
Board of Health

Meeting No. 3
Meeting Date Monday, April 16, 2007
Start Time 1:00 PM
Location Committee Room 2, City Hall

Contact Candy Davidovits, Secretary
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Board of Health		
Councillor John Filion (Chair) Councillor Janet Davis (Vice-Chair) Councillor Raymond Cho Councillor Paula Fletcher Councillor Chin Lee	Councillor Gord Perks Trustee Soo Wong Cathy Crowe Nathan Gilbert	Brian Hyndman Fiona Nelson Rhonda Roffey Valerie Sterling

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Declarations of Interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

Confirmation of Minutes - February 26, 2007

Speakers/Presentations – A complete list will be distributed at the meeting.

Communications/Reports

HL3.1	ACTION		Policy	
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The Regulation of Trans Fat in the Canadian Food Supply

(March 29, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. the Board of Health request a meeting with the Federal Minister of Health to urge the Government of Canada to implement the recommendations of the Trans Fat Task Force, and to ensure that artificially produced trans fat is regulated in the Canadian food supply. Furthermore, that the Board urge the Federal Minister of Health to move quickly to ensure that the regulations come into effect sooner than the Trans Fat Task Force recommended.
2. the Board of Health request all Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Divisions operating food premises to voluntarily reduce the amount of artificially produced trans fat contained in foods served and sold in City-operated facilities so that they do not exceed the amounts proposed by the Trans Fat Task Force. This would ensure that:
 - a) for all vegetable oils and soft, spreadable (tub-type) margarines sold to the public or for use as an ingredient in the preparation of foods on site, the total trans fat content would be limited to 2% of the total fat content.
 - b) for all other foods purchased for sale to the public or for use as an ingredient in the preparation of foods on site, the total trans fat content be limited to 5% of the total fat content. This limit would not apply to food products for which the fat originates exclusively from ruminant meat or dairy products.
3. this report be forwarded to all City Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Divisions where food is served or sold, as well as the Toronto District School Board, Toronto Catholic District School Board, the Minister of Health Promotion, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care and Minister of Children and Youth Services.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications related to this report.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to recommend that the Board of Health urge the Federal

Government to regulate trans fat in the Canadian food supply through the implementation of the recommendations of the Federal Trans Fat Task Force.

Some trans fat occurs naturally in foods, but most is created through the processing of unsaturated fat. This is termed “artificially produced trans fat”. Trans fat is not essential to our diet and provides no health benefit. It is used in foods to extend the shelf life of products or to provide desired textural properties. There is compelling evidence that artificially produced trans fat is linked to coronary heart disease. Heart disease is among the leading causes of death in Toronto. The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada (HSFC) has estimated that processed trans fat could be responsible for as many as 30,000 to 50,000 heart attack deaths every decade in Canada.

In June of 2006 the Federal Trans Fat Task Force submitted its final report to the Minister of Health. The Task Force recommended that trans fat be limited in the Canadian food supply. If implemented, Canada would be only the second country in the world, after Denmark, to regulate trans fat in the food supply. The recommendations of the Trans Fat Task Force cover food items available in grocery stores as well as foods served in restaurants and food service establishments. The Task Force recommends that foods purchased from a manufacturer by retailers or food service establishments for direct sale to consumers be regulated on a finished product or output basis and foods prepared on site by retailers or food service establishments be regulated on an ingredient or input basis. The Minister of Health promised to respond to the Trans Fat Task Force recommendations in the fall of 2006, but to date, there has been no announcement.

Background Information

The Regulation of Trans Fat in the Canadian Food Supply
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2756.pdf>

HL3.2	Information		Transactional	
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Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Update

(March 22, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

This report updates the Board of Health on issues affecting the City of Toronto’s ability to respond to an influenza pandemic. The City is guided by the directions set out by the federal and provincial governments in their respective Pandemic Influenza Plans. The Province of Ontario has not yet provided direction on several important issues such as personal protective equipment and the distribution of antiviral medication for prophylaxis (prevention).

Toronto Public Health (TPH) has been working with a subcommittee of the Pandemic Influenza Advisory Group and other stakeholders to develop a plan for the operation of assessment, treatment and referral centres. An operational plan will be considered by the advisory group in early May. Additional work is required to identify suitable locations for the centres. Staff will compile an inventory of City-owned space and make contact with walk-in

clinics and urgent care centres.

The report also updates information on the spread of avian influenza and outlines the progress TPH has made in its preparedness activities since the last report to the Board of Health.

Background Information

Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Update

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2757.pdf>)

HL3.3	ACTION		Transactional	
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Hot Weather Response Plan

Summary

A report from the Medical Officer of Health will be distributed as soon as it is available.

HL3.4	Information		Transactional	
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Impact of Poverty on the Health of Children from Racialized Groups

Summary

A report from the Medical Officer of Health will be distributed as soon as it is available.

HL3.5	Information		Transactional	
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Communicable Diseases in Toronto 2005

(March 22, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

Communicable Diseases in Toronto 2005 describes trends in reportable communicable diseases for the City of Toronto. The data in this report updates trends described in previous annual reports and highlights significant considerations for communicable disease control in Toronto. As in the past, Toronto's status as Canada's most populous and diverse urban setting, significantly influences the range of communicable diseases faced by the city. While the media focused much attention in 2005 on the threat of avian influenza in parts of Asia, Toronto Public Health dealt with several important local communicable disease events.

This report identifies areas of progress from the past and priority areas for further improvement. Ongoing vigilance in monitoring, detecting and controlling communicable diseases in Toronto continues to be a priority.

Background Information

Report - Communicable Diseases in Toronto 2005

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2758.pdf>)

Attachment 1 - Communicable Diseases in Toronto 2005

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2778.pdf>)

HL3.6	ACTION		Transactional	
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Prohibiting the Burning of Used Motor Oil for Space Heating in Toronto

(March 29, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. the Board of Health forward this report to City Council; and
2. City Council express its support to the Ontario Minister of the Environment for the proposed provincial ban on burning used oil for space-heating purposes.

Financial Impact

This report will have no financial impact.

Summary

Burning used oil for space heating is an unnecessary source of air pollution since cleaner-burning alternatives are available. This report describes whether the new City of Toronto Act provides wider jurisdictional authority to prohibit the burning of used motor oil in Toronto, in a manner that would supersede provincial permits for this activity, as requested by Council.

Legal Services advises that the new City of Toronto Act does not allow conflict between City by-laws and Provincial permits. A by-law as proposed would almost certainly face challenge on the basis that it conflicts with Provincial Certificates of Approval and could be struck down on that basis. However, on January 11, 2007, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) announced its intention to ban the burning of used oil for space-heating, which would address the City's concerns. The Medical Officer of Health has expressed his support for the proposed ban to the Minister of Environment.

Background Information

Prohibiting the Burning of Used Motor Oil for Space Heating in Toronto

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2759.pdf>)

HL3.7	Information		Transactional	
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Toronto Public Health Operating Budget Variance Report for the Twelve Months ended December 31, 2006

(March 22, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

This report provides an update to the Board of Health on Toronto Public Health's (TPH) Operating Budget Variance for the twelve months of operation ending on December 31, 2006.

The favourable net expenditure variance of \$4,680.4 thousand is primarily the result of two factors: under-spending of \$2,783.7 thousand in new and enhanced services that were not implemented in 2006 to offset the shortfall in provincial funding due to the 5% growth limit over the 2005 base subsidy announced by the Province in March 2006; and, under-spending of \$1,820.0 thousand in other cost-shared programs to offset potential net pressure arising from the uncertainty of receiving the provincial share of 65% for cost of living adjustment (COLA) and harmonization costs. The final Provincial approval of the 2006 base subsidy was approved in January 2007 which confirmed the 5% growth increase over the 2005 base subsidy, and full cost sharing for COLA and harmonization costs.

Background Information

Report - Toronto Public Health Operating Budget Variance Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2760.pdf>)

Attachment 1 - Toronto Public Health Operating Budget Variance Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2614.pdf>)

Attachment 2 - Toronto Public Health Operating Budget Variance Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2763.pdf>)

Attachment 3 - Toronto Public Health Operating Budget Variance Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2761.pdf>)

Attachment 4 - Toronto Public Health Operating Budget Variance Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2762.pdf>)

HL3.8	Information		Transactional	
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Toronto Public Health Capital Budget Variance Report for the Twelve Months ended December 31, 2006

(March 22, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

This report provides an update to the Board of Health on the Toronto Public Health Capital Budget Variance for the twelve-month period ended December 31, 2006.

Toronto Public Health (TPH) spent \$2.784 million or 74.8 percent of the 2006 approved cash flow of \$3.721 million as of December 31, 2006.

The year-end capital expenditure is under-spent by \$0.937 million which is attributed to the following three projects:

- PHIPA System Compliance project (\$0.357 million) due to a delay in the availability of key information security software;
- the North York Dental Clinic project (\$0.263 million) due to additional funding requirements identified for consideration in the 2007 capital budget process; and,
- Animal Services On-Line Licence System project (\$0.317 million) due to hiring delays and difficulties in recruiting and retaining key information technology (IT) project team members resulting in the project continuing into 2007 to complete the second phase of the project.

Background Information

Report - Toronto Public Health Capital Budget Variance Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2615.pdf>)

Attachment 1 - Toronto Public Health Capital Budget Variance Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2764.pdf>)

HL3.9	ACTION		Transactional	
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Service Agreements Awarded and Executed by the Medical Officer of Health for 2007

(March 22, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that this report be forwarded to the Executive Committee.

Financial Impact

This report will have no financial impact beyond what has already been recommended by the Board of Health in the 2007 Operating Base Budget. Appendix A attached summarizes the service contracts by program for 2007.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the purchase of service contracts awarded and executed by the Medical Officer of Health for 2007, according to the delegation of authority by City Council.

Background Information

Service Agreements Awarded and Executed by the Medical Officer of Health for 2007
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2766.pdf>

HL3.10	Information		Transactional	
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Dog and Cat Licensing Strategy Update

(March 23, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

At its Special Meeting on March 29 and 30, 2006, City Council approved the Toronto Public Health 2007 Operating Budget which included the Dog and Cat Licensing Strategy in an effort to increase the rate of licensed dogs and cats in the City. Through an enhanced licensing program, Toronto Animal Services (TAS) will be able to identify more animals brought into the shelters, and will increase the amount of revenue required to support the service.

This report provides an overview of the 2006 Accomplishments for the Dog and Cat Licensing Strategy. This report also establishes revised targets for 2007.

Although the strategy experienced a late start, the 2006 results indicate that the strategy can continue to be very successful. Analysis of the data concludes that had the strategy been implemented in April as planned, the targets for 2006 would have been achieved.

This report concludes that the program should be continued in future years with increased momentum through public education, promotion and by-law enforcement.

Background Information

Dog and Cat Licensing Strategy Update
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2768.pdf>

HL3.11	Information		Transactional	
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Implementation of Internal Audit Recommendations for Toronto Animal Services - Update

(March 23, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

The Internal Audit Division completed a thorough review of the operations of Toronto Animal Services (TAS) in November 2005.

Two status reports relating to the implementation of the 17 recommendations have been previously provided to the Animal Services Advisory Sub-Committee

This report provides a final report on the implementation of each recommendation. Appendix 1 provides detailed information.

Background Information

Report - Implementation of Internal Audit Recommendations for Toronto Animal Services - Update

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2769.pdf>)

Attachment 1 - Implementation of Internal Audit Recommendations for Toronto Animal Services - Update

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2770.pdf>)

HL3.12	ACTION		Transactional	
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New Toronto Street Food

Notice of Motion from Councillor John Filion

Recommendations

I ask the Board to support the following motion:

1. that the Toronto Board of Health request the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to amend the provincial food safety regulations without compromising food safety to allow for a broader range of street food that is healthy, affordable and culturally diverse;
2. that the Public Health staff and the Chair of the Board of Health look for opportunities to present New Toronto Street Food on a limited basis, as early as this summer, in accordance with existing regulations for some special events;
3. that the Toronto Board of Health endorse efforts to create new Toronto Street Food which meets the following criteria:
 - (a) is prepared and served in a way that does not compromise food safety;
 - (b) is nutritious;
 - (c) is affordable;
 - (d) reflects the ethno-cultural diversity of our City;
 - (e) will help make Toronto a more interesting place to live in and visit; and
 - (d) uses locally grown and produced food as much as possible;
4. that, in anticipation of legislative change, the Medical Officer of Health consult with staff of Municipal Licensing and Standards to determine whether changes in City licensing regulations might be required in order to create new vending locations for new street food (as outlined above), and to look at protocols so that restaurants do not face unfair competition from street vendors; and
5. that Toronto's chefs, restaurant owners, and others in the food preparation industry be invited to participate in the creation of new Toronto Street Food.

Summary

Councillor John Filion submitting a Notice of Motion with recommendations regarding the desirability of creating new, exciting, nutritious, and ethnically diverse street food.

Background Information

New Toronto Street Food

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2820.pdf>)

HL3.13	Information		Transactional	
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Toronto/East York Local Health Committee Minutes

Summary

Minutes of the Toronto/East York Local Health Committee meeting held on October 24, 2006.

Background Information

Toronto/East York Local Health Committee Minutes

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-2771.pdf>)

HL3.14	ACTION		Transactional	
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Report of the Sub-committee to Conduct the 2006 Performance Appraisal for the Medical Officer of Health

Confidential - Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees

Summary

The Sub-committee is meeting on April 16, 2007, and will report on this matter to the Board of Health.