

**ICAC Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday September 12, 2012**  
**9:30 am – 12:30 pm**

**In attendance:**

**Sharlene Boujot, Jann Houston, Howard Kaplan, Chris Penrose, Sheila Cary-Meagher, David Clandfield, Bob Spencer, Lesley Johnston, Heather Johnson, Laurie Green, Natasha Burford, Monika Etzler, Chris Glover, Aim Mujib, Michael Griesz**

**Regrets:**

**Donna Quan, Sejal Patel, Alejandra Bravo, Jeff Kugler, Thomas Widstrand, Nathan Gilbert, Cheryl Skovronek, Lisa Watson, Nancy Vogel**

**Staff:**

**Manon Gardner, Vicky Branco, Marjolein Winterink, Cassie Bell, Susan Wakutz**

**Guests:**

**Sonja Langheinrich, Saida Sabrie, Kemp Rickett, Michael Kerr, Paul Martin, Kharey Collins**

- 1. Introductions /Announcements/New ICAC members**
  - **Scarborough Film Fest – Birchcliff Bluffs United Church; October 23, 2012 @ 7 pm FREE (contact Bob Spencer for further information)**
  - **EAW (Education Attainment West) is soon launching their “Education Hub” in the Jane/Finch area; hub will be sharing space with PEACH (Promoting Education and Community Health <http://ckc.tcf.ca/org/193>)**
  - **New Members – Saida Sabrie and Nancy Vogel – moved by H. Kaplan, seconded by R. Spencer, approved unanimously.**
  
- 2. ICAC Draft Meeting Agenda approval– moved two timed items:**
  - **10:30 and 11:15 (Fees and Fundraising Subcommittee motion and Trustee Kaplan’s update)**
  - **Moved as amended by R. Spencer, seconded by H. Johnson; approved unanimously**
  
- 3. Previous Meeting Minutes (June 6, 2012) –**
  - **Moved by C. Glover as per following amendments: (i) add M. Gardner to list of staff attendees (ii) p. 3 as of September 2012, MSIC will be in each FoS (Family of Schools) except one (Ward 12)**
  - **Seconded by J. Houston**
  - **Approved unanimously**

**4. ICAC Co-ordinator's Report - please see attached document**

**Discussion emanating from article on Danzig Street Shootings:**

- **Danzig Street shootings (summer 2012) – anti-gang funding \$20 million from provincial government; Success Beyond Limits (SBL) is at the ‘table’**
- **ICAC needs to be vocal and articulate that Youth Action Plan needs to get off the ground as soon as possible – need to push for action!**
- **There are 20 points listed as potential ‘action items’ in the strategy which ICAC could echo/support**
- **Discussion- possible letter from ICAC?**
- **Critical to be involved in this discussion – lost two Somali youths last Friday**
- **Better to send specific response in with concrete details**
- **Need to do both: individual (i.e., individual organizations) and collective (i.e., ICAC) advocacy**
- **Excellent responses already sent in by the Urban Race Alliance and African Legal Clinic – could we support their response?**

**ACTION ITEM:**

**ICAC Co-ordinator to circulate Youth Action Plan to ICAC and post on ICAC website (complete)**

**ICAC members interested in working together to formulate a ‘draft’ ICAC response to meet at end of this meeting with C. Penrose**

**Discussion re: October 11<sup>th</sup> ICAC Agenda:**

- **B. Spencer and K. Rickett request that a presentation on Heritage Languages be given at October ICAC meeting**
- **Heritage Languages evolved into “International Languages” as title of program over time**
- **In former TBE Project Schools, program helped to break down racial/ethnic/cultural siloes**
- **Parents were concerned at first then happy their child was being exposed to other languages within community context**
- **This is a flexible model with tremendous potential impact**
- **Funding is designated through Continuing Education**

**ACTION ITEM:**

**Add Heritage Languages presentation to ICAC draft meeting agenda for October 11<sup>th</sup> (complete)**

**“Action Items” Update Continued:**

- **Communications between MSIC and City of Toronto Ombudsman’s office are ongoing with CCP MSIC**
- **Discussion underway to have Ombudsman meet with CPACs (Cluster Parent Academy Committees) to discuss role of office and share information**

**Action Item:**

**Suggested that a TDSB Human Rights Officer also attend CPAC meetings with Ombudsman so that role of TDSB Human Rights office is highlighted as well (Undertaking by Staff to invite TDSB HR Officer to CPAC meetings)**

**“Action Items” Update Continued:**

- **Somali working group– sent out email to establish working group prior to summer, but no reply; will continue working on this item through Achievement Gap staff; M. Winterink will also continue outreach (item ongoing)**
- **Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) update – CCP(Central Co-ordinating Principal, MSIC) is working on updating this and will bring back to ICAC shortly; people will be able to edit and update site eventually (item ongoing)**

**\*\* Timed Item\*\***

- 6. ICAC Fees and Fundraising Subcommittee (presentation and motion) – please see attached documents (M. Griesz, L. Johnston, D. Clandfield)**
- **PowerPoint (PP) reviews and defines ministry and board vocabulary (i.e., LOG, LOI, LOS etc.)<sup>1</sup>**
  - **Figure for overall fundraising for TDSB according to MoE (Ministry of Education) site? \$44 million last year**
  - **Does this figure include fees too? Yes.**

**Discussion:**

**Q: What about literacy/numeracy allocation in LOG?**

**A: LOG is used in Continuing Education (literacy and numeracy allocation) and for OFIP (Ontario Focused Intervention Program)**

**Q: Is \$44 million an accurate reflection for TDSB? Shouldn’t number be bigger?**

**A: Given TDSB has approximately 1/10 of students in province and People for Education reports cite approximately \$500 million fundraising per/year across the province, these figures work; C. Snider (TDSB Comptroller) also cites \$44 million in his figures**

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<sup>1</sup> LOG – Learning Opportunities Grant (provincial)  
LOS – Learning Opportunities Supplement (TDSB tool)  
LOI – Learning Opportunities Index (TDSB formulaic tool – index to reflect external challenges of students)

***Proposed Motion<sup>2</sup>***

***Whereas the school-based fundraising in the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) is widespread, but the revenues collected are distributed inequitably;***

***Whereas the Inner City Advisory Committee (ICAC) mandate is “to help level the playing field so that all students in inner city communities grow up with good choices”;***

***Therefore, until the Ontario Ministry of Education (MoE) mandates and/or the TDSB assigns the Demographic Allocation of the Learning Opportunities Grant (LOG) to relieve socio-economic disparities for which it was intended in accordance with the MoE’s Technical Paper,***

**The ICAC recommends:**

- (i) That 5% of school-based fundraising revenues above \$10,000 per school be reallocated to the TDSB’s Business Development Dept. “Central Equity Fund” in order to help ‘level the playing field’ for schools at the upper end of the Learning Opportunities Index (LOI);**
- (ii) That a work group be constituted, comprising of two trustees, two students, two senior staff, staff from the TDSB’s Business Development Dept. and two representatives from the ICAC, EPAC, AAC and PIAC, to draft criteria for the allocation of the revenues and to ensure transparency and accountability to all stakeholders;**
- (iii) That upcoming annual budget reviews include the amount generated by the LOG as a separate item and show the various expenditure lines in the TDSB’s budget to which that amount is allocated;**
- (iv) The TDSB publish an annual report outlining the amount, variety, governance, and allocation of funds raised and in-kind gifts in all five provincially mandated categories, as received by each of its schools.**

➤ **Moved by L. Green**

**Discussion:**

- **Suggest leaving (i) and (ii) for further discussion and move (iii) and (iv)**

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<sup>2</sup> Presented at the ICAC meeting, September 12, 2012

- **Interesting idea – principals will be onside to sink motion however if parent groups/councils are not in favour; this motion needs advocacy from the ‘ground up’**
- **This type of motion was discussed at PIAC (Parent Involvement Advisory Committee) last year and there was some pushback**
- **Absolutely understand thrust of this motion, but does it have wrong end of stick? MoE is underfunding this board and therefore LOG is being undercut; in studies involving participatory budget projects results showed that when people were paid for involvement, involvement *decreased*; for example, donating blood in the US is a paid action, but when this first started number of donors dropped; idea is that if you volunteer time and money, you want a say in how that money is spent**
- **Suggest – Utube video showing inner city schools and developing a campaign to engage grassroots in discussion; communications/media people who could package this type of thing**
- **“This is the right thing to do” needs to be heard and felt widely!**
- **Inequities are still there, years after we began this discussion, and they are growing and ‘kindness’ is still not happening!**
- **Under-served schools are not looking for handouts necessarily and don’t want a ‘noblesse oblige’ attitude**
- **Important to differentiate between “charity” and “social justice” - social justice involves building capacity and empowering**
- **A social justice lens would speak to ability to raise funds, not in their distribution; we are not getting to root cause of issue this way, for example, the United Way encourages volunteerism to ‘do good’ and be involved; challenge to address disparity mustn’t be reactionary**
- **Complexity of issue also speaks to emotional attachment in fundraising process**
- **Trustee Cary-Meagher would not recommend sending this motion forward as is at this time**
- **If we tell people they have to do this (i.e., give up 5% of their funds raised over \$10,000 to a central equity fund), we become like the government! Complex issue and need to think it through**
- **Parents are confused even at this point adds Community Co-chair – where does fundraising money go now?!**
- **Suggest we need student ‘buy-in’ as well**
- **Parents/communities will get creative if there is a top-down regulation – they will find loopholes for their fundraising dollars**
- **Perhaps consider Snobelan approach of “create a crisis”, for example, suggest looking at data within eco-system of a school – why is LOS (Learning Opportunities Supplement) only \$250 when LOG is \$143 million?? Parents need**

- to ask this question; some of this issue directly relates to money and some of it is based on social justice awareness
- We have a social justice solution which the Board will not use; perhaps the way forward is to recommend that a percentage of the annual LOG goes to highest LOI / MSIC schools slowly, year-over-year?
  - Sincere “thank you” to group who worked hard on this issue, prepared PowerPoint and motion – an excellent discussion!

**Motion:**

**That, due to complexity of issue, motion be deferred until next ICAC meeting and that a work group, including those who brought forward today’s motion, meet before the next ICAC to discuss “next steps” and bring results of discussion back to the ICAC table.**

**Moved by Trustee Chris Glover, seconded by R. Spencer, approved unanimously**

**Work Group volunteers:**

**David Clandfield, Lesley Johnston, Michael Griesz, Trustees Cary-Meagher and Chris Glover, Laurie Green, Paul Martin, Saida Sabrie, Bob Spencer**

**\*\* TIMED ITEM\*\***

**7. Trustee Update – Trustee H. Kaplan**

- Update on labour situation
- Bill 115 has received Royal Assent; waiting to find out now how MoE will implement regulations and if the CLA (Civil Liberties Association) will appeal formally
- Two teachers’ federations have cancelled meeting with the Board and strike votes are being planned
- CUPE 4400 and Skilled Trades Council negotiate together as one unit – not sure where they stand yet
- Government has created this crisis where none existed
- OSSTF District 12 (Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation) asking members to boycott extracurricular activities
- Possible that elementary extra-curricular will be impacted as well
- Staff add that Curriculum Nights begin tonight across the system in elementary schools and some teachers are saying they will not participate; system is working on messaging now

**5. MSIC Resource Team Update**

- Would like to publicly congratulate Monika Etzler on success of MSIC Summer School program! New to position as of last year and this was a big undertaking

- 2645 students participated in ten locations across city; 32 buses to deliver students to programs
- Program connected with Focus on Youth (FoY) as site leads
- Parent Reaching Out Grants (PROs) results announced
- 124 MSIC schools out of 127 total received PRO grants for parent engagement purposes – bravo to CSWs for supporting parents and school councils with their applications
- Each school receives approximately \$1000 per grant
- Parents need to be recognized in this outstanding effort as well – this is real teamwork!
- Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)
- Shared first draft in June at ICAC
- Feedback from committee collated and updated and will launch site early in October
- There will be a blog type of posting on site which anyone will be able to update
- Thanks to committee for suggestions
- Fall Classic date set – October 10, 2012
- First meeting with current and new principals in MSIC program - 157 schools!
- We have reached our goal of supporting the highest 150 schools on the elementary LOI
- Mental health, social wellness and budget – we need to make sure it is targeted and spent on what we believe in

**Discussion:**

**Q: Is there a commitment to equity when hiring MSIC teachers?**

**A: Yes, we try very hard to incorporate diversity when hiring; two years ago we re-visited ‘hires’ and discovered do in fact have a more diverse group due to strict criteria**

**Q: Can we track it?**

**A: TDSB tracks it through Employment Equity Office; all information collected is voluntary**

**Q: Suggest MSIC staff touch base with Employment Equity staff to examine data**

**Q: Agree that employment equity is important everywhere in TDSB, but especially in MSIC schools; would like to see equity processes proceed! Be international about this issue**

- ICAC Community Co-chair expresses “Thanks” to all staff involved in MSIC Summer Camp and for the Passports – much enjoyed by families this summer

**8. Staff Update**

- All Board contracts are currently being reviewed, including ICAC Co-ordinator’s

- **Position will be posted shortly and open for anyone to apply in; committee support will continue however**
- **Current ICAC Co-ordinator will finish at end of month (September 2012)**

**Discussion –**

**Employee left room due to nature of discussion.**

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Next ICAC Meeting  
Thursday October 11. 2012  
9:30 am – 12:30 pm  
5050 Yonge Street, Committee Room A**