



TO: Chair and Members of the Finance & Facilities Committee

FROM: Christopher Mackie, Medical Officer of Health

DATE: 2018 July 5

MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAM FUNDING

Recommendation:

That the Finance & Facilities Committee recommend that the Board of Health:

- 1. Receive Report No. 029-18FFC re: "Ministry of Children and Youth Services Program Funding;" and*
- 2. Direct staff to receive this funding.*

Key Points

- The Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) is providing the Health Unit with one-time funding of \$19,600 to ensure continuity of vital services to children and youth and to be spent on participation in the Outcome Tools Pilot for Children with Permanent Hearing Loss for the period of May 29, 2018, to March 31, 2019.

Discussion

The Infant Hearing Program (IHP) provides follow-up supports and services to children from birth to school age who are identified with permanent hearing loss through Infant Hearing Screening conducted by the Health Unit. One of the services provided is communication development. The IHP is developing a protocol for assessing children's developmental outcomes related to speech and language/communication development over time until the children turn six or when they are transitioned to school. All IHP regions across the province are conducting pilots using this protocol. Several different tests must be purchased for use in reassessing children. Tests range in price from approximately \$500 to more than \$2,000. Each of our five service provider sites will require several copies. In addition, there is a need for incremental labour to log test scores into a provincial database.

Conclusion

The MCYS is providing the Health Unit with one-time funding of \$19,600 to support participation in the Outcome Tools Pilot for Children with Permanent Hearing Loss in the South West Region Infant Hearing Program. Funding covers purchase of program materials and data collection for the period from May 29, 2018, to March 31, 2019.

This report prepared by the Finance Team, Healthy Organization Division.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Mackie'.

Christopher Mackie, MD, MHSc, CCFP, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health