

A Guide to Collaboratives and Planning Initiatives

Related to Human Services
in the City of Hamilton



**September
2009**

A Guide to Collaboratives and Planning Initiatives

Prepared by
Prepared by Jody Orr, Principal
The Chrysalis Group

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to our advisory committee and their enthusiasm and spirit for collaborative work.

Linda Button,
City of Hamilton – Community Services
Mark Fraser,
Social Planning & Research Council of Hamilton
Christina Gallimore,
City of Hamilton – Community Services
Sylvia Renshaw,
City of Hamilton – Economic Development
Liz Weaver,
Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction

Also, sincere thanks to the Human Services
Planning Initiative, City of Hamilton for their
partnership on this project.

This document may be freely quoted and reproduced without obtaining the permission of the Hamilton Training Advisory Board provided that no changes whatsoever are made to the text and the Hamilton Training Advisory Board is acknowledged as author.
The information presented in this report is current at the time of printing.
The views expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect those of the Government of Canada or the Government of Ontario.



Hamilton Training Advisory Board
Commission consultative sur la formation à Hamilton

A Guide to **Collaboratives and Planning Initiatives**

Related to Human Services in the City of Hamilton

Introduction

Background

This guide, sponsored and supported by the Community Services Department of the City of Hamilton and by the Hamilton Training Advisory Board, was developed initially in support of planning efforts upon which both sponsors are embarking. In the case of the Community Services Department, information in the guide will inform its Human Services Planning Initiative. In the case of the Hamilton Training Advisory Board, it will provide important background for its integrated labour market planning initiative.

Hamilton has a rich history of collaborative effort and a well-honed planning capacity developed over the years in and across the public, not-for-profit and private sectors. The Guide builds on this richness and can serve in a variety of ways for the community as a whole:

- ◆ It can serve as a directory for the community to facilitate networking, co-operation and coordination with and across existing collaboratives and planning bodies and initiatives
- ◆ It can work to reduce duplication of efforts by facilitating heightened awareness of who is already doing what in the community
- ◆ It can serve as a baseline profile of the breadth of collaboration in the City of Hamilton

Who is Included in the Guide?

The decision as to who to include – and who not to include – in the guide was made along a number of dimensions. From the beginning, the intent was to make the guide as comprehensive as possible but it needed to be focused on collaboratives and planning efforts that have an impact on human services.

The definition of “human services” that is used by the Committee and that drives this guide is one developed by the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) in its human services integration work and adopted for use by the City of Hamilton in its human services planning efforts. For the purposes of this guide, “human services” are defined as:

“.. any services that meet the economic, social and health needs of people.”¹

¹ “A Guide to Thinking About Human Services Integration”. Ontario Municipal Social Services Association. September, 2007 (can be accessed at www.omssa.com)

This broad definition requires consideration of initiatives, organizations and collaboratives that might have an impact on the labour market since this relates directly to peoples' economic needs.

An Advisory Committee² composed of people engaged in collaboratives and planning initiatives, met and developed a comprehensive list of groups in the community that should be included. This was augmented by a further informal "snowballing" process that permitted other individuals to also suggest possible inclusions. Final decisions on inclusion rested on the degree to which a group or initiative might fit the definition of "human service" or impact on the labour market.

Gathering the Information

Information on each collaborative and planning initiative was gathered through a survey. Information received informed a draft profile that was then sent to the person who had filled out the survey to make any final changes or additions. This finalized profile was then included in the guide.

Building on the Momentum

The distribution of the survey to existing collaboratives and planning initiatives in the community generated considerable interest. In anticipation of this, a half-day forum to which representatives from collaboratives and planning bodies and initiatives were invited was held prior to release of this guide. The session, attended by about 35 people, provided valuable networking among people engaged in collaborative work and led to:

- ◆ Enhanced awareness among participants of the scope, focus and content of collaborative initiatives in the Hamilton area
- ◆ Learning from each other about things that have worked well and things that have been challenging in relation to working through collaborative processes
- ◆ Questions as to what constitutes and characterizes collaboration as opposed to other processes of working together

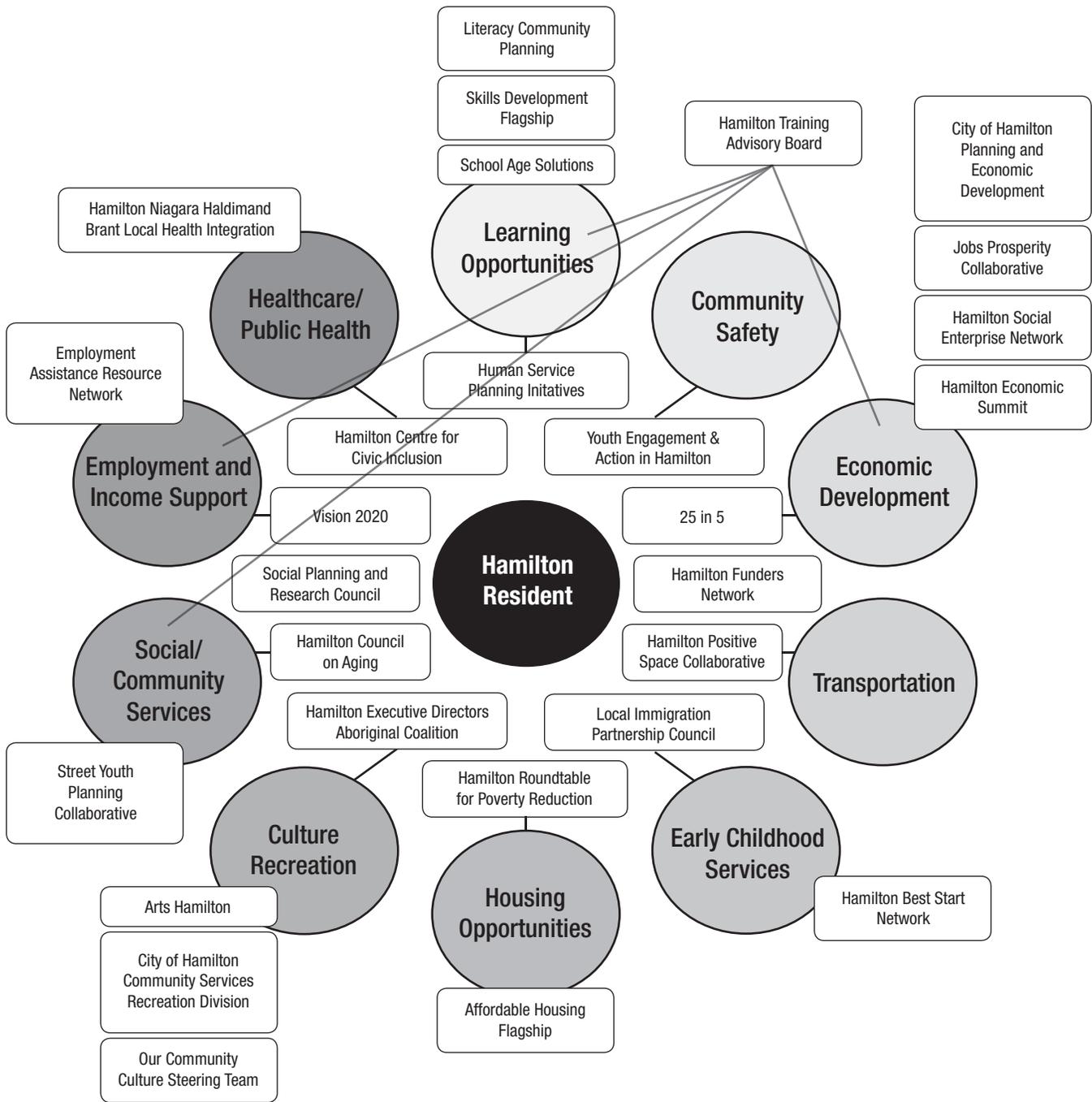
Coming out of the session, participants indicated their support for coming together again periodically, but there was a clear message that any future events be focused on specific learning goals.



² The Advisory Committee included representatives from:

- ◆ City of Hamilton: Community Services Department
- ◆ City of Hamilton: Economic Development Department
- ◆ Hamilton Training Advisory Board
- ◆ Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton
- ◆ Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction

A Dynamic Collaborative Environment



Sectorial Alignment of Collaboratives and Planning Initiatives in This Guide

The graphic above (modified from a graphic developed for use by the Human Services Planning Initiative) illustrates the breadth and scope of collaboratives and planning initiatives (and documents) that are currently operating in the City of Hamilton. Those positioned in the middle of the graphic are cross-sectoral in nature; the others are located in the sector of service with which they are primarily aligned.

This graphic shows an impressive network of groups, some cross-sectoral in scope, others focused within a sector or two. This richness confirms Hamilton's role as a leader in exploring processes that bring people and organizations together in order to seek more effective responses to challenges and opportunities in the community.

What You Will Find in This Guide

This guide contains 28 profiles divided into two sections, one featuring collaboratives and the other containing planning bodies, organizations, and initiatives.

In each profile, you will find the following information:

- ◆ Name
- ◆ Purpose
- ◆ Composition / Participation
- ◆ Funding
- ◆ Time Line
- ◆ Intended Outcomes:
- ◆ Potential Impact on Labour Market
- ◆ Current Priorities
- ◆ Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:
- ◆ Key Documents
- ◆ Contact Person / Information

Closing Comments

This guide is a starting point only. As experience working in collaborative ways deepens and matures in the Hamilton community, new opportunities to learn together from each other will begin to emerge.

Our sincere thanks to all who took the time to work with us in completing these profiles. We hope you will all see the value in the results.

Finally, while every effort was made to ensure all relevant groups were included in this guide, some may have been inadvertently missed. If this is the case and you know of an initiative that has not been included but should have been, please bring this to our attention by calling the Hamilton Training Advisory Board at 905-521-5777 so that our information can be updated.

Index

COLLABORATIVES

Affordable Housing Flagship – AHF.....	2
Hamilton Best Start Network.....	4
Hamilton’s Centre for Civic Inclusion – HCCI	6
Hamilton Council on Aging – HCoA.....	8
Hamilton Economic Summit - HES.....	10
Hamilton Executive Directors’ Aboriginal Coalition - HEDAC	12
Hamilton Funders Network - HFN	14
Hamilton Positive Space Collaborative - HPSC	16
Hamilton Social Enterprise Network.....	18
Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction - HRPR	20
Human Services Planning Initiative - HSPI.....	22
Jobs Prosperity Collaborative - JPC	24
Local Immigration Partnership Council.....	25
School Age Solutions	26
Skills Development Flagship- SDF.....	28
The Street Youth Planning Collaborative – SYPC	30
25 in 5 Hamilton: Poverty Reduction Network	32
Youth Engagement & Action in Hamilton – YEAH	34

PLANNING INITIATIVES

Arts Hamilton	37
City of Hamilton Community Services Department, Recreation Division	38
City of Hamilton Planning & Economic Development Department	
Economic Development & Real Estate Division	39
Employment Assistance Resource Network - EARN.....	40
Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network.....	41
Hamilton Training Advisory Board – HTAB.....	42
Literacy Community Planning - LCP	43
Our Community Culture Steering Team – OCC Project.....	45
Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton – SPRC	47
Vision 2020.....	49



Collaboratives



Affordable Housing Flagship – AHF

Purpose:

Hamilton's Affordable Housing Flagship (AHF) is a voluntary group of formal and informal community leaders with a mandate to ensure that affordable housing contributes to a healthy and vibrant city. The AHF brings together government, voluntary, labour, business and not-for-profit sectors to work in innovative and collaborative ways to achieve its community vision. Its work encompasses housing development, policy & advocacy and community development.

Composition / Participation:

- ◆ Realtors
- ◆ Non-profit housing providers
- ◆ Financial institutions
- ◆ Community agencies
- ◆ Community volunteers
- ◆ All three levels of government

Funding:

Ontario Trillium Foundation – 2 year funding

Time Line:

Ongoing activity



Intended Outcomes:

- ◆ Increased affordable housing supply
- ◆ Increased movement along the housing continuum
- ◆ Improved policy alignment for creating affordable housing
- ◆ Improved coordination between community groups and committees working on affordable housing and homelessness issues

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

- ◆ Improved range of housing options available for people to live and work in Hamilton
- ◆ Improved mix of housing types and tenures and incomes in Hamilton neighbourhoods
- ◆ Affordable housing is one of the priority areas in terms of economic stimulus. Tens of millions of dollars expected to flow into Hamilton in affordable housing construction over the next several years

Current Priorities:

- ◆ Increasing housing supply
- ◆ Policy and advocacy
- ◆ Community and neighbourhood development

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

The AHF is a Starting Point Partner of the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction. This is its only “formal” link. It works closely with the City of Hamilton, but is not formally linked.

Key Documents:

Vision and Priorities – 2009

Contact Person / Information:

Mark Fraser
162 King William St, Suite 103
Hamilton, ON

Phone: 905-522-1148 ext. 318
E-mail: mfraser@sprc.hamilton.on.ca



Hamilton Best Start Network

Purpose:

The Hamilton Best Start Network is a collaborative network of over 50 individuals who represent a wide variety of sectors. The network guides and plans for Best Start in Hamilton.

As one of three provincial demonstration sites, Hamilton Best Start supports families by offering a broad range of services for families and children zero to six years of age that will ensure that children receive the best possible opportunities early in their lives. Comprehensive, flexible, integrated and seamless services for all children and parents are provided at familiar neighbourhood locations.

Best Start is about Children

- ◆ Best Start is about providing the supports to bring out the best in young children.

Best Start is about Families

- ◆ Best Start is about supporting parents and families, and collaborating with them to enable them to provide children with the best possible opportunities early in their lives.

Best Start is about Community and Connections

- ◆ Best Start is about strengthening partnerships and enhancing the integration of all community supports for children and their families.

Best Start is about Our Future

- ◆ Best Start is about doing what is best for our children and our future.



Composition / Participation:

Best Start is comprised of Community partners including service providers, parents, government, community advocates, and related agencies.

Funding:

Ministry of Children and Youth Services and City of Hamilton

Time Line:

This is an ongoing community initiative that updates annual work plans to guide the work of the Network and its standing committees.

Intended Outcomes:

The intended outcome is a seamless access to services for families at a neighbourhood level. The desired outcome is to have agencies include the vision of Best Start into their service planning.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

The Network is working to increase the quality of early years services and raise the recognition of the importance of the early years and those that work in the field. Early Childhood Educators are professionals and therefore need the recognition and the compensation they warrant.

Current Priorities:

Priorities include the creation of a seamless service delivery model through neighbourhood hubs.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

Best Start is a Starting Point Partner with the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction. All Network members have linkages to other planning tables and exchange information on an ongoing basis.

Key Documents:

Best Start has an annual work plan that guides the work of the Network and the standing committees. It can be located on its web site:

www.hamiltonbeststart.ca

Contact Person / Information:

Grace Mater
Program Manager
Community Services Department
City of Hamilton
4 Hughson St S.
Hamilton, ON

Phone: 905-546-2424 ext. 3590
E-mail: grace.mater@hamilton.ca
Website: www.hamiltonbeststart.ca



Hamilton's Centre for Civic Inclusion – HCCI

Purpose:

Hamilton's Centre for Civic Inclusion (HCCI) assists the City, major institutions, businesses, service providers, and others to initiate and sustain transformative processes to create an inclusive and vibrant city. HCCI has developed and shares training and education resources, and enables easier access to relevant research and information. HCCI is also a source of support and information for the diverse communities. It helps to build community leadership and enables productive dialogues and partnerships between marginalized and 'centralized' communities, organizations and institutions.

Composition / Participation:

Service providers

Funding:

Federal, provincial, and municipal government and foundations

Time Line:

Ongoing activity

Intended Outcomes:

To create in every sector, and among youth, effective and sustainable ways of integrating all Hamiltonians into the civic life of the community, using their contributions to create a strong and vibrant city.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

HCCI works to create inclusive workplaces and to overcome barriers to employment by bridging culture and other barriers. It also supports institutions and organizations in their recruitment and retention processes.

Current Priorities:

- ◆ HCCI will continue to build contact with various communities and organizations and find ways to communicate with those who are "not yet connected," in order to broaden the movement for inclusiveness. This will also include ongoing engagement of Community Mobilization Team graduates.
- ◆ Complimenting and overlapping the need for expanded outreach to grassroots communities, HCCI will engage organizations, institutions and the private sector, and facilitate the development of various networks, including involvement in economic development, and increased engagement with the political process.
- ◆ HCCI will continue to develop capacity as a "resource repository and clearinghouse" and build its reputation as "experts in social change."

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

HCCI is a member of: Jobs Prosperity Collaborative (JPC); Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction; the Human Service Planning Initiative, and the Immigration Partnership Council.

Key Documents:

2009 Strategic Plan

Contact Person / Information:

Madina Wasuge
Executive Director
360 James St. North
Hamilton, ON

Phone: 905-667-7502
E-mail: mwasuge@hcci.ca
Website: www.hcci.ca



Hamilton Council on Aging – HCoA

Purpose:

The Hamilton Council on Aging exists to educate and advocate for improved aging experiences for older adults through a collaborative network of individuals and organizations.

Composition / Participation:

- ◆ Individuals
- ◆ Seniors
- ◆ Volunteers
- ◆ Board Members
- ◆ Community Partners

Funding:

Project Funding from various sources (United Way, Hamilton Community Foundation, Ontario Trillium Foundation, New Horizons for Seniors, City of Hamilton - Community Partnerships Fund). Membership fees are charged but are not a major source of funding. No ongoing sustainable funding.

Time Line:

Ongoing activity. The HCoA has a formal year end (March 31) but projects have end dates that vary widely based on funder requirements.

Intended Outcomes:

The HCoA envisions a community that respects and values its older adults, and provides them with the opportunity to participate fully in society. The Council acts as a catalyst in the community by identifying and leveraging new and existing resources that may be shaped or modified to meet the test of “senior-friendly” and responding to emerging opportunities to create or influence change to that end.



Potential Impact on Labour Market:

The HCoA is working at mobilizing senior volunteers to use their varied skills and abilities to help other seniors, and increasing the income and social supports of seniors to ensure their increased quality of life, thereby not putting a burden on their families or the community. The Council is also mobilizing groups of seniors (especially in the diverse communities) to increase their community involvement, education about the resources available to them and reduce the isolation that can lead to poor health and social outcomes as they age.

Current Priorities:

The priority is to educate seniors about the resources available to them to increase their awareness and ability to reach out when needed for social, health and financial benefit.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

The HCoA has an extensive list of partners / members. The Council is a member of the Ontario Gerontological Association and belongs to a provincial network of Councils on Aging.

Key Documents:

- ◆ HCoA Strategic Plan (2007-10)
- ◆ Age Friendly Cities Plan (2009-11)
- ◆ Tackling Poverty for Seniors Project
- ◆ Access to Resources for Seniors in the Multi-Ethnic Communities
- ◆ Enhancing Cultural Competence Among Service Providers

Contact Person / Information:

Ms. Debbie Christie (Executive Director)
88 Maplewood Ave.
Hamilton, ON L8M 1W9

Phone: 905-777-3837 ext. 12434
E-mail: christde@hhsc.ca
Website: www.coahamilton.ca



Hamilton Economic Summit - HES

Purpose:

To help Hamilton become one of Canada's top ten cities as measured by economic performance and attractiveness to business and talent (Hamilton currently ranks 15 of 27 leading Canadian metropolitan areas tracked by the Conference Board of Canada through its *City Magnets* research project).

This community-based goal was established by 125 community leaders who participated in the inaugural summit in May 2008. HES supports this goal by convening an annual forum that enables local leaders from all economic sectors to assess Hamilton's economic progress, discuss issues of concern, and generate ideas, recommendations and commitments to capitalize on opportunities and reduce obstacles to progress. The part-time secretariat provides ongoing administrative support and stewardship between summits.

Composition / Participation:

The Hamilton Economic Summit (HES) is a community initiative facilitated by the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the City of Hamilton (Economic Development and Planning Department) and the Jobs Prosperity Collaborative. Working together, and with the support of a part-time secretariat, HES reaches out to and involves dozens of public and private sector organizations interested in helping to shape the future of Hamilton's evolving economy.

Funding:

HES is funded entirely by proceeds generated through hosting an annual Hamilton Economic Summit. These funds are secured through event sponsorships, registration fees and luncheon ticket sales. The roster of contributors includes private sector firms, public-private sector partnerships (e.g., Hamilton International Airport), the City of Hamilton (Economic Development and Planning Department), the Government of Ontario (Ministry of Economic Development), and myriad local educational institutions.

Time Line:

Ongoing initiative.

Intended Outcomes:

HES's **short-term outcomes** (year-over-year) relate to collective priority actions identified by summit participants and recorded in an annual Proceedings Document made available to the public. For example, delegates at the inaugural 2008 summit were eager to see community partners work in close collaboration to complete high level economic planning documents. This outcome, achieved through coordinated joint action, was reported on at the 2009 Hamilton Economic Summit.

HES's **long-term outcomes** (cumulative over time and realized through sustained *collaborative leadership* and *community engagement*) are expected to include:

- ◆ Increased local employment opportunities (especially high-skill, high-pay jobs)
- ◆ Greater diversity within Hamilton's economic portfolio (including a focus on entrepreneurship and commercialization of locally-developed research)

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

Based on priorities arising from the second annual Hamilton Economic Summit (May 6 and 7, 2009), the collaborative will work with its key partner organizations (the City, Jobs Prosperity Collaborative and Hamilton Chamber of Commerce) to help evolve Hamilton's labour market through:

- ◆ Stressing the importance of attracting and retaining next generation talent
- ◆ Building a spirit of enterprise and entrepreneurship across all sectors of our economy
- ◆ Emphasizing the need to increase the proportion of Hamiltonians with some form of postsecondary education
- ◆ Increasing the percentage of Hamiltonians working in so-called creative occupations
- ◆ Boosting the participation rate of Hamiltonians engaged in lifelong learning

Current Priorities:

The HES will be releasing its 2009 Proceedings Document in July 2009. This document will clarify priorities moving forward. The HES is also planning to release a report that summarizes the ideas and recommendations of students and youth who attended the inaugural City of Change event held in conjunction with this year's Hamilton Economic Summit.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

The HES is most closely linked to the City of Hamilton, the Jobs Prosperity Collaborative and the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce.

Key Documents:

HES's key planning tools are the Proceedings Documents that summarize recommendations and proposed actions generated by summit attendees and are used to guide the work of the HES secretariat between summits. These and other documents are available online at:

www.hamiltonchamber.on.ca under Hamilton Economic Summit

Also available online are a series of video vignettes that provide leadership perspectives on the future of Hamilton's economy through the lens of five drivers (i.e., learning and innovation, arts and culture, environmental restoration, integrated transportation, and advanced manufacturing).

Contact Person / Information:

Richard Ward Allen, Senior Advisor
Hamilton Economic Summit
555 Bay Street North
Hamilton, ON L8L 1H1

Phone: 905-572-0363
Website: www.hamiltonchamber.on.ca
(click Hamilton Economic Summit)



Hamilton Executive Directors' Aboriginal Coalition - HEDAC

Purpose:

To build a vibrant, healthy, self-sufficient, independent and culturally aware community where all service providers and organizations work holistically and collaboratively for the benefit of the whole community.

Composition / Participation:

Aboriginal Non Profit Service Organizations

Funding:

- ◆ Federal/Provincial
- ◆ Aboriginal
- ◆ Foundations
- ◆ Ontario Trillium Foundation
- ◆ United Way
- ◆ Service Canada
- ◆ CMHC

Time Line:

Ongoing activity.

Intended Outcomes:

- ◆ Improved relationships and partnerships in the delivery of programs and services for Aboriginal peoples in the City of Hamilton
- ◆ Develop outreach and education activities that promote cross-cultural understanding and improve access to information about civic services
- ◆ Develop a Municipal Aboriginal plan to build a comprehensive urban Aboriginal agenda for the City of Hamilton
- ◆ Ensuring HEDAC's organizational effectiveness

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

Enhanced educational and employment services to Aboriginal children, youth, men and women through effective networking, communications, planning and implementation processes to present and future programming initiatives.

Current Priorities:

The elimination and or prevention of homelessness and risk of homelessness among the Aboriginal population.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

- ◆ Community Advisory Board (/Member representation)
- ◆ Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction (Community Member Representative)

Key Documents:

HEDAC Visioning Sessions

Contact Person / Information:

Marilyn Wright: m.wright@aboriginalhealthcentre.com (Co Chair)

Elize Hartley: elizehartley@hotmail.com (Co Chair)

Gordon Gong: sacahpi@bellnet.ca (Program Manager)

Cindy Sue McCormack: cs McCormack@sprc.hamilton.on.ca

20 Kenilworth Ave. N.

Hamilton Ontario L8H 4R3

Phone: 289-389-2076

E-mail: hedac@cogeco.ca

Website: www.hedac-aboriginal.com



Hamilton Funders Network - HFN

Purpose:

The Hamilton Funders Network exists to provide a regular opportunity for representatives of Hamilton funders to meet to:

- ◆ Share information about their current funding priorities, guidelines and decisions which support programs, services, and voluntary/not for profit organizations in Hamilton;
- ◆ Share information and learn about current trends and practices in grantmaking and issues affecting the voluntary sector in Hamilton;
- ◆ Jointly plan and organize initiatives that contribute to strengthening the capacity of voluntary sector organizations in Hamilton.



Composition / Participation:

Membership in the Network is open to representatives from organizations, corporations and government that are directly involved in providing grants to voluntary sector/not-for-profit organizations in Hamilton.

Current members:

- ◆ ArcelorMittal Dofasco Hamilton
- ◆ Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
- ◆ Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce
- ◆ Citizenship and Immigration Canada
- ◆ City of Hamilton
- ◆ Department of Canadian Heritage
- ◆ Employment Ontario
- ◆ Environment Canada
- ◆ Hamilton Community Foundation
- ◆ Health Canada
- ◆ HNHB Local Health Integration Network LHIN
- ◆ Teachers Credit Union
- ◆ Ministry of Community and Social Services Hamilton
- ◆ Ministry of the Attorney General
- ◆ Ontario Victim Services Secretariat
- ◆ Ministry of Tourism
- ◆ Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities
- ◆ National Crime Prevention Centre
- ◆ Ontario Arts Council
- ◆ Ontario Trillium Foundation
- ◆ RBC Foundation
- ◆ Scotiabank
- ◆ Service Canada
- ◆ Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration
- ◆ The Hamilton Spectator
- ◆ United Way of Burlington & Greater

Funding:

The group is largely operated by in-kind support from the members. In the past, the Network has received a small grant from Health Canada (held by the City of Hamilton) and more recently, Employment Ontario to hire staff at the Community Centre for Media Arts to develop a website.

Time Line:

The HFN was established in 1999 and it is an on-going initiative. The group meets quarterly.

Intended Outcomes:

1. Charities and not-for-profit organizations are more aware of local funding opportunities
2. The capacity of the voluntary sector is strengthened by offering free workshops on proposal writing, board governance, marketing, etc.
3. Greater collaboration between funders and less duplication of funding

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

At present, the Network has facilitated a project which employs three people through Employment Ontario. The Network has also created opportunities for organizations to seek funding to hire staff.

Current Priorities:

In 2009, the HFN launched the official Hamilton Funders Network Website, which will assist the voluntary sectors and non-profit organizations in resourcing funding opportunities and streamlining the grants and application processes. In addition, its activities will also focus on facilitating workshops on collaborations that work, and sharing information about ways in which the community can respond collaboratively to the economic downturn.

The HFN has offered a variety of workshops over the past ten years on proposal writing, marketing, board governance, speed funding, open houses and other relevant networking events. Last year, the HFN held workshops on community economic development (social enterprise) Board governance and proposal writing and hosted a meeting between funders and representatives from the Aboriginal Community Agencies.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

Not listed.

Key Documents:

All documents will be added to its website, www.hamiltonfundersnetwork.ca

Contact Person / Information:

Susan West, Regional Program Manager
436 Aberdeen Avenue
Hamilton, ON

Phone: 905-523-1789
E-mail: swest@trilliumfoundation.org
Website: www.hamiltonfundersnetwork.ca



Hamilton Positive Space Collaborative - HPSC

Purpose:

Vision

Making Hamilton a positive space³ to live, work, play and learn for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) community.

Mission

The mission of the Hamilton Positive Space Collaborative is to facilitate the creation of LGBTQ positive spaces in Hamilton through the development and enhancement of community services, resources, programming, training and education.

The Collaborative is comprised of individuals and organizations who work together out of the following set of principles and beliefs.

- ◆ All communities and their members have a collective responsibility to ensure positive space for the LGBTQ community
- ◆ Collaborative networks are effective in creating sustainable community responses
- ◆ The LGBTQ Community identifies collaborative networks that include allies as essential for creating sustainable community responses
- ◆ Working from an anti-oppression framework will decrease the reality of homophobia and heterosexism in the community
- ◆ The LGBTQ Community has an abundance of knowledge, expertise and skills
- ◆ Every part of the LGBTQ community is unique and works in different ways

Composition / Participation:

- ◆ Post secondary institutions
- ◆ Public and Catholic School boards
- ◆ Social service providers
- ◆ Health care providers
- ◆ Police
- ◆ City of Hamilton

Funding:

No funding. Support provided by the Social Planning and Research Council through staff and administration.

³ Positive Space: A Positive Space is any designated place (e.g. neighbourhood, office, municipality) where human rights are respected and where lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people and their friends and allies, are welcomed and supported.

Time Line:

Ongoing until all recommendations of the LGBTQ Needs Assessment are in place.

Intended Outcomes:

Hamilton will become a safe and inclusive place for LGBTQ people as the collaborative works to implement the recommendations of the attached report.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

Making Hamilton's employers aware of the need for Positive Space workplaces - training and education would be implemented in many businesses and organizations that would make them Positive Space for staff and clients.

Current Priorities:

Increase the number of agencies/businesses that engage in Positive Space Training and include LGBTQ people in their policy development.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

Not listed.

Key Documents:

Creating Positive Space

www.sprc.hamilton.on.ca/Reports/pdf/Creating-Positive-Space-Report-Final.pdf

Contact Person / Information:

Deirdre Pike, Social Planner, Co-chair of HPSC

SPRC, 162 King William St.

Hamilton, ON

Phone: 905-522-1148 ext. 302

E-mail: deirdrepike@sprc.hamilton.on.ca; hpsc@thirtyfive.ca

Website: www.sprc.hamilton.on.ca

www.thewellhamilton.ca



Hamilton Social Enterprise Network

Purpose:

The Hamilton Social Enterprise Network is a collaboration of community partners with a goal to promote Social Enterprise and Micro-Credit as an innovative approach to job creation and community economic development. The Hamilton Social Enterprise Network works with individuals, enterprises, organizations and commercial business, to make social enterprise happen.

Composition / Participation:

The members of this network are its Community Partners:

- ◆ Hamilton Chamber of Commerce
- ◆ First Ontario Credit Union
- ◆ Immigrant Women's Centre
- ◆ Social Planning & Research Council
- ◆ Today's Family
- ◆ Trivaris

Funding:

Ontario Trillium Foundation, Hamilton Community Foundation, in-kind support from network members.

Time Line:

The project is currently funded until October 2011

Intended Outcomes:

It is the Network's hope that its work will help to position social enterprise development as an important component of an overall community economic and job creation strategy.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

Social Enterprise Development and Micro-credit are tools being used by innovative communities focused on local economic development. By providing small business development support and access to micro-credit, low-income families can create sustainable, income-producing activities and build economic independence.

Current Priorities:

- ◆ Childcare Micro-Enterprise Project: This is a successful partnership that responds to the need for licensed childcare and for increased income opportunities for low income families. The Network helps prospective entrepreneurs work through the business development process of establishing a home based childcare business.
- ◆ The Micro-Credit Peer Circle Program: This is an innovative, wrap around approach to economic development, built on peer circle support and facilitating access to small business loans for low income entrepreneurs
- ◆ Social Enterprise Network: The goal is to raise awareness of the benefits of Social Enterprise as an important component of a community economic development plan through networking and skills exchange.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

Not a formal link, however the Network is a member of other initiatives such as the CCED-Net Policy Council, and the Jobs Prosperity Collaborative, Quality of Life Committee.

Key Documents:

Not listed.

Contact Person / Information:

Sandy Shaw, Project Director

Phone: 905-978-0664

E-mail: sandy.shaw@bellnet.ca

Website: www.hamiltonsocialenterprisenetwork.com



Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction - HRPR

Purpose:

The Roundtable was founded on the principles of collaboration and recognition that no one sector or group can tackle poverty alone. As the lead organization connecting the myriad of individuals and agencies focusing on poverty reduction, the Roundtable is working at the systems and policy change level to bring public attention to the challenges and impact of poverty in Hamilton, engaging the community (including youth) in the change effort, bringing new funding and leveraging strategic investment around poverty reduction efforts in the community and evaluating and monitoring the city's progress towards *making Hamilton the best place to raise a child*.

Composition / Participation:

Roundtable: 42 citizen volunteers representing the government, business, not-for-profit, education, health, citizen leaders and 3 staff members.

Working Groups and Partners: 300 citizens and 900 organizations

Funding:

Core funding is provided by City of Hamilton, Hamilton Community Foundation, The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation and Vibrant Communities Canada. Program funding is provided through a variety of sources including private sector, foundations and government.

Time Line:

Annually the Roundtable assesses where it and where the community needs to go to address the issue and impact of poverty on Hamilton and its citizens.

Intended Outcomes:

The intended outcome of the work of this collaborative is to help make Hamilton the best place to raise a child and to have eradicated poverty.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

Through partnerships with others such as the Hamilton Best Start Network, the Roundtable hopes to help children, youth and their families be better prepared for the workplace. Its strategies are matched to five critical points of investment as children progress through life:

- ◆ quality early learning and parenting
- ◆ skills through education, activity and recreation
- ◆ targeted skills development at the post-secondary level
- ◆ employment
- ◆ asset building and wealth creation.

The HRPR also collaborates with other planning tables in the community which strategically focus on the labour market and jobs agenda including the Skills Development Flagship and the Jobs Prosperity Collaborative.



Current Priorities:

See Framework for Change and Starting Point Strategies documents, listed below. These are foundational documents to its work.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

- ◆ Hamilton Best Start Network
- ◆ School Age Solutions
- ◆ Skills Development Flagship
- ◆ Jobs Prosperity Collaborative
- ◆ Affordable Housing Flagship

Key Documents:

- ◆ Change framework
www.hamiltonpoverty.ca/docs/HRPR-June12-o6.pdf
- ◆ Starting Point Strategies
- ◆ 2008 Report to the Community
www.hamiltonpoverty.ca/news.htm
- ◆ 2009 Report to the Community
www.hamiltonpoverty.ca/news.htm

Contact Person / Information:

Tom Cooper, Director
120 King Street West, Suite 700,
Hamilton, ON L8P 4V2

Phone: 905-523-5600 ext. 244
E-mail: tcooper@hcf.on.ca
Website: www.hamiltonpoverty.ca



Human Services Planning Initiative - HSPI

Purpose:

Hamilton's Human Services Planning Initiative (launched in February 2008) will articulate a bold vision for the planning, delivery and investment in human services now and in the future. The purpose of this initiative is to think strategically about human services priorities, proactively plan for changing needs in the community and broaden understanding of increasingly complex issues facing the human services system. Using a collaborative approach to planning for human services, a new community convening group has been struck to set the ground work for the next phase of the human services planning process.

Composition / Participation:

Municipal government, human services providers, not-for-profit organizations, community networks and collaboratives

Funding:

Municipal funding – City of Hamilton Community Services Department, Planning and Economic Development Department

Time Line:

Phase II of the Human Services Planning Initiative will be completed by December 2009 after which Phase III will begin in January 2010 and will be ongoing.

Intended Outcomes:

- ◆ Strategic and systematic thinking about human services priorities
- ◆ An advanced understanding of increasing complex issues facing the human services system
- ◆ Integrated planning across the human services sectors resulting in higher quality of service for residents of Hamilton

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

Create a healthier community enabling residents to fully participate in the labour market.

Current Priorities:

The community convening group will create an end deliverable for December 2009 which will set the context for Phase III of the Human Services Planning Initiative during which time a broader community engagement will take place. This convening group will also select the stakeholders to be assembled in January 2010 whose task it will be to devise, implement and monitor a human services plan in Hamilton. The convening group's approach follows that of David Chrislip's Collaborative Leadership Model.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

- ◆ Affordable Housing Flagship
- ◆ City of Hamilton, Community Services
- ◆ City of Hamilton, Planning and Economic Development
- ◆ City of Hamilton, Public Health Services
- ◆ Hamilton Best Start Network
- ◆ Hamilton's Centre for Civic Inclusion
- ◆ Hamilton Council on Aging
- ◆ Hamilton Police Services
- ◆ Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction
- ◆ Hamilton Training Advisory Board
- ◆ Hamilton Youth Arts Network
- ◆ Health Care
- ◆ Jobs Prosperity Collaborative
- ◆ Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Health Integration Network
- ◆ Local Immigration Partnership Council
- ◆ Skills Development Flagship
- ◆ Youth Engagement & Action in Hamilton

Key Documents:

GRIDS (Growth-Related Integrated Development Strategy) is a growth analysis that will determine how much and where the future growth of the City will take place over the next 30+ years. GRIDS points to the need to plan for human services to effectively align with the growth and development of Hamilton.

www.myhamilton.ca/myhamilton/CityandGovernment/CityDepartments/PlanningEcDev/StrategicServicesSpecialProjects/GrowthRelatedIntegratedDevelopmentStrategy/index.htm

Hamilton Human Services Plan Overview is a summary document of Hamilton's Human Services Planning Initiative including background information, what has been achieved and the next steps.

Human Services Strategy Council Report (2007) outlines the terms of reference for the Human Services Planning Initiative in Hamilton.

Contact Person / Information:

Christina Gallimore, Senior Policy Analyst
City of Hamilton, Community Services Dept.
1 Hughson St. N., 3rd Floor
Hamilton, ON L8R 3L5

Phone: 905-546-2424 ext. 3552
E-mail: Christina.Gallimore@hamilton.ca
Website: www.myhamilton.ca



Jobs Prosperity Collaborative - JPC

Purpose:

The mandate of the Jobs Prosperity Collaborative is to assist the City of Hamilton in bringing jobs to Hamilton. The Collaborative has adopted the same vision as the City of Hamilton: "To be the best city in Canada to raise a child, promote innovation, engage citizens and provide diverse economic opportunities."

Composition / Participation:

The JPC has 70 members representing virtually all areas of the Hamilton community, including business, education, not-for-profit groups, arts & culture, etc.



Funding:

- ◆ City of Hamilton
- ◆ Ministry of Training, Colleges & Universities
- ◆ Donations from members

Time Line:

The JPC is an ongoing collaborative.

Intended Outcomes:

The intended outcome of the JPC is increased jobs in the municipality.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

The JPC believes that it can have an impact on jobs in Hamilton and defines its role as:

1. Promoting a strategic job creation focus
2. Encouraging broad community engagement
3. Leveraging change and action
4. Ensuring learning, communication and accountability.

Current Priorities:

The JPC has a work plan with 21 priorities that it is working on at the present time with respect to jobs.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

The JPC tries to collaborate with any group in the community.

Key Documents:

The JPC has a framework that can be accessed through their website: www.jpchamilton.ca

Contact Person / Information:

Tim Dobbie, Director, Jobs Prosperity Collaborative
524 Locust Street,
Burlington, ON L7S 1V2

Phone: 905-637-0000

E-mail: tld@tdobbie.com

Local Immigration Partnership Council

Purpose:

The Immigration Partnership Council will provide a leadership forum in which priorities and strategic choices can be made in developing a multi-faceted immigration strategy for Hamilton that will support the attraction, settlement, retention and economic participation of immigrants, and the creation of a welcoming community for newcomers.

Composition / Participation:

- ◆ Local & federal government
- ◆ Business
- ◆ Human service providers
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Youth services
- ◆ Individuals and community representatives

Funding:

City of Hamilton, in-kind support from community partners, other funding pending

Time Line:

Initial phase is approximately 12 months. Second phase will be over several years but timeframe is still to be determined.

Intended Outcomes:

Key outcome is the development of an immigration strategy and implementation plan for Hamilton. The intent of the proposed strategy will be to attract and retain skilled immigrants, and to make Hamilton a welcoming community.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

Attracting and retaining skilled immigrants and newcomers.

Current Priorities:

Focus is on attracting and retaining skilled immigrants and newcomers, and making Hamilton a welcoming community. Other priorities still to be established.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

Formal links still to be established.

Key Documents:

Key documents still to be developed

Contact Person / Information:

Tim Rees
Immigration Strategy Program Manager, City of Hamilton
77 James Street North, Suite 305A, Hamilton

Phone: 905-546-2424 ext. 4244

E-mail: Tim.Rees@hamilton.ca



School Age Solutions

Purpose:

School Age Solutions is comprised of agencies, groups and individuals who support out of school programs and have partnered together to:

- ◆ invest in the development of infrastructure,
- ◆ to facilitate the development of sustainable services,
- ◆ support professional development; and
- ◆ to develop outcomes and accountability measures that reflect a wide range of formal and informal learning opportunities.

VISION:

“A level playing field” for the children of Hamilton. (Dr. Dan Offord) “Making Hamilton the best place to raise a child” (Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction)

GOAL:

The Council will work towards a community system in Hamilton to ensure all children ages 6-14 years are offered equal access to high-quality programs during their out-of-school hours and improve the quality and accessibility of programs.

WHAT THE COUNCIL DOES:

The Council will develop, support and promote the development of a coordinated, community-wide strategy, where age and developmentally appropriate programs are designed for a variety of settings where children live and play. The Council's efforts will be directed towards building community awareness and best practices. It is committed to improving the capacity of the community to address the many facets of out of school programs. It supports healthy child development by bringing the community together to increase access to high quality programs for children 6-14 years of age during out-of-school hours.

Composition / Participation:

- ◆ Not-for-profit service providers
- ◆ School boards
- ◆ City staff
- ◆ Funders

Funding:

No source of funding at present. The Council has received Ontario Trillium Foundation and United Way funding on a project and event basis historically

Time Line:

Ongoing activity.



Intended Outcomes:

School Age Solutions is committed to improving the capacity of the community to address the many facets of out of school programs. It supports healthy child development by bringing the community together to increase access to high quality programs for children 6-14 years of age during out-of-school hours.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

The focus is to provide quality out of school programs for children ages 6-14. By doing this, it allows parents to feel safe and secure in where their child is. This will allow them to be able to be at work/school knowing their child is well cared for.

Current Priorities:

Mapping and identifying out of school programs to see where gaps occur.
Linking with neighbourhood hubs to support and mentor grass roots out of school programs.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

School Age Solutions is a Starting Point Partner with the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction.

Key Documents:

- ◆ School Age Resource Binder (available to organizations to support indicators of quality programs)
- ◆ Mentor list by geographical area

Contact Person / Information:

Brenda Ferguson
Today's Family
44 Greendale Drive
Hamilton, ON

Phone: 905-574-9344
E-mail: bferguson@todaysfamily.ca

Lisa Kiriakopoulos
HWDSB
100 Main Street West
Hamilton, ON

Phone: 905-527-5092 ext. 2234
E-mail: lisa.kiriakopoulos@hwdsb.on.ca



Skills Development Flagship - SDF

Purpose:

The goal of the Skills Development Flagship is to assist individuals who have been marginalized from the labour market to gain access to opportunities for meaningful employment.

Composition / Participation:

- ◆ Employment service providers
- ◆ Research organizations
- ◆ All levels of government

Funding:

At this point in time (July, 2009) the SDF has primarily accessed project-based government funding to complete any activities. In some cases partnerships have been established. Substantial in-kind contributions have been made by committee members and co-chairs. Funding has been received from:

- ◆ Ministry of Community & Social Services
- ◆ City of Hamilton – Community Services
- ◆ Mohawk College
- ◆ Hamilton Training Advisory Board

Time Line:

Ongoing activity.

Intended Outcomes:

Ultimately, the Flagship is working to ensure that the knowledge and skills of workers' match the needs of Hamilton's economy.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

By identifying, gathering, and analyzing information on skills development issues and working on strategic initiatives, the SDF is working to create conditions that will lead to a skilled labour force for Hamilton.

Current Priorities:

Currently (July, 2009) the SDF is working on a project to understand and strengthen the workforce development system in Hamilton. The Community Employment and Training Services Mapping project, currently underway, will collect, organize, and integrate data on employment-, education-, and training-related services in Hamilton. It will also provide information and analysis tools that can assist community agencies and others with labour market planning and coordination of services in the Hamilton area. Relying on the use of an on-line technology platform to gather and distribute information, community agencies will be better able to access the information they need and to meet clients' needs.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

The SDF is a Starting Point Partner for the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction.

Key Documents:

Not listed.

Contact Person / Information:

Kerry Lubrick
Director of Employment & Income Support
City of Hamilton
181 Main St. West
Hamilton, ON L8P 4S2
Phone: 905-546-2424 ext. 4855
E-mail: kerry.lubrick@hamilton.ca

OR

Judy Travis
Executive Director
Hamilton Training Advisory Board
77 James Street N., Unit 117
Hamilton ON L8R 2K3

Phone: 905-521-5777
E-mail: judy@htab.ca



The Street Youth Planning Collaborative – SYPC

Purpose:

In order to best meet the needs of street involved and homeless youth, the Street Youth Planning Collaborative exists as an executive committee to advocate for, support, and facilitate an enhanced, seamless system of services that is both comprehensive and accountable.

Composition / Participation:

The SYPC is made up of directors from street-involved youth service providing organizations in Hamilton. The SYPC has two important reference groups – the Street Involved Youth Network (front line staff from youth serving agencies who meet once per month to discuss trends and collaboration ideas) and the Street Youth Involvement Committee (young people who are engaged once per month to provide advice and direction and work on youth led projects).

Funding:

The SYPC (and affiliate groups) have one dedicated collaboration and community development support position (through a partnership with the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton) that was funded through the National Crime Prevention Centre.

The SYPC also shares funding from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services and the Homelessness Partnering Initiative on two collaboration specific projects. Organizations in the SYPC also have funding from a wide variety of funding sources to run their programs.

Time Line:

The SYPC has just completed a three year project (June 2006 – June 2009) implementing the 27 recommendations from the Addressing the Needs of Street-Involved and Homeless Youth in Hamilton report (October 2005) through a partnership with the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton. The SYPC is looking for new support to keep that partnership going.

Intended Outcomes:

- ◆ For service providers – an assurance of collaboration and not duplication, shared resources, transparency of agency planning, critical mass for funding and community awareness raising.
- ◆ For youth – a seamless, coordinated and complete system of services.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

- ◆ The engagement and support of a population of youth who traditionally find employment challenging.
- ◆ A model of collaboration to share with employment service providers

Current Priorities:

In all of its planning the SYPC is committed to the following:

- ◆ Ensuring that the current service system is well-maintained and stable. If gaps or potential gaps occur – the SYPC commits to finding ways as a collaborative to fill those gaps;
- ◆ Soliciting and responding to feedback from key stakeholders in the community (youth, front line staff, managers) about emerging trends and gaps in demographics and services;
- ◆ Broad level community and systems planning – paying attention to best practices and innovative models in other communities.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

Members of the SYPC also hold membership on the following groups:

- ◆ Young Parent Network
- ◆ Children's Service System Committee
- ◆ Youth Serving Agencies Network
- ◆ Best Start Network
- ◆ Hamilton Addiction and Mental Health Network
- ◆ Woman Abuse Working Group

Key Documents:

Addressing the Needs of Street-Involved and Homeless Youth in Hamilton Report (October 2005) – www.sprc.hamilton.on.ca/Homelessness/Homelessness.php

Contact Person / Information:

Loretta Hill-Finamore – Chair of the SYPC
Director of Youth Service for Good Shepherd Centres
14 Cannon Street West
Hamilton, ON

Phone: 905-308-8090

E-mail: lorettahillfinamore@goodshepherdcentres.ca

Website: www.goodshepherdcentres.ca



25 in 5 Hamilton: Poverty Reduction Network

Purpose:

25-in-5 Hamilton: Network for Poverty Reduction is a multi-sectoral network comprised of organizations and individuals working on eliminating poverty. The Network has organized itself around the Provincial 25 in 5 Network's call for a Poverty Reduction Plan with a goal to reduce poverty in Ontario by 25% in 5 years and 50% in 10 years.

Eliminating poverty in Ontario is possible. It just takes leadership and commitment—and a plan.

Composition / Participation:

- ◆ People with lived experience of poverty
- ◆ Service providers
- ◆ Faith groups
- ◆ Riding association members
- ◆ Legal clinics
- ◆ Academics
- ◆ Government representatives
- ◆ Businesses

Funding:

No funding – supported by staff of the Social Planning and Research Council (United Way funded); in-kind space from faith groups

Time Line:

This is an ongoing collaborative that will be monitoring the province's commitment to poverty reduction over the next 5 years, and possibly even 10 years.

Intended Outcomes:

Through the community mobilization of this group, Hamiltonians will be more engaged in poverty reduction efforts such as the Do the Math campaign currently in full swing. In the long term these efforts will result in policy changes by the government that will reduce poverty in Hamilton and in Ontario.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

It will make Hamilton a city where all are included and those who are economically marginalized have a voice. It could result in work places that pay a living wage and do not engage in precarious hiring through temp agencies. It will result in a community that has dignity for all people and works to ensure that people are not falling behind.



Current Priorities:

www.dothemath.thestop.org

This is to put food in the budget for people on social assistance.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

www.25in5.ca

Key Documents:

Not listed.

Contact Person / Information:

Deirdre Pike, Social Planner, Chair of 25 in 5 Hamilton

Social Planning and Research Council

162 King William St.

905-522-1148 ext. 302

Hamilton, ON

E-mail: dpik@sprc.hamilton.on.ca

Website: www.25in5hamilton.ca

www.sprc.hamilton.on.ca

www.dothemath.thestop.org



Youth Engagement & Action in Hamilton – YEAH

Purpose:

Youth Engagement & Action in Hamilton (YEAH) partners youth with adults to collaboratively guide and improve youth engagement in Hamilton. YEAH seeks to involve youth who typically don't have access to opportunities for community involvement and who need them the most by organizing and facilitating collaborative action. YEAH takes its lead from the young people involved. YEAH is a home base and support network for youth-led action in Hamilton.

Composition / Participation:

- ◆ **Lead Partners:** YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington/Brantford – Sponsoring Organization, Good Shepherd Centres, Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton
- ◆ **Youth:** Aged 13 – 25 who live, work, and play in the City of Hamilton
- ◆ **Youth Engagement Network & Youth Project Partners:** Adult allies and caring adults/organizations who seek to involve and support young people in action and decision-making. The Youth Engagement Network has more than 100 members.

Funding:

Core and project funding is provided by The Hamilton Community Foundation, The Ontario Trillium Foundation, The Hamilton Spectator, and the YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington/Brantford

Time Line:

On-going; changing action plans based on the interests and needs of youth.

Intended Outcomes:

- ◆ YEAH seeks to engage youth, aged 13 – 25, as leaders of today who have a wealth of knowledge and skills to contribute to the city in which they live, work, and play.
- ◆ Through making youth opportunities more accessible, facilitating and helping youth implement larger youth-led projects, providing support to existing and newly forming groups of youth, informing the youth-serving community about how to engage youth more effectively, and establishing a movement toward becoming a youth-friendly community, YEAH is working toward creating the necessary conditions for youth involvement.
- ◆ When youth feel comfortable and safe, they seek out support for the alleviation of their own needs, which allows them to then contribute toward solutions that address larger social needs. Through this collaboration, YEAH is positively affecting the lives of youth in Hamilton.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

- ◆ Connecting youth to real participatory opportunities in action and decision-making builds healthy and supportive relationships between youth and adults, helps youth develop life skills, alleviates barriers for youth involvement, encourages youth leadership, recognizes youth for their contributions and expertise, and motivates youth to connect with peers and become agents of social change.

- ◆ Youth engagement occurs on a spectrum and within any of these categories, meaningful youth involvement develops transferable skills and abilities that prepare young people for the work world and provide them with exposure to career opportunities (e.g. the arts as a viable career choice):
 - ◆ Participation In Programs & Services
 - ◆ Program & Organizational Assistance
 - ◆ Informal Influence in Organizations & Program Development
 - ◆ Formal Roles in Policy-Making & Decision-Making
 - ◆ Youth/Adult Partnerships
 - ◆ Youth-Led Initiatives

Current Priorities:

- ◆ **Vision:** Engaging Youth Beyond Words!
- ◆ **Mission:** Hamilton will acknowledge/recognize, inspire and engage youth in creating a caring, connected community.
- ◆ **Strategic Plan:** A three stool-legged approach to the engagement of Hamilton's youth, which guides YEAH actions - **voice** (youth are systemically engaged), **space** (youth have physical & virtual space to connect and communicate), and **issues** (youth are supported in taking action and creating change).
- ◆ **Current Action Plan:**
 - ◆ Guiding and improving the effective engagement of youth through capacity-building strategy sessions and the Youth Engagement Network.
 - ◆ Hamilton Youth Arts Network (HYAN) – improving the number and quality of meaningful participatory opportunities for youth in the arts through youth-led project activities and decision-making.
 - ◆ 3 youth engagement groups that are youth-paced and place-based in the McQuesten, Jamesville, and CATCH/Vincent neighbourhoods. Youth contribute to their community through youth-led action and involvement in neighbourhood decision-making.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

- ◆ Human Services Planning Initiative
- ◆ Local Immigration Partnership Council
- ◆ Jobs Prosperity Collaborative
- ◆ Street Youth Planning Collaborative – Street Involved Youth Network
- ◆ Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction – Community Partners
- ◆ McQuesten and Jamesville Community Planning Teams

Key Documents:

- ◆ Youth Engagement 101 for Community & Social Service Workers in Hamilton
- ◆ Facilitation 101 for Young People
- ◆ Hamilton Youth Arts Network: Voice, Space, Issues (Caledon Institute of Social Policy)
www.caledoninst.org/Publications/PDF/717ENG.pdf

Contact Person / Information:

Lily Lumsden
 YEAH c/o Careerworx - 23 Main Street East, Hamilton, ON L8N 1E7

Phone: 905-681-1140 ext. 232
 E-mail: lily_lumsden@ymca.ca
 Website: www.yeah-ymca.ca (under construction)



Planning Initiatives



Arts Hamilton

Purpose:

Engaging Hamilton through the celebration of its arts and culture.

Composition / Participation:

Board of Directors reflective of the community, staff and members.

Funding:

- ◆ Grants, (City of Hamilton, Ontario Arts Council, various ministries such as Ministry of Culture, Immigration and Citizenship)
- ◆ Canada Council for the Arts
- ◆ Foundations – Hamilton Community Foundation, Ontario Arts Foundation, Martin Foundation
- ◆ Gaming revenue
- ◆ Membership fees
- ◆ Boutique sales
- ◆ Service contracts

Time Line:

Ongoing activity

Intended Outcomes:

Contribute to community/ individual expression, identity and fulfillment.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

Currently the arts is a growing sector in employment, providing hands on experience to youth in supporting the arts (i.e., administration) and developing skills/ creativity (mentoring, programs, grant assistance).

Current Priorities:

Providing for leadership in pulling together the arts community to enable delivery of a significant event showcasing the multidisciplines of arts that define our city.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

Arts Hamilton maintains a variety of strategic partnerships and community networks. Formal agreements are in place through grants and Arts Hamilton provides support to emerging organizations needed for their development.

Key Documents:

Strategic Plan, specific grant applications that are non- operating (i.e., project oriented)

Contact Person / Information:

Paul de Courcy, Executive Director
279 King Street East, Hamilton

Phone: 905-481-3218
E-mail: artshamilton@artshamilton.ca
Website: www.artshamilton.ca

City of Hamilton Community Services Department, Recreation Division

Purpose:

Works with 300 recreation and sport non-profit groups in planning recreation services in the community and also undertakes capital planning for City of Hamilton recreation and sport infrastructure.

Comprises/sponsors a variety of planning groups and initiatives, i.e.:

- ◆ inter-departmental for secondary planning for land development related to recreation planning
- ◆ major recreation and park studies with consultants and community representatives
- ◆ neighbourhood collaboratives for the delivery of recreation services

Composition / Participation:

Depending on the initiative, recreation planning could involve one or any of the groups indicated under purpose.



Funding:

- ◆ Government funding: federal, provincial, municipal
- ◆ Business
- ◆ Foundations

Time Line:

Ongoing activity

Intended Outcomes:

Each planning initiative is different depending on a given year, terms of reference and community needs.

Potential Impact on Labour Market: Not listed.

Current Priorities: Not listed.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups: Not listed.

Key Documents:

- ◆ Public Use Recreation Facility Study – 2008
- ◆ Outdoor Public Recreation Facility and Sport Field Study – underway (completion in 4th quarter 2009)
- ◆ Other recreation planning studies forthcoming

Contact Person / Information:

Diane LaPointe-Kay
Director of Recreation – City of Hamilton
400-77 James St. North
Hamilton, ON, L8R 2K3

Phone: 905-546-2424 ext 4610
E-mail: dlapoint@hamilton.ca
Website: www.hamilton.ca

City of Hamilton Planning & Economic Development Department

Economic Development & Real Estate Division

Purpose:

To develop a comprehensive multi-year economic development strategy for the City of Hamilton that is based on extensive public consultation.

Composition / Participation:

Municipal Employees - however, the Department engages the community through stakeholder focus sessions, public information sessions, and on-line input.

Funding:

The major source is the City of Hamilton but has received additional funding through the Province's Cities in Transition program.

Time Line:

There are six components of the strategy. Three of the components are expected to be completed by the end of 2009 with the remainder completed by 2010.

Intended Outcomes:

The end product is an economic development strategy endorsed by the community that has specific short and long term deliverables. The intended outcomes are transformation and diversification of the local economy based on innovation which will create jobs and non-residential assessment in Hamilton.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

If successful, the strategy will create jobs and increase the need for skilled labour in this community. Without skilled people – this strategy and its deliverables will not be realized.

Current Priorities:

The major priorities are jobs and assessment but to do so Hamilton must be competitive, not only cost competitive, but in the ability to supply human capital.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

Linked with the Jobs Prosperity Collaborative.

Key Documents:

Key documents include: the previous Economic Development Strategy, the new Official Plan, the GRIDS plan, the Places to Grow policy, the JPC strategy, etc.. Many of these can be found on the website: www.investinhamilton.ca

Contact Person / Information:

Neil Everson, Director of Economic Development & Real Estate
1 James St South 8th Floor, Hamilton, ON

Phone: 905-546-2424 ext. 2359

E-mail: neverson@hamilton.ca

Website: www.investinhamilton.ca

Employment Assistance Resource Network - EARN

Purpose:

- ◆ EARN members meet monthly to provide updates on the programs and services they are delivering in the Hamilton area
- ◆ EARN members use the forum to share concerns & issues related to their programs, projects and clientele+

Composition / Participation:

- ◆ Federally, provincially, municipally funded organizations who deliver employment services
- ◆ Private career consultants and training providers

Funding:

Membership Fees

Time Line:

Ongoing activity

Intended Outcomes:

Enhancing communication of employment and training service providers leading to a better understanding of services available, increased peer support and improved client service.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

Improve the quality of service received by job seekers and career planners in Hamilton.

Current Priorities:

Not listed.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

Not listed.

Key Documents:

Not listed.

Contact Person / Information:

Ken Walker, Co-Chair

Phone: 905-546-2424 ext. 2367

E-mail: ken.walker@hamilton.ca

Website: www.startingpoint.net

Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network

Purpose:

The Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant LHIN (also serving Burlington and most of Norfolk) plans, integrates and funds the local health care system.

Composition / Participation:

The HNHB LHIN is an organization funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, governed by a Board, members of which are appointed by the Province.

Funding: Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (100% funding)

Time Line: Ongoing mandate

Intended Outcomes:

A health system that helps people stay healthy, delivers good care to them when they are sick, and will be there for their children and grandchildren. The goal is equitable access to effective programs and services for optimal health outcomes.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

A sustainable health system requires leading edge skills training and education, a robust research agenda, effective knowledge transfer, and is integral to healthy communities, necessitating relationships with other human services.

Current Priorities:

The priority is right service, right place, right time. A focus is on decreasing/eliminating unnecessary visits to emergency departments, diverting people from emergency departments and hospital admissions, and, appropriate length of stay in hospital. The solutions lie with healthy communities: safe, accessible and affordable, robust health promotion and disease prevention initiatives; responsive community based services, and; supports to support independent living and post hospital recovery, among others.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups: Not provided.

Key Documents: Not provided.

Contact Person / Information:

Marion Emo, Senior Director,
Planning, Integration and Community Engagement
Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network
264 Main Street East
Grimsby ON L3M 1P8

Phone: 905-945-4930 ext. 4204
866-363-5446

E-mail: marion.emo@lhins.on.ca

Website: www.hnhblhin.on.ca



Hamilton Training Advisory Board – HTAB

Purpose:

HTAB is a local community planning organization that builds solutions to labour market issues by engaging stakeholders and working with partners.

Composition / Participation:

Business, Labour, Education & Training and Equity Groups including Women, Immigrants & Visible Minorities, Francophones, Persons with Disabilities

Funding: HTAB is funded by the Ministry of Training Colleges & Universities

Time Line: Ongoing activity

Intended Outcomes:

HTAB's vision is for a prosperous Hamilton where labour market issues are proactively addressed and individuals and organizations are able to achieve their objectives. This vision will be achieved through an evidence-based labour market planning process that identifies key issues and collaborative solutions.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

HTAB's Labour Market Plan will provide a three to five year rolling plan that builds on what already exists and will provide:

- ◆ better information based on a shared understanding of community and regional needs, economic and labour market indicators
- ◆ improved coordination of services where needed
- ◆ broad-based local leadership at the labour market planning table
- ◆ coordinated local focus on customer needs that is responsive to changes in local market conditions

Current Priorities:

HTAB is currently implementing its first full labour market planning cycle building on past experience gained through its Trends Opportunities and Priorities Planning process.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

Labour market planning initiatives will be supported by the Jobs Prosperity Collaborative.

Key Documents: N/A

Contact Person / Information:

Judy Travis
Executive Director
Hamilton Training Advisory Board
77 James Street N., Unit 117
Hamilton ON L8R 2K3

Phone: 905-521-5777
E-mail: judy@htab.ca
Website: www.htab.ca

Literacy Community Planning - LCP

Purpose:

The Literacy Community Planning Table:

- ◆ promotes the best interests of adult literacy learners and agencies to the community as a whole, to government, to business, and to other education, employment, training and social organizations
- ◆ works together to plan and coordinate local literacy services
- ◆ ensures reasonable access to, and equitable distribution of literacy services and related support services throughout Hamilton
- ◆ promotes consistent and high quality literacy training throughout Hamilton
- ◆ supports literacy agencies in providing services to adult learners
- ◆ ensures literacy delivery and programs are designed to respond to the unique needs of Hamilton
- ◆ develops and approves a Literacy Service Plan for Hamilton
- ◆ shares information and provides updates that will impact upon the group's collective ability to serve learners in Hamilton
- ◆ responds to the literacy needs of Hamilton as a group
- ◆ helps learners in Hamilton move along a seamless adult education system that supports lifelong learning and that assists them to achieve their personal goals
- ◆ forges links within the community so that learners' needs are met

Composition / Participation:

All MTCU/EO funded adult literacy services (Literacy and Basic Skills)

Funding:

Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities

Time Line:

Ongoing activity.

Intended Outcomes:

The LCP works together to ensure there are no gaps or duplication in adult literacy service delivery and to ensure a seamless system of referral and upgrading for adults seeking to upgrade their skills in preparation for further training/education or employment. The LCP creates a system of efficiency and effectiveness in providing the best possible service with the most effective use of funding dollars.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

Literacy is a critical skill. Without a base level of literacy in numeracy, reading, writing, communication and computer use, finding and maintaining employment is difficult. A more literate community is a more sustainable and healthy community.

Current Priorities:

Ensuring ability to meet the needs of laid off workers by building our capacity when lay offs or closures occur.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

Through the ABEA (that leads the LCP) the group is connected to:

- ◆ the City of Hamilton Flagship Committee
- ◆ Early Years Hamilton
- ◆ The HUBS - McQuesten, Jamesville and CATCH
- ◆ HTAB

Provincially linked with the Ontario Literacy Coalition and the Learning Networks of Ontario.

Key Documents:

Literacy Services Plan available on its website: www.abea.on.ca

Contact Person / Information:

Leah Morris, Executive Director
ABEA
35 King Street East, Suite 7
Hamilton, ON

Phone: 905-527-2222
E-mail: director@abea.on.ca
Website: www.abea.on.ca



Our Community Culture Steering Team – OCC Project

Purpose:

The overall outcomes of the three phased “Our Community Culture Project” (OCC Project) will result in the:

- ◆ Identification and analysis of the current status of cultural activities and resources in Hamilton
- ◆ Identification and analysis of potential opportunities in culture
- ◆ Clarification of the City’s vision and role with respect to culture
- ◆ Development of a Cultural Policy and related principles
- ◆ Development of a multi-year Cultural Plan with comprehensive strategies, goals and objectives
- ◆ Identification and prioritization of core business areas in the Culture Division

Composition / Participation:

City Staff from:

- ◆ Culture Division (Lead Roles: Project Sponsor, Project Manager & Project Coordinator)
- ◆ GIS Division
- ◆ ITS Division
- ◆ Strategic Services Division
- ◆ Planning Division
- ◆ Economic Development and Real Estate Division
- ◆ Housing Division
- ◆ Hamilton Public Library Systems
- ◆ Capital Planning and Implementation Division
- ◆ Customer Service Access & Equity Division
- ◆ Finance Division
- ◆ Recreation Division
- ◆ Community Volunteers: Independent Business Owner, Directors of Cultural Centres, Retired Educator
- ◆ Project Consultants: AuthentiCity led by Dr. Greg Baeker
- ◆ (AuthentiCity is an urban policy practice of NAVIGATOR, Toronto)

Funding:

- ◆ Federal Grant – Department of Canadian Heritage
- ◆ Future Fund
- ◆ City of Hamilton

Time Line:

Phase 1 – Community Profile: Development of an inventory of cultural resources, GIS mapping and a SWOC analysis of those resources. The inventory and analysis will form the development of an overall culture-based Community Profile of Hamilton. Targeted completion date: September 2009

Intended Outcomes:

Phase 1 – Community Profile: Development of an inventory of cultural resources, GIS mapping and a SWOC analysis of those resources. The inventory and analysis will form the development of an overall culture-based Community Profile of Hamilton.

Phase 2 – Cultural Policy: Development of a cultural vision, Cultural Policy and supporting principles to guide Council's decision making regarding the cultural life of Hamilton. Identification of the City's role in culture.

Phase 3 – Cultural Plan: Development of high level strategies, goals, objectives and operational plans based on themes/focus areas. Identification and prioritization of the Culture Division's core business areas & capacity.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

Phase 3 of this project will lead to the development of a cultural plan for Hamilton. More specifically the city is committed to the OCC project addressing and contributing to seven key city priorities.

- ◆ City revitalization projects and urban renewal initiatives within existing and projected development.
- ◆ The development of the City's cultural tourism strategies to increase economic opportunities within the context of broader tourism and economic development strategies.
- ◆ The significance of cultural resources and municipal cultural planning to quality of place and quality of life.
- ◆ The identification of specific creative and innovative opportunities related to economic development tools and strategies.
- ◆ A synthesis of historical, existing and future information and trends that highlights the uniqueness of cultural resources and stories in building of community pride, identity and sense of place.
- ◆ Identification of planning opportunities which will address key trends: social, demographic, youth, economic, environmental and educational etc.
- ◆ Specific analysis of opportunities for the productive and relative engagement of youth in the cultural planning process and community development

Current Priorities:

Not listed.

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

Not listed.

Key Documents:

Steering Team Terms of Reference (soft copies available)

OCC Project Plan/Charter (soft copies available)

Contact Person / Information:

Patti Tombs, Manager of Cultural Initiatives, Culture Division

77 James Street North, Suite 305

Hamilton, ON

Phone: 905-546-2424 ext. 4693

E-mail: patti.tombs@hamilton.ca



Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton – SPRC

Purpose:

The SPRC is a diverse team of staff and volunteers that provides independent research, social planning and community development services to the Hamilton area.

Composition / Participation:

The SPRC is a non-profit charitable organization governed by community volunteers from all sectors of the community.

Funding:

Major sources of funding include the United Way of Burlington and Greater Hamilton, the City of Hamilton as well as charitable foundations and provincial and federal levels of government, depending on the nature of the work being done.

Time Line:

Ongoing activity.

Intended Outcomes:

The services provided to the community by the SPRC will result in improved program designs, organizational innovations and new partnerships and collaborations that will benefit a wide range of marginalized and low income people in Hamilton.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

The SPRC will aid in the development of improved services and supports for unemployed members of the labour force, improved economic development strategies for the city of Hamilton and improved social policies that will address the needs of our local labour force.

Current Priorities:

The current priorities of the SPRC are:

- ◆ impacts of poverty
- ◆ family and child well being
- ◆ homelessness and housing
- ◆ equity and diversity

Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

The SPRC is linked to a great many local collaborative groups including:

- ◆ Jobs Prosperity Collaborative
- ◆ Hamilton's Roundtable for Poverty Reduction
- ◆ Skills Development Flagship
- ◆ Affordable Housing Flagship
- ◆ Hamilton Social Enterprise Network
- ◆ Human Service Planning Initiative
- ◆ Hamilton Best Start Network
- ◆ Street Youth Planning Collaborative
- ◆ Hamilton Positive Space Collaborative
- ◆ HNHB Local Health Integration Network
- ◆ Hamilton Training Advisory Board
- ◆ Hamilton Partners in Nutrition

Key Documents:

The SPRC has recently contributed to program evaluation and service planning issues for street involved youth, poverty and housing and homelessness. Key reports and publications by the SPRC are available at: www.sprc.hamilton.on.ca/Reports.php

Contact Person / Information:

Don Jaffray, Executive Director
162 King William St., Suite 103
Hamilton, ON

Phone: 905-522-1148
E-mail: djaffray@sprc.hamilton.on.ca
Website: www.sprc.hamilton.on.ca



Vision 2020

Purpose:

To provide and support a plan for sustainable development in the City of Hamilton.

Composition / Participation:

- ◆ Government
- ◆ Individuals
- ◆ Businesses
- ◆ Educators
- ◆ Environmental groups

Funding:

The City of Hamilton has been the major funding source.

Time Line:

Vision 2020 is a long range vision carrying through nominally to the year 2020.

Intended Outcomes:

A detailed list of goals to support sustainable development was developed in fourteen theme areas.

Potential Impact on Labour Market:

Vision 2020 has specific goals related to the labour force. These include but are not limited to:

- ◆ Making the City of Hamilton's labour force the best trained and adaptable in the world to ensure local business and organizations are competitive and innovative.
- ◆ Eliminating all types of barriers to employment.

Further, moving to more sustainable decisions require doing things differently than in the past. The labour force needs to evolve so that people can work in a more sustainable manner.

Current Priorities:

An engagement process is currently being developed in order to renew the Vision and set new goals and strategies. Following this, work will be done to redevelop the sustainability indicators included in the Vision.



Links to Other Collaboratives / Planning Groups:

There have been many organizations and collaboratives that have aligned to further Vision 2020 over the years. Partnerships have been the strongest within the environmental sector.

Key Documents:

All key documents are located on the website: www.vision2020.hamilton.ca

Contact Person / Information:

Ms. Heather Donison
Senior Project Manager, Sustainability
City of Hamilton
77 James St. N, Suite 250
Hamilton, ON

Phone: 905-546-2424 ext. 1276
E-mail: Heather.Donison@hamilton.ca
Website: www.vision2020.hamilton.ca



Hamilton Training Advisory Board

Business, Labour & Community: Partners in Workforce Development

Established in 1997, the Hamilton Training Advisory Board is one of twenty-one Local Boards in Ontario. HTAB is a not-for-profit organization that draws on the expertise of a broad cross-section of our community to enable us to better identify and address existing and anticipated labour force needs.

At HTAB, we envision a healthy community where everyone achieves his or her potential. To accomplish this goal we:

- Profile the trends, opportunities, and priorities of Hamilton's labour market
- Identify skills shortages and future training requirements
- Share our research with the community to facilitate labour force planning and training
- Undertake projects and partnerships that address labour force issues

Log on to HTAB's website at www.htab.ca and you will:

Discover our community Projects and Partners promoting labour force development.

Learn about local labour market trends, opportunities, and priorities in our Publications.

Connect to Links on training, employment, and labour market information.



Hamilton Training Advisory Board

Commission consultative sur la formation à Hamilton

117 - 77 James Street North

Hamilton, Ontario, L8R 2K3

Telephone: 905-521-5777

Fax: 905-521-9309

Email: info@htab.ca

Website: www.htab.ca

The Hamilton Training Advisory Board is funded by Employment Ontario

