

## Global AIDS Prevention Initiative for the City of Toronto

<b>Date:</b>	January 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2007
<b>To:</b>	Board of Health
<b>From:</b>	Kyle Rae Chair of AIDS Prevention Community Investment Programme
<b>Wards:</b>	all
<b>Reference Number:</b>	

### SUMMARY

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The purpose of this report is to recommend that the City of Toronto provide an increase of \$100,000.00 to the AIDS Prevention Community Investment Programme (APCIP) annual budget to enhance our response to HIV/AIDS globally and as a legacy to the XVI International AIDS Conference held in Toronto in August, 2006. This enhancement is intended to fund existing AIDS Service Organizations and community agencies with an AIDS prevention mandate, to partner with similar organizations in countries where HIV is endemic, for mutual knowledge exchange and skills transfer.

The theme of the Conference was “Time to Deliver”. This theme reinforces the demand and accountability for action on HIV/AIDS at every level. Enough is known to bring effective treatment measures and prevention strategies to communities across the world. As the host City, it is important that the City of Toronto accept the global challenge. One of the things we can do is fund community groups to establish information exchange and skills transfers with international partners who are disproportionately at risk for HIV/AIDS. Providing modest initial funding through APCIP will enable organizations to build on existing initiatives or start new ones. In addition, the City of Toronto can ensure that the application review, allocation and monitoring procedures established by the existing risk management framework is followed.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The 2007 AIDS Prevention Community Investment Program budget be increased by \$100,000 to establish a City of Toronto Global AIDS Prevention Initiative;

### Financial Impact

The current allocation for APCIP for 2007 is \$1,513,800. The proposed additional \$100,000 will bring the total for 2007 to \$1,613,800.

2006 Gross Expenditure	Proposed Additional Revenues for 2007	2007 Total Gross Expenditures
\$1,513,800.00 total APCIP allocation	\$100,000	\$1,613,800.00
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## ISSUE HISTORY

The City of Toronto has a history of funding community groups in keeping with the guiding principle that communities can address their own health issues in ways that are culturally and linguistically acceptable. Communities can be defined as geographical locations as well as by age, gender, race, religion, ability and sexual orientation. The City of Toronto has invested in communities through the AIDS Prevention Community Investment Program, acknowledging their expertise and knowledge in both preventing and reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS within their own communities. Given the cultural diversity of the City of Toronto, this has been an important strategy in preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS.

The City also recognized the importance of enabling community groups to participate in the International AIDS Conference by allocating \$200,000 as a one-time enhancement in 2005/06, to fourteen community groups. This money allowed the groups to become actively involved in the planning of the conference and in showcasing the City's community investment during the conference.

## COMMENTS

The international AIDS conference was a significant and high profile event in the city. Delegates from around the world came to Toronto to discuss and promote scientific findings, encourage dialogue, rally collective action and demand accountability among all parties to collectively tackle the epidemic. "Time to Deliver" reinforces the need to examine what role we as the City of Toronto, play in contributing to these efforts not just locally but also globally.

Global efforts to halt the epidemic can be supported by funding Toronto community groups that already have knowledge of our culturally diverse communities as well as global AIDS issues, to work in international partnerships.

The City is already involved in some global HIV/AIDS work. In 2002 Toronto City Council approved the HIV/AIDS capacity building partnership with South East District in Botswana, Africa. This initiative is funded by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities with in kind support from the City of Toronto. Under the leadership of Toronto Public Health, the project has leveraged considerable additional resources and has made an important contribution in skills transfer and knowledge exchange.

### **Implementation of the AIDS Prevention Global Initiative**

Upon approval of the budget enhancement, and after consulting with Toronto-based community experts knowledgeable about global HIV/AIDS issues, the APCIP review panel will establish eligibility criteria for the AIDS Prevention Global Initiative and will develop a proposal call. The panel will then review the proposals received and make allocations according to the established criteria. Priorities will include projects that demonstrate the capacity to provide knowledge exchange and skills transfer; have potential to leverage additional resources; include a plan for dissemination of information; and demonstrate benefits both locally and globally. The deadline for receiving proposals for review will be the same as the existing APCIP funding cycle.

The initial investment of \$100,000 is intended to be an incremental approach to bringing in additional resources over time. In particular, TPH staff and community partners will seek additional sources of funding from external funders including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Clinton Foundation, Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development (ICAD) and Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

### **CONTACT**

Councillor Kyle Rae

### **SIGNATURE**

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Kyle Rae  
City Councillor

### **ATTACHMENTS**