# Name of Committee: Environmental Sustainability Community Advisory Committee (ESCAC)

**Meeting Date**: **October 3, 2023, 6:30 p.m.**

Notes

A meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Community Advisory Committee convened on October 3, 2023 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams Video Conferencing, with Trustee Manna Wong and Community Co-Chair Anne Keary presiding.

## Attendance via Zoom:

Manna Wong (Trustee, Ward 20), Anne Keary (Community Co-Chair), Susan Bakshi (Parent), Maria Bazilevskaya (Parent), Esther Collier (Community Member), Barbara Falby (For Our Grandchildren), Mieke Foster (Community Member), Hilary Inwood (OISE), Dan Maclean (Trustee, Ward 2), Erin Reesor (Parent), Bob Spencer (Community Member), Andrea Stephens (Parent), Sarah Urquhart (OISE).

Also present were: Maurice Buonastella (TDSB), Richard Christie (TDSB), Kelly Crosthwaite (TDSB), Kristen Evers (TDSB), David Hawker-Budlovsky (TDSB), Mahnaz Mirkhond-Chegini (TDSB), Jenn Vetter (TDSB).

## Regrets: Linda Naccarato (Community Member)

| **ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **RECOMMENDATIONS / MOTIONS** |
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| Call to Order / Quorum | * Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.
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| Land Acknowledgment | * The meeting began with a Land Acknowledgement
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| Introduction | * Co-Chairs Anne Keary and Manna Wong and Participants
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| Approval of May 1, 2023 minutes | * Minutes approved, without comments.
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| Consultation: 2023 Annual Climate Action Report (Facility-focused actions) | * Draft action items, focused on “Buildings”, planned for the TDSB’s annual climate action report were reviewed with ESCAC for consultation.
* Members provided feedback on draft actions and recommendations for strengthening the report. Feedback for consideration included:
* Include mention of the physical health impacts climate change is having on people
* In addition to energy savings, retrofitting buildings can provide positive health benefits
* Literacy regarding energy needs to improve
* Reducing waste can also influence a reduction in operating costs
* TDSB should send home climate change information from municipality to parents
* Reduction of hard surfaces on school grounds can improve permeability.
* Draft actions for the 2023 Climate Action Report focused on education will be shared at the November 2023 ESCAC meeting.
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| Member Updates/Announcements | Multi-Year Strategic Plan * The online Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP) survey is open to the public until October 31, 2023.
* Additional details on the MYSP Renewal process can be found on the [TDSB’s public website](https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Multi-Year-Strategic-Plan/MYSP-Renewal)

EcoSchools Student Leadership Conference* The EcoSchools Student Leadership Conference for secondary school students was held at the Ontario Science Centre on October 4, 2023

Youth Climate Action Grants* The City of Toronto is now accepting applications for the fall 2023 Youth Climate Action Grant funding round.
* Applications are open until December 11, 2023
* Additional details on the grant program can be found on the [City of Toronto website](https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/water-environment/environmental-grants-incentives/youth-climate-action-grants/).

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| **Adjournment** | * Meeting ended at 8:00 p.m.
* Next meeting, November 7, 2023
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