



Community Advisory Committees

**Environment and Sustainability
Community Advisory Committee
2020-2021 Annual Report**





Community Advisory Committees

Table of Contents

Co-Chair Message	1
CAC Mandate/Purpose.....	1
CAC Activities	2
Committee Members	3





Community Advisory Committees

Co-Chair Message

Greetings,

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Environmental Sustainability Community Advisory Committee (ESCAC) met virtually during the 2020-21 school year. Although the format of meetings changed considerably as we pivoted to operating virtually, 2020/21 was still very much a productive year for the committee.

We look forward to continuing to explore opportunities to support the TDSB's environmental sustainability initiatives in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Trustee Manna Wong and Sheila Cary-Meagher

CAC Mandate/ Purpose

- a. To identify and discuss issues of environmental sustainability and climate change as they relate to the TDSB, by facilitating ongoing feedback from the community through the engagement of students, parents, and parent groups, community advocacy groups, non-profit organizations, members of the general public, TDSB staff, etc.
- b. To make recommendations to the TDSB regarding environmental concerns.





CAC Activities

1. ESCAC recommended to the Board of Trustees that:
 - a. Signage be developed and posted at all schools with solar panels to draw attention to the presence of solar panels on school rooftops; and
 - b. The amount of electricity generated by these solar panels be reported annually.
2. The Beach Community Energy Co-operative shared the culminating summer project of Ryerson University students, proposing ideas for the creation of community energy hubs.
3. ESCAC provided input on potential options for solar signage.
4. ESCAC provided feedback on the draft content and structure of a community climate action guidebook, planned to be developed in collaboration with the City of Toronto.
5. An overview of the EcoSchools Canada program was presented to ESCAC.
6. A representative from Shift Action for Pension Wealth and Planet Health delivered a presentation to ESCAC and shared details of how individuals can encourage large pension funds to take climate action by decarbonizing their holdings
7. ESCAC provided feedback on an outdoor learning online portal that staff developed in response to the Use of Outdoor Spaces for Instructional Time report that was presented to Board in January 2021.
8. ESCAC provided feedback on what should be included in a long-term plan for encouraging and supporting all schools to use outdoor spaces for instructional time throughout the day.





Community Advisory Committees

Committee Members

Community Co-Chair(s): Sheila Cary-Meagher

Trustee Co-Chair(s): Manna Wong

Michelle Aarts (Trustee)
Lindsay Bunce (EcoSchools Canada)
Richard Christie (Staff)
Esther Collier (Staff)
Kelly Crosthwaite (Staff)
Andrew Davies (No. 9)
Priyan De Silva (Staff)
Val Endicott (Community Member)
Kristen Evers (Staff)
Barbara Falby (For our Grandchildren)
Sunday Harrison (Green Thumbs Growing Kids)
David Hawker-Budlovsky (Staff)
Hayley Higdon (Natural Curiosity)
Hilary Inwood (OISE)
Anne Keary (Parent)
Debby Martin (Community Member)
Chris Metropolis (Staff)
Linda Naccarato (Staff)
Erin Pan (SustainEd)
Naomi Qarcoopome (Staff)
Gigi Shanks (Staff)
Brenda Simon (Natural Curiosity)
Stefan Sommer (CUPE 4400)
Bob Spencer (Parent)
Andrea Stephens (Parent)
Jenn Vetter (Staff)

