

TORONTO STAFF REPORT

September 9, 2003

To: Board of Health
From: Dr. Sheela V. Basrur, Medical Officer of Health
Subject: Appointment of Associate Medical Officer of Health

Purpose:

To recommend the appointment of a public health physician as Associate Medical Officer of Health for the City of Toronto Health Unit

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

None.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the public health physician named in Appendix 1 attached to this report be appointed as Associate Medical Officer of Health for the City of Toronto health Unit and that this recommendation be transmitted to the provincial Minister of Health and Long Term Care for approval; and
- (2) authority be granted to introduce the necessary bill in Council to give effect to the above recommendation.

Background:

Under the “City of Toronto Act No.2”, City Council has the authority to appoint the Medical Officer of Health and Associate Medical Officers of Health for the City of Toronto Health Unit. These appointments are subject to the approval of the provincial Minister of Health and Long Term Care. All staff physicians require AMOH status in order to have medico-legal signing authority under the “Health Protection & Promotion Act”.

There has been considerable turnover in the physician complement over the past few years, exacerbated by a Canada-wide shortage of Community Medicine Specialists. A public health physician is now joining the corporation and requires AMOH designation in order to have medicolegal signing authority. The recommended AMOH appointment is outlined in Appendix 1.

Conclusion:

Toronto Public Health has recently hired a public health physician. It is recommended that this physician be appointed as an Associate Medical Officer of Health for the City of Toronto Health Unit.

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Dr. Sheela V. Basrur
Medical Officer of Health

Appendix 1

Public health physician recommended for appointment as Associate Medical Officer of Health for the City of Toronto Health Unit:

Dr. Tamara Wallington, B.A., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.C. (commenced work on September 2, 2003)