

# WORKING GROUP REPORT

## Membership

**Date:** May 12, 2026  
**Co-leads:** Emily Abrahams and Andrew Waters

### DESCRIPTION/OBJECTIVES

To support PIAC representatives and parent/caregiver members to encourage active participation in PIAC purpose “to support, encourage and enhance parent engagement at the board level in order to improve student achievement and well-being.”

### UPDATE

#### PIAC Membership Dashboard – May 12, 2026

Item	#	Comments		
A	Committee Seats	50	44 Ward Co-representatives (WCR), 1 Community Group Representative (CLGR), 5 Officers and 0 Ex officio members)	
B	Voting Members	50	44 WCR, 1 CLGR, 5 Officers	
C	Vacancies	0	Reason for Vacancy: 0 Term Ended, 0 Resignation, 0 Declared Vacant	
D	Quorum	21	40% of voting members +1 (round down)	
E	Votes Available per Regular Motion	28	One vote per Ward, one vote per CLGR, one vote per officers, and one vote for ex officio members): 22+1+5+0	
F	Newly Re-/Elected or Appointed Members	13	Wards: 1: Faraz Farooqi, 4: Bibi Safraw Hanif, 6: Megan Roberts, & Crystal Stewart, 7: Nina Modi, 8: Caroline Sand & Einat Danieli, 10: Jessica Davidson, 14: Sameer Sayed, 17: Chantel Pereira, 20: Madhuri Azad & Rezaul Karim, and 22: Yasmeen Noori.	
G	Update coming Elections	0		
H	Officers	5	Co-chairs: Sarah Ali and Katrina Matheson; Treasurer: Mercy Charles; Secretary: Andrew Waters; and Officer At-large: Prasanna Jagannathan	
<b>Working Groups (WG)</b> [ <a href="#">Descriptions</a> ] <a href="https://torontopiac.com/get-involved/#piac-meetings">https://torontopiac.com/get-involved/#piac-meetings</a>				
I	Type	Name	Co-leads	Next Meeting
	Governance (open to voting members)	Strategic Planning	Mercy Charles & Aaron Kucharczuk	Thursday, May 14 @8pm
		Membership	Emily Abrahams & Andrew Waters	Tuesday, June 2 @7:30pm
		Operational Effectiveness	Prasanna Jagannathan & Majda Eltayan	Monday, June 1 @7:30pm
	Non-governance (open to all parents/ caregivers of TDSB & community members)	School Council Support	Crystal Stewart & Farheen Mahmood	Tuesday, May 26 @7:30pm
		Consultations	Nicole Wu & Colleen Harper	Thursday, May 28 @7:30pm
		Advocacy	Mercedes Lee & Noel Morgan	To be scheduled
		Events	Moosa Alloo & VACANT	Monday, May 25 @7:30pm

	Communications	Vinita Goel & Susan Lee	Thursday, June 4 @7:30pm
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Sign Ups:

- PIAC WG Sign-up for 2025-2026: All current PIAC and parent/caregivers of the TDSB and community members can register their interest in joining specific Working Groups using the PIAC WG Sign-up Google Form ([2025-26 Working Group Sign-up Form](#)). One must re-register every fall for continuing or new WGs.
- PIAC Whatsapp group chats: email [andrew.waters.piac@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.waters.piac@gmail.com) for access.

**PIAC Membership WG Meeting – April 28, 2026, at 7:30pm via Zoom**

*Present (19): Andrew Waters, Emily Abrahams, Farheen Mahmood, Sarah Ali, Majda Eltayan, Reem Jabi, Mercy Charles, Hilla Gutman, Kristen Boyd, Frida (Gili) Zemer, Maria, Neerajah Ponnampalam, Nicole Di Wu, Prasanna Jagannathan, Sundus Meer, Susan Lee, Sarah Brager, Mark Unger, Marycarmen Lara Villanueva and Latha John (staff); Regrets (0): N/A; Absent (0): N/A*

Minutes (Generated by LLM (AI) and edited by Co-leads)

**1. Opening & Agenda**

- Meeting began with introductions and technical setup (new recording tool tested).
- Land acknowledgment delivered.
- Reflection shared by Andrew Waters on Truth and Reconciliation, including need for Indigenous representation on PIAC.
- Agenda items included:
  - Election debrief
  - Proposed bylaw changes
  - WhatsApp group discussion
  - Member term acknowledgements
- Additional item added:
  - Schedule training for new representatives (requested by Mercy Charles)
  - Inner City Community Advisory Committee (ICCAC) (requested by Andrew Waters)

**2. Parent Election Process Review**

- Tie in one election to be resolved by **drawing lots** per bylaw.
- Decision to:
  - Share **total votes by ward and elected parents**
  - Not share individual candidate vote counts (privacy balance).
- Requests and discussion:
  - Engagement trend data to be provided (percentage increases).
  - Proposal to align elections with **Families of Schools** structure.
    - This would make it easier to administer the election (communication, eligibility, validation)
  - Need to improve communication on timelines and registration deadlines.

**3. TDSB Ward Restructuring**

- Proposed bylaws change that impact Membership WG (i.e. elections)
  - Parent Co-representatives
    - 2 per Family of Schools (FOS) (Superintendent Area)
    - Currently
      - Learning Centre 1 & 2
        - 22 Family of Schools = 44 Parent Co-representatives
      - Central

- Kapapamahchakwew – Wandering Spirit School (Elem & Sec) = 2 Parent Co-representatives
    - Alternative Secondary Schools = 2 Parent Co-representatives
  - Rationale: Aligns to organization structure of schools; Trustee Wards being reduced to 12
- Eligibility
  - At all times must be a parent/guardian of a pupil who is enrolled in a school of the TDSB.
  - At time of the election/appointment have a pupil enrolled in a school within the Family of Schools for which Parent Co-representative will represent.
  - Rationale: Simplifies eligibility and administrative easier to verify candidates and votes meet the requirements
- Allows current members to complete terms during transition.
- Reviewed alignment of:
  - Families of Schools (<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/aboutus/Director/docs/May-System.pdf>)
  - New municipal ward structure
    - Official ward map shared for reference (<https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/8f04-2026TDSB11X17.pdf>).

#### 4. Bylaws Review & Transition Planning

- Plan to:
  - Operational Effectiveness WG to gold working meetings in May to draft bylaw changes
  - Present recommendations in June meeting
- Clarified transition terms:
  - Still 2-year terms for PIAC Co-representatives but area they are elected from is proposed to change to during the transitional period of about a year while current members complete their terms they may be more members as existing members are allowed to complete their terms and new members are elected under the new framework (FOS).

#### 5. WhatsApp Group Usage Discussion

- Raised concerns about April 3 WhatsApp interactions and requested feedback.
- Concerns raised:
  - Some members indicate that instant messaging does not support tone and creates a lack of nuance
  - Some members indicated not suitable for debate among members unfamiliar with each other
- Support for WhatsApp:
  - Some members support its continuation as it allows for a place for discussion
  - Some members support its usefulness for logistics
  - Establish clear guidelines and enforcement
  - Consider restricted hours / mute options
- **Motion: Membership Working Group recommends the discontinuation of WhatsApp chat groups for PIAC Work Groups and the general member chat.**
  - **Moved by: Andrew Waters, Seconded by Emily Abrahams, Carried (Vote results: 10 in favour, 7 opposed and 1 abstention).**
- Next steps:
  - Explore alternative communication methods.
  - Communications Working Group to coordinate member directory form.

#### 6. ICCAC Integration Discussion

- Presentation by Omar on **Inner City Community Advisory Committee (ICCAC):**
  - Established in 2005
  - Focus on poverty and marginalized students
  - Work includes Model Schools program and Learning Opportunities Index (LOI)

- LOI update: New calculation expected in 2026 but not yet released
  - Composition includes:
    - Toronto Public Health
    - Settlement workers
    - Parents from Model Schools
  - Challenges noted:
  - Weak school-level connections
- Q&A session followed presentation.
  - Concerns raised about dismantling ICCAC:
    - Lack of consultation
    - Impact on equity-focused engagement
  - Explanation:
    - Decision made by ministry/supervisor to limit Community Advisory Committees (CACs) to statutory committees
  - Discussion included:
    - Advocacy for Model Schools
    - Challenges in outreach to schools.
- **Motion: Bring ICCAC forward for PIAC voting membership as a Community Group.**
  - **Moved by Emily Abrahams, seconded by Mark Unger.**
  - **Amendment:**
    - **Conduct additional research before general meeting vote**
    - **Moved by Frida (Gili) Zemer, seconded by Sarah Brager. Carried (Vote results: 9 in favour, 5 opposed).**
  - **Amended motion carried (13 in favour, 0 opposed and 1 abstention).**
- **Motion: To adjourn.**
  - **Moved by Frida (Gili) Zemer, seconded by Emily Abrahams. Carried.**

**Chief Returning Officers Report for PIAC Parent Ward Representative Elections for Wards 1, 3, 6, 8, 10, 14, 17, 20 and 22**

- **First, Chief Returning Officers would like to thank Latha John, PIAC Committee Assistant for administering the elections.**
- **PIAC is at full representation! No vacancies, first time in over 10 years.**
- Since the bylaw change in May 2025 (PIAC membership vacancy rate was 36%) where PIAC assumed the decision making over PIAC Representative elections, PIAC has conducted 31 elections (70% of the entire PIAC Parent Ward Representative membership).
- Chief Returning Officers reviewed the election results on Tuesday, April 28.
- Notice was sent to all candidates with their unofficial election results between Wednesday, April 29 and Friday, May 1.
- Full election results are available in Appendix 2: Election Results.
- Parent Engagement metrics for the election
  - A total of 246 votes were casted for 45 candidates running for 16 vacancies in 10 Wards.
  - **Average vote per candidate increased by 16%** between Fall 2025 elections (4.71 votes/candidate) and Spring 2026 elections (5.47 votes/candidate).

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

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1. Based on the election results for Parent Ward Representatives, Chief Returning Officers recommend the following candidates be seated as Parent Ward Representatives for a two-year term ending May 2027:
  - a. Ward 1: Faraz Farooqi;
  - b. Ward 4: Bibi Safraw Hanif;
  - c. Ward 6: Megan Roberts and Crystal Stewart;
  - d. Ward 7: Nina Modi;
  - e. Ward 8: Caroline Sand & Einat Danieli;
  - f. Ward 10: Jessica Davidson;
  - g. Ward 14: Sameer Sayed;
  - h. Ward 17: Chantel Pereira;
  - i. Ward 20: Madhuri Azad and Rezaul Karim; and
  - j. Ward 22: Yasmeen Noori.
  
2. Membership Working Group recommends the discontinuation of WhatsApp chat groups for PIAC Work Groups and the general member chat.
  
3. Appoint Inner City Community Advisory Committee (ICCAC) community group to one of the 5 Community Group representative positions for a term of 2-years (May 2026 to May 2028). [Deferred by the Committee of Whole to next PIAC meeting]

## QUESTIONS

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- None

## NEXT STEPS & ACTION ITEMS

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- **[DONE]** Schedule training session for new PIAC representatives
- **[DONE]** Provide election engagement data (percentage trends)
- Draft and review bylaw changes (May → June timeline)
- Bring WhatsApp decision to general meeting for adoption
- Prepare information package on ICACC for membership decision

## WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

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Co-leads: Emily Abrahams and Andrew Waters

Members: Majda, Kristen Boyd, Moosa Alloo, Chantal Gayle, Neerajah Ponnampalam, Sundus Meer, Mark Unger, Reem Jabi, Olivia Hetherman, and Reem Jabi.

## APPENDICES

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### Appendix 1 – PIAC Membership 2025-2026 (May 12, 2026)

Position/Ward	PIAC Member	Term End Date	Email
<b>Officers</b>			
Co-Chairs	Sarah Ali	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting Fall 2026	<a href="mailto:info@torontopiac.com">info@torontopiac.com</a> <a href="mailto:PIAC.Chair@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Chair@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Katrina Matheson	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting Fall 2027	
Treasurer	Mercy Charles	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting Fall 2026	
Secretary	Andrew Waters	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting Fall 2026	<a href="mailto:andrew.waters.piac@gmail.com">andrew.waters.piac@gmail.com</a>
Officer At-large	Prasanna Jagannathan	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting Fall 2026	
<b>Ward Co-Representatives</b>			
1	Nabil Hadbun	November 2026	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward01@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward01@tdsb.on.ca</a>

	Faraz Farooqi*	May 2028	
2	Noel Morgan	December 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward02@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward02@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Uthman Quick	December 2027	
3	Maira Riaz	December 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward03@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward03@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Rehab Aly	December 2027	
4	Tamasha Grant	November 2026	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward04@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward04@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Bibi Safraw Hanif*	May 2028	
5	Carly Cohen	April 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward05@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward05@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Aaron Kucharczuk	April 2027	
6	Megan Roberts*	May 2028	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward06@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward06@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Crystal Stewart*	May 2028	
7	Emily Abrahams	January 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward07@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward07@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Nina Modi*	May 2028	
8	Einat Danieli*	May 2028	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward08@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward08@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Caroline Sand*	May 2028	
9	Frida (Gili) Zemer	March 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward09@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward09@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Sarah Brager	March 2027	
10	Mark Unger	March 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward10@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward10@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Jessica Davidson*	May 2028	
11	Reem Al Jabi	December 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward11@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward11@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Hilla Gutman	December 2027	
12	Susan Lee	October 2026	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward12@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward12@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Nicole Di Wu	October 2026	
13	Majda Eltayan	December 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward13@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward13@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Colleen Harper	December 2027	
14	Mohammad Saleem Khan	November 2026	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward14@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward14@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Sameer Sayed*	May 2028	
15	Kristen Boyd	October 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward15@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward15@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Farheen Mahmood	October 2027	
16	Mercedes Lee	December 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward16@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward16@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Marycarmen Lara Villanueva	December 2027	
17	Thanuja Sankar	February 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward17@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward17@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Chantel Pereira*	May 2028	
18	Olivia Hetherman	December 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward18@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward18@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Marissa Hill	December 2027	
19	Moosa Anwar Alloo	December 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward19@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward19@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Chantal Gayle	December 2027	
20	Madhuri Azad*	May 2028	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward20@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward20@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Rezaul Karim*	May 2028	
21	Sundus Meer	December 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward21@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward21@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Neerajah Ponnampalam	December 2027	
22	Jennifer Sparks	December 2027	<a href="mailto:PIAC.Ward22@tdsb.on.ca">PIAC.Ward22@tdsb.on.ca</a>
	Yasmeen Noori*	May 2028	
<b>Community Group Representatives</b>			
MOTiVAtE	Rahel Gettu	June 2027	

\*To be seated May 12

**Appendix 2 – Election Results**

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Candidates Elected</b>	<b># of Candidates</b>	<b>Total Votes Cast</b>
1	Faraz Farooq	3	4
4	Bibi Safraw Hanif	4	4
6	Megan Roberts and Crystal Stewart	6	46
7	Nina Modi	10	59
8	Caroline Sand and Einat Danieli	7	42
10	Jessica Davidson	6	69
14	Sameer Sayed	3	6
17	Chantel Pereira	1	Acclaimed
20	Madhuri Azad and Rezaul Karim	3	12
22	Yasmeen Noori	2	4