

Board of Health

Meeting No.	13	Contact	Candy Davidovits, Committee Administrator
Meeting Date	Monday, April 21, 2008	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	X
Councillor Chin Lee	X
Councillor Gord Perks	X
Trustee Soo Wong	X
Alejandra Bravo	R
Vaijyanthi Chari	X
Wangari Muriuki	X
Fiona Nelson	X
Lisa O'Brien	X
Valerie Sterling	X

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Councillor Perks, the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Health held on February 26, 2008, were confirmed.

HL13.1	Information	Amended		
--------	-------------	---------	--	--

Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada Policy Consensus Conference - Obesity and the Impact of Marketing on Children

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

Summary

This report summarizes the national policy consensus conference held in Ottawa on March 4-5, 2008, entitled “Obesity and the Impact of Marketing on Children”, organized by the Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada (CDPAC).

A panel of prominent Canadians heard evidence from an equal number of health experts and industry representatives on marketing and its influence on child health and obesity. Toronto’s Medical Officer of Health, Dr. David McKeown, was an expert presenter, advocating the Board of Health’s position of a national ban on the commercial advertising of food and beverages to children under thirteen years of age.

Based on the evidence heard, the panel drafted a policy consensus statement that calls on the Government of Canada to appoint a panel of public health experts within six months to define what constitutes unhealthy food and beverages. Once the definitions are established, the Government of Canada should create and enforce a regulatory regime that ends all marketing of unhealthy food and beverages to children within two years. If marketing of unhealthy food and beverages to children in Canada does not end within two years, there should be a ban on the marketing of all food and beverages to children at that time.

The CDPAC Steering Committee will meet in April to review the policy statement and decide whether to formally adopt it.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health:

1. requested the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA), in co-operation with the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alpha), to convene a meeting in 2008 of the Medical Officers of Health and Boards of Health to co-ordinate advocacy for an Ontario ban on all commercial food and beverage advertising targeted toward children under the age of 13; and
2. received, for information, the report (April 7, 2008) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Motions

Motion to Amend Item (Additional) moved by Fiona Nelson (Carried)

That the Board of Health request that the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA), in co-operation with alpha, to convene a meeting in 2008 of the Medical Officers of Health and Boards of Health to co-ordinate advocacy for an Ontario ban on all commercial food and beverage advertising targeted toward children under the age of 13.

Motion to Receive Item moved by Fiona Nelson (Carried)

Links to Background Information

Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada Policy Consensus Conference - Obesity and the Impact of Marketing on Children - Staff Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-12026.pdf>)

HL13.2	Information	Amended		
--------	-------------	---------	--	--

A Guide to Eating Fish for Women, Children and Families

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

Summary

A September 2006 Toronto Public Health (TPH) report, Fish Consumption: Benefits and Risks for Populations Vulnerable to Methylmercury, discussed the need to provide fish consumption information for women of childbearing age (especially pregnant and breastfeeding women) and young children (1 to 4 years of age). The current report introduces A Guide to Eating Fish for Women, Children and Families, the new fish consumption resource developed as a follow up to the 2006 report. The information is presented in both a brochure and wallet card which will be available in print and on the TPH website (see <http://www.toronto.ca/health>).

The new resource refines the fish consumption advice to women, children and families. It carefully balances messages about the nutritional benefits of fish while letting people know about risks from contaminants and how to minimize these. It also highlights very low mercury fish species which may be eaten frequently. This is important information for everyone while also meeting the needs of Toronto's diverse ethno-racial communities with a strong cultural preference for eating fish. This resource also incorporates new information including: 1) the new Canada's Food Guide fish consumption recommendations and serving size; and 2) new Health Canada data on mercury levels in fish.

TPH staff worked collaboratively with other interested health units through the Ontario Public Health Association and consulted with Health Canada. The main purpose of these consultations was to ensure more consistent messages across public health agencies on the risks and benefits of fish consumption.

Communications

(April 21, 2008) Submission from Public Health (HL.Main.HL13.2.1)

Speakers

Loren Vanderlinden, Supervisor, Environmental Protection Office, Toronto Public Health
Josephine Archbold, Reseach Consultant, Environmental Protection Office, Toronto Public Health

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health:

1. requested that the Medical Officer of Health submit a further report to the Board of Health advising how the levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were set; and
2. received, for information, the report (April 7, 2008) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Motions

Motion to Amend Item (Additional) moved by Councillor Gord Perks (Carried)

That the Medical Officer of Health be requested to submit a further report to the Board of Health advising how the levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were set.

Motion to Receive Item moved by Councillor Gord Perks (Carried)

Links to Background Information

A Guide to Eating Fish for Women, Children and Families - Staff Report
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-12028.pdf>

HL13.3	ACTION	Adopted		
--------	--------	---------	--	--

Integrated Services for Children Information System (ISCIS) Implementation for Toronto Preschool Speech and Language and Infant Hearing Program

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

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the Medical Officer of Health to execute on behalf of the City whatever additional contract documentation the Province's Smart System for Health Agency may require to permit the use of the internet version of the Province's "ISCIS" records facility by Toronto Public Health (TPH) for the data of:
 - a. its Preschool Speech/Linguistics and Infant Hearing Programs;
 - b. any other present or future Program run by TPH funded by the Ministry if the Ministry requires such use;

on the same terms with necessary modifications, as apply to use of that facility for other TPH program data under the existing 2003-dated agreements between the City and SSHA as may be amended and/or supplemented from time to time in accordance with

Council authority, so long as there is continued compliance with all the data safeguards called for therein, and provided that the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Information Officer are satisfied as to content and the City Solicitor as to form./

Financial Impact

Toronto Preschool Speech and Language Services and the Infant Hearing Program are 100% funded by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS). All one-time and/or ongoing operating costs related to the use of the internet version of ISCIS by TPH will also be 100% funded by the MCYS.

Summary

Toronto Public Health (TPH) is the lead agency for Toronto Preschool Speech and Language Services and the Infant Hearing Program. Both of these programs are 100% funded by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS). The Ministry is now requiring that Preschool Speech and Language Services and Infant Hearing Programs throughout the province make use of the internet version of its computerized information system known as Integrated Services for Children Information System (ISCIS). ISCIS is under the custodianship of the Smart Systems for Health Agency (SSHA). ISCIS is already being used by TPH for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program, pursuant to Agreements entered into in 2003 between the City and SSHA.

The purpose of this report is to seek authorization from the City to execute any necessary documentation that SSHA requires in order to expand the scope of the original 2003 Agreement so that Toronto Public Health can implement ISCIS for Preschool Speech and Language Services and the Infant Hearing Program.

Board Recommendations

The Board of Health recommended to City Council that:

1. City Council authorize the Medical Officer of Health to execute on behalf of the City whatever additional contract documentation the Province's Smart System for Health Agency may require to permit the use of the internet version of the Province's "ISCIS" records facility by Toronto Public Health (TPH) for the data of:
 - a. its Preschool Speech/Linguistics and Infant Hearing Programs;
 - b. any other present or future Program run by TPH funded by the Ministry if the Ministry requires such use;

on the same terms with necessary modifications, as apply to use of that facility for other TPH program data under the existing 2003-dated agreements between the City and SSHA as may be amended and/or supplemented from time to time in accordance with Council authority, so long as there is continued compliance with all the data safeguards called for therein, and provided that the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Information Officer are satisfied as to content and the City Solicitor as to form.

Motions

Motion to Adopt Item moved by Councillor Raymond Cho (Carried)

Links to Background Information

ISCIS Implementation for Toronto Preschool Speech and Language and Infant Hearing Program - Staff Report
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-12027.pdf>

HL13.4	ACTION	Adopted		
--------	--------	---------	--	--

Service Agreements Awarded and Executed by the Medical Officer of Health for 2008

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

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the Medical Officer of Health to award, amend and execute, on an ongoing annual basis, the purchase of service contracts for the Blind-Low Vision Early Intervention Program (Appendix G), within the approved budget and in accordance with established provincial criteria and fee structures.
2. City Council authorize the Medical Officer of Health to award, amend and execute, on an ongoing annual basis, the purchase of service contracts for the Ambassador Partnership School Program (Appendix H), within the approved budget and in accordance with established provincial criteria and fee structures.

Financial Impact

This report has no financial impact beyond what has already been approved by Council in the 2008 Operating Budget for Toronto Public Health. Appendix A attached summarizes the service contracts by program for 2008.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the purchase of service contracts awarded and executed by the Medical Officer of Health for 2008, according to the delegation of authority by City Council. Additional delegated authority is also being sought for concluding service agreements in two new program areas.

Board Recommendations

The Board of Health recommended to City Council that:

1. City Council authorize the Medical Officer of Health to award, amend and execute, on an ongoing annual basis, the purchase of service contracts for the Blind-Low Vision

Early Intervention Program (Appendix G), within the approved budget and in accordance with established provincial criteria and fee structures.

2. City Council authorize the Medical Officer of Health to award, amend and execute, on an ongoing annual basis, the purchase of service contracts for the Ambassador Partnership School Program (Appendix H), within the approved budget and in accordance with established provincial criteria and fee structures.

Links to Background Information

Service Agreements Awarded and Executed by the Medical Officer of Health for 2008 - Staff Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-12032.pdf>)

(Deferred from February 26, 2008 - 2008.HL12.6)

HL13.5	Information	Amended		
--------	-------------	---------	--	--

Halton Region Report on Health Impacts from an Energy-from-Waste Facility

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

Summary

Ontario is facing a challenge in managing the amount of solid waste created, primarily due to limited existing landfill capacity. Some Ontario municipalities have chosen to explore energy-from-waste (EFW) as a disposal option. In June of 2007, Halton Region Council discussed a Business Case that considered EFW as a potential option for Halton. This report summarizes the information on the health and environmental impacts that was presented in the Business Case, along with comments from a peer review requested by the Halton Regional Health Department.

The Business Case is a preliminary step in exploring the potential for an EFW facility in Halton. It identifies the pollutants and health effects that might be of concern with an EFW facility that would need to be studied in more detail before such a facility is built. These include criteria air pollutants (such as nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter), dioxins and furans, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, mercury and other metals as well as cancer, respiratory effects and adverse reproductive outcomes.

Toronto Public Health agrees with both the authors of the Business Case and the peer reviewer that there are a number of potential health issues associated with both EFW facilities and landfill operations, and that a more detailed study of health and environmental impacts is necessary before considering the construction and operation of a specific facility. The Medical Officer of Health supports the use of health impact assessment, which Toronto's Solid Waste Management Services is planning to do as part of its Solid Waste Residuals Management Study.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health:

1. requested that a copy of the Health Impact Assessment by Solid Waste Management be placed on an upcoming agenda of the Board of Health for comment.
2. received, for information, the report (February 7, 2008) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Motions

Motion to Amend Item (Additional) moved by Councillor Paula Fletcher (Carried)

That a copy of the Health Impact Assessment by Solid Waste Management be placed on an upcoming agenda of the Board of Health for comment.

Motion to Receive Item moved by Councillor Paula Fletcher (Carried)

Links to Background Information

Halton Region Report on Health Impacts from an Energy-from-Waste Facility - Staff Report (<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-11835.pdf>)

HL13.6	ACTION	Adopted		
--------	--------	---------	--	--

Budget Adjustments to Toronto Public Health's 2008 Approved Operating Budget

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

Recommendations

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. The Budget Committee make the following adjustments to Toronto Public Health's 2008 Approved Operating Budget:
 - a. an increase of \$964.1 thousand gross and \$0.0 net, and an increase of 8.0 temporary positions, to reflect confirmed funding from various Provincial ministries and external sources (Attachment 1, Table 1); and
 - b. an increase of \$154.2 thousand gross and \$0.0 net to reflect unspent 2007 funds from various Provincial ministries and external sources required in 2008 (Attachment 1, Table 2).

Financial Impact

The table in the Financial Impact Section of the report summarizes the required budget adjustments to Toronto Public Health's 2008 Approved Operating Budget. Details are in Attachment 1 of this report.

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

Summary

The purpose of this report is to request budget adjustments to Toronto Public Health's (TPH) 2008 Approved Operating Budget due to the following:

- a. Confirmation of funding from various Provincial ministries and external sources received after the submission of the 2008 Operating Budget request in September 2007; and
- b. Unspent 2007 funds for 100% externally funded programs required in 2008.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health recommended to the Budget Committee that:

- 1. the following adjustments to Toronto Public Health's 2008 Approved Operating Budget be approved:
 - a. an increase of \$964.1 thousand gross and \$0.0 net, and an increase of 8.0 temporary positions, to reflect confirmed funding from various Provincial ministries and external sources (Attachment 1, Table 1); and
 - b. an increase of \$154.2 thousand gross and \$0.0 net to reflect unspent 2007 funds from various Provincial ministries and external sources required in 2008 (Attachment 1, Table 2).

Links to Background Information

Budget Adjustments to Toronto Public Health's 2008 Approved Operating Budget - Staff Report
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-12033.pdf>)

HL13.7	Information	Received		
--------	-------------	----------	--	--

Toronto Public Health Operating Budget Variance Report for the Twelve Months ended December 31, 2007

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

Summary

This report provides an update to the Board of Health on Toronto Public Health's (TPH) Operating Budget Variance for the twelve months of operation ending on December 31, 2007.

At year-end, TPH gross expenditures were below budget by \$10,486.0 thousand or 4.9 percent attributable to the underspending of \$8,202.4 thousand in Salaries and Benefits and \$2,283.6 thousand in non-payroll. Revenue was underachieved by \$7,781.3 thousand or 4.7 percent due to under-expenditures in mandatory cost-shared programs, underachievement of Interdepartmental Revenue in the Ontario Works Dental and Investing in Families programs, and lower than expected revenues from the Dog and Cat Licensing Strategy and Mandatory Food Handler Training.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health received, for information, the report (April 7, 2008) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Links to Background Information

Toronto Public Health Operating Budget Variance Report for the Twelve Months ended December 31, 2007 - Staff Report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-12034.pdf>

Toronto Public Health Operating Budget Variance Report for the Twelve Months ended December 31, 2007 - Attachment 1

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-12035.pdf>

HL13.8	Information	Received		
--------	-------------	----------	--	--

Update on City Council Approved Toronto Public Health 2008 Operating Budget

(April 2, 2008) Report from Medical Officer of Health

Summary

This report provides the Board of Health (BOH) with an update on the Toronto Public Health (TPH) 2008 Operating Budget approved at the City Council meeting of March 31, 2008.

City Council approved a TPH 2008 Operating Budget of \$219,296.4 thousand gross / \$50,570.9 thousand net, including a base budget of \$219,095.0 thousand gross / \$51,150.9 thousand net and an adjustment of \$201.4 thousand gross / -\$580.0 thousand net relating to base budget changes and service enhancement. This budget represents an increase of \$4,577.0 thousand or 2.1 percent in gross / \$181.3 thousand or 0.4 percent in net expenditures from the 2007 Operating Budget.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health received, for information, the report (April 2, 2008) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Motions

Motion to Receive Item moved by Councillor Janet Davis (Carried)

Links to Background Information

Update on City Council Approved Toronto Public Health 2008 Operating Budget - Staff Report (<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-12036.pdf>)

HL13.9	Information	Received		
--------	-------------	----------	--	--

Toronto Public Health Capital Budget Variance Report for the Twelve Months ended December 31, 2007

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

Summary

This report provides an update to the Board of Health on the Toronto Public Health (TPH) Capital Budget variance for the twelve-month period ended December 31, 2007 (Appendix 1).

Toronto Public Health spent \$3.013 million or 61.7 percent of the 2007 approved cash flow of \$4.879 million as of December 31, 2007. Of the year-end under expenditure of \$1.867 million, \$1.845 million will be carried forward to 2008, resulting in savings of \$0.022 million.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health received, for information, the report (April 7, 2008) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Links to Background Information

Toronto Public Health Capital Budget Variance Report for the Twelve Months ended December 31, 2007 - Staff Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-12037.pdf>)

Toronto Public Health Capital Budget Variance Report for the Twelve Months ended December 31, 2007 - Appendix 1

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-12038.pdf>)

HL13.10	Information	Received		
---------	-------------	----------	--	--

Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Update

Summary

Verbal update by the Medical Officer of Health

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health received, for information, the verbal update on pandemic influenza.

HL13.11	Information	Received		
---------	-------------	----------	--	--

Local Health Committee Minutes

Summary

- Minutes of the Etobicoke/York Local Health Committee meeting held on November 29, 2007
- Minutes of the Scarborough Local Health Committee meeting held on January 15, 2008
- Minutes of the Toronto/East York Local Health Committee meeting held on January 15, 2008
- Minutes of the North York Local Health Committee meeting held on January 15, 2008

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Board of Health received, for information, the Minutes of the following Local Health Committee meetings:

Etobicoke/York Local Health Committee meeting held on November 29, 2007.

Scarborough Local Health Committee meeting held on January 15, 2008.

Toronto/East York Local Health Committee meeting held on January 15, 2008.

North York Local Health Committee meeting held on January 15, 2008.

Motions

Motion to Receive Item moved by Valerie Sterling (Carried)

Links to Background Information

Minutes of the Etobicoke/York Local Public Health Committee
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-12039.pdf>)
Minutes of the Scarborough Local Health Committee
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-12105.pdf>)

Minutes of the Toronto/East York Local Health Committee

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-12040.pdf>

Minutes of the North York Local Health Committee

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-12041.pdf>

Meeting Sessions

Session Date	Session Type	Start Time	End Time	Public or Closed Session
2008-04-21	Afternoon	1:05 PM	2:15 PM	Public