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TOWN OF SYLVAN LAKE
A Town For All Seasons

MEDIA BACKGROUNDER

TOWN TO CONTINUE OPERATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD PLACE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sylvan Lake, March 1, 2006: In response to a Sylvan Lake News Article of March 1, 2006 titled *Neighborhood Place loses funding*, the Town of Sylvan Lake would like to issue the following statement:

Neighbourhood Place has and will continue to receive funding from the Town of Sylvan Lake. The Town is committed to maintaining and increasing the level of service offered by Neighborhood Place, an organization that is responsible for providing a one-stop access point for information, and determining needed services for children, youth and families.

Neighborhood Place currently operates under the umbrella of Community Partners with grant funding from the Province. Realizing that provincial grants have significantly decreased over the past two years, the Town Council approved funding for a Community Resource Worker in the 2006 budget. By bringing Neighborhood Place under the umbrella of the Town, the Department of Community Social Development will be able to ensure service levels will not diminish should provincial funding continually be reduced or eventually disappear.

The Town of Sylvan Lake recognizes a need for funding that will support the ongoing administration of the Neighbourhood Place program. A Community Resource Worker within the Department of Community and Social Development will guarantee a high level of service and meet the needs of the community. The Town is eligible for provincial funding and those grant dollars will be used for the continued support of the program for as long as they are available.