

Building Community Together

2000-2001 Annual Report Program Highlights

CELEBRATIONS



The value of one
The power of many

International Year of Volunteers

The United Nations General Assembly designated 2001 as the International Year of Volunteers (IYV). An IYV Coordinator was hired to implement *International Year of Volunteers: A Halton Initiative*. The purposes of IYV are multifold:

- Celebrate volunteerism
- Promote volunteerism for all
- Expand the definition of volunteerism
- Improve the voluntary sector infrastructure
- Develop the voluntary sector knowledge base

A Social Profile of the Halton Visible Minority Population

This document provides important demographics and socio-economic information on visible minorities in Halton Region and its municipalities. It is used by community groups, government and funders to assist in planning and program development.

Food for Thought & Celebrating Literacy

In Halton during the 2000 school year we have much to celebrate with *Food for Thought* and *Celebrating Literacy/Cosy Reading*:

- 23 School Nutrition Programs
- 25 School Literacy Programs

Approximately 500 volunteers comprised of parents, high school students, seniors and corporate volunteers support these programs. With our partners the Halton District School Board, there is much to celebrate.

Volunteerism Through Technology

The Council's Volunteer Centre's internet-based volunteer matching program helps Halton residents looking for volunteer opportunities and agencies looking for volunteers make the connection. The database hosts volunteer opportunities for 152 organizations and this year received over 11,000 visits to the site. Visit us at: www.haltonvolunteer.org



Celebrating Outcomes

I Volunteer.

Two strong words in a year to celebrate volunteers.

I volunteer.

Two powerful words that encompass the tremendous range and diversity of how and why people give themselves.

I Volunteer. We Volunteer.

There are seven and a half million of us in Canada. Celebrate us. Recognize us. Talk about us...

Some of us call it volunteering and some of us have other words for what we do. Helping out. Doing what's right. Giving our time. Giving back. Having fun.

Through volunteering we connect to each other, to what matters within us, to our vision of what we want this country to be.

Volunteer Canada

Advocacy

- Policy analysis, human rights, social justice
- Food security
- Citizen participation in building civil society
- Poverty – income to live with dignity
- Volunteerism – building community capacity

Social Impact Research

- *A Social Profile of the Halton Visible Minority Population*
- *The Cost of Living 2000*
- *Quality of Life in Halton 2000*
- Community and Municipal Demographic Profiles
- *Community Dispatch*
- *Report Card on Child Poverty in Halton*
- National Children's Agenda

Dialogues

- Bill Phipps Forum - *A Moral Crisis of the Market Place*
- Deputations/representations to municipal, regional, provincial governments
- Presentations to agencies, faith communities, service clubs, schools, education facilities
- Love of Literacy Conference
- Burlington Economic Development Corporation

Coalition Building

- *Celebrating Literacy*
- Children's Leadership Council
- *Food for Thought*
- Halton Anti-Poverty Coalition
- Halton Association of Coordinators of Volunteer Services
- Halton Coalition for Social Justice
- Halton Housing Advisory Committee
- Halton Violence Prevention Council
- Our Kids, Our Community, Our Concern

Volunteerism

- Volunteer Week
- Burlington Mayor's Run/Walk
- Volunteer Matching Program
- Volunteer Fairs
- Intergenerational Volunteers
- Youth Volunteering Works
- IYV Launch
- IYV Speakers Breakfast

Collaborative Planning

- Social Planning Network of Ontario
- Ontario Social Development Council
- Ontario Volunteer Centre Network
- Community Information Online Consortium
- Volunteer Canada



Community Development

Food banks have served to depoliticise the issue of hunger in Canada by undermining governments' legislated obligations to guarantee adequate welfare benefits and by obviating the need for responsible public action... Food banks allow us to believe that hunger is being solved. Yet this is not so... continued food bank activity essentially depoliticises the issue of hunger in society by legitimizing it as a matter for charitable concern rather than social justice.

Graham Riches, Director, School of Social Work and Family Studies, University of British Columbia

Our community has demonstrated their enthusiastic support of the [Food for Thought] program through direct volunteer service on snack days as well as through donations... Best of all is the enthusiasm shown by 700 students on snack day as they anticipate what the snack will be!

Chris Jefferson, Principal,
George Kennedy Public School

Campaign 2000 –Child Poverty

The Council is a community partner of Campaign 2000, a non-partisan, cross-Canada network, promoting the elimination of child poverty. November 24, 1999, marked the 10th anniversary of the 1989 House of Commons resolution: “to seek to achieve the goal of eliminating poverty among Canadian children by the year 2000.” The Council produces the Annual Report Card on Child Poverty in Halton, to coincide with the release of national and local report cards in communities across Canada.

Food Security

The Council's *Halton Food Bank Study: Alternatives to Dependency*, released in 1999, has been acted on by the Halton Anti-Poverty Coalition Food Security Committee, of which the Council is Co-Chair. Recommendations developed from the report include promoting food bank collaboration/networking and community funding to implement more Community Gardens and Community Kitchens.

Burlington Economic Development Corporation

The Council brings a social perspective to the Burlington Economic Development Corporation whose mission is to promote a healthy and prosperous community by facilitating opportunities for economic growth.

Social Justice Work

The Halton Social Planning Council is a member of the Halton Coalition for Social Justice. Over the last year the Coalition has held several public forums on issues such as human rights and the growing gap between the rich and the poor. They have worked with other groups on the World March of Women, Ten Days for Global Justice and housing issues.

Volunteer Centre

The Volunteer Centre worked with over 200 community agencies, consulting with them in the development of volunteer services. The Council is involved in planning, coordination and promotion of International Year of Volunteers activities in Halton including:

- The Official launch
- A speakers breakfast
- Media supplements
- Youth fairs
- An open space conference: *The Voluntary Sector's Place in Halton: Building Our Future*, November 2001

We annually award a student scholarship based on some of the proceeds from the Mayors run/walk. This year the award went to a student from Nelson High School.

Volunteering Works in Halton

Three Youth Coordinators were hired early in 2001 under a one year grant from Human Resources Development Canada, to increase the volunteer capacity of nine Halton agencies.



PROMOTING VOLUNTEERISM

www.haltonvolunteer.org

Volunteer Centre Activities

- Internet matching database which promotes on-line recruitment
- Volunteer recruitment and referrals through promotion, weekly newspaper ads and presentations
- Partnering with Hopedale Mall, Oakville in the “Lend-A-Hand” program – a volunteer recruitment and referral service
- Support volunteerism through policy analysis, educational workshops and consultation
- Designated training centre for volunteer screening and volunteer management
- Workshops and consultations on volunteerism
- Facilitation of Corporate Volunteering



***Volunteerism-
The value of one
The power of many***

- Interviewing of potential volunteers by volunteer advisors to match volunteers with agencies in Halton
- Volunteer education through Volunteer Week supplements in four community newspapers and cable programs
- Promoting youth volunteerism through Youth Volunteering Works
- Volunteer Week promotion
- Regional Representative Ontario Volunteer Centre Network
- Founding member of the Community Online Consortium
- Member of Volunteer Canada

SOCIAL RESearch

POLICY ANALYSIS

Almost everyone knows that Canada, according to the United Nations, is one of the best countries in the world to live in. Less well known, however, is the UN's recent strong condemnation of Canada's social and economic policies. In a devastating 1998 report, the UN committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights protested Canada's neglect of its least fortunate citizens – citing among them single mothers, the homeless, Native peoples, and poor children. Far from alleviating their condition, the committee found that federal and provincial policies are making it worse.

Mel Hurtig,
Pay the Rent or Feed the Kids, 1999

The Hidden Faces of Poverty

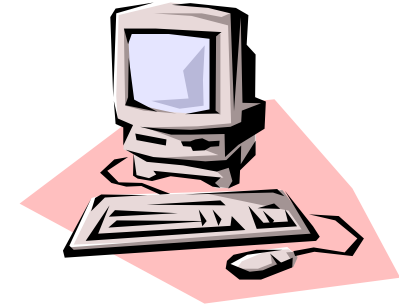
The Council is currently conducting a study, *The Hidden Faces of Poverty: The Reality and Testimonies of People Living in Poverty in Halton*. This study involves collecting stories or testimonies of those living in poverty: the quality of their lives, their survival strategies, their suggestions for changes that will meet their needs, preserve their dignity, and address their view of the future. The final report will be made available in summer 2001 to the Halton community, local and regional government, funders and particularly coalitions of concerned citizens and agency representatives.

Quality of Life in Halton

The Council is part of a Province-wide project, co-sponsored by the Ontario Social Development Council and the Social Planning Network of Ontario, to use the Quality of Life Index for reporting on how changes in public policy have affected our quality of life. It is a tool for community dialogue to contribute to the public discussion about important issues. It is not intended to be a definitive statement. Each community that seeks to define and measure quality of life will have to build a consensus on what is important to preserve, to enhance and to strive for.

Community Profiles

In addition to the information provided in the Halton Social Profile 1999, the Council produces community and neighbourhood profiles using a computer program called Zephyr.



This program developed by Compusearch combines the 1996 Census data with mapping and reporting capabilities. This service allows the Halton community the opportunity to develop demographic profiles for any small geographical area.

A Social Profile of the Halton Visible Minority Population

The purpose of this report is to provide information that can be used by a wide range of interested parties to develop the capacity of visible minority workers to find and keep jobs. As well as socio-economic and labour market characteristics of the visible minority population in Halton the report also describes some of the barriers that visible minorities experience in finding employment.

INFORMATION & EDUCATION

Volunteer Week Supplements

Training Workshops

Seminars



Volunteer Columns

Presentations

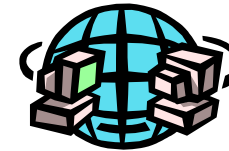
MALL DISPLAYS

Community Dispatch



Report Cards

Resource Centre



Internet site

Volunteer Week

Publications

Cablenet Programs

Pamphlets

Mass Media



Manuals

- Community Dispatch Titles**
- User Fees: A Practice Revisited
 - Oakville: An Audit of a Community in Transition –Insights Beyond the Town
 - Time to Debate Social Canada
 - “When the Bough Breaks” Gina Browne
 - How Can We Reduce Costs and Get Better Outcomes in Health Care. Gina Browne
 - A Moral Crisis of the Market Place
 - A Social Profile of the Halton Visible Minorities Population

IN THE NEWS...

OUR PARTNERS IN THE COMMUNITY

Broad-based Membership

Our 90 agency members are engaged in the full spectrum of human service activities:

- community and family services
- counselling and support services
- health promotion, disease prevention
- health care services
- senior services
- children and youth services
- food security
- housing
- cultural, recreational and faith organizations
- education and information
- human resources and youth leadership development
- risk behaviour/ violence prevention
- women's issues
- advocacy for the disabled
- government services
- human rights groups
- environmental groups

Collaboration and Partnerships

- Burlington Chamber of Commerce
- Burlington Economic Development Corporation
- Burlington Local Service Delivery Committee
- Canadian Council on Social Development
- Community Services Network Group, Burlington Hamilton-Wentworth
- Halton Anti-Poverty Coalition
- Halton Association of Coordinators of Volunteer Services
- Halton Coalition for Social Justice
- Halton District School Board
- Halton Health and Community Support Services Network
- Halton Hills Cooperative Program Planning Committee
- Halton Housing Advisory Committee
- Halton Industry Council
- Halton Information Network (HALINET)
- Halton Multicultural Council
- Halton Violence Prevention Council
- IKEA
- National Anti-Poverty Organization
- National Volunteer Week Committees (Burlington and Oakville)
- North Halton Cultural Awareness Council
- Oakville and District Labour Council
- Ontario Social Development Council
- Ontario Social Safety Network
- Our Kids, Our Community, Our Concern
- Peel-Halton-Dufferin Adult Learning Network
- Regional Municipality of Halton
- Royal Bank
- Social Planning Network of Ontario
- System-Linked Research Unit, McMaster University
- The Centre for Skills Development & Training
- United Generations of Ontario
- Volunteer Canada

We thank our partners for their continued financial support

Regional Municipality of Halton
United Way of Burlington, Hamilton-Wentworth
United Way of Milton
United Way of Oakville

Special Project Funding Partners

Canadian Living Foundation
Government of Ontario, Ministry of Citizenship,
Culture and Recreation
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Burlington Community Foundation
Halton District School Board
Human Resources Development Canada, Summer
Career Placements
Human Resources Development Canada, Youth
Coordinators

Special Donations

Professional Firefighters of
Burlington, The Benevolent Fund
The Smile Trust Fund
System Administrators'
Conference/Halton District School
Board



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We find that government and their leadership now assume that the value system of the global market is to be the proper order to social organizations and that societies must be made to adapt to this order as the needs and demands of the market requires. The market is not now seen as a structure to serve society rather society is seen as an aggregate of resources to serve the global market.

John McMurtry,
*Unequal Freedoms: The Global Market
as an Ethical System*

Future Strategic Areas

- Child and Youth Poverty
- Smart Growth
- Healthy Public Policy
- Building the Capacity of the Voluntary Sector
- Affordable Housing
- Literacy
- Social Capital

The past year has been another eventful and successful year for the Halton Social Planning Council and Volunteer Centre. On behalf of the Board, I wish to thank our dedicated staff for their tremendous effort. They have worked many extra hours to achieve great success for the organization. I also wish to thank the many volunteers who donated their time and hearts to so many events.

The annual meeting held in June, 2000 was a well-attended event featuring the Raging Grannies and an inspiring presentation by Rev. Bill Phipps, then Moderator of the United Church of Canada. Rev Phipps message to the Council and our community is most profound. He said: "The ideology of the so-called free market is obliterating all other criteria for development of human society." This does not build a socially cohesive, just and healthy society. At the Council we see the consequences of this thinking in the form of increasing poverty, particularly child poverty, and in the stereotyping of those who we blame for their condition. Contributing to the building of a socially cohesive society is the major challenge faced by the Council. It is the common good of all of us that is at stake and it is the responsibility of all of us to preserve our common good, and Rev Phipps said, "it is what we hold in common as citizens of a democratic land."

During the year, the Council continued its excellent research with the publication of several studies and reports. They continue to document important social trends within our community.

Several programs were expanded and we are pleased to have entered into a multi-year funding arrangement with the Halton District School Board for the *Food for Thought* and *Celebrating Literacy/Cozy Reading* programs in many Halton schools. Today, over 4,160 students receive nutritious meals and snacks in our public schools delivered by over 425 volunteers. Celebrating Literacy/Cozy Reading provides a boost in literacy skills in 25 Halton public schools with the support of 100 volunteers.

The Volunteer Centre's web-site provides an increasingly popular way for agencies to find and match volunteers using leading edge technology that is now being shared with other Volunteer Centres. In addition, the Council is actively involved in International Year of Volunteers. This year included many highlights, including the Mayor's Walk (succeeded in 2001 by the Mayor's Walk/Run). It helped to raise our profile in the community and raised money for a student scholarship and for several charities including our own. It will be a valuable annual event for us.

I thank all members of the community and their support of the Council's independent voice on social issues throughout Halton.

Doug Simpson



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The United Nations has designated this year International Year of Volunteers (IYV). IYV has given the Council the opportunity to open the door to “telling the story” of the voluntary sector. It is an intriguing tale of compassion, of human rights, of justice, of organizing the infrastructure for caring in a community and of growing responsibility for our social deficit. The Council has met the challenges of IYV by creating spaces in which different groups and sectors of civil society can come together to better understand the issues of voluntarism and the contribution of the voluntary sector. Under the leadership of the Council and, in partnership with the Halton Association of Volunteer Coordinators, *International Year of the Volunteer: A Halton Initiative* has been launched. This initiative is comprised of the following activities: i) an official IYV launch, simultaneously with that in other communities world-wide, at Halton Region with “words of warmth” by Regional Chairperson, Joyce Savoline, ii) a corporate breakfast with keynote speaker, Ron MacLean, who introduced the multifaceted advantages for the corporate sector of volunteering and support for volunteerism, iii) a Mayor's Walk/Run, a charitable fundraiser sponsored by Burlington Mayor Rob MacIsaac where pledge money is split three ways—to a charity of choice, to a youth scholarship fund and to the Council's Volunteer Centre, iv) volunteer week newspaper supplements celebrating volunteerism in Halton municipalities, v) youth fairs to introduce students to voluntary sector organizations with volunteer opportunities, vi) a forum, *The Voluntary Sector's Place in Halton: Building Our Future*, with keynote speaker, Andre Picard, whose investigatory journalism assists us in understanding the dimensions of this sphere of

action in society, and vii) *Building the Capacity of the Voluntary Sector*, an open space conference to identify emerging trends and issues affecting the sector in Halton and how the Council's Volunteer Centre in collaboration with others throughout the community can respond.

Also, in celebration of youth and volunteerism, the Council has implemented a IYV pilot project, *Youth Volunteering Works in Halton*. The Council believes that youth volunteering not only develops awareness and understanding of civic responsibility but also acknowledges the role young people can play and the contributions they can make in strengthening the impact of Halton agencies in their communities. Youth coordinators will enable nine non-profit agencies to improve their services by implementing a youth volunteer program in their agency. There is no doubt that the legacy of our youth in the development of our community will be great.

In the Council's program area of social research, the Council continues to develop social profiles of the Halton community. This year the report, *A Social Profile of the Halton Visible Minority Population*, was published. This is a technical document that provides information on the socio-economic and labour market characteristics of the visible minority population in Halton and describes some of the barriers that visible minorities experience in finding employment.

In addition, the Council continues to document the suffering and lack of opportunity of low-income individuals and families. Both the *Cost of Living in Halton* and the *Price of Eating Well in Halton* illustrate clearly that poor and low-income families cannot

meet their basic needs—housing, food, and clothing. Testimonies of how these people, our neighbours, survive are underway and will soon be released. Their testimonies are shocking!

The Council continues as a partner in Campaign 2000, a national strategy to end child poverty. Annually, we produce a *Report Card on Child Poverty in Halton* and the evidence indicates that child poverty is growing with all the lost opportunity that poverty means for the future of these children, their families and their communities.

In collaboration with many organizations of the Halton Community, the Council has identified affordable housing as a major issue in our community. Together with the *Halton Affordable Housing and Emergency Shelter Coalition*, community is attempting to advocate and promote housing alternatives for moderate and low-income people. The Council, as an advisor on the Halton Housing Advisory Committee to Regional Government, brings the lens of community to the deliberations of Regional Government as they strive to address their new responsibility of social housing. Also, the Council is involved in the Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative, Community Advisory Committee to develop a community housing plan.

The changing terrain on which government, the market and voluntary organizations are shaping their contribution to society has challenged the Council during 2000-2001 and will remain a major area of preoccupation for the Council. We look forward to working with our colleagues in the voluntary sector in further defining our role and contribution to Halton's well-being.

Joey Edwards



FINANCIAL REPORT

The Halton Social Planning Council (Incorporated without share capital) Operating statement of revenue and expenditure for year ended March 31, 2001

Lester Salmon identifies major limitations of non-profits that necessitate government involvement [one is]:

- *Philanthropic insufficiency –refers to the inability of non-profits to raise resources “adequate enough and reliable enough to cope with the human service problems of an advanced industrial society”...*

...neither the replacement of the voluntary sector by government, nor the replacement of government by the voluntary sector makes as much sense as collaboration between the two.

Lester M. Salmon,
*Of Market Failure, Voluntary Failure,
and Third Party Government: Toward
a Theory of Government-Non-Profit Relations
in the Modern Welfare State, 1987*

| | 2000/2001 | | 1999/00 |
|--|-----------|----------|----------|
| | Budget | Actual | Actual |
| Revenue | | | |
| Grants | | | |
| United Way of Burlington/ Hamilton | \$ 82,857 | \$74,383 | \$73,996 |
| United Way of Milton | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| United Way of Oakville | 73,868 | 72,824 | 52,936 |
| Regional Municipality of Halton | 83,000 | 83,000 | 83,000 |
| Other Income | 170,375 | 211,552 | 147,259 |
| | 412,100 | 443,759 | 359,191 |
| Expenditure | | | |
| Salary expenses | 339,896 | 356,917 | 276,453 |
| Staff expenses | 16,900 | 16,123 | 15,356 |
| Service/program expenses | 493 | (128) | 2,091 |
| Administration expenses | 29,195 | 28,823 | 31,398 |
| Promotion and publicity | 815 | 2,610 | 1,261 |
| Facility expenses | 36,200 | 37,047 | 34,695 |
| Equipment expenses | 9,214 | 8,141 | 8,859 |
| | 432,713 | 449,533 | 370,113 |
| Excess of revenue over expenditure (expenditure over revenue) | (20,613) | (5,774) | (10,922) |
| Transfer from capital reserve | | | 7,250 |
| Surplus (deficit), beginning of year | | (3,098) | 574 |
| Surplus (deficit), end of year | \$ | (8,872) | (3,098) |

*Glenn-Graydon-Wright Chartered Accountants
For a full copy of the financial report, contact the office.*



Board Members (April 2000 – March 2001)

Robert Aceti
 Abdul Chaudhry
 Michael Cushing
 Les Horne
 Richard Lapierre
 Jeff Pym
 Gary Shillington
 Doug Simpson
 Nancy Syer
 Wally Syme
 Bob Van Cleef
 Maureen Weinberger

Students

Elizabeth Curran
 Ivan Slater
 Ljuba Udove

Youth Coordinators

Michelle MacKeller
 Andrea Neilson
 Darlene Shaw

Staff

Joey Edwardh, Executive Director
 Margaret Petrovics, Executive Assistant/Office Manager

Social Planning

Ted Hildebrandt, Senior Planner
 Lynne Russell, Social Planner
 Jenny McKnight, Administrative Assistant

Volunteer Centre

Deborah Klassen, Director of Volunteer Services
 Sonya Mackey, Administrative Assistant

Intergenerational

Darlene Edmonds, Intergenerational Coordinator

International Year of Volunteers

Alex Fuller, Coordinator

Council Volunteers

Christy Babcock
 Millie Bolton
 Frank Connolly
 Doris Cullum
 Barbara Dutton
 Bill Frazer
 Doug Galloway
 Helen Hill
 Marilyn Joiner
 Laurie Kent
 Audrey Soroka
 Lee Weleschuk
 Mike Wesolowsky

Volunteers

We recognize our *many* volunteers in the community who donated time and talents to make healthy, caring communities.

Halton Social Planning Council & Volunteer Centre

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