

Written Notice of Motion for Consideration as Emergency Business (Trustees Donaldson and Laskin)

From: Denise Joseph-Dowers, Manager, Board Services, Governance and Board Services

In accordance with the Board's bylaws, emergency business is defined as:

a situation, or the threat of a situation, adversely affecting health, safety and/or well-being, or resulting in significant legal risk or financial damage or loss, which by its nature and seriousness requires an immediate response...

Further,

5.12.7 A matter not on the agenda or directly related to matters arising from discussion cannot be introduced by a trustee at a Board or Committee meeting, or after the notice of agenda has been circulated to members, unless the item qualifies as emergency business and is confirmed by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present.

Trustee Donaldson has submitted the following as a matter of urgency for consideration at the special meeting on April 25, 2019 as emergency business.

It requires a two-thirds majority vote of the members present to be considered.

Importance of Public Health

Whereas, the World Health Organization, which is part of the United Nations, defines health as "A state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being, and not merely an absence of disease or infirmity" and public health addresses broad issues that can affect the health and well-being of individuals, families, communities, populations, and societies—both now, and for generations to come; and

Whereas, Toronto Public Health (TPH) reduces health inequities and improves the health of the whole population; and

Whereas, the province communicated reductions to the cost-sharing of public health between the city and province from a current level of 75% down to 50% in Toronto's case by 2021; and.

Whereas, Toronto Public Health provides critical supports to the health of TDSB students and families – and provides resources in support of early literacy intervention, disease control and prevention, and student nutrition programs, for example; and

Whereas, the TDSB is required by legislation to balance its operating budget by June 30, 2019 and is already struggling with a 54M deficit in its budget; and

Whereas, the City of Toronto has already passed its budget for this year; and

Whereas, during the TDSB's consultation on its 2019-20 budget drivers, the community indicated that both early years and differentiated supports were their greatest priority; and

Whereas, the TDSB relies heavily on public health supports in order to deliver early years programming and interventions, as well as delivering differentiated supports for students that reduce the impact of low income/poverty on education and respond effectively to its students' well-being and academic needs so all students have the opportunity to succeed; and

Whereas, the TDSB cannot effectively build its operational budget without understanding which Toronto Public Health programs will or will not continue;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the matter be deemed as emergency business;
- (b) That the Chair of the Toronto District School Board write a letter to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, and the Minister of Education as well as local Toronto Members of Provincial Parliament urging them to pause any reductions to funding of Toronto Public Health through the 2019-2020 school year, until there can be further consultation and a full discussion about the known impacts, in order that important programs that TDSB students need for their health, achievement and well-being are not at-risk;
- (c) That the TDSB take steps to notify all parents of the funding at-risk for Toronto Public Health programs and the possible impacts that any service reductions will have on students in our schools.

See attached, Background Information re Provincial Cuts to Toronto Public Health (Appendix A)

Appendix A

Provincial Budget Cuts to Toronto Public Health Backgrounder

Issue Background

On Thursday April 18, the Province of Ontario informed City officials that, effective immediately, current Provincial funding for Toronto Public Health would be reduced by \$1 billion over 10 years. This document provides background information on programming delivered and funded by Toronto Public Health now at risk, and a breakdown of the financial impact to public health programs in the City of Toronto.

Key Points

- Toronto Public Health is responsible for the health and well-being of all residents in the City of Toronto
 - The changes to the funding formula communicated to the City of Toronto on Thursday April 18 will revert the funding formula back to 50% provincial, 50% municipal, with a 2 year phase in period
 - This results in an \$64 million funding cut in 2019, and a \$102 million funding cut with a 50/50 cost-share formula
 - In 2018, Toronto Public Health provided service in 800 publicly funded schools, reaching over 344,000 students, including vaccinations for more than 20,000 students, conducted over 32,500 food safety inspections, and completed investigations for more than 400 cases of disease outbreak (specifics on other programs can be found below)
 - The Student Nutrition Program alone serves more than 210,000 meals a day to hungry children, with the most program locations found in Ward 7 (York South-Weston), Ward 24 (Scarborough-Guildwood), and Ward 1 (Etobicoke North)
 - All services provided by Toronto Public Health are at risk as a result of cuts by the Province
- **Toronto Public Health Overview**
 Toronto Public Health (TPH) is responsible for the health and well-being of all residents in the City of Toronto. TPH has focused on protecting and promoting the health of Toronto residents since 1883 by:
 - Preventing the spread of disease, promoting healthy living and advocating for conditions that improve health for Toronto residents
 - Using surveillance to monitor the health status of the population in order to respond to on-going and emerging health needs
 - Developing and implementing public policy and practices that enhance the health of individuals, communities and the entire city

Investments in public health programs saves health care costs tomorrow

- Every \$1 invested in immunizing children saves \$16 in health care costs in the future

- Every \$1 invested in tobacco prevention saves \$20 in future health care
- **Toronto Public Health Program and Service Outcomes**
In 2018, Toronto Public Health provided service in 800 publicly funded schools, reaching over 344,000 students, including vaccinations for more than 20,000 students, conducted over 32,500 food safety inspections, and completed investigations for more than 400 cases of disease outbreak (specifics on other programs can be found below)
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In total, 91% of the Toronto Public Health Budget is spent on program delivery. The 9% not spent on program delivery includes health equity training, research and evaluation, in addition to back office supports such as finance.

Below are approximate Toronto Public Health program and service outcomes, **on an annual basis**:

Children and Youth

Toronto Public Health provides health service to children that may have one or more of the following health needs:

- mild to moderate permanent hearing loss, including children who are deaf
- blind or low vision
- medically fragile kids
- speech, language, communication delays
- autism

Audiology:

- Completed 36,601 newborn hearing screens.
- Completed 892 hearing assessments among children.

Preschool Speech and Language:

Provides help for children with speech and language concerns, from birth to when they start junior kindergarten:

- Number of initial assessments: 4,529
- Number of intervention sessions: 8,168
- Number of parent education sessions: 72

Communicable Diseases

- Over 100,000 reportable disease notifications
- Approximately 50,000 cases and contacts investigated
- Over 28,000 confirmed cases of communicable diseases

Dental

- Completed dental screenings for approximately 220,000 junior kindergarten to grade 8 students across Toronto
- Completed 12,000 preventive dental services for children aged 0-18 years old. This includes cleaning, fluoride, and sealant treatments to prevent future cavities

Daycares

- Provide infection prevention and control support and inspections for 1,050 child care centres in Toronto

Food Safety

- Inspected approximately 17,000 food premises
- Completed over 32,500 inspections through Dine Safe, keeping Torontonians safe from food-borne illnesses
- This includes inspections at all establishments serving and preparing food, and places such as school and hospital cafeterias, bars, restaurants, food trucks, hot dog stands, and convenience stores selling food

Long-Term Care Facilities

- Complete inspections at approximately 85 Long-Term Care facilities in Toronto to prevent foodborne illness, provide support for infection prevention and control and outbreak response

Outbreaks

- Completed investigations for approximately 400 outbreaks in settings including:
 - Acute care hospitals
 - Academic settings
 - Child care centres
 - Community centres
 - Food services
 - Long-term care homes
 - Retirement homes

Personal Service Settings

- Completed over 3,500 inspections at aesthetic spas, tattoo parlors, and hair and nail salons
- These inspections ensure that business owners/operators use safe practices to prevent fungal and bacterial infections and the spread of infections, such as:
 - Hepatitis B
 - Hepatitis C

- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

Sexual Health Program

- 18,000 visits to Toronto Public Health sexual health clinics, over 1,500 visits to partnership clinics and approximately 50,000 visits to Toronto Public Health funded clinics
- Over 28,000 doses of medication to treat sexually transmitted diseases were provided by Toronto Public Health to Toronto physicians and other health care providers in 2018

Student Nutrition Program

- Supported 602 school communities to provide over 37,600,000 meals to more than 200,000 children and youth
- Toronto Public Health investment is 19% (approximately \$15 million) of total program costs for the Student Nutrition Program
 - Investment from the Province is approximately 10% of the total program costs

Swimming Pools

- Completed approximately 4,000 inspections during summer at pools located across the city

Rabies Inspections

- Completed approximately 3,000 rabies exposure incident investigations

Tuberculosis

- Responded to more than 280 cases of Tuberculosis reported to TPH

Toronto Urban Health Fund

- TUHF provides one year and three year project funding to non-profit community based organizations to support initiatives under the following three streams: HIV prevention, Harm reduction, child and youth resiliency
 - Asian communities: 3 projects
 - South Asian community: 2 projects
- In 2018, The Toronto Urban Health Fund allocated:
 - \$1.12M to HIV Prevention
 - \$1.24M to Harm Reduction and Overdose Prevention
 - \$950K to Child and Youth Resiliency

Vaccines

- Immunize about 20,000 school students annually against HBV (hepatitis B), Menactra (Meningitis Vaccine) and HPV
- Provide nearly 50,000 doses of vaccine to students each school year
- Provide over 7,000 flu vaccines to the public each year

- Assessed over 322,000 senior kindergarten-grade 12 students' immunization records in over 800 schools
 - Currently over 80% of students have up to date records. This work greatly reduces the spread of contagious diseases and outbreaks in schools.
 - There are 350,000 students in 800 publicly funded schools in Toronto.
- Inspected approximately 2,300 vaccine fridges at local pharmacies, health clinics, doctor's offices and other locations across the city, ensuring vaccines are stored at proper temperatures

West Nile Virus

- Completed nearly 400,000 catch basis treatments to reduce mosquito populations that can transmit West Nile Virus.

• **Financial Impact of Provincial Funding Cuts**

- The Province of Ontario is the only Canadian Province requiring municipal governments to share Public Health costs
- Prior to 2004, the funding formula for public health programs was 50% provincial, 50% municipal
 - Following the SARS crisis, the provincial government recognized the significant impact of sustained funding for public health programs to protect against future outbreaks, and changed the formula to 75% provincial, 25% municipal
- The changes to the funding formula communicated to the City of Toronto on Thursday April 18 will revert the funding formula back to 50% provincial, 50% municipal, phased in over 3 years
 - 2019/2020: Effective April 1, 2019 60% provincial, 40% for Toronto
 - Other public health units in the province will be 70% provincial, 30% municipal
 - 2020/2021: Effective April, 2020, 60% provincial, 40% for Toronto
 - Other public health units in the province will be 70% provincial, 30% municipal
 - 2021/2022: Effective April 1, 2021, 50% provincial, 50% for Toronto
 - The remaining public health units will be either 70/30 or 60/40
- This results in an \$64 million funding cut in 2019, and a cut of \$102 million starting in 2021 with the 50/50 funding formula
- Over a 10-year period, this results in a reduction of \$1 billion in dollars from the Provincial government for public health programs in Toronto
- All services provided, or funded, by Toronto Public Health are at risk as a result of cuts by the Province

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