

# MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 29, 2007  
TO: Chair and Members of the Works and Infrastructure Committee  
RE: GENERATING REVENUE FROM CITY LABORATORIES

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Toronto is one of the few cities that own its own testing laboratories. Recent legislation has mandated stiffer water regulations and standards for municipal water purification.

If we have surplus capacity at our testing facilities, we ought to consider it to be a potential revenue generator. I would request that we refer the matter to staff for a report to the Committee.

We would need to answer some of the following questions:

1. To what extent do we have surplus capacity at our labs?
2. What charges do other municipalities pay to private labs to do their testing?
3. Could we sell testing services to other municipalities and make a profit?
4. If we do decide to sell lab services, what business structure would work to our best advantage?

Since I raised these same questions at Metro more than ten years ago and am still awaiting an answer, perhaps you could make this a timed response.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.



HOWARD MOSCOE  
Chair, City Standards  
Ids/Works & Infrastructure Com/General Revenue from city labs