

## **Toronto Public Health 2023 Operating Budget Submission**

**Date:** October 28, 2022

**To:** Board of Health

**From:** Medical Officer of Health

**Wards:** All

### **REASON FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

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This report deals with personal matters about identifiable individuals, including municipal or local board employees, and labour relations or employee negotiations.

### **SUMMARY**

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This report outlines the Toronto Public Health (TPH) 2023 Operating Budget Submission for consideration by the Board of Health. Toronto Public Health's 2023 Operating Budget Submission is \$369,555.4 thousand gross, \$159,304.3 thousand net and 2,309.9 positions.

This 2023 Operating Budget Submission is \$1,226.3 thousand gross lower, \$30,958.5 thousand net higher and 423.9 positions lower than the 2022 Approved Operating Budget as outlined in Table 1 in this report.

The 2023 Operating Budget Submission includes in-year changes, base changes, and a confidential program efficiency pending City Council approval as detailed in the recommendations included in this report.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. City Council approve the TPH 2023 Operating Budget Submission of \$369,555.4 thousand gross, \$159,304.3 thousand net, and 2,309.9 positions, as summarized in

Table 1, Overview of the TPH 2023 Operating Budget Submission, which includes the following incremental increases from the TPH 2022 Approved Operating Budget:

- a. an increase of \$689.0 thousand gross and \$0 net for an expansion to the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program;
  - b. an increase of \$827.1 thousand gross and \$827.1 thousand net for inflationary cost increases in the Student Nutrition Program;
  - c. a decrease of \$2,780.7 thousand gross and \$0 net related to the provincial government's Temporary Retention Incentive for Nurses Program;
  - d. a decrease of \$5,781.9 thousand gross, \$471.2 thousand net and 73.0 positions related to eight (8) 2022 budget proposals;
  - e. a decrease of \$13,936.0 thousand gross, \$0 net and 38.8 positions related to the transition of the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services' Early Abilities program;
  - f. a decrease of \$8,759.3 thousand gross and \$0 net for the Toronto Voluntary Isolation Centre;
  - g. a decrease of \$4,309.2 thousand gross, \$0 net and 102.0 positions for the COVID-19 School-Focused Nurses Initiative;
  - h. a decrease of \$9,111.9 thousand gross and \$9,111.9 thousand net and 209.0 positions for the TPH's COVID -19 General Response;
  - i. an increase of \$36,978.3 thousand gross and \$36,978.3 thousand net to continue the COVID-19 mass immunization campaign;
  - j. an increase of \$3,731.0 thousand gross and \$3,731.0 thousand net for 2023 salaries and benefits cost of living adjustments (COLA) and inflation;
  - k. an increase of \$2,809.4 thousand gross, \$587.3 thousand net and 12.9. positions for 2023 Administrative Adjustments;
  - l. a decrease of \$1,582.1 thousand gross, \$1,582.1 thousand net and 14.0 positions for a program efficiency as outlined in Confidential Attachment 1.
2. The Board of Health direct that this report be forwarded to the Budget Committee for consideration during the 2023 Budget process.
  3. City Council authorize the public release of Confidential Attachment 1, once City Council's decision has been communicated to Unions and affected staff.
  4. The Board of Health authorize the public release of Confidential Attachment 1, once City Council's decision has been communicated to Unions and affected staff.

5. The Board of Health direct that this report without Confidential 1, be forwarded to the Ministry of Health.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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Toronto Public Health's 2023 Operating Budget Submission totals \$369,555.4 thousand gross, \$159,304.3 thousand net and 2,309.9 positions. This submission is \$1,226.3 thousand gross lower and \$30,985.5 thousand net higher than the 2022 Approved Operating Budget. This submission also includes a decrease of 423.9 positions.

Toronto Public Health is reducing its budget request for the COVID-19 General Response by \$9,111.9 thousand gross and 209.0 positions; however, an increase of \$36,978.3 thousand gross is being requested to continue the mass immunization campaign. Funding for these COVID-19 programs will be requested from the Ministry of Health as part of its extra-ordinary COVID-19 cost recovery initiative.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has been advised of the financial impacts associated with this report to be considered along with other priorities as part of the annual budget process.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

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On July 25, 2022, the Board of Health Budget Committee requested the Province of Ontario to:

- a. confirm its commitment to provide cost-sharing mitigation funding to public health units for the duration of the COVID-19 Response and for a minimum of two years after the end of the COVID-19 Response;
- b. continue to provide funding for COVID-19 extraordinary costs for the duration of the COVID-19 Response; and
- c. provide an opportunity to request funding for COVID-19 Recovery efforts.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2022.HU8.1>

On October 12, 2021, the Board of Health recommended several proposals to be put forward as part of TPH's 2022 Operating Budget Submission. There were eight proposals that were contingent on receiving funding from other orders of government. These proposals were for the integration of COVID-19 vaccines into the vaccine preventable disease program, COVID-19 recovery and rebuild, public health data and analytics, and addressing the opioid poisoning crisis.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2021.HL31.4>

## **COMMENTS**

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Toronto Public Health's 2022 Approved Operating Budget is \$370,781.7 thousand gross and \$128,345.8 thousand net and 2,733.8 positions.

Toronto Public Health's 2023 Operating Budget Submission totals \$369,555.4 thousand gross, \$159,304.3 thousand net and 2,309.9 positions. This submission is \$1,226.3 thousand gross lower and \$30,985.5 thousand net higher than the TPH 2022 Approved Operating Budget. This 2023 Operating Budget Submission also reflects a decrease of 423.9 positions. Table 1 below provides a summary of the changes between the TPH 2022 Approved Operating Budget and the 2023 Operating Budget Submission. Additional information about items in Table 1 are provided in the body of this report.

Table 1 - Overview of the TPH 2023 Operating Budget Submission

(\$ in thousands)	Gross Expense \$	Revenue \$	Net Expense \$	Positions
<b>2022 COUNCIL APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET (February 17, 2022)</b>	<b>361,684.1</b>	<b>233,338.3</b>	<b>128,345.8</b>	<b>2,634.8</b>
<b>2022 IN-YEAR APPROVALS AND TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS:</b>				
a Ontario Seniors Care Dental Program	2,066.9	2,066.9	0.0	0.0
c Temporary Retention Incentive for Nurses Program	2,780.7	2,780.7	0.0	0.0
2022 Administrative Adjustment	0.0	0.0	0.0	(3.0)
g COVID-19 School-Focused Nurses Initiative	4,250.0	4,250.0	0.0	102.0
<b>2022 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET</b>	<b>370,781.7</b>	<b>242,435.9</b>	<b>128,345.8</b>	<b>2,733.8</b>
a Ontario Seniors Care Dental Program	689.0	689.0	0.0	0.0
b Student Nutrition Program	827.1	0.0	827.1	0.0
c Temporary Retention Incentive for Nurses Program	(2,780.7)	(2,780.7)	0.0	0.0
d 2022 Operating Budget Proposals	(5,781.9)	(5,310.7)	( 471.2)	(73.0)
e Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services' Early Abilities Program	(13,936.0)	(13,936.0)	0.0	(38.8)
f Toronto Voluntary Isolation Centre	(8,759.3)	(8,759.3)	0.0	0.0
g COVID-19 School-Focused Nurses Initiative	(4,309.2)	(4,309.2)	0.0	(102.0)
h COVID-19 Response	(9,111.9)	0.0	(9,111.9)	(209.0)
i COVID-19 Mass Immunization Initiative	36,978.3	0.0	36,978.3	0.0
j Inflationary and Cost of Living Adjustments	3,731.0	0.0	3,731.0	0.0
k 2023 Administrative and Technical Adjustments	2,809.4	2,222.1	587.3	12.9
l Confidential Program Efficiency	(1,582.1)	0.0	(1,582.1)	(14.0)
<b>2023 BOARD OF HEALTH BUDGET SUBMISSION</b>	<b>\$369,555.4</b>	<b>\$210,251.1</b>	<b>\$159,304.3</b>	<b>2,309.9</b>
<b>INCREASE/(DECREASE) OVER 2022 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET</b>	<b>(\$1,226.3)</b>	<b>(\$32,184.8)</b>	<b>\$30,958.5</b>	<b>(423.9)</b>
<b>Per Cent (%) INCREASE OVER 2022 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET</b>			<b>24.1</b>	

## **Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program (OSDCP)**

In 2021, the provincial government announced changes to the eligibility criteria for the OSDCP. This change increases the number of Ontario seniors who would be eligible for the program. Toronto Public Health received an increase of \$2,755.9 thousand gross to its annual OSDCP budget, \$2,066.9 thousand in 2022 and an additional \$689.0 thousand in 2023. The OSDCP budget for 2023 is \$18,299.2 thousand gross and \$0 net.

## **Student Nutrition Program**

In 2012, City Council requested that the Medical Officer of Health report to the Board of Health on a plan to consider, as part of the annual operating budget process, an annual increase to the City's investment in Student Nutrition Programs equal to the annual amount of food inflation reported by the Nutritious Food Basket survey.

A Nutritious Food Basket survey was done in 2022. The methodology used to complete the 2022 survey was different than that used in previous year; therefore, a year-over-year comparator for the increase in the cost of food is not available. The requested increase for the program continues to be based on the City of Toronto's Economic Factors for Food which is 5.0 per cent. Toronto Public Health is recommending an increase to the Student Nutrition Program in the amount of \$827.1 thousand gross and net, bringing the total program budget in 2023 to \$17.6 million gross and net.

## **2022 Operating Budget Proposals**

There were eight (8) proposals in the 2022 Operating Budget Submission which were contingent on TPH securing funding from other levels of government. The budget for these proposals, as outlined in Table 2, have been removed from the 2023 Budget Submission as funding has yet to be secured. Toronto Public Health will continue to engage with our provincial and federal partners on these initiatives. Should funding be secured, TPH will report back to the Board of Health seeking approval to increase the budget accordingly.

Table 2 - 2022 Budget Proposals

(\$ in thousands)	Gross Expense \$	Revenue \$	Net Expense \$	Positions
Vaccine Preventable Disease - integration of COVID-19 vaccines *	(1,478.1)	(1,478.1)	0.0	(19.0)
Public Health Data Analytics	(462.6)	(323.8)	(138.8)	(7.0)
COVID-19 Recovery and Rebuild **	(1,012.6)	(1,012.6)	0.0	(10.0)
Opioid Poisoning Crisis:				
Enhance Resources for Toronto Drug Strategy Secretariat	(959.1)	(671.3)	(287.8)	(10.0)
Enhance Programming for the Works	(202.2)	(202.2)	0.0	(2.0)
Expand Outreach Overdose Team	(762.6)	(718.0)	(44.6)	(12.0)
Enhance Data and Improve Data Sharing	(378.4)	(378.4)	0.0	(4.0)
Mobile Supervised Consumption Services	(526.3)	(526.3)	0.0	(9.0)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(5,781.9)</b>	<b>(5,310.7)</b>	<b>(471.2)</b>	<b>(73.0)</b>

\* A budget for COVID-19 vaccinations is incorporated into the 2023 Operating Budget Submission as noted below under the title COVID-19 Mass Immunization Campaign.

\*\* Ministry of Health officials have advised public health units to, where possible, address recovery efforts through existing budgets before seeking re-imbursement opportunities.

## Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services Early Abilities Programs

The Early Abilities program consisted of Blind-Low Vision, Infant Hearing and Preschool Speech and Language programs. Together, these programs provided universal newborn hearing screening, family support, clinical coordination and intervention services to families with children from birth to 6 years of age to support healthy child growth and development. In April 2022, these 100% provincially funded programs were transitioned to a community-based, multi-service agency selected by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services that specializes in clinical rehabilitation services.

## Toronto Voluntary Isolation Centre

In 2020, Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) approved funding for a voluntary isolation centre. Toronto Public Health has secured funding up to March 31, 2023. The 2022 Operating Budget includes funding for twelve (12) months; therefore, an incremental decrease of \$8,759.3 will establish an overall 2023 budget of \$3,570.7 thousand gross and \$0 net which reflecting a budget to March 31, 2023.

## COVID-19 School-Focused Nurses Initiative

The Initiative was created to provide rapid-response support to school boards and schools, child care, and camps in facilitating public health preventative measures related to COVID-19, including screening, testing, tracing, vaccination, education and mitigation strategies. The 2022 Approved Operating Budget includes twelve (12) months of funding for the initiative. The province has communicated its intention to fund this initiative to end of the 2022-2023 school year. A decrease of \$4,309.2 thousand

gross to the 2022 Approved Operating Budget will establish an overall 2023 budget of \$5,950.0 thousand gross and \$0 net which will fund this initiative until June 30, 2023, the end of the school year.

## **COVID-19 General Response**

Toronto Public Health's COVID-19 response continues to evolve with a stronger focus on vaccination as noted in the following paragraph. In recognition of this, the 2023 Operating Budget Submission for the general COVID-19 Response is being reduced by \$9,111.9 thousand gross and net and 209.0 positions. Funding for the general Response will be requested from the Ministry of Health as part of the COVID-19 Extra-ordinary cost recovery initiative. This incremental decrease will establish an overall 2023 budget to \$49,122.9 thousand gross and 386.0 positions.

## **COVID-19 Mass Immunization Campaign**

Toronto Public Health launched its COVID-19 mass immunization campaign in December 2021. In 2023, Toronto Public Health is requesting a budget of \$36,978.3 thousand gross to continue vaccination efforts into 2023. Funding for this program will be requested from the Ministry of Health as part of the COVID-19 Extra-ordinary cost recovery initiative.

## **Inflationary and Cost of Living Adjustments**

On August 20, 2019, TPH received the 2019 Accountability Agreement which outlined the Ministry's approved budget for TPH. In the accompanying letter to the Chair of the Board of Health, the Ministry noted the following regarding the 2021 budget process:

"In order to support public health unit planning for 2021, municipalities can use a planned funding change to bring the municipal share to 30 per cent for public health programs and services effective as of January 1, 2021. However, to help provide additional stability as municipalities begin to adapt to shifting funding models, our government will also provide one-time mitigation funding to assist all public health units and municipalities to manage this increase while we work to transform the public health system across the province over the next couple of years. While final confirmation of 2021 funding will be provided through the 2021 Budget process, we expect that all municipalities will be protected from any cost increases resulting from this cost-sharing change that exceed 10 per cent of their existing costs."

On August 17, 2022, the province's news release entitled "Working with Municipalities to Move Ontario Forward" announced another extension to its mitigation funding through to the end of 2023 in support of public health units. With this announcement, TPH expects the province to continue to provide \$14,621.7 thousand in cost-sharing mitigation funding to December 2023. This retains the notional funding ratios for cost shared programs at 75 per cent provincial/25 per cent municipal and 100 per cent funded programs for various Ministry of Health programs for 2023.

The continuation of mitigation funding does allow Toronto Public Health to focus on COVID-19; however, it is still important to note that this measure is temporary and does

not provide any additional funding for inflationary and cost of living adjustments in the 2023 Operating Budget Submission.

## 2023 Administrative and Technical Adjustments

The 2023 administrative and technical adjustments are predominately related to changes in interdivisional costs and revenues, savings achieved from vacating leased space, physician services agreement, an adjustment to the Ministry of Health base budget, and the impact of the capital plan on the operating budget as outlined in Table 3.

Table 3 - 2023 Administrative and Technical Adjustments

<b>(\$ in thousands)</b>	<b>Gross Expense \$</b>	<b>Revenue \$</b>	<b>Net Expense \$</b>	<b>Positions</b>
Change in interdivisional costs and Revenues including reclassification of Reserve Funds to Interdivisional Costs	(116.1)	30.2	(146.3)	0.0
Modern TO lease savings	(281.3)	0.0	(281.3)	0.0
Complement rebalancing	15.0	266.8	(251.8)	(9.1)
Physician Services Agreement with the Ministry of Health	388.7	0.0	388.7	0.0
Ministry of Health base budget adjustment	1,332.4	1,332.4	0.0	0.0
Operating impact of changes to the capital plan	1,470.7	592.7	878.0	22.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,809.4</b>	<b>2,222.1</b>	<b>587.3</b>	<b>12.9</b>

## Service Levels

As part of the City's budget process, TPH provides service levels for consideration and approval. Appendix A - 2023 Service Levels outlines the 2020-2024 Service Levels to be submitted.

Toronto Public Health's service levels are beginning to return to pre-pandemic levels and service levels will continue to recover as redeployed staff return to their base programs.

## CONTACT

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## SIGNATURE

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Dr. Eileen de Villa  
Medical Officer of Health



## **ATTACHMENTS**

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Confidential Attachment 1 - Program Efficiency  
Appendix A - 2023 Service Levels