

Increasing Access to Cooling in the Community

Kate Bassil Associate Director (A)

Healthy Public Policy, Toronto Public Health

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Crigin of Report

Toronto Public Health was asked to

- assess the access to cooling for people at risk for heat-related illness
- review the Cooling Centre program





This report:

- Provides an overview of current access to cooling in Toronto and common features of heat relief facilities across North America
- Introduces a proposed trial of a Heat Relief Network for Toronto for the summer of 2018

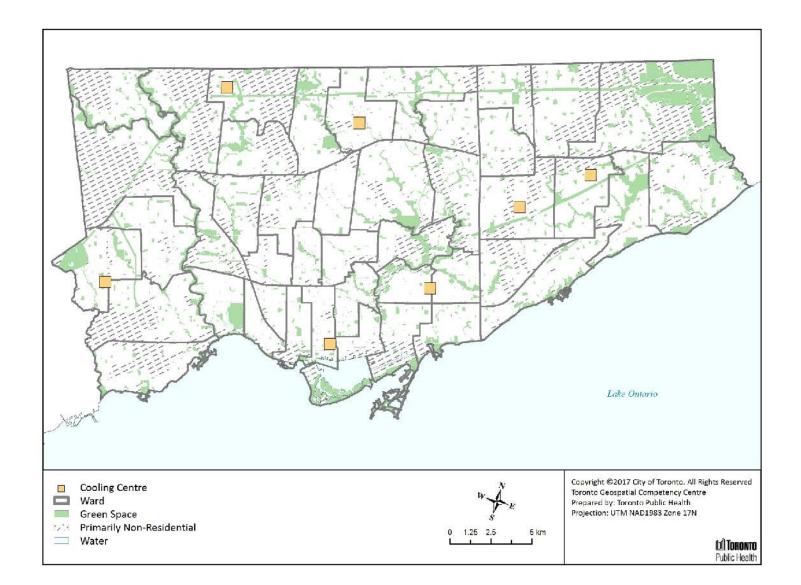


Jurisdictional Scan

 Examples of programs from across North America that maximize the number of facilities that are designated as cooling centres/cool spaces and select facilities where people choose to spend their time



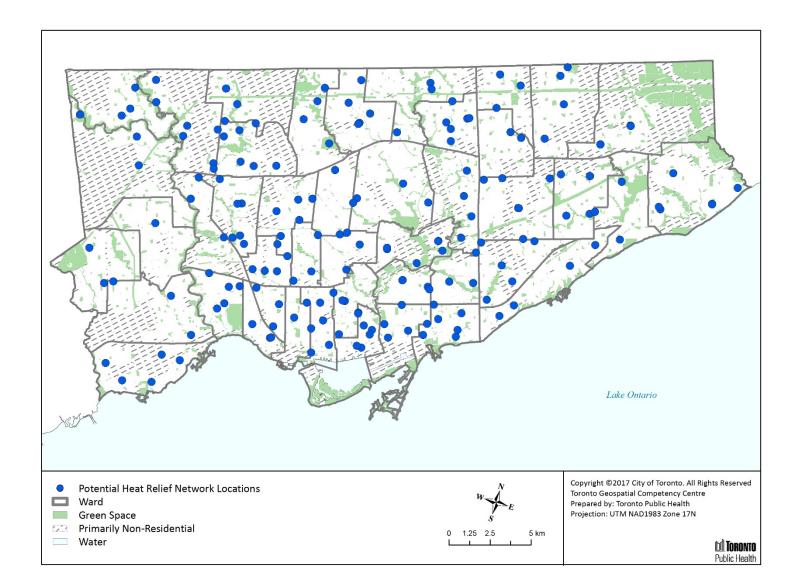
Current Cooling Centre Program



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Potential Heat Relief Network Locations for 2018



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The Proposed Change for 2018

 The new Heat Relief Network would include City operated air conditioned spaces starting with libraries and community centres in 2018 on a trial basis

 The Heat Relief Network would be promoted during a Heat Warning or Extended Heat Warning



Recommendations

TPH in collaboration with other Divisions will

- Conduct a trial of a Heat Relief Network that would maximize access to cool spaces within neighbourhoods and in locations that people already visit
- Continue to review the Cooling Centre program during the summer of 2018 to determine its role as part of a Heat Relief Network
- Determine how best to integrate locations and facilities that serve those experiencing homelessness into the Heat Relief Network
- Report back in early 2019 on the results from the trial Heat Relief Network