



Hamilton

Hamilton, Ontario,
Canada L8P 4Y5
www.hamilton.ca

Community Services Department, Office of the General Manager
Physical Address: 1 Hughson St. N., 2nd Floor, L8P 4Y5
Phone: 905-546-2424, x4839 Fax: 905-540-5608
Email: jpriel@hamilton.ca

B I O G R A P H Y

Joe-Anne Priel

**General Manager
Community Services Department
City of Hamilton**



Graduated from High School in 1969 and began a career with the Alberta Provincial Public Service. After ten years in an administrative capacity decided to further her education and enrolled in the Commerce Program at the University of Alberta. Graduated in 1985 with a Bachelor's Degree in Business with specializations in Organizational Analysis and Industrial Relations. Returned to the Alberta Public Service where she held many interesting and increasingly challenging positions mainly within the field of training and development.

Was offered a position with the City of Hamilton and moved east in the fall of 2000. Currently is the General Manager of the Public Health and Community Services Department which has a gross budget of approximately \$361M and full-time staff of 1752. This department offers a unique blend of human services including public health, welfare assistance, management of the child care system, two long term care facilities, employment services for those that have difficulty accessing the labour market, culture and recreation programming, social housing and homelessness initiatives. This is only a small sampling of the business done by her department in trying to make a difference in the community of Hamilton.

In conjunction with community partners and the Caledon Institute, Joe-Anne lead the development of the Social Vision for the City of Hamilton, which is regarded as a key social policy paper used to guide the City of Hamilton to reach its goal of being a safe, healthy, vibrant and caring community.

Joe-Anne's passion as an advocate for the less-fortunate has been invaluable in her role as a committee member for the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction, which was formed in February 2005. Joe-Anne firmly believes that poverty reduction in Hamilton must become a priority. The strength from this collaborative approach is drawn from residents and leaders who are at its base. Joe-Anne is committed to the development of a made-in-Hamilton solution, to an issue that is not unique to Hamilton but is being experienced by communities across the county.

During the period of provincial public health reform, the City of Hamilton introduced a new way of doing business in February 2006, for the Public Health and Community Services Department. The Community Services Department and Public Health began operations as two distinct units. As the General Manager of the Community Services Department, Joe-Anne continues to steward the ongoing commitment to providing quality programs and services to the residents of the City of Hamilton.

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