

North York Local Health Committee

**Wednesday May 26th, 2010
NYCC, Cmte. Rm. 4, lower level
5100 Yonge Street
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

APPROVED MINUTES

Present: Valerie Sterling (Chair), Bill Coleman, Earle Straus, Janet Maher, Anne McConnell, Jane McDonald, Sue Makin, Sara Farrell, Eleanor Ziv (recorder)

Regrets: Sandra Romano Anthony, Marvin Gold, Lidia Monaco, Anna Walsh

Absent: Michelle Grader, Margaret Cheung

1.0 Welcome

2.0 Approval of Agenda of May 26, 2010

Additions to Agenda

7.4 Electro Magnetic Fields along the Finch Corridor

7.5 Strategic Planning Report

7.6 Email re working with other Local Health Committees on Food Related Issues

Agenda was approved with additions by Janet Maher and seconded by Bill Coleman

3.0 Review and Approval of Minutes of April 28th 2010

Minutes were approved by Janet Maher and seconded by Jane MacDonald

4.0 Business Arising from Minutes:

4.1 Full-Day Learning Update and Letter: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/earlylearning/>

Members reviewed the letter to Premier McGuinty for final edits and mail out.

Letter to be cc'd to the following people:

- Minister of Education – Hon. Leona Dombrowsky
- Minister of Children & Youth Services – Hon. Laurel Broten
- Chair of Board of Health – Councillor John Filion
- City Clerk – Ulli S. Watkiss
- Medical Officer of Health – Dr. David McKeown

Letter will also be attached to the North York Local Health Committee minutes of May 26th.

5.0 NLHC Priorities and Meetings in Fall 2010

The last BOH meeting before the elections is Sept. 13th. NLHC meetings will be held in September and October.

Members discussed the list of priorities developed at an earlier LHC meeting and the decision is to concentrate on poverty related items.

ACTION: Members to circulate, update and obtain information on government Poverty Reduction Strategy for September 23rd meeting.

BOH Date	NLHC Mtg. Date	Location
June 1 + June 28	June 23	Cmte Room 4
Sept 13	Sept 8	Cmte Room 4
No Meeting	Oct 6	PH 2 nd fl. b'room
Nov 22	Nov 16	Cmte Room 4

6.0 Board of Health Update – Valerie

Toronto Food Strategy “Cultivating Food Connections” Report is going to the BOH next week. It incorporates information obtained from the consultations. The key theme is the lack of access to quality food stores, specific needs of newcomers, concern for lack of basic food skills and the unhealthy diet of children and youth. Also covers purchasing food from local farmers and making food connections towards healthier eating.

A recommendation states that the MOH report to the BOH and City Council in 2011 on the proposed next steps and a recommended governance model.

There are six priority areas for action in this report:

- Support food friendly neighbourhoods
- Make food a centerpiece of Toronto’s new green economy
- Eliminate hunger in Toronto
- Connect city and countryside through food
- Empower residents with food skills and information
- Urge federal and provincial governments to establish health-focused food policies

The members generally supported this report.

This report will be forwarded to the June 14th Executive Committee.

ACTION: Eleanor to send the link to this report to members of the NLHC.

Other BOH Agenda Items:

- **Pandemic Flu Report** - several recommendations – report summary was distributed.
- **Influenza Immunization Rates of Healthcare Workers in Toronto Healthcare Facilities**
- **Audit recommendations**
- **Software purchases** – entering into purchase contracts
 - **Special diet allowance** – requesting that the BOH support the reinstatement of the Special Diet Allowance.
 - **Phasing out of coal fired Electricity** – requesting support of a resolution asking the Ontario Government to direct Ontario Power Generation to put its coal plants on standby reserve immediately.

7.0 Other Business:

- 7.1 **Health and Physical Education Curriculum Statement of Support:** Valerie
(see attached letter)

7.2 Public Health Champion Awards

Sara brought copies of the 2010 Public Health Champion Award nomination forms for distribution to members to take back to their communities/organizations for nominations.

Bill Coleman will be the NLHC representative on the 2010 Award Selection Committee.

ACTION: Eleanor to mail out copies of the nomination forms to members who were not at the meeting.

7.3 25 in 5 and Poverty Reduction

Janet sent out the link.

7.4 Electro Magnet Fields along the Finch Corridor

Earle inquired about possible TPH involvement in EMF exposure related to multi-use trail being proposed for the Finch Hydro Corridor from Dufferin to Yonge.

ACTION: Earle to send up-to-date information. Sue will request information from EPO staff regarding TPH involvement.

7.5 Strategic Planning Report

The report on Strategic Planning will go to the BOH on June 1 and for final approval at the June 28th BOH meeting.

Valerie will have information for discussion at our June 23rd meeting.

7.6 Working with the other Local Health Committees on Food Issues

Valerie received an email from Maria Herrera, Manager Urban Issues, with a request from the Etobicoke Local Health Committee. They would like to work together with the other Local Health Committees and Barbara Emanuel, Senior Policy & Strategic Issues Advisor for Public Health and Peter Dorfman, Manager Health Promotion, on food related issues,

Discussion ensued on the feasibility of working in such a large group. A clarification is needed on the meaning of 'food issues'. If this larger group meets, it was suggested that the North York Local Health Committee send representatives who wish to participate on our behalf.

ACTION: Valerie to clarify meaning of 'food issues' and report back at our next meeting.

8.0 Next Meeting: Wednesday June 23rd, 2010

NYCC, lower level, Cmte Room 4

9.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7.55 p.m.