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HEALTHY BABIES, HEALTHY CHILDREN PROGRAMS 2003 YEAR END SETTLEMENT

The Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, August 27, 2004, from the Commissioner of Finance:

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. The Certificate of Settlement of Healthy Babies/Healthy Children Program for the 2003 fiscal year be received.

2. The Ministry of Health and Long Term Care be requested to provide funding for administrative support costs for the Healthy Babies, Healthy Children Program.

2. PURPOSE

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care requires that a separate audited annual Comparative Statement of Revenue and Expenditures be submitted for Healthy Babies/Healthy Children Program.

The final audit has been completed by the Region’s audit firm for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003. A copy of the Certificate of Settlement is appended as Attachment 1.

3. BACKGROUND

The Healthy Babies/Healthy Children Program is a mandatory 100% provincially funded program. It is a preventative early intervention program intended to improve the well-being and long-term prospects of children.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Total budgeted direct program expenditures of $2,718,483 were approved and cash flowed by the Ministry. The Healthy Babies/Healthy Children direct program costs are 100% subsidized by the Ministry. Total actual net program expenditures for the 2003 fiscal year totalled $2,668,908, resulting in an underexpenditure of $36,614. This underspending is mostly a result of the benefits gapping due to the increased hiring of short term temporary staff until permanent vacancies can be filled in the Healthy Babies/Healthy Children Program.

The Ministry does not fund indirect corporate services provided in support of this program. These services include Corporate Services such as Human Resources and Property Services, and services provided by the Finance Department such as Payroll, Accounting, Budgeting, Purchasing and Information Technology. In addition, the

Ministry does not fund direct administrative costs such as rent. Costs associated with these direct administrative costs and indirect corporate services are therefore absorbed in the cost shared portion of the Public Health budget. It is recommended that the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care be requested to fund administrative costs incurred to support these programs.

5. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

There are no local municipal implications associated with this report.

6. CONCLUSION

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care requires that a separate audited annual Comparative Statement of Revenue and Expenditures be submitted for the Healthy Babies/Healthy Children Program. The attached Year End Settlement satisfy this requirement.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(A copy of the attachment referred to in the foregoing was forwarded to each Member of Council with the September 9, 2004 Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee agenda and a copy is also on file in the Regional Clerk's office.)