REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Creating a healthy community is a process that at best, engages all members of a community. To be successful we need to work together with a clear sense of direction and priorities on how best to achieve positive results in both the short and long term. Our role as a social planning council in this effort is to bring good information about community health and well-being into consideration and then work collaboratively with others in the community to get good results and to make the necessary changes.

Over the past year we have had continued success with this effort. We have worked with a wide range of community partners, funders, governments and volunteer service providers to address persistent concerns with poverty, affordable housing, equitable practice and neighborhood development. In each case we have seen gains and improvements. Increasingly we, along with others, are focused on ways to measure our progress so that our supporters and others, not so close to the work on a daily basis, can be assured that our investments of time and service are well placed.

 Internally, our Board of Directors has increasingly been engaged in bringing a stronger focus and clarity to the direction of our services. In the year ahead this effort will continue as our Board and staff members conclude a thorough strategic planning process. The role we can each play in making Hamilton a healthier, safer community is not always an obvious choice and their commitment to this task has been vital.

As an organization we have also invested greater effort into analysing and strengthening communications about our work and accomplishments. Through this change we hope to enhance awareness of the important issues and community action we are advancing and extend the breadth of support and impact of our work on social change and improvement for Hamilton.

We would like to extend our sincerest thanks to all who have contributed to, participated in and otherwise supported our work over the year.

Dale Brown
President

Don Jaffray
Executive Director

MISSION

To improve the quality of life for all citizens by engaging in activities that will result in:
• improved social policies and services
• take all extra space, maximize access for all citizens to the opportunities afforded by society
• effective citizen involvement in the continuing consideration of social issues

VISION

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

VALUES

The SFRC 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 SFRC 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

Dr. Gary Woman
Order of Canada
Director of the Arts & Science Program, (retired)
University of Western Ontario
February 2012
Through the years, our organization has worked with the Social Planning and Research Council in a variety of capacities and have both relied on their comprehensive research and found it complimentary to our work in the community. Recently, they have provided key recommendations to the SDF (Skills Development Flagship) on working with laid off workers based on their report. As chair of the Living Wage working group of the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction, the SDF provided invaluable support and expertise in the development of the Living Wage calculation and working to develop the Living Wage campaign.

Judy Travis
Executive Director
Workforce Planning Hamilton
February 2012

Hamilton Partners in Nutrition program supported the provision of 139 Student Nutrition Programs in 98 locations across Hamilton in elementary and secondary schools as well as in community-based facilities. Over the last year, more than 22,930 students accessed one of these programs.

Thanks to the good efforts of 38,884 volunteers providing more than 127,659 hours of support, we have been able to serve 354,060 breakfasts, 2,020,474 early morning meals, 764,661 nutritious snacks and 61,943 wholesome lunches. Funding from the Province of Ontario and community donors has also been instrumental in making this program available to students across the city.

REPORTS

Hamilton Social Landscape Bulletin:
- Recession Impacts
- Hamilton Social Landscape Bulletin:
- Recession Impacts – Gender, Income and Employment
- Hamilton Social Landscape Bulletin:
- Recession Impacts – Employment
- Hamilton Social Landscape Bulletin:
- Recession Impacts – Unemployment
- Action on Poverty Profile
- Ancaster-Dundas-Tahrnborough-Westdale
- City of Hamilton
- Hamilton Centre
- Hamilton East-Manley Creek
- Hamlton Mountain
- Niagara West-Glanbrook
- October 2012: Strengthening Newcomer Services Final Report to the Community
- This report is available in the following languages: Arabic, English, French, Hindi, Mandarin, Punjabi, Somali, Spanish, and Urdu.
- 7+ Ways Your Neighbourhood Can Improve Your Health
- Hamilton Community Action Program for Children Evaluation
- Hamilton Social Landscape Bulletin: Children & Seniors
- Youth Confidence in School, Community and the Future – Hamilton Findings
- Neighbourhood Profiles
- The Right to Choose Where to Live
- McQuesten Neighbourhood Profile

PROJECTS/INITIATIVES

- 95 King Street East
- Aboriginal Health Centre Strategic Plan
- Aboriginal Homelessness Partnering Strategy
- Action on Poverty Profiles
- Affordable Housing Flagship Initiative
- Applying LGBTQ Positive Space Training to Family Health Care Providers
- Be the One: To Stop Violence Against Women and Girls
- Project Evaluation
- Building Better Futures Evaluation
- Community Access to Transportation Program Evaluation
- Community Action Program for Children (CAPC)
- Community Data Consortium
- Creating Safe Communities for Women Evaluation
- De Savaida: a holistic Aboriginal Health Centre
- Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council (HIPC)
- Hamilton Tastebuds: Student Nutrition Collaborative
- Hamilton Positive Space Training
- Hamilton Social Landscape Bulletin Series
- Healthy Communities Hamilton
- Immigration Culture and Art Association (ICAA)
- Mohawk Collage Access Project Evaluation
- Neighbourhood Development Strategy Opportunity Knocks
- Riverdale Community Planning Team
- Socaljawaan Non-Profit Housing Inc.
- S.E.E.D. Funding Program
- Pan Am Social Inclusion
- Skills Through Activity and Recreation (STAR) Program Evaluation
- Strengthening Newcomer Services
- Supporting Our Sisters (SOS)
- Supportive Housing in Hamilton
- Survivors of Violence Project Evaluation
- Threshold School of Building Strategic Plan
- Urban Arts Initiative
- Vital Signs – Hamilton Community Foundation
- Women’s Housing Planning Collaborative
- Youth Confidence in Learning Study
- Youth Housing Support Project
FINANCIAL REPORT

June 7, 2013

Independent Auditors’ Report

To the Director of Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2013 and the statements of accumulated net assets, financial activities for the operating fund, statement of financial activities and accumulated net assets of the capital and stabilization reserve funds, cash flows and related schedules for the year then ended, and the summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management’s Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for maintaining internal control as management determines is necessary to ensure the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor’s Responsibility

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 accounting standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those assessment, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity’s preparation and presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

Basis for qualified opinion

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matters described in the basis for qualification paragraph, the financial statements, read as a whole, present fairly in all material respects: the financial position of Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton as at March 31, 2013, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Comparative Information

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to note 2 to the financial statements which describes that Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton adopted Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations on April 1, 2012 with a transition date of April 1, 2011. These standards were applied prospectively by management to the comparative information in these financial statements, including the statements of financial position at March 31, 2012 and April 1, 2011, and the statement of accumulated net assets, financial activities for the operating fund, statement of financial activities and accumulated net assets of the capital and stabilization reserve funds, cash flows and related schedules for the year ended March 31, 2012 and related disclosures. We were not engaged to report on the revised comparative information, and such a report is unaudited.

Soci&AL PlANNING AND ReSEarcH CuNCIL OF Hamilton
StanetMENT OF FiNaNcIAL ACTiViTIES aND ACCUmulATED NEt ASSETs OperATING FUND

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<td></td>
<td>Cash Flows</td>
<td>Funded Projects</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<tr>
<td>REVENUE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support from public</td>
<td>$ 2,722</td>
<td>$ 1,562</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support from governmental agencies</td>
<td>1,056,191</td>
<td>773,674</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating revenue</td>
<td>2,758,705</td>
<td>2,338,765</td>
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<td>EXPENSES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries and benefits</td>
<td>319,837</td>
<td>151,071</td>
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<td>Professional services</td>
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<td>Service Contracts</td>
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<td>Supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postage and shipping</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rent and insurance</td>
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<td>Public relations</td>
<td>10,494</td>
<td>10,494</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff travel</td>
<td>9,511</td>
<td>9,511</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff development</td>
<td>2,101</td>
<td>2,101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer recognition</td>
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<td>5,047</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organization fees and subscriptions</td>
<td>3,576</td>
<td>3,576</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment and maintenance contracts</td>
<td>3,196</td>
<td>3,196</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other operating</td>
<td>1,689</td>
<td>1,689</td>
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<td>$ 347</td>
<td>$ 347</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year</td>
<td>$(98)</td>
<td>$(98)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Accumulated net assets of beginning of the year</td>
<td>$(528)</td>
<td>$(528)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Accumulated net assets at end of the year</td>
<td>$ 509</td>
<td>$ 509</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Last year, when it became apparent that the community may not receive the full funding allotment... to reflect the high level of homelessness in our community, the other various key stakeholders and stakeholders in negotiating the funding and providing strategic support and research to our effort."  

Jenice Lewis-Devlin  
Director of Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton  
Aboriginal Coalition  
February 2012
HIGHLIGHTS

As a result of working with the Women’s Housing Planning Collaborative with a “housing first” approach to supporting women facing homelessness, 90% of women who entered the Supporting Our Sisters Program remained housed while accessing the Supporting Our Sisters Program funded by Service Canada. Most of these women would have remained in the shelter system without this support. The SPPC developed the data collection and evaluation tools, the social marketing campaign and support the collaborative process with facilitation, research, planning and communication.

As a result of our support and planning efforts, the Affordable Housing Program has been a strategic partner in the planning and development of a 10 year housing and homelessness action plan for the City of Hamilton. This plan will ensure that everyone in Hamilton will have a home that is able to meet their core housing needs and access the root causes of homelessness in our community.

The Community Action Program for Children (CAPC) promotes the healthy development of children born to six in east Hamilton through community-based strategies and programming. In the past year, CAPC has engaged 37 community members in a variety of volunteer placements including a CAPC advisory council, a tenant collaborative and community events. CAPC’s community engagement strategy also includes monthly information sessions in partnership with the immigrant Women’s Centre. A rendezvous at the sessions covering topics such as healthy eating and positive parenting, has grown to 50 to 70 community member participants per month.

In December 2012, the Community Action Program for Children (CAPC) initiated the CAPC Systems Navigation Program. The objective of the program is to increase service system access for parents of children born to six years of age in east Hamilton. This is achieved through one-on-one support and educational opportunities targeted toward increased connection to various child and family systems. The Systems Navigation Program provides service to over 100 parents and caregivers in the first 4 months of operation.

In December 2012, the Urban Arts Initiative (UAI) received an announcement from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) that they were being awarded a second OTF grant. The OTF approved a grant of $34,400, which will be provided for a two-year period. In addition to being a member of the UAI steering committee, the SPPC received a new role as the lead sponsor for this grant. The UAI provides opportunities and engagement in the arts for low-income, homeless and at-risk youth. Through participating in UAI programming, youth can explore the creative and multimedia arts, build community and connection, engage in self-discovery, and develop new skills.

STAFF MEMBERS

Don Jeffray, M.A., Executive Director

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

Caroline Ryk, Financial Administrator
Cristina Walters, Executive Assistant
Tina Goularte, Administrative Assistant
Margaret Byrne, Administrative Assistant
Carina Stroop, Interim Administrative Assistant

SENIOR STAFF:

Pat Mclaney, Senior Social Planner
Debbie Risk, Senior Social Planner

PLANNER STAFF:

Carla Klassen, Social Planner
Sara Maro, Social Planner
Elita Morton, Social Planner
Cheryl Sue McCormick, Social Planner
Renée Wysenick, Social Planner

PROJECT STAFF:

Amber Aamot, Program Coordinator
Sandi Aarsen, Riverside Resource Facilitator
Ghanwa Math, Systems Support Worker
Jean Anne Bauman, Community Development Worker
Rosemary DeBarthe, Summer Youth Engagement Coordinator
Grace Evans, Community Development Worker – Farm to Table
Bhalai Kumar, Community Development Worker
Tan Sokari-Foss, Artistic Director
Liz Miller, Community Development Worker
Alison Miller, Community Outreach/ Volunteer Coordinator
Lisa McLennan, Project Developer
Laura Ryan, Community Development Worker
Greg Tedesco, Research Assistant

CAREER PLACEMENT STUDENTS

Rael Akhtar
Rebecca Clauser
Rebecca Goularte
Jasmine Escudier
Nicole Forbes
Conner Gibbons
Harsh Marston
Brandy Marsworth
Jessica Hove
Anna Jakubowski
Rosaleen Kielty
Megan Lee
Stephanie Lockhart
Laura McGuire
Aaron-Myles Gardner
Rupinder Natt
Viktoria Nikielska
Harriett-rose Ortiz

We would like to acknowledge McMaster University School of Social Work and Mohawk College of Applied Arts and Technology for their contributions.

*Graduated from completed project during the year
THANK YOU

FUNDERS

Our deepest thanks to all funders for their support to the work of the SPRC:

Aboriginal Health Centre
Breakfast Clubs of Canada
Breakfast for Learning
Canadian Ferguson Association
CIBC
City Housing Hamilton
City of Hamilton
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
Cerberus
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Fair Fontaine
Good Shepherd Centre
Hamilton Healthcare Children’s Aid Society
Hamilton Community Foundation
Hamilton Housing Providers Association
Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council
Immigrant Culture Arts Association
International House of Hamilton
Local Health Integration Network
Ministry of Children and Youth Services
Ministry of Health and Long Term Care
Mohawk College
Neighbour to Neighbour Hamilton
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Public Health Agency of Canada
Realtor Association of Hamilton-Burlington
Salvation Army
Lawrence MacKenzie Hamilton
Service Canada
St. Mary’s Hospital
United Way of Burlington and Greater Hamilton
YWCA Hamilton

PARTNERS/COLLABORATIVES

We have enjoyed the opportunity to work with the following organizations, networks and community partners:

Burlington Catholic Charities
Burlington Community Services
City Hamilton
Community Centre for Youth (CCY)
Community Collaborative for Adult & Youth Community Information Hamilton
De Bawa Aboriginal Health Centre
Emergency Services Federation of Ontario
Environment Hamilton
Food & Shelter Advisory Committee
Good Shepherd Centre
Hamilton Anti-Hate Coalition
Hamilton Breakfast Network
Hamilton Centre for Civic Engagement
Hamilton Community Foundation
Hamilton Council on Aging
Hamilton Executive Director’s Aboriginal Coalition
Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council
Hamilton Native Friendship Centre
Hamilton Public Library
Hamilton Public Space Collaborative
Hamilton Public Library
Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction (HRPP)
Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre
Hamilton Wentworth Elementary Teachers Local
Hamilton Youth Planning Collaborative

HIGHLIGHTS

Over the years, the SPRC has changed the format of its reports to respond to the diverse needs of our growing audience. In 2004, we published the Association of Canadian Landmark Incomes and Poverty (ACLI), as a glossy full colour, 4 page report. The positive feedback led us to publish most of our reports in this format. In 2012, we launched a new bi-annual series, titled “Hamilton Social Landscape”. This time as a shorter, 2-page format. These short reports are easier for readers to print themselves and give them more real interest and analysis that can be read in less time.

This year we have released four bulletins on the impacts of cycles of violence on families’ income, including full-time and part-time employment, women and men, and youth. The mobile coverage of this bulletin has been dramatically increased, including more mentions on the front page of the Hamilton Spectator.

SPRC is leading the way in evaluation of Local Immigration Partnerships (LIPs) in Ontario. Funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), this project brings together organizations, including those serving women with immigrant and newcomers. The Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council (HIPC) has been involved in helping to identify the needs of newcomers and to better understand the role of the settlement service system. After it was established, HIPC worked with the other project partners to develop a comprehensive framework for the project and to develop recommendations to improve the outcomes for newcomers.

SPRC was involved in conducting an evaluation of the impact and contributions of our work. We provided a very insightful and informative report that will be shared with our community advisory board and will inform our work in the future.

SPRC has also helped to connect us to various community organizations and initiatives to work together for the benefit of the community.

It’s been a pleasure to work with the people of the SPRC. Hamilton is lucky to have them.

SPRC’s instrumental role in collecting much-needed food data, which has been used in a variety of reports and publications, is something I am so proud of. SPRC has established itself as a go-to-body for any community data. Their work on the Africentric Health and Research Initiative is one of the most important roles in developing a comprehensive and meaningful community and a staff that really understands the needs of the community and their role in shaping public policy. SPRC is an integral part of our community, which is demonstrated by the presence of community events and the support for other organizations and institutions in helping to make Hamilton the best place to raise a child.

Linda Butter
Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council
June 7, 2012

A special thanks goes to the friends of the SPRC for their donations in 2012/2013.

Thanks to the citizens of Hamilton who participated in SPRC events and consultations.

Denise Doyle
Chief Executive Officer
YWCA Hamilton
February 2013

...we along with five other women serving agencies, worked with SPRC to form the Women’s Housing Collaborative Partnership... SPRC was crucial in helping us come together to form a group that meets all of our goals and addresses various issues of women at the center of the work...