



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Aboriginal Community Advisory Committee

Date: April 21st, 2015

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00pm

Present: Trustee Alexander Brown; J’net Ay Ay Qwa Yak Sheelth (Co-Chair); Rob Lackie (Co- Chair); Trustee Pamela Gough; Tasha Smith(Parent & TDSB staff); Patricia Schuyler (Council Fire);Landy Anderson (Native Child and Family Services Toronto); Mae Maracle (City of Toronto); Marilyn Hew(Community Representative, Métis Nation of Ontario); Darlene King(Native Women’s Resource Centre)

TDSB: Jim Spyropoulos (Executive Superintendent); Bonnie Johnston(Community Liaison); Tessa Sill (Community Liaison); Tanya Senk (Coordinator)Shane McLeod; Barbara –Ann Felschow (Central Coordinating Principal); John Chasty (Superintendent)

Guests: Elder/Dr. Joanne Dallaire, Jeffery McDonald (Parent & TDSB Teacher)

Regrets: Christine Monague (Co-Chair)

Recorder: Manalo, John (Parent and Community Engagement Office)

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/MOTION
Traditional prayer	Elder Joanne Dallaire started the meeting with a traditional opening. Welcome introductions followed.	
Call to Order	Chair Rob Lackie called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm	
Approval of Agenda	Amendments: Staff updates: Jim to speak to First Nations School of Toronto and the Aboriginal Centre for	



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	<p>Excellence.</p> <p>Motion to approve the agenda as amended, moved by J'net</p> <p>All in Favour.Motion carried.</p>	
Approval of Minutes	All in Favour, Motion carried.	
<p>Community Check-In</p> <p>a) Communication strategy discussion</p> <p>b) ACAC Member announcements</p> <p>c) TDSB Motion to Acknowledge Territories</p>	<p>Community Check-In (Rob Lackie)</p> <p>a) Communication strategy discussion -put on-line the voices from brainstorming sessions from the Communication subcommittee meeting.</p> <p>b) ACAC Member announcements -to add an agenda item as an approach to include the community members who want to share their announcements. - as part of Code of Conduct to discussed how to adopt TDSB's Code of Conduct in general or make it more specific to ACAC. -TDSB had made a policy that all advisory committees have a code of conduct. -ACAC will discuss this next month with the view that TDSB Code of Conduct be adopted.</p> <p>c) TDSB Motion to Acknowledge Traditional Territories -Trustee Gough put a pause on the motion to allow the community discuss the motion more. -The wording for the territories is important to the community and it needs further discussion: refrain from using words that imply ownership of land, avoid colonial</p>	<p>Tanya Senk will send the current wording for</p>



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	<p>concepts of ownership; Use terms like “ancestral lands”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Peel Board has already implemented this model. -Jim acknowledged the work of the TDSB Trustees who are taking the initiative to move the motion. -Tanya indicated that the Aboriginal Education Centre has been providing PD sessions on treaties and that acknowledging traditional territories has been occurring at a number of schools across the city. - The issue of smudging with traditional medicines was discussed. The Toronto Aboriginal community is very diverse and not everyone engages in smudging. The committee determined that smudging should not be incorporated into the acknowledgement of traditional territories since it is a spiritual ceremony that requires certain teachings and should not be appropriated or used incorrectly. -Trustee Gough read the motion at the meeting to discuss the wording. She will bring it to the PSSC meeting. Tanya reinforced that the acknowledgement is on the AEC website and is specific to TDSB (East and West of Woodbine Avenue). The land acknowledgement has been implemented by several schools over the past two years and many people were involved in the consultation including Aboriginal Elders, scholars and community members. 	<p>acknowledging traditional territories and send to the co-chairs and Trustee Gough.</p>
<p>Staff Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Spyropoulos, Superintendent, Equity and Inclusive Schools. • Aboriginal Education Centre- Central Coordinating Principal Jim Spyropoulos Barbara Felschow 	<p>Jim Spyropoulos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Congratulations to Joanne Dallaire as one of the recent award recipients for the Native Women’s Resource Centre of Toronto -Minaaki Awards: Toronto Aboriginal women and youth community achievement. -FNST PART (Program Area Review Team). A progress report is underway which will be used to secure capital planning in creating a new K-12 Aboriginal school – “Centre of Excellence”. There are four voting members – Christine Monague, Dr. Susan Dion, Ed Sackaney and now a vacant position from the FNST parent committee. Jim met with the Executive Director of Anishnawbe Health Toronto since after the PanAm 	



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	<p>games are complete, AHT will be taking over some of the space in the 'Olympic Village', and might be interested in partnering with TDSB. Feedback is welcome.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The original plan for FNST was to refurbish the Eastern Commerce CI for K-12 programming. AEC will ALSO be housed at Eastern Commerce. This new "Centre of Excellence" will offer a community based approach with a "circle of care" available on-site and safety as a priority. A K-12 school will promote a seamless transition from grade 8 to grade 9. The plan is for the AEC to move in around Sept 2016/2017. -There was a discussion regarding the idea of the Native Learning Centre on Jarvis being relocated to the new "Centre of Excellence". Based on consultation with the NLC, the students do not want to move from their current location since it is within walking distance to many downtown Aboriginal organizations. -The Ministry of Education is conducting a governance review of TDSB's governance structure. 20+ meetings are being scheduled around the city to give feedback, and the AEC is invited to give feedback from an Indigenous perspective on governance. <p>John Chasty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -A review of the NAC10 course was provided. -updated ACAC on the revenue generated; Moving into 44 schools next year and expected to return \$2.2 million with funds to be used specifically for Aboriginal programs and initiatives in the TDSB. -June 18 will be the official public Naming ceremony for the Aboriginal art collection that is on display at Eastern Commerce. The name given to the art collection is called "Debwewin". -The funds will be used for PD, speaker series, Indigenous protocol engagement, Professional Learning, staffing, teacher, cultural instructors, instructional leaders at Laurier CI. -8% is remaining to be used and open for consultation. 	



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	<p>Barbara Felschow</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Model Schools department approached the AEC to collaborate on summer initiatives. -Family of School model: AEC engaged 16 out of 20 Family of Schools in the KAOIROS Blanket exercise. Added 5 additional days by request and engaged system leaders in the program. -TCDSB would like to be engaged with TDSB as well. The AEC will present at TSAA for administrators. - A basic qualification course in Native Studies will be offered again this summer (subsidized partially) for teachers. -J'net commended the work of AEC's and its emotional aspect of the programming. 	
<p>New and Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) TDSB Marketing Department b) TDSB I.T. Department 	<p>Update & Consultation</p> <p>Laura Banks with Garth (Marketing Department)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -working with the AEC on promotional material for the AEC and ACAC; a draft copy was handed out. -Suggested community outreach strategies: survey to community engagement levels and measuring the communication strategies from the survey data to devise the communication tactics. Brochure and information on the monthly newsletters for community and e- bulletin and promotional materials at socials. -Wants feedback on challenges that the AEC is having with increasing attendance/enrollment/recruitment: word of mouth, e-bulletin, <p>Members wants to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -renew community involvement to increase membership - more parents and grassroots community partners attend ACAC meetings 	<p>AEC will invite the TDSB photographer to attend the next ACAC to take pictures for the new promotional materials</p>



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	<p>-be a strong visual presence to stimulate the self-identification policy of Aboriginal students. -have a brochure to be used to summarise the services available to the community.</p> <p>The Communication Sub-committee -wants to gather information at annual solstice events -invited Laura Banks to participate in the subcommittee -All ACAC members to review the AEC link and bring recommendations to the next ACAC meeting -A Media Release Consent form will be sent to the committee before the next ACAC meeting.</p>	
<p>Future Topics – Invite Ryan Kowalchuck to answer Voluntary Self-Identification (ACAC members)</p>	<p>J'net will confirm his attendance.</p>	
<p>Traditional Closing</p>	<p>Joanne Dallaire provided a traditional closing.</p>	
<p>Next Meeting Date</p>	<p>Next ACAC Meeting on May 19, 2015</p>	
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm</p>	

TDSB Community Advisory Committee's website:

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/HowtoGetInvolved/CommunityAdvisoryCommittees.aspx>

TDSB Aboriginal Education Centre website:

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/AboriginalEducation.aspx>

