
Board of Health

Meeting No.	18	Contact	Candy Davidovits, Committee Administrator
Meeting Date	Wednesday, October 22, 2008	Phone	416-392-8032
Start Time	1:00 PM	E-mail	boh@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 1, City Hall		

HL18.1	ACTION			Ward: All
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The Unequal City: Income and Health Inequalities in Toronto 2008

(October 16, 2008) Report from Medical Officer of Health

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. The Medical Officer of Health report regularly to the Board of Health on key health inequality indicators for the City of Toronto;
2. The Medical Officer of Health consult with community partners and the Board of Health to incorporate appropriate strategies to reduce health inequalities in the next Toronto Public Health Strategic Plan (2010-2014) and annual service plans, including measures to monitor progress on reducing health inequalities;
3. The Toronto Board of Health send this report to the Premier of Ontario and strongly urge the government maintain its stated commitment to poverty reduction in Ontario as a public health measure; and
4. The Medical Officer of Health review Toronto Public Health data collection practices and collaborate with partners to strengthen the monitoring of the impact of social determinants on health, including racialization, immigration and settlement status, education and income.

Financial Impact

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

Summary

Toronto Public Health's mission is to improve the health of the whole population and to reduce health inequalities. The attached report "The Unequal City: Income and Health Inequalities in Toronto 2008" measures health inequalities using Toronto data to describe a number of health indicators by income groups.

The report demonstrates that within Canada's largest city there are significant health inequalities. Areas of Toronto which have a greater proportion of people living with low income experience greater risk factors for illness, higher rates of disease, and death at an earlier age. For most of the health indicators, the data show that as low income is reduced, health improves. If everyone in Toronto was as healthy as those with the highest income and best health, there would be a significant improvement in the City's health overall.

Reduction of health inequalities will require inter-sectoral leadership within the City, engagement with community partners and advocacy for provincial and federal action. The information in this report will support efforts to better understand the relationship between income and health and to identify strategies that address inequalities and improve health for all in Toronto.

Background Information

The Unequal City - Income and Health Inequalities in Toronto 2008 - Staff Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-16291.pdf>)

Attachment 1

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-16293.pdf>)

HL18.6	ACTION			Ward: All
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Toronto Street Food Pilot

(October 17, 2008) Report from Medical Officer of Health and the Acting Director, Purchasing and Materials Management

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health and the Acting Director of Purchasing and Materials Management recommend that:

1. Toronto Public Health, in consultation with Legal Services and Municipal Licensing and Standards Division, implement a one year pilot project with eligible existing street food vendors to expand their menu selection to include healthier food choices, as described in Attachment A of this report;

2. Toronto Public Health, in consultation with Legal Services and Municipal Licensing and Standards Divisions, implement a three year “Toronto a la Cart” pilot project as described in Attachment B of this report;
3. New fees for the processing of applications, issuance of endorsements and annual license fees for the use of Toronto a la Cart vending locations be approved as set out in Attachment C of this report;
4. The “Toronto a la Cart” logo shown on Attachment D be approved as the official mark for the Pilot and any subsequent “Toronto a la Cart” program and staff be authorized to take the necessary actions to secure the exclusive rights for the City to protect and use this logo;
5. City Council accept the proposal from Crown Verity, originally submitted in response to the Request for Expressions of Interest No. 0616-08-7021 and authorize the agreement with Crown Verity on the terms described in the body of this report and Attachment E, and other terms as may be satisfactory to the Medical Officer of Health and the City Solicitor;
6. Toronto Public Health oversee the implementation and administration of the pilot projects and, in consultation with the City Manager’s Office, provide future governance recommendations as part of the project evaluation;
7. All revenues associated with the pilot projects be directed to Toronto Public Health to offset costs;
8. The Toronto Public Health 2009 Operating Budget request be increased by \$86,000 gross and \$0.0 net, and a staff increase of 1.0 temporary position, to reflect required funding for the implementation of the Toronto Street Food pilot projects;
9. Any year-end deficit resulting from the implementation of the Toronto a la Cart program be reported to the Budget Committee and funded from within Toronto Public Health's 2009 Operating Budget;
10. The Medical Officer of Health be delegated the authority for the term of the pilot project to make final decisions with respect to:
 - a. The processing of applications and issuance of endorsements to eligible existing street food vendors; and
 - b. The issuance of a request for applications document and award of agreements to selected Toronto a la Cart vendors,and City Council retain no authority to act with respect to such matters;
11. City Council adopt the Terms of Reference as set out in Attachment F to this report and establish a Street Food Pilot Oversight Board, and delegate the authority to consider staff recommendations and make final decisions respecting the revocation of healthier

food endorsements issued to existing vendors or termination of licence agreements with a Toronto a la Cart vendor for the term of the pilot project to the Board, and City Council retain no authority to act with respect to such matters;

12. Toronto Public Health be directed to further explore opportunities with food-related non-governmental organizations to test the feasibility of using street food vending to enhance their ability to achieve common goals and objectives and be directed to provide further pilot program details to the Board of Health at a later date;
13. The Medical Officer of Health, in consultation with the City Solicitor be authorized to report to the next Executive Committee respecting any necessary amendments to City by-laws and the Municipal Code as required to implement and regulate the operation of the pilot projects as proposed in this report;
14. The Medical Officer of Health provide recommendations on an annual basis, beginning in the fall of 2009, with respect to the status of the Toronto a la Cart pilot project;
15. This report be forwarded to October 23, 2008 Budget Committee for consideration; and
16. This report be forwarded to November 10, 2008 Executive Committee for consideration.

Financial Impact

The resources required to implement these pilot projects in 2009 will be fully funded by incremental revenues. To offset project administration and operation costs, revenues are generated through application fees, endorsement fees from existing vendors and location fees from new vendors. 2009 revenues represent only a partial year for new vendors, and both 2009 and 2010 are expected to be revenue neutral. A temporary position will be required in 2009 to administer the pilot project. Detailed expenditures and revenues are included in the body of this report (see Overall Resource Requirements on page 13).

	2009
Expenditures	\$86,000
Revenues	\$86,000
Net Impact (Expenditures – Revenues)	\$0
Staffing (FTEs)	1

The Acting Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Summary

Changes to Regulation 562 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act in 2007 enable street food vendors to sell a wider variety of food items from street food vending carts. This report outlines a three stream approach to testing the impact of broadening healthier food choices available in the City from street food vendors to maximize the potential benefits from this regulatory change. The report requests authority to implement a 2009 pilot project to expand the menus of the existing street food vendors. It requests a spring 2009 pilot launch of the Toronto a la Cart program for new vendors at selected locations on City property to offer

culturally diverse, nutritious menus. This report requests authority to enter into an agreement with the respondent of the previously released Request for Expressions of Interest for the production of food carts. It further outlines a future third opportunity to engage in partnerships with external food-related Non-Governmental Organizations to explore the use of street food vending to achieve common goals.

To ensure sufficient lead time for cart manufacturing and spring 2009 launch, City Council approval must be given by December 2008.

Background Information

Toronto Street Food Pilot - Staff Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-16298.pdf>)

Attachment A

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-16299.pdf>)

Attachment B

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-16300.pdf>)

Attachment C

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-16301.pdf>)

Attachment D

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-16302.pdf>)

Attachment E

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-16303.pdf>)

Attachment F

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-16304.pdf>)

Attachment G

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-16305.pdf>)