



**BOARD OF HEALTH
DECISION DOCUMENT
MEETING 3**

Date of Meeting: April 10, 2006
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Location: Committee Room 1
City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario

Enquiry: Francine Adamo
Secretary
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The Decision Document is for preliminary reference purposes only. Please refer to the Board minutes for the official record.

How to read the Decision Document:

- *recommendations of the Board to City Council or a Committee are in bold type after the item heading;*
- *action taken by the Board on its own authority does not require Council's approval and is listed in the Decision Document in bold type under the heading "Action taken by the Board:"; and*
- *declarations of interest, if any, appear at the end of an item.*

Minutes Confirmed – February 27, 2006

Chair/MOH Announcements:

1. **Annual Report from the Toronto Food Policy Council (TFPC)**

The Board of Health:

- (1) **received the presentation from Janice Etter, Community Co-Chair, and Dr. Wayne Roberts, Project Co-ordinator, Toronto Food Policy Council; and**
- (2) **received the report (March 27, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.**

Report (March 27, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, presenting the Toronto Food Policy Council's annual report outlining major activities during 2005.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

2. Toronto Public Health and Integrated Service Planning for Children

The Board of Health:

- (1) **adopted the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, with Recommendation (1) being deleted and replaced with the following instead:**

“(1) the Board of Health endorse the Toronto Best Start Network’s Best Start Plan – Toronto Vision for Children, Consultation and Planning Phase 2006-2011;”; and

- (2) **requested the Medical Officer of Health to report back on the feasibility of undertaking a health impact assessment of the federal child care funding policy on Toronto’s families prior to implementation.**

Report (March 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing an overview of Toronto Public Health’s participation in the City's integrated service planning for children and the City's planning for Best Start, which report includes a summary of how the issues and recommendations identified in both “The Health of Toronto’s Young Children: First Two Reports” and the “Improving the Mental Health of Young Children in Toronto: Needs Assessment and Literature Review” will be linked to this planning. The report also seeks Board of Health endorsement of the "Best Start Plan - Toronto Vision for Children".

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health endorse the Toronto Best Start Network’s *Best Start Plan – Toronto Vision for Children*;
- (2) the Medical Officer of Health report back to the Board of Health on the specific services that Toronto Public Health will provide in the Best Start Hubs, including any resource implications;

- (3) the Board of Health ask the Federal Government to complete and make public a health impact assessment of their child care funding policy prior to implementation; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect hereto.

3. Early Child Development Family Abuse Prevention Project Actions to Prevent Physical Punishment of Children

The Board of Health:

- (1) adopted the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health;**
- (2) advises that it continues to support the repeal of Section 43 of the Criminal Code of Canada; and**
- (3) requested the Medical Officer of Health to write to all leaders of the Federal parties to address the concern regarding Section 43 of the Criminal Code of Canada.**

Report (March 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing a summary and accomplishments to date of the Early Child Development Family Abuse Prevention Project activities focused on the prevention of physical punishment of children and the promotion of positive discipline.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health request the Ontario Ministers of Children and Youth Services, Health and Long-Term Care, and Health Promotion to:
 - (a) recognize physical punishment of children as a form of violence that puts children at risk for abuse and other social and emotional challenges;
 - (b) ensure that physical punishment prevention is an integral part of programs mandated to reduce child abuse;
 - (c) incorporate strategies to reduce physical punishment of children in the Healthy Children Program Standards of the “Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines” as a way of reaching the public health goal of increasing the percentage of children and youth who meet physical, cognitive, communication, and psychosocial developmental milestones; and

- (d) sustain funding for child abuse prevention initiatives, such as the Toronto Public Health Physical Punishment Prevention Project;
- (2) the Board of Health request the Ontario Minister of Education to amend the Ontario Education Act to prohibit the use of physical punishment as a form of correction, as has happened in all provinces and territories except for Ontario, Manitoba, and Alberta;
- (3) this report be forwarded to the General Managers of City of Toronto Children's Services, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, Shelter, Housing and Support, and the City Librarian for their information and for consideration of adopting a position and policy on physical punishment of children and youth;
- (4) this report be forwarded to the Canadian Community Health Survey Division of Statistics Canada to request ongoing surveillance and reporting of public knowledge, attitudes, and behaviour related to discipline and physical punishment of children at the local, provincial, and national level in order to inform program planning;
- (5) this report be forwarded to the Canadian Centre of Excellence for Child Welfare:
 - (a) to commend them for providing relevant data on the incidence of maltreatment which includes the incidence of physical abuse resulting from physical punishment; and
 - (b) to request that they continue their nation-wide study examining the incidence of reported child maltreatment and the characteristics of children and families investigated by Canadian child welfare services;
- (6) this report be forwarded to all public health units in Ontario and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies with a copy of the Toronto Public Health Position and Policy on Physical Punishment of Children to encourage them to take similar action;
- (7) this report be forwarded to the Toronto District School Board, the Toronto Catholic District School Board, the French Public District School Board, the French Catholic District School Board, the Ontario Public Health Association, the Canadian Public Health Association, and the Public Health Agency of Canada with a copy of the Toronto Public Health Position and Policy on Physical Punishment of Children for their information; and
- (8) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

4. Sole Source Contract for 100% Provincially Funded Incredible Years Parent, Teacher and Child Programs

The Board of Health recommended that the Policy and Finance Committee adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 22, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, as follows:

- (1) the Medical Officer of Health be authorized to award and execute a purchase of service contract in 2006 with The Incredible Years in the amount of \$200,000 USD including all taxes and charges; and**
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.**

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health endorsed the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 22, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (March 22, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, seeking Council authority to exceed the \$500,000 limit to enter into a sole contract with The Incredible Years Organization for the provision of training, consultation, and program materials related to The Incredible Years Parent, Child and Teacher Programs.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Medical Officer of Health be authorized to award and execute a purchase of service contract in 2006 with The Incredible Years in the amount of \$200,000 USD including all taxes and charges; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

5. Donated Funds in Support of Animal Services

The Board of Health recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee that the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 28, 2006), from the Medical Officer of Health, be adopted, as follows:

- (1) a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from PetSmart Charities of Canada Incorporated be accepted for the pre-adoption spay/neuter program for dogs and cats;**

- (2) the Medical Officer of Health be authorized to execute an agreement between the City and PetSmart Charities of Canada Incorporated in such form that is satisfactory to the City Solicitor and upon such terms and conditions that are satisfactory to the Medical Officer of Health;
- (3) a bequest of \$64,000 be accepted and used for improvements to the adoption program in the West Region Animal Centre;
- (4) the balance of the funds in the Animal Control (York) Reserve Fund in the amount of approximately \$12,000 be transferred to the 2006 TPH Operating Budget - Animal Services Program for the purpose of assisting animals in the care and custody of Toronto Animal Services;
- (5) an amount of \$86,000 gross expenditure and \$86,000 revenue be added to the 2006 Toronto Public Health Operating Budget Animal Services Program for improvements to the Animal Services Program;
- (6) the Medical Officer of Health report back to the Board of Health on appropriate policies and financial mechanisms to facilitate the receipt and use of grants and donations for Toronto Animal Services;
- (7) when the balance of funds in the Animal Control (York) Reserve Fund is zero, that authorization be granted to the closure and the deletion of the reserve account from Municipal Cod 227 (Reserves and Reserve Funds);
- (8) that leave be granted for the introduction of any necessary bills in Council to give effect thereto;
- (9) this report be forwarded to the Policy and Finance Committee on April 11, 2006 due to time constraints for the use of the funding;
- (10) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health endorsed the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (March 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, seeking authority for Toronto Animal Services to receive and use specified bequests, donations and grants; and to receive approval to amend the 2006 Toronto Public Health (TPH) Operating Budget accordingly.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from PetSmart Charities of Canada Incorporated be accepted for the pre-adoption spay/neuter program for dogs and cats;
- (2) the Medical Officer of Health be authorized to execute an agreement between the City and PetSmart Charities of Canada Incorporated (referred to in Recommendation 1) in such form that is satisfactory to the City Solicitor and upon such terms and conditions that are satisfactory to the Medical Officer of Health;
- (3) a bequest of \$64,000 bequest be accepted and used for improvements to the adoption program in the West Region Animal Centre;
- (4) the balance of the funds in the Animal Control (York) Reserve Fund be transferred to the 2006 TPH Operating Budget - Animal Services Program for the purpose of assisting animals in the care and custody of Toronto Animal Services;
- (5) once the balance of funds in the Animal Control (York) Reserve Fund is zero, that authorization be granted for the closure and the deletion of the reserve account from Municipal Code 227 (Reserves and Reserve Funds);
- (6) an additional amount of \$86,000 gross expenditure and additional \$86,000 revenue be added to the 2006 Toronto Public Health Operating Budget Animal Services Program for improvements to the Animal Services Program;
- (7) the Medical Officer of Health report back to the Board of Health on appropriate policies and financial mechanisms to facilitate the receipt and use of grants and donations for Toronto Animal Services;
- (8) this report be forwarded to the Policy and Finance Committee on April 11, 2006 due to time constraints for the use of the funding;
- (9) that leave be granted for the introduction of any necessary bills in Council to give effect thereto; and
- (10) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

6. Response to Internal Audit Division Review of Toronto Public Health's Animal Services Program

The Board of Health recommended that the report (March 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health be forwarded to the Animal Services Subcommittee of the Board of Health.

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health endorsed the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (March 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, responding to the recommendations contained in the Internal Audit Division's review of Toronto Public Health's Animal Services Program.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) this report be forwarded to the Animal Services subcommittee of the Board of Health;
- (2) the Medical Officer of Health report to the Board of Health in one year on the status of action taken to address Internal Audit recommendations regarding the Animal Services program; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

7. Coyote Sightings/Incidents in the City of Toronto in 2005

The Board of Health adopted the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (March 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing information on reported sightings and incidents related to coyotes in 2005 and the resulting actions taken by Animal Services staff.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the requirement for annual reporting of coyote sightings/incidents be discontinued, since the number of coyote sightings has dropped and none were considered a safety threat to the community in 2005.

8. Pandemic Influenza Plan for the City of Toronto

The Board of Health referred the following motion moved by Cathy Crowe, Member, Board of Health, to the Affordable Housing Committee with a request that the appropriate City staff report thereon to the Affordable Housing Committee:

“That City Council prioritize using the City’s current housing allowance allocation under the Affordable Housing Program to assist homeless persons who are eligible or on the City’s waiting list of social housing and that such priority be given to assist up to 500 homeless people or households and that priority be given to individuals with immuno-compromising conditions.”

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health:

- (1) received the report (April 4, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health;**
- (2) adopted a motion moved by Councillor Mihevc to refer the following motion by Cathy Crowe, Member, Board of Health, to the Affordable Housing Committee with a request that the appropriate City staff report thereon to the Affordable Housing Committee:**

“That City Council prioritize using the City’s current housing allowance allocation under the Affordable Housing Program to assist homeless persons who are eligible or on the City’s waiting list of social housing and that such priority be given to assist up to 500 homeless people or households and that priority be given to individuals with immuno-compromising conditions.”;

- (3) requested the Medical Officer of Health to report back to the Board of Health on the appropriate vehicle to involve the City’s Unions; and**
- (4) requested the Chair, Toronto Board of Health, and the Medical Officer of Health to:**
 - (a) meet with the Chief Medical Officer of Health for Ontario and the Minister of Health and Long Term Care to discuss a range of issues requiring greater direction and co-ordination from the Ministry of Health with regard to pandemic flu preparation; and**
 - (b) meet with Canada’s Chief Public Health Official to discuss issues relating to the adequacy of supplies and distribution policies for vaccine and anti-viral medication for a pandemic flu.**

Report (April 4, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, presenting an update on the status of pandemic influenza preparedness since November 2005.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board of Health receive this report for information.

- 8(a). Communication (April 10, 2006) from Ann Dembinski, President, C.U.P.E. Local 79.**

9. Infection Prevention and Control Manual for Homeless and Housing Service Providers in Toronto

The Board of Health recommended that the report (March 22, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health be referred to the Community Services Committee and the City of Toronto Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons, for information.

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health adopted the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 22, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (March 22, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health about the new infection prevention and control manual for homeless and housing service providers in Toronto.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health refer this report to Community Services Committee and the City of Toronto Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons for information; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

10. Provincial Funding for Methadone Works

The Board of Health recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee that:

- (1) **an amount of \$100,000 gross expenditure and \$100,000 revenue be added to the 2006 Toronto Public Health Operating Budget for the operation of the Methadone Works Program; and**
- (2) **the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.**

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health endorsed the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (March 22, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (March 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, seeking approval to receive funding confirmed from the Mental Health and Addiction Branch of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care for Case Management Services at Methadone Works.

Recommendations:

- (1) an amount of \$100,000 gross expenditure and \$100,000 revenue be added to the 2006 Toronto Public Health Operating Budget for the operation of the Methadone Works Program;
- (2) this report be forwarded to the Policy and Finance Committee; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

11. The Impacts of Traffic on Health

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health:

- (1) **adopted the staff recommendations in the Recommendation Section of the report (March 27, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health; and**
- (2) **requested that a presentation be made at the next Board of Health meeting on May 15, 2006, by the Air Quality Strategy Team on the progress and timelines for the completion of the Air Quality Strategy.**

Report (March 27, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing a summary of the potential impacts of traffic on health.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Medical Officer of Health, in collaboration with the Executive Director of Technical Services, estimate the burden of illness and economic impact attributable to air pollution from traffic in Toronto and report back to the Board;
- (2) the Board of Health request the Chief Planner, the General Manager of Transportation Services and the Executive Director of Technical Services to consider the impacts of traffic on health in their decision-making regarding transportation matters, and consult with the Medical Officer of Health as appropriate; and,

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

12. Toronto Public Health – Operating Budget Variance Report for the Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2005

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health received the report (March 22, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (March 22, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health about the Toronto Public Health Operating Budget Variance for the twelve months of operation ending on December 31, 2005.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

13. Toronto Public Health – Capital Budget Variance Report for the Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2005

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health received the report (March 22, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (March 22, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health about the Toronto Public Health Capital Budget Variance for the twelve-month period ended December 31, 2005.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

14. Smog Alert Days

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health:

- (1) adopted the following recommendation adopted by the Works Committee:

“The Toronto Public Health/Board of Health investigate options for enhancing bike priority as a public health protection measure on smog alert days, including comment on possible bike priority measures on Bloor Street, as a component of the September 14, 2005 Works Committee approval of a communication to the Works Committee on the “Tooker Gomberg Memorial Bike Lane.” and

- (2) requested the Medical Officer of Health to report thereon to the Board of Health.**

Communication (January 17, 2006) from the Works Committee, advising that the Works Committee, at its meeting held on January 11, 12 and 16, 2006, concurred in the following recommendation contained in the communication from the Toronto Cycling Committee, and directed that it be forwarded to the Board of Health for consideration:

“That Toronto Public Health/Board of Health investigate options for enhancing bike priority as a public health protection measure on smog alert days, including comment on possible bike priority measures on Bloor Street, as a component of the September 14, 2005, Works Committee approval of a communication to the Works Committee on the “Tooker Gomberg Memorial Bike Lane.”

15. Local Health Committee Minutes

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health received the minutes from the following Local Health Committees:

- (1) Etobicoke/York Local Health Committee meeting held on December 7, 2005;**
- (2) Toronto/East York Local Health Committee meeting held on January 24, 2006; and**
- (3) North Region Local Health Committee meeting held on February 8, 2006.**

15(a). Minutes of the Etobicoke/York Local Health Committee meeting held on December 7, 2005.

15(b). Minutes of the Toronto/East Local Health Committee meeting held on January 24, 2006.

15(c). Minutes of the North York Local Health Committee meeting held on February 8, 2006.

16. Request for Proposed Pilot Project to Suspend Fluoridation of Toronto’s Drinking Water for Biosolids Improvement

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health referred the Resolution adopted by The Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant Neighbourhood Liaison Committee, outlined in the communication (March 16, 2006) from Karen Buck and Karen Shinn, Co-Chairs, The Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant Neighbourhood Liaison Committee, to the Medical Officer of Health for a report back to the Board of Health.

Communication (March 16, 2006) from Karen Buck and Karey Shinn, Co-Chairs, The Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant Neighbourhood Liaison Committee, requesting that the addition of fluoride (hydrofluorosilic acid) to Toronto's drinking water be stopped (suspended) for the time period beginning April 1, 2006 to September 30, 2006 in order to monitor the pH (of the drinking water) and the metals levels in the biosolids; and further requesting that the Department of Health through direction of the Board of Health consider this request and provide a response to the Co-Chairs in April 2006.

17. Hot Weather Response Plan

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health received the report (April 3, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (April 3, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing a response to recommendations related to establishing an Extreme Hot Weather Community Response Protocol Advisory Committee and the establishment of an expanded registry of at-risk individuals.

18. 2005 Performance Appraisal - Medical Officer of Health

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health accepted the confidential submission from the Medical Officer of Health.

Confidential submission from the Medical Officer of Health, providing a summary of 2005 accomplishments and objectives for 2006, as requested by the Board of Health Performance Appraisal Subcommittee, for consideration by the Board of Health.

19. Request for Meeting with the Four Local Health Committees

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health accepted the invitation to meet with the members of the four Local Health Committees and directed that the meeting be held on June 19, 2006 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., before the scheduled Board of Health meeting on that date.

Resolution adopted by the Toronto East York Local Health Committee, submitted to the Board of Health by Fiona Nelson for consideration by the Board of Health:

“That Board of Health Members be invited to meet with members of the four Local Health Committees on Monday, June 19, 2006 to discuss and promote advocacy of Local Health Committee priority issues. The meeting will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., before the scheduled Board of Health meeting.”

20. Petition to the Federal Leaders and Provincial Premiers to Honour the Child Care Agreements

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health endorsed the Petition (April 10, 2006) adopted by the Toronto East York Local Health Committee.

Petition (April 10, 2006) adopted by the Toronto East York Local Health Committee, submitted to the Board of Health by Fiona Nelson for endorsement by the Board of Health:

“To Stephen Harper, Provincial Premiers and Federal Opposition Leaders:

Honour the Child Care Agreements

We are calling on you to work together to honour the promise of a national child care program. The place to start is by protecting the early learning and child care agreements between the Government of Canada and the provinces. The federal-provincial agreements on child care were negotiated in good faith. They lay a foundation for a full system of early learning and child care that can meet the needs of all Canadian families. Cancelling them sets back the development of a national child care program for years to come, leaving families with young children to fend for themselves.

Breaking federal-provincial child care agreements would be a breach of public trust and would lead to a cut of almost \$4 billion from child care funding. The federal election results were not a mandate to turn back the clock on child care. We welcome and support your election promise of income support for families, a taxable family allowance and a tax credit for employers, but we also strongly support early learning and child care services that are high quality, available and affordable. Families need both income supports and publicly funded child care services. We call on all governments to protect and enhance progress on child care.

We also strongly recommend that both programs (income support and publicly funded child care) be legislated as soon as possible.”

21. Verbal Update – Toronto Public Health Budget 2006

The Medical Officer of Health provided the Board of Health Members with an update on the Toronto Public Health Budget for 2006 approved by City Council.

The Board of Health received the verbal update by the Medical Officer of Health.