Over the past year there has been a concern about the troubled economy and the impact it would have on unemployed workers and social services in place to support those most seriously affected by the downturn. Caseload rates for Ontario Works income supports have climbed steadily over the year as have social housing waitlists and Ontario Disability Support Program claim rates. For a time there seemed to be signs that the economy was beginning to recover, stirring hopes that the benefits of that recovery would spread to those living on low incomes. Most recently, problems in the economy have again caused concern that stability, let alone prosperity for Hamilton, may not be imminent.

Throughout these transitions we know that our community counts on us to monitor trends and report back on our changing condition. We know too that our community expects the SPRC to work with others to identify, facilitate or support community responses that offer innovative changes, challenge the forces that disadvantage us or collaborate with others to otherwise improve conditions. And we have been doing just that.

In partnership with the United Way and with support of the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, we opened the Hamilton Jobs Action Centre to provide assistance to workers now unemployed to accelerate their return to gainful employment.

We have presented forums on affordable housing issues to increase awareness of needs and encourage investment in solutions that will provide more adequate and affordable housing to the thousands of individuals and families in Hamilton.

We have reported on trends and issues related to youth and worked extensively to respond to the needs of street-involved youth. Our efforts have been winning awards and accolades across the Province and been recognized nationally as innovative practice.

We continue to monitor and report on poverty issues most recently with particular focus on the inequities experienced by women living in poverty.

Through all of this we found it important to reflect as an organization on our work in this community and where we need to go with it in the future. That reflection process took us back into the community to consult with our supporters, critics, colleagues, partners and associates. They were enormously helpful in reminding us of our key value and how we could best apply our resources and assets in the future.

We have learned our community will always face change and challenges, but our organization’s role is to assist the community to meet these challenges. And, it will not be the challenges and changes that define us as a community but how we manage and respond to them.

MISSION STATEMENT

To improve the quality of life for all citizens by engaging in activities, this will result in:
- improved social policies and services
- maximized access for all citizens to the opportunities afforded by society
- effective citizen involvement in the continuing consideration of social issues

VISION STATEMENT

To create a community that provides a socially, physically, and economically supportive environment and supports public participation and community integration to preserve and enhance the health and well being of our population.

VALUES

The SPRC commits to ethical practice that will:
- improve community conditions in a way that respects the rights of individuals
- ensure that programs and priorities are developed through processes that ensure an opportunity for input from community members
- endeavor to work for the empowerment of disenfranchised community members and ensure that resources and conditions necessary to well being are available to all
- programs and policies of the SPRC will anticipate and respect diverse values, beliefs and cultures in the community
- create sustainable, equitable, respectful and supportive environments that will enhance the physical and social environment

REPORT of the PRESIDENT and EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Don Jaffray
Executive Director

Mark Abradjian
President
The Hamilton Jobs Action Centre (HJAC) is a collaborative initiative supported by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, The United Way of Burlington and Greater Hamilton, and the SPRC. The mandate of the initiative is to assist laid off workers in reconnecting with the labour market through peer support and training opportunities. After opening its doors in September 2009, the centre now has almost 300 active members, with 68 former members finding full-time employment and 30 finding part-time employment.

The SPRC partnered with the Immigrant Women’s Centre (IWC) for the public release of an updated Women and Poverty in Hamilton report. The report was issued in the IWC’s newspaper entitled, “Women’s Press” with over 5,000 copies printed and circulated. The report describes the persistent gap in women’s income, charts the disadvantages of single women in Hamilton, and discusses the concern for women living in poverty.

The SPRC released updated six Community Profiles for the major communities of Hamilton which include: Ancaster, Dundas, Flamborough, Glenbrook, Hamilton and Stoney Creek. These profiles are updated with additional information which include: food security (food bank locations, nourishment programs, community kitchens), changing conditions in the labour market (employment and unemployment rates and trends), and services provided in communities by the United Way.

The SPRC in partnership with the United Way of Burlington & Greater Hamilton worked on the release of a youth scan report. This report will address various dimensions of youth needs and engage sectors and organizations in Hamilton working with youth intentional planning processes in planning programs and services.

The SPRC worked on the release of a housing report. This report will outline the state of housing in Hamilton, with an emphasis on affordable housing.

The SPRC received a grant from the Hamilton Community Foundation to support the FirstOntario Micro Loan Program of the Hamilton Social Enterprise Network. The program will make available funds to allocate to micro enterprise initiatives.

The SPRC received a grant from CIBC to support the work of the Street Youth Planning Collaborative. The funding will be used to assist the Youth Housing Support Team and enhance youth engagement.

Youth Housing Support Workers (employed by local youth homelessness organizations) is a team of seven. A collaboration between the Street Youth Planning Collaborative, the Social Planning and Research Council, the Children’s Aid Society and the Catholic Children’s Aid Society to foster collaboration support, develop a comprehensive youth housing support team and to support two local transitional housing projects. In the first three months of the project, the team worked with a total of 229 youth providing a range of housing supports. The target identified in their proposal for October 2009 – March 2011 is to work with 350 young people.

The SPRC was presented with an award and message of appreciation from the City of Hamilton Public Health Services for the provision over recent years of the Family Home Visitors program.

The SPRC through a grant from the Hamilton Community Foundation is supporting the development of a Riverdale Community Hub. Partnering agencies include the Public Health Services of Hamilton, Wesley Urban Ministries, Hamilton Council on Aging, Lightway Church, Riverdale Recreation Services, Riverdale Remedies, Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) and Settlement and Integration Services Organization (SISO) and residents of the Riverdale community.

The SPRC is responsible to work in partnership with the Hamilton Executive Director’s Aboriginal Coalition (H.E.D.A.C.) to deliver the funding contract for the Aboriginal Homelessness Partnering Strategy funding for two years.

The Hamilton Partners in Nutrition project has 126 programs across Hamilton that provide breakfast and snack programs to more than 22,000 school age children throughout the year. They received significant donations from the Hamilton Masonic-Districts’ Board of Relief, and the RBC Foundation in association with the South Pole Expedition for Kids fundraising venture. One other donation is the Auntie Anne’s Pretzel Perfect Company.

The SPRC partnered with the Hamilton Women for Women of India and was awarded an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant over 12 months to pilot an Indian Dance program for 40 women of all ages, using a train the trainer model to increase participation in healthy exercise while learning about Indian culture.

The SPRC was invited to join the National Learning Community on Youth Homelessness – joining 15 communities from across Canada to engage in planning and policy conversations about youth homelessness. We have been asked to lead a working group on developing a tool for community planning around youth homelessness to share with the learning community members, to strategize around connections to an emerging Community Advisory Boards (CABs) Network and to join the Executive Committee of the group.

The SPRC and Today’s Family Early Learning and Child Care created a CED Social Enterprise Network of 35 members, and have developed an interactive website to facilitate support, identified more than 17 mentors able to support developing social enterprises locally, and provided information and training to more than 47 women interested in developing licensed home child care services as start up enterprises.

The SPRC conducted a community consultation of the Circle of Friends program that provides English as a Second Language (LINC/ESL) services to newcomer residents in the Queen St N and York Blvd area. The purpose of the consultation was to conduct an assessment of the program in relation to its role in the community to be reviewed as a part of a strategic planning process scheduled for the program’s 30th anniversary in 2010.

The SPRC conducted an evaluation of the Building Futures Pilot Project that engaged twelve youth from one of Hamilton’s challenged neighborhoods in a seven-week program that focused on building skills and knowledge related to the trades. The focus of the evaluation was to gather the perspectives of the youth participants at the completion of the program and several months later after having the opportunity to reflect on the program’s impact.
May 6, 2010
Auditors’ Report
To the Directors and Members of Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton

We have audited the balance sheet of Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton as at March 31, 2010 and the statements of accumulated net assets and financial activities and related schedule of revenue for the operating fund, statements of financial activities and accumulated net assets for the capital and stabilization reserve funds and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Council’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 2010 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Pettinelli, Mastrolusii LLP
Chartered Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants
Hamilton, Ontario

NOTE: The information given in this Annual Report is an extract from the financial statements. The complete financial statements, including all related notes to the financial statements, are available on request.

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF HAMILTON
(Incorporated without share capital under the laws of Ontario)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES AND ACCUMULATED NET ASSETS
OPERATING FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Year Ended March 31, 2010</th>
<th>Year Ended March 31, 2009</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>Core Operations</td>
<td>Funded Projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support from public</td>
<td>$230,811</td>
<td>$1,210,872</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support from governmental</td>
<td>39,540</td>
<td>949,670</td>
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<tr>
<td>agencies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating revenue</td>
<td>236,449</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries and consultant fees</td>
<td>320,963</td>
<td>559,597</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employment health and</td>
<td>68,343</td>
<td>82,978</td>
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<tr>
<td>retirement benefits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional fees</td>
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<td>29,128</td>
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<td>Service contracts</td>
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<td>Supplies</td>
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<td>18,934</td>
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<td>Postage and shipping</td>
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<td>Rent and insurance</td>
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<td>37,319</td>
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<td>Public relations</td>
<td>7,559</td>
<td>5,439</td>
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<td>Staff transportation</td>
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<td>6,327</td>
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<td>Conferences</td>
<td>563</td>
<td>3,940</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer recognition</td>
<td>4,590</td>
<td>7,089</td>
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<td>Organization dues and</td>
<td>1,366</td>
<td>51</td>
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<tr>
<td>periodicals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment and maintenance</td>
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<td>9,390</td>
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<td>contracts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other administration</td>
<td>2,682</td>
<td>41,341</td>
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<td></td>
<td>496,888</td>
<td>2,160,542</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excess of revenue over</td>
<td>9,912</td>
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<tr>
<td>expenses for the year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accumulated net assets at</td>
<td>925</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>beginning of the year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfer to Stabilization</td>
<td>(10,500)</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>Reserve Fund</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Accumulated net assets at end</td>
<td>$ 337</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of the year</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PRIORITY & ACTIONS

FAMILY AND CHILD WELFARE
- Best Start Network
- Catholic Children Aid’s Society Anti Racism Organizational Change Initiative
- Childcare Micro-Enterprise Project
- Community Action Program for Children (CAPC)
  - baby showers
  - Catholic Family Services
  - Community Access to Child Health (CATCH)
  - Hamilton East Kiwanis Boys & Girls Club
  - Hamilton Public Library
  - Home Management Workers
  - Immigrant Women’s Centre (IW C)
  - Skills Through Activity and Recreation Hamilton (S.T.A.R.)
  - Today’s Family Early Learning and Child Care
  - Correctional Services Consortium
  - Needs Assessment
  - Evaluating the Dundas Child Care Initiative
  - Hamilton Chinese Community Services Centre
  - Riverdale Mosaic 2009 Report
  - Under the Willow’s Program Evaluation

IMPACTS OF POVERTY
- 35 in 5 Hamilton Network for Poverty Reduction
- Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits
- Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion
- Hamilton Partners in Nutrition (HPIN)
- Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction (HRPR)
- Hamilton Social Enterprise Network
- Incomes and Poverty Report in Hamilton
- Living Wage and Fair Employment Coalition
- ROCK – Raising Our Children’s Kids
- Skills Development Flagship Initiative
- Women and Poverty Report

EQUITY AND DIVERSITY
- Hamilton Positive Space Collaborative
- Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board Student Equity Inventory
- Indo Canadian Networking Council
  - South Asian Seniors Survey
- Hamilton Positive Space Collaborative
- Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board Student Equity Inventory
- Indo Canadian Networking Council
  - South Asian Seniors Survey
- Hamilton Chinese Community Services Centre
- Human Services Planning Table
- Jobs Prosperity Collaborative
- Quality of Life Project
- Social Landscape Project
- Social Planning Network of Ontario
- Violence Against Women / Catholic/
  - Children’s Aid Society Steering Committee

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND NEW ISSUES
- Community Economic Development & Micro-Enterprise Project
- Community Mapping Service
- Community Social Data Strategy
- Human Services Planning Table
- Jobs Prosperity Collaborative
- Quality of Life Project
- Social Landscape Project
- Social Planning Network of Ontario
- Violence Against Women / Catholic/
  - Children’s Aid Society Steering Committee

HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING
- Aboriginal Homelessness Partnering Strategy
- Addressing the Needs of Street-Involved & Homeless Youth Project
- Affordable Housing Flagship Initiative
- Community Advisory Board
- Hamilton Aboriginal Education Council
- Hamilton Executive Directors’ Aboriginal Coalition (H.E.D.A.C.)
- Hamilton Tenant Education Project
- Solutions for Housing Action Committee (SHAC)

• Street Youth Planning Collaborative
• Urban Arts Initiative Feasibility Study
• Young Parent Network
• Youth Housing Partnership

PRIORITY & ACTIONS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS
Mark Abrajdian, President
Dale Brown, Vice-President
Tim Cook, Secretary/Treasurer*
Mary Meyer, Immediate Past President

DIRECTORS
Term Ending 2010
Dale Brown
Victor Abraham

Term Ending 2011
Robert Alexander*
Tim Cook*
Mary Meyer
Samia Qadim
Carmen Saleciolli
Dominic Spadafora*
Debbie Wilkie

Term Ending 2012
Lynn Foye
Bill Janssen
Doreen McPartlin*
Nasir Sarwar

HONORARY DIRECTORS
Judge T.A. Beckett
Archbishop J. Bothwell
Anthony Butler
Marvin Caplan
Dick Capling
Dr. Larry W. Chambers
Carolann Fernandes
Peter McDonald
George McLauchlin
Grahame Meredith
Michael Moore
David Seldon
Mary Ann Seldon
Urmash Soomt
Colleen Van Berkel

STAFF MEMBERS

Don Jaffray, Executive Director

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:
Caroline Eyk, Financial Administrator
Christina Walters, Executive Assistant
Deirdre Dixon, Administrative Assistant

PROGRAM STAFF:
Mark Fraser, Senior Social Planner
Deirdre Pike, Senior Social Planner
Jeff Wingard, Senior Social Planner
Tammy McDonald, Senior Planner

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN PROJECT STAFF:
Alison Miller, Community Outreach/ Volunteer Coordinator

*Resigned during the year
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton would like to thank its major funders for their continued support of the work of the council.

We greatly appreciate the support of the City of Hamilton, Department of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada, Freeman Foundation, Haldimand-Norfolk R.E.A.C.H., Hamilton Community Foundation, McMaster University, Ministry of Children and Youth Services, Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Public Health Agency of Canada, Service Canada, South Pole for Kids Expedition team, United Way of Burlington and Greater Hamilton and Women to Women of India.

During the past twelve months, we have enjoyed the opportunity of working with the following:

- Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (LHIN)
- Hamilton Public Library — Red Hill Branch
- Hamilton Regional Indian Centre
- Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction (HRPR)
- Hamilton Training Advisory Board
- Hamilton’s Centre for Civic Inclusion
- Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board
- Hamilton-Wentworth Elementary Teachers Local
- Halton Legal Clinics
- Housing Help Centre
- Hamilton East Kiwanis Boys and Girls Club
- Immigrant Women’s Centre
- Interval House
- Jobs Prosperity Collaborative
- Living Rock Ministries
- Lynnwood Hall Child and Family Centre
- McMaster Legal and Community Services
- McMaster University — Faculty of Health Sciences
- McMaster University — Faculty of Social Sciences
- Mission Services of Hamilton
- Mohawk College of Applied Arts and Technology
- Native Women’s Centre
- Rotary Club of Hamilton
- Settlement and Integration Services Organization (SISO)
- Sexual Assault Centre of Hamilton and Area
- Skills Through Activity and Recreation Hamilton (S.T.A.R.)
- Social Planning Network of Ontario
- Solutions for Housing Action Committee
- St. Leonard’s Society of Hamilton
- St. Matthew’s House
- Street Involved and Homeless Youth Managers
- Street Involved Youth Network
- Suicide Prevention Community Council of Hamilton
- Today’s Family Early Learning & Child Care
- Trivaris Limited
- Urban Native Homes
- Volunteer Hamilton
- Wesley Urban Ministries
- Wishart
- Woman Abuse Working Group (WAWG)
- Youth Employment Network
- YWCA

A special thanks goes to the friends of the SPRC for their donations in 2009/2010. Also, to the citizens of Hamilton who participated in SPRC events and consultations.

The Community Action Program for Children (CAPC) continues to be successful largely as a result of the important work done through our partners in this project. These partners include: babyshowers, CATCH Committee, Catholic Family Services, Hamilton East Kiwanis Boys & Girls Club, Hamilton Partners in Nutrition, Hamilton Public Library, Immigrant Women’s Centre, Public Health Services and the Community Services Department of the City of Hamilton, S.T.A.R. Hamilton, St. Joseph’s Centre for Ambulatory Health Services, Today’s Family Early Learning and Child Care, and Wesley Urban Ministries. We would also like to thank and acknowledge the committed volunteers who have made CAPC so successful.

The support and involvement of education institutions in the community work of SPRC continues to be a success. We would like to acknowledge The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board, Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board, Hill Park Secondary School, McMaster University School of Social Work, Mohawk College of Applied Arts and Technology, Orchard Park Secondary School, Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School, Wilfrid Laurier University, and York University for their contribution.