

Board of Health

Meeting No.	4	Contact	Candy Davidovits, Committee Administrator
Meeting Date	Monday, May 14, 2007	Phone	416-392-8032
Start Time	1:00 PM	E-mail	cdavidov@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 1, City Hall		

The Decision Document is for preliminary reference purposes only. Please refer to the Minutes for the official record.

How to Read the Decision Document:

- *recommendations of the Board of Health to City Council appear after the item heading and any amendments by the Board to recommendations appearing in staff reports are italicized;*
- *action taken by the Board on its own authority does not require Council’s approval and is listed in the decision document under the heading “Decision Advice and Other Information” at the end of the item and any amendments by the Board to recommendations appearing in staff reports are italicized; and*
- *Declarations of Interest, if any, appear at the end of an item.*

Minutes Confirmed – April 16, 2007

HL4.1	Presentation	Received	Transactional	
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Pandemic Influenza Update

Summary

Presentation by Allison J. Stuart, Director, Emergency Management Unit, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health received the presentation by Allison J. Stuart, Director, Emergency Management Unit, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, for information.

HL4.2	ACTION	Adopted	Transactional	
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Pilot Testing the New Air Quality Health Index in Toronto

(April 24, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

The Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) is a new national health based index that will help Canadians understand how to protect their health from air pollution. Toronto has been selected as a pilot site for implementation of the AQHI. Health Canada is providing funding of \$200,000 to Toronto Public Health in 2007-08 to inform the community about the AQHI and evaluate its effectiveness. The Medical Officer of Health recommends that City Council amend the 2007 Toronto Public Health budget to reflect this new funding from Health Canada.

Implementation of the AQHI will also benefit Toronto by stimulating public support for bold action by city government and its agencies, boards and commissions. The AQHI supports the approach and initiatives proposed in the Mayor's "A Change is in the Air" report and the City's resulting Climate Change and Clean Air Action Plan.

Background Information

Pilot Testing the New Air Quality Health Index in Toronto
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-3452.pdf>

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health:

1. recommended to the Budget Committee that the 2007 Toronto Public Health Operating Budget be increased by \$160,000 gross and \$0 net to reflect funding from Health Canada for the launch of the Air Quality Health Index Toronto Pilot Program; and
2. forwarded a copy of the report (April 24, 2007) from the Medical Officer of Health to the Toronto Environment Office for its information.

HL4.3	ACTION	Amended	Transactional	
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Reducing Health Impacts of Perchloroethylene from Dry Cleaning in Toronto

(April 30, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

This report responds to the Board of Health's request to assess the health impact of the dry

cleaning industry in Toronto, and the ways and means of ensuring that the dry cleaning industry eliminates harmful chemicals from its cleaning process. Perchloroethylene (perc), also known as tetrachloroethylene, is the most commonly used solvent for dry cleaning in Toronto. The International Agency for Research on Cancer and a number of U.S. agencies classify perc as a possible or probable carcinogen, but Health Canada lists it as unlikely to be carcinogenic to humans.

There are approximately 360 perc-based dry cleaning facilities operating in the City of Toronto. Dry cleaners may locate inside a building that has residential units or provides space for sensitive uses such as child care facilities. Dry cleaning facilities that operate dry cleaning machines in such settings are referred to as being “co-located”. People living in buildings where perc-based dry cleaning occurs are at increased risk for health effects from exposure to perc.

Although dry cleaning technology improvements have reduced releases of perc to the air, studies show that people can still be exposed to perc at unacceptable levels. In the United States, steps have been taken to stop the use of perc in dry cleaning and replace it with other solvents and technologies that can be successfully used by professionals to clean fabrics. Water-based cleaning technologies and liquid carbon dioxide are two options that pose the least risk to human health and the environment. This report outlines measures to reduce exposure to perc used in dry cleaning, particularly in co-located settings.

Background Information

Reducing Health Impacts of Perchloroethylene from Dry Cleaning in Toronto
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-3453.pdf>)

Communications

(May 10, 2007) letter from Gary Fine, President, Parkers Custom Clothing Care -
HLMainHL4.3.1

(May 11, 2007) letter from Stephen P. Risotto, Executive Director, Halogenated Solvents Industry Alliance - HLMainHL4.3.2

(May 14, 2007) letter from Nora Nealis, Executive Director, National Cleaners Association -
HLMainHL4.3.3

(May 14, 2007) letter from Nancy Bradshaw, Co-Chair, Toronto Cancer Prevention Coalition -
HLMainHL4.3.4

(May 14, 2007) Submission from Sidney Chelsky, Careful Consulting Services -
HLMainHL4.3.5

(May 14, 2007) Submission from Brian Chelsky, President, Careful Hand Laundry & Dry Cleaners - HLMainHL4.3.6

(May 14, 2007) e-mail from Eric Lehner, CEO, Winning Brands Corporation -
HLMainHL4.3.7

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health requested:

1. the federal Minister of Health to recognize perchloroethylene as a probable carcinogen consistent with leading agencies such as the International Agency for Research on Cancer;

2. the federal Minister of the Environment to eliminate the use of perchloroethylene in dry cleaning in Canada by the earliest date possible and to encourage professional fabric cleaners to replace it with water-based cleaning and other inorganic solvent-based technologies;
3. *the Ontario Ministry of the Environment to resume inspections of dry cleaning facilities to ensure compliance with all environmental regulations; and*
4. the Medical Officer of Health:
 - a. in collaboration with other City divisions, to consult with the dry cleaning industry and other community stakeholders to explore possible options to reduce the use of perchloroethylene in the short term;
 - b. *to contact existing dry cleaning establishments to advise them that the Board of Health will be considering the feasibility of municipal regulation to phase out the use of perchloroethylene in dry cleaning establishments co-located with residential and other sensitive uses so that they are aware of this if they are considering investment in their facilities, and, in consultation with Municipal Licensing and Standards staff, to provide similar information to anyone seeking a business licence for a new dry cleaning establishment;*
 - c. to report to the Board of Health in February 2008, on the feasibility of municipal regulation to phase out the use of perchloroethylene in dry cleaning facilities which are co-located with residential or other sensitive uses; and
 - d. *in consultation with the General Manager, Toronto Water, to include in his report in February 2008, a summary of Sewer Use By-law compliance by the dry cleaning industry and the potential reduction of perchloroethylene in the sanitary sewer system with the elimination of perchloroethylene in dry cleaning.*

HL4.4	ACTION	Adopted	Transactional	
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2007/2008 Student Nutrition Program Service Subsidies

(April 30, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Board Recommendations

The Board of Health recommends that:

1. City Council enter into agreements totalling \$2,799,340 with the Toronto Foundation for Student Success (\$2,502,715.73) and the Angel Foundation for Learning (\$296,624.27) to administer the Community Partnership and Investment Program

funding to eligible student nutrition programs across the City of Toronto;

2. City Council grant authority to the Medical Officer of Health to take the necessary action to give effect to Recommendation 1, including the execution of agreements with the Toronto Foundation for Student Success and the Angel Foundation for Learning on behalf of the City; and
3. a copy of this report be forwarded to the Minister of Children and Youth Services, the Minister of Health Promotion, the Toronto District School Board and the Toronto Catholic District School Board for their information.

Summary

This report requests that the Board of Health adopt the recommendations of the Toronto Partners for Student Nutrition (TPSN) Steering Committee regarding the 2007/2008 Student Nutrition Program service subsidy allocations.

The TPSN Steering Committee requests that the Board of Health recommend the City of Toronto execute agreements with the Angel Foundation for Learning and the Toronto Foundation for Student Success, for a combined total of \$2,799,340. An amount of \$100,000 will be held for appeals.

Background Information

2007/2008 Student Nutrition Program Service Subsidies

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-3454.pdf>)

HL4.5	Information	Received	Transactional	
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Fluoridation of Toronto Tap Water

(April 30, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

This report responds to requests from the Board of Health (BOH) and the Works Committee for reports from the Medical Officer of Health on whether to stop adding fluoride to Toronto's tap water.

Fluoridation of drinking water provides important oral health benefits. This position is supported by evidence compiled by the Centres for Disease Control in the United States, who, based on that evidence have declared that water fluoridation is one of the ten great public health achievements of the 20th century (1). In addition, eighty experts from thirty countries, together with the World Health Organization, FDI World Dental Federation and the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) reaffirmed the efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and safety of the daily use of optimal fluoride through the Global Consultation on Oral Health through Fluoride held in 2006 (2).

Credible scientific evidence supports the view that at 0.6 p.p.m., the amount level in Toronto water, the benefits of fluoridation outweigh any risks.

Background Information

Fluoridation of Toronto Tap Water

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-3455.pdf>)

Communications

(May 14, 2007) letter from Dr. S. Abrams, Chair, Dental Benefits Task Force, Ontario Dental Association - HLMainHL4.5.1

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health received the report (April 30, 2007) from the Medical Officer of Health for information.

HL4.6	Information	Adopted	Transactional	
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Provincial Funding for InSPOT Toronto

(April 27, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

To inform the Board of Health of the receipt of \$59,220 in funding from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC), AIDS Bureau in order to support a new Toronto Public Health service, inSPOT Toronto. inSPOT Toronto is an online e-notification service aimed at reducing the prevalence of syphilis and other sexually transmitted infections among men who have sex with men (MSM) in Toronto.

In February 2007, Toronto Public Health (TPH) was asked to submit a proposal to MOHLTC, AIDS Bureau for funds to launch and advertise inSPOT Toronto as part of the AIDS Bureau's syphilis reduction efforts. TPH received \$59,220 in funding from the MOHLTC for the establishment, launch and online promotion of this new service to facilitate online partner notification of sexually transmitted infections.

Background Information

Provincial Funding for InSPOT Toronto

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-3456.pdf>)

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health recommended to the Budget Committee that:

1. the Toronto Public Health 2007 Operating Budget be increased by \$59,220.00 gross, \$0 net, to reflect provincial funding received to support the inSPOT service.

HL4.7	ACTION	Amended	Transactional	
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Board of Health Representation and Attendance at 2007 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) Meetings

(April 27, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

The purpose of this report is to request that the Board of Health appoint a representative on the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) and approve the payment of expenses for the participation of Board of Health members at alPHa meetings in 2007.

Background Information

Board of Health Representation and Attendance at 2007 Association of Local

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-3457.pdf>)

Board of Health Representation and Attendance at 2007 - ATT1

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-3458.pdf>)

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health:

1. appointed Valerie Sterling as the Board of Health member to represent Toronto on the board of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa);
2. approved the participation of a Board of Health representative or alternate at all alPHa Board meetings, alPHa Board of Health Section meetings and alPHa conferences in 2007 and the covering of expenses associated with this participation; and
3. encouraged the participation of its members at alpha Board of Health Section meetings and the Toronto-based conferences in 2007 (see Attachment 1 for the first conference) and approved the payment of expenses associated with this participation.

HL4.8	Information	Received	Transactional	
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Results of Follow-up of Previous Audit Recommendations

(April 3, 2007) report from Auditor General

Summary

This report is to provide the Board of Health with the results of the follow-up of audit recommendations previously made by the City's Auditor General (formerly City Auditor) to the Toronto Public Health between January 1, 1999 and December 31, 2005.

The result of our review shows that Toronto Public Health staff has implemented most of the

recommendations made in previous audit reports issued by the Auditor General's Office. Audit recommendations fully implemented are listed in Attachment 1. Audit recommendations not fully implemented, as well as management's comments and action plan, are included in Attachment 2. One audit recommendation that is no longer applicable is listed in Attachment 3.

Background Information

Results of Follow-up of Previous Audit Recommendations
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-3459.pdf>

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health received the report (April 3, 2007) from the Auditor General for information.

HL4.9	Information	Received	Transactional	
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Update on City Council Approved Toronto Public Health 2007 Operating Budget

(April 24, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

This report provides the Board of Health (BOH) with an update on the Toronto Public Health (TPH) 2007 Operating Budget approved at the City Council meeting of April 20 and 23, 2007.

City Council approved a TPH 2007 Operating Budget of \$210,506.6 thousand gross and \$50,397.4 thousand net, including a base budget of \$207,399.3 thousand gross and \$50,085.0 thousand net, and New and Enhanced Services of \$3,107.3 thousand gross and \$312.4 thousand net. The New and Enhanced Services include the three BOH recommended enhancements that are cost shared at 75 percent with the Province, one new initiative that is fully funded by the City and salaries and benefits related to capital projects that are approved in the 2007 Capital Budget.

Background Information

Update on City Council Approved Toronto Public Health 2007 Operating Budget
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-3460.pdf>

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health received the report (April 24, 2007) from the Medical Officer of Health for information.

HL4.10	Information	Received	Transactional	
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Update on City Council Approved Toronto Public Health 2007-2011 Capital Budget and Plan

(April 26, 2007) report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

This report provides an update to the Board of Health (BOH) on the Toronto Public Health 2007 Capital Budget and 2008-2011 Capital Plan as approved by City Council. At its meeting of March 7, 2007, City Council approved a 2007-2011 Capital Budget and Plan for Toronto Public Health (TPH) in the amount of \$18.768 million with a 2007 cash flow of \$4.880 million (including carry-forward of \$0.937 million from 2006 into 2007). The future year commitments and plan estimates are comprised of \$3.490 million for 2008, \$3.499 million for 2009, \$3.499 million for 2010 and \$3.400 million for 2011.

Background Information

Update on City Council Approved Toronto Public Health 2007-2011 Capital
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-3461.pdf>

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health received the report (April 26, 2007) from the Medical Officer of Health for information.

HL4.11	ACTION	Amended	Transactional	
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Electromagnetic Field (EMF) Study of Proposed East Toronto Transmission Line

(April 3, 2007) letter from Councillor Paula Fletcher

Summary

Letter from Councillor Paula Fletcher, regarding the Electromagnetic Field (EMF) Study and the proposed East Toronto Transmission Line.

Background Information

Electromagnetic Field (EMF) Study of Proposed East Toronto Transmission Line
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-3462.pdf>

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health requested the Medical Officer of Health to:

1. request the Minister of Energy and the Minister of the Environment to direct the Ontario

Power Authority (OPA) to:

- a. conduct a full Environmental Assessment regarding the proposed transmission lines and that that assessment include a fully funded health impact assessment; and
 - b. provide funding to Toronto Public Health so that it has the resources to provide the necessary oversight; and
2. report to the Board of Health in October 2007, on any responses received from the Ministers.

HL4.12	Information	Received	Transactional	
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North York Local Health Committee Minutes

Summary

Minutes of the North Region Local Health Committee meetings held on October 17, 2006, November 14, 2006, and January 23, 2007.

Background Information

North York Local Health Committee Minutes

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-3463.pdf>)

North York Local Health Committee Minutes - ATT1

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-3464.pdf>)

North York Local Health Committee Minutes - ATT2

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-3465.pdf>)

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health received the Minutes of the North York Local Health Committee meetings held on October 17, 2006, November 14, 2006, and January 23, 2007, for information.

HL4.13	ACTION	Adopted	Transactional	
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Dental Care for Low and No Income Adults

Member Motion from Councillor Raymond Cho

Summary

Motion from Councillor Raymond Cho requesting that the Board of Health recommend to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care that it provide funding to support the Toronto Oral

Health Coalition's Proposal for dental care to be included in health care services provided in Community Health Centres or to include dental services in OHIP.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health adopted the following resolution:

“WHEREAS there are dental programs that assist children in low/no income families to access basic dental care but there are no programs for adults in those families;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Health recommend to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care that it provide funding to support the Toronto Oral Health Coalition's Proposal for dental care to be included in health care services provided in Community Health Centres or that dental services be included in OHIP.”

Meeting Sessions

Session Date	Session Type	Start Time	End Time	Public or Closed Session
2007-05-14	Afternoon	1:10 PM	5:20 PM	Public