

**Name of Committee**: Equity Policy Community Advisory Committee (EPCAC)

**General Meeting**: Monday, November 29th, 2021

A meeting of the Equity Policy Community Advisory Committee convened on Monday, November 29th, 2021 from 6:40 pm to 8:29 pm on Zoom with Community Co-Chair Dennis Keshinro presiding.

| **Members in Attendance:**  **Staff Present:**  **Presenters:**  **Observers:** | Aleem Punja (Parent Co-Chair), Dennis Keshinro (Community Co-Chair), Christopher Mammoliti (Trustee Co-Chair), James Li (Trustee), Sharon Beason (Parent), Catherine Maloney (Parent), Sophia Ruddock (Parent)  Jacqueline Spence (System Superintendent), Irit Kelman (Interim Senior Manager, Human Rights Office), Ryan Eaton (Human Rights Assistant)  Sevgul Topkara-Sarsu (Manager, Community Services), Fatma Toufexief (Community Services Supervisor, Newcomer Services), Suzan Joueid (Centrally Assigned Principal for ESL, Library Learning Resources, Social Studies, and World Issues)  Rishia, Ayana |
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| **No Response:** | Tesfai Mengesha (Success Beyond Limits), michael kerr (Colour of Poverty-Colour of Change), Pablo Vivanco (Jane/Finch Community and Family Centre) |

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| **ITEM** | **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS /**  **RECOMMENDATION/MOTION** |
| **Call to Order, Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands, Reading of the Meeting Norms and Approval of Agenda** | The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm.  Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands and Meeting Norms were read.  The agenda was amended. ‘Staff Update from CAC Admin Team Meeting’ was cancelled. Co-Chair Dennis requested items be added to ‘Other Business’.  Welcomed new Trustee Co-Chair Christopher Mammoliti |
| **Approval of Minutes** | The Minutes from the October 25th, 2021 meeting were approved. |
| **Review of Future EPCAC Meeting Dates** | Future EPCAC Meeting dates were reviewed.  December 13th, 2021 – Ismaili Muslim holiday – Birthday of Imam Aga Khan – unable to reschedule due to short notice  January 31st, 2022 is eve of Lunar New Year – to be reviewed and rescheduled if possible. Committee assistant to take required steps.  September 26th, 2022 is Rosh Hashanah – will reschedule to Thursday, September 22nd, 2022.  December 8th, 2022 – adjust time to 7:30pm start time.  Discussion around future meetings remaining virtual, in-person, or hybrid |
| **Trustee Co-Chair Update** | Trustee Christopher Mammoliti provided an update.  During a recent Board meeting a motion passed supporting advocacy for free public transit for high school students. From an equity perspective it is important as many students and families must choose whether to pay for transit or food. Education remains a priority for the youth. The TTC is going through their five- and ten-year fare collection outlooks and strategy.  Ongoing consultations with Specialized Schools and Programs Policy until December 17th. Anti-Sex Trafficking Policy Consultation is open until January 7th, 2022.  During the recent Organizational Meeting Trustees were established and appointed as members for the various Community Advisory Committees. Trustee Mammoliti represents the Humber River-Black Creek and is the Vice Chair of the school board.  During the Planning and Priorities Committee (Special Meeting) it was announced the Board was given an allocation of funding from the Ministry around COVID-19 support. The motion was introduced by Trustees Rajakulasingam and Sriskanadarajah and the recommendation came from staff to allocate $5.9 million of that funding into 16 FT positions of Social Workers, 35 positions of Child and Youth Workers, 15 FT positions of Child and Youth Counselors, and 40 positions of School Based Safety Monitors. |
| **New Membership Working Group** | Member of Working Group raised the issue that members were not provided with the platform to communicate with each other.  Another concern was raised about the length of time to choose the applicants and urges firm goals for next two meetings.  The Working Group will make recommendations and present next meeting where the committee will vote. New members will be invited to join for the January 2022 meeting.  The Working Group will be provided email addresses of other Working Group members upon providing permission. A communication platform will also be provided if requested. |
| **Presentation on Creating Conditions that Support EELs Success and Well- Being** | Presented by Suzan Joueid – see attached presentation |
| **Presentation on the Community Services-Welcoming Communities Program** | Presented by Sevgul Topkara-Sarsu and Fatma Toufexief – see attached presentations |
| **Vote for PSSC Meeting Co-Chair Representative – re EPCAC Report** | Trustee Li to present report at next PSSC meeting |
| **Other Business** | Co-Chair Dennis was the EPCAC representative at the Community Co-Chair Meeting for the Board. It was noted that if a CAC has suggestions for the Board it can be brought forward and communicated by a representative to a Co-Chair Advisory Committee Meeting. The Board may also share ideas with CACs and letters of support may be written by the CACs for Board initiatives.  Concern was noted of inability to communicate with fellow CAC members. Suggestion was made to provide a shared Google Doc among members to provide a space to share emails and other communications. The committee assistant to provide a Google Docs link in future.  Quorum check – committee members expressed support for staff to continue quorum checks in advance of meetings. |
| **Adjournment** | The meeting adjourned at 8:29pm |