

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Office

Minutes of Board of Health

Meeting 3

April 4, 2005

The Board of Health met on Monday, April 4, 2005 in Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 1:10 p.m.

Attendance

Members were present for some or all of the time periods indicated.

	1:10 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Councillor John Filion, Chair	X
Trustee Sheila Cary-Meagher	X
Cathy Crowe	X
Councillor Janet Davis	X
Councillor Paula Fletcher, Vice-Chair	X
Nathan Gilbert	X
Brian Hyndman	X
Councillor Joe Mihevc	X
Fiona Nelson	X
Rhonda Roffey	X
Valerie Sterling	X
Councillor Karen Stintz	X
Councillor Michael Thompson	X

Councillor Filion in the Chair.

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Fiona Nelson, the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Health on February 14, 2005, were confirmed.

Chair/Medical Officer of Health Announcements:

The Chair of the Board of Health, Councillor Filion, announced the following recipients who were awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Sesquicentennial Scholarship Award in Public Health Nursing:

- Catriona Mill
- Cindy Ko

3.1 Toronto Food Policy Council

The Board of Health considered a report (March 7, 2004) from the Medical Officer of Health, seeking Board of Health endorsement of the Terms of Reference and membership of the Toronto Food Policy Council (TFPC), and to present the TFPC's annual report outlining major activities during 2004.

Recommendations:

- (1) the proposed Terms of Reference for the Toronto Food Policy Council be adopted;
- (2) the proposed nominees to the Toronto Food Policy Council be accepted; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Janice Etter, Community Co-chair, Toronto Food Policy Council appeared before the Board of Health.

On motion by Valerie Sterling, the Board of Health:

- (1) adopted the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 7, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, subject to adding the words "educational institutions" after the word "agencies" in the third paragraph of the Mission Statement contained in Appendix 2 titled "Terms of Reference for the Toronto Food Policy Council", so that the paragraph now reads as follows:

"Foster dialogue with Toronto Public Health, community groups, social agencies, educational institutions and businesses in the research, promotion, design, implementation and evaluation of emerging ideas in the field of community food security."

- (2) adopted the Terms of Reference for the Toronto Food Policy Council, as amended; and
- (3) approved the following members, for a three-year term of office, to the Toronto Food Policy Council:
 - Yusuf Alam
 - Meyer Brownstone
 - Regina Borges
 - Councillor Shelley Carroll
 - Councillor Janet Davis
 - Elbert Van Donkersgoed

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- Janice Etter
- Loren Freid
- Dr. Obaidul Islam
- James Kuhns
- Anan Lololi
- Kevin Lee
- Glenn Miller
- Peter Mitchell
- Alex Murray
- Fiona Nelson
- Sonja Nerad
- Dr. Judy New
- John O’Gorman
- Jennifer Reynolds
- Cecilia Rocha
- Wally Secombe
- Lori Stahlbrand
- Rhonda Teitel-Payne

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

(Toronto Food Policy Council; c. Interested Persons – April 12, 2005)

3.2 Update on Smoke-free Ontario Act, Bill 164 – Point-of-Sale Promotion of Tobacco Products

The Board of Health considered a report (March 15, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, outlining the influence of point-of-sale promotion of tobacco products on tobacco sales, and proposes the inclusion of a ban of point-of-sale promotion of tobacco products in the proposed Bill 164, Smoke-Free Ontario Act.

The following persons appeared before the Board of Health:

- Sanam Nader;
- Keegan Henry-Mathieu;
- Allison Elwell-Shallhorne;
- Michael Perley, Director, Ontario Campaign for Action on Tobacco; and
- Councillor Cliff Jenkins.

- A. Councillor Davis moved that the Board of Health adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 15, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health subject to amending Recommendation (1) by:

- replacing the word “Ministry” with the word “Minister” and
- adding the words “without qualification” after the word “products” so that the recommendation now reads as follows:
 - “(1) the Board of Health request the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to include a provision to ban all point-of-sale promotion of tobacco products without qualification.” **(Carried)**

B. Valerie Sterling moved that it be requested that the report (March 15, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health be forwarded to:

- (a) the Federal Minister of Health urging consideration of the banning of retail display of tobacco products; and
- (b) all health organizations for support and advocacy [OPHA (Ontario Public Health Association), ALPHA (Association of Local Public Health Agencies) and Ontario Boards of Health]. **(Carried)**

(Minister of Health and Long Term Care; Minister of Health; Association of Local Public Health Agencies; Ontario Public Health Association; Ontario Boards of Health c. Interested Persons – April 12, 2005)

3.3 Update on Toronto’s Call to Action on Physical Activity

The Board of Health considered a report (March 8, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, reporting back to the Board of Health on the progress of the Call to Action on Physical Activity initiated by the Medical Officer of Health in June 2003 as recommended by the Board of Health and adopted by Toronto City Council at its meeting held on July 22, 23 and 24, 2003.

Helen Riley appeared before the Board of Health.

- A. Councillor Thompson moved that the report (March 8, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health be received and that it be recommended that it be forwarded to Community Services Committee and to City Council for their information; **(Carried)**
- B. Councillor Fletcher moved that the Board of Health encourages and supports the expedited building of skateboard parks as part of having complete physical activity to have kids active. **(Carried)**
- C. Councillor Fletcher moved that the Medical Officer of Health be requested to provide a status report to the Board on recreational pick-up sports on City streets;

- D. Trustee Sheila Cary-Meagher moved that it be requested that the report (March 8, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health be forwarded to:
- (a) the Toronto District School Board and the Toronto Catholic District School Board urging both boards to place a greater emphasis on quality daily physical activity; and
 - (b) to the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, urging them to support these initiatives with resources that make implementation possible.

(Community Services Committee; Minister of Education; Minister of Health and Long-Term Care; Minister of Children and Youth Services; Toronto District School Board; Toronto Catholic District School Board c. Interested Persons – April 12, 2005)

3.4 Update on the 2005-2005 tuberculosis Outbreak Investigation in the Homeless and Underhoused Population

The Board of Health considered a report (March 7, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing an update on the investigation and management of the Tuberculosis (TB) outbreak in Toronto's homeless and underhoused population.

Dr. Barbara Yaffe provided an update on the 2004-2005 Tuberculosis Outbreak Investigation in the Homeless and Underhoused Population.

On motion by Cathy Crowe, the Board of Health received the report (March 7, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health and requested that it be forwarded to the Community Services Committee and the Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons for information.

(Community Services Committee; Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons – April 12, 2005)

3.5 Shelter Standards and the Out of the Cold Program – Application of City of Toronto Shelter Standards to Out of the Cold Sites in Relation to Tuberculosis Prevention

The Board of Health considered a report (March 23, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, providing information on the City's Shelter Standards and their applicability to Out of the Cold in relation to tuberculosis prevention.

- A. Valerie Sterling moved that the Board of Health:

- (1) adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 23, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; and
- (2) request that the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care expand the Mandatory Core Program and Services Guidelines for Infection Control to include a requirement that the Board of Health inspect shelters, drop-in centres and other temporary shelters for people who are homeless. **(Carried)**

- B. Cathy Crowe moved that the report (March 23, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be forwarded to the Community Services Committee and Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons for information. **(Carried)**

(Minister of Health and Long Term Care; Community Services Committee; Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons; TB Subcommittee of the Board of Health – April 12, 2005)

3.6 Coroner's Inquest into the Death of Joseph Teigesser

The Board of Health considered a report (February 23, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and the Medical Officer of Health, addressed to the Community Services Committee, providing information on the inquest into the death of Joseph Teigesser and commenting on the jury recommendations arising out of that inquest.

The Board of Health also considered the following communications:

- (i) (March 16, 2005) from the TB Subcommittee of the Board of Health, recommending that the Board of Health appoint a delegation comprising of the Chair, Board of Health, Medical Officer of Health, and interested members of the TB Subcommittee to meet with the Provincial Minister of Health and Long Term Care and Chief Medical Officer of Health to urge a quick action on the jury's recommendations arising out of the inquest; and
 - (ii) (March 31, 2005) from Jayne Caldwell, Manager, Toronto Drop-In Network.
- A. Cathy Crowe moved that the Board of Health request that the Medical Officer of Health communicate support for the Joseph Teigesser Jury Recommendation No. 10 to the Minister of Health and Long Term Care and other appropriate ministries and, in the interim, develop a communication protocol whereby Toronto Public Health highly recommends TB screening to staff and volunteers in shelters, drop-in centres and Out of the Cold shelters. **(Carried)**

- B. Councillor Stintz moved that the Board of Health appoint a delegation comprising of the Chair, Board of Health, Medical Officer of Health, and interested members of the TB Subcommittee to meet with the Provincial Minister of Health and Long Term Care and Chief Medical Officer of Health to urge quick action on the jury's recommendations arising out of the inquest. **(Carried)**

(TB Subcommittee of the Board of Health c. Interested Persons – April 12, 2005)

3.7 Toronto Public Health 2005 Operating Budget and 2005 – 2009 Capital Plan & Budget – Update on City Council Approval

The Board of Health considered a report (March 4, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing an update on the Toronto Public Health (TPH) 2005 Operating Budget and 2005 – 2009 Capital Plan & Budget approved at the City Council meeting on February 21 to March 1, 2005.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

- A. Councillor Filion moved that the Board of Health request the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to require municipalities to maintain or enhance their funding to public health services where provincial mandatory program standards are not fully met, to ensure that increases in provincial funding in 2006 – 2007 result in increased public health service levels. **(Carried)**
- B. Brian Hyndman moved that the Board of Health request the Medical Officer of Health to investigate the reallocation of resources within the existing Toronto Public Health 2005 Operating Budget to proceed with the implementation of the annual mobile dental program for seniors living in institutions, and report back to the Board of Health as soon as possible. **(Carried)**
- C. Councillor Fletcher moved that the Board of Health request the Medical Officer of Health to send a letter to the Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health requesting her support for the Province to direct federal gas tax funding to public transit in Toronto as an important contribution to improving the air quality in the City of Toronto. **(Carried)**

(Minister of Health and Long Term Care – April 12, 2005)

3.8 Toronto Public Health 2005 Operating Budget – Adjustment to 100% Funded Programs

The Board of Health considered a report (March 4, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, requesting budget adjustments to the fully funded programs in the Toronto Public

Health (TPH) 2005 Operating Budget reflecting confirmed funding from various levels of government and external agencies.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) adjustments to the Public Health 2005 operating budget totaling an increase of \$1,100.4 thousand gross and \$0 net, be approved;
- (2) this report be forwarded to the Policy & Finance Committee for its consideration; and
- (3) the appropriate city officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Board of Health:

- (1) adopted the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 4, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health; and
- (2) recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee that adjustments to the Public Health 2005 Operating budget totaling an increase of \$1,100.4 thousand gross and \$0 net, be approved.
(Carried)

(Policy and Finance Committee – April 12, 2005)

3.9 Curbing Transboundary Air Pollution

The Board of Health considered a report (March 16, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing an update on efforts to curb transboundary air pollution from coal-fired power plants in the United States.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board of Health:

- (1) recommend that City Council request the Premier of Ontario to give high priority to transboundary air pollution matters, including:
 - (a) assessing the impacts of continued operation of old coal-fired power plants in the U.S. on the health of Ontario residents and environmental quality;

- (b) assessing the potential health and environmental impacts of the proposed U.S. *Clear Skies* legislation on Ontario; and
 - (c) making the health and environmental impacts of transboundary pollution known to appropriate elected officials and government agencies in the U.S., and request that these impacts be mitigated as quickly as possible;
- (2) forward this report to the federal Minister of the Environment, and the Ontario Ministers of Health and Long-Term Care, Environment, and Energy for their information and action as appropriate;
 - (3) forward this report to all Ontario Boards of Health, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, the Ontario Public Health Association, the Ontario Medical Association, the Ontario Clean Air Alliance, and Toronto's Roundtable on the Environment; and
 - (4) authorize and direct the appropriate City officials to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Fletcher, the Board of Health recommended that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 16, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health. **(Carried)**

(Minister of the Environment, Environmental Canada; Minister of Health and Long Term Care; Minister of Environment; Minister of Energy; Ontario Boards of Health; Association of Local Public Health Agencies; Ontario Public Health Association; Ontario Medical Association; Ontario Clean Air Alliance; Toronto's Roundtable on the Environment)

(Report 3, Clause 1)

3.10 The Resurgence of Bed Bugs in Toronto

The Board of Health considered a report (February 24, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, reporting to the Board of Health on the resurgence of bed bug infestations in Toronto and to clarify the role of Toronto Public Health on this issue.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

The following persons appeared before the Board of Health:

- Anne Egger, Street Nurses Network / Regent Park Community Health Centre, with written submission;

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- Beric German, Toronto Disaster Relief Committee;
 - Sophia Stanberry, All Saints Church-Community Centre and All Saints Church Homes for Tomorrow Society, with written submissions;
 - Robin Gofton, Street Health Community Nursing, with written submission; and
 - Councillor Jane Pitfield.
- A. Cathy Crowe moved that the Board of Health request the Medical Officer of Health to:
- (a) report on how the City can coordinate a City-wide response including an information line;
 - (b) report on how the shelter system can access washers and dryers;
 - (c) arrange a presentation to the Board on the St. Michael's Hospital's research on bedbugs;
 - (d) encourage use of plastic around mattresses to seal out bedbugs including access to start-up allowances; and
 - (e) distribute bedbug factsheets to Councillors' offices, landlords, schools, and shelters including contact information to be provided in different languages.
- B. Councillor Filion moved that the requests outlined in Parts (a), (b) and (d), of Cathy Crowe's motion be referred to the General Manager, Shelter, Housing and Support for a report back to the Board of Health.

Motion B, moved by Councillor Filion, to refer the requests outlined in Part (a) (report on how the City can coordinate a City-wide response including an information line); Part (b) (report on how the shelter system can access washers and dryers) and Part (d) (encourage use of plastic mattresses to seal out bedbugs including access to start-up allowances) to the General Manager, Shelter, Housing and Support for a report back to the Board of Health, **(Carried)**

Motion A., moved by Cathy Crowe, as amended by Motion B., moved by Councillor Filion, **(Carried)**

(Interested Persons – April 12, 2005)

3.11 Entry onto Private Property when Property Owner is Absent to Remove a Dead Animal

The Board of Health considered a report (February 24, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, reporting on a change in current Animal Services practice.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Stintz, the Board of Health:

- (1) received the report (February 24, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health; and
- (2) directed that the requirement to obtain consent to access the exterior of private property through a form letter, completed by the property owner, become the standard practice regardless of the whether the homeowner will be present at the time of removal of stray or dead animals.

3.12 Coyote Sightings/Incidents in the City of Toronto in 2003 and 2004

The Board of Health considered a report (February 24, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing information on reported sightings and incidents related to coyotes in the years 2003 and 2004 and the resulting actions taken by Animal Services staff.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

The Board of Health received the report (February 24, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health.

3.13 Service Agreements Awarded and Executed by the Medical Officer of Health

The Board of Health considered a report (March 8, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Policy and Finance Committee, through the Board of Health, on the purchase of service contracts currently awarded and executed by the Medical Officer of Health according to the delegation of authority by Council.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health receive this report for information; and
- (2) this report be forwarded to the Policy and Finance Committee for information.

The Board of Health received the report (March 8, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health and requested that the report be forwarded to Policy and Finance Committee for information.

(Policy and Finance Committee – April 12, 2005)

3.14 Change of Membership: Drug Prevention Grants Review Panel

The Board of Health considered a report (March 16, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, requesting approval to add one new member and delete one approved member of the Drug Prevention Grants Review Panel.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health approve the change in membership of the Drug Prevention Grants Review Panel as indicated in Attachment A; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Board of Health adopted the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 16, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, as follows:

- (1) the change in membership of the Drug Prevention Grants Review Panel be approved and Mr. Adonis Huggins be appointed to replace returning member, Stephen Meredith, on the 2005 Drug Prevention Grants Review Panel; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

(Drug Prevention Grants Review Panel; c. Adonis Huggins, Centre for Addiction & Mental Health – April 12, 2005)

The Board of Health adjourned at 5:00 p.m.