

REGION OF OTTAWA-CARLETON
RÉGION D'OTTAWA-CARLETON

REPORT
RAPPORT

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Your File/V/Réf.

DATE 16 May 2000

TO/DEST. Chair and Members, Community Services Committee

FROM/EXP. A/Committee Co-ordinator

SUBJECT/OBJET **VISION FOR THE NEW CITY OF OTTAWA**

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

For Committee discussion.

BACKGROUND

At the request of Councillor Wendy Byrne, the above-noted item has been placed on the agenda for Committee discussion. Background information is attached.

Approved by
Stephani Roy

Our Vision for the City of Ottawa

We are a group of citizens who care deeply about the welfare of *all* members of Ottawa-Carleton. We envision a new City in which all citizens have the capacity to work together to manage, develop and use the wide range of opportunities, responsive services, and resources within their communities for a safe, just and healthy life for all.

We believe that municipal government is one of the means by which we achieve our vision of community. We want our new municipal government to maintain Ottawa's reputation as a primary choice in which to live and work, by:

- **Being a leader in social and economic policy and services that serve the whole person and the whole community.** The new City recognizes that investment in Ottawa's primary resource, its people, will yield dividends in attracting and retaining business, tourists and newcomers. Just as too little investment in our physical infrastructures may mean crumbling roads and bridges, falling investments in our social infrastructure can result in unemployment, family breakdown, community problems, and poverty.
- **Valuing our neighbourhoods as places where the safety and well-being of children, women, and families come first, where all citizens can thrive in an atmosphere of love, care and understanding.** In the new City, children and youth are valued as individuals in childhood and given opportunities to reach their full potential as adults.
- **Recognizing that in community, some members need more support than others. The new City enables citizens to be self-supporting, and provides collective support for those who are unable to support themselves.**
- **Empowering all citizens by providing opportunities and resources to develop their physical, emotional, intellectual, social and spiritual capacities to their fullest, so that all can become successful and enthusiastic parents, caregivers, workers, neighbours and citizens.**
- **Recognizing the unique contributions, strengths and needs of each member of the community, and setting policies and structures that recognize and promote bilingualism, equity, diversity, and accessibility.**
- **Being accountable to all citizens.** The new City seeks out and uses current information on best practices in all sectors, monitors the quality of service and service outcomes, and uses cost-effective approaches that recognize and assess both the economic and social well-being of our new city.
- **Implementing structures that enable each sector to participate and contribute meaningfully to the governance process.** The new City promotes collaboration, cooperation, and partnership among all sectors as the best ways of building and maintaining services.