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TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBOURHOODS COMMITTEE MEETING ON NOVEMBER 1, 2011
FROM:	CINDY HOWARD DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
SUBJECT:	UPDATE ON MEDICAL ID BRACELETS

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Director of Social and Community Support Services, with the concurrence of the Executive Director of Community Services, the following report **BE RECEIVED** for information purposes.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER
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- Resolution from Municipal Council, July 25, 2011

BACKGROUND

At the July 25, 2011 Municipal Council resolved that the Civic Administration report back to a future meeting of the Community and Neighbourhoods Committee (CNC) with respect to options for social assistance recipients receiving medical ID bracelets through the Membership Assistance Program of MedicAlert Canada and the possible inclusion of any associated costs through the Discretionary Benefits Program.

MedicAlert offers a Membership Assistance program which provides subsidy for the membership fee as well as the cost of a stainless steel bracelet. In order to apply for assistance, individuals are asked to complete an application form. They also need a referral from the applicant's physician, a social worker, a nurse, or a pharmacist. The application form states that they encourage a minimum contribution of \$39 however; we have confirmed that they will accept whatever a person can afford and will provide the service free of charge for those who cannot afford it.

MedicAlert also offers special programs for children and teens sponsored by the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation.

The Discretionary Benefits Program (DB) provides subsidy to help acquire health-related and other critical items not otherwise funded to assist Social Assistance Recipients and low income Londoners. Any individual calling into DB for assistance with a medical ID bracelet will be provided with the toll free number for MedicAlert.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact.

Agenda Item #

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SUBMITTED BY:	
SUSAN GODIN MANAGER SOCIAL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES	
RECOMMENDED BY:	CONCURRED BY:
CINDY HOWARD DIRECTOR SOCIAL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES	ROSS L. FAIR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT