



# District of Sault Ste. Marie

## Social Services Administration Board

- Ontario Works
- Child Care
- Social Housing
- Land Ambulance

### COMMUNITY CHILD CARE COMMITTEE

Minutes for the meeting held Thursday, August 21, 2003

Korah Boardroom, 3rd Level, Civic Centre at 1:30pm

Present:	L. Turco	W. Pickard
Staff:	F. Lake	Jim Crawford
DSSMSSAB Staff:	K. Streich-Poser	A. Nanne (notes)
Regrets:	D. Amaroso	P. Mick
	A. McRae	D. Overboe

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Committee Chair, Lou Turco

#### 1. Review of Minutes from the Thursday, May 15, 2003 Community Child Care Committee Meeting.

The minutes were reviewed and accept by the Committee.

#### 2. 2003 Service Contract

Andy and Florence submitted the 2003 Budget to MCFCS for the new Service Contract. The budget is almost exactly the same as the 2002 Budget, which has not had any financial or monetary changes since 2000. A lack of salary and benefit changes has helped them to maintain the current budget.

#### 3. Wage Subsidy Plan / Pay Equity

The Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services have applied the Pay Equity act for Municipal Child Care Workers retroactive to 1998. It has yet to be determined what the financial implications will be and what the DSSAB's cost obligation will be. Florence is currently gathering the necessary information to determine this.

Florence provided background on the legislation and there was discussion regarding the Ministry's financial obligations as DSSABs were not responsible for Child Care pre 2000. Child Care Services will also need to budget for future pay increases related to pay equity and this may have implications for future budget levels.

#### **4. Health & Safety – Update**

The review of funds approved in 2002 have now been reconciled. The service providers must cover any and all budget shortfalls however these expenditures are usually considered to be money well spent.

#### **5. Children's Rehabilitation Centre – Update**

Community Child Care is once again addressing the proposal brought forward to the MCFCS regarding the Children's Rehabilitation Centre. The proposal will allow the funds currently being used from the NCBS program to be reallocated to other programs.

#### **6. Other Business**

Impact of August 14, 2003 Power Outage: Due to the time of the recent Power interruption, only one (1) day nursery was affected. The Waterfront Child Develop Centre staff and children was not allowed back into their building after the power failure because the air conditioning was not turned in efforts to conserve energy and there was concern for the children. Florence contacted the Building manager, who agreed to allow the Centre to continue operating. The Waterfront Child Develop Centre is exercising energy conservation.

The summer student from Lake Superior State University completed her work term. She did a tremendous amount of work and has been very productive and helpful.

Community Child Care is focusing efforts on having minimal user fees for everyone. There are three (3) child care suppliers (YMCA, Municipal & Child Care Algoma) and all are moving to the minimum \$2.90 user fee. The market maximum fee is \$36.25 per day. Clients may not always have a choice which day care they choose due to waiting lists and limited availability in many of the centres

Community Child Care is waiting to see what impact full day Senior Kindergarten will have on daycare enrolment.

#### **7. Schedule Next Meeting – November 2003**

The next Community Child Care Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 2003 at 10:30 a.m.

#### **8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.