

Student Nutrition Program Funding History and Support in the City of Toronto

Creating Learning Opportunities to
Encourage and Grow Municipal Financial
Investment in Student Nutrition Programs

History of Municipal Funding for SNPs in Toronto

Year	Municipal Funding	Provincial Funding	Students Served
1991 (1991-92)	\$180,000	0	~4000
1995 (1995-96)	not available	\$500,000	
1998 (1998-99)	\$1,310,500	\$802,422	
2004 (2004-05)	\$2,499,340	\$1,837,501	
2008 (2008-09)	\$2,799,340	\$7,204,394	
2012 (2012-13)	\$3,819,580	\$5,716,508	
2013 (2013-14)	\$5,300,380	\$6,038,708	
2017 (2017-18)	\$12,235,979	\$8,487,808	
2019 (2019-20)	\$14,960,117	\$8,487,808	
2022 (2022-23)	\$16,841,303	\$8,487,808	
2024 (2024-25)	\$19,164,300	not available	211,000+

History of Municipal Funding for SNPs in Toronto

- ▶ **1992** - \$180,000 pilot project to develop/support SNPs in 8 Metro Toronto inner-city Toronto District School Board schools (~4000 K-8 participants)
- ▶ **1993** - initial dedicated municipal funding for K-8 school SNPs through grant application process in spring
- ▶ **1995** - initial \$500,000 provincial funding for K-13 SNPs through grant application to Breakfast for Learning (Canadian Living Foundation)
- ▶ **2004** - first secondary (9-12) programs being considered for municipal funding

History of Municipal Funding for SNPs in Toronto

- ▶ **2008-2015** - large initial influx of provincial funding to SNPs (breakfast and morning meal) in designated sites across Ontario; 2009-2012 - modest increases in municipal funding
- ▶ **2013** - significant increase in municipal funding base (+\$1.5M)
- ▶ **2018** - municipal funding support back to ~20% of SNP cost from ~8% (2012)
- ▶ **2019** - first municipal funding consideration given for SNPs in independent schools
- ▶ **2024 SNP Budget:** \$19,164,300, an increase of \$1,495,000 (~8.5%) over 2023

Creating Learning Opportunities to Initiate and Grow Financial Investment in SNPs

- ▶ 2001 - letter to Mayor and City Councillors
- ▶ 2002 onwards - letters to each Councillor and Mayor with lists of schools and stats for their ward; first large physical map of SNP locations + stats created
- ▶ 2010-2020 - Councillor Package developed by Toronto Public Health in consultation with Community Development Team

Creating Learning Opportunities to Initiate and Grow Financial Investment in SNPs

- ▶ Letters, phone calls, emails
- ▶ Student artwork and/or thank you notes
- ▶ Visit to Councillor or Mayor's Office
- ▶ Deputations at Budget Committee, Town Council, Board of Health and/or Community and Social Services, etc.

Creating Learning Opportunities to Initiate and Grow Financial Investment in SNPs

- ▶ Visit to a Student Nutrition Program
 - ▶ Always check with school board or site authority
 - ▶ Showcase an average SNP not the ‘perfect’ program
 - ▶ Be honest so you can demonstrate need
 - ▶ Treat the visit as a learning opportunity, not a photo op

Final Thoughts and Reflections

- ▶ Work with your supporters
- ▶ Seek out those not already onboard
- ▶ Be prepared to work with everyone
- ▶ Find common ground; make it personal
- ▶ Overall statistics demonstrate the need
- ▶ Individual stories bring the statistics to life
- ▶ Exercise patience but keep up the pressure - all good things take time

Thank you!

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