

MINUTES
Etobicoke/York Local Health Committee

Date: Thurs. Nov. 29, 2007
Time: 6:00 P.M.
Location: 399 The West Mall (ECC) Council Chambers/Member's Lounge

Present: Alejandra Bravo (Chair) Turgay Kirbiyik, Sonali Verma, Tina Caruana, Thomas G. Marquette, Irene Martino, Marcel Beals, Alexandrina Stoilova, Mohamed Warsame, Cadigia M. Ali, Derrick A. Shaw, Mohamed Nur
Staff: Dr. Hazel Stewart (Director), Sue Huang, Madalaine Asta (minutes)
Guests: Monica Campbell, Manager, Environmental Protection Office, Dr. Michele Wong, Manager, Dental Services
Regrets: Linda Coltman

1.0 Review of Agenda

The agenda was discussed and approved.

2.0 Minutes of last meeting

Motion to approve the minutes – Thomas Marquette

Seconded by: Irene Martino

Carried.

3.0 Dental Services Presentation

Dr. Michele Wong presented a brief overview of the dental cases they see on a daily basis. Some of the challenges for their clients include language, transportation, lack of dental knowledge, lack of dental education to parents, cost for healthy food and restricted clinic hours. The presentation was followed by a question and answer period. Members requested a list of Public Health dental clinic locations.

ACTION: Sue to e-mail out a list of Public Health dental clinic locations.

4.0 Traffic Air Pollution in Toronto

Monica Campbell provided a presentation to address enquires made by members at the last LHC Meeting. The presentation was based on the information contained in a recent study released by the MOH titled "Air Pollution Burden of Illness from Traffic in Toronto: Problems and Solutions". The study includes a quantitative assessment of the burden of illness and economic costs from traffic pollution in Toronto. The report also examines air pollution traffic trends in Toronto and provides an overview of initiatives underway or planned by the City to further combat vehicle-related air pollution.

The presentation was followed by a question and answer period. Monica distributed three copies of the report at the meeting. Members can also access the report by visiting:
<http://www.toronto.ca/health/hphe>

A motion was made by Thomas Marquette that LHC submit a letter to TTC and Mississauga Transit with copies to Mayor Hazel McCallion of Mississauga to address the following issues:

- 1) to develop an "idle free" policy for public transit system in Toronto and Mississauga
- 2) to investigate options for particle traps in the bus terminals
- 3) to explore light rapid transit

The motion was seconded by Marcel Beals, and unanimously carried.

ACTION: LHC, with the support of TPH staff, to draft a letter to TTC and Mississauga Transit

5.0 LHC Priority Setting

- 5.1 Members were divided into 4 groups to itemize their local health issues. They came back as a collective to share the following: child obesity; community housing; unsafe drinking water, poverty, dental & vision coverage by OHIP, housing, healthy food, air pollution but not limited to traffic, community support for vulnerable groups, promotion of programs available for seniors, how messages are delivered regarding teen sexuality and diabetes.
- 5.2 The members felt strongly that they would like to keep their primary focus on poverty & food. Through the "dotmocracy" process the members narrowed down their priorities to housing, air pollution, dental and diabetes & obesity.
- 5.3 Factors that should be taken into account for setting advocacy include: impact of people, multiple effects, collaboration/ cooperation partnerships, targets – results – deadlines, diversity, evaluation and community engagement.

6.0 Business Arising

- 6.1 Members' contact list (handout)
ACTION: a copy will be mailed to all members
- 6.2 Health issues in Toronto Community Housing communities: cleanliness and the health hazards on residents and visitors (Mohamed Nur) - deferred

7.0 New Business

- 7.1 Food Strategy Document
This document is to provide background information and to be used in consultations about the development of a Toronto Food Strategy. Please review document for discussion at January 17th meeting.
ACTION: a copy of The **Food Strategy Document** will be mailed to all members for review and discussion at January 17th meeting.
- 7.2 United Way report "Loosing Ground - the persistent rise of poverty in the City of Toronto" – deferred

8.0 December 4, 2007 Board of Health Agenda Summary

The agenda summary for the December 4th Board of Health Meeting was distributed to all members for review. No issues arising from the review at this time.

9.0 Next Meeting

Date: January 17, 2008
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers/Member's Lounge

10.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.