
**BOARD OF HEALTH
AGENDA
MEETING No. 10**

Date of Meeting:	Monday, November 26, 2001	Enquiry:	Yvonne Davies
Time:	1:00 p.m.		Secretary
Location:	Committee Room No. 1 100 Queen Street West Toronto City Hall		416-395-7343 ydavies@city. toronto.on.ca

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST PURSUANT TO
THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT.**

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – October 29, 2001.
[Sent to Members by electronic mail]**

1. THE COST OF THE NUTRITIOUS FOOD BASKET IN TORONTO.

Medical Officer of Health
(November 13, 2001)

Providing information to the Board of Health on the Cost of the Nutritious Food Basket in Toronto for 2001; advising that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; and **recommending** that:

- (1) the Board of Health refer this report to the Community Services Committee through the Food and Hunger Action Committee for information and appropriate action;
- (2) Toronto Public Health provide information on the Cost of the Nutritious Food Basket to community-based agencies in Toronto that provide food related programs and services in low income communities;
- (3) the Board of Health refer this report to the Ontario Public Health Association and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies for information and appropriate action; and

- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

2. HEART HEALTH.

Dr. Rosana Pellizzari
(November 6, 2001)

Inviting Dr. Dennis Raphael, School of Health Policy and Management, York University, author of “Inequality Is Bad for Our Hearts – Why Low Income and Social Exclusion are Major Causes of Heart Disease in Canada” to address the Board of Health.

[REPORT DISTRIBUTED TO MEMBERS ONLY and can be downloaded from <http://www.yorku.ca/wellness/heart.pdf>]

**3. RESPONSE TO A TUBERCULOSIS (TB) OUTBREAK:
A CASE STUDY.**

Medical Officer of Health

Report not yet available.

**4. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR THE PREVENTION
AND CONTROL OF THE WEST NILE VIRUS (WNV).**

Medical Officer of Health, Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism and Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services, addressed to the Board of Health, Economic Development and Parks Committee and the Works Committee
(October 31, 2001)

Seeking approval for implementation of the Contingency Plan for the Prevention and Control of the West Nile Virus; advising of the gross budget enhancements required to implement Option (b) of the Contingency Plan for the Prevention and Control of the West Nile Virus for 2002; and **recommending** that:

- (1) subject to the receipt of full provincial funding, City Council endorse, in principle, the implementation of the Contingency Plan for the Prevention and Control of the West Nile Virus as outlined in Option (a);
- (2) City Council request the Premier of Ontario, the Provincial Minister of Health and Long-term Care, and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to fully fund the implementation of the Contingency Plan for the Prevention and Control of the West Nile Virus as outlined in Option (a) for a total estimated cost of \$1,634,000 in 2002;

- (3) in the event that full provincial funding is not approved, City Council endorse, in principle, Option (b);
- (4) City Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to approve contingency expenditures for mosquito control, on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health;
- (5) the Board of Health, Economic Development and Parks Committee, and Works Committee refer this report to the Budget Advisory Committee for consideration in the 2002 Operating Budget process; and
- (6) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

5. WORLD YOUTH CONFERENCE AND PAPAL VISIT IN 2002.

Medical Officer of Health

(November 12, 2001)

Providing information to the Board of Health on the impacts of the World Youth Day (WYD) 2002 Conference and Papal visit and including recommendations to facilitate the successful implementation of the event; advising of financial implications; and **recommending** that:

- (1) the Board of Health endorse the Toronto Public Health World Youth Day 2002 budget request;
- (2) this report be forwarded to the Budget Advisory Committee for consideration during the 2002 operating budget process; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

6. 2002 PUBLIC HEALTH OPERATING BUDGET SUBMISSION.

Medical Officer of Health

Report not yet available.

7. **CONDITION CRITICAL: FIXING OUR SMOG WARNING SYSTEM – SUMMARY REPORT.**

Medical Officer of Health
(October 15, 2001)

Providing a brief summary of the report entitled “Condition Critical: Fixing Our Smog Warning System” and seeking Board approval of the recommendations based on that report; advising that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; and **recommending** that the Board of Health:

- (1) request that the Ontario Minister of the Environment improve the Air Quality Index (AQI) and smog advisory notification system as set out in the report *Condition Critical: Fixing our Smog Warning System* by:
 - (a) restructuring the AQI system to make it a more accurate indicator of health concerns by:
 - (i) adding fine particulates (PM₁₀ and/or PM_{2.5}) to the mix of pollutants used to calculate the AQI;
 - (ii) updating the Ambient Air Quality Criteria (AAQC) for nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and sulphur dioxide to reflect current research on the human health effects associated with these air pollutants; and
 - (iii) developing a new formula to calculate AQI values that takes into account the total pollutant contributions for each given hour;
 - (b) restructuring the AQI messaging system by:
 - (i) emphasizing that the AQI is a continuous scale in which health risk increases as the AQI number increases;
 - (ii) re-naming “Air Quality Advisories” as “Smog Alerts” to increase public understanding that serious air pollution episodes are occurring;
 - (iii) discontinuing the practice of describing air quality as “good” or “very good” when the AQI is less than 32;
 - (iv) replacing the current AQI classifications (very good, good, moderate, poor and very poor) with more appropriate classifications (background, low, medium, high and smog alert) by May 2002;
 - (v) continuing to forecast and trigger “air quality advisories” or “smog alerts” when some predetermined AQI value (such as a regulatory standard) is exceeded; and

- (vi) developing a special messaging system that alerts sensitive populations (such as the elderly, children and those with respiratory and cardiac problems) to AQI values that pose increased health risks; and
- (c) accelerating the implementation of province-wide continuous monitoring of fine particulates (PM₁₀ and/or PM_{2.5});
- (2) request that the Government of Ontario ensure that sufficient resources are made available to the Ministry of the Environment to implement continuous monitoring of fine particulates across the province, and to improve the Air Quality Index (AQI) as outlined in recommendation 1;
- (3) request that the federal and provincial Ministers of Health provide the federal and provincial Ministers of the Environment with updated information on the adverse health effects anticipated at different Air Quality Index (AQI) values based on current national and international health studies;
- (4) request that the federal Minister of the Environment ensure that the proposed new national Air Quality Index (AQI) for Canada includes fine particulates and encompasses a health effects warning system that accurately conveys the health risk associated with AQI values for both the general population and more sensitive sub-populations;
- (5) convey to the federal and provincial Ministers of the Environment that the Toronto Medical Officer of Health has offered to assist in the review of improved health messaging associated with the Air Quality Index (AQI);
- (6) forward this report to the GTA Clean Air Council, all health units in Ontario, the Ontario Public Health Association, the Canadian Public Health Association; the Canadian, Ontario and New Brunswick Lung Associations; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for their information and action as appropriate; and
- (7) request that the appropriate city officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

8. SUBMISSION TO THE COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE IN CANADA.

Medical Officer of Health

Report not yet available.

9. EARLY YEARS CHALLENGE FUND AND COMMUNITY COORDINATOR INITIATIVE.

Medical Officer of Health
(November 1, 2001)

Reporting back to the Board of Health on the status of the planning process related to the Early Years Challenge Fund and Community Coordinator initiative; advising that there are no direct financial implications for the City as this initiative is 100 percent funded through the Ministry of Community and Social Services; and further, that Provincial funding for this initiative is currently committed until March 31, 2002; and **recommending** that this report be received for information.

10. COPYRIGHT AND TRADEMARK ISSUES RELATED TO THE “KIDS HAVE STRESS TOO!” CAMPAIGN.

Medical Officer of Health
(November 12, 2001)

Requesting the City of Toronto to assign whatever copyright and trademark interests it may have on the Kids Have Stress Too! Program to the Psychology Foundation; advising that the Psychology Foundation will grant the City a royalty free license to use and distribute the program materials; that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; and **recommending** that the Medical Officer of Health be authorized to:

- (a) assign whatever copyright the City may have in the Kids Have Stress Too! education materials to the Psychology Foundation; and
- (b) assign whatever right, title and interest the City may have in the Kids Have Stress Too! trademark to the Psychology Foundation;

subject to the Psychology Foundation granting the City a royalty free licence to use and distribute the Kids Have Stress Too! education materials.

11. APPOINTMENTS TO THE SIX LOCAL HEALTH COMMITTEES.

Dr. Rosana Pellizzari, Chair, Nominating Subcommittee
(November 13, 2001)

Recommending that:

- (1) the citizens listed in Appendix A, forwarded to members of the Board of Health under confidential cover, be appointed to the six Local Health Committees for a term of office to expire on December 31, 2003 and until their successors are appointed; and further, that, in accordance with the Municipal Act, discussion pertaining to the individuals named therein be held in-camera, having regard that the subject matter relates to personal matters about identifiable individuals; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

IN-CAMERA

Appendix A referred to above was forwarded to Members of the Board only under confidential cover. In accordance with the Municipal Act, discussions pertaining to the individuals named therein must be held in-camera, because the subject matter relates to personal matters about identifiable individuals.