

Board of Health

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| Meeting No. | 11 | Contact | Candy Davidovits, Committee Administrator |
| Meeting Date | Monday, January 21, 2008 | Phone | 416-392-8032 |
| Start Time | 1:00 PM | E-mail | boh@toronto.ca |
| Location | Committee Room 1, City Hall | | |

| Board of Health | | |
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| Councillor John Filion (Chair) | Councillor Gord Perks | Wangari Muriuki |
| Councillor Janet Davis (Vice-Chair) | Trustee Soo Wong | Fiona Nelson |
| Councillor Raymond Cho | Alejandra Bravo | Lisa O'Brien |
| Councillor Paula Fletcher | Vaijayanthi Chari | Valerie Sterling |
| Councillor Chin Lee | | |

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The City collects this information to enable it to make informed decisions on the relevant issue(s). If you are submitting letters, faxes, e-mails, presentations or other communications to the City, you should be aware that your name and the fact that you communicated with the City will become part of the public record and will appear on the City's website. The City will also make your communication and any personal information in it – such as your postal address, telephone number or e-mail address – available to the public, unless you expressly request the City to remove it.

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Declarations of Interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.**Confirmation of Minutes - December 4 , 2007**

Speakers/Presentations – A complete list will be distributed at the meeting.

Communications/Reports

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| HL11.1 | ACTION | | | |
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Election of Chair for 2008**Summary**

Election of Chair for 2008

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| HL11.2 | ACTION | | | |
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Election of Vice-Chair for 2008**Summary**

Election of Vice-Chair for 2008

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| HL11.3 | ACTION | | | |
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Losing Ground: The Persistent Growth of Family Poverty in Canada's Largest City

(January 7, 2008) Report from Medical Officer of Health

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that the Board of Health:

1. Endorse the following recommendations from the United Way of Greater Toronto report *Losing Ground: The Persistent Growth of Family Poverty in Canada's Largest City* and communicate their endorsement to Premier McGuinty and Prime Minister Harper:
 - a. that a poverty reduction strategy for Ontario be developed by the Provincial government that sets clear poverty reduction targets and aggressive timelines for achieving those targets, with specific targets and timelines for Toronto;

- b. the strategy take into account the unique low income challenges facing the City of Toronto and the poor social and health outcomes associated with them;
 - c. all levels of government and other community stakeholders engage in the development of this strategy, so that all components of the social safety net are examined and funded, including policies and programs focussed on housing security, employment security, and child care;
 - d. the strategy address the significant decline in employment insurance coverage for unemployed workers and the related decline in access to employment supports and training and better protect and support employees in precarious employment; and
 - e. the Federal government, through Statistics Canada, work with representatives from municipal and provincial governments and research and labour organizations to develop strategies for the routine collection of precarious employment data at the city level.
2. Commend the United Way of Greater Toronto for drawing attention and calling for action regarding the diminishing capacity of Toronto families to meet the high cost of living in Toronto.
 3. Request that the Ministry of Health Promotion fund research to develop a tool that Boards of Health can use to identify the annual real costs associated with raising a child/children and that the tool be used to promote policy change.
 4. Forward this report to the Community Development and Recreation Committee and Children's Services Advisory Committee for information.
 5. Forward this report to the Toronto Best Start Network, Child Health Network, Family Services Association, Children's Aid Society of Toronto, Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto, Jewish Child and Family Services of Toronto, Native Child and Family Services of Toronto, United Way of Greater Toronto, provincial Ministries of Children and Youth Services, Health Promotion, and Health and Long-Term Care, Ontario Public Health Association, Canadian Public Health Association, Campaign 2000, Canadian Paediatric Society, the Public Health Agency of Canada, Canadian Labour Congress, Statistics Canada, Human Resources and Social Development Canada, and Workers' Action Centre.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact.

Summary

In November 2007, the United Way of Greater Toronto released *Losing Ground: The Persistent Growth of Family Poverty in Canada's Largest City*. This report described how Toronto families with children are faring financially relative to families in the rest of the country (1). The purpose of this Board of Health report is to provide a summary of *Losing Ground* and to seek endorsement of specific recommendations contained within the United Way report.

A copy of the full report can be found at:

<http://www.uwgt.org/whoWeHelp/reports/pdf/LosingGround-fullReport.pdf>

Background Information

Losing Ground: The Persistent Growth of Family Poverty in Canada's Largest City

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-9847.pdf>)

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| HL11.4 | ACTION | | | |
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Smoke-Free Vehicle Legislation: Amendment of the Smoke-Free Ontario Act

(January 7, 2008) Report from Medical Officer of Health

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that the Board of Health:

1. Endorse Bill 11, an Act to amend the Smoke-Free Ontario Act to protect children and youth under 16 years of age from second-hand smoke in motor vehicles.
2. Write letters of support for Bill 11 to the Premier, Minister of Health Promotion and Toronto area Members of Provincial Parliament.
3. Forward this report to all Boards of Health in Ontario for similar endorsement and advocacy with the Premier, Minister of Health Promotion and Members of Provincial Parliament.

Financial Impact

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Summary

This report seeks endorsement from the Board of Health for Bill 11, an Act to amend the Smoke-Free Ontario Act to protect children and youth under 16 years of age from second hand smoke (SHS) in motor vehicles. This legislation will protect the health of children by prohibiting smoking in a vehicle when a child under 16 years of age is present.

The risks from SHS have been well documented. A recent position paper by the Ontario Medical Association indicates that exposure to SHS in a vehicle is 23 times more toxic due to the enclosed space (1). Children are among the most vulnerable to the damaging health effects of second hand smoke. When exposed to SHS, children are at a greater risk of developing bronchitis, pneumonia, colds, ear infections and asthma, while infants have an increased chance of dying from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (2).

Toronto Public Health's Comprehensive Tobacco Control Program includes a strong emphasis on reducing exposures to environmental tobacco smoke. Despite concerted efforts to educate and promote awareness about the harmful effects to children from exposure to SHS in vehicles,

approximately 22 per cent of Torontonians report that they allow smoking in their vehicles (3). One in ten reported exposure at least once a week, while one in thirty reported exposure to SHS in a vehicle on a daily basis.

Background Information

Smoke-Free Vehicle Legislation: Amendment of the Smoke-Free Ontario Act
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-9848.pdf>

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| HL11.5 | ACTION | | | |
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US Court Decision on Transboundary Air Pollution

(December 18, 2007) Report from Medical Officer of Health

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that the Board of Health:

1. Recommend that City Council commend the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the State Attorneys General of Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont, for their commitment to reducing air pollution through U.S. Power plant litigation, and in particular, their intervention in the case against American Electric Power Corporation, Inc., the result of which will lead to improvements in Toronto's air quality, diminish the frequency and severity of smog episodes, and reduce the health impact of air pollution in Toronto.
2. Recommend that City Council thank the following organizations for their championship of the case against American Electric Power Corporation, Inc.: Ohio Citizen Action, Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, Hoosier Environmental Council, Valley Watch, Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition, West Virginia Environmental Council, Clean Air Council, Izaak Walton League of America, United States, Public Interest Research Group, National Wildlife Federation, Indiana Wildlife Federation, League of Ohio Sportsmen, Sierra Club and Natural Resources Defence Council.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications arising from the adoption of this report.

Summary

In 2000, City Council authorized the City Solicitor to seek status as a Friend of the Court (Amicus Curiae) in a civil lawsuit against American Electric Power (AEP). The City submitted information on the impact of transboundary air pollution from U.S. coal-fired electric plants on Toronto's population. Up to fifty percent of the air pollution that affects Toronto, especially during smog episodes, comes from the United States.

In 2001, the American court granted Friend of the Court status to Toronto. The City Solicitor and the Medical Officer of Health prepared a legal brief in support of the legal arguments advanced by the plaintiffs.

A settlement was announced in the lawsuit on October 9, 2007. The settlement requires AEP to reduce air emissions from its sixteen coal-fired power plants. These reductions will translate into better air quality in Toronto and will bring about improved health for people living here. If related lawsuits which are ongoing in the United States have a similar positive outcome, the health benefits to Toronto will increase as transboundary air pollution decreases. The State Attorneys General of the eight states, as well as the twelve NGOs that participated in the litigation, should be recognized for their leadership in addressing air pollution from coal-fired power plants.

Background Information

US Court Decision on Transboundary Air Pollution

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-9849.pdf>

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| HL11.6 | ACTION | | | |
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Dog and Cat Licensing Strategy - 2008 Operating Budget Request

(January 9, 2008) Report from Medical Officer of Health

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. City Council approve an addition of \$833,100 gross and \$0 net to the Toronto Public Health's 2008 Recommended Operating Budget to support the Dog and Cat Licensing Strategy.
2. Any year-end deficit resulting from the Dog & Cat Licensing Strategy initiative be reported to the Board of Health and Budget Committee and funded from within the Toronto Animal Services approved budget for 2008 and beyond.
3. The Board of Health forward this report to the Budget Committee for consideration during the 2008 budget process.

Financial Impact

The 2008 Operating Budget Request for an additional 26 positions (14 FTEs), at a cost of \$833,100 gross and \$0 net be included in the 2008 Recommended Operating Budget for Toronto Public Health (TPH). In 2007, the Strategy will have a shortfall of \$330,000 that will be absorbed within the overall under-spending in the Toronto Animal Services Budget.

Summary

In 2006, City Council approved the Dog & Cat Licensing Strategy as a means of increasing the percentage of dogs and cats licensed in the City of Toronto. This approval was based on annual reporting of the success of the initiative. To date, Toronto Animal Services (TAS) has been successful in increasing the licences and the revenue associated with this initiative.

Continuation of the Dog & Cat Licensing Strategy into 2008 will allow TAS to continue to promote responsible pet ownership, increase the percentage of licensed pets in the City of Toronto and increase the revenue stream associated with licensing. Revenues generated from this initiative are used to fund needed enhancements to the service.

Background Information

Dog and Cat Licensing Strategy - 2008 Operating Budget Request
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-9850.pdf>

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Appointment of 2008 Review Panels for the AIDS Prevention and Drug Prevention Community Investment Programs

Confidential Attachment - Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees

(December 18, 2007) Report from Medical Officer of Health

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. The Board of Health appoint the individuals listed in confidential attachment 3 to the AIDS Prevention Community Investment Program Review Panel for 2008 and the Drug Prevention Community Investment Program Review Panel for 2008.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications resulting from this report.

Summary

The report recommends members of the Review Panels for the 2008 AIDS Prevention and Drug Prevention Community Investment Programs for appointment by the Board of Health. The individuals proposed for the panel membership are listed in confidential attachment 3.

Background Information

Appointment of 2008 Review Panels for the AIDS Prevention and Drug Prevention Community Investment Programs
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-9851.pdf>

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Board of Health Representation and Attendance at 2008 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) Meetings

(January 10, 2008) Report from Medical Officer of Health

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that the Board of Health:

1. Approve the participation of the Board of Health's representative or alternate at all alPHa Board meetings, alPHa Board of Health Section meetings and alPHa semi-annual meetings/conferences in 2008 and pay expenses associated with this participation.
2. The participation of its members at any alPHa Board of Health Section meetings and semi-annual meetings/conferences held in Toronto (see Attachment 1 for the first semi-annual meeting) in 2008 and pay expenses associated with this participation.

Financial Impact

Funds to pay expenses for Board of Health members to attend alPHa meetings are within the 2008 Recommended Toronto Public Health Operating Budget. The Board of Health approves use of these funds.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to request that the Board of Health approve the payment of expenses for the participation of Board of Health members at the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) meetings/conferences for 2008.

Background Information

Board of Health Representation and Attendance at 2008 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) Meetings

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-9855.pdf>

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| HL11.9 | Information | | | |
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Ontario Public Health Standards Protocols Consultation

Summary

Verbal update by the Medical Officer of Health

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| HL11.10 | Information | | | |
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Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Update

Summary

Verbal update by the Medical Officer of Health

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| HL11.11 | Information | | | |
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Local Health Committee Minutes

Summary

- Minutes of the Scarborough Local Health Committee meeting held on October 9, 2007.
- Minutes of the North York Local Health Committee meeting held on October 9, 2007.
- Minutes of the Etobicoke/York Local Health Committee meeting held on November 8, 2007.

Background Information

Scarborough Local Health Committee Minutes

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-9852.pdf>)

North York Local Health Committee Minutes

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-9853.pdf>)

Etobicoke/York Local Health Committee Minutes

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-9854.pdf>)