
Board of Health

Meeting No.	8	Contact	Candy Davidovits, Committee Administrator
Meeting Date	Monday, October 15, 2007	Phone	416-392-8032
Start Time	1:00 PM	E-mail	boh@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 1, City Hall		

Attendance

Members of the Board of Health were present for some or all of the time periods indicated under the section "Meeting Sessions", which appears at the end of the Minutes.

Councillor John Filion, Chair	X
Councillor Raymond Cho	X
Councillor Janet Davis, Vice-Chair	X
Councillor Paula Fletcher	R
Councillor Chin Lee	X
Councillor Gord Perks	X
Trustee Soo Wong	X
Alejandra Bravo	X
Vaijyanthi Chari	X
Wangari Muriuki	X
Fiona Nelson	X
Lisa O'Brien	X
Valerie Sterling	X

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Fiona Nelson, the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Health held on September 11, 2007, were confirmed.

HL8.1	Information	Amended		
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Sexual Health in Toronto 2007

(September 28, 2007) Report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

This report provides current epidemiological data on sexually transmitted infection rates (STIs), and sexual behaviour in Toronto and a program update on Toronto Public Health (TPH) sexual health programs and services subsequent to the 2004 Board of Health report Strategies to Address the Increase in Sexually Transmitted Infections in Toronto.

In Toronto, STIs accounted for 66% of all reported diseases. Identification, treatment, follow-up and prevention of STIs is a substantial component of the work of TPH. Current data show an increase in reports of chlamydia, gonorrhea, HIV and late latent syphilis. In part, this increase can be attributed to more sensitive tests and an increase in testing. Despite high STI rates, Toronto has the second lowest chlamydia and gonorrhea rates and the lowest infectious syphilis rates when compared to Canada's other large urban areas.

Research shows that age at first intercourse has not changed in recent years. However, there is a slight increase in the number of people reporting multiple sexual partners. Condoms and birth control pills are the two most common forms of contraception for people under 25 years of age. The rate of consistent condom use among youth remains around 40%. Teen pregnancies and abortion rates have been decreasing steadily for many years.

TPH's Sexual Health Programs include sexual health clinics, STI case management, sexual health promotion, The Works Needle Exchange, The AIDS and Sexual Health Info Line, condom distribution, AIDS Prevention Community Investment Program and purchase of service agreements. While the Sexual Health Programs have received enhancements since 2004, demand for services often exceeds capacity.

TPH's sexual health programs use a variety of innovative tools and strategies to identify needs and trends and to plan and implement responsive and effective programs and services. Toronto Public Health will continue to monitor current epidemiological evidence and social research to ensure that TPH's Sexual Health Programs address the evolving needs of the community.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health:

1. requested the Medical Officer of Health to collaborate with the Ministry of Education, the Faculties of Education and the Ontario College of Teachers to ensure that delivery of comprehensive sexual health education is included in new teachers' curriculum;

2. encourage Boards of Education and teachers' federations to request their grades 4 to 8 teachers to attend Sexual Health Promotion Training, including Board of Education Professional Development Training Days.

(Recommendations 1 and 2 moved by Councillor Davis)

3. requested the Chair of the Board of Health and Medical Officer of Health to meet with the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care and the Minister of Education to present statistics and concerns raised by this report and recommend that a joint working group be established to develop enhanced curricula and other programs targeted at children and young people; and

(Motion moved by Fiona Nelson)

4. requested the Medical Officer of Health to give a presentation to a future meeting of the Board of Health on harm reduction.

(Motion moved by Wangari Muriuki)

Links to Background Information

Sexual Health in Toronto 2007

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-7293.pdf>

HL8.2	Information	Amended		
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Toronto Public Health Plan for an Influenza Pandemic

(September 28, 2007) Report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

This report presents the Toronto Public Health Plan for an Influenza Pandemic (TPHPIP). A copy of the plan is on file in the office of the City Clerk and is also available online at <http://www.toronto.ca/health/pandemicflu>. This plan replaces the Toronto Pandemic Influenza Plan which was published in 2005. The new plan describes how Toronto Public Health (TPH) is preparing for an influenza pandemic and provides new information on how response activities such as influenza assessment, treatment and referral centres (community flu centres) and mass vaccination clinics would operate during the pandemic period. The report also identifies outstanding issues which require policy decisions or clarification from other orders of government, including the prophylactic use of antiviral medications and several legal and financial issues related to the operation of community flu centres. The next steps listed in the plan have been integrated into a workplan for TPH staff. That workplan is included in this report as Attachment 1.

Decision Advice and Other Information

On motion by Councillor Davis, the Board of Health requested the Medical Officer of Health to report to a future meeting of the Board of Health on:

1. the costs-to-date associated with Toronto Public Health's Influenza Pandemic Planning activities; and
2. current and projected costs of supplies and equipment.

Links to Background Information

Toronto Public Health Plan for an Influenza Pandemic

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-7292.pdf>)

Toronto Public Health Pandemic Preparedness Workplan, 2007-08 - Attachment 1

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-7459.pdf>)

HL8.3	ACTION	Adopted		
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Implementation of Recommendations from the Audit of the Tuberculosis Program

(September 28, 2007) Report from Medical Officer of Health

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. the Board of Health forward this report to the TB Subcommittee for information.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications from this report.

Summary

This report provides an update on the implementation of seven outstanding recommendations made in a report by the Internal Audit Division in 2005 on the Tuberculosis (TB) Prevention and Control Program. Toronto Public Health (TPH) has implemented all seven remaining recommendations.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health forwarded the report (September 28, 2007) from the Medical Officer of Health to the TB Sub-committee for information.

Links to Background Information

Implementation of Recommendations from the Audit of the Tuberculosis Program

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-7294.pdf>)

HL8.4	Information	Received		
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Toronto/East York Local Health Committee Minutes

Summary

Minutes of the Toronto /East York Local Health Committee meetings held on:

- a. April 10, 2007;
- b. June 5, 2007; and
- c. July 3, 2007.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health received, for information, the Minutes of the Toronto /East York Local Health Committee meetings held on:

- a. April 10, 2007 ;
- b. June 5, 2007 ; and
- c. July 3, 2007.

Links to Background Information

Toronto/East York Local Health Committee Meeting April 10, 2007
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-7312.pdf>
 Toronto/East York Local Health Committee Meeting June 5, 2007
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-7313.pdf>
 Toronto/East York Local Health Committee Meeting July 3, 2007
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-7314.pdf>

HL8.5	Information	Received		
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2008 Approved Schedule of Meetings

Summary

The 2008 Approved Schedule of Meetings for City Council, Community Council, Standing Committees and the Board of Health is submitted for the Board of Health's information.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health received the 2008 approved schedule of meetings for information.

HL8.6	ACTION	Amended		
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Membership of Animal Services Sub-Committee

Summary

The Board of Health to appoint two representatives to the Animal Services Sub-Committee for the 2006-2010 term of Council.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health appointed Valerie Sterling to the Animal Services Sub-Committee.

HL8.7	Presentation	Received		
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Health Inequalities in Toronto

Summary

Presentations on Health Inequalities in Toronto

Communications

(October 15, 2007) Submission from Dr. James R. Dunn, CIHR-PHAC Chair in Applied Public Health Scientist, Centre for Research on Inner City Health, St. Michael's Hospital (HL.Main.HL8.7.1)

Speakers

Dr. James R. Dunn, CIHR-PHAC in Applied Public Health, Scientist, Centre for Research on Inner City Health, St. Michael's Hospital, and filed a written submission
 Amra Acimovic, Community Nutrition Assistant in the Peer Nutrition Program
 Annette Bailey, Public Health Nurse
 Vanita Varma, Public Health Nurse in Communicable Disease Control
 Penny Spartalis, Registered Dental Hygienist
 Heather Richards, Environmental Health Officer/Public Health Inspector
 Yona Attis-Day, Public Health Nurse in the Reproductive and Infant Health Program
 Carrie Samuels, Family Home Visitor with the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health received, for information, the presentations by Dr. James R. Dunn and the Toronto Public Health staff and thanked all of the presenters for their excellent presentations.

HL8.8	ACTION	Amended		
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Attendance at the Ontario Public Health Association Conference

(October 15, 2007) Letter from Wangari Muriuki

Summary

Requesting permission to attend the Ontario Public Health Association conference to be held November 18 to 21, 2007, in Toronto.

Decision Advice and Other Information

On motion by Councillor Perks, the Board of Health authorized:

1. Vaijyanthi Chari, Wangari Muriuki, Lisa O'Brien and other interested Board members to attend the Ontario Public Health Association Conference on November 18-21, 2007, in Toronto; and
2. the payment of all expenses associated with participation at this conference.

Meeting Sessions

Session Date	Session Type	Start Time	End Time	Public or Closed Session
2007-10-15	Afternoon	1:10 PM	4:45 PM	Public