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**City Council**

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**Notice of Motion**

MM10.9	ACTION			Ward: All
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**Budget Adjustments to the Public Health 2011 Approved Operating Budget (EX7.18) Removal of the Matter from Executive Committee - by Councillor John Filion, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll**

*\* Notice of this Motion has been given.*

*\* The Executive Committee currently has jurisdiction for this subject matter. A two thirds vote is required to remove Item EX7.18 from the Committee's jurisdiction.*

**Recommendations**

Councillor John Filion, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll, recommends that:

1. City Council adjust the Toronto Public Health 2011 Approved Operating Budget as follows:
  - a. An increase of \$170.0 thousand gross and \$0.0 net and an increase of two permanent Public Health Nurse (PHN) positions to reflect the new ongoing Provincial 100% base funding from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care; and
  - b. That the annual expenditures by Toronto Public Health for the two new nursing positions not exceed the available Provincial funding for these nurses in any given year.

**Summary**

The Executive Committee at its meeting of June 20, 2011 passed a motion to defer indefinitely Item EX7.18, Budget Adjustments to the Toronto Public Health 2011 Approved Operating Budget. (Item BU12.17).

The indefinite deferral by Executive Committee of Item EX7.18 on June 20<sup>th</sup> results in the Board of Health for the City of Toronto not being able to secure 100% ongoing base funding from the Province of Ontario for two Public Health Nurses. The budget adjustment for Toronto Public Health for this year would be \$170,000 gross, \$0 net.

These positions would be used in low-income, high-need areas of the City with large numbers of new immigrants and residents with elevated rates of many chronic diseases. These populations would benefit from additional information about local health promotion and disease prevention services. In particular the positions would focus on increased prevention

initiatives related to heart disease, stroke and diabetes, and on increasing immunization rates among newcomers to the City and their children.

Facts related to this issue:

1. The 100% funding covers all salaries and benefits for two new nursing positions.
2. The 100% funding is ongoing.
3. If, for any unforeseen reason, the funding was eliminated, the positions would be eliminated also.
4. If, for any unforeseen reason, the funding was reduced or frozen, Toronto Public Health expenditures for the two positions would be similarly reduced or frozen.
5. The 100% funding is available for new permanent positions only. Temporary staff would not be eligible for the Provincial funding.
6. The two permanent nursing positions have been offered to all 36 boards of health in Ontario. To date, no other municipality has refused to accept the two nurses, and none are expected to do so.
7. Toronto residents contribute a large percent of the revenue received by the provincial government. If Council does not overturn the Executive Committee decision, tax revenue from Toronto will be used to help fund additional nurses everywhere else in Ontario except in Toronto.
8. In 2010, City Council accepted \$44.4 million in 100% provincially-funded staff and programs. These programs provide dental treatment for children whose families can't afford it (Healthy Smiles), health promotion programs for new mothers (Healthy Babies, Healthy Children), Pre-School Speech and Language programs, and other important health services. These have, in the past, been routinely approved by the Board of Health, Budget Committee, Executive Committee and Council.
9. In September, Executive Committee and Council will consider a provincial offer of \$255,060 for three ongoing, full-time, 100%-funded nurses to assist with bed bug control and eradication efforts. This funding is in addition to \$1.2 million provided by the Province to help prevent and combat bed bug infestations. If this money is refused, the bed bug work would either not be provided through Toronto Public Health or would require the expenditure of municipal funds as a 75%-25% cost-shared program.
10. Not accepting 100% provincial funding for Toronto Public Health programs will either deprive Toronto residents of millions of dollars in necessary programs and services or will cost the City millions of dollars to pay the full cost itself.

## **Decision History**

Executive Committee June 2011

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2011.EX7.18>.

Letter from Budget Committee June 7 2011

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2011/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-38952.pdf>.

Medical Officer Report to the Board of Health April 27 2011

Budget Adjustments to the Toronto Public Health 2011 Approved Operating Budget

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2011/bu/bgrd/backgroundfile-38311.pdf>.

(Submitted to City Council on July 12 and 13, 2011 as MM10.9)