



**BOARD OF HEALTH
DECISION DOCUMENT
MEETING 7**

Date of Meeting: September 14, 2006
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Committee Room 1
City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario

Enquiry: Yvonne Davies
Secretary
416-392-7443
boh@toronto.ca

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 – July 17, 2006

1. Impact of Poverty on Children's Current and Future Health

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health:

- (A) **adopted the recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health;**

- (B) (1) endorsed the recommendations for action outlined in the Canadian Policy Research Network report prepared for Toronto Public Health;
- (2) expressed its concern to the Premier of Ontario about the impact of poverty on children's health and wellbeing, and, as recommended by Campaign 2000, urges the Ontario Government to:
- (a) increase the minimum wage to a level sufficient for an adult working full-time to reach Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-off;
 - (b) eliminate the claw-back of the National Child Benefit Supplement as promised in the 2003 election;
 - (c) allocate the \$300 million in provincial funding promised for child care in the 2003 election;
 - (d) meet its target of building 20,000 affordable housing units and providing 35,000 housing allowances as promised in the 2003 election; and
 - (e) increase the social assistance and Ontario Disability Support Payments rates to reflect the real costs of living and index benefits to inflation.
- (3) decided to engage its Local Health Committees in the ongoing development and implementation of Toronto Public Health's response to the impact of poverty on child and family health;
- (4) requested Toronto Public Health to work with the Social Services Division in collaborating with community agencies and advocates on the upcoming campaign to end the provincial claw-back on social assistance, with adequate resources; and
- (5) decided to advise all Boards of Health in Ontario of the Board's action in this regard for endorsement and encourage them to undertake similar actions;
- (6) in conjunction with other Boards of Health or Health Units throughout Ontario, decided to request a meeting before the next provincial budget with the Premier, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Community and Social Services and the Minister of Children and Youth Services, to call for the Government to commit to a Poverty Reduction Strategy for Ontario with targets and timetables that will substantially benefit the health and well-being of Ontario children and their families; and

(7) acknowledges the important role the Toronto District School Board Parenting and Family Literacy Centres play in the continuum of services for parents and the early identification and development of young children and:

- (a) expresses its concerned about the implications of potential budget cuts to these programs on children, their parents and the community;**
- (b) urges the Toronto District School Board to maintain these Centres through ongoing funding;**
- (c) and forwards this concern to the Toronto Best Start Network for further discussion.**

Report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health providing an overview of the impact of poverty on children's current and future health and to identify Toronto Public Health's role in addressing poverty during the early years.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health request that the Children's Services Advisory Committee, in consultation with key stakeholders, identify key municipal policy levers and strategies for action to reduce child poverty including exploration of local options to reduce or eliminate the National Child Benefit Supplement claw back;
- (2) the Medical Officer of Health work with key stakeholders including other city divisions, community agencies, and coalitions to ensure that the serious consequences of living in poverty to the current and future health of Toronto children are considered in decision-making regarding programs and services, advocacy, policy, and research;
- (3) the Board of Health advocate to the Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care that the Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines be revised to include specific objectives related to preventing poverty and mitigating the negative health impacts of poverty during childhood;
- (4) the Board of Health advocate to the Federal Minister of Health, Ontario Ministers of Children and Youth Services, Health Promotion, and Health and Long-Term Care and the Public Health Agency of Canada that a strategy be developed to monitor and report on disparities in child health outcomes;
- (5) the Board of Health urge the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health) to fund longitudinal research on:
 - (a) pathways through which poverty during childhood exerts its effects on health; and

- (b) interventions to mitigate the impact of poverty during childhood on health;
- (6) the Board of Health request that the Conference Board of Canada, Caledon Institute, and Canadian Policy Research Networks expand their research to study the health implications of key policies and strategies to prevent poverty during childhood and mitigate its negative effects on health;
- (7) this report be forwarded to the Children's Services Advisory Committee and the Community Services Committee;
- (8) this report be forwarded to the Toronto Best Start Network, Child Health Network, Family Services Association, Children's Aid Society of Toronto, Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto, Jewish Child and Family Services of Toronto, Native Child and Family Services of Toronto, United Way of Greater Toronto, provincial Ministries of Children and Youth Services, Health Promotion, and Health and Long-Term Care, Ontario Public Health Association, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health), Canadian Institute for Health Information, Canadian Public Health Association, Campaign 2000, Caledon Institute, Conference Board of Canada, Canadian Pediatric Society, Canadian Policy Research Networks and the Public Health Agency of Canada; and
- (9) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

2. Peer Nutrition Program Evaluation

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health:

- (A) **adopted the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health; and**
- (B)
 - (1) **directed that the report, which also highlights how diverse communities that are generally not reached in significant numbers can become engaged, also be forwarded to other organizations including the United Way of Greater Toronto, the Atkinson Charitable Foundation, the Metcalf Foundation, the Laidlaw Foundation and the Community Social Planning Council of Toronto for information; and**
 - (2) **directed that this matter be forwarded to the Status of Women's Committee for consideration.**

Report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health about the Health Canada funded evaluation of the Peer Nutrition Program and the recommendations and actions stemming from that report.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health request the Toronto Food Policy Council to undertake activities, including urban gardening, aimed at improving food security for Toronto's ethno-cultural and ethno-racial families and children, in collaboration with the Peer Nutrition Program;
- (2) the Board of Health request the Toronto Food Policy Council to work with the Peer Nutrition Program to advocate for capital funding for community kitchens in community recreation centres of priority neighbourhoods;
- (3) the Board of Health forward this report to the Ontario Ministers of Health and Long-Term Care, Health Promotion, Children and Youth Services, and Community & Social Services, as well as Toronto Children Services, Ontario Public Health Association, Toronto Food Policy Council, Food and Hunger Action Committee and Medical Officers of Health in the Greater Toronto Area; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

3. Fish Consumption: Benefits and Risks for Populations Vulnerable to Methylmercury

Action taken by the Board:

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

Report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, updating the Board of Health on health promotion initiatives to provide fish consumption information to those populations particularly vulnerable to methylmercury (i.e. women of child bearing age and young children), to enhance the availability of this information and to promote efforts to reduce the mercury contaminant burden in fish.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board of Health:

- (1) request the federal Minister of Health to ensure that the proposed Canada Health Measures Survey to be conducted in 2007 - 2008 by Statistics Canada measures the methylmercury body burden among the Canadian population, particularly among women of childbearing age;
- (2) request Health Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to:
 - (a) require the posting of federal fish advisories by fish retailers so as to allow the public to clearly identify high mercury fish species;
 - (b) regularly post test results of mercury and other persistent contaminant levels in fish on the Health Canada website or through other means easily accessible to local health units;
 - (c) assess, in collaboration with local health units, the mercury content of imported fish species commonly found in a variety of specialized markets in Toronto and other Canadian cities;
 - (d) expand the fish testing program assessing the mercury content of canned tuna to include a greater number of samples, types and geographic sources, particularly of "light" canned tuna;
- (3) request Health Canada to provide appropriate national fish consumption advice, that includes consideration of the variability in frequency and patterns of consumption, to minimize methylmercury exposure for women of childbearing age, pregnant and breastfeeding women and young children age 0 to 4 years;
- (4) reiterate to the federal and provincial Ministers of the Environment the need, at a minimum, to strengthen and ensure aggressive implementation of the Canada-wide standard for mercury;
- (5) request the Ontario Medical Association, the Ontario College of Family Physicians, the Canadian Paediatric Society, the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada, the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario, Dietitians of Canada, Breastfeeding Committee of Canada, the Canadian Association of Midwives and Toronto Community Health Centres to endorse counselling women of childbearing age, pregnant and breastfeeding women and parents/caregivers of young children to moderate their fish consumption and where possible, to choose low mercury fish species;
- (6) forward this report for information to Health Canada, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, Ontario Public Health Association, Canadian Public Health Association, the Ontario Medical Association, the Ontario College of Family Physicians, the Canadian Paediatric Society, the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada, Registered Nurses

Association of Ontario, Dietitians of Canada, Breastfeeding Committee of Canada, the Canadian Association of Midwives, Toronto Community Health Centres, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario, the David Suzuki Foundation, the Ontario Ministers of Natural Resources, Environment, Health and Long-Term Care, Children and Youth Services, and Health Promotion; and

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

4. Update on Healthy Eating in Toronto Schools

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health adopted the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (August 26, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (August 26, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, updating the Board of Health on the status of healthy eating initiatives in Toronto schools as requested by the Board of Health following its endorsement of the September 2004 report titled: "Call to Action: Creating a Healthy School Nutrition Environment" (herein referred to as the "Call to Action").

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health forward this report to the Boards of Education in Toronto;
- (2) the Board of Health forward this report to the Minister of Education, the Minister of Children and Youth Services and the Minister of Health Promotion; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

5. Feasibility of Undertaking a Health Impact Assessment of the Federal Child Care Funding Policy on Toronto's Families

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health received the report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, reporting back to the Board of Health on the feasibility of undertaking a health impact assessment of the federal child care funding policy on Toronto's families.

Recommendations:

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

6. Future Funding Requirements of Early Child Development Projects

The Board of Health:

(A) adopted the Staff Recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, subject to adding the following new Recommendations (3), (4) and (5) and renumbering the remaining Recommendations accordingly:

“(3) Toronto Public Health, in cooperation with Children’s Services, other appropriate City Divisions and community organizations, develop a public education and advocacy campaign for the first quarter of 2007 on the need for more public investment in programs and services for children in Toronto;

(4) funding of up to \$20,000.00 be allocated from within current budgets to fund the campaign;

(5) other partners and sources of funding be sought to support the campaign; and”.

(B) (1) requested that the Middlesex-London Board of Health be advised that the Board endorses their position in this matter; and

(2) requested the Medical Officer of Health to contact Boards of Health in Ontario to see if they are interested in a cooperative effort in advocating for the continuation of the Early Child Development project beyond 2007.

Report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing information regarding future funding requirements in 2007 and beyond that will be required to sustain key Early Child Development project activities.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Chair of the Board of Health and the Medical Officer of Health meet with the Ministers of Children and Youth Services, Health Promotion, and Health and Long-Term Care to discuss the implications of ending Early Child Development funding and to request funding to sustain key Early Child Development project activities in 2007 and beyond;
- (2) the Medical Officer of Health meet with representatives from the Toronto District School Board, Toronto Catholic District School Board, and Toronto Children's Services to discuss sustainability of the Incredible Years Teacher Classroom Management and Child Social Skills Programs, including Toronto Public Health's role in supporting these programs;
- (3) this report be forwarded to Toronto Children's Services, the Children's Services Advisory Committee, the Toronto District School Board, the Toronto Catholic District School Board, the Toronto Best Start Network, the Ontario Public Health Association, and the Ministers of Children and Youth Services, Health Promotion, and Health and Long-Term Care; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

6(a). Communication (June 30, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health and Secretary-Treasurer, Middlesex-London Board of Health.

7. Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program Funding

Action taken by the Board:

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

Report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health about Ministry of Children and Youth Services funding for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program, including the identification of budget pressures and their impact on service delivery to prenatal women and families with children 0 to 6 years of age.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health advocate to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care and the Minister of Children and Youth Services for sufficient and sustainable provincial funding to ensure that Toronto Public Health can achieve full compliance with provincial service standards; and

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

8. Toronto Public Health – Operating Budget Variance Report for the six months ended June 30, 2006

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health received the report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health about the Toronto Public Health (TPH) Operating Budget Variance for the six months of operation ending on June 30, 2006.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

9. Toronto Public Health – Capital Budget Variance Report for the six months ended June 30, 2006

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health received the report (August 8, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (August 8, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health about the Toronto Public Health Capital Budget Variance for the six-month period ended June 30, 2006.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

10. Communities in Action Fund Grant for “Building Physically Active Communities”

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health recommends to the Policy and Finance Committee that Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (August 25, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (August 25, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health of the receipt of a Communities in Action Fund (CIAF) grant 2006- 2007 from the Ministry of Health Promotion to support the development of a community-based physical activity promotion project across the City of Toronto and to seek approval for an amendment to the Toronto Public Health 2006 Operating Budget with respect to this funding.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) Toronto Public Health's 2006 Operating Budget be increased by \$54,978 thousand gross and revenue, to reflect the Communities in Action Fund 2006-2007 Grant for "Building Physically Active Communities";
- (2) this report be forwarded directly to the Policy and Finance Committee for consideration at its meeting scheduled for September 18, 2006 due to time constraints for the use of this funding; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

11. Establishment of a Toronto Public Health Dental Clinic in the North York Civic Centre

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health referred the report (August 30, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health back to the Medical Officer of Health for a report to the first meeting of the Board of Health in 2007 on alternative solutions.

Report (August 30, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, requesting additional funds to renovate space at the North York Civic Centre to establish a dental clinic and complete the final phase of harmonizing the dental treatment program citywide.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) additional funds of \$411,860 be requested in the 2007 Toronto Public Health Capital Budget to establish a dental clinic at the North York Civic Centre to;
- (2) the additional funds be repaid in the year 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, using the savings realised from the restructuring of the North York dental treatment

program as indicated in Table 1, "North York Dental Clinic – Revised Cash Flow";

- (3) this report be forwarded to Budget Advisory Committee for consideration during the 2007 Capital Budget process; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

11(a). Communication (September 8, 2006) from the Board of Health Budget Subcommittee, advising that the Board of Health Budget Subcommittee, at its meeting held on September 7, 2006, recommended that the Board of Health:

- (1) be advised that the Board of Health Budget Subcommittee is reporting without recommendation on the report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health; and
- (2) be requested to refer the report (August 28, 2006) to the Medical Officer of Health, with a request that an additional report be prepared providing further information on alternative solutions.

11(b). Communication (September 13, 2006) from Ann Dembinski, President, CUPE Local 79.

12. 2007 Operating Budget

Recommendation:

The Board of Health recommended to the Budget Committee that Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (September 11, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health requested the Medical Officer of Health to report to the Board of Health on the feasibility and associated costs of including the following additional services under the Service Improvement – Fully City Funded category:

- (a) **Car Free Day Event;**
- (b) **Enforcement of Animal Control in City Parks;**
- (c) **Expansion of Toronto Dental Services program; and**
- (d) **Seniors Dental Services in Long-Term Care Facilities.**

Update by the Medical Officer of Health.

- 12(a).** Report (September 11, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, outlining the Toronto Public Health (TPH) 2007 Operating Budget request and explaining the service and financial implications of the Province's announcement to limit 2006 funding growth to five percent province-wide.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that:

- (1) a Toronto Public Health 2007 Operating Budget of \$210,493.1 thousand gross and \$50,750.1 thousand net including a base budget of \$209,131.6 thousand gross and \$50,161.9 thousand net, and New and Enhanced Services of \$1,361.5 thousand gross and \$588.2 thousand net, be approved in principle;
- (2) the list of adjustments included in the Toronto Public Health 2007 Operating Budget and Summarized in Table 4, "Summary of 2007 Base Changes from 2006 Approved Budget" of this report totaling a decrease of \$2,201.5 thousand gross and a reduction of \$13,666.6 thousand net, be approved in principle;
- (3) the list of adjustments included in the Toronto Public Health 2007 Operating Budget and Summarized in Table 5, "Summary of 2007 New and Enhanced Services" totaling \$1,361.5 thousand gross and \$588.2 thousand net, be approved in principle;
- (4) the Medical Officer of Health be requested to report to the Board of Health in January 2007 on the services and financial implications if the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) approves a 2006 base funding grant for cost shared mandatory programs that is different from that in the Toronto Public Health 2006 Working Budget;
- (5) City Council continue to invest sufficient municipal funds to strengthen public health services in Toronto as recommended by the Walker expert panel and the Campbell commission, and to leverage new provincial funding to promote and protect the health of the Toronto population;
- (6) City Council be requested to direct any reduction in TPH 2007 municipal funding due to the increase in provincial cost sharing to 75 percent from 65 percent to municipal services that enhance the health of the City's population and that the Medical Officer of Health be provided an opportunity for input into the choices made;
- (7) this report be forwarded to the Budget Advisory Committee for its consideration during the 2007 budget process; and
- (8) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

12(b). Communication (September 8, 2006) from the Board of Health Budget Subcommittee, advising that the Board of Health Budget Subcommittee, at its meeting held on September 7, 2006, recommended to the Board of Health that:

- (1) the 2007 Operating Budget Request – 2007 New/Enhanced Business Cases Program, be endorsed; and
- (2) the Medical Officer of Health be requested to report to the Board of Health on the feasibility and associated costs of including the following additional services under the Service Improvement – Fully City Funded category:
 - (a) Car Free Day Event;
 - (b) Enforcement of Animal Control in City Parks;
 - (c) Expansion of Toronto Dental Services program; and
 - (d) Seniors Dental Services in Long-Term Care Facilities.

12(c). Communication (September 11, 2006) from the Works Committee, advising that at its meeting on September 11, 2006, the Works Committee referred the communication from the Toronto Cycling Committee to the Board of Health for consideration during the 2007 budget process.

13. Pandemic Influenza Plan for the City of Toronto

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health requested:

- (1) **the Medical Officer of Health, in consultation with appropriate municipal officials, to proceed with developing a City of Toronto plan for the use and stockpiling of personal protective equipment and infection control supplies, as well as other measures to prevent and control influenza among City staff;**
- (2) **the City Manager to address, as soon as possible, the human resource and labour relations issues that would arise in an influenza pandemic; and**
- (3) **the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to designate, as soon as possible, a lead agency for the development of alternative pandemic influenza assessment and care sites in the City of Toronto, and ensure sufficient resources are available for implementation.**

Update by the Medical Officer of Health.

13(a). Report (September 11, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, presenting an update on the status of Toronto Public Health pandemic influenza preparedness since July 2006.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

14. Tracking Deaths in the Homeless Population

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health requested:

- (1) the Province of Ontario and the Office of the Chief Coroner to review the criteria used in Project TIDE and ensure that reports are compiled and sent to Toronto's Medical Officer of Health in a timely fashion; and**
- (2) the Office of the Registrar General to review the information collected by the provincial deaths registry to include an indicator of housing status.**

Report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, outlining the current status of homeless death monitoring in the City of Toronto and recommending steps to improve the quality of available information. The proposed mortality data resource will support regular reporting on notable trends and issues.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Medical Officer of Health report to the Board of Health on aggregate findings and identified trends in deaths in the homeless population on a biannual basis, beginning with 2007 data; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

15. Launch of Animal Licensing System

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health:

- (1) received the verbal report from the Medical Officer of Health; and**
- (2) requested that the information submitted by the deputant be forwarded to the Animal Services Subcommittee for consideration and that she be invited to attend the meeting of the Subcommittee when this matter is considered.**

Verbal report.

16. Progress Report on Access to Environmental Information

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health received the report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing an update on work to date to increase access to environmental information in Toronto.

Recommendation:

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

17. XVI International AIDS Conference

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health received the report (August 29, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (August 29, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, outlining the participation of Toronto Public Health in both the planning and delivery of the XVI International AIDS Conference held in the City of Toronto, August 13 – 18, 2006.

Recommendation:

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

18. Early Detection and Screening of Cancer Initiative for Farsi, Ukrainian and Punjabi Women

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health received the report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health about the Toronto Cancer Prevention Coalition/Toronto Public Health OMNI/Rogers multicultural media initiative which provides easy access to health

information on the importance of early detection and screening of women's cancers to Farsi, Ukrainian and Punjabi women in their language of origin.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

19. Amendments to Ontario Food Safety Regulations Exempting Farmers' Markets, Religious Organizations, Service Clubs and Fraternal Organizations

Action taken by the Board:

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

Report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, reporting on the impact of recent amendments to Ontario Regulation 562 on food safety in Toronto and to propose actions to ensure the food safety is maintained given these changes.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health convey to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care its serious concerns about the impact on food safety in Toronto of the recent amendments to Ontario Regulation 562 (Food Premises) and request the Minister to:
 - (a) amend the Food Premises Regulation to exempt only those vendors at a farmers' market who are farmers selling their own farm products;
 - (b) amend the Food Premises Regulation to limit the exemption for special events held by religious organizations, service clubs and fraternal organizations to which the general public is invited to those with planned attendance of 1,000 people or less;
 - (c) take a more active role in explaining the amendments to health units and affected food premises;
- (2) this report be referred to the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, Association of Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors of Ontario, Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors, Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health and the Ontario Ministers of Agriculture, Health Promotion and Municipal Affairs and Housing; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

20. Annual Report of Outstanding Staff Report Requests

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health received the report (August 29, 2006) from the City Clerk.

Report (August 29, 2006) from the City Clerk, providing the Board of Health with an annual update of outstanding items as required by Section 34 (c) of Board of Health By-law No. 1-1998 to govern the proceedings of the Board of Health for the City of Toronto Health Unit.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

21. Planning and Transportation Committee Report 4, Clause 9 – Proposed Change to National Plumbing Code: Hot Water Delivery in Building

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health received the communication (July 4, 2006) from the City Clerk.

Communication (July 4, 2006) from the City Clerk, advising that City Council on June 27, 28 and 29, 2006, considered Planning and Transportation Committee Report 4, Clause 9, titled, “Proposed Change to National Plumbing Code: Hot Water Delivery in Buildings” and forwarded a copy to the Board of Health, for information.

22. Policy and Finance Committee Report 5, Clause 36 – Toronto Public Health Budget Adjustment for Summer Service Implementation

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health received the communication (July 4, 2006) from the City Clerk.

Communication (July 4, 2006) from the City Clerk, advising that City Council on June 27, 28 and 29, 2006, considered Policy and Finance Committee Report 5, Clause 36, titled, “Toronto Public Health Budget Adjustment for Summer Service Implementation” and forwarded a copy to the Board of Health, for information.

23. Local Health Committee Minutes

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health received the minutes from the Etobicoke York Local Health Committee meeting held on June 14, 2006.

23(a). Minutes of the Etobicoke York Local Health Committee meeting held on June 14, 2006

24. City of Toronto Lobbyist Regulation

Recommendation:

The Board of Health recommended that the Policy and Finance Committee advise City Council that the Board supports:

- (1) the inclusion of Board of Health members and appointees to advisory bodies to the Board of Health as public office holders in the proposed lobbyist registration system; and**
- (2) the exemption of not-for-profit organizations from the proposed lobbyist registration system.**

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health adopted the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (September 11, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Report (September 11, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health, outlining plans for lobbyists regulation by the City of Toronto and implications for the Board of Health.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Board of Health express its support to City Council for the inclusion of Board of Health members and appointees to advisory bodies to the Board of Health as public office holders in the proposed lobbyist registration system;
- (2) the Board of Health express its support to City Council for the exemption of not-for-profit organizations from the proposed lobbyist registration system;
- (3) the Medical Officer of Health report to the Board any additional implications of lobbyist regulation for public health as the system is developed; and

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

25. Save Federal Homelessness Funding

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health adopted the following Resolution moved by Councillor Mihevc:

“**WHEREAS** across Canada, homelessness is still a national crisis; and

WHEREAS the Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI) is scheduled to end on March 31, 2007;

WHEREAS this funding has been made available for the development of partnerships, for service planning initiatives and for building system capacity to identify and address unmet health needs of people who are homeless and underhoused; and

WHEREAS this funding supported initiatives of the Homeless Health Reference Group established after the release of the Mayor’s Homelessness Action Task Force in 1999 such as:

- supporting co-ordination of health services for young parents with no fixed address,
- supporting development of service delivery for youth with concurrent disorders,
- co-ordinating the development of discharge planning protocols from hospitals, to minimize discharges of homeless people to the streets;
- supporting planning for the development of an infirmary for people who are living on the street, and
- encouraging harm reduction approaches and strategies within homeless services;

WHEREAS this funding has allowed groups to extend services to different parts of the City and to previously underserved groups and has fostered a climate of innovation, encouraging groups to try out new strategies and approaches; and

WHEREAS this initiative has been able to leveraged provincial, municipal and community funding for homeless services, as well as resulted in a generally increased awareness of homeless issues in the community; and

WHEREAS, without renewed federal commitment to National Homeless Initiatives and SCPI funding, there is great risk of losing valuable services to people who are homeless and underhoused.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health advocate to the Federal Government to renew its commitment to support homelessness programs and services across the country;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Chair of the Board of Health write a letter to Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development to seek her support in encouraging the federal government to renew its commitment to the National Homelessness Initiative and to continue to provide appropriate financial support.

26. Report on Breastfeeding in Toronto

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health requested that the Medical Officer of Health to submit a follow up report to the next meeting of the Board of Health on Breast Feeding in Toronto, specifically addressing:

- (1) a breakdown by hospital on the success rate for breastfeeding;**
- (2) level by departmental for promotion and assistance for breastfeeding;**
- (3) what programs are available;**
- (4) whether or not formula is routinely part of the gift packages provided to new mothers; and**
- (5) whether or not tracking for breastfeeding is part of the patient charts in maternity wards.**