

Community Advisory Committees

Name of Committee: Urban Indigenous Community Advisory Committee (UICAC)

Meeting Date: Tuesday November 19, 2019

Room 123, 16 Phin Avenue, Toronto

Attendance: Dr. Joanne Dallaire (Elder), Ryan Neepin (TDSB Teacher), Tanya Senk (Centrally Assigned Principal), Christina Saunders (Centrally Assigned Vice-Principal), Natasha Gleeson (TDSB, SST), Marilyn Hew (TYRMC), Mary Doucette (TDSB Office Administrator), Bonnie Johnston (TDSB Community Liaison), Jim Spyropoulos (Executive Superintendent), Howard Munroe (OCAD), Olivia Horzempa (Toronto Public Health), Monique Diabo (City of Toronto), Melanie Laking (Parent), Jennifer Story (TDSB Trustee), Nicholas Deleary (Council Fire), Robert Durocher (Instructional Leader, TDSB), Elaina Evans (Indigenous Parent), Lee Sheppard (Instructional Leader) Siobhan McCarthy (NCFST), Dr. Bob Phillips (Community member), Selina Young (City of Toronto) and Jeffrey Schiffer (NCFST).

Regrets: Alexander Brown (Trustee), Dr. Duke Redbird (Elder), Pauline Shirt (Elder), Cynthia Bell-Clayton (ENAGB Indigenous Youth Agency) and Adrienne Plumley (TDSB Instructional Leader).

Part A: Recommendations

No recommendations to report.

Part B: For Information Only

UICAC Co-Chair:

The selection process for UICAC Co-Chair was conducted at the meeting. The election process was carried out by simple majority vote with a Motion put forward selecting Dr. Elder Joanne Dallaire as the new UICAC Co-Chair. Dr. Elder Joanne Dallaire accepted the offer as Co-Chair effective immediately.

<u>Indigenous Student Trustee:</u>

The TDSB Toronto Indigenous Youth Council conducted a selection process on November 11, 2019. The Council selected Clarity Smoke as TDSB Student Trustee. Clarity Smoke is an Anishnaabe secondary student attending Monarch Park Collegiate Institute. Currently in the ninth grade, Clarity has been actively involved in raising awareness of Indigenous history and culture within post-secondary institutions, political agencies and community organizations alike.

During her spare time, Clarity attends Indigenous cultural celebrations, singing on the Pow Wow trail and dancing Northern Women's Traditional. Throughout the school year Clarity is an active member of the Toronto Indigenous Youth Council (TIYC) as part of her advocacy in Toronto. She also pursues other artistic avenues such as playing the violin and painting.

Clarity and her mom feel that she would be best supported by an Indigenous mentor that she knows, to attend some of the first meetings with her, support her learning while easing into the new role. Several Indigenous UICAC members put forward their name to assist and support Clarity.

Hiring practices, recruitment, retention and mobility.

Tanya Senk and Christina Saunders volunteered to take the lead with Pardeep Nagra and draft an employment and contracting provision for hiring more Indigenous people in all positions at TDSB. This task is ongoing and will be on the agenda for the January 21, 2020 UICAC meeting.

In terms of recruitment, the TDSB is willing to support a community-based job information fair that focuses on hiring and recruiting Indigenous people. Bonnie Johnston and Corey MacFarlene volunteered to take the lead in conjunction with TDSB Employee Services to continue with a discussion and plan on how best to support/host a community-based job information fair. The Wandering Spirit Parent Council will recruit more volunteers to assist with this initiative.

Part C: Ongoing Matters

No matters to report.

Report Submitted by: Bonnie Johnston