

Approved

**Scarborough Local Health Committee (LHC) Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 14, 2006
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Scarborough Civic Centre – Committee Room 2**

Present: Ed Castro, Vaij Chari, Brian Hyndman (Chair), Heidi Sin
Toronto Public Health Staff:
Carol Timmings, Lisa King, Janet Melanson (Minutes)

Regrets: Carvel Burrell, Dianne Cairney, Colin Hughes, Dean Maxwell, Linda Napier,
Niloy Sen, Yasmin Vali

1.0 Approval of Minutes of October 10, 2006 LHC Meeting

The minutes of the October 10, 2006 meeting were approved as written.

2.0 Overview of Addiction Services in Scarborough

Ed gave a presentation on Addiction Services in Scarborough. There was discussion around services offered, including eligibility for services, services offered in languages other than English, referral processes, restrictions and service fees.

Ed explained that the philosophy behind the Harm Reduction Strategy is to mitigate the risk of danger for substance abusers. The advisory group would like to take the stigma away from users, creating a safer environment for their actions.

Ed discussed different populations of substance abusers and identified Scarborough statistics and specific services offered throughout Scarborough. He discussed the difficulties with re-integration of recovering addicts due to lack of services.

In terms of unmet needs, Ed would like to see more treatment services for all types of substance abuse. He believes that education and prevention treatment are needed most and would like to see West Hill and Scarborough Village have more services available.

Ed would like to note the role that TPH needs to play in supporting local community based Harm Reduction initiatives. The Works Van program as well as Agincourt Community Services Association continue the harm reduction supply distribution. Due to the size of Scarborough, Ed feels that these initiatives are obviously not enough.

Ed would like to have a recommendation from the Scarborough LHC to the TPH Board in support of better resourced harm reduction services for our communities that would include building on existing capacities. For the immediate future, perhaps tapping into current funding streams (i.e. HIV/AIDS and DPG Grants) whose criteria is to engage these efforts would help to support harm reduction services in Scarborough.

3.0 Review of the Local Health Committee (LHC) Priorities

The priorities of the LHC were reviewed and three items were identified as items of interest for future meetings.

1. Carol would like to share the TPH Integrated Health Promotion model with LHC members with intention to engage community input.
2. Community Right to Know
3. Toronto Cancer Prevention Coalition - Shade Policy

4.0 Neighbourhood Action Teams – Update

Lisa gave an update on the Neighbourhood Action Teams and provided a summary handout. Lisa would like members to bring issues and concerns to her attention as her role in TPH as a Community Health Officer, she has a great deal of information and contacts that can benefit different community groups.

5.0 LHIN Update

Brian invited members from the Central East LHIN to the next LHC meeting on January 16, 2007. Two representatives from the Scarborough East LHIN that will also be attending.

6.0 Update on Board of Health citizen representative recruitment process.

Brian gave information on the process for Board of Health citizen recruitment. He informed members that they do not have to attend the recruitment process to join the Board of Health. A link with more information on the recruitment process will be available soon.

In April or May Brian anticipates transitioning off of the Board of Health. The LHC will go into hiatus until the new members are appointed.

The second step in the recruitment process is the recruitment of LHC members. Current LHC members can re-apply to be considered for the next LHC term.

ACTION: Brian will send out recruitment information as it becomes available.

7.0 Update on LHC evaluation and next steps

Brian gave an update on the LHC evaluation and reminded members to complete their LHC evaluation.

8.0 Celebrating Diversity

Yasmin sent an invitation via e-mail to members for “Celebrating Our Diversity Day” to be held on November 22, 2006. Copies were distributed at the meeting.

9.0 Next Meeting:
Tuesday, January 16, 2007
Scarborough Civic Centre
Committee Room 2
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.