

**REPORT NO. 1 of the
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT,
HEALTH & CULTURE STANDING COMMITTEE**
of its meeting held May 11, 2011

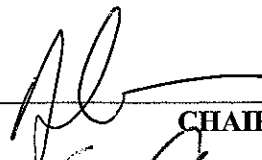
Present:


Councillor Al Maghnieh, Chair
Councillor Alan Halberstadt
Councillor Percy Hatfield
Councillor Ron Jones
Councillor Ed Sleiman

That the following recommendation of the Social Development, Health and Culture Standing Committee **BE APPROVED** as follows:

Moved by Councillor Hatfield, seconded by Councillor Sleiman,
That the report of the Community Development and Health Commissioner dated March 9, 2011 entitled "Employment Initiatives" **BE NOTED** and **FILED**.
Carried.

Clerk's Note: The Report from the Community Development and Health Services-Employment Social Services dated March 9, 2011 is attached as background information.



CHAIRPERSON


DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Notification		
Social Development, Health & Culture Standing Committee		

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WINDSOR
Community Development and Health Services - Employment Social Services

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

"The City of Windsor, with the involvement of its citizens, will deliver effective and responsive municipal services, and will mobilize innovative community partnerships"

LiveLink REPORT #: 15169 SS2011	Report Date: March 9, 2011
Author's Name: Diane Quinn	Date to Council: May 11, 2011
Author's Phone: 519 255-5200 ext. 5250	Classification #:
Author's E-mail: dquinn@city.windsor.on.ca	

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

Subject: Employment Initiatives

02/05/2011 9:10 AM

1. RECOMMENDATION: City Wide: _____ Ward(s): _____

To UPDATE Council of the Employment Initiatives that are currently underway;

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

N/A

2. BACKGROUND:

In response to the current economic climate, the Employment & Social Services Department developed a two-fold strategy: the first set of initiatives involved enhancing our connections with our community partners and the second set of initiatives targeted enhancing services for our clients. Each of these initiatives is meant to work in concert with each other to support any individual looking for employment, and particularly individuals in receipt of Ontario Works (OW) or, Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP). These initiatives, which will be noted in the discussion section, include a partnership with WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC), new initiatives with our youth, newcomers and self employed persons, Enhanced Employment services funding and the Employment Ontario Transformation project.

3. DISCUSSION:

A.) ENHANCING CONNECTIONS WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Windsor Essex Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC)

Council will recall that the City of Windsor entered into partnership with the WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation in March 2008. The purpose of the partnership is to provide

assessment, training and employment opportunities for Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program individuals through training incentives to new or existing employers to the region. The partnership is jointly administered by Employment & Social Services and the WEEDC. Agreements are tailored to the specific needs of the employer. Essentially, on the job training is provided by the employer and supported through our partnership.

This partnership has been promoted through a variety of means including business publications, websites, email broadcasts and sector specific meetings. These marketing tools have proven effective and have resulted in a number of partnerships with local employers, resulting in employment for Ontario Works individuals in various occupations including restaurant management, agricultural work and skilled trades.

Since July 2008, approximately 30 employers have entered into agreements with us and several others are currently under development. As a result, approximately 850 people have been placed in permanent full-time employment through a combination of incentive funding and direct hires due to the partnership. In June 2010, the Department hosted our first annual Employer Appreciation Luncheon, televised by Cogeco, to honour our partnerships with employers.

Workforce WindsorEssex

Workforce WindsorEssex was created as an independent, community-based board in October 2008 as a result of significant foundation work by the City of Windsor, County of Essex, WindsorEssex Development Commission and the Province of Ontario.

The board members are community leaders with a strategic outlook on the WindsorEssex community as a whole. The Board's mandate is to plan, facilitate and advocate for regional workforce development, defined as the development, retention and recruitment of a wide range of skilled workers to meet the current and future economic and social development needs of Windsor-Essex. The board wants to identify where the jobs of the future will be coming from and ensure the Windsor-Essex workforce will meet these demands and act as a catalyst in attracting new industries and businesses to the region.

Discussions have begun with WWE around potential partnerships to expand the current resume database with the addition of individuals who are in our Ontario Works programs. This would allow for greater identification of the knowledge and skills of the available workforce. Additionally there is another partnership under exploration with a goal of looking at achieving enhanced employability with respect to the training of OW individuals.

Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA)

If an individual has mental health issues which may prevent the person from finding or maintaining a job, they are referred to CMHA which offers the Personalized Assistance to Competitive Employment Program. (PACE). This program is designed to provide intensive employment supports to those who are committed to re-entering the job market on either a part-time or full-time basis. This program takes cues from a variety of supported employment models which includes pre-vocational training, job search and follow up delivered both in individual and group settings.

Learning Disability Association of Windsor Essex County (LDAWE)

When there is a suspicion that an individual may have a learning disability which could be preventing them from securing employment, they are referred for an assessment to be conducted by either LDAWE or the Psychology Department at the University of Windsor. Client intervention services for these individuals include, determining appropriate accommodation, support and treatment, assisting in determining achievable participation agreements, determining if ODSP application is appropriate and assisting with completion of application and compiling supporting documents and recommendations for retraining.

Of the 176 cases where intervention services were completed, 109 individuals (62%) were confirmed cases with a level of disability, 52 were confirmed with multiple disabilities and 113 of these individuals were referred for the Ontario Disability Support Program. Over 40% (72 individuals) required additional documentation or may have required formal psychiatric or psychological assessments to confirm diagnosis.

Through our partnership with LDAWE, in co-operation with the University of Windsor, 15 psychological assessments have been completed to date, which have resulted in 13 individuals being referred to ODSP for ongoing support.

In summary, the benefits of these community partnerships are:

- More comprehensive package of employment supports to offer Employers;
- More information on the Windsor Essex Labour market landscape for employers and individuals, through the identification of emerging sectors, and the skills needed to secure employment in those areas;
- More information and employment supports for individuals looking for work;
- More options for staff to better assist individuals who are employable but who require assistance beyond our internal capacity; and,
- Enhanced ability to assist individuals who have impediments to employment which require ongoing support outside the mandate of Ontario Works.

B.) ENHANCING DIRECT SERVICES OFFERED BY EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES STAFF

In order to fund and support skills development for individuals who are on the verge of being job ready, E&SS, created the following three specialized areas within the employment team: 1) Self Employment, 2) Foreign Trained Professionals and 3) Short Term Certificate/Skills Specific Training. Funding for these areas is provided by the reinvestment of Ontario Works discretionary funding to support successful employment outcomes. Each area has a caseworker with specialized training to help them provide optimal customer service and facilitate the transition to employment. Specialized caseloads allow the Department to track the progress and outcomes of our participants in an intensive case management model.

Self Employment

The caseworker reviews the viability of the business case plans for individuals who would like to pursue self employment. If the caseworker determines the plan to be viable, they will issue funds to support the activity and review the case at specified intervals ensuring they are on target with the goal of exiting Ontario Works into financial independence.

There have been 164 referrals to the self employment caseload and we have had several success stories, including individuals who have gone off assistance to start businesses such as a furniture store, a painting company, and driving cab and massage therapy.

Foreign Trained Professionals

Foreign Trained Professionals are referred to a caseworker if they are pursuing accreditation in their field and who have satisfied the eligibility requirements to begin the exam process. The research conducted by the Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership, funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada revealed that with minimal discretionary financial assistance, this population could take the exams required to complete the accreditation process and move off financial assistance. Through this initiative, Ontario Works provides the funding required for accreditation which allows them to reach their goal of becoming licensed in their field of expertise.

There have been 132 referrals to the Foreign Trained Professional caseload and we have had success stories including a foreign trained physician being accepted in to medical school and a foreign trained Dentist who through our assistance has been accepted in to Dental School- both through the support of Ontario Works.

Short Term Skills Specific Training

Individuals who are interested in short term skills specific training are referred to a caseworker who reviews all training requests. If their request for training supports their employment goals, staff will facilitate the appropriate supports and funding necessary for training.

There have been 431 referrals to this specialized caseload with great success including individuals moving off assistance and hired for positions such as Account Manager, IT Manager, Personal Support Workers and Pet Groomers.

Enhanced Employment Services (EES)

In 2009-10 and 2010-11, Employment and Social Services received ESS funding from the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) to provide services for individuals in receipt of social assistance who have multiple barriers to employment and therefore have marginal or no attachment to the labour market.

The purpose of the funding is to re-connect, support and prepare these individuals for participating in appropriate education, training services and employment through the provision of upfront intensive supports. This funding also acknowledges that people with marginal or no attachment to the labour force are most at risk during an economic downturn.

Services are targeted to the training and employment needs of specific groups, and are expected to target and/or tailor a portion of enhanced employment services to persons with disabilities. Specific programming has been developed for:

- Sole support parents aged 18-30,
- Older workers aged 40-65 years;
- At risk youth aged 18 to 25 years; and
- Persons with mental health issues and adults suspected of having learning disabilities.

Experience dictates that individuals who have personalized and frequent contact with caseworkers, tend to achieve more positive outcomes. Employment caseworkers use a variety of

strategies, active interventions, techniques and resources to build on an individual's strengths, assist them to overcome their barriers and build work-related skills. Assistance may also be required to deal with problems associated with housing, inadequate food, school or abuse. In some cases, the caseworker needs to act as a broker or liaison to help individuals resolve or deal with these challenges before the person can focus on employment services.

A review of the program details indicates that 92 individuals have been referred to the older worker program, of which, 89 have completed the program, 16 have enrolled and/or completed training/education programs and 4 have moved onto employment.

Some examples of the training accessed are forklift driving, crane operation, small non commercial vessel safety, DZ licensing and Grade 12 equivalency.

Examples of employment outcomes have been with security companies, construction, automotive collision and as general labourers.

Youth programming has seen 104 individuals referred, 76 completing the program, 13 individuals completed and/or enrolled in training/education, and 9 have moved onto employment. Some examples of training/education accessed are forklift driving, smart serve training, First Aid, college entry preparation, culinary management and pharmacy technician training.

Specialized programming for sole support parents, Positive Parenting and Employment Skills, has had 88 individuals referred to the program. Thirteen completed the first session and of those thirteen, eight completed the 4 week work placement. Three exited Ontario Works to commence full time Post Secondary studies, one enrolled part time, working towards their Grade 12 diploma and one participant is planning to enrol in post secondary studies in September 2011. The second session is currently ongoing with 15 participants.

Employment Ontario Transformation

In February 2010, Employment and Social Services, City of Windsor was designated by the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) to be a full suite provider of Employment Ontario services. The changes in programming through MTCU are referred to as the "Employment Ontario Transformation" (EOT) project. This designation brings together the employment services provided within the Employment Resource Centre and the employment services offered through Career Development Services. As a result of this change, the programs and services provided through Career Development Services joined Employment and Social Services, and is now known as Employment and Training Services.

Full suite providers must deliver all the services required to help people access training, plan for a career, find and keep a job. This is a new service delivery model which encourages collaboration with all stakeholders to provide enhanced supports for all unemployed individuals.

Additionally the City of Windsor was selected to deliver a program specifically for older workers called the Targeted Initiative for Older Workers (TIOW). The program is targeted to service 140 individuals between the ages of 55-64 and the program offers mandatory employment activity assistance such as resume writing, interview skills, job search skills, and training.

The enhanced services available for both programs include:

- Resources and Information (R & I) for job seekers and employers

- Information on training opportunities
- Development of action plans for employment
- Assistance with job searches
- Onsite workshops and training opportunities
- Job matching with employment opportunities
- Job Placement and financial incentives for employees and employers
- Follow up to maximize job training and job retention

The full implementation of the "Employment Ontario Transformation" initiative will require almost 2 years.

In order to provide the full range of employment support services and to better utilize existing space, the City of Windsor is also updating the Resource Centre on the 1st floor of 400 City Hall Square E. The space for Employment & Training Services will be able to offer any person who is in search of work the opportunity to meet with staff, participate in workshops and access computers and software programs specifically designed to assist with the job search.

The remodelled centre will also have an enhanced capacity to assist employers with events such as job fairs and employee recruitment. While the ETS Centre has never ceased operation, the remodelling is expected to be completed by early April 2011. The renewed employment centre is also a model of collaboration with 100% of the funding coming from the Ontario Ministries of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) and Community and Social Services (MCSS).

We know that investing in people works, and we are convinced that Employment and Social Services has a large role to play in the economic diversification and growth occurring in Windsor and Essex County.

4. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

The City of Windsor receives funding from two Ministries and delivers employment related services through several programs.

MINISTRY OF TRAINING, COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Employment Services

The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) provides 100% funding for the Employment Services (ES) program. The current ES contract is for a 20 month period (August 1, 2010 to March 31, 2012) and covers 100% of costs up to a maximum of \$3.49 million over the contract period. This allocation provides for operating costs, employer incentives, and employment & training supports. A onetime allocation of \$198,500 for transition costs related to the Employment Ontario Transformation is included in this amount. The level of future funding allocations will be based on the success of meeting performance targets.

Targeted Initiative for Older Workers

MTCU also funds a time limited Pilot program called Targeted Initiative for Older Workers program. This program, which runs from April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2012, is geared to assist older workers in finding employment and is funded 100% up to \$2.26 million for the contract period.

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

The Ministry of Community and Social Services also provides employment related funding through various funding streams.

Enhanced Employment Services

The Enhanced Employment Services program is a two year time limited program ending on March 31, 2011. MCSS provided 100% funding over the two years amounting to \$1.93 million. This program is geared toward providing employment services to four vulnerable populations: older workers aged 40-65, at risk youth aged 18-25, those afflicted with mental issues, and adults suspected of having learning disabilities. Although this program ends on March 31, 2011, the department will continue these programs through the remainder of 2011 by accessing carryover Ontario Works Employment funding.

Ontario Works – Financial Assistance Benefits

Through Ontario Works, Employment Related Expenses (ERE) are provided to support participants as they progress toward sustainable employments. Payments may cover out of pocket expenses associated with participation in employment assistance activities, and include such expenses as transportation, supplies, and equipment, etc. In addition, ERE also provides training for short periods of time (e.g. certificate program) that lead to a job. The Province pays up 81.2% of these costs, with the 18.8% municipal contribution being shared by the City and County.

Costs for longer term vocational training (i.e., costs related to instruction in the skills and knowledge required to obtain employment in a prescribed vocation) may be provided as a discretionary benefit cost. These costs are shared by the Province at the same ratio as ERE but are capped at a Ministry specified amount.

Ontario Works Program Delivery

MCSS recently announced the Revised Ontario Works Funding approach. Under this new funding model, Ontario Works Administration and Ontario Works Employment Assistance funding are consolidated into one Program Delivery funding allocation which allows delivery agents the flexibility to determine how best to allocate funds for all aspects of the program. The employment funding component of the allocation will still be tied to meeting performance targets.

The new model allocates provincial subsidy at \$2,016 per case. For Windsor-Essex, the maximum subsidy allocation for fiscal year April 2011 to March 2012 is \$20,324,200. Of this amount, subsidy of \$13,863,200 will be subject to 50/50 cost-sharing and \$6,461,000 will be subject to the upload and will be cost-shared 81.2%/18.8% (April 2011 to December 2011) and 82.8%/17.2% (January 2012 to March 2012). The County will continue to share in the required municipal contribution.

The Ministry guarantees this level of funding for two years (April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2013). After this two year cycle, the Ministry will reallocate the funding based on the monthly average caseload of the prior two years. This increased investment will allow the department to continue providing employment programs and expand partnerships that help people become financially independent

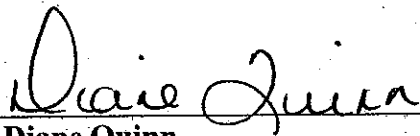
5. CONSULTATIONS:

Each of the initiatives required extensive consultations with community stakeholders, including the WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation, community agencies and government agencies.

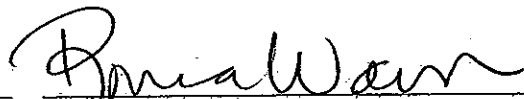
6. CONCLUSION:

Employment & Social Services has been proactively seeking out solutions that provide training assistance and employment opportunities to tackle the challenges experienced in Windsor-Essex County by residents and employers alike. The partnership with the WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation continues to attract employers from different sectors to partner in such programs. Internal initiatives such as team specialization provide for skills development based on forecasting labour market needs. The development of a service plan to deliver Enhanced Employment Services to vulnerable person's promises to re-connect, support and prepare vulnerable populations for participating in appropriate education, training services and employment. The Employment Ontario Transformation will deliver all the services required to help people access training, plan for a career and find and keep a job.

Our goal is to create an environment where a person can find the tools they need to reconnect with the labour market in as short a period as possible. The employment services offered through the department should decrease the length of time a person is unemployed, resulting in cost savings for all forms of financial assistance including Employment Insurance and Ontario Works. This level of consolidation is an investment in the labour force of this community. Participants who are able to transition from unemployment to employment through the acquisition of skills, training and employment opportunities will be our greatest success stories.



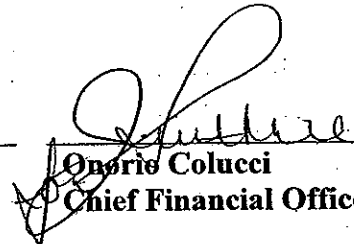
Diane Quinn
Employment & Training Initiatives
Manager



Ronna Warsh
Community Development & Health
Commissioner



Teresa Piruzza
Executive Director
of Employment & Social Services



Onorio Colucci
Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer

DQ

APPENDICES:

- A: Letter from Sherree Mahood, Regional Director, MTCU**
- B: Memo from Erin Hannah, Director, Ontario Works**

DEPARTMENTS/OTHERS CONSULTED:**Name: Linda Higgins, Manager of Intergovernmental Subsidies & Financial Administration****Phone #: 519 255-5200 ext. 5222****Name: Mary Ellen Bernard, Project Manager, Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership****Phone: 519 255 5200 Ext 5270****NOTIFICATION :**

Name	Address	Email Address	Telephone	FAX
Ron Gaudet WEEDC	333RiversideDr.W Suite 215 Windsor, ON N9A 5K4	rgaudet@choosewindsorsex.com	519 255-9200	
John Alexander MTCU	215 Eugenie St. W Suite 300 Windsor, ON N8X 2X7	John.alexander@ontario.ca	519 972-6892	
Steve Govette CMHA	1400 Windsor Ave Windsor, ON N8X 3L9	sgovette@cmha-wecb.on.ca	519 255-9940 Ext 358	
Bev Clarke LDAWE	647 Ouellette Ave Suite 101 Windsor, ON N9A 4J4	learningdisabilities@on.aibn.com	519 252-7889	
Mark Horrocks MCSS		mark.horrocks@ontario.ca	519 254-5355 Ext 2304	

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July 5, 2010

Ms. Helga Reidel, Chief Administrative Officer
City of Windsor
400 City Hall Square
Windsor, ON N9A 7K6

Dear Ms. Helga Reidel:

Thank you for the recent submission of your organization's 2010-2012 ES Business Plan, through which you provided information about your organization's plan to transition to the delivery of the new Employment Service (ES), as well as outlined the funding requested to support that transition. You may have also recently met with regional Ministry staff to discuss the details of your transition funding request.

I am pleased to provide the following information regarding your organization's notional allocation of Employment Service funding, which is subject to your organization signing an Employment Service agreement with the Ministry.

The following funding will be offered to your organization, through a 20-month ES agreement, to deliver employment services.

There are five types of funding as follows:

1. Operating funds are for the direct delivery of all of the components of the Employment Service (unassisted and assisted) to the service quality standard contracted with the Ministry.
2. Employment and training incentives for employers are flow-through funds for employers to provide employment and on-the-job training opportunities and to remove financial barriers to participation in the program.
3. Employment and training supports for clients/participants are flow-through funds for clients to remove financial barriers to job search (i.e. certification, transportation, work boots, temporary child care).
4. Pre-determined transition funding offered by the Ministry and confirmed through your 2010-2012 ES Business Plan.
5. Transition funding which was requested through your 2010-2012 ES Business Plan.

Both pre-determined transition funding and requested transition funds must be used to support transition-related expenses in the following subcategories:

- Leasehold improvements related to alterations or renovations of new or existing ES funded site locations, only if such alterations or renovations support full ES delivery at the required service levels.
- Moving costs related to the realignment of a service provider's existing organizational infrastructure in the community.
- Purchase of infrastructure equipment for direct client services.
- Other ES transformation support, as requested in your 2010-2012 ES Business Plan, and as considered by the Ministry on a case-by-case basis.

Please note that any early provision of operating- or transition-related funding that has already been provided by the Ministry to your organization to support client service continuity or early transition activities has been subtracted from these amounts.

Funding for All Sites		
Fiscal Year	2010-2011	2011-2012
Operating Funds	\$1,077,000	\$1,615,500
Employment and Training Incentives for Employers	\$228,000	\$342,000
Employment and Training Supports for Clients/Participants	\$12,000	\$18,000
Pre-Determined Transition Funding	\$0	\$0
Transition Funding	\$198,500	\$0
Total	\$1,515,500	\$1,975,500

Funding for your organization's individual service delivery sites is as follows:

Point of Services: Western		
Site Address: Downtown Windsor		
Fiscal Year	2010-2011	2011-2012
Operating Funds	\$1,077,000	\$1,615,500
Employment and Training Incentives for Employers	\$228,000	\$342,000
Employment and Training Supports for Clients/Participants	\$12,000	\$18,000
Pre-Determined Transition Funding	\$0	\$0
Transition Funding	\$198,500	\$0
Total	\$1,515,500	\$1,975,500

Ms. Helga Reidel

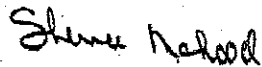
July 5, 2010

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Please note that this letter indicates the status of your organization for Western Region only. If your organization has other sites in other regions, confirmation of the offer of funding will be sent to you by the Regional Director(s) of those regions.

If you have any further questions regarding the Ministry's offer of funding, please feel free to contact your regional contact.

Sincerely,



Sherree Mahood, Regional Director
Western Region

Ministry of Community and
Social Services

Ministère des Services
Sociaux et Communautaires



Ontario Works Branch
880 Bay St., 4th Floor, Rm 434
Toronto, Ontario, M7A 2B6
Tel (416) 326-8205
Fax (416) 326-9777

February 11, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: Teresa Piruzza
Ontario Works Administrator, Windsor

FROM: Erin Hannah
Director, Ontario Works

RE: Revised Ontario Works Funding Approach

In follow-up to my February 7, 2011 memo on the revised Ontario Works funding approach, I am writing to provide you with details concerning Windsor's 2011/12 notional Program Delivery funding allocation.

As noted in the February 7th memo, the ministry is planning to implement a revised funding approach for Ontario Works effective April 1, 2011. Under the revised funding approach, Ontario Works administration and employment assistance funding are consolidated into one Program Delivery funding allocation for the purposes of program management. This change provides delivery agents the flexibility to determine how best to allocate funding for all aspects of program delivery, while simplifying program operations (e.g., financial reporting). While there is a single Program Delivery funding allocation, there will continue to be different cost-sharing and cost-recovery arrangements identified within the single allocation in order to uphold current cost-sharing and upload commitments.

The table below provides Windsor's 2011/12 notional provincial Program Delivery funding allocation, the municipal contribution and the split between the portion that is subject to 50/50 cost-sharing and the portion subject to the upload and will be cost-shared 81.2%/18.8% (April 2011 to December 2011) and 82.8%/17.2% (January 2012 to March 2012) in 2011/12:

	Notional Provincial Funding Allocation	Notional Municipal Funding Contribution
Total Program Delivery Funding	\$20,324,200	\$15,320,657
Amount Subject to 50/50 Cost-Sharing	\$13,863,200	\$13,863,200
Amount Subject to Upload	\$6,461,000	\$1,457,457

Program Delivery funding allocations are derived based on two-year monthly average standard and supplementary caseload (October 2008 to September 2010) and the provincial subsidy per case of \$2,016. Windsor's standard caseload is 9,513.5 and the supplemental caseload is 567.1.

The ministry has also provided Windsor with one-time, in-year administration funding of \$557,875 in 2010/11 in recognition of pressures resulting in investment above the cost-shared administration funding. Leading up to the implementation of the new funding approach, the ministry will be finalizing the additional in-year funding to the end of the ministry fiscal year. In-year funding may provide you with a key opportunity for aligning with the revised funding approach.

The ministry recognizes the significance of the changes to the way Ontario Works is funded. Achieving an equitable and reasonable funding approach that can best support the overall program goal of helping people prepare for and find jobs comes with the need for increased investments for the ministry and delivery partners.

As previously indicated, the Ontario Works Branch is working with our Regional Offices to coordinate regional sessions over the course of February and March 2011. The regional sessions will provide the opportunity to present the planned funding approach in detail and review the changes to related business products (e.g., Consolidated Budget Package).

Should you have questions regarding the revised Ontario Works funding approach prior to the regional sessions, please contact your Regional Office representative.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Erin Hannah

- c. Maxine Daley, Director, Social Assistance and Municipal Operations Branch
- Peter Steckenreiter, Regional Director, South West Regional Office
- Helen Jewell, Program Manager, South West Regional Office
- Jeff Bowen, Manager, Ontario Works Branch
- Karl Frost, Team Lead, Ontario Works Branch