

BOARD OF HEALTH AGENDA MEETING No. s8

Date of Meeting: Monday July 29, 2002 Enquiry: Yvonne Davies

Time: 2:00 p.m. Secretary
Location: Committee Room No. 1 416-395-7343

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Toronto City Hall

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

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – June 10, 2002 [Sent to Members by electronic mail]

- 1. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR.
- **1(a).** APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

<u>City Clerk</u> (May 27, 2002)

Advising that the City of Toronto Council, at its meeting held on May 21, 22, and 23, 2002, in adopting, as amended, Clause No. 1 of Report No. 3 of the Striking Committee, entitled, "Appointment of Members of Council to Standing and Other Committees of Council, Various Boards, Special Purpose Bodies and Special Positions", appointed the following six Members of Council to the Toronto Board of Health, for a term of office commencing on June 21, 2002 and expiring on November 30, 2003, and until their successors are appointed:

Councillor Maria Augimeri Councillor John Filion Councillor Norman Kelly Councillor Joe Mihevc Councillor Jane Pitfield Councillor David Soknacki

2. 2003 CITY OF TORONTO BUDGET PROCESS.

Medical Officer of Health (June 26, 2002)

Providing information on the 2003 City Budget Process and its application to Toronto Public Health; advising that there are no financial implications from the adoption of this report; and **recommending** that the Budget Sub-Committee of the Board of Health be convened over the summer to review the draft 2003 Capital and Operating Budget submissions and advise staff on issues arising therefrom.

NB: For the information of Members, the current Membership of the Budget Subcommittee is as follows:

Chair: Vacant (was Councillor Irene Jones) Councillor Joe Mihevc Councillor Jane Pitfield Brian MacKay Lee Zaslofsky

3. IMPROVING THE AIR QUALITY INDEX (AQI).

Medical Officer of Health (June 25, 2002)

Reporting on the progress to date by federal and provincial agencies in improving the Air Quality Index (AQI) and making recommendations for further changes to improve AQI; advising that there are no direct financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report and **recommending** that the Board of Health:

- (1) support the Ontario Minister of the Environment and Energy's decision to add fine particles (PM_{2.5}) to the list of pollutants used to calculate the Air Quality Index (AQI);
- (2) urge the Ontario Minister of the Environment and Energy to make further improvements to the AQI by:

- (a) replacing the current AQI classifications (very good to poor) with terms that more accurately reflect the true health risk posed by smog-related pollutants (i.e. low, moderate or high health risk);
- (b) replacing the current health messages delivered through the AQI with messages that alert the general public and sensitive populations (such as the elderly, children and those with respiratory and cardiac problems) to AQI values that may adversely affect their health;
- (c) refining and pilot testing the new health risk-based AQI, including the development of forecasting capabilities for the new index;
- (d) implementing by April 2004 the new health risk-based AQI which was developed by Health Canada and Environment Canada, in partnership with air quality experts from municipal and provincial governments, and health and environmental non-governmental agencies;
- (3) that the federal and provincial governments enhance the National Air Pollutants Surveillance (NAPS) system to support timely implementation of the new AQI as a uniform and consistent smog warning system across the country;
- (4) request the federal and provincial Ministers of the Environment to deploy sufficient air quality monitoring resources to enable the timely implementation of the new health risk-based AQI as a uniform and consistent air quality indicator system across Canada;
- (5) forward this report to the GTA Clean Air Council, the Ontario and Canadian Public Health Associations, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, the Canadian, Ontario and New Brunswick Lung Associations, the Ontario Medical Association, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, requesting their endorsement of the addition of fine particles (PM_{2.5}) to the current AQI reporting system by September 2002, and the implementation of the new health risk-based AQI in Ontario by April 2004; and
- (6) request that appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect hereto.

4. ASSESSING THE HEALTH IMPACT OF DIESEL EXHAUST IN TORONTO.

Medical Officer of Health (June 25, 2002)

Reviewing the health effects of diesel exhaust and assess the potential impact in Toronto; advising that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; and **recommending** that:

- (1) the Board of Health urge the federal Minister of the Environment to approve the proposed regulation to establish a 15-ppm sulphur standard for on-road diesel effective June 2006;
- (2) the Board of Health reiterate its request to the federal Minister of the Environment to take additional steps to reduce the public health risks arising from diesel emissions by:
 - (a) harmonizing sulphur standards for off-road diesel with those for on-road fuels;
 - (b) providing incentives for the early introduction of low-sulphur diesel;
- (3) the Board of Health encourage the federal Minister of the Environment and the federal Minister of Transport to negotiate the early introduction of low-sulphur diesel and the early adoption of low-emission diesel technology with the industry;
- (4) the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services, as Chair of the Toronto Inter-departmental Environment Committee, ensure that the City's Air Quality Strategy includes consideration of measures that can be taken to reduce emissions from, and exposure to, diesel exhaust;
- (5) the Board of Health forward this report to the GTA Clean Air Council and the Toronto Cancer Prevention Coalition for their information; and,
- (6) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

[Attachment 1: Toronto Public Health. "Estimating the Health Impact of Exposure to Diesel Exhaust in Toronto" distributed to Members of the Board only]

5. CHROMATED COPPER ARSENATE (CCA) – TREATED WOOD ADVISING THE PUBLIC ON REDUCING THE POTENTIAL FOR EXPOSURE TO ARSENIC.

Medical Officer of Health (June 25, 2002)

Summarizing the health concerns surrounding Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA)-treated wood and the potential for children's exposure to arsenic that can leach out of structures made of CCA-treated wood and outlining a public communications strategy on this matter regarding arsenic from CCA-treated wood structures directed at the public, school boards and childcare centres; advising that the estimated one time expenditure for developing and implementing the communications strategy outlined in this report is \$10,000; that funding for this initiative is available within the 2002 Toronto Public Health operating budget; and **recommending** that:

- (1) the Board of Health forward this report for information to City Council through the Economic Development and Parks Committee and the Community Services Committee; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

5(a). <u>City Clerk</u> (May 30, 2002)

Forwarding a motion moved by Councillor Chow, regarding pressure-treated wood in playground structures.

6. DEVELOPMENT REVIEW PROCESS: HARMONIZED SITE REMEDIATION PEER REVIEW FOR CONTAMINATED SITES.

City Clerk (June 25, 2002)

Forwarding, for information, Clause No. 5 contained in Report No. 7 of the Works Committee, headed "Development Review Process: Harmonized Site Remediation Peer Review to Contaminated Sites", which was adopted, as amended, by Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on June 18, 19 and 20, 2002.

7. COUNCIL'S GOAL OF PURCHASING 25 PERCENT GREEN POWER.

Commissioner of Corporate Services (June 10, 2002)

Responding to Council's request regarding the process and progress being made towards meeting Council's goal of purchasing 25 percent green power; advising that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; and **recommending** that this report be received for information.

8. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARD OF HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEES AND SUSTAINABILITY ROUNDTABLE.

Secretary, Board of Health (June 24, 2002)

Requesting the Board to appoint a member(s) to replace Councillor Jones; advising that there are no financial implications arising from this report; and **recommending** that the Board of Health appoint its representative(s) to the following subcommittees to replace Councillor Irene Jones:

- Board of Health Animal Services Subcommittee (chair)
- Board of Health Budget Subcommittee (chair)
- Board of Health Nominating Subcommittee; and
- Sustainability Roundtable (alternate: Brian MacKay)

9. LOCAL HEALTH COMMITTEE MINUTES.

- **9(a).** Minutes of the meeting of the Toronto/East York Local Health Committee meeting held on March 19, 2002.
- **9(b).** Minutes of the meeting of the Midtown Local Health Committee meeting held on May 27, 2002.
- **9(c).** Minutes of the meeting of the Scarborough Local Health Committee meeting held on May 28, 2002.