



### COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Aboriginal Community Advisory Committee

Date: March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00pm

Present: Trustee Alexander Brown; J’net Ay Ay Qwa Yak Sheelth (Co-Chair); Rob Lackie (Co- Chair); Trustee Pamela Gough; Tasha Smith(Parent); Patricia Schuyler (Council Fire);Landy Anderson ( Native Child and Family Services Toronto); Rob Lackie (Co-Chair); Mae Maracle (City of Toronto); Marilyn Hew( Community Representative, Métis Nation of Ontario); Darlene King( Native Women’s Resource Centre)

TDSB: Jim Spyropoulos (Executive Superintendent); Bonnie Johnston(Community Liaison Worker); Tessa Sill (Community Liaison Worker); Tanya Senk (Coordinator)Shane McLeod; Barbara –Ann Felschow (Central Coordinating Principal); John Chasty (Superintendent)

Guests: Elder Pauline Shirt, Jeffery McDonald (Parent & TDSB Teacher)

Regrets: Christine Monague (Co-Chair)

Recorder: Latha John (Parent and Community Engagement Office)

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/MOTION
Traditional prayer	Elder Pauline Shirt started the meeting with a traditional prayer/opening. Welcome introductions followed.	
Call to Order	Chair J’net Ay Ay Qwa Yak Sheelth called the meeting to order at 6:10pm	
Approval of Agenda	ROM announcements to be added to the agenda.	



ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/MOTION
	Motion to approve the agenda as amended. All in Favour Motion carried.	
Approval of Minutes	Motion to approve the minutes, all in favour. Motion carried	
Community Check-In a) Communication strategy discussion	<p>It was suggested by the Chair to host a 'talking circle' during each of the four seasons.</p> <p>To promote &amp; recruit new ACAC members– a question came up around whether or not there was a budget to cover TTC/transportations costs for potentially new FNMI ACAC members.</p> <p>Brochure and information on the monthly newsletters for community and e- bulletin and promotional materials at socials.</p> <p>Action: IT person to ACAC. Meeting</p> <p>Trustee Brown suggested that ACAC needs to be promoted or have presentations at the monthly board meetings, to be on agenda of the board meetings.</p> <p>Chair J'net Ay Ay Qwa Yak Sheelth recommended for TDSB to acknowledge the traditional territory and other nations that reside in the Toronto area. The AEC indicated that they have already developed an acknowledgement and that it is currently being implemented at some schools.</p> <p>Review &amp; update AEC website content.</p> <p>Action: All ACAC members to review the AEC link and bring recommendations to the next ACAC meeting</p>	<p>Action: Jim Spyropoulos to follow up on Marketing and communication for Promoting ACAC</p> <p>Tanya Senk will connect with TDSB I.T. department and invite staff to attend the next ACAC meeting.</p> <p>Tanya Senk will email the AEC acknowledgement to Trustee Gough and the ACAC Co-Chairs. Trustee Gough will put forth a motion to the board for approval.</p>



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<p>b) Increase Indigenous supports, resource people and volunteers available in the classroom</p>	<p>Brochure can be used to summarise the services available to the community.</p>	
<p>c) TDSB hiring practices- e.g., retain, provide opportunities for advancement, open up hiring practices to external and succession plan for the position of AEC Central Coordinating Principal</p>	<p>The community brings their concerns how hard it is to access the services.  AEC is short staffed. Only two community liaison staff to cover 250 schools each in 188 instructional days.  ACAC needs to recommend strategic planning for more supports at the Aboriginal Education Centre.  The FNMI population is the fastest growing population and the needs of the community have to be met and moved forward.  It is recommended that the board have two more staff – one each for the four quadrants.</p> <p>Trustee Gough recommended ACAC to make a presentation as a delegation at the Programs Schools Services Standing committee.</p> <p>Action : The committee to present to PSSC.</p> <p>Jeffery McDonald- Is the committee looking for grant from outside TDSB. There are other sources of money which could assist Indigenous education.  Jim Spyropoulos – There is no downsizing staff at the AEC and</p>	<p>ACAC sub-committee to look for sources of funding for two new AEC positions</p>



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	<p>there is revenue from the NAC10 courses which can support the goal of increasing support to the AEC.</p> <p>Action : Jim Spyropoulos &amp; John Chasty to present to ACAC a budget breakdown</p> <p>Succession planning for leadership could include community support worker, vice principal or a program coordinator to support AEC and the community.</p> <p>To increase hiring practices of indigenous persons in the board.</p>	
<p>Items for Discussion- Brochure discussion</p>	<p>Brochure Discussion -Deferred to next meeting</p> <p>The AEC is working with the TDSB marketing department to draft the creation of an ACAC brochure. A TDSB photographer is available to attend an ACAC meeting to take some photographs for possible use in the new brochure/promotional materials. A Media Release Consent form will be sent to the committee before the next ACAC meeting.</p> <p>Meeting dates-To promote the third Tuesday as the day of the ACAC meeting on the brochure.</p> <p>Marilyn Hew- suggested that the brochure could to part of the package which goes home with the students in September beginning of school year.</p>	<p>Bonnie Johnston &amp; Latha John will coordinate a Media Release form to be sent out before the next meeting.</p> <p>The AEC will invite the TDSB Marketing department staff to attend the next ACAC meeting to present a draft brochure/promotional materials.</p>



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<p>Staff Updates: Jim Spyropoulos, Superintendent, Equity and Inclusive Schools.</p>	<p>Executive Superintendent Jim Spyropoulos presentation of the Annual update on Aboriginal Education Report – Road to Reconciliation.</p> <p><b>Key points</b> Increase support for Self-Identification Appreciations of Aboriginal perspective values and cultures Increase advocacy Increase in Resources.</p> <p><b>Goals</b> To increase the number of students who self-identify, Significant gap in achievement. Achievement goal to be up by 15% for Aboriginal students. Environment of learning to plan with Alignment and integration of resources Action: Trustees to be encouraged to attend the Aboriginal Professional learning at AEC.</p>	
<p>Aboriginal Education Centre- Central Coordinating Principal</p>	<p>Teaching and learning – Professional learning for teachers at AEC. Developing and delivering professional learning. The AEC Team focusses on achievement gap as it is based on the knowledge gap which underscores the acknowledgement of the history of FNMI peoples. Focussing the learning by requiring an administrator from each of the family of schools attend professional development at the AEC with a teacher of the school. It is expected that, 1600 Staff</p>	



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<p>Four R's – Tanya Senk (Coordinator)</p> <p>Expressing Aboriginal Cultures- John Chasty Superintendent</p>	<p>will participate in the professional development training at the AEC. Specific Modules on Residential schools, child welfare/sixties scoop, culturally responsive pedagogy, health &amp; wellness and treaties to be presented. The teaching at the AEC is experiential and cohesive. Professional learning curriculum to be purposeful and focus on Knowledge building.</p> <p>The Four R's is based in Indigenous knowledge. All Educators and staff need to be aware of the history of colonization- Reconciliation through education to foster better student wellbeing.</p> <p>Expressing Aboriginal Cultures taught with an Indigenous lens. Year one the course offered in 22 Schools to 900 students. This year 34 schools are participating. Next year the course will be taught in 44 Schools to 2700 students. The intent for the course is that Aboriginal education is good for all students. In partnership with York University, the AEC was host to the Masters of Education in Urban Aboriginal Education.</p>	
<p>New and Other Business Rochelle Allen – Act 10</p>	<p>Deferred to the next meeting</p>	
<p>Announcements</p>	<p>ROM announcements- J'net Ay Ay Qwa Yak Sheelth Eight subsidies spots are available to sponsor youths for</p>	



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	leadership opportunities.	
	Drum Social- Tessa Sill Drum Social and Spring Feast on April 14 at the AEC Eastview School Drum Social and Feast March 25	
Traditional Closing	Pauline Shirt provided a traditional closing.	
Next Meeting Date	Next ACAC Meeting on April 21, 2015	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm	

TDSB Community Advisory Committee's website:

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/HowtoGetInvolved/CommunityAdvisoryCommittees.aspx>

TDSB Aboriginal Education Centre website:

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/AboriginalEducation.aspx>

