



**Committee of the Whole
(Special Meeting)**

Agenda

CW:036A

Tuesday, November 10, 2020

4:30 p.m.

Electronic Meeting

Trustee Members

Alexander Brown (Chair), Michelle Aarts, Rachel Chernos Lin, Stephanie Donaldson, Trixie Doyle, Harpreet Gill, Parthi Kandavel, Shelley Laskin, James Li, Alexandra Lulka, Dan MacLean, Christopher Mammoliti, Chris Moise, Patrick Nunziata, Zakir Patel, Robin Pilkey, Yalini Rajakulasingam, David Smith, Anu Sriskandarajah, Jennifer Story, Chris Tonks, Manna Wong

The purpose of the meeting is to provide strategic advice and recommendations to the Board on COVID-19 related matters.

Pages

- 1. Call to Order and Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands**
- 2. Declarations of Possible Conflict of Interest**
- 3. Delegations**
To be presented
- 4. Report From the Director of Education**
Oral update
- 5. Report From the Chair of the Board**
Oral update
- 6. Report From Representative on the City's Board of Health**
Oral update
- 7. Report From the Directors on the Ontario Public School Boards' Association**
Oral update

- 8. Report From the Chairs of the Governance and Policy Committee, the Program and School Services Committee, the Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee**
Oral update
- 9. Report From Representatives on the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee and the Special Education Advisory Committee**
Oral update
- 10. Reports From Student Trustees**
Oral update
- 11. Staff Reports**
 - 11.1. Lease: Bannockburn Building, 12 Bannockburn Avenue [3976] 1
- 12. Emergency Motions**
 - 12.1. Use of Outdoor Spaces for Instructional Time (Trustees Story and Aarts) 5
- 13. Other Questions, Insights and Advice From Trustees to Staff**
To be presented
- 14. Adjournment**



Lease: Bannockburn Building, 12 Bannockburn Avenue

To: Special Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Date: 10 November, 2020

Report No.: 11-20-3976

Strategic Directions

- Allocate Human and Financial Resources Strategically to Support Student Needs
- Build Strong Relationships and Partnerships Within School Communities to Support Student Learning and Well-Being

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Bannockburn building located at 12 Bannockburn Avenue be declared surplus to the needs of the Toronto District School Board and referred to the Toronto Lands Corporation for lease for a maximum of 12 months, terminating on 15 July 2022.

Context

The Bannockburn building, located at 12 Bannockburn Avenue in North York (Ward 8, Trustee Laskin) is currently leased to an independent Montessori School that serves children aged 18 months to Grade 6. The existing lease with the tenant is set to expire on 15 July 2021.

The Bannockburn building is located within close proximity to the Yonge-Eglinton Urban Growth Centre and has long been a part of the TDSB's plan to address the pupil place shortfall at elementary schools in the Yonge-Eglinton area. The TDSB's need for the Bannockburn building for student accommodation has been communicated to the tenant.

The TDSB's plan for the Bannockburn building was the subject of a Program Area Review that began in the 2018-19 school year, but was paused in April 2019 to await the outcomes of system-wide initiatives like the French-as-a-Second Language and Secondary Program Reviews. The plan was to return the Bannockburn building to the

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TDSB, renovate the building for one year which requires the building to be empty of students, and then open the building as an elementary school.

Recognizing the TDSB's long-term need for the site, the tenant purchased a property at Bayview Avenue and Lawrence Avenue East in the Bridle Path neighbourhood to construct a new school. The tenant's original plan was to have the new school open and operating for the fall of 2021. Due to delays in the process, the new school will not be ready as originally planned. In May 2020, the independent Montessori School requested to lease the Bannockburn building for an additional two years until 15 July 2023.

Staff reviewed the tenant's request to extend the lease taking into consideration the status of accommodation pressures in the Yonge-Eglinton area, implementation of the French Review recommendations, and changes to the accommodation landscape due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Enrolment pressures in the Yonge-Eglinton area have temporarily subsided due to the option of an elementary Virtual School. There is sufficient space in the French programs in the area to accommodate the introduction of Junior Kindergarten as the entry point to early French Immersion in 2022. Further, there was no need to consider satellite locations to support the implementation of back-to-school measures in this community. In light of these considerations, staff is recommending that the lease be extended for a maximum of 12 months only. This extension will result in the lease being terminated on 15 July 2022.

Staff cannot support the request for a two-year extension because the building is still required to accommodate TDSB students in September 2023 which requires the TDSB to reclaim the building in the summer of 2022 to have sufficient time to complete the required renovations. Enrolment growth in the Yonge-Eglinton area is expected to continue, and a long-term accommodation plan that includes the Bannockburn building is required. The circumstances associated with the pandemic have delayed this planning process by one year.

The Long-Term Program and Accommodation Strategy includes a new Yonge-Eglinton Program Area Review that will determine a long-term accommodation plan for local elementary schools. This review is set to begin during the 2020-21 school year and will consider options for the Bannockburn building. The review is likely to extend into the 2021-22 school year.

Action Plan and Associated Timeline

Once this report has been approved by the Board of Trustees, staff of the Toronto Lands Corporation (TLC) will undertake the circulation process as per provincial regulation 444/98. The site will be circulated for a 90-day period to coterminous school boards and other public agencies. If no interest is declared by another public agency, a 12-month lease will be negotiated with the independent Montessori school, terminating on 15 July 2022.

Resource Implications

Not applicable.

Communications Considerations

This report will be available on the TDSB public website. The TLC and the tenant will be notified of the decision of the Board of Trustees.

Board Policy and Procedure Reference(s)

Not applicable.

Appendices

Not applicable.

From

Maia Puccetti, Executive Officer, Facilities and Planning at maia.puccetti@tdsb.on.ca or at 416-393-8780

Andrew Gowdy, System Planning Officer, Strategy and Planning at andrew.gowdy@tdsb.on.ca or at 416-394-3917

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Written Notice of Motion for Consideration as Emergency Business (Trustees Story and Aarts)

From: Denise Joseph-Dowers, Manager, Board Services, Governance and Board Services

In accordance with the Board's bylaws, emergency business is defined as:

a situation, or the threat of a situation, adversely affecting health, safety and/or well-being, or resulting in significant legal risk or financial damage or loss, which by its nature and seriousness requires an immediate response...

Further,

5.12.7 A matter not on the agenda or directly related to matters arising from discussion cannot be introduced by a trustee at a Board or Committee meeting, or after the notice of agenda has been circulated to members, unless the item qualifies as emergency business and is confirmed by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present.

Use of Outdoor Spaces for Instructional Time

Trustees Story and Aarts have submitted the following as a matter of urgency and for consideration as emergency business;

Therefore, be it resolved:

A. That the following matter be deemed as emergency business;

and, if approved (requires a two-thirds majority vote of the members present to be considered);

B. That the following be considered:

Whereas, outdoor play and learning has been shown to help mitigate the risk of COVID-19 infection as well as support healthy child development;¹ and

Whereas, outdoor play offers critical opportunities for learning, development and well-being;² and

Whereas, access to open outdoor spaces while adhering to public health guidance (e.g., physical distancing, careful and regular hand-washing) has been recommended

¹ <https://www.outdoorplaycanada.ca/should-i-go-outside-in-the-covid-19-era/>

² [Source: Position Statement on Active Outdoor Play](#)

by Toronto Public Health,¹ is important to help maintain both physical and mental health, and is one of the best ways Canadians can [increase their defence](#)² against COVID-19;³ and

Whereas, during times of crisis, children benefit from play as a means to explore their emotions as well as to make sense of and cope with environmental anxiety, and through this process, develop resilience and build self-confidence to help them navigate life's challenges;⁴ and

Whereas the TDSB has prioritized outdoor learning as part of the 2020 Return to School plans;

Therefore, be it resolved:

- (a) That the Director **present a report outlining** a plan for encouraging and supporting **all** schools to use outdoor spaces for instructional time throughout the day:
- (b) That the plan at Part (a):
 - (i) be based on approaches used in the Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) program successfully piloted at TDSB schools;
 - (ii) include support for an initial group of up to 24 schools (six per Learning Centre) as soon as possible, using an equity lens, **including the use of disaggregated race-based data** to determine which schools will be eligible;
 - (iii) include consistent and clear messaging to all schools that helps to remove barriers and supports the use of temporary, low-cost and volunteer-supported approaches to the use of outdoor learning spaces;
 - (iv) include collaboration between the Sustainability Office and Outdoor Education in supporting schools with this work;
 - (v) **include concrete steps for how outdoor learning can be encouraged at the secondary level as well;**
 - (vi) **include costs and funding source for implementation.**
- (c) The Director provide an update in the February-March 2021 cycle of meetings.

¹ (<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-reopening-recovery-rebuild/covid-19-reopening-guidelines-for-businesses-organizations/covid-19-guidance-elementary-secondary-schools/>)

² <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1471489216300479>

³ <https://www.outdoorplaycanada.ca/pandemic-play-child-centred-policy-in-a-global-crisis/>

⁴ <http://www.ipacanada.org/covid-19/statement-play-in-the-time-of-covid-19/>

Acknowledgment of Traditional Lands

We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe (A NISH NA BEE), the Haudenosaunee (HOE DENA SHOW NEE) Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognize the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit people.

Reconnaissance des Terres Traditionnelles

Nous reconnaissons que nous sommes accueillis sur les terres des Mississaugas des Anichinabés (A NISH NA BEY), de la Confédération Haudenosaunee (HOE DENA SHOW NE) et du Wendat. Nous voulons également reconnaître la pérennité de la présence des Premières Nations, des Métis et des Inuit