# Name of Committee: Environmental Sustainability Community Advisory Committee (ESCAC)

**Meeting Date**: **Nov. 2, 2021**

Notes

A meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Community Advisory Committee convened on Nov. 2, 2021 from 6:39 p.m. to 8:09 p.m. via Zoom Video Conferencing, with Sheila Cary-Meagher presiding.

## Attendance: via Zoom:

Sheila Cary-Meagher (Community Co-Chair), Michelle Aarts (Trustee, Ward 16), Barbara Falby (For Our Grandchildren), Anne Keary (Parent, Climate Fast, Climate Action Network), Aleksa Nitsis (Natural Curiosity), Bob Spencer (Community Member, Beach Community Energy), Hilary Inwood (OISE), Esther Collier (Retired Teacher)

Also present were: Richard Christie (TDSB), Kelly Crosthwaite (TDSB), Kristen Evers (TDSB), David Hawker-Budlovsky (TDSB), Peyton Leung (TDSB), Pam Miller (TDSB), Linda Naccarato (TDSB), Gigi Shanks (TDSB), Jenna Goldblum (TDSB), Mahnaz, Mirkhond-Chegini (TDSB)

## Regrets:

Haley Higdon (Natural Curiosity), Manna Wong (Trustee, Ward 20)

| **ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **RECOMMENDATIONS / MOTIONS** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Call to Order / Quorum | * Meeting called to order at 6:39 p.m.
 |  |
| Land Acknowledgement | * The meeting began with a Land Acknowledgement.
 |  |
| Approval of Oct 5, 2021 minutes | * Minutes approved, without comments
 |  |
| Annual Report 2021: Climate Action | Q & A on Annual Report 2021: Climate Action* Suggested promotion of the upcoming Youth Climate Action Guide in Trustee’s Weekly
* Suggestion to integrate climate action plans in school improvement plans
* Suggested training opportunities to include Facility Team Leaders as well as Caretakers
* Whole food/plant-based diets amendment:
* Considering options such as customizing EcoSchools action cards to promote plant-based diets (e.g. Meatless Mondays)
* Need for more comprehensive conversations on how food is grown and impacts of agricultural production
* Possible topics for 2022/23 Climate Action Report:
* Continue pilot of electric maintenance equipment (lawn mowers, string trimmers, leaf blowers)
* Continue discussion around practical solutions for permeable surfaces and directing storm water into tree planting
 |  |
| TDSB/OISE ConferenceClimate Courage: Educators Addressing the Climate Crisis | * ESCAC members invited to attend upcoming conference: Climate Courage: Educators Addressing the Climate Crisis (Nov. 6)
 |  |
| Student Census 2022 Consultation  | Staff in Research and Development will be attending the Jan. 2022 ESCAC meeting to:* Share Student Census data collection plan
* Hear feedback on proposed topic constructs
* Hear feedback on who to reach out to in terms of community agencies/groups
 |  |
| Member Updates/Announcements | No updates |  |
| Next Meeting Date | * Jan. 4 2022 – 6:30pm (Virtual Meeting)
 |  |
| **Adjournment** | * Nov. 2 2021 – 8:09pm
 |  |