



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Name: Aboriginal Community Advisory Committee

Date: November 18, 2014

Time: 5:00 PM- 8: 00 PM

Location: Room 208- second floor, 90 Croatia Street, Toronto ON

Present: Trustee Mari Rutka (Trustee Co-chair); J'net Ay Ay Qwa Yak Sheelth (ACAC Co-Chair); Christine Monague (ACAC Co-Chair); Rob Lackie (ACAC Co-Chair); Randy Pitawanakwat (Native Child and Family Services of Toronto); Rochelle Allan (Community Representative, University of Toronto, First Nations House; Susan Dion (Community Representative, York University, Faculty of Education); Marilyn Hew (Community Representative, Métis Nation of Ontario – Toronto & York Region Métis Council); Karolina Johnson(Council Fire); Vivian Roy(Native Child and Family services), Amanda J. Thompson (Community Representation, Ryerson University); Mae Maracle(City of Toronto) ; Judy Rheahme (Parent, HumberSide Collegiate/Ryerson University); Jennifer Sylvester (Parent); Bela McPherson (Parent);

TDSB Staff; Jim Spyropoulos; John Chasty; Barbara-Ann Felschow; Bonnie Johnston; Tanya Senk; Tessa Sill;

Teleconference: Stephanie Bennett (Parent)

Regrets:

Guests: Tasha Smith; Trustee Alexander Brown; Elder Joanne Dallaire

Recorder: Latha John and Vandana Bharti (Committee Assistant, Parent & Community Engagement Office)

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/MOTION
Traditional opening	J'net Ay Ay Qwa Yak Sheelth opened the meeting at 5:20pm Ceremony and prayer by Elder Joanne Dallaire.	
Welcome and Introductions	ACAC Co-Chairs and senior TDSB staff thanked and acknowledged Trustee Mari Rutka's contribution and commitment to ACAC.	



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	<p>J'net briefed the committee about an "in camera" session for community members to have their voices and concerns heard. J'net welcomed the committee and introductions followed.</p> <p>Jim Spyropoulos Executive Superintendent - Parameters required at the Board for committees are not going to be requirements for ACAC around quorum. Apologised to the committee members who attended previous meeting and didn't have their voices heard due to no quorum and is responsible for deciding that there will be no quorum required for ACAC. The Terms of reference will have to reflect that ACAC will have meetings with no Quorum and minutes will be taken at the meetings. Action: ACAC Terms of Reference to reflect –No Quorum for ACAC meetings</p>	
Community Check-In (In-Camera)	<p>Senior TDSB staff left the meeting for the in camera sessions. The following topics of discussion for the ACAC agenda rose out of the in-camera session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Time of meetings/access to services/communicate the services - The time of ACAC Meeting to start at 6:00 pm to 8:00pm with the in-camera sessions and senior staff to attend from 6:45 pm -8pm. b) Increase Indigenous supports, resource people and volunteers available in the classroom - To be deferred to next meeting. The committee members were asked to bring ideas how to increase the indigenous volume base. c) Communication strategy - A sub-committee for communications was formed - J'net, Trustee Alexander Brown, Tasha Smith, Karolina Jonson, Christine Monague, Jennifer Sylvester and Rob Lackie. The Sub-committee will meet from 4pm-6pm on the same day of the next ACAC meeting- January 20, 2015. 	



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	<p>d) TDSB hiring practices- e.g., retain, provide opportunities for advancement, open up hiring practices to external also develop a succession plan for the position of AEC Central Coordinating Principal - Hiring practices need to be deferred as agenda item to next meeting with TDSB staff.</p>	
<p>Items for Discussion Staff Updates</p>	<p>John Chasty Superintendent provided Staff updates on behalf of Jim Spyropoulos Executive Superintendent who had to leave for PIAC elections Training in Aboriginal education for the TDSB senior team was one of the goals of Years In Action- The goal was completed on November 3rd.</p> <p>Self-Identification numbers The numbers have grown by 100%, from 900 last year to 1800 this year on October 31st 2014 from the enrolment counter. Numbers come from Trillium system. Christine Monague asked how are the numbers are spread is it more in the focus schools or outside. The questioned to be passed to Jim Elder Joanne Dallaire - Are the numbers to be attached to the funding dollars? The ministry has changed the funding and the portion is allocated is focussed on the number of students who are self-identified. Barbara –Ann Felschow – Funding is based on the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total student allocation to the board. • Self-identified Aboriginal funding where the board had 1099 students which equated to \$2950 per student. • Percentage of overall student population. <p>Susan Dion-Concern on the form from Aboriginal parents is there a process to verify if the form was filled to self –identify. Bonnie Johnston– Staff facing challenges and barriers to promote</p>	





Toronto District School Board

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	<p>self-identify. John Chasty- It would be an expectation from Principals of schools that parents are given the opportunity to self –identify. Susan Dion- Voluntary Self –identification is not voluntary anymore if ministry funding is tied to the numbers.</p> <p>Staff Update-Trustee Election Eleven new Trustees have joined the board and Trustees will be appointed to the committees. Action: Ryan Kowalchuk- Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs Office to be invited to a future ACAC meeting.</p>	
Next Meeting Date	Next meeting dates - January 20 & February 17, 2015 at 6:00 pm.	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm with a closing conducted by Aboriginal Elder Joanne Dallaire	

