

Minutes - Governance and Policy Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 3, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Virtual

Trustees: Michael Barrett, Niki Lundquist, Paul Crawford, Linda Stone, Donna Edwards, Carolyn Morton, Christine Thatcher, Scott Templeton, Darlene Forbes joined the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Regrets: Trustees Patrice Barnes and Chris Braney

Staff present: Director of Education Norah Marsh, Associate Directors Jim Markovski and David Wright, Human Rights and Equity Advisor Devika Mathur, General Counsel Patrick Cotter, Executive System Lead Robert Cerjanec, Superintendents of Equitable Education Stephen Nevills, Jack Nigro, Gary Crossdale, Margaret Lazarus, Georgette Davis, Heather Mundy, Erin Elmhurst, Mohamed Hamid, Andrea McAuley, Policy Analyst Ahmad Khawaja

Recording Secretary: Gillian Venning

1. Call to Order

Trustee Michael Barrett, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgment

Trustee Barrett read out the Land Acknowledgement.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

4. Approval of Agenda

Trustee Edwards put forth a motion to approve the agenda.

CARRIED

5. Approval of Minutes – January 31, 2021

Trustee Lundquist put forth a motion to approve the minutes.

CARRIED

6. Recommended Actions

(a) Draft Human Rights, Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Racism Policy

Chair Barrett summarized trustee feedback received following the last meeting of the Committee as presented in Appendix C of the report.

Director Marsh noted that the procedures accompanying the Human Rights, Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Racism Policy are not being presented as part of the agenda at this meeting in an effort to ensure the main focus of discussion is the Policy, and that once it is finalized, related procedures will be updated to ensure alignment before being presented at Standing Committee.

Human Rights and Equity Advisor Mathur led the Committee through a review and discussion of the revised Policy, referencing all tracked changes as presented in Appendix B of the report. Trustee questions were answered throughout the discussion.

It was agreed that Section B, Responsibilities, requires further clarification and possible revision by staff before members are prepared to move the draft Policy forward to Standing Committee. The Policy would be revised and considered by the Committee at the next meeting.

Committee members expressed their appreciation to staff for their work in developing this policy and for seeking trustee feedback throughout the process.

7. Date of Next Meeting

It was suggested that the next meeting be scheduled following March Break with a proposed date being circulated to Committee members via email.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.