

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Office

Minutes of Board of Health

Meeting No. 2

March 3, 2003

The Board of Health met on Monday, March 3, 2003 in Committee Room No. 1, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 1:10 p.m.

Members Present:

Councillor Joe Mihevc, Chair	x
Councillor Augimeri	x
Councillor John Filion	x
Councillor Norman Kelly	x
Councillor Jane Pitfield, Vice Chair	
Councillor David Soknacki	
Ms. Helen Chan	x
Mr. Brian Hyndman	x
Mr. Brian MacKay	x
Dr. Rosana Pellizzari	
Ms. Nancy Peters	
Trustee Mark Stefanini	x
Mr. Lee Zaslofsky	x

Councillor Mihevc in the Chair.

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Mr. Hyndman, the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Health held on January 27, 2003 were confirmed.

Staff Recognition

The Board of Health recognized the following Public Health staff:

- (a) Alice Gorman, Community Health Officer. Alice Gorman received the Oolagan Community Services Award for her commitment and support to the community resource team. Most notable is her work in supporting the delivery of "Wrap Around Services" in supporting individuals and families with complex needs. This approach is especially relevant to the collaborative work with Young Parents

with No Fixed Address committee in developing responses for homeless youth and their children; and

- (b) Brian Parris, Community Health Officer. Brian Parris was presented with an award by the Community Advisory Panel at the Fall Wellesley Central Health Corporation Annual General Meeting for his outstanding involvement with the Wellesley Health Bus and the Health Bus Transfer Committee. Brian was presented with this custom-made Wellesley Hospital brick to honour the significant contributions he has made to the work of this community.

2.1 Toronto's Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) By-law – Designated Smoking Rooms

The Board of Health had before it a report (February 17, 2003) from the Medical Officer of Health, reporting back, as requested, on options to phase-out or otherwise amend the exemption to allow Designated Smoking Rooms (DSRs) in Toronto's ETS By-law; advising that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; and recommending that the Board of Health receive this report for information.

The Board of Health also had before it the following communications:

- (i) (February 18, 2003) from the Chair, Toronto Cancer Prevention Coalition; and
- (ii) (February 28, 2003) from Terry Mundell, President and Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Restaurant Hotel and Motel Association.

Councillor Mihevc appointed Councillor Filion Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

On motion by Mihevc, the Board of Health:

- (A) adopted the following Resolution by Councillor Mihevc:

WHEREAS the World Health Organization has concluded that Environmental Tobacco Smoke causes a wide variety of adverse health effects in children, including pneumonia and bronchitis, coughing and wheezing, worsening of asthma, middle ear disease, and may contribute to cardiovascular disease in adulthood; and

WHEREAS the City's smoking by-law prohibits patrons under the age of 19 from entering bars; and

WHEREAS the smoking by-law permits the use of Designated Smoking Rooms in restaurants, bowling centres, billiard halls, casinos, the racetrack, bars, bingo halls and workplaces and currently permits the admittance of patrons under 19 to these rooms; and

WHEREAS an increasing number of jurisdictions across North America and particularly Ontario are passing by-laws that either prohibit or phase out Designated Smoking Rooms;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health direct appropriate City officials to take the necessary action to amend the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 709 – Smoking by deleting the exemption for Designated Smoking Rooms in workplaces and public places effective June 1, 2005 and by prohibiting any patron under the age of 19 from entering a Designated Smoking Room effective immediately; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this matter be referred to the April 7, 2003 Board of Health for public deputation; and

Councillor Mihevc resumed the Chair.

On Motion by Councillor Filion:

- (B) requested the Medical Officer of Health, in consultation with the City Solicitor to report to the April 7, 2003 meeting of the Board of Health, on the following:
 - (i) as an alternative to Councillor Mihevc's proposal, that Designated Smoking Rooms be permitted to be constructed up to June 1, 2004, but from that date no new applications for Designated Smoking Rooms be

approved. However, those Designated Smoking Rooms existing as of June 1, 2004 be grandparented; and

- (ii) the feasibility of permits for Designated Smoking Rooms being revoked by the City if the owner of such DSR does not comply with the permit conditions.

(Medical Officer of Health; City Solicitor; c. Jane Speakman, Legal Services; Chair, Toronto Cancer Prevention Coalition; Ontario Restaurant Hotel and Motel Association – March 4, 2003)

2.2 The Cost of the Nutritious Food Basket

The Board of Health had before it a report (February 10, 2003) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing information on the Cost of the Nutritious Food Basket in Toronto for 2002; 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 Nutritious Food Basket to community-based agencies in Toronto that provide food/nutrition programs and services in low income communities; and
- (3) the appropriate city officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Judith Jordan-Austin, Co-Chair, Health Committee, Toronto Seniors Assembly, appeared before the Board of Health in connection with the foregoing matter.

On motion by Mr. MacKay the Board of Health unanimously adopted the foregoing report.

(Food and Hunger Action Committee; c. Medical Officer of Health; Administrator, Community Services Committee; Jane Speakman, Legal Services; Interested Persons – March 4, 2003)

2.3 Public Health Consultation on Genetically Engineered Foods

The Board of Health had before it a report (February 17, 2003) from the Medical Officer of Health, reporting on the Public Health stakeholder consultation on Genetically Engineered Foods; advising that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; and recommending that:

- (1) the Board of Health endorse the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) position paper on food biotechnology titled “Protecting our Food Supply: Public Health Implications of Food Biotechnology” (Appendix 2);
- (2) the Board of Health communicate its support for the OPHA recommendations (Appendix 1) to the Federal Minister of Health; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Councillor Kelly moved that the foregoing report be received, which **failed**.

On motion by Mr. Hyndman, the Board of Health adopted the foregoing report, as amended, by adding the following recommendation:

“The Board of Health calls upon the Federal Government to resume public hearings on the labeling of genetically modified foods”.

(Minister of Health; c. Bureau of Food Policy Integration Health Canada; Canadian Food Inspection Agency; Minister Coordinating Rural Affairs; Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food; Minister, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Canadian Biotechnology Advisory Committee; Expert Panel on the Future of Food Biotechnology; Jane Speakman, Legal Services; Medical Officer of Health – March 4, 2003)

2.4 Food Irradiation

The Board of Health had before it a report (February 17, 2003) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing information to the Board of Health on food irradiation; advising that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; and recommending that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Filion, the Board of Health received the foregoing report.

2.5 Toronto Public Health's Response to the Ontario Council on Community Health Accreditation (OCCHA) Draft 2002 Accreditation Principles, Standards, Components and Definitions

The Board of Health had before it a report (February 17, 2003) from the Medical Officer of Health, informing the Board of Health about Toronto Public Health's response to the Ontario Council on Community Health Accreditation (OCCHA) Draft 2002 Accreditation Principles, Standards, Components and Definitions; advising that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; further advising that preparation for accreditation will have financial implications that will be brought forward in a future budget; and recommending that:

- (1) a copy of this report be sent to the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA) for their information; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Filion, the Board of Health adopted the foregoing report.

(Association of Local Public Health Agencies; c. Medical Officer of Health; Jane Speakman, Legal Services – March 4, 2003)

2.6 The Toronto Charter for a Healthy Canada

The Board of Health had before it a communication (February 12, 2003) from Brian Hyndman, Member, Board of Health, requesting that the Board of Health endorse the Toronto Charter for a Healthy Canada; and recommending that the Federal and Provincial governments be requested to implement its recommendations.

On motion by Mr. Hyndman, the Board of Health endorsed the Toronto Charter for a Healthy Canada and forwarded the matter to the Community Services Committee and Council.

(Community Services Committee; c. Medical Officer of Health; Jane Speakman, Legal Services – March 4, 2003)

2.7 Local Health Committee Minutes

The Board of Health had before it minutes of the following meetings:

- (a) Toronto East York Local Health Committee meeting held on November 5, 2002;
and
- (b) Minutes of the Etobicoke Local Health Committee meeting held on December 5, 2002.

On motion by Councillor Filion, the Board of Health received the foregoing minutes.

2.8 Toronto Public Health Budget – 2003

The Medical Officer of Health gave a brief verbal update report with respect to the Toronto Public Health Budget –2003.

On motion by Councillor Filion, the Board of Health received the foregoing verbal update.

The Board of Health recessed at 1:25 p.m.
The Board of Health resumed at 3:00 p.m.

The Board of Health adjourned at 3:45 p.m.