

Name of Committee: Urban Indigenous Community Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 18th, 2023

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 pm

Attendance via Zoom:

**Core Voting Constituents:** Elder Dr. Joanne Dallaire (UICAC Chair, Elders Council Member), Elder Pauline Shirt (Elders Council Member), Elder Dr. Duke Redbird (Elders Council Member), Clayton Shirt (Elders Council Member), Bonnie Johnston (Indigenous Social Worker, UIEC), Selina Young (City of Toronto, Indigenous Affairs Office), Isaiah Shafqat (Indigenous Student Trustee,) Joe Rock (City of Toronto, Early ON), Sean Gale (Student Success Teacher, UIEC), Shannon Judge (Community), Robin White (Vice Principal, Seneca School), Kyle Genaille (Graduation Coach, UIEC), Professor Susan Dion (Associate Vice President of Indigenous Initiatives, York University),Tracy MacKenzie (Community Liaison, UIEC), Robert Durocher (Centrally Assigned Vice-Principal, UIEC), Eleni Sotos (ACL, NLC-East)

**TDSB Staff:** Jim Spyropoulos (Executive Superintendent, Human Rights, and Indigenous Education, TDSB), Emily Wadsworth (Centrally Assigned Vice-Principal, UIEC), Antonino Giambrone (Centrally Assigned Principal, UIEC), Barbara-Ann Felschow (Retired Principal, TDSB), Jim Veltman (ACL, NLC-East), Michael Sanders (Principal, Eastview PS) Lisa Dilworth (Superintendent of Education, LN17, TDSB), Angela Frawley(Curriculum Leader, Native Learning Centre Central), JacobBarghout (Vice-Principal, Laurier CI), Sue Rogers, (Sovereignty Chef, Native Learning Centre East), Danielle Noel (VP, Eastview PS), Lindsay Boag (VP, Eastview),

**TDSB Trustees:** Deborah Williams (Ward 10), Indigenous Student Trustee Isaiah Shafqat, Michelle Aarts (Ward 16)

**Guest**: Dennis Hastings, Otis Sanderson (Student, Leaside High School)

**Regrets:** Tanya Senk (System Superintendent, Indigenous Education, UIEC and Kâpapâmahchakwêw / Wandering Spirt School, TDSB), Natasha Gleeson (Instructional Leader, UIEC), Kyle Genaille (Graduation Coach, UIEC), Elder Blu Waters (Seneca College), Sara Ehrhardt (Ward 15), Dan MacLean (Ward 2), Michael Griesz (Principal, Lawrence Park), Sara Ehrhardt (Ward 15), Natasha Gleeson (Instructional Leader, UIEC), Elise Twyford (Principal, Wandering Spirit), Saby Chandi, (Principal, NLCE)

| ITEM | DISCUSSION | MOTION/RECOMMENDATION |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Traditional Opening, Call to Order, Review of Meeting Etiquette, Code of Conduct | Traditional Opening by Clayton Shirt. Elder Dr. Joanne Dallaire chaired the meeting.  Elder Dr. Joanne Dallaire spoke to the code of conduct for UICAC (Urban Indigenous Community Advisory Committee) members and guests.  Members in attendance introduced themselves. | |
| Approval of Agenda | The agenda of April 18th, 2023, was moved and seconded by Isaiah Shafqat and Bonnie Johnston | |
| Review and Approval of the minutes | The minutes of March 21stt, 2023, was moved and seconded by Isaiah Shafqat and Sean Gale | |
| Declaration of conflict of interest, Terms of Reference | None | |
| Facility, 16 Phin – Mobility, Accessibility, Health & Safety, Renovations.  Indigenous Trustee (TDSB)  Hiring practices, recruitment, retention, and mobility. | Facility, 16 Phin – Mobility, Accessibility, Health & Safety, Renovations   * No updates   Establishment of an Indigenous Trustee  **Tanya Senk (System Superintendent, Indigenous Education, UIEC and Kâpapâmahchakwêw / Wandering Spirt School, TDSB)**   * On hold until further notice.   Hiring practices, recruitment, retention, and mobility   * Deferred until May meeting | |
| Elders Update:  Staff Update: | **Elder Joanne Dallaire and Clayton Shirt**   * Provided high level update on the build for Wandering Spirit that is on hold indefinitely due to the 61-million-dollar deficit that TDSB is currently facing.   **Jim Spyropoulos (Executive Superintendent, Human Rights, and Indigenous Education)**   * TDSB continues to address the 61-million-dollar deficit and will continue for the next few weeks. The Trustees have their work cut out for them and will be making some hard decisions in the next few weeks. Updates will continue in our next meeting. * The TDSB leads the province with respect to what the possibilities are in Indigenous education moving forward. Indigenous Education is currently generating enough funding that sustains the operational side and will continue to if when students take any course that starts with **N.** * The Boyne started off with approximately $800.000 in repairs and we are now looking around $3,000.000. TDSB knows the importance to community in getting the necessary work started and are doing everything they can to make this happen. Conversations with Nick Bertrand (Ministry of Education) around the approval of TDSB using our own money and not funding from the government is currently on the table and updates will be provided to the committee when available.   **Antonino Giambrone (Centrally Assigned Principal, UIEC)**   * UIEC members Bonnie Johnston, Natasha Gleeson and Tessa Sill have a weekly Indigenous girl’s circle that takes place on a weekly basis. Conversations are led by the students on various topics chosen by them. * Creating spaces of Belonging conference is scheduled on May 2nd at Forest Valley with 100 staff enrolled across the TDSB. * The UIEC team continues the ongoing work to support First Nation, Metis and Inuit students across the system. Keeping in mind that we have 140 plus referrals that keeps everyone busy. * Capacity building project, the Biidaaban Truth and Reconciliation project continues. We have planned a fourth session of a broader inquiry that includes up almost 200 educators, including vice principals, principal superintendents, and lead teachers across the system. We will have 2 schools per learning network participating.   **Robert Durocher (Centrally Assigned Vice Principal, UIEC)**   * The UIEC has been offering professional learning workshops since the fall that include trauma informed practices in the classroom, Two-Spirit and Indigiqueer identities. * First Nation, Metis and Inuit study courses (NAC10, NAC20, NB3) continue at the UIEC. Starting this coming Thursday there'll be 100 teachers who will potentially be teaching the course in the fall. This will provide some foundational learning to build their capacity and to ensure they feel confident to teach the course. | |
| Indigenous Student Trustee Update: | **Emily Wadsworth, Centrally Assigned Vice Principal, UIEC)**   * We completed session 3 of Biidaaban, which was a student panel. We had 4 Indigenous students from KWSS, NLCD and Lawrence Park that shared their experiences and had an opportunity to speak with Superintendents and Administrators sharing their wants with respect to our education system. * NLC East and NLC Downtown staff are doing great work to serve students, and UIEC staff continue to collaborate with teachers there to ensure they have the necessary supports.   **Michael Sanders, Principal, Eastview Public School, TDSB)**   * East Scarborough Pow Wow is coming along. Community is excited to have the event since COVID. * Naz Bell is working with grade 8 students on making their own ribbon shirts and ribbon skirts in preparation for the Pow Wow.   **Isaiah Shafqat (Indigenous Student Trustee, TDSB)**   * The student Senate is hosting its annual grade 9 and 10 leadership retreat. The deadline is this Friday for secondary principals to nominate 2 students from their school money. First, come for serve basis. We have 2 students from Wandering Spirit that will be attending. * Attended project called 100 Classrooms. Where we spoke about community building, post pandemic. It was an excellent opportunity, there was approximately 100 classrooms, and thousands of students attended from kindergarten to grade. 10 * Notice of motion was brough forward last week at the play programs and School Services Committee titled, deconstructing anti black racism. This motion is, and to request the Chair send a letter of advocacy to the Minister of Education. Requesting that deconstructing anti black racism course which is currently offered at the interdisciplinary studies level to get its own unique course code to enable more students to take the course as you cannot have multiple courses of the same course code to avoid the assumption that they've repeated course y * 16 Phin now has signs allocated at the front entrance as well as around the building. | |
| New and Other Business | **Aakriti Kapoor**   * Provided a high-level overview and recapped how the 2023 Student Census was developed. : Elder Dr. Joanne Dallaire and Clayton Shirt with members from the UIEC met bi-weekly with the research and development team to provide input into the specific questions that would on the Census. * If anyone has any questions or would like a copy of the presentation, please send Aakriti Kapoor an email at Aakriti.kappor@tdsb.on.ca | |
| Traditional Closing: | * Traditional closing by Clayton Shirt. * Elder Dr. Joanne Dallaire adjourned the meeting. | |