



Program Activity Report

to the

Community Services and Housing Committee

**For the Period
of**

January to December 2008

Employment & Financial Support

Table 1

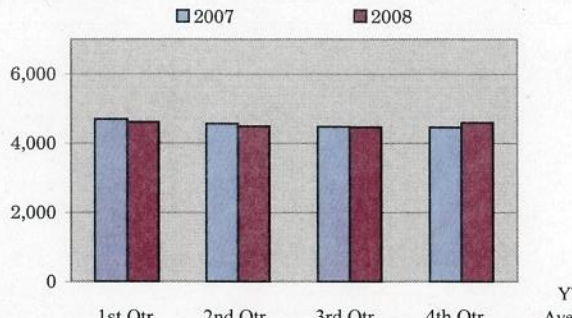
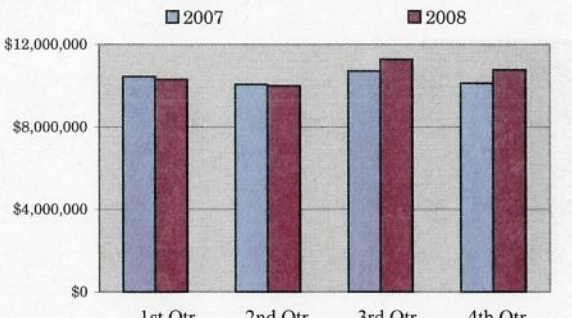
Average Caseload						Gross Expenditures for Client Allowances & Benefits					
											
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD Average		1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Cumulative YTD
2007	4,689	4,560	4,467	4,447	4,541	2007	10,437,905	10,046,721	10,698,776	10,118,875	\$41,302,277
2008	4,609	4,488	4,460	4,583	4,535	2008	10,304,375	9,990,910	11,269,080	10,768,223	\$42,332,588
Increase (Decrease)	(80)	(72)	(7)	136	(6)	Increase (Decrease)	(133,530)	(55,811)	570,304	649,348	\$1,030,311
% Variance	(1.7%)	(1.6%)	(0.2%)	3.1%	(0.1%)	% Variance	(1.3%)	(0.6%)	5.3%	6.4%	2.5%

Table 2

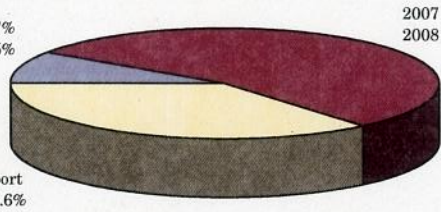
Caseload Profile				
		Year To Date 2007	Year To Date 2008	% Variance
	Average # of Individuals Served Each Month	8,424	8,326	(1.2%)
	Average Time on Assistance in Months	14.2	13.6	(4.6%)
	Average Gross Cost Per Case	\$757.99	\$777.93	2.6%

Table 3

Emergency Shelter Program	Year To Date 2007	Year To Date 2008	% Variance
Monthly Average # of Clients Served	250	260	4%
Monthly Average # Days of Service	2,979	2,947	(1.1%)

Highlights

Average Caseload (Table 1)

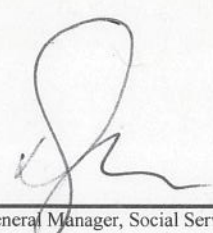
Caseload decreased through the first half of 2008 but leveled off in the third quarter and started to increase towards the end of the year. The large increases in the fourth quarter did not have a significant impact on the average caseload for the year.

Caseload Profile (Table 2).

The number of families served as a percentage of the total caseload declined minimally and singles have continued to rise. The average time on assistance has also declined due to a strong local economy in the first three quarters of 2008. The increase in the regional net cost per case is largely due to the 2% mandatory rate increase for basic needs and shelter allowances as well as per diems and personal needs allowances.

Emergency Shelter Programs (Table 3).

The increase in the number of clients served is mainly related to serving additional youth in emergency shelters. The average length of stay has declined resulting in a decrease in the monthly average days of service provided.


 David Rennie, General Manager, Social Services

Family & Children's Services

Table 4

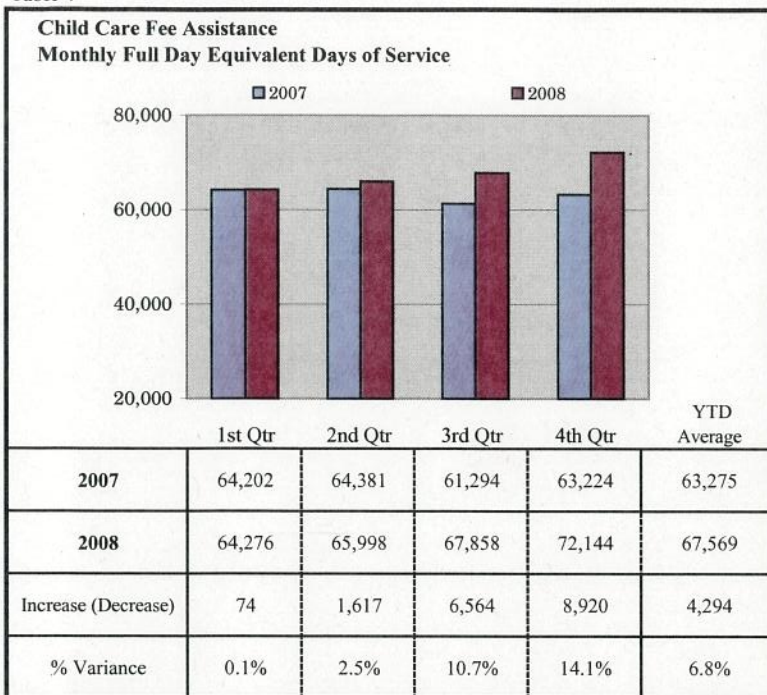


Table 5

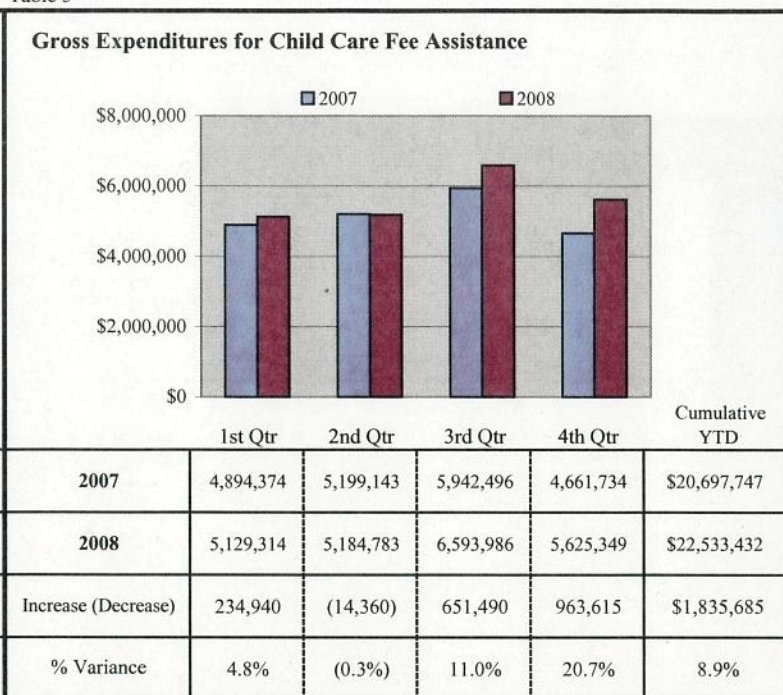


Table 6

Child Care - Fee Assistance (DNA, OW, LEAP, ELCC, Best Start)	Year to Date 2007	Year to Date 2008	% Variance
Monthly Average # of Children Served	3,232	3,440	6.4%
Monthly Average Wait List	2,654	3,519	32.6%

Table 7

Wage Subsidy Expenditures for Contracted Child Care Operators	Year to Date 2007	Year to Date 2008	% Variance
Non Profit Operators	\$10,389,611	\$10,962,503	5.5%
Commercial Operators	\$2,858,010	\$2,912,281	1.9%

Highlights

Increases in Child Care fee assistance gross expenditures (Table 5) can be attributed to a 2% operator rate increase and the addition of approximately 200 spaces afforded by 100% funding made available through Best Start.

The monthly average wait list (Table 6) continues to increase due to the significant growth in child population and as more families apply for subsidy through the Provincially mandated Income Testing Methodology.

Increased Wage Subsidy expenditures (Table 7) can be attributed to additional Best Start funding made available.

Continued

Family & Children's Services (Cont.)

Table 8

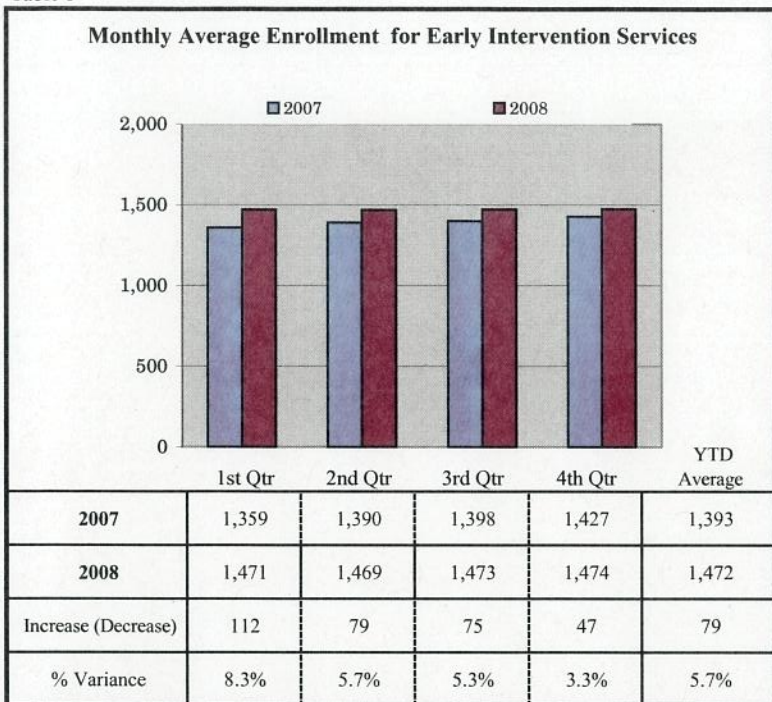


Table 9

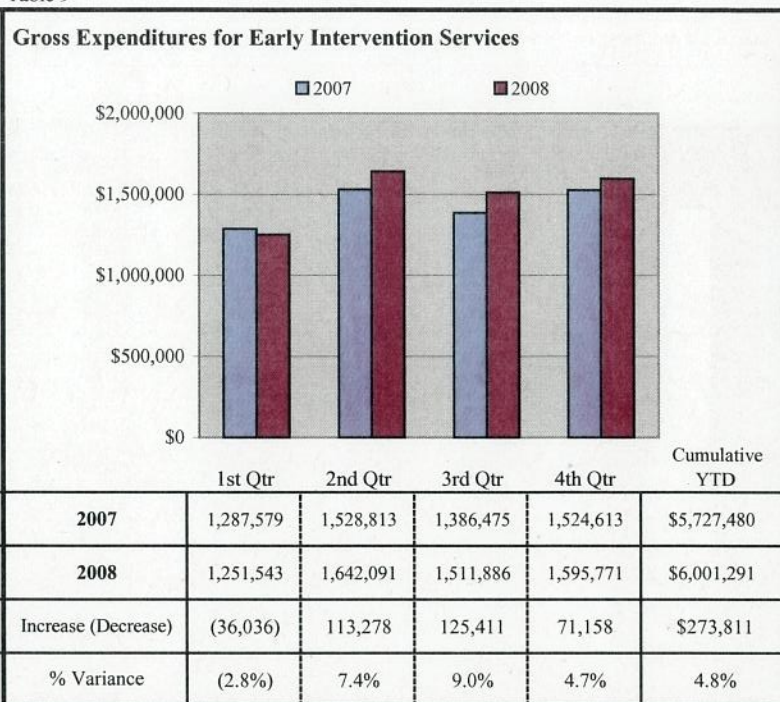


Table 10

Early Intervention Services	Year to Date 2007	Year to Date 2008	% Variance
Cumulative No. of Children Served	1,924	2,069	7.5%
New Enrollment	656	692	5.5%
Average Monthly Wait List	138	147	6.5%

Table 11

Domiciliary Hostel Program	Year to Date 2007	Year to Date 2008	% Var.
Monthly Average # of Clients	354	355	0.2%
Monthly Average # Days of Service	9,965	10,123	1.6%

Highlights

Increased Monthly Average Enrollment for Early Intervention Services (Table 8), and the increase in Cumulative Number of Children Served (Table 10), is due to an increase in referrals, and to children staying longer in the program, including those who are supported during their transition to school. Gross expenditures for Early Intervention Services (Table 9) reflect additional Best Start program funding (June 21, 07 Council).

Despite some bed vacancies that arose through the year, the Domiciliary Hostel program maintained overall 2007 service levels. We anticipate a modest increase in service levels as vacated beds are redistributed in 2009.

David Rennie, General Manager, Social Services

Business Operations & Support Services Quality Assurance

Table 12

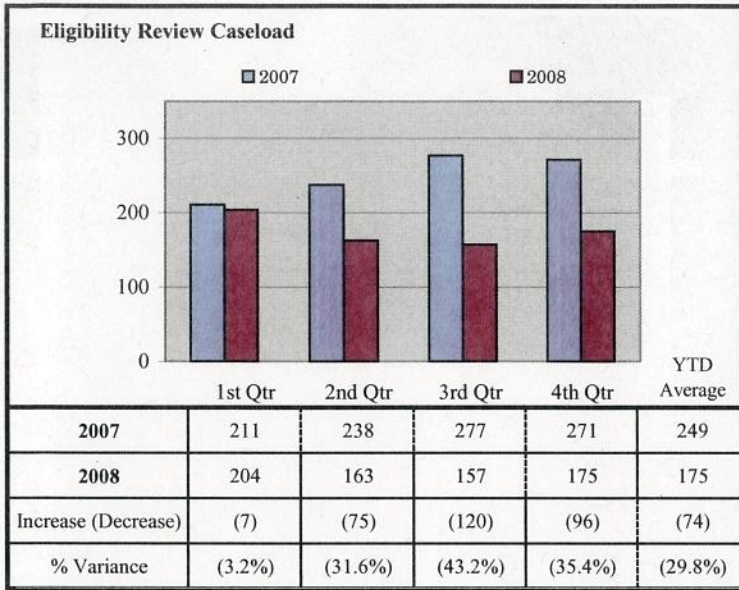


Table 13

Eligibility Review Financial Impact			
Year to Date	2007	2008	% Variance
Recoveries (Overpayments, Assignments & Restitution Collected)	\$1,099,496	\$1,115,667	1.5%
Cost Avoidance (Terminated/Reduced Assistance)	\$83,266	\$71,584	(14.0%)
Total Recoveries & Cost Avoidance	\$1,182,762	\$1,187,251	0.4%

Table 14

Family Support Financial Impact	Year to Date 2007	Year to Date 2008	% Variance
Recoveries (Support Arrears Collected)	\$539,804	\$577,661	7.0%
Cost Avoidance (Terminated/Reduced Assistance)	\$106,956	\$147,521	37.9%
Total Recoveries & Cost Avoidance	\$646,760	\$725,182	12.1%

Highlights

Eligibility Review Caseload (Table 12) has decreased (30%) relative to 2007. This is attributed to increased efficiencies in closing cases and a reduction in referrals.

Eligibility Review Financial Impact (Table 13) reflects an increase of 1.5% in recoveries over 2007 and a (14%) decrease in cost avoidance due to the lower number of cases requiring review in 2008.

Family Support Financial Impact (Table 14) reflects an increase of 38% in cost avoidance over the previous year 2007. This is attributed to the early intervention of the FSW at the initial intake (which increases the likelihood of an early settlement of support income matters).

Dennis Norton, Managing Director, Business Operations & Quality Assurance

Housing Services

Table 15

Gross Expenditures for Housing Provider Subsidies					
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Cumulative YTD
2007	8,882,171	8,715,750	8,635,015	7,823,770	\$34,056,706
2008	8,723,970	8,493,985	6,852,898	8,753,254	\$32,824,107
Increase (Decrease)	(158,201)	(221,765)	(1,782,117)	929,484	\$(1,232,599)
% Variance	(1.8%)	(2.5%)	(20.6%)	11.9%	(3.6%)

Table 16

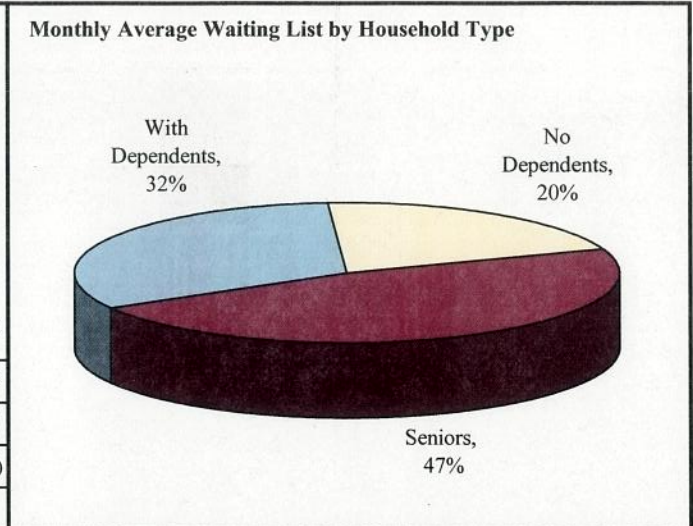


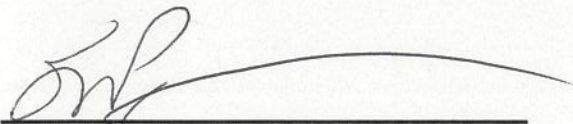
Table 17

Social Housing Waiting List Activity	Year to Date 2007	Year to Date 2008	% Var.
Cumulative Number of New Applicants	1,727	1,836	6.3%
Cumulative Number of Households Housed	422	348	(17.5%)
Monthly Average Waiting List	5,436	5,703	4.9%

Highlights

Housing Provider Subsidy costs (Table 15) have decreased due to favourable mortgage renewal rates along with financial statement reconciliation for overpayment of Municipal Taxes and Rent-Geared-to-Income subsidies.

The number of households housed (Table 17) varies depending on the number of rent-geared-to-income vacancies that occur in the social housing portfolio. The waiting list reflects the growing need for affordable housing.


 Sylvia Patterson, General Manager, Housing and Long Term Care