# Name of Committee: Inner City Community Advisory Committee (ICCAC)

**Meeting Date**: **18 January 2024**

**Notes:**

## Attendance (via Zoom):

Trustee Alexis Dawson, Ward 9; Omar Khan, Community Member; Ayan Kaillie, Community Member; Cherie Mordecai Steer, Community Member; Robert (Bob) Spencer, Community Member; Crystal Stewart, Community Member; Ingrid Palmer, Community Member; Wendy Hernandez, The Neighbourhood Organization; Laurie Green, St. Michael’s Hospital; Lance Merraro, City of Toronto; Ellen MacLean, Toronto Public Health; Sejal Patel, Toronto Metropolitan University; Farhana Jogiat / Asavari Datar, Catholic Crosscultural Services.

Also present were: Sunday Harrison, Green Thumbs for Growing Kids; Latoya Aldridge, Community Member; Akon Nsikan, Community Member; Ricardo Francis, Community Support Worker LC 1; David Forrester, Community Support Worker LC 1; Omar Omar, Community Support Worker LC 2; Karlo Cabrera, Centrally Assigned Principal, Equity, Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression; Jay Williams, Coordinator, Model Schools for Inner Cities / Equity, Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression; Jack Nigro, Executive Superintendent LC 4; Lisa Podaras Wong, Executive Assistant LC 2.

## Regrets:

Valerie Laurie, Community Member; Robin Liu Hopson, People For Education; Vicky Tourkolias, Toronto Public Library; michael kerr, Colour of Poverty, Colour of Change; Karen Murray, System Superintendent, Equity, Anti-Racism, Anti-Oppression and Early Years; Nura Aman, Community Support Worker LC 4; Lynn Strangway, Executive Superintendent LC 3; Jenesse James, Executive Assistant LC 3.

| **ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **RECOMMENDATION/ MOTION** |
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| **Call to Order / Quorum** | **Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.** |  |
| Land Acknowledgement | The traditional lands were acknowledged. |  |
| Welcome and Introductions of new and returning members. Setting meeting norms | Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and introductions were made. |  |
| Approval of Agenda | The agenda was approved. | Moved: Ayan Kaillie  Seconded: Wendy Hernandez |
| Declarations of Possible Conflicts of Interest | No conflicts of interest were declared. |  |
| Review and Approval of the Notes – December 14, 2023 | The notes from December 14, 2023, were approved. | Moved: Ellen MacLean  Seconded: Ayan Kaillie |
| Update on Committee Membership: Latoya Aldridge | Latoya Aldridge was nominated and approved as an community member of the Inner City Community Advisory Committee. | Moved: Ayan Kaillie  Seconded: Sejal Patel |
| Co-Chairs’ Report | Trustee Alexis Dawson and Omar Khan presented the Co-Chairs report.  Trustee Dawson presented a report which discussed the Policy on Cell Phone/Mobile Device Use in Schools motion being put forward at the recent meeting of the Governance and Policy Committee. The Trustee also mentioned January as Tamil Heritage Month and February as both African and Chinese Heritages Months.  The Parent Co-Chair brought updates regarding upcoming meetings of the LOI Working Group. |  |
| Food Insecurity Presentation | Guest Presenter Sunday Harrison, Green Thumbs for Growing Kids, gave a presentation that included an overview of their program and its mission. The presentation included such information as which schools are currently involved, how their program is helping to curb food insecurity for children and their families, some background on the staff volunteers, along with how community partners can get involved. |  |
| Business Arising from December 14, 2023, meeting | A motion recommending an increase to the allocated number of CSWs was brought forward by Cherie Mordecai Steer and Omar Khan. | Moved: Bob Spencer  Seconded: Laurie Green  The motion carried |
| MSIC Update | Karlo Cabrera, Centrally Assigned Principal, Equity, Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression, and Jay Williams, Coordinator, Model Schools for Inner Cities / Equity, Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression, gave a presentation that included details on featured African Heritage Month events taking place over the month of February. Other topics discussed included the CAT5 partnership, the Excellence Awards, and the possibility of joining with Partnerships to expand the paediatric clinics to more schools across the system. |  |
| Community Support Workers Update | CSW’s Ricardo Francis (LC1), Omar Omar (LC2), and David Forrester (LC1) provided the CSW update, including updating the committee about their support of school councils that have been approved for the Parent Innovation Grant.  CSW’s continue to their support of newcomers by helping connect them with settlement works.  There will be a PIAC conference held at Earl Haig Secondary School on Saturday, February 3, 2024. Guests are welcome.  Food insecurity continues to be a challenge. CSW’s persist in helping to address this concern through partnerships and sessions focused on navigating the problem.  Current workshops and initiatives include “understanding your child’s report card” sessions for parents/caregivers, the Joy of Reading series, winter gear drives, and various math learning sessions. |  |
| Other Business | There was no other business discussed. |  |
| Next Meeting | Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. |  |
| **Adjournment** | **Meeting was called adjourned at 7:48 p.m.** | **Moved: Laurie Green**  **Seconded: Ellen MacLean** |