Budget Adjustment to the Toronto Public Health 2014 Approved Operating Budget for Long Term Care Education Day

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<td>Board of Health</td>
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**SUMMARY**

This report seeks approval for a budget adjustment to the Toronto Public Health (TPH) 2014 Approved Operating Budget for the planning and delivery of Long Term Care Education Day which is an annual infection prevention and control education event for long term care homes and retirement homes in the City of Toronto.

TPH has led the planning and delivery of this education event in collaboration with Infection Prevention and Control – Greater Toronto Area (IPAC-GTA) (formerly known as the Toronto Practitioners in Infection Control) and Public Health Ontario since 2006. To-date, the event has been funded by IPAC-GTA on a cost recovery basis. TPH financial oversight of the event will ensure appropriate cost recovery of funds and provide improved operational decision-making related to planning the event. IPAC-GTA has agreed to transfer the funding and financial oversight for the event to TPH and will continue to participate in event planning and recruitment of speakers.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. City Council approve an increase to the TPH 2014 Approved Operating Budget by $20.0 thousand gross and $0 net budget for the administration of an annual Long Term Care Education Event; and

2. The Board of Health forward this report to the Budget Committee for consideration.
Financial Impact

Base funding of $20,000 gross and $0 net, not included in the 2014 Approved Operating Budget is required for the planning and delivery of an annual Long Term Education Event in collaboration with IPAC-GTA and Public Health Ontario. All related expenses will be fully paid from the revenue generated from registration and exhibitor fees, with no net impact to the City. Previously held events have generated a nominal surplus. Any surplus generated from this event will be used towards the cost of funding future events and any shortfall will be fully absorbed from within the approved current program budget.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

COMMENTS

Under the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care’s Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS), Infectious Disease Program Standard (2008), Section 6 states that: The board of health shall work with appropriate partners to increase awareness among relevant community partners, including correctional facilities, health care and other service providers of:

- The local epidemiology of infectious diseases of public health importance;
- Infection prevention and control practices; and
- Reporting requirements for reportable diseases, as specified in the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

Additionally, the Institutional/Facility Outbreak Infection Prevention and Control Protocol (2008), Section 1(b) (iii) requires that the board of health shall assist institutions/facilities with outbreak management preparation, addressing at a minimum education for preventing and managing an outbreak.

TPH regularly works with long term care homes and retirement homes to provide consultation on infection control and outbreak management. The annual delivery of the Long Term Care Education Day assists TPH in meeting requirements under the OPHS. The event is an opportunity for TPH to provide the most recent surveillance, infectious disease and infection control updates to infection control practitioners, directors of care and administrators from long term care homes and retirement homes across Toronto. It is also an opportunity for TPH staff to network with these professionals to strengthen our working relationships and develop a better understanding of the infection control issues in these institutions.

Since the inception of the Long Term Care Education Day, although the event was funded by IPAC-GTA, TPH has been the primary organizer and administrator for the event, booking the event venue, collecting registrations, organizing speakers and completing packages for attendees. TPH financial oversight for the Long Term Care Education Day will facilitate more streamlined, timely decision making and efficient use of resources. IPAC-GTA has
agreed to transfer the funding and financial oversight for the event to TPH and will continue to participate in event planning.

CONTACT

Shirley MacPherson
Director, Finance & Administration
Toronto Public Health
Tel: 416-392-7467
Fax: 416-392-0713
Email: smacphe@toronto.ca

Barbara Yaffe
Director, Communicable Disease Control and Associate Medical Officer of Health
Toronto Public Health
Tel: 416-392-7405
Fax: 416-392-0713
Email: byaffe@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

________________________________________
Dr. David McKeown
Medical Officer of Health