

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

October 8, 2002

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Provincial Early Childhood Development Initiative: Capital Health Young Family Wellness Plan

ORIGINATOR: Bob Holt, Executive Director, Instructional and Curricular Support Services

RESOURCE STAFF: Gloria Chalmers

INFORMATION

The following report provides the board with information about the portion of the provincial early childhood development initiative planned and being implemented by Capital Health.

Background: In the September 10, 2002 board report, *Provincial Early Childhood Development Initiative: Region 10 Plan*, information was provided about the Government of Canada and provincial and territorial governments' early childhood development framework. As well, the report indicated that Children's Services and Health and Wellness were given the lead in specific early childhood development investment areas. The Region 10 Ma'mōwe Capital Region Child and Family Services Authority early childhood development initiative plan was also provided.

The focus of this board report is the Capital Health authority plan, *Capital Health Young Family Wellness: A Public Health Initiative Implementation Plan*. It complements the Ma'mōwe plan.

Capital Health Young Family Wellness: A Public Health Initiative Implementation Plan: The overall goal of the plan (Appendix I) is to improve birth outcomes and the health and development of children in the early years. As with the Ma'mōwe Capital Region Child and Family Services plan, it covers all of Region 10. This plan brings another \$1,800,000 to the region in 2002-2003 and complements the initiatives in the Ma'mōwe plan. The plan was approved by Health and Wellness in April 2002 and implementation has been proceeding and will be complete by December 2002.

The plan was built around two goals – healthy birth outcomes and optimal growth and development. Highlights of the plan when fully implemented will include:

1. Provision of prevention strategies for pre-term labour from physicians or other health service providers – A total of \$154,366 is dedicated to such things as, development of a standard prenatal education curriculum and educational resources and consistent protocols for health service providers across the Capital Region.

2. Improved access to prenatal medical and health care programs for women who do not access service – A total of \$462,793 is dedicated to increased medical and primary health services for women with complex health and social issues offered at the Eastwood and Woodcroft Health Centres. Cultural broker services for the Kurdish, Philippine and Sudanese community who have difficulty accessing health services.
3. Support for overburdened families in the baby's first year will be increased by \$347,420. This includes a universal screen for first time parenting women to identify, refer and follow up those who may benefit from intensive home visitation or other community services. Follow up and group support for Health for Two families and women with postpartum depression.
4. Targeted provision of primary health services to infant and preschool children attending health clinics – A total of \$556,718 is dedicated to such things as expanded hours of operation, outreach clinics in day cares and other community settings, reduced out of pocket expenses for families and services in homes when other options are not possible.
5. Increased support for day care staff, children and their families in the northeast quadrant of the city and the select sites identified as having the highest number of children with developmental delays and behaviour problems – A total of \$241,303 is dedicated to such things as provision of training and resources to day care staff and families on stimulating speech development, fine and gross motor coordination and management of common and chronic health conditions including asthma.
6. Support for families of children with two or more developmental delays enrolled in the Edmonton Early Intervention Program offered at other school settings – A total of \$184,010 is dedicated to provision of two additional playgroups per week and two additional eight-week tot time playgroups.
7. Health services offered out of the Northeast Community Health Centre for preschool children diagnosed with asthma \$144,209.

The funding figures indicated above total \$2,089,819, exceeding the \$1,800,000 figure by \$289,819 because permission was granted to carry over dollars from year one when the plan was not fully implemented.

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ATTACHMENT I: Young Family Wellness: A Public Health Initiative
Implementation Plan