

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Office

Minutes of Board of Health

Meeting 4

June 14, 2004

The Board of Health met on Monday, June 14, 2004 in Committee Room No. 2, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 1:10 p.m.

Members Present:

Councillor John Filion, Chair	x
Trustee Sheila Cary-Meagher	x
Ms. Helen Chan	x
Councillor Janet Davis	x
Councillor Paula Fletcher, Vice-Chair	x
Mr. Brian Hyndman	x
Mr. Brian MacKay	
Councillor Joe Mihevc	x
Ms. Fiona Nelson	x
Ms. Nancy Peters	x
Councillor Karen Stintz	
Councillor Michael Thompson	
Mr. Lee Zaslofsky	x

Councillor Filion in the Chair.

Staff Recognition

The Board recognized a group of Toronto Public Health staff who have just passed the halfway point on a large information technology project for the division called "Toronto Community Health Information System" (TCHIS). The project will integrate over 30 different systems inherited with the amalgamation of 6 health units and will support the work of over 700 public health staff. TCHIS will enhance accountability through time and activity tracking, client case management and providing a knowledge base for Family Health and Healthy Lifestyle programs. TCHIS is recognized for the project's commitment to strong partnership between programs, technical staff and Corporate IT.

The Chair presented a certificate of recognition to representatives of the TCHIS team: Joanna Liebert and Pamela Uhera, Business Lead Managers; Gary McMahon, System Integrator; and Abraham Esedase, Project Lead Coordinator.

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Fiona Nelson, the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Health held on May 10, 2004 were confirmed.

4.1 Communicable Diseases in Toronto 2002, and Trends 1992 – 2002

The Board of Health had before it a report (May 31, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health, providing baseline incidence rates and trends of reportable communicable diseases in Toronto over an 11-year period (1992 to 2002), with a focus on communicable disease activities and issues during the 2002 calendar year; these data can be used by the public health community to understand how trends have evolved, and how subpopulations are affected by particular communicable diseases; data comparisons with the rest of Ontario and Canada also highlight the ways in which Toronto is uniquely affected by the burden of communicable diseases; these data are useful to inform Toronto Public Health (TPH) communicable disease control strategies, prevention and response; and recommending that:

- (1) the Board of Health forward this report to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) for information and appropriate action;
- (2) the Board of Health forward this report to Health Canada so that areas of concern that may be specifically related to larger urban centres can be identified and addressed;
- (3) the Board of Health forward this report to key stakeholders, including: Ontario Public Health units; Toronto hospitals; Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA); Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario (APHEO); Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA); Association of Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors of Ontario (ASPHIO); the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES); Central East Health Information Partnership (CEHIP) and Toronto District Health Council (TDHC); and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Acting Director, Communicable Disease Control and Associate Medical Officer of Health, gave a powerpoint presentation.

On motion by Fiona Nelson, the Board of Health:

1. adopted the report (May 31, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health; and

2. requested the Acting Medical Officer of Health to report to the Board of Health as soon as possible on strategies to address the rising rates of sexually transmitted and blood borne diseases in Toronto.

(Minister of Health and Long-Term Care; Minister of Health; Ontario Public Health Units; Toronto Hospitals; Association of Local Public Health Agencies; Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario; Ontario Public Health Association; Association of Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors of Ontario; Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences; Central East Health Information Partnership; Toronto District Health Council; Acting Medical Officer of Health c. Jane Speakman, Legal Services – June 16, 2004)

4.2 Program Update for the West Nile Virus (WNV) Prevention and Control Program 2004 and Review and Evaluation of the 2003 WNV Program

The Board of Health had before it a report (June 1, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health, providing an update on the activities already underway for the control of the West Nile Virus (WNV) in Toronto for 2004; also responding to a motion from the Board of Health requesting the Medical Officer of Health to report to the Board on a program to monitor the effectiveness of public education and outreach activities in 2003; recommending that the Board of Health receive this report for information.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board of Health received the foregoing report.

4.3 Retaining Government Control of the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO)

The Board of Health had before it a report (May 31, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health, seeking Board of Health adoption of a policy position to retain government control of the LCBO and endorsement of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health position paper entitled "Retail Alcohol Monopolies and Regulation: Preserving the Public Interest"; recommending that:

- (1) the Board of Health request the Government of Ontario to maintain provincial alcohol control as a means of preventing alcohol-related problems, that public health and safety objectives be an integral part of the alcohol regulation mandate, and that the government strengthen its mandate to control and prevent alcohol problems through regulation;
- (2) the Board of Health endorse the attached position paper, "Retail Alcohol Monopolies and Regulation: Preserving the Public Interest", produced by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health;

- (3) this report and the attached position papers be forwarded for consideration and appropriate action to the Provincial Minister of Finance, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Minister of the Attorney General, the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, the Minister of Economic Development and Trade, the Minister of Consumer and Business Services, Toronto Members of Provincial Parliament, and the Premier of Ontario;
- (4) this report and the attached position papers be forwarded to the Chief Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Deputy Minister for consideration and appropriate action;
- (5) this report and the attached position papers be forwarded for endorsement to all Ontario Boards of Health, to the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, the Ontario Public Health Association, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and
- (6) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board of Health adopted the report (May 31, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health.

(Premier of Ontario; Centre for Addiction and Mental Health; Provincial Minister of Finance, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care; Attorney General; Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services; Minister of Economic Development and Trade; Minister of Consumer and Business Services; Toronto Members of Provincial Parliament; Chief Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Deputy Minister; Ontario Boards of Health; Association of Local Public Health Agencies; Ontario Public Health Association; Association of Municipalities of Ontario c. Acting Medical Officer of Health; Jane Speakman, Legal Services – June 17, 2004)

4.4 Comprehensive Drug Strategy Initiative – Council Reference Group - Terms of Reference and Membership

The Board of Health had before it a communication (May 26, 2004) from Councillor Kyle Rae, submitting the Terms of Reference and Membership of the Council Reference Group for the Comprehensive Drug Strategy Initiative.

On motion by Lee Zaslofsky, the Board of Health recommended that Council endorse the Terms of Reference and Membership of the Council Reference Group for the City of Toronto's Comprehensive Drug Strategy Initiative.

(Report 4, Clause 1)

4.5 2004 Drug Prevention Grants

The Board of Health had before it a report (May 28, 2004) from the Chair and Vice-Chair, Board of Health Drug Prevention Grants Review Panel, outlining the review process, funding applications and recommendations of the Board of Health Drug Prevention Grants Review Panel regarding allocations for 2004; and recommending that:

- (1) the Board of Health request that City Council approve the allocation of \$811,460 to 58 projects as recommended by the Drug Prevention Grants Review Panel in Appendix A and Appendix B of this report;
- (2) the Board of Health request that City Council approve the listed applicants for multi-year assessment in Appendix C and Appendix D of this report; and
- (3) authority be granted to the Medical Officer of Health to take the necessary action to give effect thereto, including the execution of Letters of Understanding on behalf of the City.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board of Health recommended to Council for its meeting on June 22, 2004, adoption of the report (May 28, 2004) from the Chair and Vice Chair, Board of Health Drug Prevention Grants Review Panel.

(Report 4, Clause 2)

4.6 2004 AIDS Prevention Grants

The Board of Health had before it a report (May 28, 2004) from the Co-Chairs, Board of Health AIDS Prevention Grants Review Panel, outlining the review process, funding applications and recommendations of the Board of Health AIDS Prevention Grants Review Panel regarding allocations in 2004; and recommending that:

- (1) the Board of Health request that City Council approve the allocation of \$1,363,800 to 51 projects as recommended by the AIDS Prevention Grants Review Panel in Appendices A and B of this report;
- (2) the Board of Health approve the AIDS Review Panel recommendation that an additional \$120,000 be requested in the AIDS Prevention Grants budget through the 2005 budget process to better address unmet project needs and to support community groups in preparation for the International AIDS Conference to be held in Toronto in 2006; and

- (3) authority be granted to the Medical Officer of Health to take the necessary action to give effect thereto, including the execution of Letters of Understanding on behalf of the City.

Lee Zaslofsky declared an interest in that portion of the report regarding Project Application No. 8M (Hassle Free Clinic) because he is a member of the Board of the Hassle Free Clinic.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board of Health recommended to Council for its meeting on June 22, 2004, adoption of the report (May 28, 2004) from the Co-Chairs, Board of Health AIDS Prevention Grants Review Panel.

(Report 4, Clause 3)

4.7 Status of Student Nutrition Program

The Board of Health received a verbal update from the Acting Medical Officer of Health respecting the Status of the Student Nutrition Program.

On motion by Councillor Fletcher, the Board of Health:

1. recommended to Community Services Committee that any budget variances be applied to funding the food security grants requested in the 2004 consolidated grant operating budget submission;
2. requested the Acting Medical Officer of Health to report to the Board in July on the feasibility of funding an expansion of the peer nutrition program through the Public Health operating budget variance;
3. requested that copies of audited financial statements for the Canadian Living Foundation and the Toronto Foundation for Student Success be appended to the student nutrition program update report to be submitted to the Board from the Acting Medical Officer of Health in September; and
4. advised the Roundtable on Children, Youth and Education of the Board's concern of the need for a national school food program.

(Community Services Committee; Roundtable on Children, Youth and Education; Acting Medical Officer of Health c. Jane Speakman, Legal Services – June 21, 2004)

4.8 Alternative Methods for Problem Coyote Management

The Board of Health had before it a report (May 28, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health, presenting alternative methods to the current strategy, if practical, for the management of coyote problems; including an amendment to the existing Coyote Response Strategy, which reflects the recent amendment to the firearms by-law; and recommending that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board of Health received the report (May 28, 2004) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health.

4.9 Local Health Committee Minutes

The Board of Health had before it Minutes of the Scarborough Local Health Committee meeting held on January 21, 2004.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board of Health received the Minutes of the Scarborough Local Health Committee.

The Board of Health adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Chair