

Student Nutrition Program: Governance Update

Date: May 3, 2017

To: Board of Health

From: Medical Officer of Health

Wards: All

SUMMARY

The City recognizes the importance of a renewed governance model for the Student Nutrition Toronto program that provides strategic direction for future growth, reinforces program capacity for improved fundraising, and builds upon the existing strengths of the program. Since the fall of 2016, the Acting Medical Officer of Health has been working with several of the senior leaders of the organizations associated with the Student Nutrition Toronto committee, which provides direction to government funded student nutrition programs in Toronto.

This report provides a progress update since the last update presented in December 2016.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

DECISION HISTORY

On May 3, 2016, City Council directed the City Manager to assist the Medical Officer of Health in the Medical Officer of Health's ongoing collaboration with the Partners for Student Nutrition to develop a new governance model for Student Nutrition and requested the City Manager to report on the result of these efforts to the July 12, 2016 meeting of City Council in advance of the 2017 funding agreements.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2016.HL11.4>

On July 12, 2016, the City Manager provided an update to City Council regarding the ongoing collaboration of the Medical Officer of Health with the Partners for Student Nutrition to develop a new governance model, and City Council directed the City Manager to continue to assist the Medical Officer of Health to establish new governance for Student Nutrition Toronto.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2016.CC20.3>

On September 30, 2016, the Board of Health received a brief update on the continuing work towards a new governance structure for Student Nutrition Toronto.
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2016/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-97620.pdf>

On December 5, 2016, the Board of Health received a further update and requested that a progress report be provided to the Board early in 2017.
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2016/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-98771.pdf>

COMMENTS

Since the update provided to the Board of Health in December 2016, the Acting Medical Officer of Health, supported by the Cluster "A" Deputy City Manager, has made significant strides in forging a renewed governance structure for Student Nutrition Toronto (SNT). This governance model, supported by the existing senior stakeholders, entails the creation of a SNT Strategic Council.

The SNT Strategic Council will include the Chairs of: (i) the Board of Directors of the Toronto Foundation for Student Success (TFSS), (ii) the Board of Directors of the Angel Foundation for Learning (AFL), (iii) FoodShare Toronto, and the Directors of Education from: (i) Toronto District School Board (TDSB), (ii) Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB), and, (iii) the Conseil scolaire Viamonde. All have confirmed their participation in the newly formed SNT Strategic Council. Membership has also been extended to the Director of Education from Le Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud.

Toronto Foundation, an independent charitable organization which connects philanthropy to community needs and opportunities, has also agreed to participate. The City will be represented by the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) and the City of Toronto Deputy City Manager (or designate) for Cluster "A".

Draft Terms of Reference have been agreed to in principle by the parties initially involved in the SNT Strategic Council (TPH, TFSS, AFL, TDSB, and TCDSB). The Terms of Reference will be finalized once all the members are confirmed.

The SNT Strategic Council will provide vision and recommendations at a strategic level for Student Nutrition programs operating in Toronto schools and school communities. Since this is a new governance structure, the role, membership and functions of the Council will be assessed in 2019 at which time member organizations will review the effectiveness of the model and their continued participation.

Meetings are currently being scheduled for the remainder of 2017.

The group has identified the need for secretariat support to increase the effectiveness of the Strategic Council. At present, all City funds for student nutrition programs are dedicated to food only, as per contractual agreements with the TFSS and the AFL, and, unlike most City grant programs, the student nutrition grants do not provide administrative funds for the grantees (AFL and TFSS). In the short term, TPH has

agreed to provide secretariat support to the Strategic Council; however, sustainable secretariat support will need to be addressed.

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SIGNATURE

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