MINUTES

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF OTTAWA-CARLETON

CHAMPLAIN ROOM

21 NOVEMBER 1996

1:30 P.M.

<u>PRESENT</u>

Chair: M. Meilleur

Members: M. Bellemare, R. Cantin, L. Davis, D. Holmes, A. Loney, B. McGarry, A. Munter, D. Pratt

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

That the Community Services Committee confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of 17 October 1996

CARRIED

PRESENTATION TO MR. LUC LEGAULT, DIRECTOR, RESIDENTIAL SERVICES DIVISION, SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

The Social Services Commissioner, Dick Stewart, introduced Ms. Julie Fournier from the Addictions Research Foundation (A.R.F.). Ms. Fournier informed the Committee that, every year, the A.R.F. acknowledges and recognizes the exceptional contributions made by an individual to the addictions community by presenting that person with the Community Achievement Award. Ms. Fournier presented the award to Mr. Luc Legault, Director, Residential Services Division, for the key role he played in the redesign of addiction treatment services in Ottawa-Carleton. She noted that Mr. Legault had demonstrated high levels of integrity and leadership during this process.

Notes: 1. Underlining indicates new or amended recommendations approved by Committee.

2. Reports requiring Council consideration will be presented to Council on 11 December 1996 in Community Services Report Number 38.

Mr. Legault said he was pleased to accept the award because it honours the work of the community. He acknowledged the contribution made by Mr. Larry Arpeia, Project Officer. He noted that the 20 community organizations, the five funders and the two planning bodies (the A.R.F. and the District Health Council) involved in the process have positioned the community well to ensure that services to persons with addictions are targetted to the most needy.

Committee Chair M. Meilleur congratulated Mr. Legault on behalf of the Community Services Committee and she pointed to the significant contributions he has made in this important area.

REGULAR ITEMS

1. <u>YOUTH FUNDING</u>

- Commissioner, Social Services Department report dated 5 November 1996

That the Community Services Committee approve the allocation of \$92,407 for Youth Funding for 1997 as recommended by the Allocations Committee, and as described in Annex E.

CARRIED

2. <u>ONTARIO WORKS</u>

- Commissioner, Social Services Department report dated 28 October 1996

In his introductory comments, Commissioner D. Stewart spoke about a recent announcement made by the Minister of Community and Social Services, Ms. Janet Ecker, on the next phase of the Ontario Works program. Municipalities across Ontario will be required to have an approved Business Plan in place by 31 March 97 in order to be able to access a new, 100% provincial dollars transition fund to develop the Ontario Works initiative and, more importantly for the Social Services Department, to be able to retain the \$6 million dollars it currently receives in provincial subsidies for its employment programs. Mr. Stewart added this deadline does not represent a radical change to the department's proposed timeline, as a report on this matter was to be presented to the CSC on 20 March 97, with the department being in full compliance with provincial directives by mid-April 97.

The Director, Employment Programs Division, Mr. B. Crook, presented the staff report. He began by saying that, based on the department's initial analysis of the provincial guidelines and work-in-progress related to the Business Plan, it appears that concerns expressed by Committee members during earlier discussion of this item could be addressed within the provincial guidelines. Mr. Crook continued by saying the department believes it will be able to implement many principles of Ontario Works with its business restructuring program, Managing Towards Outcomes. He noted that Minister Ecker has expressed support for providing clients with maximum choice within the mandatory components of the guidelines by saying: "The idea behind Ontario Works is to create choices for people to get appropriate services to suit their needs. No single choice within (the program) is mandatory, (but) overall participation is a requirement for each participant".

Mr. Crook provided additional information related to employment support, employment placement and community participation, the three components of Ontario Works. He said it appears clients will have 12 basic choices and options for self-initiated choices within these components. On community involvement, the department will hold detailed consultations in December and focus group meetings in January based on each component with representatives of different sectoral groups.

Mr. Crook noted that the traditional funding approach of Conditional Grants is to be replaced by grants contingent on the performance of certain activities, i.e., the department will be paid a certain amount per placement. The business plan will be submitted with financial targets in place, however the piece-work approach will represent a challenge, with reporting and tracking having to be more detailed. Mr. Crook said there is also the issue of whether or not unit prices will be sufficient to cover costs and the experience of the first sites will be advantageous to the department.

In response to a suggestion from Councillor A. Munter, Mr. Crook said both he and Commissioner Stewart have participated, and will continue to participate when invited to do so, in the many consultations related to Ontario Works in the area.

Councillor Munter asked whether the RMOC is obliged to deliver employment programs. Commissioner Stewart indicated Council could elect not to deliver these programs. He advised that in the Spring session of the legislature, the Province will enact new legislation that will collapse General Welfare Assistance (GWA) and Family Benefits Assistance (FBA) into one program incorporating employment programs. He added that the Who Does What Panel is discussing an integrated package of social services and child care and emergency shelters services are currently under review.

Councillor M. Bellemare asked whether staff had any suggestions about how to handle the decreasing availability of placements as positions get filled. Mr. Crook replied there are regulatory issues around choice, scarcity of resources and availability of placement. He noted that the department has taken steps to increase its own employment programs by developing Employment Resource Centres: these units are serving many more clients with short-term, modular groups and an approach known as assisted self-help.

Councillor Bellemare expressed some confusion about safeguards built into the Employment Placement component to avoid replacing paid jobs with unpaid work. He asked what would happen to a placement after its 6-month duration. Mr. Crook replied a sequential placement would be possible.

Councillor Bellemare suggested it may be worthwhile to put in place a community evaluation panel with participation from the Board of Trade and the Economic Development Corporation (OCEDCO) to monitor whether paid jobs are being replaced. Both Commissioner Stewart and Mr. Crook agreed this was a good suggestion, the latter adding that, where labour unions are in place, the guidelines require that placements not contravene collective agreements. In addition, several municipalities have requested that staff associations sign a document saying they agree with the placement. The situation of non-unionized locations has not been addressed.

Public Delegations

<u>Mr. David Welch, Vice-President, Social Planning Council of Ottawa-Carleton</u> read from a joint statement on behalf of several community partners which focused on the community placement component of Ontario Works. Mr. Welch noted almost 200 persons attended a community forum on Workfare on 10 Sep 96 and more recently, two workshops on the implications of workfare for the voluntary sector were held. Mr. Welch focused on the following key points:

- concerns about whether the Social Services Department is truly committed to working in partnerships with community agencies and clients;
- concerns about whether there will be controls in place and an ongoing process of monitoring and evaluation re: "minimum requirements being met";

Mr. Welch drew attention to the following specific points:

- who will benefit from mandatory community placements;
- there will be severe sanctions if welfare recipients no not perform adequately in placements;
- there are frightening legal implications: is the RMOC prepared to indemnify agencies against possible lawsuits?

Mr. Welch cited a Workfare Watch Bulletin which describes a number of problems encountered by first sites municipalities in implementing workfare and which note there is a high degree of community reluctance to participate in the program. He concluded his presentation by saying that the SPC, along with other community partners, will continue to monitor what is happening across the Province and to inform the community on this issue. The complete text of Mr. Welch's presentation, along with supporting documents provided by the SPC, is on file with the Co-ordinator.

Commissioner Stewart, responding to comments from the previous speaker, reiterated the department believes it has the opportunity to provide service to its clients acknowledging client choice and individual service to meet their needs. He added that the department is totally committed to community partnerships and that it would be regrettable if community partners did not want to participate in the process. Commissioner Stewart clarified, in response to questions from Councillor Munster, that the Area Office of MSCC has indicated, in writing, that there is no intent to reduce transfer payments to public agencies who do not participate in Ontario Works, nor is this the intent of the Social Services department.

Sandy Miller, Canadian Mental Health Association, Ottawa-Carleton Branch,

Ms. Miller said there are persons with mental illnesses who, for a number of reasons, elect to receive GWA as opposed to FBA, and there are concerns about what will happen to those persons under Ontario Works. She expressed the view that the ongoing review by the Province of the definition of disability may result in those persons having to participate in the program. She pointed out that the nature of mental illness is episodic and exacerbated by stress; forcing an individual to participate without the assurances of choice and flexibility, and with the fear of losing their assistance if they don't meet requirements, could aggravate that person's illness. Ms. Miller said she questioned what would be the benefits of voluntary participation to persons on FBA, as many already do voluntary work and they are fearful their benefits might be put at risk.

Commissioner Stewart, speaking to the redefinition of disability, posited the net result may be a narrower definition in Ontario. He clarified a feature of local discretion is that the social assistance administrator can exempt people who would otherwise be obliged to participate for stated reasons and those persons described by the previous speaker would not necessarily be obliged to participate. With regard to the voluntary participation of persons on FBA or of sole support parents, Mr. Stewart said the department now has thousands of people in those categories in its employment programs and is committed to maintaining this level of service. These individuals may wish to participate because it is valuable to them and they may see this as an opportunity for job placement or for future employment.

In response to questions from Councillor D. Holmes, Commissioner Stewart speculated that approximately 20,000 clients might be expected to participate in Ontario Works, out of a current caseload of 27,000: community placements may be in the hundreds as opposed to the thousands.

That the Community Services Committee receive this report for information.

3. <u>FINANCIAL STATUS-HOME CARE PROGRAM</u>

- Director, Home Care Program report dated 25 October 1996

Councillor A. Loney said it appears to still be the case that the Home Care budget is being underspent. He noted that staff should not be chastised for coming in under-budget, but it needs to be pointed out that, with hospital beds being lost, seeing negligible changes in the homemaking and nursing care is a concern as it sends the message the Region is getting along with less home care. The Councillor posited the entire budget should be utilized and additional dollars should be requested as a trade-off for hospital bed closures. He said he felt it should be conveyed there are widening gaps in service and these should be covered to some degree: as long as home care is still within the RMOC's control, staff should push for spending funds appropriately, wisely and for the benefit and health of Ottawa-Carleton residents.

Moved by A. Munter

That Regional Home Care staff be directed to ensure that home care service levels are sufficient to accommodate the closure of hospital beds and the shift of services out of hospitals and into the community sector and private homes.

CARRIED

That the Community Services Committee receive this report for information.

RECEIVED

4. RESPONSE TO CSC INQUIRY # 25 THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT <u>OF CHANGES IN ACCESS TO ALCOHOL IN ONTARIO</u> - Acting Medical Officer of Health report dated 05 November 1996

At the outset, Councillor R. Cantin declared a possible Conflict of Interest on this matter. Councillor Cantin did not participate in the discussion, nor vote on this matter.

The Vice-Chair, Councillor A. Loney, speaking on behalf of Committee members, welcomed the recently-appointed Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Robert Cushman, to his first Community Services Committee meeting.

Dr. Cushman began by saying it was his view this issue is mis-framed, since it is not about privatization in the sense of "who does what better" or private versus public, but rather about fast alcohol akin to fast food. Dr. Cushman warned that having readily-available alcohol at corner stores at all hours will have grave societal impacts. He pointed out that alcohol is a major cause of disease as well as a major component of, and contributor to, problems such as teen pregnancy and motor vehicle accidents and deaths. He spoke about the situation in the Province of Québec where public health officials were unable to reverse privatization, get alcohol out of the "dépaneurs" and limit the hours of availability because the interests of the status quo were firmly entrenched. He ended his remarks by saying that the family and social fabrics are delicate and once they collapse or are crushed, it is difficult to restore them.

Dr. Cushman introduced Mr. Michael McCullough, Substance Abuse Co-ordinator, Regional Health Department, who began by saying that alcohol use is second only to smoking as the greatest preventable cause of premature death and is a major factor in preventable injuries. He cited several major research studies that conclude that increased access to alcohol does make a difference in the amount that people drink, in the amount of alcohol-related harm and which warrant caution around accessibility.

Mr. McCullough highlighted the following factors that directly impact the consumption of alcohol:

- <u>Price and taxation levels</u>: alcohol is price-elastic, i.e., when prices decrease, consumption increases, especially among young people (the example of cigarette prices was cited);
- <u>Access by minors and intoxicated people</u>: in 1994-95, the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO)'s Challenge and Refusal Program challenged 230,000 persons, refusing sales to approximately 45,000 (the Health Department believes this is a starting point);
- <u>Number and location of retail outlets</u>: research in other jurisdictions has shown there is a positive relationship between the number of outlets and the amount people drink. In the United States, alcohol outlets have displaced other retail stores, especially in low income communities, and there has been a positive relationship to violence and crime. In Ottawa-Carleton some groups indicated low-income areas already under stress, felt would be unable or ready to handle additional outlets in those communities.

The following delegations were heard:

Ms. Sue MacMurray, Director, Addictions Assessment Services of Ottawa-Carleton

Ms. MacMurray began by saying the agency sees well over 1000 clients per year. There has been an increase in the numbers of youth between 10 and 14 years of age and the tragic, emotional costs to them and their families; youth between the ages of 16 to 18 are particularly vulnerable to automobile accidents which are closely related to alcohol use. She spoke about the mentally ill and people who have been physically and sexually abused, noting these persons have a greater propensity to drink and abuse substances and there are street people who have mental illnesses and alcohol problems. Privatization will mean more available and sometimes cheaper booze and this will not help this population.

Ms. MacMurray said it can be unequivocally stated that the privatization of alcohol sales will be extremely harmful to the population at large, to neighbourhoods and to people who use addictions assessment services.. The Addictions Research Foundation (ARF) has stated that people are now drinking more and the trend is rising. In addition, more easy access to alcohol leads to increased consumption and alcohol-related damage. A survey done by the ARF in Ontario found that 70% of the population is not in favour of increased access and is satisfied with the present system.

Ms. MacMurray spoke about the fact there are not enough inspectors to monitor the additional outlets and it is unlikely the Province will hire more. The burden will fall on municipalities through increased police activity, more accidents, violence, crime and detoxification centres.. She urged the Committee to take a stand against privatization and to affirm the importance of broad and extensive consultations with the community on this issue.

Ms. Susan McNabb, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)

Ms. McNabb said MADD Canada's position is as follows:

- 1. The proposed changes to the mandate of the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) will further erode the inadequate regulations in place to reduce death and disability due to impaired driving in Ontario. The following statistics have been provided by the Ministry of Transportation (Ontario) for 1993:
 - there were 13,.616 alcohol-related crashes equivalent to 1.5 alcohol-related crashes per hour;
 - the social costs of vehicle collisions was \$9 billion requiring 150,000 days of hospital care, 38,000 ambulance calls and 8,000 hours of police time;

- figures from the Attorney General's Office indicate that 33% of fatal motorcycle and 74% of fatal snowmobile accidents involved alcohol; over 30,000 are drivers charged with impaired driving annually, making this the single largest criminal cause of death, three times greater than the murder rate.
- 2. Alcohol should be sold only by trained servers who are not commissioned sellers or owners; introducing sales through local stores will further reduce control mechanisms in place. The enforcement of regulations surrounding alcohol sales has resulted in 40,000 refusals to sell to patrons obviously intoxicated or under-age clients at LCBO outlets.

The sale and marketing of alcohol have continued to increase availability. The promotion of lifestyle advertising and the introduction of high-strength products, agency stores, extended hours and credit-card purchases have all increased while there has been a significant reduction in safety concerns by governments. Resources for police enforcement have been cut, the number of inspectors for liquor licences has been cut (there are only 38 inspectors for 16,000 licensed businesses in Ontario).

Ms. McNabb concluded her presentation by saying that, for MADD, the number of victims needing support is ever increasing. With 1.5 Ontarians killed every day in alcohol-related crashes and countless more maimed and injured, governments have to ensure responsible service standards for beverage alcohol are increased, not decreased. This view is shared by agencies such as the Traffic Injury Research Foundation, Concerns Canada, the Canadian Centre for Substance Abuse and the Addictions Research Foundation of Ontario. Privatization should not take precedence over the health and safety of precious human lives.

Councillor D. Pratt spoke about research he did on licensed premises and the service of food and alcohol. He found that 40% of the facilities did not observe regulations; furthermore, there are only two inspectors in Ottawa-Carleton for 700-1000 establishments. He asked what kind of increased enforcement MADD would you like to see. Ms. McNabb replied MADD have no number in mind, however the actual numbers are too low. If there is an increase in the number of outlets, there will need to be a much higher ratio of inspector per premise. The premises should be inspected at least once a month, if not more often.

Simon Guillemet, Program Consultant, Addiction Research Foundation

Mr. Guillemet began by saying that any new approach to alcohol sales should be tempered with an appreciation of the current system in Ontario and an evaluation of what might be lost in adopting a private system. Although a private system may operate at the same level in principle, in practice it could result in an erosion of the procedures that protect the public from inappropriate service. Systematic surveys of Ontario adults conducted by the ARF and comments heard at public events suggest that the movement to dismantle the current system does not come from the public at large and that the majority of Ontarians want to see the status quo maintained.

Mr. Guillemet pointed to a number of additional changes which might be expected:

- an increase in nuisance complaints and illegal activity associated with the higher density of liquor outlets under private ownership and management
- an increase in the number of drinking outlets
- increased concentration of outlets in inner city areas
- 1 longer hours and days of sale
- a reduction in attention to public health and public order
- lower selectivity at point of purchase at retail outlets
- possibility of increased prices for higher volume beverages and decreased prices for lower volume, prestige brands.

The following statistics were highlighted:

- half of respondents in recent surveys want alcohol taxes to remain the same;
- 86% stated that beer or liquor store hours should remain the same or decrease;
- 28% favour the sale of alcoholic beverages in corner stores;
- 80% want efforts to prevent drunken customers from being served increased;
- 78% believe alcoholic beverages should have labels warning about possible health hazards.

Mr. Guillemet put forward the view that the proposal to privatize retail sales in Ontario has led to many open public discussions on the issue; this should be encouraged in light of the acceptance of drinking in Ontario and of the level of damage caused by drink-related experiences. The public discussion has led a number of individuals and groups to reflect on their attitudes to alcohol use and to drink-related problems and has stimulated communication among groups that might not be considered natural partners. It has also led to an increased awareness of the benefits of the current system of liquor management in Ontario.

Mr. John Coones, representing the Employees Union, Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO)

Mr. Coones said the LCBO maintains the dual mandate of balancing revenue generation with social responsibility. He noted that approximately 250,000 customers annually are turned away and refused service because they are under-aged or intoxicated. He pointed out that "modernising" liquor sales often means privatization or "Americanization". He quoted from a study compiled for the National Conference of State Legislatures which compared "open" states (where alcohol sales are privatized) to "controlled" states and found that:

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- motor vehicle fatalities in open states are 33% higher
- violent crime per 100,000 population is 86% higher
- the rate of alcohol-related mortality due to Cirrhosis of the Liver per 100,000 population was 13% higher
- homicides are 75% higher.
- in West Virginia, an open state, the number of drinking and driving arrests for underaged persons was 1,841 compared to 1,200 in Pennsylvania, a controlled state.

Some Canadian statistics include:

- 6,701 lives lost in 1992 as a result of alcohol;
- 908 alcohol-related suicides in 1994;
- 960 deaths by Cirrhosis of the Liver in 1994;
- hospital admissions related to alcohol in 1992 were 86,076, with 1,140,106 days spent in hospitals: related costs represent \$265 @ person @ year.

Mr. Coones said the Province should be building on the strengths of the LCBO. He pointed out that, in Alberta, the number of Inspectors was reduced by 29% and they were also given the added responsibility of inspecting video lottery games. The introduction of video lottery games in Ontario will dramatically increase the Inspectors' workloads. In light of the number of existing licensed premises and the present number of inspectors, licensees can expect inspections approximately once every six years. Mr. Coones concluded by saying that once alcohol sales have been privatized, there will be no turning back, and this is the reason why it is important that the matter be given careful thought and extensive consultation.

Representatives of the West Side Youth Against Crime

<u>Malika</u>, spoke on behalf of a group first formed as Minority Youth Against Crime, which involves youth between the ages of 15 and 19 who want to make a difference in the community. She said the group meets regularly and discussions focus on alcohol and drug addiction and the effects they have on youth. She provided copies of the group's Awareness Flyer for youth and parents.

<u>Simone</u> said youth believe the Province should be very careful about making changes_to the way alcohol is sold. She expressed concern about alcohol being available in corner stores or in other places where young people hang out, noting this is not the way it should be. She pointed out that young people are already dropping out of school because of family problems and peer pressure and easier access to alcohol will add to these numbers.

<u>Jean Gagné, Action Anti drogue de Vanier</u>, spoke about the impact privatization has had elsewhere in North America, especially on at-risk populations. He posited that an increase in points of sale and a probable decrease in price due to competition will ensure there is increased consumption on the part of alcoholics and youth. Mr. Gagné spoke about the Alberta experience, noting that, in 1994, the demand for treatment for aboriginal youth increased by 245%. He pointed out there is a large percentage of aboriginal youth in the City of Vanier, and there are concerns about the impact privatization will have on this group. Mr. Gagné said he wondered whether an increase in point of sale outlets would bring increases in thefts, car accidents, violence, vandalism and in health care costs in general. He asked whether private operators would be as responsible as the LCBO currently is if the price of alcohol is deregulated or whether they would be attracted by higher profits.

Committee Discussion

Councillor A. Munter thanked staff for the worked performed in response to his inquiry, for the extensive consultation within the community and he thanked those persons who have come forward today. He expressed the belief the report recommendations need to clearly state that the RMOC is against the privatization of alcohol sales in Ontario for the reasons outlined in the report. The Councillor said he did not want to see a repetition of the Video Lottery Machines legislation, where the Province's trade-off has been to earmark a few more dollars for the prevention of gambling. He said it needs to be clearly stated that Council represents a community where there is not large-scale support for the privatization of alcohol sales.

Councillor Munter put forth the view it would be a tragedy to deregulate the sale of alcohol so that beer and wine are as easy to buy as tobacco. He spoke about the eloquent presentation by Mothers Against Drunk Driving on behalf of parents and others prepared to go a bit further to buy alcohol if it means their children are protected from its negative consequences. The Councillor posited there is no public good in privatization and in increasing the availability of alcohol.

Councillor D. Pratt proposed there be a supplementary recommendation, asking that additional inspectors be hired. He spoke about a survey he had done of 50% of bars at the time the Province allowed increased hours of sale for licensed establishments. He noted that, at that time, he called the Liquor Licensing Board asking whether they were going to remind licensees about the requirements to serve food during those additional hours. He expressed concern at having received a negative answer, and had concluded that the decision about extending the hours had come rapidly and without much consultation and consideration. Councillor Pratt said he thought that, without appropriate the number of inspectors going into licensed premises, the level of compliance required would not be achieved and that more work, and more frequent inspections, have to be done.

Moved by A. Munter

That the following be substituted for Recommendation 1 (of the staff report):

1. That Council communicate to the Premier, the Minister of Health and the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relation that it does not support the privatization and deregulation of alcohol sales and urge that priority be given to public, health and safety concerns in the consideration of any changes;

Moved by A. Loney

- 2. Forward this report, including letters submitted by the community, to other health units, other large municipalities and the Premier, Minister of Health, and the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations;
- 3. Recommend to the Premier, Minister of Health and the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations that any changes to the current system of alcohol sales include:
 - a) A broad and extensive consultation;
 - b) Recognition of the importance of investment in prevention, treatment and enforcement;
 - c) The maintenance of current taxation and price levels;
 - d) Effective controls on the sale of alcohol to underage and intoxicated persons including mandatory skills training for staff, frequent inspection, enforcement and deterrent penalties;
 - e) Awareness of the potential public health impact of changes in outlet density and hours of sale.

Moved by D. Pratt

4. That the provincial government undertake to hire additional liquor licence inspectors to allow for more frequent inspections and conduct a special effort to ensure full compliance with the Ontario Liquor Licensing Board food service regulations.

CARRIED as amended

5. RESPONSE TO CSC INQUIRY # 28 - ILLEGAL TOBACCO SALES TO MINORS

- Acting Medical Officer of Health report dated 11 October 1996

That the Community Services Committee receive this report for information.

RECEIVED

OTHER BUSINESS

6. <u>TOBACCO LEGISLATION</u>

Councillor A. Loney asked leave of the Committee to introduce a Motion expressing concern about the delay on the part of the federal Minister of Health in introducing legislation related to tobacco product advertising. Councillor D. Holmes pointed out that the Community Services Committee is on record, over the past several years, as being concerned with the sale of tobacco products to minors and about the drop in taxation of tobacco products, therefor it is appropriate to put forward this Motion. The Medical Officer of Health, Dr. R. Cushman, expressed support on behalf of the Health Department.

That Regional Council communicate with the Prime Minister of Canada, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Health and all area MPs to express its disappointment and deep concern with the unconscionable and indefinite delay in introducing new Tobacco Legislation to regulate and control advertising and promotion of tobacco products.

CARRIED

INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY DISTRIBUTED

- 1. STATUS OF THE COMMUNITY CARE ACCESS CENTRE (CCAC) <u>TRANSITION</u>
 - Acting Medical Officer of Health report dated 13 November 1996
- 2. UPDATE ON PROPOSED REGIONAL SMOKING IN THE WORKPLACE BY-LAW

- Acting Medical Officer of Health report dated 17 October 1996

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

CHAIR

CO-ORDINATOR