**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Committee Name: Urban Indigenous Community Advisory Committee

Date: Tuesday November 17, 2020

Time: 6:00pm- 7:30pm

**Core Voting Constituent’s:**

Present: Dr. Joanne Dallaire (Elder), Pauline Shirt (Elder), Dr. Duke Redbird (Elder), Natasha Gleeson (SST, TDSB), Tanya Senk (P/CAP, TDSB), Christina Saunders (CAVP, TDSB), Dr. Susan Dion (YorkU), Dr. Bob Phillips (Community), Marilyn Hew (TYRMC), Melanie Laking (Parent Council), Shannon Judge (Parent Council), Mary Doucette (OA, TDSB), Robert Durocher (Instructional Leader, TDSB), Adrienne Plumley (Instructional Leader, TDSB), Selina Young (City of Toronto), Brandie Wilson (NLC Downtown - NCFST), Laureen Blu Waters (Elder, Seneca College), Cynthia Bell-Clayton (ENACBE), Darren Wilson (NLC Downtown and East - NCFST)**.**

**TDSB Trustee’s:**

Present: Alexander Brown, Trixie Doyle, Jennifer Story, Dan MacLean.

**TDSB Staff:**

Present: Jim Spyropoulos (Executive Superintendent), Barbara-Ann Felschow (Retired Principal, TDSB), Melissa Mohammed (OA, TDSB), Lisa Dilworth (Principal, TDSB), Saby Chandi (P, TDSB), Candice O’Grady (Communications Officer, TDSB)

**Guests:** Joe Rock (City of Toronto), Paige Kreps (Toronto Inuit Association), Allan Olexson (City of Toronto), Waabshka-Mkwa (2Spirits)

**Regrets:** Kelly Hashimi (Our Children’s Medicine), Cassandra Churm (Toronto Public Health Nurse), Renee Roy (Indigenous Grad Coach, TDSB)

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| **ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **RECOMMENDATION/ MOTION/**  **ACTION** |
| Call to Order, Traditional Opening, meeting etiquette/ code of conduct/co-chair position update | Elder Dr. Joanne Dallaire chaired the meeting.  Elder Dr. Joanne Dallaire conducted a traditional opening and  spoke to the code of conduct for UICAC members and guests.  Introductions from the membership in attendance. |  |
| Approval of Agenda | The agenda of November 17, 2020 was approved by consensus. |  |
| Review and Approval of the minutes of October 19, 2020 | The minutes of October 19, 2020 were approved by consensus. |  |
| Declaration of conflict of interest and Terms of Reference | None declared. |  |
| UICAC Priorities for 2020-21 Re-visited:   1. Facility, 16 Phin – Mobility, Accessibility, Health & Safety, Renovations. 2. Indigenous TDSB Trustee and Student Trustee. 3. Hiring practices, recruitment, retention and mobility. | UICAC Priorities:   1. Facility, 16 Phin – Mobility, Accessibility, Health & Safety, Renovations.   **Jim Spyropoulos (Executive Superintendent):**   * Part 1 of two big construction projects complete. Brand new kitchen and auditorium space. * Before moving onto Part 2, conversations with the Elders Council will continue to take place. * On November 13th virtually introduced Elders Council to the new Executive Officer for Facilities, Maia Puccetti. * Design team, Elders Council, Staff and Parent representation will meet shortly to plan out the vision for Part 2. Dates, timelines, and scope of work will be discussed at next UICAC Meeting on December 15, 2020.  1. Indigenous TDSB Student Trustee.   **Tanya Senk (CAP):**   * Student Trustee, Clarity Smoke stepped down to move to her home community. * In the interim it has been forwarded to the Indigenous Youth Council for the appointment of an Indigenous Youth Trustee.  1. Hiring practices, recruitment, retention and mobility.   **Dr. Susan Dion (YorkU):**   * Spoke to the partnerships between the Urban Indigenous Education Centre (UIEC) and the Faculty of Education at York University. Waaban program and the Masters program. * The Waaban program recently had 19 self- identified teachers graduate. * Look forward to welcoming next cohort of teacher candidates in May. It is a 16-month program to acquire Bachelor of Education and Teacher Certification. * If you know anyone interested in the Wabaan program, please connect them with Dr. Susan Dion. * Masters cohort will commence in September 2021. If you or anyone you know is interested in a Masters degree with a focus on Urban Indigenous Education please connect with Dr. Susan Dion.   **Tanya Senk (CAP):**   * Cultures and Traditions Instructor posting will be posted for a temporary supply for a .5. * Community Liaison acting position will be posted shortly. * It has been a challenge to hire language teachers. Tanya Senk (CAP) has been working with Norbet Costa (CAP, Continuing Ed.) to create language nests and this will be available to parents and youths in the new year. |  |
| Staff Update: | **Elder Dr. Duke Redbird:**   * On November 2nd Elder Dr. Duke Redbird kicked off Indigenous Education Month with a virtual talk to staff and students. Spoke about Indigenous culture and the future. * On November 3rd Elder Dr. Duke Redbird did a short piece with CityTV. He spoke to the Indigenous Curriculum being developed within the UIEC and TDSB. * On November 5th Elder Dr. Duke Redbird spoke with Wanda Nanibush curator at the AGO. They discussed how art and Indigeneity have impacted the global world of art. * On November 10th Elder Dr. Duke Redbird did a keynotes speech for Massachusetts I.T. Audiences tuned in from all over the world. * On November 11th The Mendelssohn Choir put together a program to commemorate and acknowledge those who fought in wars. Elder Dr. Duke Redbird recited his poem *Stolen Children, Stolen Souls*. * On November 12th Kent Monkman and the Gardiner Museum put out a posting to create a sculpture to go in front of the Gardiner Museum.   **Elder Dr. Joanne Dallaire:**   * Elder Dr. Joanne Dallaire works at Ryerson University as the Senior Advisor. * Elder Dr. Joanne Dallaire has been doing three to four circles a week providing emotional support for staff at the University and has been working with the President of the University, Mohammed. * Mohammed would like to incorporate circles for his staff and upper management teams as well. He spoke to the circles having a profound impact on staff and would like staff to know and understand the Indigenous ways of knowing and being. * Elder Pauline Shirt is doing well. * Knowledge Keeper Clayton Shirt doing great. * Elder Laureen Blue Waters is doing well.   **Elder Pauline Shirt:**   * Spoke to offering a teaching at KWSS during Big Circle on starting the process of planting. * Pollinator Grant that was given to the school is being implemented * Important to teach children and ourselves to plant in the Indigenous way of life. * Extended thank-you’s to teachers, parents and Elders for supporting.   **Jim Spyropoulos (Executive Superintendent):**   * The Board had their annual organizational meeting. Trustee Alexander Brown has returned as Chair of TDSB. [Christopher Mammoliti](https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Ward4)has been appointed Vice-Chair of TDSB. * Extended thanks and appreciation to Trustee Trixie Doyle for her work. * Extended thank-you’s to all four Trustees who put their names forward to come back. * Extended a thank-you to Student Trustee Clarity Smoke as she was the first in this role. * The Administrative team at Kapapmahchakwew Wandering Spirit School (KWSS) have been exemplary in their heightened protocols. * Toronto Public Health visited KWSS and reported that staff are doing an outstanding job with following all protocols and implementing procedures to protect students and staff. * There is a surge of students switching to Virtual schooling. 80,000 students currently enrolled in virtual schools. This is the fifth largest enrollment in the province. * Outdoor Education is important at KWSS. The students at KWSS have spent a portion of time outside while the weather has been nice. Despite circumstances staff have turned this into a great opportunity for students to learn outside. * In the process of searching for a Director of Education. * November is Indigenous Education Month (IEM) – program set up for the month is unbelievable. Please find the twitter handles below for the UIEC Instructional Leaders who have worked hard to put together a great program for IEM. * Robert Durocher: @rjdurocher * Adrienne Plumley: @msplumley * Lee Sheppard: @notknownotice   **Tanya Senk (CAP):**   * Extended thank-you’s and appreciation to Lisa Dilworth (Principal, Eastview), Sabi Chandy (Principal, Sir Wilfred Laurier, NLC East), Darren Wilson (NLC Downtown and East – NCFST), Brandi Wilson (NLC Downtown – NCFST), and all staff at KWSS and UIEC. * Lisa Dilworth (Principal), Barbara-Ann Felschow (Retired Principal), and Tanya Senk (CAP) doing work to support Truth and Reconciliation call to action with regards to language revitalization. * Actions 13/14 to 17 reports that TDSB should ensure that all parents and students have a right to language and a right to transportation. * Extended thank-you’s to the Instructional Leaders at the UIEC for planning an amazing Indigenous Education Month. * There has been and continues to be an incredible line up of speakers (Jason Madden, Alyssa Delbare-Sawchuk & Colin Delbare, Phyllis Webstad, Waub Rice, Tanya Talaga, Marilyn Hew, Jean Tiellet, Michael Belmore, Naulaq LeDrew, Rita Dagenais)   **Lisa Dilworth (Principal, Eastview):**   * Enjoying Indigenous Education Month. * Re-invigorating Eastview and this is being done under the guidance of Indigenous staff. * Continue to look at the school through an Indigenous perspective. * Summer Writing Project completed by CAVP Christina Saunders and her writing team speaks to what Eastview will look like through a Code of Care. * Using the Medicine Wheel as a baseline for focus groups with students and families. * Barbara-Ann Felschow (Retired Principal) has been central to the work taking place at Eastview.   **Christina Saunders (CAVP):**   * Extended appreciation and happy to hear that the Summer Writing Project is being centered around Eastview.   **Sabi Chandy (Principal, Sir Wilfred Laurier, NLC East):**   * Spoke to a continued focus to keep connected with students during Covid-19. * Staff working hard to ensure they keep students connected to the school and community. It is going well to date. |  |
| New and Other Business | **Allan Olexson (City of Toronto):**   * Allan Olexson shared the President and Vice President of Hasbro would like support and donate to KWSS. * A virtual meeting will be setup to discuss next steps with the staff at KWSS. |  |
| Future Topics: |  |  |
| Next meeting Date: | The next UICAC will be on Tuesday December 15, 2020 @ 6:00pm on Zoom. |  |
| Traditional Closing: | Dr. Elder Joanne Dallaire closed the meeting. |  |