

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Division

Minutes of Board of Health

Meeting No. 2

Monday, January 28, 2002

The Board of Health met on Monday, January 28, 2002 in Committee Room No. 2, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 1:15 p.m.

Members Present:

Councillor Joe Mihevc, Chair	x
Councillor Sandra Bussin	x
Ms. Helen Chan	
Councillor John Filion	x
Mr. Brian Hyndman	x
Councillor Irene Jones	x
Mr. Brian MacKay	x
Dr. Rosana Pellizzari	x
Ms. Nancy Peters	
Councillor Jane Pitfield	
Trustee Mark Stefanini	x
Councillor Michael Tziretas	x
Mr. Lee Zaslofsky	x

Also Present:

Ms. Fiona Nelson

Confirmation of Minutes.

On motion by Mr. MacKay, the Minutes of the meetings of the Board of Health held on November 26, 2001 and January 7, 2002 were confirmed.

2.1 Report to the Commission on the Future of the Health Care System.

The Board of Health had before it a report (January 15, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health, seeking endorsement of the submission from the Medical Officer of Health to the Commission on the Future of Health Care in Canada (also known as the Romanow

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Commission); advising that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; and recommending that:

- (1) the Board of Health endorse the submission from the Medical Officer of Health to the Commission on the Future of the Health Care System;
- (2) the Board of Health request a meeting with the Commission to discuss issues and potential strategies identified in the submission;
- (3) this report be referred for information to City Council, the provincial and federal Ministers of Health and to the provincial and federal Ministers of Finance; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Board of Health also had before it a report (January 18, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health, providing an analysis of the City's sustainability from a public health viewpoint, and addressing the impact of the economy, society and environment on the health of the people in Toronto; advising that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; and recommending that this report be received for information.

The Medical Officer of Health gave an overhead slide presentation.

- (A) Councillor Jones moved that the Medical Officer of Health be requested to report on the feasibility and/or benefit of establishing a health liaison committee with the GTA to coordinate response to shared concerns with respect to public health issues;
- (B) Mr. MacKay moved that Recommendation No. (2) be amended by adding:

“in coordination with ALPHA and OPHA” after the words
“Commission”;
- (C) Dr. Pellizzari moved that the Medical Officer of Health strategically urge for enhancements to existing legislation through the passage of complimentary legislation addressing existing gaps in public health provision in Canada; and
- (D) Mr. Hyndman, on behalf of Ms. Nelson, moved that the Chair of the Board of Health and the Medical Officer of Health convene a well-publicized forum:
 - (1) to engage citizens in the discussion of Health and changes needed to focus on Public Health and the determinants of health;
 - (2) to promote public and media support for our submission since we are the largest public health unit in Canada and have, by far, the greatest

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spectrum of both needs and experience in the areas of health promotion and disease prevention and

- (3) that prominent advocates be invited to speak such as: Dr. John Hastings, Dr. John Frank, Dr. Carolyn Bennett and Dr. Monique Begin.

The foregoing Motions carried unanimously.

To summarize, the Board of Health took the following action:

The Board of Health adopted the aforementioned report (January 15, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health as amended, and, in so doing:

- (1) endorsed the submission from the Medical Officer of Health to the Commission on the Future of the Health Care System;
- (2) requested a meeting with the Commission in coordination with ALPHA (Association of Local Public Health Agencies) and OPHA (Ontario Public Health Association) to discuss issues and potential strategies identified in the submission;
- (3) referred this report for information to City Council, the provincial and federal Ministers of Health and to the provincial and federal Ministers of Finance;
- (4) requested the Medical Officer of Health to strategically urge for enhancements to existing legislation through the passage of complementary legislation addressing existing gaps in public health provision in Canada;
- (5) requested the Chair of the Board of Health and the Medical Officer of Health to convene a well-publicized forum to:
 - (a) engage citizens in the discussion of health and changes needed to focus on public health and the determinants of health;
 - (b) promote public and media support for our submission since we are the largest Public Health Unit in Canada and have, by far, the greatest spectrum of both need and experience in the areas of health promotion and disease prevention; and
 - (c) invite prominent advocates to speak, such as Dr. John Hastings, Dr. John Frank, Dr. Carolyn Bennett and Dr. Monique Begin;
- (6) requested the Medical Officer of Health to report on the feasibility and/or benefit of establishing a health liaison committee within the GTA to coordinate a response to shared concerns with respect to public health issues; and

- (7) authorized and directed the appropriate City officials to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

(Medical Officer of Health; Chair, Board of Health; Commission on the Future of Health Care in Canada; Provincial Minister of Health and Long Term Care; Federal Minister of Health; Provincial Minister of Finance; Federal Minister of Finance; c. Jane Speakman, Legal Services; Association of Local Public Health Agencies; Ontario Public Health Association – January 29, 2002)

(Clause No. 1, Report No. 2)

2.2 Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response.

The Board of Health had before it a report (January 15, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health, presenting an update on the activities of the Toronto Public Health Emergency Services Unit for the City of Toronto as well as progress made regarding joint initiatives to improve and sustain emergency readiness; advising of financial implications and recommending that:

- (1) the Board of Health review this report and forward recommendations to Budget Advisory Committee when it reviews the overall Special Initiative budget for the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Jones, the Board of Health forwarded the aforementioned report (January 15, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health to the Budget Advisory Committee for consideration when it reviews the overall Special Initiative budget for the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan.

(Budget Advisory Committee; c. Jane Speakman, Legal Services; Medical Officer of Health – January 29, 2002)

2.3 Funding Announcements for the Early Year Project and Healthy Babies, Healthy Children Program.

The Board of Health had before it a report (January 15, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health, advising of recent funding announcements related to the Early Years Project

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and the Healthy Babies, Healthy Children program and seeking authorization to enter into related service agreements with the Province; and recommending that:

- (1) the Board of Health authorize the Chair of the Board and the Medical Officer of Health to sign the service contracts with the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and the Ministry of Community and Social Services that are required to initiate the flow of funds;
- (2) Toronto Public Health staff proceed to implement program planning, implementation and evaluation for the newly funded Early Years Project initiatives and the french language service enhancement of the Healthy Babies, Healthy Children program;
- (3) the 2002 Operating Budget for Public Health be amended to include funding for 5 new programs approved for 100% provincial funding as follows:
 - (a) Injury and Family Abuse Prevention for \$261,000 gross/\$0 net (2.0 FTE);
 - (b) Healthy Pregnancy and Child Development for \$172,400 gross/\$0 net (2.0 FTE);
 - (c) Perinatal and Child Health Survey Strategies for \$135,714 gross/\$0 net (1.0 FTE);
 - (d) Support for At-Risk Pregnant Women for \$70,000 gross/\$0 net (1.0 FTE);
 - (e) French Language Services, Healthy Babies, Healthy Children for \$194,126 gross/\$0 net (3.0 FTE);
- (4) this report be forwarded to the Children and Youth Action Committee for their information and to the Budget Advisory Committee for their consideration; and
- (5) that the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Councillor Mihevc appointed Councillor Jones Acting Chair, and vacated the Chair.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board of Health adopted the aforementioned report (January 15, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health and forwarded same to:

- (1) the Children and Youth Action Committee for information; and
- (2) the Budget Advisory Committee for consideration.

Councillor Mihevc resumed the Chair.

(Children and Youth Action Committee; Budget Advisory Committee; Chair, Board of Health; Medical Officer of Health; c. Jane Speakman, Legal Services – January 29, 2002)

2.4 Terms of Reference and Membership of the Toronto Food Policy Council.

The Board of Health had before it a report (January 15, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health, seeking endorsement of the terms of reference and membership of the Toronto Food Policy Council; advising that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; and recommending that:

- (1) the Board of Health endorse the attached terms of reference and proposed membership for the Toronto Food Policy Council; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by , the Board of Health adopted the
aforementioned report.

Medical Officer of Health; Toronto Food Policy Council; c.
Jane Speakman, Legal Services – January 29, 2002)

2.5 Appointment of 2002 Public Health Grants Review Panels.

The Board of Health had before it a report (January 10, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health, seeking approval of the appointment of individuals put forward by the Medical Officer of Health to the Public Health Grants Review Panels for AIDS and Drug Abuse Prevention; advising that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; and recommending that:

- (1) the Board of Health appoint to the AIDS Prevention Review Panel the following individuals: Councillors Rae, Ashton and Augimeri; Germaine Chazou; Seth Clarke; Trevor Grey; Indra Ramkissoon; Myra Stephen; Durvall Ventura; and Lee Zaslofsky; and
- (2) the Board of Health appoint to the Drug Abuse Prevention Review Panel the following individuals: Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski; Eduardo Castro; April Cote; Brian Hyndman; Cathy Kozma; Brad Melnychuck; Stephen Merdith; and two additional community members to be confirmed at a later date.

Councillor Jones declared an interest in that she has a relative on the AIDS Grants Review Panel.

On motion by Mr. Hyndman, the Board adopted the aforementioned report and, further, appointed Brian MacKay to the Drug Abuse Prevention Review Panel.

(Medical Officer of Health; AIDS Prevention Review Panel; Drug Abuse Prevention Review Panel; c. Jane Speakman, Legal Services; Brian Mackay; Councillor Rae; Councillor Ashton; Councillor Augimeri; Germaine Chazou; Seth Clarke; Trevor Grey; Indra Ramkissoon; Myra Stephen; Durvall Ventura; Lee Zaslofsky; Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski; Eduardo Castro; April Cote; Brian Hyndman; Cathy Kozma; Brad Melnychuck; Stephen Merdith – January 29, 2002)

2.6 Toronto Public Health Access and Equity Policy Framework.

The Board of Health had before it a report (January 15, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health, seeking support for the implementation of Toronto Public Health's Access and Equity Policy Framework; advising that there are no immediate financial implications stemming directly from this report at this time; any future resource requirements to implement the Toronto Public Health Action Plan will be considered through the 2003 Operating Budget process; and recommending that:

- (1) the Board of Health continue to support the integration of Access and Equity principles and strategies into program planning, service delivery and evaluation;
- (2) the Board of Health continue to support active recruitment from Toronto's diverse communities for civic participation on local health committees and other initiatives; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Councillor Mihevc appointed Councillor Jones Acting Chair, and vacated the Chair.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board of Health adopted the aforementioned report and, further, requested the Medical Officer of Health to submit a progress report in 12-18 months' time.

Councillor Mihevc resumed the Chair.

(Medical Officer of Health; c. Jane Speakman, Legal Services – January 29, 2002)

2.7 Appointment of Associate Medical Officers of Health.

The Board of Health had before it a report (January 8, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health, submitting a confidential report regarding the appointment of two public health physicians as Associate Medical Officers of Health for the City of Toronto Health Unit; and recommended that:

- (1) the public health physicians named in Appendix 1 attached to this report be appointed Associate Medical Officers of Health for the City of Toronto health Unit and that this recommendation be transmitted to the provincial Minister of Health and Long Term Care for approval; and
- (2) authority be granted to introduce the necessary bill in Council to give effect to the above recommendation.

On motion by Councillor Jones, the Board of Health unanimously recommended to Council adoption of the report (January 8, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health.

(City Council; c. Medical Officer of Health; Jane Speakman, Legal Services – January 29, 2002)

(Clause No. 2, Report No. 2)

2.8 Member of Council Appointment to the Board of Health Substance Abuse Sub-Committee.

The Board of Health had before it a report (September 27, 2001) from the City Clerk, Substance Abuse Sub-Committee, recommending that the Board of Health appoint a member of Council, who is also a member of the Board of Health, to the Board of Health Substance Abuse Sub-Committee, to replace former Councillor Michael Prue, for a term to expire of May 31, 2002, or until a successor is appointed.

On motion by Councillor Jones, the Board of Health appointed Councillor Michael Tziretas to the Substance Abuse Sub-committee for a term to expire May 31, 2002, or until his successor is appointed.

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(Substance Abuse Subcommittee; c. Medical Officer of Health;
Jane Speakman, Legal Services; Helen Smith, Administrator,
Nominating Committee; Fern Deramaix, City Clerk's Office –
January 29, 2002)

2.9 Toronto Public Health – Delivery of the City’s Non-Mandatory Dental Program.

The Board of Health had before it a communication (December 4, 2001) from the City Clerk, Audit Committee, forwarding for information, a copy of the report (November 8, 2001) from the City Auditor headed “Toronto Public Health – Delivery of the City’s Non-Mandatory Dental Program” and advising that the Audit Committee, at its meeting on November 29, 2001, recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee that a value-for-money audit on the non-mandatory dental program be deferred to 2003.

Brian Mackay declared an interest in relating to Public Health dental services and grants in that he is a Board member of LAMP Community Health Centre.

On motion by Mr. MacKay, the Board of Health received the aforementioned communication.

2.10 Appointment of Board Members to the Reference Group on a Strategy to Achieve a Phase Out of Non-Essential Outdoor Uses of Pesticides.

The Board of Health had before it for information, Clause No. 1 contained in Report No. 7 of the Board of Health, headed “Strategy to Achieve a Phase Out of Non-essential Outdoor Uses of Pesticides”, which was adopted, as amended, by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on November 6, 7 and 8, 2001.

On motion by Councillor Jones, the Board of Health recommended to Council that Councillor Joe Mihevc, Chair and Dr. Rosana Pellizzari be appointed to the Reference Group.

(Clause No. 3, Report No. 2)

2.11 Enhancing Access to Public Washrooms.

The Board of Health had before it a communication (December 10, 2001) from the City Clerk, forwarding for information, and any attention deemed necessary, Clause No. 14 contained in Report No. 13 of The Community Services Committee, headed “Enhancing Access to Public Washrooms”, which was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on December 4, 5 and 6, 2001.

On motion by Councillor Jones, the Board of Health received the foregoing for information.

2.12 Toronto Public Health – Review of Corporate Charges.

The Board of Health had before it a communication (December 10, 2001) from the City Clerk, forwarding, for information, Clause No. 7 contained in Report No. 10 of The Audit Committee, headed “Toronto Public Health – Review of Corporate Charges”, which was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on December 4, 5 and 6, 2001.

Councillor Mihevc appointed Councillor Jones Acting Chair, and vacated the Chair.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board of Health unanimously recommended that the Budget Advisory Committee consider using the corporate charges allocated to Toronto Public Health to fund the unfunded portions in the 2002 Toronto Public Health budget.

Councillor Mihevc resumed the Chair.

(Budget Advisory Committee; c. Medical Officer of Health; Jane Speakman, Legal Services – January 29, 2002)

2.13 Ontario Early Years Centres and Early Literacy Initiative.

The Board of Health had before it a communication (December 10, 2001) from the City Clerk, forwarding for information, Clause No. 9 contained in Report No. 13 of The Community Services Committee, headed “Ontario Early Years Centres and Early Literacy Initiative”, which was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on December 4, 5 and 6, 2001.

On motion by Councillor Filion, the Board of Health received the foregoing for information.

2.14 Interim Report on the City’s Response to Jordan Heikamp Inquest Recommendations.

The Board of Health had before it a communication (December 10, 2001) from the City Clerk, forwarding for information, Clause No. 13, contained in Report No. 13 of The Community Services Committee, headed “Interim Report on the City’s Response to Jordan Heikamp Inquest Recommendations”, which was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on December 4, 5 and 6, 2001.

On motion by Trustee Stefanini, the Board of Health received the foregoing for information.

2.15 A Public Health Response to the Proposed LCBO Franchise System.

The Board of Health had before it a report (January 18, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health, seeking endorsement of the position paper, 'A Public Health Response to the Proposed LCBO Franchise System'; advising that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; and recommending that:

- (1) the Provincial decision to proceed with the proposed LCBO franchises be accompanied by:
 - (a) a careful analysis of the societal costs of alcohol and an examination of the experiences of other jurisdictions with regard to the privatization of alcohol sales;
 - (b) the involvement and input of local municipalities, public health professionals, and experts in the substance abuse field, in the selection of retail sites as well as in the implementation and review of the franchise program;
 - (c) an assessment of the communities of chosen retail sites to determine their capacity to deal with the consequences of having franchises in their communities and to ensure that these communities have adequate resources to address the alcohol-related problems that will likely accompany the increased availability of alcohol;
 - (d) strong and effective regulatory control mechanisms to ensure that current LCBO controls and social responsibility standards are met under the proposed model, along with adequate resources for the monitoring and enforcement of these controls and standards (i.e. pricing, hours of sale, etc.);
 - (e) a comprehensive approach to anticipate and address the alcohol-related problems that will result from the increased availability of alcohol under the proposed model, including health promotion, prevention, treatment, enforcement and harm reduction initiatives;
 - (f) uniform training and education for all customer service staff at the chosen retail outlets (e.g. SMAART training), including regular refresher courses, to ensure the responsible sale of alcohol, particularly the prevention of sales to minors and the intoxicated;
 - (g) careful monitoring, review and re-assessment within 2 years, of both the workings of the franchise system as well as its impact on Ontario communities, and that this information be shared with local boards of health;

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- (2) this report be forwarded for consideration to the Minister of Consumer and Business Services, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Solicitor General, the Attorney-General and the Premier of Ontario;
- (3) this report be forwarded for consideration to the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, the Ontario Public Health Association, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and Centre for Addiction and Mental Health; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Board of Health also had before it a communication (January 23, 2002) from the City Clerk, advising that the Substance Abuse Sub-committee, at its meeting on January 22, 2002, recommended that the recommendations contained in the report (January 18, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health, be amended as follows:

- (1) amending Recommendation No. (1) (a) by deleting the words “privatization of” and inserting in lieu thereof the words “expanded access to”, so that the recommendation would read as follows:

“(1) (a) a careful analysis of the societal costs of alcohol and a examination of the experiences of other jurisdictions with regard to the expanded access to alcohol sales;” and

- (2) amending Recommendation No. (1) (f) by inserting the words “maintenance of” before the word “uniform”, so that the recommendation would read as follows:

“(1) (f) maintenance of uniform training and education for all customer service staff at the chosen retail outlets (e.g. SMAART training), including regular refresher courses, to ensure the responsible sale of alcohol, particularly the prevention of sales to minors and the intoxicated;”.

On motion by Mr. Hyndman, the Board of Health adopted the aforementioned report, as amended, and, in so doing:

- (1) recommended that the Provincial decision to proceed with the proposed LCBO franchises be accompanied by:
 - (a) a careful analysis of the societal costs of alcohol and an examination of the experiences of other

- jurisdictions with regard to the expanded access to alcohol sales;
- (b) the involvement and input of local municipalities, public health professionals, and experts in the substance abuse field, in the selection of retail sites as well as in the implementation and review of the franchise program;
- (c) an assessment of the communities of chosen retail sites to determine their capacity to deal with the consequences of having franchises in their communities and to ensure that these communities have adequate resources to address the alcohol-related problems that will likely accompany the increased availability of alcohol and not to grant franchises until the communities have the resources in place;
- (d) strong and effective regulatory control mechanisms to ensure that current LCBO controls and social responsibility standards are met under the proposed model, along with adequate resources for the monitoring and enforcement of these controls and standards (i.e. pricing, hours of sale, etc.);
- (e) a comprehensive approach to anticipate and address the alcohol-related problems that will result from the increased availability of alcohol under the proposed model, including health promotion, prevention, treatment, enforcement and harm reduction initiatives;
- (f) maintenance of uniform training and education for all customer service staff at the chosen retail outlets (e.g. SMART training), including

regular refresher courses, to ensure the responsible sale of alcohol, particularly the prevention of sales to minors and the intoxicated;

- (g) careful monitoring, review and re-assessment within 2 years, of both the workings of the franchise system as well as its impact on Ontario communities, and that this information be shared with local boards of health;
- (2) forwarded this report for consideration to the Minister of Consumer and Business Services, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Solicitor General, the Attorney-General and the Premier of Ontario;
- (3) forwarded this report for consideration to the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, the Ontario Public Health Association, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and Centre for Addiction and Mental Health and Boards of Health in Ontario; and
- (4) authorized and directed the appropriate City officials to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

(Medical Officer of Health; Minister of Consumer and Business Services; Minister of Finance; Minister of Health and Long Term Care; Solicitor General; Attorney General; Premier of Ontario; Association of Local Public Health Agencies; Ontario Public Health Association; Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Centre for Addiction and Mental Health; Boards of Health in Ontario; c. Jane Speakman, Legal Services – January 29, 2002)

2.16 Animal Services Advisory Committee.

The Board of Health had before it report (January 21, 2002) from the Medical Officer of Health, seeking approval to reconvene the Animal Services Advisory Committee to

address Animal Services issues; advising that there are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report; and recommending that:

- (1) the Animal Services Advisory Committee be re-convened to address animal services issues;
- (2) the Board of Health appoint a chair for the Animal Services Advisory Committee; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Tziretas, the Board of Health adopted the foregoing report and appointed Councillor Irene Jones as Chair of the Animal Services Advisory Sub-committee.

(Substance Abuse Sub-committee; c. Medical Officer of Health; Councillor Irene Jones; Jane Speakman, Legal Services – January 29, 2002)

The Board of Health adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Chair