



## **Community Advisory Committees**

**Name of Committee:** Inner City Community Advisory Committee

**Meeting Date:** 12 November 2020

A meeting of the Inner-City Community Advisory Committee convened on Thursday, November 12 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 pm. Virtual Meeting Co-Chairs Ingrid Palmer and Trustee Michelle Aarts presiding.

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**Present:** Ingrid Palmer Parent Co-Chair, Trustee Michelle Aarts, Co-Chair; Diane Banks Toronto Public Library; AnnaKay Brown, JFEAG; Sheila Cary-Meagher, Community Member; Trustee Rachel Chernos Lin, Ward 11; Gillian Cooper; David Clandfield, Community Member; Parent; Laurie Green, St. Michael's Hospital; Omar Khan, Parent; Trustee Christopher Mammoliti Ward 4; Cherie Mordecai Steer, Parent; Sadaf Shallwani, Parent, Robert Spencer, Parent; Crystal Stewart, Parent

**Staff:** Stephanie Fearon, Model Schools Co-Ordinator; David Forrester, Community Support Worker LC1; Omar Omar, Community Support Worker LC2; Lisa Podaras Wong, Executive Assistant, LC2 & 3; Steve Salfarli, Community Support Worker LC3; Jacquelin Spence System Superintendent Equity and Anti Racism; Duane Spencer, Community Support Worker LC4; Lynn Strangway, Executive Superintendent, LC3

**Regrets:** Sejal Patel, Ryerson University

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION / MOTION
Call to Order / Quorum Land Acknowledgement	Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm	
Review of Membership	Reaching out to former members who have not attended and confirm if they will continue with the committee.	
	<p>Introduction of new member – Anna Kay Brown Lynn Strangway spoke to Anna Kay’s work with the Jane and Finch Education Action Group. Ingrid confirmed with AnnaKay if she is ready to join the committee. AnnaKay accepted the invitation to join the committee. Bob put forward the motion for AnnaKay’s membership Laurie seconded the motion Motion passes</p>	
Co-Chair Update	<p>Ingrid provided an update on the work that has been happening in the organization she is part of. Shared how COVID has affected our community. Stressed the importance of continuing the work to keep parents engaged with the schools.</p> <p>Black Parent Support Group at Holland-Bloorview - <a href="https://hollandbloorview.ca/stories-news-events/BLOOM-Blog/disability-and-mental-health-are-not-things-we-talk-about-black">https://hollandbloorview.ca/stories-news-events/BLOOM-Blog/disability-and-mental-health-are-not-things-we-talk-about-black</a></p> <p>Trustee Aarts highlighted the current changes that are happening at the Board. Announced that Executive Superintendent Lynn Strangway will be leaving for the Peel DSB. Karen Murray has accepted the position of Centrally Assigned Principal at The Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement. Further presented changes happening in the TDSB. Reminder of the Org Board meeting taking place on Monday November 16 and the continued search for the new director.</p>	

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CSW updates/Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (from Anna Kay) There is ample existing research on demographics, violence, and poverty. Can we pull our recommendations from existing reports to see what best practices could be considered now? TPS is not always the best approach to supporting/intervening in community violence. (See “Year of the Gun”)</li> </ul> <p>CSWs from all 4 Learning Centres spoke to the work they are doing in their communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• supporting schools to set up parent councils</li> <li>• parents reaching out for Brightspace workshops</li> <li>• gang prevention workshops - parents have been reaching out</li> <li>• working with parents to get technology to support students</li> <li>• Mapping with the 211 organization and provide parents quicker access to supports in their communities</li> <li>• Working with parents to help navigate Service Canada and the change in supports</li> <li>• Support parents who have students in VS to help keep them connected to their homeschool</li> <li>• Looking at putting together a Super Council to meet monthly</li> <li>• Parent Academy – looking at how we can run this during these times of COVID</li> <li>• Shared the struggles of the communities they support and the gun violence. How can we help change what is happening?</li> <li>• Motion to consider for Dec meeting – That the Chair and</li> </ul>	

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	<p>Director commit to continuing early years supports (e.g. reading coaches) in model schools post COVID. Currently 51 learning coaches have been reassigned to classrooms and are needed long term in model schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (from Dwayne) “Hurt people hurt people” – there is a ripple effect between communities and recent events have spread beyond the immediate community where incidents occurred. How do we best support grief, trauma, and loss for families?</li> <li>• (from Omar and David) The current climate (COVID &amp; recent events) requires increased supports and connections between school staff and community supports/community agencies. How do we broker those critical connections and create stronger partnerships with schools? There also needs to be a broader or more formal partnership between the TDSB and larger community organizations.</li> <li>• Intentional supports – more groups to keep students in our communities engaged</li> <li>• (from Gillian) How do we support/create “Affinity Spaces” – space for parents and/or children of colour to speak freely and share experiences? There is a need for facilitators to support such programs.</li> <li>• Executive Superintendent Strangway shared that we need to start with our youngest learners and continue the Early Years supports</li> <li>• Motion to consider for Dec meeting – That the Chair and</li> </ul>	

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	<p>Director commit to continuing early years supports (e.g. reading coaches) in model schools post COVID. Currently 51 learning coaches have been reassigned to classrooms and are needed long term in model schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sheila put forward a motion that ICCAC committee to bring pertinent information to the board of what is happening in our communities. This group will bring the information to be presented at the next PSSC meeting in January. Details will be worked out.</li> </ul> <p>Laurie seconded the motion Motion was passed</p>	
	Meeting extended by 15 min	
MSIC Report	<p>Stephanie Fearon presented the report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• outlines MSIC supports for parents during the school closure and pandemic.</li> <li>• overview of events organized by the Model Schools group which supported student engagement.</li> <li>• Continue to help parents obtain supports that pertain to their children’s health e.g., hearing and vision testing</li> </ul> <p>Laurie asking for how the funds were generated and allocated – financial breakdown.</p>	
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.	
Next Meeting Date	<p>Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:00 11:00 am Virtual</p>	