



2004 BUDGET BRIEFING NOTE: Toronto Zoo and Ontario Student Attendance

2004-02-27

BAC Issue / Background:

The purpose of this briefing note is to respond to the request of the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) at the meeting of February 18th in relation *to the number of school children going through the gate Monday to Friday from outside the City boundaries and other benefits accruing to other GTA municipalities.*

Key Points:

The following table outlines the school group attendance statistics from the City of Toronto, adjacent regions in the GTA (Durham, York, Peel, Halton) and other areas for 2003:

Area	2003	%
City of Toronto	42,240	33
GTA Regions (Durham, York, Peel, Halton)	56,320	44
Other Areas	29,440	23
Total	128,000	

Interpretation:

Based on the attendance statistics for 2003, it can be seen that 67% of the student visitors to the Toronto Zoo were from outside the City of Toronto. As the Toronto Zoo education programs are funded in part by the tax base of the City of Toronto, there is a significant service level being provided to the Greater Toronto Areas of Durham, York, Peel, and Halton, and other areas in the Province of Ontario.

Conclusion:

The majority of the student visitors benefiting from the educational programs of the Toronto Zoo are from outside the City of Toronto.