

Bylaws Review Ad Hoc Committee: Interim Report

To: Governance and Policy Committee

Date: 2 June, 2021

Report No.: 06-21-4108

Strategic Directions

Create a Culture for Student and Staff Well-Being

 Build Strong Relationships and Partnerships Within School Communities to Support Student Learning and Well-Being

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Bylaws Review Ad Hoc Committee: Interim Report be received.

Context

At the November 16, 2020 Organizational Board meeting, the Bylaws Review Ad Hoc Committee was established with a mandate to review the Board's Bylaws and to present recommendations regarding revisions to the Governance and Policy Committee.

Specifically, the Board of Trustees resolved:

(a) That a Bylaws Review Ad Hoc Committee be established as follows:

Mandate: To review the Board's bylaws and present recommendations regarding revisions to the Governance and Policy Committee in the spring 2021

Membership: Up to five members;

(b) That Trustees Doyle, Laskin, Rajakulasingam and Wong be appointed to serve on the Bylaws Review Ad Hoc Committee for a term ending November 14, 2021.

At its first meeting in January 2021, the Bylaws Review Ad Hoc Committee established a two-step process for the review of the Bylaws:

- the Committee will conduct an initial review of the Bylaws. Required revisions, in principle, will be recommended. The review will include soliciting input from all trustees;
- ii. staff will revise the Bylaws, in accordance with direction provided, and will submit a revised draft for the Committee's consideration.

The Committee recommended an equity assessment of the Bylaws be incorporated into the review process, based on the principles of the Equity Policy (P037).

The Committee also recommended that it seek input from the Integrity Commissioner as part of the Bylaws review.

Six (6) Bylaws Review Ad Hoc Committee meetings have taken place to date beginning on January 27, 2021. The Committee has considered the following related matters (themes) and associated Bylaws provisions:

Bylaws Provisions Considered to Date:
Theme: COMMITTEES
Attendance
Committee of the Whole
Mandates/Terms of Reference
Special Committees vs. Subcommittees
Reporting to Board
Clarification on Non-Trustee Members
Community Advisory Committees
Chair/Vice Chair Election Procedure
Theme: MEETINGS - RULES AND PROCEDURES - Part 1
Agenda
Notice of Motion
Suspending Provision of Bylaws
Mover/Seconder Requirement to Put an Agenda Item on the Floor
Quorum of Special Committees and Subcommittees
Approval of reports for receipt
Public/Private Meetings

The Committee reports from each meeting were provided to the Governance and Policy Committee for information. A summary of the Committee's decisions in principle to date can be found in Appendix A.

As part of the review, on May 6, 2021, the TDSB's Integrity Commissioner presented to the Committee a memorandum on preliminary review of the Board's Bylaws.

The TDSB's Equity and Human Rights Office have attended Bylaws Review Ad Hoc Committee meetings and is expected to continue the Bylaws equity assessment.

On March 10, 2021, upon recommendation by the Bylaws Review Ad Hoc Committee and the Governance and Policy Committee, the Board of Trustees extended the deadline for presenting the final report on the review of the Bylaws and changed it from spring 2021 to November 2021. The Bylaws Review Timeline is provided in Appendix B.

The Bylaws Review Ad Hoc Committee – Interim Report is being presented to the Governance and Policy Committee for information.

Action Plan and Associated Timeline

Subject to the Governance and Policy Committee's directions, the Bylaws Review Ad Hoc Committee – Interim Report will be provided to the Board of Trustees for information. The Committee is expected to continue review of the Bylaws in accordance with the Bylaws Review Timeline (Appendix B).

Resource Implications

No additional resources will be required at this time.

Communications Considerations

No additional communications requirements are required at this time.

Board Policy and Procedure Reference(s)

- TDSB Board Bylaws, November 11, 2020 Current
- Delegation Procedure (PR718)

Appendices

- Appendix A: Bylaws Review Ad Hoc Committee Decisions in Principle To Date
- Appendix B: Bylaws Review Timeline

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