



## Community Advisory Committees

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

**Meeting Date:** 10, January, 2020

A meeting of the Early Years Community Advisory Committee convened on January 10, 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-Chairs: Jill Oakes, Pam McArthur presiding

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**Attendance:** Jennifer Story (Trustee), Pam McArthur (Runnymede Adventure Club), Jill Oakes (YMCA Child Care), 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), Laurie Ruscica (Toronto Public Library), Irena Setnik (SilverCreek Pre-School), Patrina Stathopoulos (Dandy Lion Daycare), Ann Marie Schiraldi (Toronto Children's Services)

Also present were TDSB Staff: 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), Karen Guthrie (Early Years Coordinator, Child Care Services), Nadejda Lekosky (Early Years Coordinator, Child Care Services), Anastasia Poulis (Centrally Assigned Principal, Transforming Student Learning and Equity, Engagement, Well-Being & Leadership)

Also present was: Matthew Hilder (Toronto Children's Services)

The following participated by electronic means: Rachel Chernos Lin (Trustee), Patricia Chorney Rubin (George Brown College), Pam McArthur (Runnymede Adventure Club)

**Regrets:** Patty Domski (Toronto Public Library)

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: Coleen McGrath Seconded: Patrina Stathopoulos</li> </ul>	
Approval of EYCAC Minutes May 10, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Notes were accepted as presented: Moved: Coleen McGrath Seconded: Jill Oakes</li> </ul>	
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>EYCAC Annual Report 2018- 2019</u></p> <p>The Co-Chairs provided an overview of the EYCAC Annual Report.</p> <p>The report includes and outlines the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Years Community Advisory Committee Co-Chairs' Message</li> <li>• EYCAC Mandate/Purpose</li> <li>• EYCAC Meeting Dates</li> <li>• Motions passed by the Committee</li> <li>• EYCAC Committee Membership 2018-2019</li> </ul>	

	<p>Every Community Advisory Committee is required to submit an annual report at the end of the year based on the Board’s directives. This reflects the work and accomplishments of the CAC during the prior school year. The Annual Report is co-written with the committee co-chairs.</p> <p><u>Optional Attendance Policy Review</u></p> <p>Community Co-Chair and Trustee Co-Chair attended the January 7, 2020 public consultation for Optional Attendance Policy Review. The objective is to provide policy direction about access to schools outside a student’s designated attendance area. Committees had the opportunity to attend and provide input and feedback. The survey is open till February 3, 2020. The draft policy is on line and available here: <a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/policies-procedures-forms/policy-consultations">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/policies-procedures-forms/policy-consultations</a></p> <p>At this session, provided input from the child care and early years perspective. They identified that child care is not available in every school and when a child attends a child care centre they are developing important relationships and are part of that school community. Thus, it is recommended that those children be able to continue attending that school.</p> <p>Community Co-Chair and Trustee Co-Chair would like to submit a letter on behalf of the committee that EYCAC would have a strong opinion regarding children attending child care that is not located in their home school to allow them to stay within that school community, if there is space. To have the children stay with their cohort is beneficial for both children and families given. EYCAC believes the system should continue to prioritize minimal transitions for young children.</p>	
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	<p>Other comments and feedback from committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This (optional attendance through the child care) affects a very small percentage of children in the system.</li> <li>• The children who are out of district can often support school enrolment, especially when enrolment is low.</li> <li>• A system process that doesn't leave decisions up to principals alone is recommended.</li> <li>• Approaches should be centralized and more equitable across schools.</li> <li>• Across the system there is a lack of preschool spaces available in child's home school, thus, families often have limited choices for preschool care. Few choices available.</li> <li>• System is not there in terms of access.</li> </ul>	
<p>Presentation on Wi-Fi Update</p>	<p><u>Guest Speaker:</u> Peter Singh, Executive Officer, Information Technology &amp; Information Management Services, Freedom of Information and Privacy Office</p> <p>The presentation provided a detailed overview on the assumed cost of providing Wi-Fi services to third-party/independent child care staff operating child care programs in TDSB schools/sites. An opportunity for EYCAC members to ask questions followed the presentation.</p> <p>Cost of Service &amp; Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$25 monthly service fee (per user) to be paid by Child Care Operator</li> <li>• Includes connectivity support during TDSB business hours</li> </ul> <p>Account Provisioning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$25 one time account setup fee (per user) to be paid by Child Care Operator</li> <li>• A personal named account will be assigned</li> </ul>	

	<p>Account Changes Request:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$25/request for account changes/deletions (per user) to be paid by Child Care Operator</li> </ul> <p>Support Levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Troubleshooting Wi-Fi infrastructure hardware</li> <li>• No individual device support</li> <li>• No onsite support for Child Care staff technology (devices owned by Child Care Centre &amp; Staff)</li> </ul> <p>Service Requests:</p> <p><u>Option 1 (Service IT Portal-Preferred)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Admin Staff make request via Service IT Portal on behalf of Child Care Managers</li> <li>• Principals must agree to their staff submitting requests</li> </ul> <p><u>Option 2 (Google Form)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Care Manager submits request via Google Form</li> <li>• Notification sent to IT Client Service Desk with core details</li> </ul> <p><u>Option 3 (E-mail form- Not Preferred)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Care sends e-mail to IT Client Service Desk</li> <li>• Validation of Site Manager can be done by IT Client Service Desk</li> </ul> <p>TDSB will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide support during business hours (Monday- Friday, 8:30am -4:30pm)</li> <li>• Provide service to Child Care sites with adequate Wi-Fi coverage</li> </ul> <p>TDSB will not be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide technology configuration or hardware support</li> <li>• Accept account requests from non-designated child care staff</li> </ul>	
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	<p>EYCAC Members discussed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each ID is \$25 per month and assigned to one person. If someone shares that ID there is a security, accountability and safety responsibility for the assigned individual.</li> <li>• Some members felt costs are expensive and excessive (\$25 for each ID per user per month. Some child care centres have 20 staff and the cost would be excessive for a non-profit organization).</li> <li>• With TDSB Wi-Fi access security will be able to know if someone is misusing their access. With each ID the person will sign in using special identifiable log in that is assigned to that person. Any issues will come back to that individual.</li> <li>• The ID needs to be assigned to a specific person. TDSB will not provide generic IDs.</li> <li>• Many members felt \$300 (\$25/month) is reasonable for one user for one ID per year.</li> <li>• This service may not be available at all schools because the infrastructure is not developed. Some schools do not have the appropriate hardware and would need wall to wall service. Building infrastructure is a large cost to the board.</li> <li>• Communication to Child Care Operators- Discussion with Child Care Services Team and Service IT regarding next steps. Communication will go out to Child Care Operators regarding fees, including which schools will be able to have this opportunity, and which schools will not be able to have this service due to limited infrastructure.</li> </ul>	
<p>Reports from EYCAC Working Groups</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 existing work groups.</p> <p><u>Best Practices in Shared Space Work Group:</u> (Karen Guthrie, Liz Hoang, Anastasia Poulis, Irene Sheridan, and Patrina Stathopoulos)</p> <p><u>Facilities Work Group:</u> (Nadejda Lekosky)</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>• Extended Day Program (EDP) is now in its second year and is being offered in 16 schools with a capacity of 780. Staff continue to work through challenges, opportunities and learnings. They reflect on their model and budget process and are developing better ways to manage ongoing enrolment.</li> <li>• The Child Care Services team is engaged in its 2020-21 BASP planning, working with TDSB planning and Toronto Children’s Services. The team will be taking a more concentrated approach to planning this year using existing data, including local/community -based information.</li> <li>• Children Services 2020-2024 Service Plan feedback from EYCAC was considered in TDSB’s submission to Toronto Children’s Services (Senior Policy Advisor and Manager, Early Years and Child Care Services will provide members the overview of the Service Plan submission to members):             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Workforce- provide ongoing training to support educators working with children with extra support needs, and behavioural issues in Kindergarten and School-age programs, create structures or resources to support the transition into school programs, wrap-around programs (e.g., BASP).</li> <li>2. System Planning- Sharing the information and data available through Raising the Village, consider having working sessions for organizations that help them better understand how to use this data and information within their own organizations, and to support evidence-driven local and system planning.</li> <li>3. Support during times of change- How the City can do a better job in communicating and informing operators and stakeholders about changes. Members would like emails, meetings, network meetings and forum meetings to continue.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	
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	<p>Better sharing of information of the work in the city, opportunities of the Toronto Child and Family Network. Some members stated there are complex relationships with different ministries, and divisions within ministries, City departments, and school board units. Thus a better understanding and way to communicate the changes and information is needed as it becomes overwhelming and confusing for operators and any stakeholder in order to navigate this complex space.</p> <p>4. Supporting children with extra support needs- partner with organizations like The MEHRIT Centre for training or professional development in self-regulation (was an example discussed). External partnerships should be explored by the City. For licensed child care professionals to become certified to provide this support for children with extra and unique learning needs.</p> <p>Matthew Hilder, Policy Development Officer, Toronto Children's Services provided an update on the Children Services 2020-2024 Service Plan Agreement submission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 175 organizational responses were received and are currently being reviewed. They are sorting the analysis on what was submitted.</li> <li>• Going to City Council in June 2020. The information is not available to share or to provide direction as they are still in this process and analyzing the data.</li> <li>• Toronto Children's Services will provide a fulsome update at the next EYCAC meeting.</li> </ul> <p>Liz Hoang, Child Care Services Manager, Child Care Services provided an update on website revisions and the Child Care Resource Manual.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purpose is to enhance Child Care communication and identify how best Child Care Services can provide information and resources for both schools and child care operators.</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Care Services has been working on updating the website. Work is ongoing.</li> <li>• The page is now called <i>Child Care and Before- and After-School Program Resources</i>. The page will provide resources and information to support greater understanding of the roles of child cares in schools, the related requirements for both the TDSB and third-party operators, and to support greater opportunities for collaborative practices.</li> <li>• On the internal website, Principals can go to TDSB Resources, Child Care Services then go to <i>Child Care Before- and After-School Program Resources</i> can be found on the TDSB public website at:  <a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/EarlyYears/Before-and-After-School-Program-4-to-12-Years/Program-Resources">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/EarlyYears/Before-and-After-School-Program-4-to-12-Years/Program-Resources</a></li> <li>• The resources are for everyone.</li> <li>• There will be a link to the EYCAC page to make it easier to find information.</li> <li>• There will be a Child Care Services Update section that will have archived e-blasts and information as well.</li> <li>• Staff is currently working on updating the Child Care Resource Manual – making it web-based.</li> <li>• Staff is trying to provide a more user friendly website with up-to-date information.</li> <li>• Staff welcomes feedback regarding the website. Please contact the Child Care Services team directly.</li> <li>• <b><u>TDSB Connects</u></b> -Child Care Services has begun sending the link to <i>TDSB Connects</i> to child care centres as new editions become available.</li> </ul>	
Other Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion re: goals for the year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is effective and appreciated when consultation opportunities arise to have EYCAC input. (E.g., Optional Attendance Policy review).</li> <li>○ PSSC meetings-The Co-Chairs and members should attend meetings for EYCAC representation. Lack of</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

EYCAC member presence has been noted at these meetings over the past two years.

Guest Speaker: Matthew Hilder, Policy Development Officer,  
Toronto Children's Services

The presentation provided a detailed history and update on the City of Toronto's Middle Childhood Strategy. An opportunity for EYCAC members to ask questions followed. . Presentation was sent out to members following the meeting.

- A brief history
  - 2003-2007:Early advocacy years
  - 2008-2012:Community research and City engagement
- Goals and Outcomes:
  - Develop a system of services for children 6-12
  - Coordination and planning
  - Program comprehensiveness
  - Public awareness
  - Research and knowledge
- Milestones for the School Age System were shared
- Middle Childhood Advisory Table was referenced



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Self-Evaluation Feedback Tool:

The 2018/2019 CAC Self Evaluation was completed by EYCAC members on May 10, 2019.

All members were welcomed to view the responses of the questions and comments during the meeting. With 1 representing strongly agree and 5 representing strongly disagree the majority of the committee responses to the questions were represented with 2.

Member Retirement Notice:

EYCAC formally recognized Donna Spreitzer who retired from EYCAC. Donna contributed to EYCAC for many years. We thank Donna for her service.

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>March 6, 2020</b> (Location: TDSB Admin. Centre, 5050 Yonge St., Committee Room A)</li> <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 12:00 p.m.	