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DATE: March 12, 2012

REPORT TITLE: **PROCLAMATION - 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES IN PEEL**

FROM: Janet Menard, Commissioner of Human Services

RECOMMENDATION

That April 23, 2012 be proclaimed the 100th anniversary of Child Protection Services in the Regional Municipality of Peel.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The Children's Aid Society in the Region of Peel was established in 1912.
- April 23, 2012 marks the 100th anniversary of the inaugural Board Meeting of the Children's Aid Society on April 23, 1912.
- This proclamation and events throughout the year will build awareness and endorse the commitment to child protection and safety in our community.

DISCUSSION

1. Background

The Toronto Children's Aid Society (CAS) was formed in 1891 and was devoted to provide for and protect abused, neglected and orphaned children. Child protection and the Region of Peel have a long history together. In Peel, efforts to establish a CAS began in 1911, with the inaugural meeting held on April 23, 1912 in the City of Brampton. The first official Peel Children's Aid Society (Peel CAS) grant was passed on June 6, 1912 by the County Council for \$100. On January 1, 1974, the creation of the Region of Peel resulted in the Society's name change to "The Children's Aid Society of the Region of Peel."

Prominent members of the County and municipalities, including Mayors, Reeves, Councillors, County Wardens and Regional Chairs have been members of the Board since its first meeting. In 1998, the Province assumed 100 per cent funding of child protection services and council representatives were no longer required to sit on the Board.

2. Current Situation

Peel CAS protects children from abuse and neglect and helps parents and caregivers build healthy families. With the support of the community, they also work with families who may be facing challenges such as poverty, unemployment, ill health, domestic violence, mental

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health issues, or caring for a child who has a serious physical, emotional or developmental difficulty.

From April 2010 to March 2011, Peel CAS responded to 11,264 calls about children's safety and well-being from families, teachers, doctors and concerned citizens. Of these, 6,619 resulted in investigations of suspected child abuse and neglect. Additionally, Peel CAS served 8,366 families and placed 45 children with adoptive families.

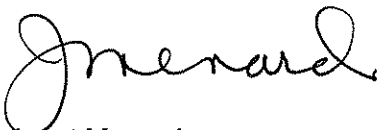
Also noteworthy, Peel CAS was the first child welfare organization in Canada to receive a Silver Award for Excellence, Innovation and Wellness from the prestigious Canada Awards for Excellence. As well, in May 2011, the agency won the Diversity in Governance Award when Diverse City on Board recognized Peel CAS for changing the face of leadership at the Board level by creating and maintaining an inclusive board of governance.

a) 100th Anniversary

To honour and build awareness of the long history of child protection in the Peel community, Peel CAS will be hosting a reception to mark the 100th anniversary of the first board meeting of Peel CAS on April 23, 2012. Moreover, all events held this year will have the 100 year theme.


CONCLUSION

The Region of Peel and child protection have a long standing history together. By proclaiming April 23, 2012 as the 100th anniversary of child protection services in the Region of Peel, Regional Council will build awareness in the community and reaffirm their commitment to the well-being and safety of children.



Janet Menard
Commissioner of Human Services

Approved for Submission:



D. Szwarc, Chief Administrative Officer

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c. Legislative Services

APPENDIX I

Proclamation

“100th ANNIVERSARY OF CHILD PROTECTION” IN PEEL

APRIL 23, 2012

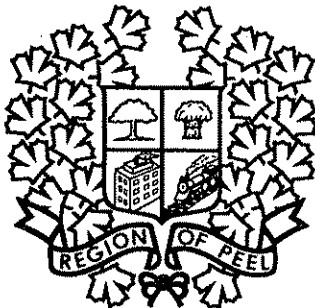
WHEREAS, April 23, 2012, will mark the 100-year anniversary of the first Board meeting of the Children’s Aid Society of the Region of Peel;

AND WHEREAS, this will mark the 100-year milestone in Peel’s history and build awareness of the long history of child protection in the community, as well as reaffirm Peel’s commitment to the well-being and safety of children;

AND WHEREAS, public education and prevention are the best ways to end the neglect and abuse of children;

AND WHEREAS, children are vital to the growth and spirit of communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that April 23, 2012, be proclaimed “100TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHILD PROTECTION” in the Regional Municipality of Peel.



Emil Kolb
Regional Chair