
**BOARD OF HEALTH
AGENDA
MEETING 6**

Date of Meeting: Monday, September 20, 2004 **Enquiry:** Yvonne Davies
Time: 1:00 p.m. **Secretary**
Location: Committee Room 1 **416-395-7364**
City Hall **ydavies@toronto.ca**
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario

Under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, the BOARD OF HEALTH must adopt a motion to meet In-camera (privately) and the reason must be given.

Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act

Confirmation of Minutes – July 12, 2004

Deputations/Presentations - A complete list will be distributed at the meeting:

1:00 p.m. Item 1
1:30 p.m. Item 2

Communications/Reports:

1. Food and Nutrition Issues in the City of Toronto

(Presentation by Medical Officer of Health)

Report (September 3, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health, providing an overview of critical food and nutrition issues in the City of Toronto as well as Toronto Public Health strategies described in five accompanying Board of Health reports. These reports highlight the need for a comprehensive food and nutrition strategy to guide Toronto Public Health programs and services and call for similar initiatives at the Provincial and Federal levels.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

1(a). Ontario Nutrition and Cancer Prevention Survey – Toronto Results

Report (September 2, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health, providing findings of the Ontario Nutrition and Cancer Prevention Survey of the Toronto population and highlighting the findings related to vegetable and fruit consumption, Body Mass Index (BMI) and physical activity levels.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health request the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to develop a comprehensive strategy focusing on healthy eating and the promotion of vegetable and fruit consumption, healthy weights and physical activity, consistent with World Health Organization principles, comparable to the scope of the Ontario Tobacco Strategy, and including sufficient resources; and
- (2) the Board of Health request Health Canada to develop a comprehensive strategy for the promotion of vegetable and fruit consumption, healthy weights and physical activity in Canada, consistent with World Health Organization principles and with sufficient resources; and
- (3) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

[Attachment 1 sent to Board Members only, copy is available at www.toronto.ca]

1(b). The Cost of the Nutritious Food Basket in Toronto for 2004

Report (September 2, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health, providing information on the Cost of the Nutritious Food Basket in Toronto for 2004.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health advocate to the Government of Ontario to significantly increase social assistance rates to compensate for increases in the costs of shelter, food, transportation and other basic needs for Ontario Works recipients living in Toronto;
- (2) the Board of Health refer this report to the Community Services Committee, through the Food and Hunger Action Committee, with a request that they renew

their efforts to institute a permanent community grants stream to support neighborhood-based food security initiatives;

- (3) the Board of Health request that the Medical Officer of Health work with the Commissioner of Urban Development Services to address challenges to food access faced by people in neighbourhoods where there is no pedestrian access to food retail outlets offering affordable, nutritious and culturally acceptable foods;
- (4) Toronto Public Health continue to provide information on the Cost of Nutritious Food Basket to community-based agencies in Toronto that provide food/nutrition programs and services in low income communities and to encourage other city divisions to make use of this information; and
- (5) the appropriate city officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

1(c). Nutrition Recommendations for Canadians

Report (September 1, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health about proposed changes to Health Canada's Nutrition Recommendations for Canadians and outlining Toronto Public Health's response to Health Canada regarding the proposed changes.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health request Health Canada to:
 - (a) rescind the draft Nutrition Recommendations for Canadians, and prepare a policy statement indicating that the Nutrition Recommendations for Canadians (1990) have been replaced by the Academy of Sciences' Dietary Reference Intake (DRI) reports;
 - (b) develop a comprehensive, user-friendly summary of the DRI reports which include a Canadian interpretation of the DRIs and position the DRIs in the context of Canadian dietary patterns;
 - (c) provide an interpretation and application of the DRIs by way of revised key messages (Canada's Guidelines for Healthy Eating) and a revised food guide (Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating) for Canadians; and
- (2) the Board of Health communicate to the Federal Minister of Health its support for the adoption of the Academy of Sciences' Dietary Reference Intake (DRI) reports as the basis for Nutrition Recommendations for Canadians;

- (3) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

[Attachment 2a, b, c, d & 3 sent to Board Members only, copy is available www.toronto.ca]

1(d). Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health “Call to Action: Creating a Health School Nutrition Environment”

Report (September 2, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health, soliciting the Board of Health's endorsement of recommendations to support the Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health's "Call to Action: Creating a Healthy School Nutrition Environment".

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health request that the Ontario Ministries of Health and Long-Term Care, Education, and Children and Youth Services establish an Interministerial Committee on School Nutrition to coordinate consultations with key stakeholders in order to identify strategies for implementing the recommendations outlined in the “Call to Action”;
- (2) the Board of Health request that the Toronto District School Board, the Toronto Catholic District School Board, le Conseil scolaire de district du Centre-Sud-Ouest (French Public School Board) and le Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud (French Catholic School Board) engage in a consultation process with key stakeholders, staff, students, and local agencies, including Toronto Public Health, regarding implementation of the “Call to Action” recommendations within Toronto schools;
- (3) the Board of Health commend the Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health for proposing a framework to address the issue of healthy school nutrition with a view to developing detailed and consistent nutrition standards for school nutrition programs in the province; and
- (4) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

[Attachments 2 & 3 sent to Board Members only, copy available at www.toronto.ca]

1(e). 2004/2005 Student Nutrition Programs Service Subsidies

Report (September 7, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health, requesting that the Board of Health adopt the recommendations of the Student Nutrition Program Steering Committee regarding the 2004/2005 Student Nutrition Program service subsidy allocations.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health recommend that City Council execute agreements which includes an additional \$500,000.00 one time funding for a total of \$2,499,340.00 with the Toronto Foundation for Student Success (\$2,278,580.58) and the Metropolitan Toronto Catholic Education Foundation (\$220,759.42) to administer the allocation of service subsidies to eligible student nutrition programs across the City of Toronto;
- (2) authority be granted to the Medical Officer of Health to take the necessary action to give effect thereto, including the execution of agreements with the Toronto Foundation for Student Success and the Metropolitan Toronto Catholic Education Foundation on behalf of the City; and
- (3) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

2. Homeless Youth with Concurrent Disorders in Toronto**(Presentation – 1:30 p.m. by the Medical Officer of Health)**

Report (September 1, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health, regarding the work to date of the Homeless Youth with Concurrent Disorders Work Group.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health endorse the Youth Safe House model to meet the needs of homeless youth with concurrent disorders in Toronto;
- (2) the Board of Health forward this report for information to the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, requesting that the Ministries collaborate to address the needs of homeless youth with concurrent disorders and provide funding for the proposed Youth Safe House pilot project; and

- (3) the Board of Health forward this report to Community Services Committee for information
- (4) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

3. Use of Toronto Transit Commission Land for Dog Walking

Report (August 24, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health, requesting that approval be granted to enter into an agreement with the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) to allow access by Animal Services staff and volunteers at the East Region Animal Centre to walk adoption dogs on leash on the adjacent TTC property.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the City of Toronto enter into an agreement with the Toronto Transit Commission to permit Toronto Animal Services staff and volunteers to walk dogs owned by the City of Toronto Animal Services on the Toronto Transit Commission property and the agreement be executed by the Medical Officer of Health;
- (2) the agreement referred to in Recommendation 1 be in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (3) this report be referred to the Toronto Transit Commission; and
- (4) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

4. If Low Income Women of Colour Counted in Toronto

Communication (July 8, 2004) from Policy and Finance Committee, advising that the Committee, on July 8, 2004, after considering the report "If Low Income Women of Colour Counted in Toronto" among other things, referred the recommendation for a review of low-income women's experiences with health services elaborated in the report "If Low Income Women of Colour Counted in Toronto" to the Board of Health for consideration as a new initiative in the Department of Public Health's 2005 workplan and operating budget.

(Attachments sent to Board Members only, copy available from the City Clerk's Office, North York Civic Centre)