



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Aboriginal Community Advisory Committee

Date: February 16, 2016

Time: 6:00 pm

Present: Elder Vern Harper; Elder Duke Redbird; Trustee Jerry Chadwick; Trustee Chris Glover; Landy Anderson (Native Child and Family Services of Toronto); Bob Phillips; Renee Dixon (Parent Eastview PS); Rashida Wall (Parent Eastview PS); Catlyn Judge (Student);

TDSB staff : Executive Superintendent Jim Spyropoulos; Superintendent John Chasty; Barbara Felschow (Central Coordinating Principal, AEC); Bonnie Johnston (Community Liaison); Tanya Senk (AEC Program Coordinator) Tasha Smith (Teacher & parent); Jennie Town(Coordinator TDSB & parent); Kenneth Morden (Principal Eastview PS); Nicholas Deleary (NLC- Ojibwe Language); Amy White (Teacher); Christina Saunders (Teacher Eastview PS); Natasha Gleeson(teacher);

Recorder: Latha John (Parent and Community Engagement Office)

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/MOTION
Call to Order	Trustee Chadwick Chaired the meeting at 6:10 pm Traditional prayer by Elder Vern Harper. Welcome introductions followed.	
Approval of Agenda	Agenda to be amended by switching Agenda items 4 and 5. Motion to approve the agenda as amended by Bob Phillips. All in Favour. Motion carried.	



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Announcement	<p>The album -Native North America, Vol.1: Aboriginal Folk, Rock and Country 1966-1985 was nominated for the Grammy. Elder Duke Redbird's poem "Silver River" performed by the artist Shingoose was featured in the Grammy nominated album. ACAC recognised Elder Duke Redbird for the achievement.</p> <p>The Board is looking to order the album for the NAC 10 teachers. The Board is also working towards a possibility at getting the artists /musicians for the National Aboriginal Day celebrations in June.</p>	
Review and Approval of the Minutes – January 16, 2016	Motion to approve the January 19th minutes by Bob Phillips. All in Favour. Motion carried.	
Native Learning Centre East- Student Business Initiative Nicholas Deleary	<p>Entrepreneurship leadership program at the Native Learning Centre. The curriculum for the program has the Ojibwe language, the history and traditions of metal making as well as entrepreneurship. The Aboriginal metal making tradition can be traced back to 6000 years which predates Mesopotamia metal making tradition. The program teaches Anishinaabe design and mathematics involved in the design work. The proposal for the program was accepted by the Board. The students are working on copper and silver metals.</p>	
Tour of Eastview School	<p>Eastview Public School Principal Ken Morden: The school has a total of 400 students, one third of the students in the school self-identify as First Nations. The landscape of the school and the teaching environment is inclusive of Indigenous histories, cultures and traditions.</p>	ACAC members were given a tour of Eastview School.



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	<p>The language options at Eastview are either Ojibwe or French and pathways are provided to continue the programs in the secondary level at Sir Wilfred Laurier Collegiate.</p> <p>The school is actively involved with the South East Scarborough Pow Wow and Quarterly Drum socials.</p> <p>Advocacy from the Trustees, Eastview staff and AEC staff have brought in the following additional supports to the school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hall Monitor • Counsellor • Extra Office Secretary • Two Administrators <p>Significant changes in the school were met by the Board to accommodate the needs.</p> <p>Eastview Parent Community Q&A</p> <p>Q. There are not enough Aboriginal supports /resources in the east especially for the Aboriginal community at Eastview when compared to the resources available in the downtown core. What can be done for more resources for the community as Eastview has the largest number of self-identified students in Toronto?</p> <p>Parent Feedback</p> <p>There is a lack of FNMI parent involvement in school related activities (e.g., Eastview School Parent Council). There are trust issues in the community and so engaging local parents is challenging.</p>	<p>Action: The AEC Community Liaison will set up a meeting with Eastview parents to address the needs of the community.</p>
<p>Follow up / Action Item Block 10</p>	<p>There are no updates from Anishnawbe Heath Toronto or Mizwie Bik.</p>	<p>Action: Block 10 to be on the agenda for next meeting.</p>



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TDSB regarding Purchasing Department payment of service	Staff met with the Manger of Accounts Payable. A pathway was developed to pay invoices in a timely way. The previous payment issues brought to attention at last ACAC meeting are now resolved.	
Community Check in Clarification regarding the role of the new Chair for transitioning year	ACAC Co-Chair transition It is a transitioning year for the new Co-Chair. Rob Lackie is still Co-Chair along with Blu Walters who is now a new Co-Chair and J'net.	
Staff Update Executive Superintendent Jim Spyropoulos	<p>First Nations School of Toronto Update The proposed relocation of the First Nations School of Toronto at Eastern Commerce Collegiate. The location is to become an “Indigenous Center of Excellence” and will gradually accommodate Jk-12. Barbara Felschow has been appointed as the Coordinator of the project. Tanya Senk has been appointed in an acting capacity as Central Vice Principal of the AEC. The position will be posted in an open competition. The board has selected Two row architects to design the phase one plan of the First Nations School of Toronto.</p> <p>Additional Professional Day in April The Board has an additional PD day on April 15, 2016.</p> <p>Staffing The staffing to be maintained in AEC and Eastview.</p>	
Aboriginal Educational Centre-	The ACAC observed a moment of silence in respect for Kiowa	



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<p>Barbara Felschow and Tanya Senk</p>	<p>McComb who lost his life tragically. Kiowa McComb was an Intern student working with J’net at the ROM and attended the ACAC in January.</p> <p>Indigenous Center of Excellence A steering committee has been set up for the Indigenous Center of Excellence with the following; Elder Vern Harper Elder Pauline Shirt Elder Duke Redbird Dr Susan Dion Vicky Eagle Eye from South Dakota was invited to perform a ceremonial engagement process at Eastern Commerce Collegiate to call on the ancestral spirits for guidance and direction. ACAC to have a meeting with Two Row as part of consultation. Communication to follow.</p> <p>Indigenous PANAM Games 2017 Minister of Cultural Tourist and sport; Minister of Aboriginal Affairs visited the Brockton Center. The announcement of the Indigenous PANAM games to be in Toronto in 2017.</p> <p>Scholarship opportunity Scholarship opportunity with Faculty of Medicine University of Toronto. Communication to follow.</p> <p>AEC Community Forum</p>	



ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/MOTION
	<p>On Feb 18th the AEC will host a panel discussion on the topic of missing and murdered Indigenous women.</p> <p>Truth and Reconciliation letter The letter that was collaboratively drafted with Elder Duke Redbird, Bob Phillips, Trustee Gough, Trustee Brown and AEC staff. The letter appeals to the Minister for mandating Indigenous learning in the curriculum across Ontario as is in the other provinces. The Kairos petition to the legislative assembly from the Board asking the Truth and Reconciliation commission’s recommendations on the curriculum be legislative. The letter to be taken to the board meeting of the Ontario Public School Board Association (OPSBA).</p> <p>a) First Nations, Métis, Inuit Collaborative Inquiry Tasha Smith is organizing a gathering for teachers involved and FNMI parents and community members. The gathering will be on March 22 at 90 Croatia Street. An email invitation will be sent out to the ACAC.</p>	
NAC 10	Deferred to next month	
New & other Business Ministry of Education Q&A – Voluntary Self-identification for Aboriginal Students	Deferred to next month	
Future Topics Invitation to the new TDSB Director of Education	Director Malloy is looking at the functioning of all Community Advisory Committees of the Board. The committee to invite him at the future meeting.	Action: The Director of the Board to be invited to the March or April meeting.



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Learning through the arts	<p>Learning Through the Arts (RCM) Learning Through the Arts is interested in attending an ACAC meeting to present a program that involves learning through the arts and digital media in TDSB schools. First Nations, Métis and Intuit media artists to be involved in the program. Eastview school is a possible school for the program.</p> <p>Q&A Q.Is this an elementary program? A. There could be a possibility for a secondary program. Secondary students do very well in arts and the program could be very beneficial.</p>	<p>Action: The Royal Conservatory Department to be invited to the next ACAC meeting.</p>
Next Meeting Date	Next meeting date is March 29, 2016	
Adjournment	Traditional closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:31pm	

