

# **North York Local Health Committee**

**Wednesday May 13, 2009**

6:00 to 8:00 pm

North York Civic Centre

Committee Room 4

## **Approved Minutes**

**Present:** Valerie Sterling (Chair), Jane MacDonald (Recorder), Lidia Monaco, Anne McConnell, Janet Maher, Sandra Romano Anthony, Anna Walsh, Sue Makin

**Regrets:** Marvin Gold, Earle Straus, Bill Coleman, Margaret Cheung, Sara Farrell, Eleanor Ziv

**Absent:** Christian Havriliuc

### **1.0 Welcome**

### **2.0 Approval of Agenda**

- Approved by Lidia, seconded by Anna

### **3.0 Review of April 21, 2009 Minutes**

- Agenda item related to high protein diets – deferred to June meeting as Toronto Public Health nutritionist unable to attend this meeting
- Agenda item related to Diabetes strategy – deferred to June meeting as Toronto Public Health strategy manager unable to attend this meeting
- Add to agenda:
  - Bed bugs
  - Nutrition – fortification of diets
  - Hand washing awareness
  - Regulated Health Professionals Act

### **4.0 Business Arising**

#### **4.1 Poverty and Health Provincial Budget**

- Association of Local Public Health Agencies has received a response from the Premier's Office
- they are reviewing how they can have a greater impact and have consulted with Leonard Domino and Associates Inc. for advice – they recommended that they focus on specifics of program benefits rather than funding issues

#### **4.2 Strategic Planning Process Review**

- Sue and Valerie reported that Toronto Public Health are embarking on a process to update their Strategic Plan

- Consultation and input from the Local Health Committees will be an important component of stakeholder and community engagement
- Discussion session with Local Health Committees is currently scheduled for September

#### **4.3 Gyms and Personal Trainer Qualifications**

- Jane identified concerns regarding the lack of standardized regarding qualifications for personal trainers
- Anne suggested that we explore this issue further through contact with the Consumer's Council of Canada

#### **ACTION:**

- Anne to contact Consumer's Council of Canada to explore the issue further and report back at next meeting

### **5.0 New Business**

#### **5.1 High Protein Diets**

- Deferred to June meeting

#### **5.2 Student Nutrition Program**

- Valerie stated that there was a report going to the Board in May regarding funding for the Student Nutrition Program. The Committee identified that they would like more information about this, in particular:
  - school's requirements for fundraising
  - the difference between designated and non-designated programs
  - funding formula for school in high risk communities
- Deferred to June meeting

#### **5.3 Food Certificates**

- This item was deferred from the April meeting and related to questions that members had about the May Board of Health report on the purchase of Loblaws Food Certificates
- Sue provided information about Public Health distribution of food certificates through a number of TPH programs (e.g. Healthy Babies Healthy Children, Healthiest Babies Possible, Peer Nutrition Program, Tuberculosis program, and several Chronic Disease Prevention programs)
- City purchases food certificates from the three largest grocery chains so that clients and families can use at their local store
- Discussed potential of having certificates from smaller local stores that would support families to purchase culturally appropriate foods – TPH is exploring this, but these small stores generally don't have a gift certificate program
- Each program has specific criteria related to clients/families who are eligible to receive food certificates (although no formal means testing is done)

#### **5.4 Diabetes Strategy**

- Deferred to June meeting

- 5.5 Public Health Champions Award**
- Members were reminded to think about potential nominations for this year's Public Health Champion Awards
- ACTION:**
- Eleanor will distribute information to members regarding the awards criteria and the nomination process
  - Members should share suggested names (with a brief description) with each other via e-mail prior to next meeting
- 5.6 Bed Bugs**
- Jane reported back on the Bed Bugs Information session that she attended
  - She distributed the resources that she received
  - Resources on Bed Bugs are also available on the TPH web site
- 5.7 Hand Washing Awareness**
- Anne advised the Committee that Canadian Institute for Child Health launched their hand washing awareness campaign for children today
  - Material was circulated
- 5.8 Health Professionals Regulation Act**
- Anna expressed concern that amendments to this act will give more authority to less trained professionals and inquired if Toronto Public Health was responding to the proposed amendments
  - Sue advised that she was not aware of any action in this area
- ACTION**
- Sue to explore with Planning and Policy, professional practice leaders about this
- 5.9 Nutrition – Unregulated Dietary Supplements**
- Sandra identified concerns re the lack of regulation related to manufacturer's claims of dietary supplements.
- ACTION**
- Sue will ask TPH nutritionist attending June meeting to also speak on this issue
- 6.0 Board of Health Update**
- Valerie provided a brief overview of the reports that will be going to the May Board of Health meeting
  - Valerie advised the Committee that delay in getting North York LHC minutes to the Board has been corrected and past minutes have been sent
  - Valerie will provide a verbal report to the Board on our Poverty Roundtable, our letter to the Premier, and his response
- 7.0 June 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting Agenda Planning**
- Valerie has followed up with potential new member of the LHC (to replace Elliot Delaunay) and will invite her to the June meeting

- Agenda items for the June meeting include:
  - Nutrition
    - School Food Program
    - High Protein Diets
    - Fortification of Foods
  - Diabetes Strategy – September meeting
  - Middle Childhood
  - TPH Public Health Champion Awards

**8.0 Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 p.m.**