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2009 OPERATING BUDGET

The Community Services and Housing Committee recommends:

- 1. Receipt of the presentation from Joann Simmons, Commissioner of Community and Health Services and Dennis Norton, Managing Director, Business Operations and Quality Assurance regarding the 2009 Operating Budget;**
- 2. Receipt of the following report dated December 18, 2008 from the Chief Administrative Officer and the Commissioner of Finance; and**
- 3. Forwarding the recommendation that the 2009 Operating Budgets for Employment and Financial Support, Family and Childrens' Services, Housing Services and Strategic Services Integration and Policy be approved, as submitted, to the Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer, for consolidation into a report to the Finance and Administration Committee meeting no later than April 9, 2009.**

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. The draft 2009 Operating Business Plan and Budget, as tabled with Regional Council December 18, 2008, for Employment and Financial Support, Family and Children's Services, Housing Services and Strategic Services Integration & Policy be considered and approved by the Community Services and Housing Committee and;
2. The Committee's recommendations pertaining to these budgets be forwarded to the Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer for consolidation into a report to the Finance and Administration Committee meeting no later than April 9, 2009.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the report is to provide a summary of the 2009 Regional Operating Business Plan and Budget for Employment and Financial Support, Family & Children's Services, Housing Services and Strategic Services Integration & Policy for consideration and recommendation by Community Services and Housing Committee and adoption by Regional Council no later than April 23, 2009.

3. BACKGROUND

The 2009 Operating Business Plan and Budget was tabled with Regional Council on December 18, 2008. It was received and referred to Standing Committees for their consideration and recommendation.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

4.1 Operating Business Plan and Budget

The 2009 Business Plan and Budget for operating includes requirements to the base budget, mandatory or legislated amounts, and those in support of growth and or service enhancement to York Region.

The operating budget for the noted departments is found in the 2009 Operating Business Plans & Budget document as posted in the following table.

Table 1
2009 Operating Budget

Department	Page No.	2009 Net Operating Expenditures (incl Contribution to Capital)
Employment and Financial Support	93	\$20,671,000
Family & Children's Services	103	\$9,608,000
Housing Services	115	\$39,747,000
Strategic Services Integration & Policy	129	\$7,894,000

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The above noted operating budgets total \$77.9 million or 10.5% of the Region's total 2009 proposed net operating budget.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

The Region provides essential services to the residents and business in York Region. The challenge to meet growing demands for increasing and improving service delivery continues and is addressed throughout the goals and work objectives of the Region's various business units. The review of resource needs and ongoing search for options to address and mitigate budget pressures are important elements in the budget process.

7. CONCLUSION

This report sets out the proposed 2009 operating budget for Employment and Financial Support, Family and Children's Services, Housing Services and Strategic Services Integration & Policy, as summarized in Table 1 above. To facilitate the completion of the budget process, it is recommended that the Committee's recommendations be forwarded to Regional Council for approval of the budget no later than April 23, 2009.

For more information on this report, please contact Kelly Strueby at Ext. 1611 or Kelly Fenchak at Ext. 1680.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.