

REGION OF OTTAWA-CARLETON
RÉGION D'OTTAWA-CARLETON

REPORT
RAPPORT

Our File/N/Réf.
 Your File/V/Réf.

DATE 1 May 2000

TO/DEST. Coordinator
 Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee

FROM/EXP. Medical Officer of Health

SUBJECT/OBJET **PURCHASE OF SERVICE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE
 HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF
 OTTAWA-CARLETON**

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION

That the Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee and Council approve that the existing purchase of service agreement with Planned Parenthood of Ottawa-Carleton for \$64,000. to provide counselling, information, and referral programs to meet the Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines be renewed until December 31, 2000.

BACKGROUND

For more than 20 years the Ontario Ministry of Health Family Planning Section nurtured a partnership with several provincial community based agencies including Planned Parenthood organizations.

The Planned Parenthood of Ottawa-Carleton branch received core funding from the Ministry of Health. This funding was delivered annually as part of the Health Department's Sexual Health budget.

Previously funded by Social Services, the Health Department began funding Planned Parenthood Ottawa's Insight Theatre and Théâtre des lieux in the early 1990's through grants and purchase of service agreements.

Planned Parenthood Ottawa-Carleton offers unique volunteer training opportunities and peer mentoring models. A non-credit Sexuality Awareness Course is well established in the community and attended by several educators, parents and youth. Community based agencies often have the ability to operate at

a more grass roots level where certain segments of the population may feel more comfortable accessing information and services.

As approved by Council in July, 1998, the Health Department has since purchased both Insight Theatre and Théâtre des lueurs productions and presentations for most school boards as well as the counselling, information and referral programs required to meet the Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines.

DISCUSSION

Planned Parenthood Ottawa has over 30 years of experience in providing services on all aspects of healthy sexuality in Ottawa-Carleton with a large volunteer component. Being a community based agency, they are able to interface with the population of Ottawa-Carleton particularly after hours and in both French and English. They have many years of experience in partnerships and have worked collaboratively with the Health Department on sexual health projects such as conferences for professionals, individual counselling and advocacy.

Planned Parenthood Ottawa-Carleton is the only agency in Ottawa Carleton able to provide an adequate, comprehensive and compatible service. Based on their history of success with volunteers they are capable of promoting a complementary range of services and programs in a community based atmosphere.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Funds are available in account 151541-502330.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Public Consultation was not undertaken, as it is proposed to continue an arrangement which has been satisfactory to our clients and has been approved by the Board of Planned Parenthood of Ottawa-Carleton.

CONCLUSION

That Corporate Services and Economic Development and Regional Council approve the continuation of the collaboration with Planned Parenthood of Ottawa-Carleton to meet part of its mandate under the Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines.

*Approved by
Robert Cushman, MD, FRCPC*