**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

 Committee Name: Urban Indigenous Community Advisory Committee

 Date: Tuesday October 19, 2020

 Time: 6:00pm- 8:00pm

**Core Voting Constituent’s:**

Present: Dr. Joanne Dallaire (Elder), Dr. Duke Redbird (Elder), Natasha Gleeson (SST, TDSB), Tanya Senk (P/CAP, TDSB), Marilyn Hew (TYRMC), Ryan Neepin (Teacher, TDSB), Melanie Laking (Parent Council), Mary Doucette (OA, TDSB), Robert Durocher (Instructional Leader, TDSB), Adrienne Plumley (Instructional Leader, TDSB), Tsitra McKay (Social Worker, TDSB), Renee Roy (Indigenous Grad Coach, TDSB), Selina Young (City of Toronto), Brandie Wilson (NLC Downtown - NCFST).

**TDSB Trustee’s:**

Present: Alexander Brown, Trixie Doyle, Michelle Aarts.

**TDSB Staff:**

Present: Jim Spyropoulos (Executive Superintendent, TDSB), Barbara-Ann Felschow (Retired Principal, TDSB), Melissa Mohammed (OA, TDSB), Lisa Dilworth (Principal, TDSB), Stephen Hepburn (Vice-Principal, TDSB), Onika Brown (Vice-Principal, TDSB).

**Guests:** Darren Wilson (NCFST)**,** Cassandra Churm (Toronto Public Health Nurse).

**Regrets:** Pauline Shirt (Elder), Christina Saunders (CAVP, TDSB), Dr. Bob Phillips (Community), Dr. Susan Dion (YorkU), Jennifer Story (TDSB Trustee), Kelly Hashimi (Our Children’s Medicine), Joe Rock (City of Toronto).

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| **ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **RECOMMENDATION/MOTION/****ACTION** |
| Call to Order, Traditional Opening, meeting etiquette/ code of conduct/co-chair position update | Elder Dr. Joanne Dallaire chaired the meeting. Elder Dr. Joanne Dallaire conducted a traditional opening andspoke to the code of conduct for UICAC members and guests. Introductions from the membership in attendance.  |  |
| Approval of Agenda | The agenda of October 19, 2020 was approved by consensus.  |  |
| Review and Approval of the minutes of February 18, 2020 | The minutes of February 18th, 2020 were approved by consensus.  |  |
| Declaration of conflict of interest and Terms of Reference | None declared.  |  |
| UICAC Priorities for 2020-21 Re-visited:1. Facility, 16 Phin – Mobility, Accessibility, Health & Safety, Renovations.
2. Indigenous TDSB Trustee and Student Trustee.
3. Hiring practices, recruitment, retention and mobility.
 | UICAC Priorities:1. Facility, 16 Phin – Mobility, Accessibility, Health & Safety, Renovations.

**Jim Spyropoulos:*** Community Hub project is complete. Brand new kitchen and auditorium space.
* Will begin conversations to plan larger renovations.
1. Indigenous TDSB Student Trustee.

**Tanya Senk:*** Student Trustee, Clarity Smoke stepped down. Clarity extends her appreciation for her time in this role.
* Looking to fill the role of Indigenous Student Trustee.
1. Hiring practices, recruitment, retention and mobility.

**Tanya Senk:*** Welcomed Renee Roy as the new Indigenous Grad Coach at the Urban Indigenous Education Centre (UIEC).
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| **Staff Update:** | **Jim Spyropoulos:*** The Board is in the process of searching for a Director of Education.
* Dr. Kathy Witherow will remain as the interim Director until a replacement is hired.
* No longer an option for Elementary students to switch from virtual to in-person schooling and vice versa in November.

**Elders Update :****Elder Dr. Joanne Dallaire:*** Elders will meet once a month for the Elder’s Council meeting with Executive Superintendent Jim Spyropoulos and Trustee Alexander Brown.
* Barbara-Ann Felschow (Retired Principal) has returned to help support the UIEC, specifically Kapapamahchakwew Wandering Spirit School (KWSS).
* Extended gratitude and thank-you’s to staff and everyone for the on-going work they are doing.

**Elder Dr. Duke Redbird:*** Composed a Land Acknowledgement poem titled *A Dish with One Spoon*. The Mendelssohn Choir will be putting music to this poem and it will be performed on November 11th**.**

**Tanya Senk:*** UIEC operates with the 7 domains/Lodge poles.
* November is Indigenous Education month.
* Instructional Leaders (IL’s) and Social Support Team (SST) working to provide virtual learning supports.
* Continuing to build capacity across the system for in-school and virtual school constructs.
* Actively looking to hire a Native Language Instructor for virtual school.
* Meeting with Native Child & Family Services regarding on-going partnerships and supports for students.

**Tsitra McKay:*** SST team is putting together bundles/wellness packages. The goal is to send out 500 bundles to students and families across the board.
* Will continue to support families and students throughout the year (food cards, gift cards etc.).
* Emily Blackmoon and Tsitra McKay started a Virtual Parent Support Group during school closures due to Covid-19.
* Continuing this support for parents on Tuesdays from 2:00 to 2:30. It is an opportunity for parents to come together to discuss challenges/barriers and strengths during these times.

**Lisa Dilworth:*** Re-organization at Eastview PS.
* Small but strong Parent Council was just elected.
* Looking to promote the program. Steven Hepburn has been highlighting Eastview’s work on social media platforms.

**Robert Durocher:*** Adrienne Plumley and Robert Durocher will be working on Professional Development for the Parents as Partners conference, held by TDSB.
* On November 2nd Elder Dr. Duke Redbird will be opening November’s Indigenous Education Month, followed by many great virtual events and PD sessions.

**Natasha Gleeson:*** Has been connecting with T.I.A (Toronto Inuit Association) to recognize Inuit Day.

**Melanie Laking:*** Elections took place and Melanie Laking and Shannon Judge will continue to serve on Parent Council at KWSS.
* New members include: John Hupfield who will handle Communications and Lisa Derksen as Treasurer.
* Tsitra McKay and Tasha Smith are the two voting staff members.
* At the Parents as partners Conference will be speaking about *A Dish with One Spoon* and providing meaning to the Land Acknowledgement.

**Selina Young:*** Indigenous Affairs Office is launching an E-newsletter to hear from the community.
* Hosting virtual spaces/circles centred around specific topics (ex. Housing or Education)
* When City Hall re-opens the Office will offer office hours to invite the community to come in.

**Marilyn Hew:*** Toronto York Region Métis Council has funding to help students and families. Those that are Métis are eligible to access this support.
* The 27th MNO Annual General Assembly will be held virtually on November 7th and hosted by the Métis Nations of Ontario.

**Darren Wilson:*** Native Child and Family Services continuing to provide services through face to face and virtual programming.
* Weekly and monthly culture nights held virtually. Please email Native Child and Family Services if you would like to attend and/or be added to the distribution list.
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| **New and Other Business** | **Cassandra Churm:*** Public Health Nurse – new liaison role and working primarily with Indigenous schools including KWSS.
* Part of the role includes supporting schools through their re-opening plans and helping schools navigate moving forward.

**Timing & Scheduling:*** For the remainder of the 2020 calendar year UICAC meetings will be scheduled from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. virtually.
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| Future Topics: |  |  |
| Next meeting Date: | The next UICAC will be on Tuesday November 17, 2020 @ 6:00pm on Zoom. |  |
| Traditional Closing: | Dr. Elder Joanne Dallaire closed the meeting. |  |