



Minutes - Governance and Policy Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 1, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Hybrid

1. Call to Order

Trustee Tracy Brown, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Emma Cunningham, Donna Edwards, Stephen Linton, Kelly Miller, Carolyn Morton, Shailene Panylo, Christine Thatcher, Student Trustee Ben Cameron

Regrets: Trustees Michelle Arseneault, Deb Oldfield, Linda Stone, Student Trustees Lauren Edwards, Gwen Kuyt

Staff Present: Director of Education and Secretary to the Board Camille Williams-Taylor, Associate Director Jim Markovski, General Counsel Patrick Cotter, Executive Lead Robert Cerjanec, Superintendents of Equitable Education Andrea McAuley and Heather Mundy, Policy Analyst Ahmad Khawaja

Recording Secretary: Gillian Venning

2. Land Acknowledgment

Trustee Tracy Brown read out the Land Acknowledgement.

3. Acknowledgment of Black History Month

Trustee Shailene Panylo noted that today, February 1, represents the beginning of Black History Month, a month that is intended to highlight, reflect, celebrate and honour the excellence that exists within Black, African and Caribbean communities both on Turtle Island and abroad, as the diaspora is large, diverse, and filled with brilliance that deserves to be highlighted. It is also a month that some struggle with because of the ongoing challenges, barriers, and anti-Black racism that persists across the globe and within our own community, institutions, and in communities not so far from us. The violence, harm, and trauma associated with simply existing as a Black person remains a significant issue that needs action and awareness every month, not just February.

While we celebrate and remember the excellence that has and continues to exist, stretching long before slavery, I also point out that DDSB here tonight has perhaps made history, because for the first time there are two Black women chairing and vice-chairing a meeting in this space. So, to the communities we are privileged to serve, happy Black History Month. We hope you take this

opportunity to recommit to challenging anti-Black racism and oppression in every space, and help make our world a bit better than it was yesterday.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Christine Thatcher:

That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

6. Approval of Minutes – October 3, 2022

Moved by Trustee Donna Edwards:

That the draft minutes of the October 3, 2022 Governance and Policy Committee meeting be approved.

CARRIED

7. Information Items

(a) Committee Overview and the Policy Development process

General Counsel Patrick Cotter introduced the report, noting it deals with the functions of the Governance and Policy Committee, the policy development and adoption process, delineation of policy development and development and implementation of procedures as well as the process through which Regulations will be dealt with in accordance with a previous resolution of the Board.

Trustee questions were answered.

(b) Communications from the Board Chair

There was not an update on this item.

8. Recommended Actions

(a) People and Culture: Rescission of Policies and Regulations

Superintendent of Equitable Education Heather Mundy introduced the report, noting that the People and Culture department has undertaken a review of policies and regulations that fall under its area of responsibility and is recommending that the list as outlined in the report are recommended to be rescinded, in accordance with the Board's direction to phase out Regulations.

Trustee questions were answered.

Moved by Trustee Carolyn Morton:

That the Governance and Policy Committee recommend to the Board of Trustees that the policies and regulations in Appendix A be rescinded.

CARRIED

(b) Inclusive Student Services: Rescission of Policy

Superintendent of Equitable Education Andrea McAuley introduced the report, noting that the Inclusive Student Services department has undertaken a review of policies and regulations that fall under its area of responsibility. As part of that review, it was found that the School Attendance Officer Policy is no longer required within the current context and is therefore recommended to be rescinded as the DDSB has fulfilled its statutory role to appoint a primary school attendance counsellor lead in the Senior Manager and Clinical Lead of Social Work.

Trustee questions were answered.

Moved by Trustee Donna Edwards:

That the Governance and Policy Committee recommend to the Board of Trustees that the School Attendance Officer policy be rescinded.

CARRIED

9. Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Stephen Linton:

That the meeting does now adjourn.

CARRIED

The Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.