



REPORT FOR ACTION

Service Agreement for the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program

Date: January 3, 2021

To: Board of Health

From: Medical Officer of Health

Wards: All

SUMMARY

On November 20, 2019, the Government of Ontario launched the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program, a 100 percent Ministry of Health funded program for low-income seniors in Ontario. Through this program, Toronto Public Health provides dental treatment to eligible seniors at clinics located in Toronto Public Health sites, Community Health Centres (CHC) and Aboriginal Health Access Centres (AHAC).

The purpose of this report is to request approval for the Medical Officer of Health to award, execute and amend, on an ongoing basis, a purchase of service contract with Rexdale CHC and the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) to further support the service delivery and access to care for the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the Medical Officer of Health to award, execute, and amend, on an ongoing basis, a purchase of service contract for the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program with Rexdale Community Health Centre and the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, in a form approved by the City Solicitor.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This report has no financial impact beyond what has already been included in the 2021 Operating Budget Submission for Toronto Public Health.

The Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program is fully funded by the Provincial Government with no net impact to the City tax base.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has been provided with the financial implications associated with this report.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meetings of July 28 and 29, 2020 City Council authorized the Medical Officer of Health to award, execute, and amend, on an ongoing annual basis, the purchase of service contracts for the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2020.HL18.3>

At its meeting of September 30, October 1 and 2, 2020, City Council authorize the Medical Officer of Health to enter into Capital Funding Agreements for the receipt and expenditure of funding on such terms and conditions that are satisfactory to the Medical Officer of Health and in a form approved by the City Solicitor.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2020.HL20.5>

COMMENTS

On November 20, 2019 the Government of Ontario launched the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program (OSDCP), a 100 percent Ministry of Health (Ministry) funded dental program for low income Ontario seniors. Toronto Public Health (TPH) has since provided dental treatment to OSDCP eligible seniors through clinics located within Public Health Units (PHUs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and Aboriginal Health Access Centres (AHACs).

Toronto Public Health currently has service contracts with partner agencies that support service delivery in the community for the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program. Purchasing services from community agencies is an effective and efficient way to provide essential public health services. This approach builds on existing service infrastructure in the community, facilitates community partnerships, supports continuity of service to clients, and maximizes service efficiencies.

Under the Ministry's Public Health Funding and Accountability Agreement, TPH may enter into contractual partnerships with organizations to provide eligible OSDCP seniors with specialty dental services that are part of the OSDCP service schedule, but unavailable through PHUs, CHCs and AHACs. Toronto Public Health seeks to enter into contractual partnerships with Rexdale Community Health Centre and the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) to support the operational demands of each organization in delivering the OSDCP. The contract value with each organization will be up to \$250,000.

CONTACT

Dr. Melvin Hsu, Director, Dental and Oral Health Services, Toronto Public Health,
416-338-7834, Melvin.Hsu@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Dr. Eileen de Villa
Medical Officer of Health