

APPENDIX H – OTHER ANNUAL SERVICE CONTRACTS

a) Mental Health Program Services of Metropolitan Toronto - Habitat Services

Habitat Services is a housing and support subsidy program that is cost-shared by the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care and the City of Toronto. On an annual basis the program provides a housing subsidy for up to 931 units of private and not-for-profit boarding homes and rooming houses for people with psychiatric illnesses. The subsidy is based upon a per diem rate which is adjusted according to each individual tenant's income.

The 2009 Operating Budget Submission also includes up to \$8.676 million (gross)/\$1.737 million (net), for Habitat Services. This represents a 2% increase from 2008. The Province administers funding for this program on a capped annualized budget. The Province has increased its funding on annual basis for this program over the last 2 years. The Province has confirmed a 2% increase to their portion of the funding.

b) Toronto Hostel Training Centre

The Toronto Hostels Training Centre (THTC) was created in 1997, following the recommendations made by a Coroner's jury regarding the need for staff training in hostels. The City of Toronto provides \$198,000 in annual funding to provide specialized training and associated services in a cost effective manner for the staff and board members of shelters and others working with homeless people. The Centre offers all of the mandatory training required in the Toronto Shelter Standards.

On an annual basis City operated shelters purchase training from the Toronto Hostels Training Centre in order to meet the training requirements under the Shelter Standards. The rates are reasonable and range from \$35-\$55 per day, per person, per course. Given the specialized training, purchasing limits and requirements related to sole source contracts, Hostel Services is seeking the authority to continue to purchase training from the Centre subject to the approval of the 2009 Operating Budget – up to \$42,000.

b) Motel Contracts

The City of Toronto contracts with motels to provide spaces for families when the regular permanent shelter system is at or near capacity. The motel program is administered through two directly operated shelters, Family Residence and Birkdale Residence. At the present time the City works with four motels in Scarborough (3 in Ward 44 and one in Ward 36). In 2008 and year to date (as of October 19th, 2008) the average number of people staying in the motels including children on a nightly basis was 319.

The costs for this program up to \$ 1.172 million, are included in the 2009 Shelter, Support and Housing Administration Operating Budget Submission, and subject to Council approval.