



## **COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Committee Name: Aboriginal Community Advisory Committee

Date: Tuesday January 17, 2017

Time: 5:30pm- 8pm

### **Core Voting Constituent's:**

Present: Landy Anderson (NCFST), Dr. Joanne Dallaire (Elder), Marilyn Hew (TYRMC), Joseph Poitras (Council of the Métis Nation of Ontario), Shannon Judge (Parent), Dawn Maracle (University of Toronto), Justin Chiblow (ROM), Peta-Gaye Ebanks (Parent), Tracy McKenzie (Parent), Dr. Susan Dion (York University) and Michael Cheena (Community member).

### **TDSB Trustee's:**

Present: Jennifer Story.

### **TDSB Staff:**

Present: John Chasty (Superintendent), Barbara-Ann Felschow (Central Coordinating Principal), Tanya Senk (Central Coordinating Vice Principal), Mike Izzo (Instructional Leader), Sandy Spyropoulos (Executive Superintendent), Tasha Smith (Student Success Teacher), Natasha Gleeson (Teacher), Lena Recollet (Native Language Instructor), Christina Saunders (Instructional Leader), Tessa Sill (Community Liaison), Jimmy Dick (Cultural Instructor), Roxanne Chee (Teacher), Adrienne Plumley (Teacher), Mary Doucette (Office Clerk) and Bonnie Johnston (Community Liaison).

**Guests:** La Toya Dennie (University of Toronto) and Artur Jakubowski (University of Toronto).



**Regrets:** Co-Chair Blu Waters (Elder), Co-Chair J'net Ay Ay Qwa Yak Sheelth (Parent), Pam Gough (Trustee), Bob Phillips (community member), Alexander Brown (Trustee), Mario Tenentes (Principal), Jennie Town (NLC East Coordinator), Veronica Johnny (Community member), Chris Renna (City of Toronto), Rhonda Kakegamic (TDSB staff), Jonathan Kakegamic (Principal), Mark Varvas (Vice Principal) and Carrie Lester (Teacher).

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/MOTION/ACTION
Call to Order, Traditional Opening	Bonnie Johnston chaired the meeting. Elder Joanne Dallaire conducted a traditional prayer to open the meeting followed by introductions of the membership in attendance.	
Approval of Agenda	The agenda was amended and approved; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New &amp; Other Business – Information sharing by Dawn Maracle representing the University of Toronto was moved to agenda item #5</li> <li>• Community Check in/New &amp; Other Business &amp; Future Topics – Information sharing by Blu Waters was deferred</li> </ul>	
Review and Approval of the minutes of November 22, 2016	The minutes of November 22, 2016 were approved by Joseph & seconded by Landy. Christina Breen was present November 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2016 and will be added in attendance. Marilyn Hew requested that there be a correction made on page 7 where it said: <i>Community Check in item.</i>	Christina Breen will be added in attendance for the Nov 22 meeting.  Correction made on page 7 of the November 22, 2016 minutes. The following sentence will be changed to: Marilyn Hew: presented the TYRMC



		sash and explained the colours in the sash.
New & Other Business:	<p><b>Blu Waters:</b> TDSB trustee- Deferred</p> <p><b>Dawn Maracle, University of Toronto Update:</b></p> <p><b>Latoya:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer mentorship program for students. Applications are due for the second deadline of March 24<sup>th</sup>. First deadline was January 13<sup>th</sup>. Would like to get the information of the program out to as many as possible. Current have two students in program who identify as Indigenous.</li> <li>• Pilot program for grades 5-8 to allow then to go onto U of T campus to become comfortable being on a University campus. Students will be offered ½ day information and ½ day hands-on learning in the Bio-Material &amp; Bio-Medical fields.</li> </ul> <p><b>Arthur:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medicine Youth Summer Program has been running for 8 years. Last year they had 10 Indigenous students participating in the program. Practical examples and 4<sup>th</sup> year science experiments will be conducted with the students in the program. There are two ways to obtain a scholarship for the program – General application and Self identifying Indigenous application.</li> </ul>	TDSB trustee- Deferred



<p>Follow-up/Action Items:</p> <p>-Motion: Modifying the Land Acknowledgment -Motion: National Aboriginal Day</p>	<p><b>Dr. Duke Redbird: Motion; Modifying the Land Acknowledgment</b> Duke offered his perspectives about the history of European settlers and Indigenous women. He indicated that all nations who have been mentioned in the past should be recognized today as we all share a covenant to take care of and love the land. Duke recommends that the Land Acknowledgment carries on as it stands for the remainder of the school year. It should be introduced in the spirit of the 150+ year's celebration of confederation.</p> <p><b>Marilyn:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will share this information with the TYRMC.</li> </ul> <p><b>Joseph:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The letter from the Toronto &amp; York Region Métis Council was not given to the Métis Nation.</li> <li>• Why are we giving this letter so much weight?</li> <li>• It now affects the Métis Council and will be taken back to them.</li> </ul> <p><b>Dawn:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concurs with Duke, keeping the Acknowledgment the same for this school year and will take this information back to the Haudenosaunee people.</li> </ul>	<p>The ACAC recommends the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That TDSB will remain with the current wording of the <i>Land Acknowledgement</i> and that further consultation and dialogue occur with First Nations, Métis and Inuit</li> </ul>
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	<p><b>Sandy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After approval from the committee, will be taken to the board. Agrees that it should be modified and changed for July 1, 2017. Should be released with supporting documentation to support the students with what they're saying.</li> </ul> <p><b>Michael:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Métis have always occupied this land. There have been conflicts of interest specifically with Duncan Campbell Scott who was the deputy superintendent, who was also in charge of residential schools.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tanya:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be further engagement in consultation before the Land Acknowledgment is finished revision and is distributed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sandy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendations from the ACAC will be taken to the Board of Trustees. Jennifer Story chairs the committee and will speak to this tomorrow, along with Barb to formalize the conversations had.</li> <li>• Confirms that Métis will not be removed from the Land Acknowledgment read in schools until modified.</li> </ul>	<p>communities and that as a result of this action, modifications be prepared, presented &amp; celebrated for July 2017 in conjunction with <i>Canada 150</i> to centre Indigenous voice as <i>Canada 150+</i>.</p>
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	<p><b>Jennifer:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will ask at the meeting that the modifying of the Land Acknowledgment be deferred until July 1, 2017 for the 150+ year's celebration of confederation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sandy Spyropoulos: Motion; National Aboriginal Day</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motion will be brought forward to the next Program and Services Committee (PSC) for approval.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tanya:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Aboriginal Day is already acknowledged in the Days of Significance for the TDSB. How would it be different?</li> </ul> <p><b>Sandy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It will be taken to employee services. Teachers will be able to put in a request for leave.</li> <li>• It will be strongly recommended that on June 21 exams for Secondary students will not take place on that day or the students will be able to reschedule their exam. It would always be June 21, regardless of weekday or weekend</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sandy Spyropoulos:</b> Motion will be brought forward for approval to have Nation Aboriginal Day as a holiday for teachers and students.</p>
<p><b><u>Community check in:</u></b></p>	<p><b>Blu Waters:</b> TDSB trustee- Deferred</p>	<p>TDSB trustee- Deferred</p>
<p><b><u>Staff Update:</u></b></p>	<p><b>Sandy Spyropoulos: Update</b></p>	



<p>Led by: -Sandy Spyropoulos -Barbara Ann Felschow &amp; Tanya Senk -Bonnie Johnston – Updates to current ACAC terms of reference</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reorganization of board meetings. Members &amp; Chairs have been changed. ACAC Trustees' are Jennifer Story, Pamela Gough and Alexander Brown.</li> <li>• Thanks to AEC &amp; FNST for getting everything situated at 16 Phin Ave.</li> <li>• Students were welcomed and the school was opened on Tuesday Jan 10<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>• The school will continue to grow each year. There will be an open house on February 2<sup>nd</sup> for new grade 9's to start next year and each year afterwards.</li> <li>• Thanks to Dr. Duke Redbird and Tanya Senk for representing the AEC on the Inner City Task Force Committee.</li> </ul> <p><b>Shannon:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wanted to acknowledge how the move to 16 Phin has impacted her 7 &amp; 9 year old children. They are beyond excited to be in the new location.</li> </ul> <p><b>Barbara Ann Felschow &amp; Tanya Senk:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urban Indigenous Education Centre of Excellence (UIECE) - Sub-committees have been formed.</li> <li>• Steering Committee will have a meeting in February.</li> <li>• Synergy between the First Nations School of</li> </ul>	
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	<p>Toronto (FNST) &amp; the Aboriginal Education Centre (AEC) as the FNST moved in January 9, 2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FNST Principal Jonathan Kakegamic sends his regrets.</li> <li>• AEC hosted team building activities for the staff of FNST &amp; AEC.</li> <li>• Jan 9, 2017 – Meet &amp; Greet breakfast for AEC &amp; FNST staff.</li> <li>• Jan 13, 2017 - 16 Phin building-wide lunch hosted by the AEC.</li> <li>• Feb 2, 2017 – There will be an open house for FNST beginning at 7pm. Bonnie Johnston will send out information regarding this event.</li> </ul> <p><b>Christina B:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided information about the YPAR program for grade 11's that offers a mixed credit course. On Feb 7, 2017, location to be determined between AEC &amp; OISIE. Information will be co-taught to students through the TDSB &amp; an Indigenous professor from OISIE. All this information is also posted on AW.</li> <li>• Combined York U/TDSB credit offered to students. Co-Taught by Susan Dion &amp; Jessica Medeiros. It will take place on Feb 8, 2017 at the AEC, food and tokens will be provided. All of this information and more is posted on FB,</li> </ul>	
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	<p>twitter, Instagram &amp; the AW site.</p> <p><b>Bonnie:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jan 25, 2017- Potluck style feast &amp; community Drum Social will be on Wednesday January 25 at Eastview School- all are welcome to attend.</li> <li>• Jan 28, 2017- FNST &amp; AEC Round Dance at 16 Phin from 5pm-12am. All are welcome to attend.</li> <li>• All the information for these events is available through FB, Twitter &amp; Instagram and will be distributed via email.</li> </ul> <p><b>Justin (ROM):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ROM is looking for five part time Indigenous teachers. Information will be distributed via email.</li> </ul>	
Future Topics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Blu Waters</b> – TDSB Aboriginal Trustee-Deferred.</li> </ul>	TDSB Trustee- Deferred
Next meeting Date:	The next ACAC will be on Tuesday February 21, 2017 @ 5:30pm. Located in the Library on the second floor.	
Traditional Closing:	Elder Joanne Dallaire closed the meeting.	

