



**BOARD OF HEALTH
AGENDA
MEETING No. 11**

Date of Meeting: Monday, December 6, 1999 **Enquiry:** Trudy Perrin
Time: 2:00 p.m. **Secretary**
Location: Committee Room 1 **392-8027**
100 Queen Street West **clerk@city.toronto.**
Toronto City Hall **on.ca**

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST PURSUANT TO
THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT.**

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: November 15, 1999

DEPUTATIONS: List to be distributed at meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS

**1. HEALTH EFFECTS OF WIRELESS TELEPHONE
TRANSMISSION TOWERS.**

(DEFERRED FROM LAST MEETING)

Medical Officer of Health
(November 5, 1999)

Responding to a request from the Urban Environment and Development Committee for a review and report on a Prudent Avoidance Policy for the siting of wireless (cellular) telephone transmission towers, and recommending that:

- (1) the Board of Health endorse the adoption of a Prudent Avoidance Policy in the siting of base cellular telephone antennas in the City of Toronto;

- (2) the Board of Health forward this report to the Telecommunications Steering Committee for their information and any public consultation they deem appropriate;
- (3) the Board of Health request the Telecommunications Steering Committee to incorporate a Prudent Avoidance Policy in a protocol for the siting of base cellular telephone antennas in the City of Toronto which includes the following:
- (4) applicants who wish to install new antennas or modified antennas must demonstrate that radio frequency (RF) exposures in those areas namely used by people other than telecommunications workers (e.g., roof-top gardens, balconies, or grounds) will be at least 100 times lower than those currently recommended by Safety Code 6;
 - (a) in situations where residents express concern over an existing base cellular telephone antenna, the owner and/or operator of the facility be requested to monitor levels of radio frequency (RF) fields around the antenna and provide this information to the affected community and the Telecommunications Steering Committee; and
 - (b) a mechanism for notifying residents of a proposed site for new telephone base antennas should be developed, which includes the advantages of using the proposed site, alternative sites considered, and the maximum expected exposure to RF due to installation in areas that the public or building occupants would normally use;
- (4) City Council request the Federal Minister of Industry to ensure adherence to the City of Toronto's Prudent Avoidance Policy when granting approval for the siting of base cellular telephone antennas in the City of Toronto; and
- (5) the Medical Officer of Health forward this report for information purposes to the Federal Minister of Health, all other Boards of Health in Ontario, and to the Toronto District School Board and the Toronto Catholic District School Board.

1a. Medical Officer of Health
(November 29, 1999)

Providing additional information regarding a prudent avoidance policy for the siting of wireless (cellular) telephone transmission towers, as requested by the Board; and recommending that this report be referred to the Telecommunications Steering Committee for information.

- 1b.** Mr. Roger Poirier
President and Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Wireless and Telecommunications Association
(November 12, 1999)

Advising that the wireless telecommunications industry has serious concerns regarding the report from the Medical Officer of Health and the possibly serious repercussions not only for the industry, but for all radio installations in the Toronto area.

- 1c.** Mr. Mark Maitman
Citizens for a Healthy Future
(November 25, 1999)

Respecting the health effects of wireless telecommunications transmitters; and requesting the City to create a policy that reflects the concerns as outlined therein.

2. 2000-2004 CAPITAL BUDGET PRELIMINARY REVIEW.

City Clerk
(November 17, 1999)

Advising that the Budget Advisory Committee, having completed its preliminary review of the 2000-2004 Capital Budget, directed that:

- (1) the 2000-2004 Capital Budget be forwarded to all Community Councils and relevant Standing Committees for consideration;
- (2) the preliminary requests of the Budget Advisory Committee be forwarded to the Community Councils and Standing Committees for information; and
- (3) the Community Councils and Standing Committees be requested to forward their recommendations pertaining to the 2000-2004 Capital Budget to the Budget Advisory Committee prior to the commencement of the 'wrap-up' meetings on December 9, 1999.

3. MECHANISMS FOR COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND PARTICIPATION.

Medical Officer of Health
(November 22, 1999)

Recommending that the Board of Health strike a working group comprised of at least one Councillor and one citizen member to work with Toronto Public Health staff to develop recommendations on mechanisms for community consultation and participation.

4. PATTERNS OF CHILD RESPIRATORY ILLNESS IN TORONTO.

Medical Officer of Health
(November 29, 1999)

Informing the Board of the approach being taken by Toronto Public Health to investigate the apparent elevation in respiratory hospitalizations among children in certain parts of the City, as indicated in the "Toronto Report Card on Children, 1999," produced by staff from a variety of City Departments and community agencies and released in September; advising that evidence gathered to date shows that higher child respiratory illness rates in Scarborough may be explained by non-clinical factors, that is access to hospitals and hospital admission practices, and that further work will be completed by January 2000 and reported to the Board soon thereafter; and recommending that the Board of Health forward this report to the Community Services Committee for their information.

5. REPRESENTATIVE TO ALPHA.

Ms. Marilen Miguel
Administrative Assistant
Association of Local Public Health Agencies
(October 29, 1999)

Requesting a representative from each Board of Health to act as an information liaison between the Association of Local Public Health Agencies and each Board.

ANY OTHER MATTERS