Name of Committee: Early Years Community Advisory Committee (EYCAC)

Meeting Date: **January 24th, 2025**

Notes:

Attendance: via Zoom:

Patricia Chorney Rubin, (Community Co-Chair/ George Brown College); Tania Asimenios (Toronto Children's Services); Michelle Dutra, (Woodgreen Child Care); Nicola Maguire, (LEF); Pam McArthur, (Runnymede Adventure Club); Kim Rogers, (Sunshine Child Care); Irena Setnik, (Silver Creek Pre-School); Patrina Stathopoulos, (Dandylion Daycare); and Rosemary Stiglic, (PLASP Child Care Services).

Also present were: Trustee Deborah Williams, (Trustee Co-Chair, Ward 10); Cynthia Moffatt, (Senior Policy Advisor/Manager Early Years and Child Care Services); Liz Hoang, (Child Care Services Manager); and Denise Humphreys, (System Superintendent, Student Achievement and Pathways).

Regrets:

Anh Lam, (Woodgreen Child Care); Jill Oakes, (Community Co-Chair/ YMCA Child Care); Diana Panagiotopoulos, (Executive Superintendent, Student Achievement and Pathways); and Amy Van Camp, (Toronto Children's Services).

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/ MOTION
	Welcome/Introductions/ Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands	
Call to Order / Quorum	• Quorum confirmed.	
Approval of Agenda	• The agenda was approved. • Moved: Pam McArthur • Seconded: Irena Setnik	
Approval of Minutes- October 18, 2024	• The Minutes were approved. • Moved: Nicola Maguire • Seconded: Pam McArthur	
Declarations of Possible Conflict of Interests	• Completed - No Conflicts were declared	
Co-Chair Report	**Communication items (Co-Chair Patricia Chorney Rubin):** Co-Chair Jill Oakes attended a Community Advisory Committees (CAC) meeting on December 12, 2024, with Michelle Munroe, Central Coordinator, Parent/Caregiver and Community Engagement. Michelle provided CACs with an update on the Summary of Decisions at the November 13, 2024, Organizational Meeting regarding the CAC review process and future role of CACs/ EYCAC.	
Trustee Co-Chair Report Update	**Trustee Co-Chair Deborah Williams, Ward 10** shared the following updates: At the annual Organizational Meeting on November 13, 2024, the Board passed a motion that: a) That the Trustee co-chair and the Director work with the French Student Achievement Community Advisory Committee (formerly known as the French-as-a-Second-Language Community Advisory Committee), the Early Years Community Advisory Committee and the Environmental Sustainability Community Advisory Committee to explore alternative committee models (for example, staff reference	**Motion:** EYCAC members authorized the co-chairs to finalize the wording for the recommendation below outside of the meeting.

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	groups, stakeholder roundtables, etc.) that honour the work of the respective committees; b) That the Director present a report to the Board on Part (a) in the spring 2025; c) The Director ensure that further community advisory committee reviews include alignment with other CAC mandates and recommendations for possible changes to committee structure (e.g., staff committee, reference group); d) That the Trustee co-chairs for the Equity Policy Community Advisory Committee and the Inner City Community Advisory Committee work with the Director and committee members to review mandates and explore options including development of a new, single community advisory committee model focused on equity and the social determinants of health; e) That the Director present a report to the Program and School Services Committee on Part (d) above in the fall 2025. • Trustee co-chair stated there was a misunderstanding that FSACAC, EYCAC, and ESCAC must move to an alternative model/structure. The motion passed by the Board was to look at options and this does not exclude the option of FSACAC, EYCAC and ESCAC continuing in a community advisory committee model/structure. Members discussed the following: • Co-chair shared for several years EYCAC advised the Board on issues, participated in work groups, and engaged in consultation. EYCAC minutes have documented members' discussions/recommendations to improve the experience of the youngest learners in TDSB. Members feel that the Board should not look at alternative advisory models for EYCAC. • EYCAC engagement provides child care partners an opportunity for transparency, accountability, and an opportunity for cooperation. Members learn through one another. Members have held TDSB accountable (e.g. confirming Principals provided surveys to families to determine a need for	**Moved/ Seconded:** All EYCAC voting members present agreed that the following recommendations be submitted (CAC Standing Committee Report) to the next Program and School Services Committee (PSSC) on February 5th, 2025. **Recommendations:** Therefore, be it resolved that: a) The Early Years Community Advisory Committee (EYCAC) continue in its current model of a community advisory committee. b) Any future review of the model or structure of EYCAC includes consultation through meaningful and timely discussion with EYCAC prior to consideration by the Board.

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	BASP in their schools; safe school discussions; resource manual for Principals, Child Care and BASP supervisors; shared space; wi-fi discussions; working together through the pandemic and participating in multiple discussions to ensure that public health practices and procedures were followed; and involving community in an authentic way to serve families and children). • Members shared partnerships between child care in schools and TDSB has strengthen because of EYCAC. EYCAC is valuable and has a voice. • Staff shared the importance to outline what CACs do versus the actual policy that guides the CAC process. Staff have been part of the discussions, implementations, and operations in EYCAC. Operational improvements, projects, abilities, relationships emerged through the work of this CAC, partnerships between TDSB staff and EYCAC members. This can still be achievable without a CAC formal process. The alternative advisory models being considered will be provided by the Senior Resource Person (SRP) as directed by the Board. • Co-chair shared EYCAC work is systemic and shouldn't depend on the goodwill of staff. There can be communication back and forth with a Trustee that members of a CAC wouldn't necessarily have with a variety of working groups, focus groups, and consultation groups. Trustee co-chair shared it's important that the recommendation from EYCAC members goes forward to Board. • Trustee co-chair suggested that EYCAC make a recommendation and remain as a CAC. • Members voted that EYCAC should continue in the current role and structure. Should there be any changes to this committee that it be part of the discussion before a decision is made. • CAC reference documents were referred to during and shared after the meeting.	

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	Procedure PR741 - Community Advisory Committees (CAC) and the Board of Trustees Procedure PR742 - Community Advisory Committees (CAC) https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xSlifFrF577ZYBAcsaKsP4_mkoxd_yC3/view?usp=drive_link **Action Item:** Claudette to prepare (CAC Standing Committee Report) report for submission to PSSC. **Clayton La Touche Appointed TDSB Director of Education** Clayton La Touche has been appointed Director of Education for the Toronto District School Board (TDSB). The appointment will take effect February 10, 2025. Much thanks and appreciation to Stacey Zucker, who has served as Interim Director of Education since November 1, 2024, and will remain in the role until Mr. La Touche's appointment takes effect at which time she will return to her role as the TDSB's Associate Director, Modernization and Strategic Resource Alignment. **Toronto Public Health: Reducing the Spread of Respiratory Infections in Schools** **Toronto Public Health (TPH) Communication** was sent to TDSB Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers, with information and resources about reducing the spread of respiratory infections in schools. **TDSB Budget Process** The 2025-2026 TDSB Budget process is well underway. As you know, we continue to advocate for the Ministry of Education to support our students and staff by providing the necessary funding to cover the actual costs of delivering	

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	education in Toronto. For more information on the current budget pressures faced by the board, please see this budget fact sheet. As always, we will continue to provide updated information throughout the budget process on the TDSB website at www.tdsb.on.ca/budget. • **Ontario 2025 Budget Consultations** Share your ideas for the Ontario 2025 Budget on what matters most to you. Closing date: February 3, 2025 Survey: 2025 Budget consultations 2025 Budget – Budget consultation submission portal **Action Item:** Claudette to share information/links of the Provincial 2025 Budget Consultation with EYCAC members. **EDP childcare subsidies - December 2024 - Letter to Trustees CUPE4400.** https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_-HAiaiLSjzpBokc7cwsE-UqKhhpq4Qt/view?usp=drivesdk	
TDSB Staff Updates (Senior Resource Person)	**Cynthia Moffatt, Senior Policy Advisor/Manager Early Years and Child Care Services** shared the following updates: **Wi-Fi Pilot Update** The IT team will be completing onsite assessments in mid-February for those interested in moving forward with TDSB Wi-Fi process. • A member asked if the service is for 10 months or 12 months? Staff shared that the service would be available on an annual basis – 12 months. Renewal times would be the same.	

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	Capital Update New child care capital projects will be opened in 2025 creating 336 new infant, toddler, and preschool spaces. ▪ Terry Fox (operated by Kreative Kids) opened in January 2025 with 88 new spaces. ▪ Dennis Avenue (operated by George Brown College) scheduled to open by September 2025 with 88 new spaces. ▪ George Syme (operated by Macaulay) scheduled to open February 2025 with 88 new spaces and opening in the Summer/Fall with 72 new spaces. • A member asked if there are any future capital projects? Staff shared at this time they have been cancelled as per the Ministry of Education. **Before- and After-School Program (BASP) Update** The Child Care Services (CCS) team is surveying 45 schools that do not currently have a BASP in place for families. Surveys for families will open from January 6 to 31 to align with Kindergarten Registration month. The survey is available at www.tdsb.on.ca/BASP . Seven new BASPs (Bannockburn PS, Cedarbrook PS, Centennial Road JPS, Dennis Avenue CS, Kingslake PS, Presteign Heights ES, and North Agincourt JPS) opened in September 2024. The full list of all BASPs for 2025-26 will be posted on our website by May 1, 2025.	

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	EarlyON All 75 EarlyON programs reopened following a two-week closure for the Winter Break. The EarlyON Innovation Grant project's final day of programming was December 19, 2024. Families who have attended the program took part in the project end celebration where they came together in a positive wholesome community. Funding will continue for some projects participating in the grant including an expansion of the Reading Partnership. EarlyON programs can access this program for families through the Toronto Children's Services (TCS). Full details have not yet been provided. **Family Literacy Day** Family Literacy Day is on Monday, January 27, 2025. This year's theme is "Let's go Green, Together". All 75 TDSB EarlyON programs will participate in week-long events to celebrate. Each program will offer experiences that reflect their own communities. Events may include special healthy snacks, dance parties, Teddy Bear Picnics, and book readings by special guests. **EDP** 21 of our 23 EDP locations operated during the winter break providing care for over 500 children. To celebrate Family Literacy Day, books were distributed to each EDP location with every child receiving a book to go home with. Each location will be celebrating differently with some sites arranging a librarian to come out to read to children and families. An EDP child who is a published author will be reading her 2nd published book to her fellow peers and families.	

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Other Business:	• A member asked if there was an update regarding keys for classrooms during lockdowns? • Staff shared there are policies and procedures in place for child care operators and key access. If anyone is having challenges with receiving keys, please reach out to the TDSB Child Care Services team to help support you.	
TDBS Community Advisory Committees Web page and EYCAC Web page:	https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Advisory-Committees/Community-Advisory-Committees https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Advisory-Committees/Community-Advisory-Committees/Early-Years-Community-Advisory-Committee	
Next Meeting Date	**March 21, 2025,** from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. via Zoom	
Adjournment	January 24, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.	