



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### 2015 Student Nutrition Program Service Subsidies

<b>Date:</b>	April 13, 2015
<b>To:</b>	Board of Health
<b>From:</b>	Medical Officer of Health
<b>Wards:</b>	All
<b>Reference Number:</b>	

#### SUMMARY

---

This report outlines recommendations for the 2015 Student Nutrition Program service subsidy allocations. The proposed combined allocations to the Angel Foundation for Learning and the Toronto Foundation for Student Success total \$8,388,718 including \$88,905 held in reserve for appeals/late applications.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

---

**The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:**

1. City Council grant authority to the Medical Officer of Health to enter into agreements totalling \$8,388,718 with the Angel Foundation for Learning (\$1,965,403) and the Toronto Foundation for Student Success (\$6,423,315) to administer the 2015 approved municipal funding to eligible student nutrition programs across the City of Toronto;
2. City Council grant authority to the Medical Officer of Health to take the necessary action to give effect to Recommendation (1), including the execution of legal agreements with the Angel Foundation for Learning and the Toronto Foundation for Student Success on behalf of the City; and
3. The Board of Health forward this report for information to the Ontario Minister of Children and Youth Services, the Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Ontario Ministry of Education, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Rural Affairs, Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services, the Toronto District School Board, the Toronto Catholic District School Board, le Conseil scolaire

Viamonde, and le Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud, Toronto Foundation for Student Success, and Angel Foundation for Learning.

### **Financial Impact**

The Toronto Public Health 2015 Approved Operating Budget includes funding of \$8,388,718 gross and net for the Student Nutrition Program. This report recommends allocation of \$1,965,403 to the Angel Foundation for Learning and \$6,423,315 to the Toronto Foundation for Student Success which includes \$88,905 held in reserve for appeals/late applications. These funds will be used for eligible student nutrition programs at 519 schools/communities across the City of Toronto.

There is no financial impact beyond what has been approved in TPH's 2015 Approved Operating Budget resulting from adopting this report.

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

### **DECISION HISTORY**

At its meetings held on March 10/11, 2015, City Council approved 2015 municipal funding for student nutrition programs of \$8,388,718. Annually, the Medical Officer of Health submits a report to the Board of Health after the City budget has been finalized, to begin the process of allocations to student nutrition programs for the upcoming school year.

### **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

Student Nutrition Toronto (SNT) allocates municipal and provincial funding to Toronto's student nutrition programs, provides program support and ensures program quality and accountability. SNT is made up of a committee and two sub-committees, including an Allocations Sub-Committee. Funds are allocated to programs by the SNT Committee, comprised of student nutrition stakeholders, including Toronto Public Health, Toronto District School Board, Toronto Catholic District School Board, le Conseil scolaire Viamonde, Angel Foundation for Learning, Toronto Foundation for Student Success, and one community representative – FoodShare. Standardized meal costs per student are used to estimate program costs. The costs are adjusted annually for food inflation based on the Nutritious Food Basket survey results for Toronto.

### **COMMENTS**

#### **Application and Review Process**

The allocation process began in January 2015, when all currently funded student nutrition programs and those on the Government of Ontario designated expansion list were notified via email to access the full application package from the Toronto Public Health website. The website and the supporting documents included instructions on how to complete the application. Non-city staff members of SNT assisted individual program sites in preparing applications.

An applications review panel, comprised of staff from Toronto Public Health, the Toronto District School Board, the Toronto Catholic District School Board, and community partner representatives, met to review applications. Reviewers were instructed on consistent review of applications, using standardized review forms, and followed appropriate conflict of interest guidelines. Applications that were recommended for funding were forwarded to the SNT Committee for final approval.

### Summary of Allocations and Recommendations

The SNT Committee received and approved the following recommendations for the distribution of municipal funds:

Foundation	Funding Amount
<b>1. Angel Foundation for Learning</b> (134 schools/communities)	<b>\$1,965,403</b>
<b>2. Toronto Foundation for Student Success</b> (385 schools/communities)	<b>\$6,334,410</b>
<b>3. Toronto Foundation for Student Success</b> (reserve for appeals/late applications)	<b>\$ 88,905</b>
<b>4. Total</b> (519 schools/communities reaching 166,892 participants)	<b>\$8,388,718</b>

The money held in reserve for appeals and late applications will be used to make adjustments to the allocations as required prior to December 31, 2015. The entire municipal grant is distributed to programs and directed towards the cost of nutritious food; none of the grant is used for administration or overhead. Local programs that are approved for funding will receive their allocated municipal funds in three instalments: September 2015, December 2015 and March 2016. Programs must submit detailed monthly financial reports to their respective Foundation and address all program requirements to receive subsequent instalment cheques.

### Use of Municipal Budget Enhancement for 2015

The priorities outlined in the Student Nutrition Program Five-Year Plan, endorsed by the Board of Health September 2012, include:

- Focus investment on breakfast/morning meal programs in higher need schools
- Stabilize existing programs
- Expand into additional higher needs schools
- Strengthen partnership funding model

City Council approved an enhancement of \$8,388,718 for the Toronto Public Health 2015 Operating Budget, the third year of the five-year plan to stabilize and expand student

nutrition programs in the City. This funding aligns with the 2015/16 school year. The budget enhancement will help existing programs offset increased food costs, increase the number of operating days, and improve nutrition quality of meals. It will also extend municipal core funding to 24 higher need publically funded schools currently running a morning meal program with only core provincial funding, bringing them to an equal funding level to other student nutrition programs operating in Toronto.

### **Provincial Funding**

The application review process also serves as the review for provincial funding allocations. In Toronto, the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services administers the provincial funds via the Toronto Foundation for Student Success (TFSS). TFSS then allocates provincial funding for the Catholic program sites to the Angel Foundation for Learning to administer. Programs will receive their provincial funding at the same time as their municipal funding.

As part of the Government of Ontario's response to the Healthy Kids Panel recommendations, an additional investment in Toronto's student nutrition programs was confirmed in December 2014. As a result, the 2014/15 provincial investment was increased as follows.

#### *Existing 2014 funding*

\$4,439,508	base funding for existing programs towards food cost
\$1,248,800	community development and administration

#### *Additional new 2014 funding*

\$ 443,950	base funding for existing programs towards food costs
\$ 324,200	prorated base funding for 65 new programs* towards food cost and to transition 27 existing 2-food group programs into 3-food group programs
\$ 268,850	base funding for community development and administration
\$1,114,600	prorated one-time start-up funding for 171 ** new programs

\*The Ministry of Children and Youth services defines new programs as those which do not already receive provincial funding at any level and have been pre-approved for expansion by the Ministry.  
 \*\*65 started January 2015 and 106 to start September 2015

#### *Total 2014 provincial investment (including one-time funding)*

\$7,839,908

The 2015 provincial investment for Toronto's Student Nutrition Programs has not been confirmed to date, however, it is not expected to be less than the current base funding for 2014 (\$6,725,308).

There is overlap between the higher risk schools identified in the municipal and provincial expansion targets to ensure that new programs will receive core government funding from both municipal and provincial sources.

## **Parental Contributions, Local Fundraising, and Corporate Donations**

Parental contributions, local fundraising, and corporate donations contribute to the budgets of these community-based programs. There are also in-kind contributions such as school space and staff and volunteer time to operate the programs. However, higher needs school communities are not able to raise enough local funds to operate their programs to the fullest potential.

The Medical Officer of Health recommends allocation of municipal funds from the 2015 approved Toronto Public Health operating budget to the Angel Foundation for Learning and the Toronto Foundation for Student Success for the 2015/2016 school year to support eligible student nutrition programs across the City of Toronto.

## **CONTACT**

Carol Timmings  
Director,  
Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention  
Toronto Public Health  
Tel: 416-392-1355  
Email: [ctimming@toronto.ca](mailto:ctimming@toronto.ca)

Denise Vavaroutsos  
Manager,  
Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention  
Toronto Public Health  
Tel: 416-338-8605  
Email: [dvavarou@toronto.ca](mailto:dvavarou@toronto.ca)

## **SIGNATURE**

---

Dr. David McKeown  
Medical Officer of Health