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REPORT
Regional Council

DATE: August 23, 2010

REPORT TITLE: **PEEL CHILDREN AND YOUTH INITIATIVE**

FROM: Janet Menard, Commissioner of Human Services
Janette Smith, Commissioner of Health Services

RECOMMENDATION

That funds for the Peel Children and Youth Initiative (PCYI) as budgeted in the 2010 budget in the amount of $110,000, be released given that the Peel District School Board and the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board have committed funding in the amount of $100,000 for the first year;

And further, that staff report back to Council on the evolution of PCYI and Youth Violence prevention work in six months.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- Peel Children and Youth Initiative (PCYI) has a mandate to integrate services for effective and efficient service delivery to children and youth aged 0-24.
- Alignment of governance to reduce duplication and to maximize the funding provided to Success by Six Peel, Peel Youth Violence Prevention Network and Peel Children and Youth Initiative has been achieved.
- Approval to release the amount of $110,000 to PCYI, as budgeted in the 2010 budget, is recommended.

DISCUSSION

1. Background

Over the years, the Region of Peel has been deeply committed to community based supports for children and youth. At the Regional Council meeting of December 10, 2009, staff reported the Region budgeted approximately $2.4 million for community based children and youth services and initiatives. In the 2010 budget process, Council supported an additional $110,000 in funding for Peel Children and Youth Initiative (PCYI), subject to a funding contribution by the Peel District School Board and Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board. Council also raised concerns with respect to duplication with Success By 6 Peel and the Peel Youth Violence Prevention Network (PYVPN).

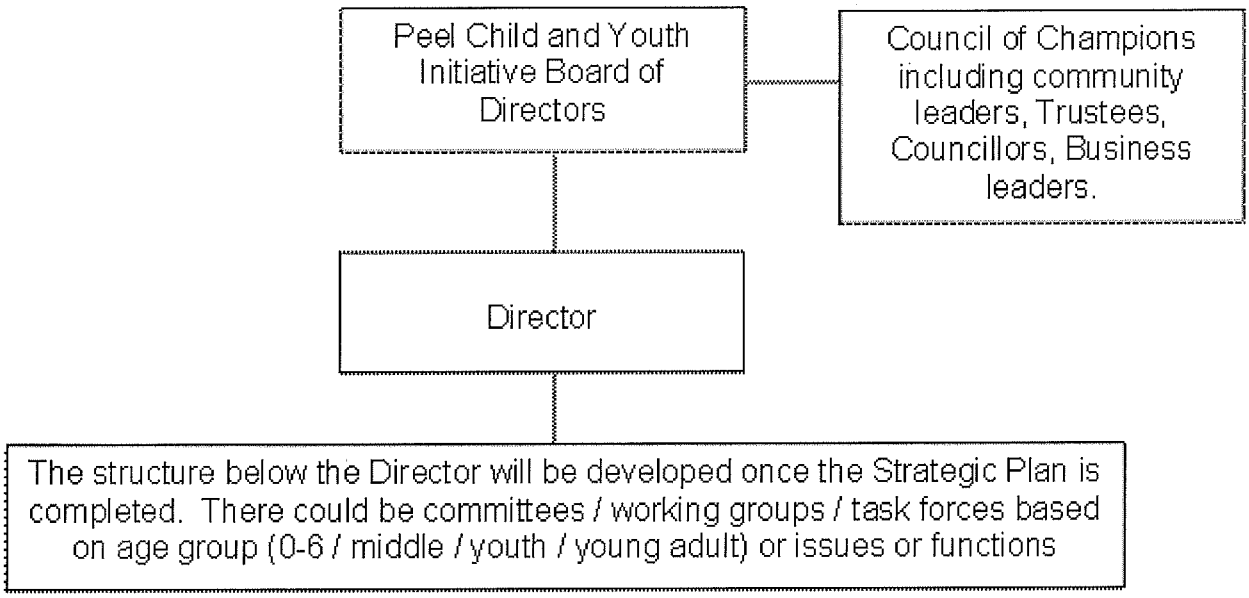
PCYI will provide overall leadership for joint planning including needs identification, community capacity building and collaboration to create efficiencies and strengthen supports and services to children and youth aged 0-24. It involves almost 100 agencies and/or programs providing services to children and youth in Peel and has a mandate to ensure

research, planning, advocacy and policy work for children and youth across sectors and services are coordinated. PCYI also proposes to leverage service and funding opportunities to ensure effective use of dollars and supports provided by the various funders, partnering agencies and collaborations.

2. Update

Over the past several month's, staff and the chairs of PCYI, Success By 6 Peel, PYVPN and key representatives of the United Way and the school boards have had numerous discussions to address the overall governance of the collaboratives. It was decided to align the governance between PCYI, Success By 6 Peel and Peel Youth Violence Prevention Network to reduce duplication and to optimize participation of staff from small organizations in child and youth related initiatives. The chairs and vice-chairs of the three initiatives and the Commissioners of Health and Human Services have achieved this through the establishment of one governance model for PCYI and a Council of Champions as illustrated in the following chart:

Governance Structure for Child and Youth Focussed Collaborative Work



In an effort to inform the structure, PCYI is in the process of developing its Strategic Plan and in so doing has conducted consultations of key informants, collaborative groups, service providers, children and youth, parents, interested businesses and volunteers. The Strategic Plan will identify the key priorities for the first three to five years, along with key measurements, partners and strategies for the Initiative. It will be through this exercise that any gaps will be identified. In the meantime, the momentum of the PYVPN and Success By 6 Peel will continue.

Community support for the development of PCYI continues to be wide spread. PCYI held the 3rd Community Forum on April 20th with over 70 different community organizations and included 90 adult and 70 youth participants. The recommendation to involve youth in the governance structure of PCYI was discussed at that meeting and has been implemented through the by-laws and plans to incorporate. A plan for membership and an associated fee structure was also presented and accepted at this meeting.

3. Peel Children and Youth Initiative Funding Plan

In addition to the Regional contribution, the Peel District School Board and the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board have committed $100,000 in funding towards PCYI for the first year.

The Peel Student Support Leadership Team has also submitted a proposal for the investment of $55,000 in PCYI through the Student Support Leadership Initiative (SSLI) of the Ministry of Education which is jointly sponsoring this initiative with the Ministries of Children and Youth Services and Health and Long Term Care. The SSLI is entering its fourth year of a six year project in September 2010. Although approval is on annual basis, funding for years five and six is expected to continue.

During the development phase of PCYI, since February 2009 to September 2010, the Student Support Leadership Initiative has provided PCYI with $67,000 for project management services and some of the members of the PCYI have contributed $86,000 to support its development.

The first year budget plan for the initial year (September 2010 to March 2011) of The Peel Children and Youth Initiative has been set at $330,000.00 including one time expenditures for furniture, equipment, the strategic plan process, the development of a youth engagement plan and a communication and branding plan. The staffing plan calls for the hiring of a Director, administrator and Communications Manager in the first year. PCYI plans to locate in the new Mississauga Community Door. The revenue will come from the Region ($110,000), the Boards of Education ($100,000), the Ontario Trillium Foundation ($65,000) and SSLI (subject to ministry of Education approval: $55,000).

The plan for year 2, April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012 calls for an expenditure of $590,000 for the operations of PCYI with increased staffing as additional funds are confirmed. Plans for staffing will be careful and deliberate. The revenue sources are projected to be as follows:

United Way	$75,000
Region of Peel	$110,000
Ontario Trillium Foundation	$75,000
Student Support LI	$55,000
Membership	$110,000
Provincial Gov't	$100,000
Federal Gov't	$10,000
Foundations & Corporations	$55,000

Application for the funding listed will be made according to the budget cycles of each of the funders and be subject to their respective approval processes. PCYI is committed to obtaining a diverse source of funding on an on-going basis.

During the first year, PCYI will integrate its budget and staff with Success By 6 Peel. This will enable PCYI to ensure that the work of Success By 6 Peel will continue within an aligned and integrated context and that efficient use is made of all staff resources to accomplish the goals of Success by 6 Peel and PCYI.

As was the case with Success By 6 Peel it is anticipated that The Peel Children and Youth Initiative will be able to leverage further funding opportunities for additional and/or streamlined services which will enhance the range and depth of services available to Peel Children and Youth.

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4. Proposed Direction

The Peel District School Board and Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board have committed funding for one year to PCYI. In addition, the alignment of governance will prevent duplication among the three collaboratives.

Staff will report back on the PCYI strategic plan to further identify any gaps in violence prevention and to plan the Region's role in this work. Youth violence prevention will continue as a priority in the Region of Peel and past PYVPN members will provide representation on the PCYI Boards, Council of Champions, and Committees, while dissolving the existing steering committee. A plan for the Network to reconvene in six and 12 months time will ensure that the momentum and focus on youth violence prevention is sustained. Staff in Health Services are funded to implement youth violence prevention strategies and will continue to provide an annual report to Council.

It is recommended that funds be released to PCYI in the amount of $110,000 which will lead to more effective and efficient approaches and strategies across the age continuum for the health and well being of children and youth in Peel.

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Commissioner of Human Services

for Janette Smith
Commissioner of Health Services

Approved for Submission:

for D. Szwarc, Chief Administrative Officer

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