

Etobicoke Safety Committees

(City Council on July 4, 5 and 6, 2000, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)

The Policy and Finance Committee recommends the adoption of the following Recommendation embodied in the communication (May 25, 2000) from the Co-Chairs, Task Force on Community Safety:

“It is recommended that the recommendations of the Etobicoke Community Council respecting the Etobicoke Safety Committees be adopted subject to Recommendation No. (2) being amended to read as follows:

“(2) the Grants Sub-Committee be requested to review an application from the Etobicoke Safety Committees;”,

so that the Recommendations of the Etobicoke Community Council now read as follows:

“(1) a new organization be established to be known as the Etobicoke Safe Community Association (ESCA), comprised of five citizen representatives of each of the three existing community safety groups; (Crime S.C.O.P.E., Etobicoke Safety Council, Toronto Crime Prevention Association), and one representative of each of the following:

- Etobicoke Community Council;**
- Toronto District School Board;**
- Toronto Catholic District School Board;**
- Toronto Police Service;**
- Toronto Fire Service;**
- Community Social Planning Council of Toronto; and**
- Crime Concerns;**

(2) the Grants Sub-Committee be requested to review an application from the Etobicoke Safety Committees;

(3) the Association liaise with the Etobicoke Community Council in an advisory and advocacy capacity in the development of community programs to increase the safety consciousness of the public, government, business and industrial sectors of the Etobicoke

community, including, but not limited to:

- (i) traffic safety;**
 - (ii) local crime prevention;**
 - (iii) safe, clean neighbourhoods (vandalism/gangs); and**
 - (iv) high priority issues that may occur from time to time, such as drug dealing/abuse, housing standards, etc.; and**
- (4) the Association continue to avail itself of the outside financial and advisory resources available to existing groups”.**

The Policy and Finance Committee submits the following communication (May 25, 2000) from the Co-Chairs, Task Force on Community Safety:

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the recommendations of the Etobicoke Community Council respecting the Etobicoke Safety Committees be adopted subject to Recommendation No. (2) being amended to read as follows:

- “(2) the Grants Sub-Committee be requested to review an application from the Etobicoke Safety Committees;”.

Background:

The Task Force on Community Safety at an informal meeting held on May 8, 2000, had before it a communication (October 14, 1999) from the City Clerk advising that the Etobicoke Community Council on October 13, 1999, referred a report (September 28, 1999) from Councillor Bruce Sinclair, Chair, Special Advisory Committee, respecting the “Etobicoke Safety Committees” to the Task Force on Community Safety for consideration.

Due to a lack of quorum the members of the Task Force on Community Safety present requested its Co-Chairs to forward the foregoing recommendation to the Policy and Finance Committee for consideration and recommendation thereon to Council.

(Communication dated October 14, 1999, addressed to the Task Force on Community Safety from the City Clerk)

The Etobicoke Community Council at its meeting held on October 13, 1999, referred the report (September 28, 1999) from Councillor Bruce Sinclair, Chair, Special Advisory Committee, to the Task Force on Community Safety for consideration.

Background:

The Etobicoke Community Council had before it a report (September 28, 1999) from Councillor Bruce Sinclair, Chair, Special Advisory Committee, advising of the findings of the Advisory Committee's review and making recommendations for a new comprehensive structure for community safety and improvement in Etobicoke; and recommending that:

- (1) a new organization be established to be known as the Etobicoke Safe Community Association (ESCA), comprised of five citizen representatives of each of the three existing community safety groups; (Crime S.C.O.P.E., Etobicoke Safety Council, Toronto Crime Prevention Association), and one representative of each of the following:
 - (i) Etobicoke Community Council;
 - (ii) Toronto District School Board;
 - (iii) Toronto Catholic District School Board;
 - (iv) Toronto Police Service;
 - (v) Toronto Fire Service;
 - (vi) Community Social Planning Council of Toronto; and
 - (vii) Crime Concerns.
 - (2) an annual grant be provided by Toronto City Council;
 - (3) the Association liaise with the Etobicoke Community Council in an advisory and advocacy capacity in the development of community programs to increase the safety consciousness of the public, government, business and industrial sectors of the Etobicoke community, including, but not limited to:
 - (i) traffic safety;
 - (ii) local crime prevention;
 - (iii) safe, clean neighbourhoods (vandalism/gangs); and
 - (iv) high priority issues that may occur from time to time, such as drug dealing/abuse, housing standards, etc.; and
 - (4) the Association continue to avail itself of the outside financial and advisory resources available to existing groups.
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(Report dated September 28, 1999, addressed to
Etobicoke Community Council
from Councillor Bruce Sinclair)

Purpose:

To advise Etobicoke Community Council of the findings of the special advisory committee to review and make recommendations for a new comprehensive structure for community safety and improvement in Etobicoke.

Funding Sources, Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

An annual grant in an amount to be determined but not less than \$25,000.00. Funding presently committed to the Etobicoke Safety Council and Crime S.C.O.P.E. would be incorporated under one umbrella.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) a new organization be established to be known as the Etobicoke Safe Community Association (ESCA), comprised of 5 citizen representatives of each of the three existing community safety groups; (Crime S.C.O.P.E., Safety Council, Toronto Crime Prevention Association), and one representative of each of the following:
 - (i) Etobicoke Community Council;
 - (ii) Toronto District School Board;
 - (iii) Toronto Catholic District School Board;
 - (iv) Toronto Police Service;
 - (v) Toronto Fire Service;
 - (vi) Community Social Planning Council of Toronto; and
 - (vii) Crime Concerns.
- (2) an annual grant be provided by Toronto City Council;
- (3) the Association liaise with the Etobicoke Community Council in an advisory and advocacy capacity in the development of community programs to increase the safety consciousness of the public, government, business and industrial sectors of the Etobicoke community, including, but not limited to:

- (i) traffic safety;
 - (ii) local crime prevention;
 - (iii) safe, clean neighbourhoods (vandalism/gangs);
 - (iv) high priority issues that may occur from time to time, such as drug dealing/abuse, housing standards, etc.
- (4) the Association continue to avail itself of the outside financial and advisory resources available to existing groups.

Background:

City Council, on March 2, 3 and 4, 1999, had for consideration Clause No. 7 embodied in Report No. 2 of the Emergency and Protective Services Committee headed **A**Rationalization of Six Existing Committees and the Task Force on Community Safety@ which was amended, in part, as follows:

At the following recommendation be referred to the Etobicoke Community Council for consideration:

It is recommended that the functions of the Etobicoke Safety Council, the Etobicoke Crime S.C.O.P.E. and the Toronto (formerly Etobicoke) Crime Prevention Association be transferred to the City's Cycling and Pedestrian Committees to promote traffic safety issues in the City of Toronto.' "

At the request of the Toronto Cycling Committee consideration of the Recommendation respecting the transfer of functions of the Etobicoke and also the East York Safety Council to the Toronto Cycling Committee and the Toronto Pedestrian Committee, was deferred to the Etobicoke Community Council meeting held on April 28, 1999.

At its April 28, 1999 meeting, received submissions from the Chairs of the Etobicoke Safety Council and Crime S.C.O.P.E., a representative of the Toronto Cycling Committee and the President of the Toronto Crime Prevention Association. The Etobicoke Community Council recommended as follows:

- (1) that the functions of the Etobicoke Safety Council, Etobicoke Crime S.C.O.P.E. and the Toronto Crime Prevention Association not be transferred to the Toronto Cycling Committee and the Toronto Pedestrian Committee; and further that in areas of common interest, these Committees continue to work cooperatively with the aforementioned groups; and
- (2) the adoption, as amended, of the following Motion by Councillor Bruce Sinclair, Rexdale-Thistletown:

Therefore Be It Resolved That a special advisory committee, composed of Councillor Bruce Sinclair, Mr. John Reble, Etobicoke Community legal advisor, or his

representative, and the Etobicoke Community Council Administrator, be constituted as an investigative committee to recommend to Council, at the earliest possible opportunity, a new comprehensive structure for community safety and improvement in Etobicoke.@

The foregoing recommendations were adopted by City Council on May 11 and 12, 1999, without amendment.

The special advisory committee feels strongly that there should be a community based organization to identify local issues; however, issues addressed by the three existing groups do overlap and can become fragmented, particularly if the same resource staff are required to assist all three. If it is to be an organization with volunteer members not officially appointed by Council, it is important that it be given sufficient funding to provide for support staff, supplies and facilities, as well as support for special projects. A minimum of \$25,000.00 has been suggested. The special advisory committee is not in a position, however, to determine exactly what this support would entail in terms of funding.

With respect to the Toronto Crime Prevention Association, the advisory committee suggests that it be encouraged to work with the new organization; however, the Toronto Crime Prevention Association is an incorporated group and it may wish to remain independent.

The special advisory committee has discussed the recommendations with representatives of Crime S.C.O.P.E. and the Etobicoke Safety Council, and a copy has been provided to the Toronto Crime Prevention Association.

(A copy of the Appendix attached to the foregoing report was forwarded to all Members of Council with the June 22, 2000, agenda of the Policy and Finance Committee and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk).