



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### 2016 Student Nutrition Program Service Subsidies

<b>Date:</b>	April 8, 2016
<b>To:</b>	Board of Health
<b>From:</b>	Medical Officer of Health
<b>Wards:</b>	All
<b>Reference Number:</b>	

#### SUMMARY

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This report outlines recommendations for the 2016 Student Nutrition Program service subsidy allocations. The proposed combined allocations to the Angel Foundation for Learning and the Toronto Foundation for Student Success total, \$9,992,366 including \$104,200 held in reserve for appeals/late applications.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. The Board of Health request City Council to grant authority to the Medical Officer of Health to enter into agreements totalling \$9,992,366 with the Angel Foundation for Learning (\$2,492,719) and the Toronto Foundation for Student Success (\$7,499,647) to administer the 2016 approved municipal funding to eligible student nutrition programs across the City of Toronto;
2. The Board of Health request City Council to 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, le Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud, Toronto Foundation for Student Success, and Angel Foundation for Learning.

### **Financial Impact**

The Toronto Public Health 2016 Approved Operating Budget includes funding of \$9,992,366 gross and net for the Student Nutrition Program. This report recommends allocation of \$2,492,719 to the Angel Foundation for Learning and \$7,395,447 to the Toronto Foundation for Student Success which includes \$104,200 held in reserve for appeals/late applications. These funds will be used for eligible student nutrition programs at 565 schools/communities across the City of Toronto.

There is no financial impact beyond what has been approved in TPH's 2016 Approved Operating Budget.

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 February 17 and 18, 2016, City Council approved the 2016 municipal funding portion for student nutrition programs (SNP) totalling of \$9,992,366.

### **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 (TPH), Toronto District School Board (TDSB), Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB), le Conseil scolaire Viamonde (SDSB), Angel Foundation for Learning (AFL), Toronto Foundation for Student Success (TFFS) and FoodShare Toronto. Standardized meal costs per student are used to estimate program costs. The costs are adjusted annually for inflation based on the Nutritious Food Basket survey results for Toronto.

### **COMMENTS**

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

The allocation process began in January 2016, when all currently funded SNP and those on the Government of Ontario and City of Toronto designated expansion lists were notified 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 TPH, the TDSB, TCDSB, and SNT community development 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:

<b>Foundation</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
<b>1. Angel Foundation for Learning</b> (148 schools/communities)	<b>\$2,492,719</b>
<b>2. Toronto Foundation for Student Success</b> (417 schools/communities)	<b>\$7,395,447</b>
<b>3. Toronto Foundation for Student Success</b> (reserve for appeals/late applications)	<b>\$ 104,200</b>
<b>4. Total</b> (565 schools/communities reaching 179,583 participants)	<b>\$9,992,366</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, 2016. 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 2016, December 2016 and March 2017. 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 2016**

The municipal funding plan continues to work toward the vision endorsed by the City in 2012, to strengthen and grow student nutrition programs in Toronto, by:

- Focusing investment on breakfast/morning meal programs in publically funded schools serving higher needs students
- Strengthening existing programs
- Extending municipal funding to select publically funded schools which serve higher need students and currently operate student nutrition programs with provincial government support but no municipal support
- Strengthening the partnership funding model

In 2016, Toronto Board of Health and City Council approved the extension of the multi-year municipal funding plan by one year to 2018. City Council approved an enhanced budget of \$9,992,366 within the TPH 2016 Operating Budget, for the fourth year of this

reset plan (2013-2018). This funding aligns with the 2016/17 school year. The budget enhancement will help existing programs offset increased food costs, give them a greater ability to increase the number of meals served and improve nutrition quality of meals. While the 2016 municipal grant contribution rate projection was 16% of program costs (based on 2015/16 participation levels), the actual municipal grant contribution rate for 2016 is reported at 15.5% of student nutrition programs' costs in the 2016/17 school year. This adjustment accounts for program growth due to incremental increases in student participation levels and programs operating more days each week.

The 2016 municipal funding for student nutrition programs will also extend municipal core funding to 49 publically funded schools serving higher need students and currently running a morning meal program with provincial government funding but without the essential support of municipal funding. To ensure viable programs, municipal funding expansion for student nutrition programs has been aligned with the provincial program direction for expansion into provincially designated publically funded schools. The additional municipal funding will bring these 49 programs to an equal funding level with other student nutrition programs operating in Toronto.

### **Provincial Funding**

The municipal application review process also serves as the review for provincial funding applications. In Toronto, the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services administers the provincial funds via the TFSS which then allocates provincial funding for the Catholic program sites for the AFL to administer. Programs will receive their provincial funding at the same time as their municipal funding.

In 2015/16, the Government of Ontario's investment in Toronto's student nutrition programs was as follows.

<i>2015 funding</i>	
\$6,902,508	base funding for new and existing programs towards food cost
\$1,744,900	community development and administration

*Total 2015 provincial investment*  
\$8,647,408

The 2016 provincial investment for Toronto's SNP has not been confirmed to date, however, it is not expected to be greater than the current base funding for 2015 (\$8,647,408).

New municipal funding has been directed to provincial expansion schools 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. Government funding helps to ensure stability against variable funding from parent, community, and corporate sources.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Medical Officer of Health recommends allocation of municipal funds from the 2016 approved TPH operating budget to the AFL and the TFFS for the 2016/2017 school year to support eligible student nutrition programs across the City of Toronto.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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