As we end one SPRC year and start the next we must begin with a word of thanks to Jennifer Street who resigned as our President. Jenny has served our Board and our community well. She is an exemplar of why Hamilton is known throughout Canada as a city of volunteers. We will miss her steady hand on the helm. Jennifer has also contributed in many ways to the SPRC particularly by giving her time and talents to our Strategic Planning, Issues Management and Performance Evaluation Committees. She has also been an active and much appreciated Board representative to the Hamilton CAPC Council.

We started this year by moving to our new and improved location on the ground floor of First Place, a City Housing Hamilton property.

The year just completed is a major milestone for the SPRC. We have now successfully completed 50 years of social research and community planning service to Hamilton. We’re proud of the contributions of the SPRC staff and volunteers over that time. We have worked committedly to shine a light on important conditions in the community that we need to know more about and better understand. We have focused on those trends and conditions that most affect individuals and families that experience hardship, social exclusion and poor health.

Through those years we have struggled to come to terms with the fact that ours is a complex society, ever changing and subject to a great many forces and influences that all play a part in shaping our condition.

After 50 years we have not only persevered, but under the dedicated leadership of our volunteers and staff, the SPRC has earned a reputation as one of the most effective Social Planning Councils in Canada. The staff team we have built has earned the respect of our community partners and other councils across Canada.

We still face many of the problems that we were addressing years ago. Many things have improved in no small part because of the work the SPRC has done. We now work far better in partnership with community members. We have contributed to progress in equitable inclusion of LGBTQ, immigrant and refugee, youth and urban Aboriginal community members. Many local leaders now have a better understanding of the social and economic determinants of health. Hamilton has been in the forefront of measuring our progress and deficits in an evidence based approach to understanding and improving conditions.

Still we continue to face shortages in affordable housing, and too many members of our community are still forced to use food banks to make it through each month. And while we have made progress, many in our community still experience discrimination. These are conditions which do not change quickly and we’re not finished yet.

We look forward to the next 50 years of collaborating with all members of our community and will continue to strive towards making Hamilton a better place to live, work and play.

Don Jaffray

Marvin Caplan

Executive Director

President
Over the course of the past year the SPRC has conducted research resulting in the following publications:

All We Need is Community: Urban Aboriginal Homelessness Survey

Profile of Hamilton’s Aboriginal Residents

Money for Nothing, Debt for Free

Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council Service Provider Survey Report


Grocer Ease Program Review and Evaluation

YWCA Hamilton Financial Literacy Program Evaluation

In addition, the SPRC has published the following reports through collaboration with community partners:

Hamilton’s Vital Signs – Hamilton’s Economic Renaissance: A prosperity unevenly shared

Canada Votes 2015 – Affordable Housing, Child Care, Climate Change, Community Infrastructure, Employment Insurance, Health Care, Immigrant Population: Express Entry, Jobs and Economy, Long Form Census, Migrant Workers, Poverty Reduction, Public Transit, Responsible Taxation, Seniors and Income Security

Profile of North Hamilton

Voter ID Clinics During the 2015 Federal Election

St. Leonard’s Society of Hamilton Report to the Community - 2016

Paths to Research Collaboration: A Guide to Working with McMaster Researchers

All of the above reports are available for download on our website: www.sprc.hamilton.on.ca/reports
HAMeLTON COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN (CAPC)

For over 20 years, Hamilton CAPC has been providing supports that address the healthy development of children aged newborn to six and their families in east Hamilton. Community based programs and initiatives are delivered through local partnerships in order to improve healthy outcomes for children. In 2015-2016, fourteen child and family programs were provided in thirty-five locations across east Hamilton.

Hamilton CAPC focuses on resident engagement and participation in order to strengthen the capacity of communities to support families with young children. Direction for the project is provided by the Hamilton CAPC Council, a group of committed community members who engage in consultation, program promotion and community connection.

Hamilton CAPC community initiatives include monthly information sessions that provide knowledge and skill building about systems that support families. In addition, Hamilton CAPC coordinates Riverdale Fallfest, an annual event that combines a neighbourhood celebration with service outreach and attracts over 700 residents per year. Hamilton CAPC has also formed partnerships with grassroots groups and networks that expand outreach and resource provision. One such partnership is the Baby Depot, a group of volunteers who provide CAPC referred families with basic need items such as hampers of clothing and food.

Hamilton CAPC contributes to the coordination of all CAPC projects across Ontario through membership on the Coordinating Committee of the Ontario Network of CAPC/CPNP projects. The committee ensures connection between the 160 provincial projects by building capacity, enhancing knowledge and providing a collective voice for the needs of families. Hamilton CAPC is generously funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada.

YOUTH HOUSING SUPPORT PROJECT (YHSP)

The newly developed Youth Housing Support Project (YHSP) was launched in April 1st, 2015, which encompasses a continuum of supports via the sub projects: Housing First for Youth and Youth Homelessness Prevention. The YHSP is a collaborative venture between Catholic Children’s Aid Society of Hamilton, Good Shepherd Youth Services, Living Rock, Wesley Urban Ministries and the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton and is generously funded by the Government of Canada. The YHSP works with street-involved and homeless youth in Hamilton to support them to achieve their housing goals. The first year of the project has demonstrated some very successful outcomes for youth in Hamilton:

33 youth were housed through the Housing First for Youth Program
197 youth obtained or maintained housing through the Youth Homelessness Prevention program

Youth comments about the project include:

“They supported me a lot to maintain housing. And to find a place to live and with my vision.”
“The staff supported me by being persistent. She knew that I was in the shelter for a long time and she went out on a wing for me so that I could find a home.”

The SPRC provides staff support via a Project Coordinator who works with the YHSP steering committee and project staff. The past year’s successes of the YHSP is partly due to the collaborative planning and development work of the steering committee, team work from the project staff, and the sharing of project resources.
TASTEBUDS, HAMILTON’S STUDENT NUTRITION COLLABORATIVE

Tastebuds, Hamilton’s Student Nutrition Collaborative, continues to ensure Hamilton students have universal access to nutritious food during their school day, feeding over 30,000 a day in more than 172 programs. Striving to reach a goal where every student in the city receives a snack or meal in their school, Tastebuds started five new designated programs with support from the Ministry of Child and Youth Services and enhanced many more programs, moving them from snacks with two food groups to meal programs with three food groups.

One key element of our success in assisting programs to purchase nutritious food at the best possible prices came with the addition of Suzanne Giovannetti in the role of Centralized Food Purchasing Coordinator (CFPP). This was made possible in part because of a grant from Maple Leaf Foods. This role is an essential connection between the vendors and farmers through whom food is purchased, Good Shepherd, which provides delivery of the food, and schools where the food will be delivered.

Finally, with over 1,300 volunteers, Tastebuds is always looking for meaningful ways to recognize the volunteer contributions to our programs. Through the leadership of the CFPP, Tastebuds held its first wine and cheese Volunteer Appreciation event at the Knights of Columbus Hall, with food sponsored by Zarky’s. Over 200 volunteers attended and enjoyed the band, the food and drinks and the trivia contest emceed by Deirdre Pike. The feedback was tremendously positive and this will be a repeat event next year and has solidified our partnerships with Zarky’s and the Knights of Columbus.

HOMELESSNESS PARTNERING STRATEGY (HPS) POINT-IN-TIME (PIT) COUNT

The Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) coordinated a national Point-in-Time (PIT) Count in the winter of 2016 and Hamilton’s Housing Services Division successfully completed the local PIT on February 21 & 22. Using the inclusionary principles of partnership and collaboration, the project garnered support from over 20 community partners and emphasized the need for a unique Aboriginal perspective in the process.

The City gave acknowledgement of Aboriginal self-determination and aimed to "contribute to the ethic of reconciliation," while confirming "Aboriginal peoples must be part of any solution to homelessness!!". As the HPS Aboriginal Community Entity, the Social Planning and Research Council played an integral role in ensuring that there was Aboriginal consultation, coordination, and volunteers, with Aboriginal-specific methodology developed specifically for Hamilton.

The methodology included having at least one Aboriginal surveyor on each survey team and hosting an "Aboriginal Magnet Event" (an all-day celebrative event that attracted people from the community, providing Aboriginally-focused cultural activities such as drumming, dancing and food).

This successful local effort continues to be shared locally, provincially and nationally to create opportunities for advancement in solutions to end homelessness. The creation of national resource documents including “Guide to Point-in-Time Counts in Canada of the Homelessness Partnering Strategy” and the “Point-in-Time Count Toolkit – Fostering Aboriginal Partnerships and Cultural Competency During Your Point-in-Time Count”, espoused local Hamilton Aboriginal perspectives and methodologies resulting in opportunities to connect and assist other Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities across Canada in their PIT Count endeavors.

The City of Hamilton continues to be recognized as a leader in fostering the principles of partnership and collaboration with the urban Aboriginal community of Hamilton and the SPRC continues to play a major role in this process of creating community change.
NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION STRATEGY (NAS)

The Neighbourhood Action Strategy, a partnership between the residents of Hamilton’s 11 priority neighbourhoods, Hamilton Community Foundation, Best Start, the City of Hamilton and the SPRC, continues to implement the 450 actions identified in the Neighbourhood Action Plans. The Community Developer team at the SPRC continues to provide the backbone support to resident planning teams in the neighbourhoods. This past year saw a number of highlights including the awarding of 61 small grants totalling just under $40,000 to resident led initiatives such as alley clean ups, community film nights, the Sunset Cultural Garden, the De-Light Lantern Festival, a youth led LGBTQ dance, youth arts and mural making, 100in1 Day actions, and park clean ups.

The Riverdale Planning Team created an inclusion plan to introduce anti-racism and anti-oppression which resulted in the planning team becoming a more welcoming and inclusive space for residents of diverse cultural backgrounds. There has also been an increase in the number of small grant applications from non-traditional applicants.

The GALA planning team has made efforts to engage Syrian refugee families in resident led initiatives, specifically in the community garden project. In an effort to reach new residents that aren’t involved with typical community organizing, members of the Jamesville Hub worked with professors and students from McMaster and developed a co-researcher program that saw residents paid honorariums to engage within their social circles. Overall there is a deepening in the skills and practices of community developers and residents that shares a commitment to improving the social determinants of health in our community.

The McQuesten Urban Farm was supported to actualize community visions for the farm. Along with the staff and the farm team (consisting of residents of McQuesten, City of Hamilton and SPRC staff, and Hamilton’s Victory Gardens) people came together and grew, tended and harvested nearly 10,000 lbs of 80 different, organically grown fruits and vegetables. These foods were utilized at the St. Matthew House Food Bank, for hosting workshops and tours and for the low-cost, McQuesten Farm Fresh Market and nature-based McQuesten Sprouts Summer Camp that was started over the summer of 2015. The volunteer participation over 25 weeks of a growing season included 2,470 volunteer hours in McQuesten!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015-2016

Marvin Caplan, President
Don Cocco, Secretary/Treasurer
Beth Bromberg
Melanie Dani*
Marina Fensham
Ailsa Fullwood
Julie Hamilton
George Hough
Edisa Kozo
Scott Moreton*
Susanne O’Grady
Sarah Shurr
Jennifer Street*

*Resigned during the year
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>Core Operations</th>
<th>Funded Projects</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Core Operations</th>
<th>Funded Projects</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Support from public</td>
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<td>$2,911,996</td>
<td>$2,924,803</td>
<td>$4,185</td>
<td>$2,681,601</td>
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<td>Support from governmental agencies</td>
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<td>929,734</td>
<td>972,534</td>
<td>41,960</td>
<td>1,078,465</td>
<td>1,120,425</td>
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<td>Operating revenue</td>
<td>375,841</td>
<td>1,206</td>
<td>377,047</td>
<td>359,695</td>
<td>1,322</td>
<td>361,017</td>
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<td><strong>Total revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>431,448</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,842,936</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,274,384</strong></td>
<td><strong>405,840</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,761,388</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,167,228</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Salaries and benefits</td>
<td>309,086</td>
<td>1,151,323</td>
<td>1,460,409</td>
<td>259,294</td>
<td>1,115,874</td>
<td>1,375,168</td>
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<td>Service contracts</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,064,611</td>
<td>2,064,611</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,033,130</td>
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<td>Purchase of service</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>358,769</td>
<td>358,769</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>347,891</td>
<td>347,891</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional fees</td>
<td>9,386</td>
<td>9,386</td>
<td>7,827</td>
<td>7,827</td>
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<td>Supplies</td>
<td>5,551</td>
<td>46,129</td>
<td>51,680</td>
<td>31,943</td>
<td>40,527</td>
<td>72,467</td>
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<td>Telephone</td>
<td>11,292</td>
<td>8,337</td>
<td>20,629</td>
<td>11,990</td>
<td>8,825</td>
<td>20,815</td>
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<td>Postage and shipping</td>
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<td>6,008</td>
<td>11,995</td>
<td>6,735</td>
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<td>Rent and insurance</td>
<td>35,175</td>
<td>84,320</td>
<td>119,495</td>
<td>31,957</td>
<td>40,414</td>
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<td>Public relations</td>
<td>5,282</td>
<td>1,786</td>
<td>7,068</td>
<td>4,290</td>
<td>6,836</td>
<td>11,136</td>
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<td>Staff transportation</td>
<td>4,447</td>
<td>27,048</td>
<td>31,495</td>
<td>4,388</td>
<td>18,537</td>
<td>22,925</td>
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<td>Staff development</td>
<td>2,829</td>
<td>15,417</td>
<td>18,246</td>
<td>2,387</td>
<td>11,432</td>
<td>13,819</td>
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<td>Volunteer recognition</td>
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<td>38,859</td>
<td>40,917</td>
<td>3,906</td>
<td>23,568</td>
<td>27,474</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organization dues and periodicals</td>
<td>6,871</td>
<td>6,871</td>
<td>13,742</td>
<td>4,290</td>
<td>4,290</td>
<td>8,580</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment and maintenance contracts</td>
<td>13,926</td>
<td>22,734</td>
<td>36,660</td>
<td>13,398</td>
<td>7,304</td>
<td>20,702</td>
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<td>Other administration</td>
<td>5,689</td>
<td>90,893</td>
<td>96,582</td>
<td>2,301</td>
<td>126,342</td>
<td>128,643</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>421,404</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,842,936</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,264,340</strong></td>
<td><strong>359,852</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,761,388</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,121,240</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Excess of revenue over expenses for the year</td>
<td>10,044</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10,044</td>
<td>45,988</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>45,988</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accumulated net assets at beginning of the year</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>685</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfer to Capital Fund</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(32,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(32,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer to Stabilization Reserve Fund</td>
<td>(10,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(10,000)</td>
<td>(14,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(14,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accumulated net assets at end of year</strong></td>
<td>$717</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$717</td>
<td>$673</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$673</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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.

OUR DEEPEST THANKS TO ALL OF OUR FUNDERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT TO OUR WORK

City of Hamilton  
De dwa da dehs nye>s Aboriginal Health Centre  
Hamilton Community Foundation  
Hamilton Council on Aging  
Hamilton Family Health Team  
Ministry of Children and Youth Services  
Ontario Trillium Foundation  
Public Health Agency of Canada  
Rygel Supports for Community Living  
Service Canada  
St. Leonard’s Society of Hamilton  
United Way of Burlington and Greater Hamilton  
YWCA Hamilton  
Members and Community Donations  
And our many other Contributors
STAFF & STUDENT PLACEMENTS

DON JAFFRAY, M.A., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Caroline Eyk, Financial Administrator
Tiffany Gabriel, Administrative Assistant
Sarah Hedden, Executive Assistant
Yvonne Rauwerda, Finance Assistant

SENIOR STAFF

Patti McNaney, Senior Social Planner
Deirdre Pike, Senior Social Planner
Renée Wetselaar, Senior Social Planner

PLANNER STAFF

Shahzi Bokhari, Social Planner Assistant
Carla Borstad Klassen, Social Planner
Alessandra Gage, Social Planner Assistant*
Allison Maxted, Social Planner – Hamilton Community Land Trust
Sara Mayo, Social Planner – Geographic Information Systems
Cindy Sue McCormack, Social Planner
Erika Morton, Social Planner

PROJECT STAFF

ART FORMS
Amber Aasman, Program Coordinator

HAMILTON COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN
Ghanwa Afach, Systems Support Worker
Alison Miller, Community Outreach and Program Administration

TASTEBUDS, HAMILTON’S STUDENT NUTRITION COLLABORATIVE
Jean-Anne Bauman, Community Development Worker
Samantha Delaney, Community Development Worker
Grace Evans, Social Planner Assistant
Suzanne Giovannetti, Centralized Food Purchasing Coordinator
Bhairavi Kumar, Community Development Worker

NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION STRATEGY
Sunil Angrish, Community Animator – Ward 2
Brandon Braithwaite, Community Developer
Dave Cherewski, Community Animator – Ward 2*
David Derbyshire, Community Developer*
Khadija Hamidu, Summer Community Development Assistant*
Crystal Humphrey, Sprouts Camp Counsellor*
Masih Khan, Summer Community Development Assistant*
Judy Kloosterman, Community Developer
Aleksandra Lesesen, Summer Community Development Assistant*
Kelly McKinney, Community Animator – McQuesten Urban Farm
Muneeb Muzaffar, Community Animator – Riverdale Salad Bowl
Audrey Nahaz, Community Animator – Summer Assistant*
Laura Ryan, Community Developer
Lyna Saad, Community Developer
Greg Tedesco, Social Planner Assistant
Matt Thompson, Community Developer
Abed Wahoush, Summer Community Development Assistant*
Syed-Hamid Yazdani, Community Developer*
Nazia Zeb, Community Developer

*Resigned or completed project during the year

PLACEMENT STUDENTS

Azalea Atienza
Heather Bamsy
Minoo Faragheh
Savannah Hope
Sarah Mantini
Katharine Morrison
Grace Kennedy
Robyn Ocean
Taryn Simmons
Jennifer Rollings
Jennifer Weinhandl