



# Community Advisory Committees

**Environmental Sustainability  
Community Advisory  
Committee (ESCAC)  
2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT**





# Community Advisory Committees

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## Community Advisory Committees

### Co-Chair Message

Hello,

The Environmental Sustainability Community Advisory Committee has engaged in many enriching, productive, and innovative dialogues this school year. Through our experienced and open-minded members, we have had the opportunity to learn from each other and build capacity to take on some important initiatives in the hope of improving our broader communities' relationship with, and commitment to our environment.

2018/2019 began with ongoing work towards making a recommendation to the Board of Trustees that a play policy be developed for the TDSB. The members of our committee have worked tirelessly on the development of a document to support and strengthen this recommendation. In March of 2019, I presented ESCAC's play policy supporting document to the Early Years Community Advisory Committee alongside representatives from Earth Day Canada. After receiving incredible support for the recommendations outlined in the document and some critical feedback, we have decided to work closely with members of this committee before making our formal policy recommendation to the Board of Trustees. Doing so will help to strengthen our recommendation ensuring that it aligns with EYCAC's goals.

Throughout the year we have heard from several community members on exciting initiatives within the Board, including the TDSB/OISE action research collaborative project, FoodShare and their work on the Burnhampthorpe Farming Project, and many more. We have also spent the year deepening our connection to the TDSB's Joint Management Labour Environment Committee.

It has been a wonderful year,

Jessie Sawyers





# Community Advisory Committees

## *CAC Mandate/ Purpose*

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- a. To identify and discuss issues of environmental sustainability and climate change as they relate to the TDSB, by facilitating ongoing feedback from the community through the engagement of students, parents, and parent groups, community advocacy groups, non-profit organizations, members of the general public, TDSB staff, etc.
- b. To make recommendations to the TDSB regarding environmental concerns.





# Community Advisory Committees

## CAC Activities

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### Meetings

- a. There will be minimum of 6 meetings per school year. The meeting schedule will be set at the beginning of the year.
- b. Members must submit any documents to be printed 48 hours prior to the meeting and printed materials will be kept to a minimum.
- c. Members have the option of attending by conference call. If this is necessary, they should inform the meeting coordinator at least 3 days ahead of time so they can make the appropriate arrangements.
- d. Occasionally the meetings may be held by conference call, if necessary.
- e. Sub-committees/Working groups will be established as required, with scope of work established by the ESCAC.

### Accomplishments for the School Year:

1. Ongoing updates and discussions regarding ESCAC's play policy work
2. Updated ESCAC's Terms of Reference, specifically committee membership
3. Received presentation on agriculture in regards to climate change
4. Received presentation from FoodShare on urban agriculture projects occurring at TDSB schools, including the Burnhamthorpe Farming Project
5. Received presentation on the initiatives underway through TDSB and OISE Environmental and Sustainability Education collaboration, including a presentation from three members of the TDSB/OISE Action Research Project
6. Provided feedback on components of the planned TDSB Climate Change Summit
7. Received presentation from the Beach Community Energy Cooperative on the 2030 District East Project
8. Presented to Early Years CAC on play policy recommendation
9. Received presentation about the sustainability education programs delivered by SustainED
10. Began conversation about recruiting new ESCAC members to better represent our community





# Community Advisory Committees

## *Committee Members*

**Community Co-Chair(s):** Kristen Schaffer (up until February 2019) and Jessie Sawyers

**Trustee Co-Chair(s):** Sheila Carey-Meagher (up until December 2018) and Jennifer Story

Richard Christie (Staff)  
Esther Collier (Staff)  
Kelly Crosthwaite (Staff)  
Priyan De Silva (Staff)  
Trixie Doyle (Trustee)  
Kristen Evers (Staff)  
David Hawker-Budlovsky (Staff)  
Hongliang Hu (Staff)  
Hilary Inwood (OISE)  
Karen Kenn (Staff)  
Serita Lawson (Staff)  
Peyton Leung (Staff)  
Karen Lior (Labour Education Centre)  
Christopher Mammoliti (Trustee)  
Lisa Milne (Parent)  
Linda Naccarato (Earth Day Canada)  
Kristin Schaffer (Community Member)  
Vince Schutt (Enviromentum)  
Steve Shallhorn (Labour Education Centre)  
Brenda Simon (Earth Day Canada)  
Stefan Sommer (CUPE 4400)  
Bob Spencer (Parent)  
Andrea Stephens (Parent)  
Jenn Vetter (Staff)  
Manna Wong (Trustee)



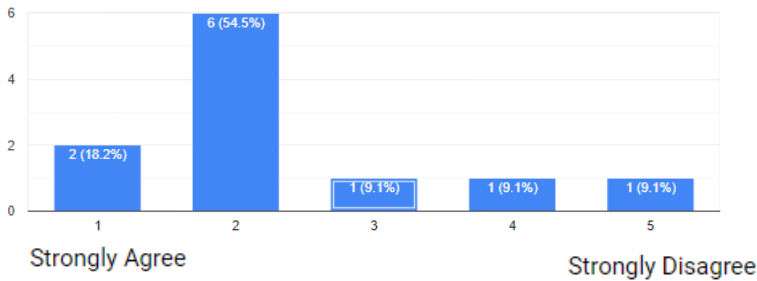
# 2018/19 ESCAC Self-Evaluation Results

June 2019

## 1. Goals or Purpose of Committee

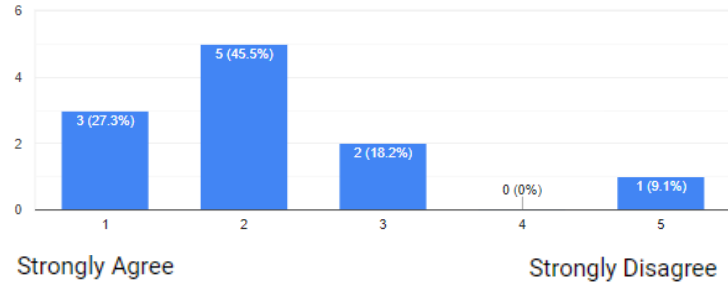
a. All committee members understand the goals and purpose of our committee.

11 responses



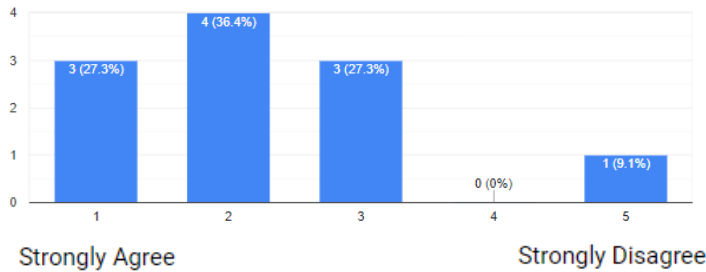
b. The committee members agree on the goals and purpose of the committee.

11 responses



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

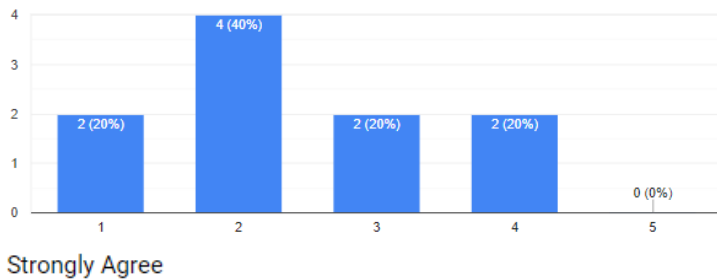
11 responses



## 2. Support for the Committee

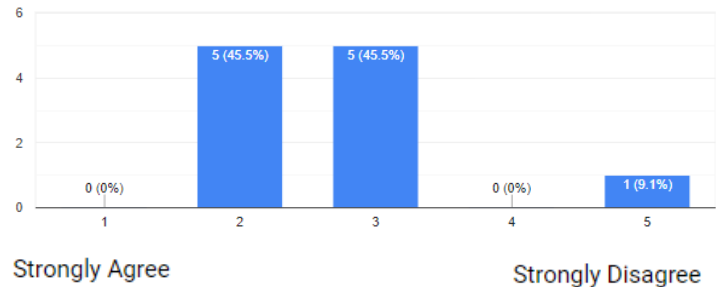
d. Our committee has adequate resources (for examples, budget, people) to support its function.

10 responses



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

11 responses



# Agenda Page 50

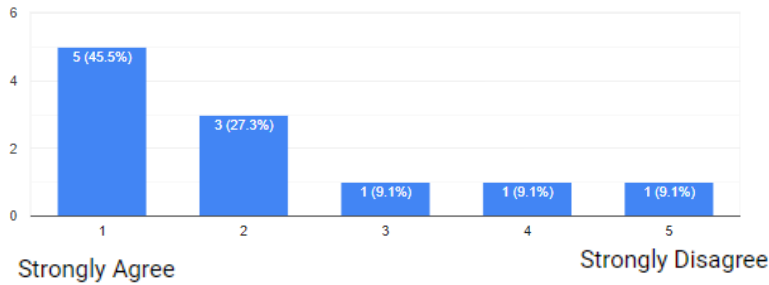
## 2018/19 ESCAC Self-Evaluation Results

*June 2019*

### 3. Time and Location of Meeting:

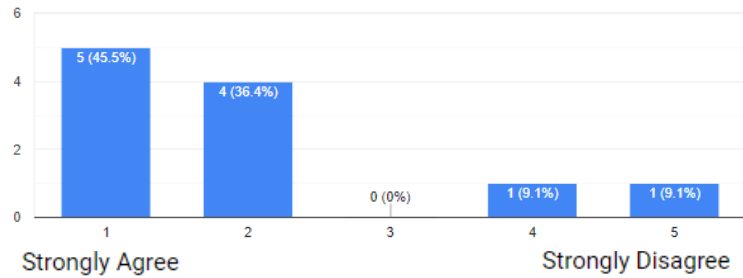
f. Our meetings are held regularly and with appropriate frequency.

11 responses



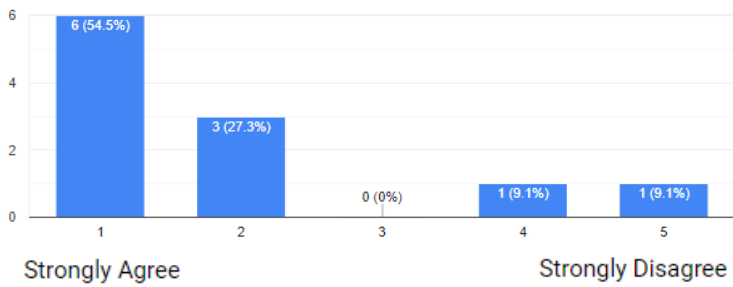
g. Our meetings begin and end as scheduled.

11 responses



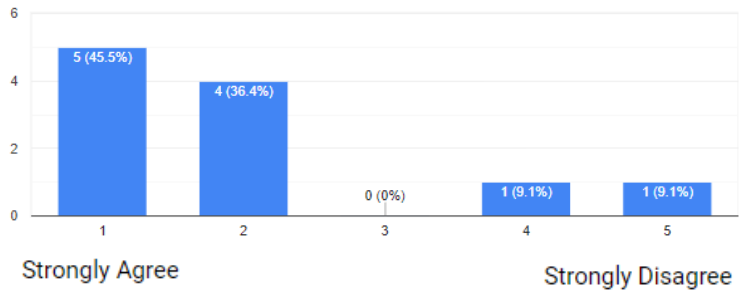
h. The length of our meetings are appropriate and respectful of the agenda.

11 responses



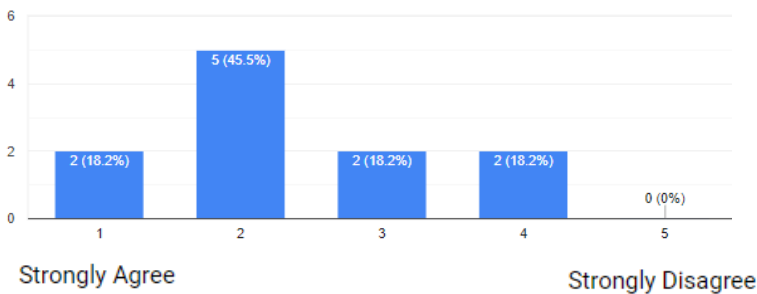
i. We receive the meeting agenda and materials in advance of the meeting to allow for appropriate review and preparation.

11 responses



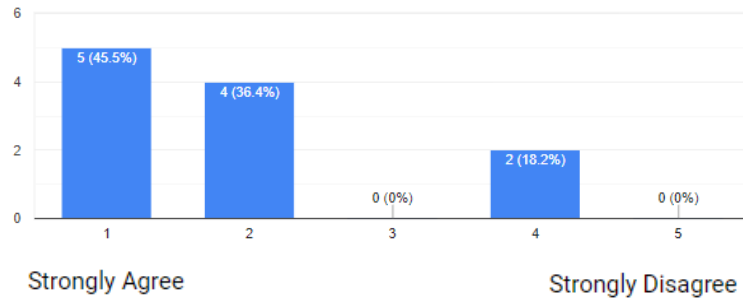
j. We consistently use our meeting time well. Issues get the time and attention proportionate to their importance.

11 responses



k. The location where our meetings are held is conducive to positive group interaction and discussions.

11 responses





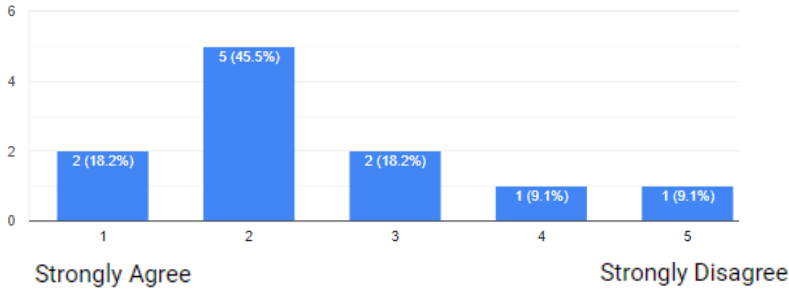
# 2018/19 ESCAC Self-Evaluation Results

June 2019

## 4. Attendance

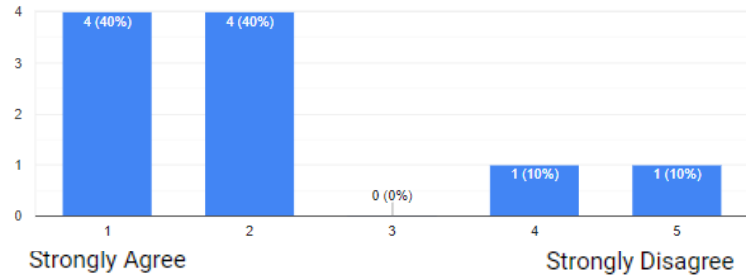
l. Attendance at our meetings is consistent and members arrive on time.

11 responses



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

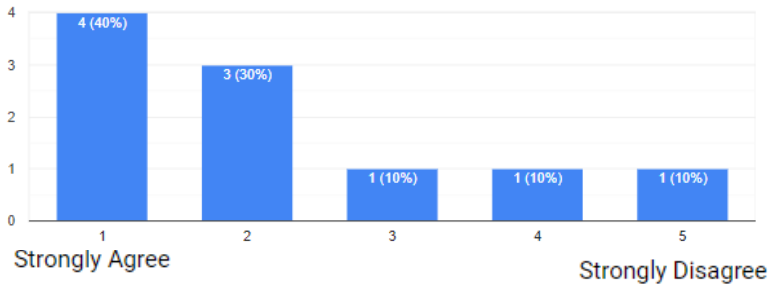
10 responses



## 5. Minutes

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

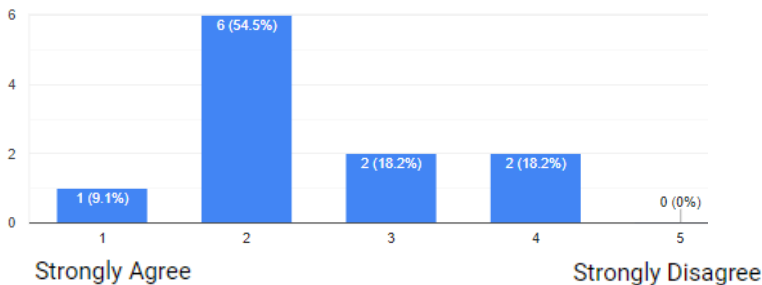
10 responses



## 6. Membership

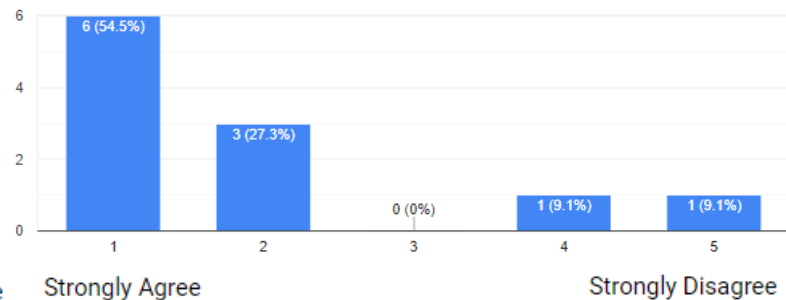
o. Our membership represents the talent and skill set required to fulfill the goals and purposes of the committee.

11 responses



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

11 responses

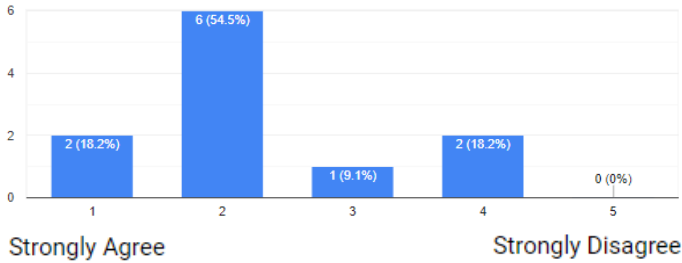


# 2018/19 ESAC Self-Evaluation Results

June 2019

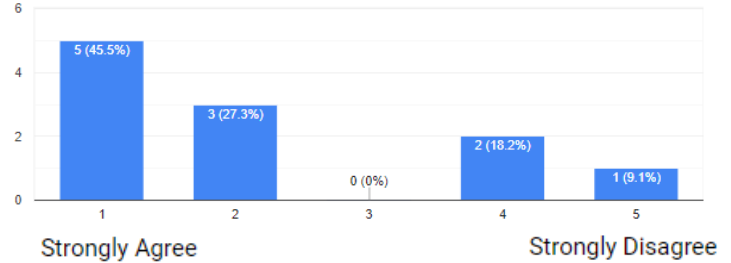
q. Our members come to meetings prepared and ready to contribute.

11 responses



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

11 responses



## General Comments

4 responses

- Reminder of role of Advisory Committee at each meeting and direct attention to line of action: ESCAC -> recommendation -> xx -> staff...
- We have a consistent core that attend meetings.
- We often have to be reminded of our role - i.e, today (our job is not finding funding)
- Re: 2e. - delay on plastics report
- This is an important committee. My hope for 2019/20 would be to have more community members and further, that several agencies like Toronto Environmental Alliance, Toronto Atmospheric Fund and Toronto Renewable Energy Coalition be encouraged to send education representatives.
- A very worthwhile committee to participate in.
- I think focussing on direct impact single-item issues is important and achievable; such as increasing outdoor play, improving lunchrooms, getting single-use plastic out of the schools, or improving what it means to be an Eco-school. I am uncertain about planning an event such as the climate summit having direct impact on best practices because I'm not clear who is coming to the table.

