



## Community Advisory Committees

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

**Meeting Date:** 06, March 2020

A meeting of the Early Years Community Advisory Committee convened on March 06, 2020 from 10:00am to 12:00pm in TDSB Administration Centre, Committee Room A, 5050 Yonge Street, with Trustee Co-Chair: Jennifer Story, Community Co-Chair: Pam McArthur presiding

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**Attendance:** Jennifer Story (Trustee), Pam McArthur (Runnymede Adventure Club), Rachel Chernos Lin (Trustee), Patricia Chorney Rubin (George Brown College), Anabela Ferreira (Woodgreen Child Care), Dan MacLean (Trustee), Coleen McGrath (Learning Enrichment Foundation LEF), Stephanie Nickle (Woodgreen Child Care), Kim Rogers (Sunshine Child Care), Irena Setnik (SilverCreek Pre-School)


Also present were TDSB Staff: David Cameron (Senior Manager, Research and Development), Joanne Davis (Manager and Policy Advisor, EarlyON Centres), Cynthia Grundmann (Senior Policy Advisor/Manager Early Years and Child Care Services), Liz Hoang (Child Care Services Manager), Amie Presley, (Research Coordinator, Research Department), Jacqueline Spence (System Superintendent Equity, Anti-Racism, Anti-Oppression & Early Years)


Also present was: Lisa Arauju (Keelelmount Daycare), Janet Davis (CUPE Local 4400), Jeff deFreitas (PLASP CCS), Matthew Hilder (Toronto Children's Services), Sabrina Luongo-Silva (Macaulay Child Development Centre), Terri Preston (CUPE Local 4400), Karen Wilson (Toronto Children's Service)

**Regrets:** Patty Domski (Toronto Public Library), Jill Oakes (YMCA Child Care), Anastasia Poulis (Centrally Assigned Principal, Transforming Student Learning and Equity, Engagement, Well-Being & Leadership, Laurie Ruscica (Toronto Public Library), Ann Marie Schiraldi (Toronto Children's Services), Irene Sheridan (Heart Beatz Child Care – Cliffcrest), Patrina Stathopoulos (Dandyliion Daycare)

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ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION / MOTION
Land Acknowledgement	<i>"We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognise the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples."</i>	
Call to Order / Quorum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quorum confirmed</li> </ul>	
Approval of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Agenda was passed. Moved: Anabella Ferreira Seconded: Patricia Chorney Rubin</li> </ul>	
Approval of EYCAC Minutes January 10, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Notes were accepted as presented: Moved: Kim Rogers Seconded: Irena Setnik</li> </ul> <p>Revision- delete words "to Governance" on page 3</p>	
Declarations of possible Conflict of Interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed – No Conflicts were declared</li> </ul>	
Co-Chairs' Report	<p>Communication items:</p> <p><u>Member Retirement Notice:</u> EYCAC formally recognized Irene Sheridan who retired from EYCAC. Irene contributed to EYCAC for many years. We thank Irene for her service.</p>	

<p>Presentation on 2020-2024 Service Plan Update</p>	<p><u>Guest Speaker:</u> Matthew Hilder, Policy Development Officer, Toronto Children's Services</p> <p>The presentation provided an update on the consultation and planning process for the TCS 2020-2024 Service Plan. An opportunity for EYCAC members to ask questions followed.</p>  <p>EYCAC 2020-2024 Service Plan Update (</p>	
<p>Presentation on Toronto Children's Service 2020 Budget Overview</p>	<p><u>Guest Speaker:</u> Karen Wilson, District Director, Toronto Children's Service</p> <p>The presentation provided a detailed overview on Children's Services 2020 Approved Operating Budget. An opportunity for EYCAC members to ask questions followed the presentation.</p> <p><b>2020 Budget Process:</b>  January 10, 2020 - Launched of City budget process  February 19, 2020 - Approved by City Council</p> <p><b>Highlights Shared:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approximately 2,900 new licensed child care spaces to be added to the system</li> <li>• A new net City investment of \$5.7 million</li> <li>• Offsets overall Provincial funding reductions of \$2.8 million, which preserves 186 subsidies and sustains affordability investments</li> <li>• Able to maintain our service levels and maintain growth targets</li> <li>• Budget notes are made available online</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/budget-finances/city-budget/notes-reports-and-presentations/">https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/budget-finances/city-budget/notes-reports-and-presentations/</a></p> <p><b>Looking Ahead in 2020:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal mandate letter - the Federal Minister is to look at</li> </ul>	

	<p>250,000 additional before- and after-school program spaces for children under 10 years of age across Canada.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invest in lowering child care fees.</li> <li>• More support for early childhood educators.</li> </ul> <p><b>Canada- Ontario Early Learning and Child Care Agreement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• April 1, 2017– current Canada-Ontario agreement came into effect</li> <li>• March 31, 2020 - current bi-lateral agreement expires</li> </ul> <p><b>Provincial child care funding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jan 1, 2020- Cost sharing expansion 80/20</li> <li>• Jan 1, 2021- Cost share admin 50/50</li> <li>• Jan 1 2022- Allowable admin reduced from 10% to 5%</li> </ul> <p><b>Province of Ontario:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial- Municipal Technical Working Group</li> <li>• Cross-sectoral Early Years and Child Care Advisory Group</li> </ul> <p> TDSB EYAC.pptx</p>	
<p>Focus Group and Consultation Session on the Parent and Community Involvement Policy (P023)</p>	<p><u>Guest Speaker:</u> David Cameron, Senior Manager, Research and Development and Amie Presley, Research Coordinator, Research Department</p> <p>The Research and Development department facilitated a focus group and consultation session with EYCAC members regarding the Parent and Community Involvement Policy (P023) review. EYCAC members participated in the Community Advisory Committee review survey.</p> <p>EYCAC members were asked to provide their input and perspective on how to improve community engagement and specifically the work</p>	

of EYCAC and its importance. Members shared their achievements, challenges, experiences and what can be improved as a group.

What is EYCAC role? What is the purpose? What is the perception?

A summary of what EYCAC members discussed:

- At EYCAC meetings TDSB staff feel connected when hearing Child Care Operators discuss their challenges and day to day experiences.
- When representing communities and parents, members are able to be part of the table. Members have a way of bringing stakeholders together. It's important and valuable to bring together schools, staff and community.
- EYCAC bring experiences and works together as a group.
- EYCAC work together with struggles. They learn from each other and listen to one another.
- EYCAC members is a network.
- As a Trustee and a parent to be able to hear from others and understand that there are lots of things that need to be done. We have an incredible Early Years team of staff who interface with our service providers and our parents. There are lots of conversations around this table. As a Trustee, our discussions are engaged and bring value. The many conversations are about issues regarding: safety, security, policy and procedures, EDP, etc. EYCAC members know there are still lots to do (e.g. relationships between our Child Care Operators and Principals).
- EYCAC has brought an impact within community because of the discussions and ideas around the table.
- Conversations taking place outside EYCAC are looked at differently now because of the conversations around this table.
- Being part of this committee gives the opportunity to ask questions and access knowledge.
- As a Trustee, hearing the conversations is beneficial.

	<p>Wanting to learn from all CACs is informative. EYCAC is less confrontational and share realities together. This committee is an effective group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EYCAC works collaboratively. This group works cohesively and cooperatively in nature.</li> <li>• There is a common good.</li> <li>• Early Years folks and education folks are trained in collaborative practice.</li> <li>• Experience is grassroots.</li> <li>• The staff, Trustees and the commitment of the community are engaged to reach success.</li> <li>• Early Years needs to include EarlyON in the whole. More parenting and family literacy dialogue. More reflection is needed and community voices on EarlyON groups.</li> <li>• Who gets to identify the problem? The group comes together with common problems. EYCAC recommends motions together (e.g. Key &amp; Access Control, Extended Day Program, and Precarious Work/Split Shifts).</li> <li>• What is the impact, common challenges, successes and opportunities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ EYCAC have unique situations but through the journey there is cohesiveness.</li> <li>○ EYCAC is well functioning.</li> <li>○ Policy Impact-EYCAC provides input in Early Years Learning and Care Policy and Optional Attendance policy.</li> <li>○ Operation Impact- keys, Wi-Fi How representative is this group? How diverse is this group?</li> <li>○ Terms of Reference has not been reviewed or updated.</li> <li>○ Probing and engaging other stakeholder groups and other operators from all parts of the City.</li> <li>○ Creating new conversations within EYCAC.</li> <li>○ Frequently, the committee invites guest speakers (e.g. First Nations School of Toronto -Supporting Indigenous</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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	<p>Cultural Competency, IT- WiFi update).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What could improve with the role of this committee? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Having Principals at the table. The relationships between the Principals and the Child Care Operators are still major obstacles. A need to move it from relationships to structure. A need for policy to inform practice. Practices need to change. There was always a role with the Child Care Operator.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Please continue to send your feedback to Research and Development.</li> </ul>	
<p>Reports from EYCAC Working Groups</p>	<p><u>Best Practices in Shared Space Work Group:</u> (Karen Guthrie, Liz Hoang, Anastasia Poulis, and Patrina Stathopoulos)</p> <p><u>Facilities Work Group:</u> (Nadejda Lekosky)</p> <p>Both working groups have not met and will be in touch with members about the need for other work groups and to reconsider the need for existing work groups to continue.</p> <p>In light of the Parent and Community Involvement Policy (P023) review, EYCAC decided to table its review of both the current Working Groups and the Terms of Reference.</p>	
<p>TDSB Staff Update</p>	<p>Cynthia Grundmann, Senior Policy Advisor and Manager, Early Years and Child Care Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff resignation: Louise Humphreys, EDP Manager. Louise worked and interacted with many EYCAC members and working groups over the year. Child Care Services is currently looking to fill the temporary position as soon as possible to support EDP operations and planning. EYCAC thanks Louise for her service.</li> </ul>	

<p>Other Business</p>	<p>Jacqueline Spence, System Superintendent Equity, Anti-Racism, Anti-Oppression &amp; Early Years provided an overview on the EarlyON Board Report that went to PSSC on January 16, 2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TDSB is currently having ongoing discussions with the City of Toronto about funding and operational expectations for EarlyON programs operated by TDSB.</li> <li>• At the last Board meeting a brief summary of the current status was presented. TDSB secured an extension until December 2021.</li> <li>• The EarlyON Board Report that was presented was in response to the May 22, 2019 board decision around the Board's financial status. An update was provided to the Board regarding what is currently taking place and to identify possible longer-term solutions.</li> <li>• There is a structural deficit that the Board is facing with EarlyON and staff continue to work closely with the City on how to address and mitigate the deficit moving forward.</li> <li>• Discussion regarding a comparative look between PFLC operations and EarlyONs are being undertaken by TDSB staff.</li> </ul> <p>It was shared that communication from Public Health has been sent to parents regarding COVID-19 and the cleaning protocols from the Public Health Agency Canada. It was pointed out that the Provincial Government gave more funding in the past to help support funding additional staffing and supplies to meet the demand. TDSB has not received any information from the Provincial Government regarding additional funding, and schools have fewer custodial staff. The Trustee Co-Chair will be speaking with other members and colleagues regarding protocols, the obligations of the Provincial Government, and the supports needed to be maintained at the</p>	
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	<p>schools.</p> <p>Staff shared that Child Care Services continue to send out Public Health and TDSB information/ protocols regarding COVID-19 to child care operators in schools. Communication will continue to be forwarded.</p> <p>EYCAC members discussed: A system protocol should be in place regarding sharing information about quarantine.</p>	
Next Meeting Date	<p>EYCAC Meetings 2019/2020</p> <p>Meeting dates were set based on the CAC 2019/2020 Proposed Meeting Cycles’.</p> <p>Future EYCAC Dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>May 22, 2020</b> (Location: TDSB Admin. Centre, 5050 Yonge St., Boardroom)</li> </ul> <p>All meetings will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.</p>	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.	