Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated December 7, 1994

For many years, the Committee on Finance and Administration has accepted annual applications for Special Grants for local not-for-profit organizations seeking City support for various programs and events. The grants budget is divided into Education, Health, Social Services and Social Development; One-time Only; and Other categories. In recent years, the budget for Special Grants has been shrinking while the volume of applications has been increasing. For example, in 1994 more than 100 local organizations submitted requests for support totalling more than two million dollars. However, the 1994 Special Grants budget was only $259,210.00 and less than 20 applications ultimately received grants.

Of those organizations which were funded in 1994, seven have been receiving long-term support from the City totalling approximately 85% of the Special Grant budget. This annual funding has been provided by virtue of the City's Special Grants Policy which reads "5.b. Where it can be shown that the organization cannot provide the service usually rendered without aid and the City would of necessity have to provide these services in whole or in part, the City may contribute to the continuance of the service under these circumstances." An eighth organization, the Volunteer Centre of Winnipeg, has been receiving a small grant for many years in recognition of the work the Centre does to promote voluntarism within the community.

The Committee on Finance and Administration recommended the funding of the following organizations by way of a line item in the 1995 current estimates:

Age and Opportunity Centre, Inc.	$80,000.00
Citizenship Council of Manitoba	$20,000.00
Salvation Army	$20,000.00
Heritage Winnipeg Corporation	$ 8,500.00
Pritchard Place Drop-In Centre Inc.	$21,000.00
Mediation Services	$ 4,500.00

No funding will be allocated to the Committee on Finance and Administration Special Grant budget for 1995. However, retention of the grants mechanism will allow for a transfer of funding to the Committee if it proves necessary to consider and provide a Special Grant during the year.

The Executive Policy Committee recommends:

I. That the criteria for funding by way of a line item in the budget as opposed to the special grant application process be as follows:

i) Where it can be shown that a formally-organized, not-for-profit organization cannot provide a social service, social development program, health, education recreation or other similar service without aid and the City, of necessity, would have to provide this service in whole or in part, the City may contribute to the continuance of the service under these circumstances.

ii) Funding shall not be provided for any service for which clear legislative responsibility exists at any other level of government, unless expressly authorized by City Council.

iii) Funding shall be provided by way of a formal agreement between the City of Winnipeg and the organization; such agreement to clearly stipulate the terms and conditions under which City support shall be rendered.

II. That the Proper Officers of the City be instructed to prepare funding agreements as follows:

i) Between the City of Winnipeg and Age and Opportunity Centre, Inc. for preventative health, recreation and leisure programs for local senior citizens for the period January 1st, 1995 to December 31st, 1999, with funding at $80,000 for 1995.

ii) Between the City of Winnipeg and the Citizenship Council of Manitoba for 24 hour Language Bank interpreter services for all Civic Departments for the period January 1st, 1995 to December 31, 1999, with funding at $27,000 in 1995.

iii) Between the City of Winnipeg and the Salvation Army to assist with staffing costs for an after-hours emergency response program which provides food, shelter, clothing, and other special needs to people in crisis such as victims of fires and other disasters for the period January 1st, 1995 to December 31, 1999, with funding at $20,000 in 1995.

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iv) Between the City of Winnipeg and Heritage Winnipeg Corporation for a public education program on heritage building preservation for the period January 1st, 1995 to December 31st, 1999, with funding at $8500 in 1995.

v) Between the City of Winnipeg and Pritchard Place Drop-In Centre Inc. for social and recreational programs which offer alternatives to the street for disadvantaged children and youth for the period January 1, 1995 to December 31st, 1999, with funding at $21,000 in 1995.

vi) Between the City of Winnipeg and Mediation Services for a community dispute program which provides mediation to help local residents peacefully resolve conflicts for the period January 1st, 1995 to December 31st, 1999, with funding at $4500 in 1995.

III. That the funds allocated in the City's 1995 Current Estimates process for Special Grants administered by the Committee on Finance and Administration be transferred to the non-departmental account to cover support for the above-noted agreements.

IV. That any amendments to the City's Special Grant policy respecting grants administered by the Committee on Finance and Administration which appear to be required to address the above-noted changes be delayed until 1996 to ensure that replacement of the Special Grants with line item support meets the City's long-term needs.

V. That continuing support for the Volunteer Centre of Winnipeg's volunteer recognition event and Mayor's award for volunteer service be considered annually by the Mayor and if approved, provided out of the Mayor's office budget.

Moved by Her Worship Mayor Thompson,
Adoption of the clause.

Carried.

Councillor Murray asked to be recorded as having voted against the clause, in accordance with Rule 50.7 of the Procedure By-law.