with any recommendations.

VOTING IN FAVOUR: Councillors Burcher, Dennis, Laidlaw and Mayor Farbridge (4)

VOTING AGAINST: (0)

Carried

Royal City Musical Productions Inc.

Werner Eitzen provided information on the various productions undertaken by the Royal City Musical Productions Inc. He advised of the average costs to stage a show and that most of their costs are covered by ticket sales.

Deanna Clatworthy provided information on their costs for the rental of the River Run Centre and the costs theatre groups in other municipalities receive and rental/user fees charged for nonprofit groups versus for profit entities. She requested that the City conduct a review of their rental costs and that a separate ticket percentage be established for local organizations.

Ms. C. Bell

4. Moved by Councillor Burcher
Seconded by Mayor Farbridge

THAT the request of the Royal City Musical Productions Inc. to review the rental costs for the River Run Centre and creating a separate ticket percentage for local organizations be referred to the Community Investment Strategy.

VOTING IN FAVOUR: Councillors Burcher, Dennis, Laidlaw and Mayor Farbridge (4)

VOTING AGAINST: (0)

Carried

Recreation Program Passes

Colleen Clack, Acting General Manager, Parks & Recreation Programs and Facilities provided an overview of the passes previously offered and the challenges of tracking pass usage. She highlighted the punch passes will be more flexible, have no expiry date and will be customized to the user. She outlined the financial impact of the proposed passes and the matter of fairness for low usage clients not subsidizing high use clients. She also advised that staff will be undertaking a full evaluation of all program offers to determine what programs should be dropped and what programs should grow and a review of all rates and fees with a comparison to some municipalities.

Leslie Snell spoke on behalf of many pass users and expressed dismay over the cancellation of the passes. She suggested that the City passes cost higher than comparator municipalities. She also expressed concern that the users were not consulted. She advised that people will go elsewhere to a more affordable facility.

