



Community Advisory Committees

**Early Years Community
Advisory Committee (EYCAC)
2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT**





Community Advisory Committees

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Co-Chair Message

EYCAC Co-Chair Annual Report

The 2018-19 EYCAC work supported the Board and the child care communities working in early learning settings. The committee invited staff to present on board initiatives that would be of interest to the Early Year’s community partners. There were a variety of topics that the members of EYCAC provided feedback on. The goal was to look at ways of partnering and extending Board work into the various early learning programs.

EYCAC members participated in presentations and provided feedback on the following topics:

- Indigenous Cultural Competency, guest speakers, Jim Spyropoulos and Adrienne Plumley, OCT, First Nations School of Toronto. From this presentation, the following motion was drafted and forwarded to the Program and School Services Committee:

“EYCAC recommends be it resolved that the feasibility of offering training and resources to support the development of Indigenous Cultural Competency among our early years school-based stakeholders be explored.”

- Presentation on Play Policy, led by Richard Christie, Senior Manager, Sustainability School Operations, Jessie Sawyers, Community Co-Chair, Environmental Sustainability Community Advisory Committee (ESCAC), Linda Naccaratto, Earth Day Canada, and Brenda Simon, Earth Day Canada.
As a result of this presentation, the ESCAC presenters, solicited feedback from EYAC, to further enhance their initiative and asked for EYCAC representation to sit on an ad hoc subcommittee to expand on the EYCAC recommendations as they consider the feedback that EYCAC provided and for the subcommittee members to continue to provide information as it relates to the sector’s governing bodies.
- Presentation on Safe Schools – guest speaker Ted Libera, Centrally Assigned Principal Caring and Safe Schools and Alternative Programs. The presentation prompted further discussion on site safety and security, as well as lockdown and hold and secures, especially on non-instructional days and before or after the school day.
- Feedback to committee request for child care access to Wi-Fi - Peter Singh, Executive Officer, Information Technology Services.
- Overview on TDSB Extended Day Programs, guest speaker Cynthia Grundmann, Senior Policy Advisor and Manager, Early Years and Child Care Services,





Community Advisory Committees

Work Groups continued to meet throughout the school year.

Best Practices in Shared Space Work Group: Based on previous EYCAC feedback, the TDSB responded by creating information sessions for new Principals and Vice-Principals in their roles as Administrators in schools with Child Care Centres, as well, the Principal's website was launched to further enhance information sharing.

Facilities Work Group: Focus on improving communications and security within Child Care Centres in TDSB schools.

Overall, as community Co-Chairs, we appreciate that all the presentations resulted in robust discussions on a wide variety of topics that were of interest and importance to the Early Years community. We look forward to continue working in collaboration with our partners.

Jill Oakes and Pam McArthur
Community Co-Chairs
Early Years Community Advisory Committee (EYCAC)





Community Advisory Committees

EYCAC Mandate/ Purpose

- i. An Early Years Community Advisory Committee (EYCAC) will be established and maintained to provide advice to the Board on matters concerning the implementation of the Ontario Early Years Policy Framework, and to identify issues of broad community interest concerning Early Years programs, for the consideration of the Board and staff; (adopted by Board September, 2005);
- ii. To suggest improvements to the TDSB Early Years Policy;
- iii. Continue to advise on Integrated Service Delivery (ISD) with an Early Years Framework.
- iv. To consider the work of other initiatives within the Board as they impact on Early Years, (e.g., Full-Day Kindergarten, Special Education, Model Schools for Inner Cities, EarlyON and Family Centres).





Community Advisory Committees

CAC Activities

Meetings

Early Years Community Advisory Committee Meetings

All EYCAC meetings were held on Friday's from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

2018:2019 Meeting Dates:

- October 12, 2018
- January 11, 2019
- March 22, 2019
- May 10, 2019

Motions passed by the Committee

October 2018: EYCAC recommends that be it resolved that the feasibility of offering training and resources to support the development of Indigenous Cultural Competency among our early years school- based stakeholders be explored.





Community Advisory Committees

EYCAC Members 2018-2019

MEMBER

Trustee Rachel Chernos Lin
 Trustee Dan MacLean
 Trustee Jennifer Story
 Pam McArthur (Co-Chair)
 Jill Oakes (Co-Chair)
 Anabela Ferreira
 Coleen McGrath
 Donna Spreitzer
 Irena Setnik
 Irene Sheridan
 Kim Rogers
 Lisa Tjernstrom (Retired)
 Nancy Hendy
 Nathalie Gruzalc
 Patricia Chorney Rubin
 Patrina Stathopoulos
 Patty Domski
 Rashida Wall
 Sandy Edmonds (Retired)
 Stephanie Nickle
 Therese Damaso

ORGANIZATION

Toronto District School Board
 Toronto District School Board
 Toronto District School Board
 Runnymede Adventure Club
 YMCA Child Care
 Woodgreen Child Care
 Learning Enrichment Foundation (LEF)
 Jackman Community Daycare
 Silver Creek Pre-School
 Cliffcrest Child Care
 Sunshine Child Care
 Lakeshore Child Care
 Toronto Children's Services (Alt. Rep.)
 NYAD -Donwood
 George Brown College
 Dandy Lion Daycare
 Toronto Public Library
 Parent Literacy Centre
 PLASP
 Woodgreen Child Care (Alt. Rep.)
 Toronto Children's Services





Community Advisory Committees

Self-Evaluation Tool

The committee self-evaluation process is a collective, introspective and comprehensive reflection by your committee members. By asking specific questions, your committee members, in collaboration with the committee chair, can find ways to enhance the effectiveness of the committee.

Your committee should conduct a self-evaluation on an annual basis. This evaluation can be done in a number of different ways. The sample questions included in this document are examples and intended to provide a starting point to evaluate the performance and effectiveness of your committee. Your committee should use the evaluation process to identify strengths and weaknesses, to flag areas for improvement, and to plan for further action as appropriate.

Before you complete the evaluation, determine how you are going to ensure the responses you receive will reflect an open and positive exchange of ideas and opinions. You should also determine how to best report or share the findings (all findings) of the self-evaluation before the evaluation.

The following pages provide a framework and suggested questions for use in evaluating your committee. Not all questions will be appropriate for your committee. Use the questions provided as a basis for your own committee evaluation. The best tool to evaluate your committee will be the one that you construct to meet your own unique needs.

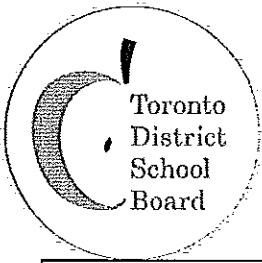
Information:

There were 12 EYCAC committee members who participated in the EYCAC End of Year Self Evaluation for 2018/2019.

All comments were entered below.

All responses from questions were collected.





Community Advisory Committees

Goals or Purpose of Committee

1. All committee members understand the goals and purpose of our committee.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Agree Strongly Disagree

2. The committee members agree on the goals and purpose of the committee.

1 2 2.5 3 4 5
Strongly Agree Strongly Disagree

3. There is alignment between our goals and purpose and the actions taken and/or the decisions made by the committee.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Agree Strongly Disagree

Support for the Committee

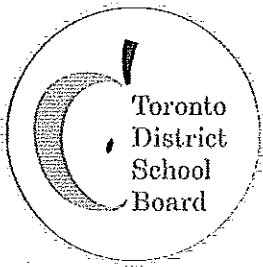
4. Our committee has adequate resources (for example, budget, people) to support its function.

1 2 2.5 3 4 5
Strongly Agree Strongly Disagree

5. Our committee has the respect and support of key stakeholders within our organization.

1 2 2.5 3 4 5
Strongly Agree Strongly Disagree





Community Advisory Committees

Time and Location of Meetings

6. Our meetings are held regularly and with appropriate frequency.

1 2 2.5 3 4 5
Strongly Agree Strongly Disagree

7. Our meetings begin and end as scheduled.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Agree Strongly Disagree

8. The length of our meetings is appropriate and respectful of the agenda.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Agree Strongly Disagree

9. We receive the meeting agenda and materials in advance of the meeting to allow for appropriate review and preparation.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Agree Strongly Disagree

10. We consistently use our meeting time well. Issues get the time and attention proportionate to their importance.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Agree Strongly Disagree





Community Advisory Committees

11. The location where our meetings are held is conducive to positive group interaction and discussion.

1 Strongly Agree 2 3 4 5 Strongly Disagree

Attendance

12. Attendance at our meetings is consistent and members arrive on time.

1 Strongly Agree 2 3 4 5 Strongly Disagree

13. Attendance at our meetings is evaluated as a criterion for continued membership on the committee.

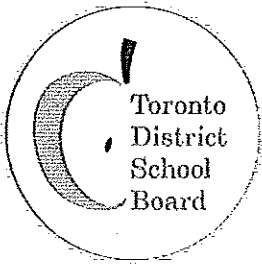
1 Strongly Agree 2 3 4 5 Strongly Disagree

Recording/Minutes

14. The minutes of our meetings are accurate and reflect the discussion, next steps and/or action items articulated by the members.

1 Strongly Agree 2 3 4 5 Strongly Disagree





Community Advisory Committees

Membership

15. Our membership represents the talent and skill set required to fulfill the goals and purpose of the committee.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Agree Strongly Disagree

16. Our members treat each other with respect and courtesy.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Agree Strongly Disagree

17. Our members come to meetings prepared and ready to contribute.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Agree Strongly Disagree

18. As a general rule, when I speak I feel listened to and that my comments are valued.

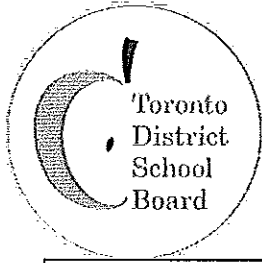
1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Agree Strongly Disagree

General Comments

19. What I like the most about our meetings? (Eight people participated in answering this question)

- Opportunity to learn & share & address issues that are significant.
- Chance to speak to Trustees, Superintendents and other operators. Hear what's going on system wide.
- The knowledge I gain from attending about the board, sector, networking with others.
- Broad range of representation.
- Sharing and learning and supporting between TDSB and community programs.
- I learn from our program operators and staff at every single meeting.
- Discussion, education, sharing of ideas.





Community Advisory Committees

20. What I would like to see improve at our meetings? (Eight people participated in answering this question)

- Continue coffee & fruit.
- Like to see ongoing issues truly resolve - internet, bridging gaps between admin. & providers, etc. Seems like many issues continue to plague the group.
- Several cancellations this year. Less head nodding & more action. Helpful if Childcare Managers used Eblasts more. TDSB operators all struggle but we struggle separately. System fixes shouldn't have to wait months.
- Questions related to working groups should be directed & those appropriate groups to ensure the proper responses & supports.
- More community engagement.
- Other TDSB personnel i.e, facilities, permits as standing agenda items & representation at meetings.
- I think they could add one more meeting in the year. We'd like the agenda and materials sent out to ALL CC & ELP in schools. Getting over the HUGE hurdle that is facilities and permits etc. on the ground.
- Not enough chairs. Hard to see each other. People are "doers" and "problem solvers". Keep facilities issues at sub committee



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