

January 29, 2007

To: Budget Committee  
Community Development and Recreation Committee

From: Board of Health

Subject: Progress Report: Meeting Current Nutrition Needs of Toronto's Children and Youth

**The Board of Health forwarded the report (January 15, 2007) from the Medical Officer of Health, to the Budget Committee and the Community Development and Recreation Committee.**

Action taken by the Board:

The Board of Health adopted the recommendations in the report (January 15, 2007) from the Medical Officer of Health amended to read as follows:

1. the Board of Health endorse continued planned growth of student nutrition programs currently serving 1 in 16 youth to reach 1 in 8 youth by 2008 at an additional municipal cost of \$867,956.00;
2. the Board of Health endorse 2007 municipal funding for the programs serving children in grades JK-8 of \$2,574,340, to restore the \$200,000 reallocated in 2005 to address youth programs, and the \$100,000 funding reduction from 2004 (a net increase of \$300,000);
3. the Board of Health request the Minister of Children and Youth Services to contribute to program sustainability by increasing its support from 7% of total program costs to a level matching the municipal contribution level; and adjusting future funding to keep pace with current food costs;
4. the Board of Health reiterate its request to the federal government to provide core funding for a national universal student nutrition program, including funding allocated for monitoring and evaluation of the program;
5. the Board of Health forward this report to the Budget Committee, the Community Development and Recreation Committee, the Toronto District School Board, the Toronto Catholic District School Board and the Toronto Food Policy Council; and

6. the Board of Health request the Medical Officer of Health to approach the Toronto District School Board and the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, to investigate opportunities for tying school gardens and allotment gardens into the Student Nutrition Program.

Background:

The Board of Health on January 29, 2007, considered a report (January 15, 2007) from the Medical Officer of Health, documenting the progress since 2005 in achieving access to student nutrition programs to meet the current nutrition needs of Toronto's youth.

Recommendations:

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. the Board of Health endorse continued planned growth of student nutrition programs currently serving 1 in 16 youth to reach 1 in 10 youth by 2008 at an additional municipal cost of \$623,981;
2. the Board of Health endorse 2007 municipal funding for the programs serving children in grades JK-8 of \$2,574,340, to restore the \$200,000 reallocated in 2005 to address youth programs, and the \$100,000 funding reduction from 2004 (a net increase of \$300,000);
3. the Board of Health request the Minister of Children and Youth Services to contribute to program sustainability by increasing its support from 7% of total program costs to a level matching the municipal contribution level; and adjusting future funding to keep pace with current food costs;
4. the Board of Health reiterate its request to the federal government to provide core funding for a national universal student nutrition program, including funding allocated for monitoring and evaluation of the program; and
5. the Board of Health forward this report to the Budget Committee, the Community Development and Recreation Committee, the Toronto District School Board, the Toronto Catholic District School Board and the Toronto Food Policy Council.

The Board of Health also considered a letter (January 22, 2007) letter from Olivia Chow, M.P., Trinity Spadina, submitting recommendations on this matter.

The following persons addressed the Board of Health:

- Khushboo Patel;
- Damien Francique;
- Joan Seignoret;
- Vince McCormick;
- Debbie Field, Foodshare Toronto;

- Frank Liu;
- Susan Kwong , representing Olivia Chow, M.P.; and
- Danielle Franz, representing Olivia Chow, M.P.

Secretary  
Board of Health

C. Davidovits/jd  
Item 4  
attachment

Sent to:       Budget Committee  
                  Community Development and Recreation Committee  
                  Federal Minister of Health  
                  Federal Minister of Finance  
                  Ontario Minister of Children and Youth Services  
                  Toronto District School Board  
                  Toronto Catholic District School Board  
                  Toronto Food Policy Council

c.               Medical Officer of Health  
                  Interested Persons