

Priority Actions to Protect Health - Climate Change, Clean Air and Sustainable Energy Action Plan and Environment Plan



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Boards of Health are responsible for programs and services that contribute to the health and well-being of Ontarians

Environment is a determinant of health

Public Health Standards include Environmental Health:



To prevent or reduce the burden of illness from health hazards in the physical environment

- Toronto Public Health's work on the environment includes:
 - Investigations - local environmental quality concerns
 - Health Impact Assessment (HIA)
 - Health promotion activities to increase awareness of pollution and ways to protect health
 - Development and evaluation of policies and programs that protect health

TPH initiatives highlighted today:



- 20/20 Campaign
- Air Quality Health Index
- Hot Weather Response Plan
- Sustainable Transportation
- Environmental Reporting and Disclosure
- Health Impact Assessment – Solid Waste

Air Quality Health Index

Toronto



Current

Observed at
9:00 AM EDT
Wednesday 2 May 2007



At-risk population:

- Enjoy your usual outdoor activities.
- Follow your doctor's advice for exercise.

General population:

- Ideal conditions for outdoor activities such as sports, biking or walking.

Forecast Maximums

Issued 6:00 AM EDT Wednesday 2 May 2007



Who is at risk?

People with heart and lung conditions are most affected by air pollution.

To find out if you are at risk, consult www.ec.gc.ca/AQHI, your physician or Toronto Public Health at www.toronto.ca/health/aqhi.

Did you know...?

Riding your bike, walking or rollerblading to work is healthy for you and keeps the air clean.

- TPH collaborator in development of AQHI
- 2007 – Pilot launched in Toronto
- 2008 – AQHI extended to GTA
- Promotion of AQHI to continue throughout 2009
- AQHI better measure of health risk
- Provides information on ways to minimize adverse health impacts of air pollution
- Encourages people to take action to prevent air pollution



CUTTING ENERGY USE
at home and on the road
by 20%



- Program to promote reduced energy and motor vehicle use
- Collaboration with Live Green Toronto, the Clean Air Partnership, Eco-schools, and others
- On average, households using 20/20 planner have achieved 1.2 tonnes reduction in GHG
 - 20% reduction in home energy use
 - 15% reduction in vehicle kilometres travelled

Protecting Vulnerable Populations from Heat

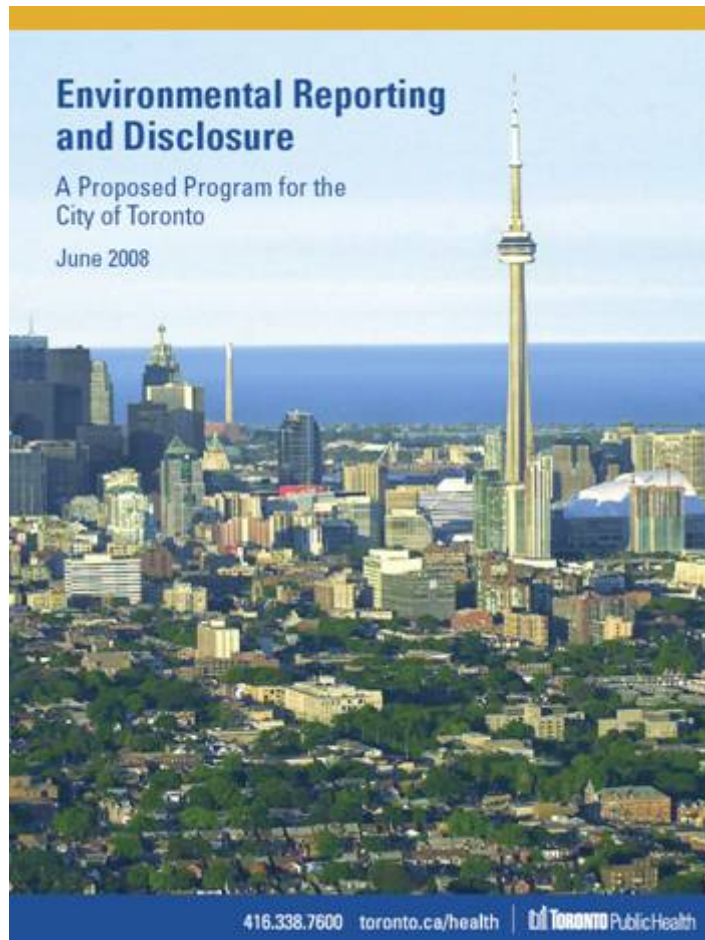


- **Hot Weather Response Plan**
 - Heat risk surveillance
 - Alerts and outreach
 - Partnership with community and other service agencies
- **Vulnerability assessment**
(first phase in 2009)
 - Will identify places and people at most risk
 - Better target interventions
 - Health Canada evaluation



- October 2007 reported on Air Pollution Burden of Illness from Traffic in Toronto
- Walking promotion, walkability/bikeability audits
- 2009 report on ways to strengthen idling control bylaw

Environmental Reporting, Disclosure, and Innovation



- Council approval
December 2008
- Bylaw and program
- Stimulate pollution
prevention, reduction of
priority chemicals
- Implementation 2010

- Framework for HIA of City initiatives (policies/projects)
- Enables assessment of health impacts of air quality and GHG
 - eg: residual solid waste
 - transportation initiatives