

Public & Intergovernmental Affairs Committee

**Councillor David Courtemanche, Chair
Councillor Ron Bradley, Vice-Chair**



October 30th, 2002

Mr. Thom Mowry,
City Clerk
City of Greater Sudbury

City of Greater Sudbury
Ville du Grand Sudbury

Re: St. Vincent de Paul

2652 MAIN STREET
BLEZARD VALLEY ON P0M 1E0

2652 RUE MAIN
BLEZARD VALLEY ON P0M 1E0

705.897.6410
705.690.4255 cell/cellulaire
705.897.7660 fax/télécopieur

PO BOX 5000 STN A
200 BRADY STREET
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

CP 5000 SUCCA
200 RUE BRADY
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

705.671.2489
705.671.8118 Clerk's Fax /
Greffier Municipal
ron.dupuis@city.greatersudbury.on.ca

www.
city.greatersudbury
.on.ca

Thom,

I recently met with Mr. Nicholas Volk, Provincial President for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

They are looking for support from the City, to raise awareness of their association. They are looking at expanding their services to all parts of the City and as you are no doubt aware this organization does so much good for those less fortunate.

They are asking to address Council at their Nov. 27th Priorities Meeting. Those making a presentation would be Bonnie Mulvihill and Richard Pulsifer.

Could you please confirm with Bonnie at 969-7214.

Thank you for considering this request!


Ron Dupuis

RECEIVED
NOV - 9 2002
CLERKS - DEPT.



**United Way
Centraide**

SUDBURY AND / ET DISTRICT
1127 promenade Bancroft Drive
2nd floor, 2ième étage
Sudbury ON P3B 1R6

office@unitedway.sudbury.com

November 1st, 2002

Mr. Thom Mowry
City Clerk
City of Greater Sudbury
Bag 5000 Station A
200 Brady Street
Sudbury ON P3A 5P3

Dear Mr. Mowry:

On behalf of the United Way, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing us to be part of the agenda for Thursday, November 14th, 2002.

It is vital that the community is aware of the 37 programs and services provided by over 25 agencies. We are very pleased to announce the Campaign theme for 2002 is 'Without You there would be no WAY.' Since 1982, a dynamic forward movement, in conjunction with local business leadership and health and social service organizations, has enabled the United Way's unique ability to unite people in building a healthy and vibrant community. Your support and leadership makes a significant difference in the lives of community members.

I look forward to presenting at the Council Meeting on Thursday, November 14th. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 566-2100.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Collin Bourgeois".

Collin Bourgeois
United Way Campaign Co-Chair

CANADIAN BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION

CIBC RUN for the CURE[®]

October 31, 2002

Mr. Thom Mowry, City Clerk
City of Greater Sudbury
P.O. Box 5000
Station A
200 Brady St.
Sudbury, ON
P3A 5P3

Dear Mr. Mowry,

The CIBC Run for the Cure Committee would like an opportunity to thank all City Councillors, and in particular Mr. Doug Craig. We are therefore requesting an opportunity to provide a presentation to the City Councillors and Mayor at their meeting. We plan to present all members with a Run for the Cure t-shirt as well as inform everyone on the local monies raised for breast cancer research.

Thank you in advance for consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Manuela Vairo

Manuela Vairo, CIBC Client Service Manager
Co-Chair CIBC Coordinating Committee
202 - 233 Brady Street
Sudbury, ON P3B 4H5
Tel: 670-2126
Fax: 670-1737
Email: manuela.vairo@cibc.com



creating a future without breast cancer
Charitable Registration No. 12799 3608 RR0001



Request for Recommendation Priorities Committee



Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	November 27, 2002				Report Date	November 15, 2002			
Recommendation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	High	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
	Direction Only				Type of Meeting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open	<input type="checkbox"/>	Closed

Sub-Committee Check-Off			
Please indicate which sub-committee will deal with this issue			
Community Viability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public & Intergovernmental Affairs	Financial & Program Accountability

Report Title
Accessing Justice for Seniors Conference Report

Policy Implications + Budget Impact	
<input type="checkbox"/>	This report and recommendation(s) have been reviewed by the Finance Division and the funding source has been identified
<input type="checkbox"/>	No budget impact. This report provides support towards the recommendations arising from the Accessing Justice for Seniors conference.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Background attached

Recommendation	
<p>That Council accept the Mayor and Council's Committee on Seniors Issues (MCCSI) "Accessing Justice for Seniors" conference proceedings report, and the recommendations contained therein; and</p> <p>That the MCCSI work with the City of Greater Sudbury Police Services Board to develop an implementation plan resulting from the report's recommendations.</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recommendation attached

Recommended by the General Manager
 Catherine Sandblom

Recommended by the C.A.O.
 Mark Mieto, C.A. O.

Report Authored By

Chris Stewart
Consultant

Division Review

Name
and Title

Background

The "**Accessing Justice for Seniors**" conference held at College Boreal on October 1, 2002, was attended by approximately 90 persons, representing a mix of seniors, seniors' advocates, service providers, law enforcement professionals and students. The main purposes of the Conference were:

- . to address the need to access the justice system by seniors in the City of Greater Sudbury*
- . to portray the role of different services within the justice system*
- . to provide an informative and educational opportunity for seniors, students and professionals related to how to access the Ontario Justice System to redress crimes and other wrongs perpetrated against seniors*

Public and media response to the Conference were overwhelmingly positive. The following recommendations emanated from this Conference:

- 1) That the Mayor and Council's Committee on Seniors' Issues, the Sudbury Police Services Board, the Sudbury Elder Abuse Committee or others as appropriate, should meet with Provincial Government leaders to advocate and assist with a study into the viability of a Senior Aid Society based out of Sudbury.
- (2) That the Mayor and Council's Committee on Seniors' Issues, the Sudbury Elder Abuse Committee, or others as appropriate, work with Provincial Government leaders to consider enacting mandatory reporting of all forms of elder abuse or signs of neglect, with options to laying of criminal charges or other measures for dealing with elder crime that may include but not limited to restorative justice, alternative measures, referrals or other methods unique to the environment to address the issue. The reporting of elder crime or neglect could be made to a proposed 'Seniors Aid Society', or similar body established to protect the interests of seniors.
- (3) That the Mayor and Council's Committee on Seniors' Issues work with Federal Government leaders to conduct a feasibility study into the creation of specific laws relative to seniors.
- (4) That copies of this report be forwarded to the Regional Director of Crown Attorneys and the Regional Director of Courts Administration, Ontario Ministry of the Attorney-General, for possible remedial action to be taken at the Sudbury Court House to make the Justice System in Sudbury truly accessible to seniors.
- (5) That copies of this report be distributed to City Council, local Provincial Members of Provincial and Federal Parliament, to relevant Ministers and Ministry officials, for information and action as appropriate.

(6) That copies of this report be available on request.

Recommendations 4, 5 and 6 are already being addressed. The philosophical, ethical and legal underpinnings of Recommendations 1, 2 and 3 are more complex and require an understanding of the issues surrounding the reporting of abuse and neglect of older adults.

3. ANALYSIS

The concept of a "Seniors' Aid Society" addresses a key barrier to mandatory reporting.

Chief Davidson noted in his presentation at the October 1, 2002 Conference:

"mandatory reporting is now the law when people have suspicions a child is being abused and, charges are mandatory when there are reasonable grounds to suspect a spouse is the victim of violence. Both laws are considered very valuable in breaking the cycles of violence and in protecting those in need."

The most compelling argument against mandatory reporting is that seniors may be afraid to report caregiver abuse to their doctor, financial abuse to their accountant or banker, etc. for fear that they will be removed from their own home and family. This would result in decreased self-reporting of abuse and may push the issue back into the "closet". Thus, a mandatory reporting regime may create exactly the opposite result that its proponents hope to achieve.

The Child and Family Services Act requires that professionals such as doctors, teachers, lawyers, social workers, etc., are required to report any suspected cases of child abuse to the Children's Aid Society(CAS). It is to be stressed that the requirement is to report directly to the CAS, not to the local police. Notwithstanding that, any abuse of children which amounts to a criminal offence is reported by the CAS personnel to the police. The child's consent is neither required or sought.

If seniors are aware that any report of abuse to their doctor or banker could result in mandatory reporting to the police, it could deter self - reporting. A reporting mechanism was recommended similar to that set out in the Child and Family Services Act, whereby any senior could report abuse, or anyone else could report suspected abuse, to a third party agency such as a '*Seniors' Aid Society*'.

Chief Davidson concluded his presentation by stating that his recommendations "do not exclude other viable community measures such as protocols, public awareness campaigns, self audits and professional adequacy standards for professionals, restorative justice, referrals, or alternative measures when determining the most appropriate mechanism for dealing with crimes or neglect involving seniors."

As noted in the 1993 National Clearinghouse on Family Violence, Health and Welfare Canada report COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND RESPONSE: ABUSE AND NEGLECT OF OLDER ADULTS (pg 25), "The prevention of the abuse and neglect of older adults is a community challenge which will not be resolved quickly by one person or one approach. It will require a community effort to create an environment which reaffirms the right of older adults to self-determination, respect and dignity".

4. CONCLUSION

By adopting these recommendations and by designing a study, in cooperation with senior levels of government, to examine the feasibility of a "Seniors' Aid Society", reviewing seniors'-related laws, and exploring an appropriate reporting mechanism in the context of that study, the City of Greater Sudbury, the Greater Sudbury Police Services Board, the Mayor and Council's Committee on Seniors' Issues and their community partners can show local and provincial leadership in responding to the challenges surrounding this increasingly high profile issue as Canada's population ages.

Report under separate cover