

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Office

Minutes of Board of Health

Meeting 5

June 7, 2005

The Board of Health met on Tuesday, June 7, 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 3:35 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	
Fiona Nelson	X
Rhonda Roffey	X
Valerie Sterling	X
Councillor Karen Stintz	
Councillor Michael Thompson	

Councillor Filion in the Chair.

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Brian Hyndman, the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Health on May 9, 2005, were confirmed.

Chair/Medical Officer of Health Announcements:

The Board of Health recognized Catherine Khan and Cathy Tersigni, Toronto Public Health Nurses, for their work in developing the Caring Alliance – a coalition of volunteers from faith communities, City agencies and Scarborough communities established in 1997. This year, the Caring Alliance was the recipient of the Toronto Community Service Volunteer Award in the Housing and Homelessness Support category.

5.1 City of Toronto – South East District Botswana HIV/AIDS Capacity Building Partnership

The Board of Health considered a report (May 20, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, updating the Board of Health on progress to date on the HIV/AIDS capacity building partnership between the City of Toronto and South-East District Botswana, sponsored by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

Councillor Filion welcomed and introduced Mr. Mbanga, Deputy Council Secretary of South East District Council, Botswana and Ms. Dineo Segobai, Social Worker and Youth Coordinator for South East District.

A presentation was made by Barbara Emanuel, Senior Policy and Strategic Advisor, Toronto Public Health.

On motion by Valerie Sterling, the Board of Health:

- (1) recommended that the City of Toronto-South East District Botswana HIV/AIDS Capacity Building Partnership be showcased at the 2006 International AIDS Conference; and
- (2) received the video presentation on the City of Toronto – South East District Botswana HIV/AIDS Capacity Building Partnership.

5.2 2005 AIDS Prevention Grants

The Board of Health considered a report (May 24, 2005) from Councillor Kyle Rae, Chair, 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 2005.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health request that City Council approve the allocation of \$1,513,800 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 allocation of \$200,000 to 14 recipients of AIDS Prevention Grants to build their capacity to participate in the 2006 International

AIDS Conference as recommended by the AIDS Prevention Grants Review Panel in Appendices C and 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.

The Board of Health recommended that City Council adopt the recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (May 24, 2005) from Councillor Kyle Rae, Chair, AIDS Prevention Grants Review Panel.

(Report 5, Clause 1)

5.3 2005 Drug Prevention Grants

The Board of Health considered a report (May 24, 2005) from Brian MacKay, Chair, Drug Prevention Grants Review Panel, outlining the review process, funding applications and recommendations of the Board of Health Drug Preventions Grants Review Panel regarding allocations for 2005.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health request that City Council approve the allocation of \$805,531 to 51 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.
 - A. Councillor Davis moved that the Board of Health recommend that City Council adopt the recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (May 24, 2005) from the Chair, Drug Prevention Grants Review Panel.
 - B. Brian Hyndman moved that the Board of Health recommend that City Council adopt a further recommendation as follows:

“that \$5,000.00 be provided to Alexander Park Community Centre to provide education, outreach and skills development for 16 to 18 year old high risk youth; and further that the Alexander Park Community Centre work closely with Toronto Public Health staff in program development.”

Motion A. moved by Councillor Davis **Carried**, with Brian Hyndman abstaining from voting on the grant for the Parkdale Community Health Centre.

Motion B. moved by Brian Hyndman **Carried**.

Brian Hyndman declared a conflict of interest with respect to Parkdale Community Health Centre in that he performs strategic and operational planning consultant work for the organization.

(Report 5, Clause 2)

5.4 Combined Impact of Extreme Heat and Air Pollution on Mortality

The Board of Health considered a report (May 27, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing highlights of a major study on the combined impacts of weather and air pollution on premature mortality.

Recommendations:

- (1) that the federal Minister of the Environment, in collaboration with the federal Minister of Health, develop a national heat-health warning system that would enable major urban centres to implement appropriate heat response protocols to protect vulnerable populations during extreme heat events;
- (2) that the federal Ministers of Environment and Health take into account the combined impacts of air pollution and heat during the development of a national heat-health warning system;
- (3) that the federal Ministers of the Environment, Natural Resources and Health ensure that Canada’s international obligations to meet the greenhouse gas reduction targets specified during ratification of the Kyoto Protocol are met as scheduled, and that greater consideration is given to mandatory rather than voluntary measures;
- (4) that this report be forwarded to the Ontario Ministers of the Environment and Health and Long Term Care, other Ontario health units, the Ontario Public Health Association, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, the Ontario Medical Association, and the GTA Clean Air Council for their consideration; and

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- (5) that the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Board of Health also considered a communication (June 7, 2005) from Hamish Wilson.

- A. Brian Hyndman moved that the Board of Health adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (May 27, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, with Recommendation (4) being amended by adding the words “Canadian Environmental Law Association” after the words “Ontario Medical Association”, so that it reads as follows:

“(4) that this report be forwarded to the Ontario Ministers of the Environment and Health and Long Term Care, other Ontario health units, the Ontario Public Health Association, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, the Ontario Medical Association, Canadian Environmental Law Association and the GTA Clean Air Council for their consideration; and”;

- B. Councillor Fletcher moved that the Board of Health:

- (1) request the Director of Technical Services and Director of Fleet Services to report jointly to the Board of Health on progress on measures to reduce emissions from all City fleets, including the Police, Fire and Emergency Services and all agencies, boards and commissions (ABC’s); and
- (2) request the Medical Officer of Health to provide a verbal report to the July 11, 2005 Board of Health meeting on the City’s air quality strategy;

- C. Cathy Crowe moved that the Board of Health request the Medical Officer of Health to review the adequacy of the mechanism for calling a Heat Alert and Heat Emergency;

- D. Brian Hyndman moved that the Board of Health request the Medical Officer of Health to report in September, 2005 on the possibility of educating the public on the importance of mandatory measures to reduce air pollution; and

- E. Valerie Sterling moved that the Board of Health request that the report (May 27, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health be also sent to the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities asking that they ensure that environmental factors are included in curriculums for all health care professionals.

Motion A. moved by Brian Hyndman; Motion B. moved by Councillor Fletcher; Motion C. moved by Cathy Crowe; Motion D. moved by Brian Hyndman and Motion E. moved by Valerie Sterling, **Carried.**

(Minister of the Environment, Environment Canada; Minister of Health; Minister of Natural Resources; Minister of Health and Long-Term Care; Minister of Environment; Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities; Association of Local Public Health Agencies; Ontario Public Health Association; Ontario Medical Association; Ontario Health Units; GTA Clean Air Council; Canadian Environmental Law Association; c. Interested Persons – June 10, 2005)

5.5 Idling Control By-law: Improving Enforcement

The Board of Health considered a report (May 25, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, presenting strategies for improving enforcement of the idling control by-law.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Acting General Manager of the Transportation Division examine ways to allocate additional resources to enforcement of the idling control by-law;
- (2) the Toronto Police Services Board evaluate the feasibility and operational impact of joint enforcement of the idling control by-law with the Transportation Division;
- (3) this report be forwarded to the Works Committee and the Environment Roundtable; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The following persons appeared before the Board of Health:

- Kevin Farmer; and
- Keith Stewart.

A. Councillor Davis moved that the Board of Health adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations section of the report (May 25, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, with the following amendments:

- (1) Recommendation (1) in the report be amended so it reads as follows:

“(1) the Acting General Manager of the Transportation Division be requested to include additional resources to support enforcement of the idling control by-law in the 2006 budget;” and

(2) Recommendation (2) in the report be amended so it reads as follows:

“(2) the Toronto Police Services Board evaluate the feasibility and operational impact of joint enforcement of the idling control by-law with the Transportation Division, and that the Medical Officer of Health be requested to report back to the Board at its meeting on September 26, 2005 on progress of discussions held with the Toronto Police Services Board;”

B. Councillor Fletcher moved that Recommendation (3) in the report be amended so it reads as follows:

“(3) this report be forwarded to the Works Committee for its meeting on June 29, 2005 and be forwarded to the Roundtable on the Environment for its meeting on June 8, 2005.”;

C. Cathy Crowe moved that the report be further amended by adding a new Recommendation (5), as follows:

“(5) “that the Medical Officer of Health, in collaboration with the Acting General Manager of the Transportation Division and Toronto Police Services Board, explore a public relations campaign on this issue; and report back to the September 26, 2005 Board meeting on the number of idling tickets issued since June, 2005.”

(Works Committee; Roundtable on the Environment; Chair, Toronto Police Services Board; c. Interested Persons – June 7, 2005)

Motion A. moved by Councillor Davis, Motion B. moved by Councillor Fletcher and Motion C. moved by Cathy Crowe, **Carried.**

5.6 2005/2006 Student Nutrition Program Service Subsidies

The Board of Health considered a report (May 25, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, requesting that the Board of Health adopt the recommendations of the Student Nutrition Program Steering Committee regarding the 2005/2006 Student Nutrition Program Services subsidy allocations.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

(1) the Board of Health recommend that City Council execute agreements totaling \$2,399,340 with the Toronto Foundation for Student Success (\$2,144,074) and the Metropolitan Toronto Catholic Education Foundation (\$255,266) 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;
- (3) this report be shared with the Food and Hunger Action Committee for information; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect hereto.

A. Councillor Fletcher moved that:

- (1) the Board of Health recommend that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (May 25, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health; and
- (2) the Medical Officer of Health be requested to report back to the Board of Health for the September 26, 2005 Board meeting on the effectiveness of adding teen nutrition programs in neighbourhoods which are identified as priorities in the Community Safety Strategy.

B. Councillor Davis moved that the Medical Officer of Health be further requested to report back to the Board of Health for the July 11, 2005 Board meeting with a plan to expand the Student Nutrition Programs for 2006 and beyond.

C. Fiona Nelson moved that the Board of Health direct that this report be shared with the Food and Hunger Action Committee for their information.

Motion A. moved by Councillor Fletcher, Motion B. moved by Councillor Davis and Motion C. moved by Fiona Nelson, **Carried.**

(Report 5 – Clause 3)

(Food and Hunger Action Committee – June 7, 2005)

5.7 Toronto Public Health – Capital Budget Variance Report as at December 31, 2004

The Board of Health considered a report (May 18, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health of Toronto Public Health's Capital Budget Variance for the twelve-month period ended December 31, 2004.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

The Board of Health received the report (May 18, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health.

5.8 Toronto Public Health – Capital Budget Variance Report as at March 31, 2005

The Board of Health considered a report (May 18, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health of Toronto Public Health's Capital Budget Variance for the three-month period ended March 31, 2005.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

The Board of Health received the report (May 18, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health.

5.9 Toronto Public Health – Operating Budget Variance Report as at December 2004

The Board of Health considered a report (May 18, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health of Toronto Public Health's Operating Budget Variance for the twelve-month period ended December 31, 2004.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

On motion by Brian Hyndman, the Board of Health received the report (May 18, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health.

5.10 Toronto Public Health – Operating Budget Variance Report as at March 31, 2005

The Board of Health considered a report (May 18, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health of Toronto Public Health's Operating Budget Variance for the three-month period ended March 31, 2005.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Davis, the Board of Health received the report (May 18, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health.

5.11 TB Subcommittee Membership.

On motion by Cathy Crowe, the Board of Health appointed Fiona Nelson as Chair of the TB Subcommittee to replace Councillor Karen Stintz.

5.12 Rat Elimination Strategy for the City of Toronto – Report Request

Councillor Filion, Chair, advised that the City Clerk had submitted a communication (May 27, 2005) advising that City Council on May 17, 18 and 19, 2005, referred the following Motion to the Board of Health:

“J(26) Rat Elimination Strategy for the City of Toronto – Report Request
Moved by Councillor Palacio, seconded by Councillor Nunziata

WHEREAS rats and mice pose a public health hazard to all citizens of the City of Toronto, particularly in the case of infestations, and City property, including laneways and sewers, are often the largest sources of this problem; and

WHEREAS the burden is often put on private property owners to rid their property of rats and mice, even if they are seniors or low income, or the infestation involves a number of properties; and

WHEREAS the City of Toronto has set up a new ‘Rat Hotline’ to deal with rat complaints and many residents are dismayed when they call to find that the City will do nothing to help a private owner with their own rat problem; and

WHEREAS the former City of Toronto had a rat control program that was in place until the mid-90s and was discontinued because of cost;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Medical Officer of Health and the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, draft and bring forward a

'Rat Elimination Strategy' for the City of Toronto to an upcoming meeting of the Board of Health, that includes proactive measures for eliminating rats on both public and private property;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this report consider providing free advice and information to homeowners, rat eradication on a free and/or cost-recovery basis for homeowners, and a Municipal Licensing and Standards enforcement strategy that prioritizes the elimination of rat living and breeding conditions and any other measures staff deem appropriate;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this report highlight the health risks associated with rats, rat infestations and the net health benefit of adopting a 'Rat Elimination Strategy'."

On motion by Councillor Davis, the Board of Health referred the communication (May 27, 2005) from the City Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health for a report back to the Board of Health.

5.13 The Implication of Bill 164, the *Tobacco Control Statute Law Amendment Act, 2004*, on Charity Bingo

Councillor Filion, Chair, advised that the City Clerk had submitted a communication (May 27, 2005) advising that City Council on May 17, 18 and 19, 2005 referred the following Motion to the Board of Health:

"J(27) The Implication of Bill 164, the *Tobacco Control Statute Law Amendment Act, 2004*, on Charity Bingo

Moved by Councillor Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Palacio

WHEREAS Chapter 709, Smoking, Designated Smoking Room, of the City of Toronto Municipal Code, was amended by By-law 344-2003 to permit smoking in a Class 'F' public place where the principal business is the operation of a bingo hall, provided all requirements detailed in Subsection B of Section 709-1 are adhered to; and

WHEREAS Bill 164, the *Tobacco Control Statute Law Amendment Act, 2004*, when enacted, will no longer permit smoking in designated smoking rooms in bingo halls; and

WHEREAS the City of Toronto currently licenses 319 charitable organizations to manage and conduct bingo events in eight commercial bingo halls; and

WHEREAS the charity municipal bingo net profit was approximately \$3.4 million in 2002, and declined to \$2.4 million in 2004; and

WHEREAS municipal bingo licensing fees were approximately \$3.0 million in 2002, and \$2.3 million in 2004, with a further projected decline to \$1.8 million in 2005; and

WHEREAS the Municipalities of Chatham/Kent, Collingwood, Greater Sudbury, Guelph, Kitchener/Waterloo, London, Midland, North Bay, Ottawa and Sault Ste. Marie have experienced bingo hall closures, as a result of adopting a 100 percent smoke-free environment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Toronto Council send a Resolution to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care stating that a total ban on smoking in public places is not appropriate, as it does not speak to the needs of the City of Toronto's communities, and requesting that the Province develop a fair compromise regarding the smoking issue;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care be requested to consider the outstanding contribution to community programs and services that charitable bingo provides and, therefore, make specific provisions in the new Legislation to ensure that charitable bingo is given special consideration in regard to the *Tobacco Control Statute Law Amendment Act, 2004.*"

The Chair of the Board of Health ruled the aforementioned Motion to be out of order as the Board of Health has already taken a position on this issue and the Board's position was presented to the Legislature by the Chair and the Medical Officer of Health. The request in the Motion is also contrary to the Board of Health's current position.

The Chair's ruling was not challenged by the Board of Health Members.

The Board of Health adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Chair