

# TCDSB COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/OUTREACH 2017-2018

## Learning Opportunities and Cultural Events

ENGAGEMENT	LEVEL	PURPOSE /GOAL	OUTCOME/IMPACT
<b>September, 2017</b> <b>TCDSB System and School Parent Engagement Forum</b>	Inform/Engage	TCDSB Parent Engagement Department initiative to welcome new parents/guardians to our Catholic community and to provide them with information regarding programs and strategies for ensure equitable student outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100 parents/guardians attended the keynote address: "System and School Parent Engagement: Why It Makes a Difference to Student Success"</li> <li>Parents/guardians also had the opportunity to participate in one of the following break-out sessions:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Parent Engagement: Connecting with our Newcomers</li> <li>2. Communication: The Grade Representative Approach</li> <li>3. Secondary School: Staying Engaged with our Teens</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
<b>September 2017-June 2018</b> <b>Ticket and Event distribution</b>	Outreach/Engage	TCDSB Community Relations Department community in partnership with the Angel Foundation and Social Work Department distributed several sporting and art related opportunities to TCDSB students throughout the school year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The TCDSB received over \$168,000 worth of tickets from Kids Up Front and MLSE that were distributed by TCDSB lead David Letra with the assistance of The Angel Foundation for Learning and the Social Work Department</li> </ul>
<b>September 2017</b> <b>Community Exhibit</b>	Outreach/Inform	TCDSB Community Relations Department initiative to provide information about TCDSB services to various stakeholders in Ward 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>300-400 people (parents, residents, community members) visited the exhibit's open space booth to acquire TCDSB flyers/information on service and resources</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX: B

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<b>September 2017- November 2017</b>  <b>Delta Family Resource Centre at St. Roch</b>	Inform/ Inform/Outreach	TCDSB Community Relations Department met with Deta Family resource to discuss the possibility of the community agency relocating in to a TCDSB (St. Roch) school to offer: a range of support services to caregivers; settlement programs and services; community support; and a range of activities that enhance individual skills and promote healthy communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 50 students, parents/guardian, caregivers and community members participated in the program and benefited from the free services offered by Deta Family Resources</li> <li>• Activities included: child stimulation; group discussions; advice; consultation with resource teachers and language specialists; and interactive games.</li> </ul>
<b>September 2017- November 2017</b>  <b>TRUST 15/ Men of Distinction Program at Msgr. Percy Johnson.</b>	Outreach/Engage	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department initiative, in collaboration with the principal and staff from Msgr. Percy Johnson, to establish a <i>Men of Distinction Mentoring Program</i>, facilitated by TRUST 15, to support the unique social, emotional and academic needs of African Canadian male students.</p> <p>Trust 15 is a charitable organization that provides youth in the Rexdale/North Etobicoke area with programs that promote and facilitate positive behaviour, creative expression, and cooperative working skills. The goal of the organization it to provide children in the community with the social and educational tools needed to succeed in society. This is accomplished through mentoring and positive role model intervention.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 30 African Canadian male students joined the Msgr Percy Johnson chapter of the organisation</li> <li>• In a safe, nurturing space, they were able to discuss and find solutions for real life issues surrounding self-esteem, conflict-resolution, abuse, violence, peer pressure, and family life</li> <li>• They were connected to mentors, professionals, and community leaders, where they learned crucial tips for success and were inspired to believe in themselves, their talents, and their futures</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX: B

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<b>October 2017- December 2017</b>  <b>Skate and helmet distribution</b>	Outreach/Engage	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department secured a substantial donation of skates and helmets by Skate to Great and Chevy Canada.</p> <p>All donations were distributed to multiple TCDSB schools that needed to increase their schools inventory provided students the opportunity to skate during the winter months.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Community relations department emailed all schools to create a data base of schools with limited skating resources</li> <li>• Once the list was created we were able to evenly distribute hundreds of pairs of skates and helmets that warehouse distributed</li> </ul>
<b>October 2017- June 2018</b>  <b>MLSE donation of product</b>	Outreach/Engage	<p>The Community Relations Department created a partnership with Spencer Gibson- Coordinator, Basketball Development- to receive several hundred articles of MLSE related clothing and supplies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Community Relations Department with the assistance of the Angel Foundation distributed hundreds of items to schools throughout the system.</li> <li>• In addition, we were also able to work with physical education teachers to locate students with special sizes that would be able to use donated Raptors clothing</li> </ul>
<b>October, 2017</b>  <b>TCDSB CSPC Conference</b>	Inform/Engage	<p>TCDSB Parent Engagement Department initiative to develop a series of workshops provide information and resources to new and returning CSPC and Administrators' on Ministry and TCDSB policies and guidelines in order to lay the foundation for effective governance to support student achievement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended by 160 parents/guardians who participated in target workshops to support effective governance in TCDSB school communities. The three workshops focused on supporting CSPC executive roles: Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary.</li> <li>• Included were opportunities for participants to interact and network to share best practices.</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX: B

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents had the opportunity to complete an exit survey to communicate local learning needs as related to CSPC roles and responsibilities</li> </ul>
<b>October, 2017</b>	Inform/Engage	TCDSB Community Relations Department initiative featuring a Mass and Celebration of Hispanic Canadian Culture with the goal to engage students of Hispanic Canadian culture to celebrate Catholicity within the context of the diversity within the TCDSB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attended by 400 students, staff and families, from six different schools</li> <li>Students studying Spanish in the Extended Day program were an integral part of the celebration and the audience</li> <li>Hispanic Canadian Heritage was recognized through a celebratory Mass followed by presentations of student work and performances presentations from the 6 schools, including an Indigenous elder and a professional Colombian drummer highlighting folklore music</li> </ul>
<b>October, 2017- January 2018</b>  <b>Motion Ball Sports, Lunch time Basketball Mentoring Program</b>	Outreach/Engage	TCDSB Community Relations Department initiative to liaise Motion Ball Sports Principals of St. Roch, St. Stephens and St John The Evangelist, to discuss establishing a community based lunchtime mentoring recreational basketball program, to promote and facilitate positive behaviour, creative expression, and cooperative working skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 60 students participated in the 20 week program which saw major improvements in the students, social, emotional, academic, life skills, and personal performance on and off the court in a safe, positive and fun community space</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX: B

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<b>October, 2017</b> <b>Newcomers' Welcome Conference</b>	Inform/Engage	TCDSB Community Relations Department cultural outreach and community engagement initiative featuring a Conference Forum to provide newcomer parents with pertinent information on navigating the Canadian education, health and workplace system. The theme tied into TCDSB's Pastoral Plan - "The Year of the School: Newcomer Student Leadership Conference".	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 300 participants, made up of students from Grades 6-12, teachers and community members, attended a plenary session and leadership workshops with presentations by newcomer resource groups and Catholic student leaders</li> <li>• Participants were also provided with information to support their transition and integration into TCDSB community, including navigating the system, school structure, community resources linked to their local Catholic school and parish as well as school leadership opportunities</li> <li>• A postcard with relevant information and FAQ's and newcomer resources were provided in different languages as a handy reference tool.</li> </ul>
<b>October 2017</b> <b>Advisory Committees Plenary Session</b>	Inform/Outreach	TCDSB Community Relations Department initiative to bring all members of the current community advisory committees to a plenary session to discuss common issues and challenges encountered by each committee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 50 participants from 5 community advisory committees: African, Filipino, Hispanic, Indigenous and Portuguese attended the session in which they were informed about components of the Ontario's Education Equity Action Plan (OEEAP) and open discussion on how the work of each committee could ensure equity in our school system</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX: B

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The discussion also focused on completion of a Ministry-directed consultation entitled, “<i>Consultation Survey on Engagement of Governance Supports</i>”</li> </ul>
<p><b>November 2017-March 2018</b></p> <p><b>Plan Activities to Commemorate Black/African Canadian Heritage Month.</b></p> <p><b>(The International African Inventors Museum) (IAIM)</b></p>	Outreach/Inform	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department initiative to connect with The International African Inventors Museum with the to inform students, parents, staff and community of the contributions that the African Diaspora has made to Canada and the Globe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The International African Inventors Museum (IAIM) teaches people of all nationalities about the important contributions that Africans have made throughout history. The IAIM is a mobile museum, which travels locally and nationally. The display features a range of African Inventors and African inventions including the window cleaner, traffic light, the eggbeater, space shuttle retrieval and more.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The museum was hosted in 2 secondary schools</li> <li>Over 3000 students from 2 secondary schools and 6 elementary schools visited the museum during the four days in which it was housed in the high schools</li> <li>Students, parents, staff and community celebrated the contributions of African Canadian culture to Catholicity, Canada and the world; within the context of diversity in the TCDSB</li> </ul>
<p><b>October 2017-June 2018.</b></p> <p><b>The TCDSB African Canadian Advisory Committee</b></p>	Inform/Outreach	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department engagement of The African Canadian Advisory Committee.</p> <p>The African Canadian Advisory Committee represents a platform of which members of the African Canadian</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data Collection, Anti-Black Racism, Equity Action Plan Culturally Responsive and Relevant Pedagogy,</li> <li>Expansion of Project 101 and TCDSB School Resources Officer Program (SRO) were discussed and</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX: B

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		<p>diasporas can have their voices heard, discuss issues and concerns of the communities; as they relate to African Canadian students who attend Toronto Catholic District School Board's schools. This year (2017/18), the committee had in depth discussions, deliberations and discourses on the following subjects:</p> <p>Data Collection, Anti-Black Racism, Equity Action Plan</p> <p>Culturally Responsive and Relevant Pedagogy, Expansion of Project 101.</p>	<p>plans were put in place to follow up these issues in future meetings in the 2018-2019 school year.</p>
<p><b>December 2017 to June 2018</b></p> <p><b>Power to Girls Foundation</b></p>	Outreach/Engage	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department outreach to Power to Girls Foundation, a not for profit organization that helps empower Afro-diaspora girls in the Greater Toronto Area, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To nurture girls to identify their true self and tenacity to help realize their true potential;</li> <li>• To provide mentorship and resources to guide girls on their journey's;</li> <li>• And to provide opportunities for girls to network and to build confidence and life skills.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established Unique After School Program Facilitated in 5 TCDSB elementary schools: St Roch, St. Stephens, St. Dorothy, St. Andre and All Saints</li> <li>• Girls participated in positive mentorship, community interactions and recreational activities that inspired self-confidence, built self-esteem, friendships, nutritional health, and integrity in the hearts of all our girls</li> <li>• Young girls had opportunities to discover their individual identity, and creative gifts by developing qualities that help them become leaders and contributing members of society</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX: B

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<b>November 2017- March 2018</b> <b>(Black/African Canadian Heritage Month Activities)</b> <b>History and Identity Through Artistic Expression, is a series of dramatic plays, artistic expressions.</b>	Outreach/Inform/Engage	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department engagement of G.I.A. Productions; a community arts group to engage, inspire, and educate audiences.</p> <p>The group continues to provide highly educational, motivational, spiritual, and entertaining workshops and dramatic presentations on intriguing topics such as 'sadeism' (skin tone/ complexion bias), the use of the N-word, the state of the Black family, the unique complexities of the Black female experience, and other pressing issues within the African diaspora</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 2000 students, staff and community members from two TCDSB highs school had the opportunity to be inspired, educated and challenged to look through a different lens when interpreting and various aspects of black culture</li> </ul>
<b>February, 2018</b> <b>TCDSB Mass and Cultural Expose: African- Canadian Heritage Month</b>	Inform/Engage	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department organization of a Mass and celebration of African Canadian Culture, to inform students of African Canadian culture and to celebrate its contributions to Catholicity, Canada and the world.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended by 700 students, staff and parents/guardian from 15 different schools.</li> <li>• African Canadian Heritage was recognized through a celebratory mass followed by artistic pedagogical presentations of students work as it related to the black experience in Canada and the world</li> </ul>
<b>March, 2018</b> <b>TCDSB Mass and Cultural Expose: Celtic Heritage Month</b>	Inform/Engage	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department organization of a Mass and celebration of Celtic Canadian Culture, to allow students and parents within TCDSB to celebrate their unique culture and teach other students the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended by 250 students, staff and parents/guardians from 5 schools</li> <li>• This celebration was about the diversity of Celtic culture within our TCDSB Community.</li> </ul>



## APPENDIX: B

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		uniqueness of our diversity within TCDSB.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It included a celebratory mass, student work and student plays, followed by a community member performance and an educational workshop on the Irish dance</li> </ul>
<b>March, 2018</b> <b>Power to Girls Conference</b>	Outreach/Inform Engage	TCDSB Community Relations Department outreach, in collaboration with TCDSB personnel organized a conference at the CEC to engage, inspire and educate young girls.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This one day conference at the Catholic Education Center was attended by 250 students, staff, parents/guardians from 5 schools, provided young girls to engage in key note addresses, workshops and artistic expressions to celebrate International Women's Day</li> <li>Led by community elders, mentors and educators, young girls had the opportunity to participate in activities that allowed them to discover their individual identity, and creative gifts, that allow them to become leaders and contributing members of society</li> </ul>
<b>April 2018,</b> <b>Mayor John Tory's Cricket Awards</b>	Outreach	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department outreach initiative.</p> <p>The cricketers and volunteers recognition event in April each year empowers our young cricketers and rewards them for their excellence in the field of cricket. A rare opportunity for students who are involved in this new and emerging sport in schools.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 200 TCDSB, students, staff and community volunteers were recognised for their contributions to the growth of Cricket across the GTA. TCDSB students are engaged in the fastest growing sport in Canada.</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX: B

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<b>May 2018, TCDSB Woodbine Festival of the Arts</b>	Outreach/Engage	TCDSB Community Relations Department initiative to celebrate Catholic Education Week through excellence in the Arts and excellence in Catholic education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 60 TCDSB schools, hundreds of parents/guardians, staff, volunteers, community and over 2000 students participated in the festival</li> <li>• Students were provided with an opportunity to express their artistic talents in music, band, strings, vocal, visual art, drama and dance in a public space</li> </ul>
<b>May-2018 TCDSB Transition Information Session for Filipino, Spanish &amp; Portuguese Speaking Parents/Guardian</b>	Outreach/Inform/Engage	<p>The Community Relations Department in partnership with St Mary Academy, Bishop Marrocco Thomas Merton and Loretto College, presented an information session to grade 7 to 9 parents on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Navigating the School System;</li> <li>• Transition to High School</li> <li>• Post-Secondary Education Pathways</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Held a St. Mary Academy, parents/guardians had the opportunity to receive the information in Spanish, Portuguese and Filipino</li> </ul>
<b>May 2018, TCDSB Cricket Canada Annual Spring Cricket Tournament</b>	Outreach/Engage	TCDSB Community Relations Department outreach and community engagement initiative to engage TCDSB students in the fastest growing sport in Canada, with the goal to create curriculum content that reflects the cultural identity of the large and growing population of diverse students in our school system and support the larger equity goal of culturally relevant and responsive pedagogy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 300 TCDSB students, parents/guardians, staff and community members participated in this year's tournament.</li> <li>• Students from grades 3 to 12 participated in their respective divisions. A secondary and elementary champion was crowned.</li> <li>• Students had the opportunity to develop the following skills:</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX: B

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			endurance; balance; muscle toning; flexibility; cardio; motor; and social skills; all important for a healthy, well balanced life
<b>May 2018</b> <b>Nigerian Refugees Outreach</b>	Outreach/Inform	TCDSB Community Relations Department outreach initiative to increase enrolment in our Catholic schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 140 parents/guardians of Nigerian decent who were claiming refugees status attended in 2 information sessions: one at Edwards Hotel and the other at Radisson Hotel</li> </ul>
<b>May, 2018</b> <b>CPIC/OAPCE Conference</b>	Inform/Engage	Parent Engagement Department in collaboration with CPIC and OAPCE organized a mini conference with a focus on providing parents with the skill and knowledge building opportunities to support equity in student outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 90 parents participated in a Social Networking Safety Symposium, followed by workshops on: Special Education; 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning; Positive Parenting; <i>Jump Math</i> and Internet Safety</li> <li>• Workshops were video taped and will be uploaded to the TCDSB Parent Portal as a resource for parents who could not attend the conference</li> <li>• Participants also had opportunities to network and solicit information from a variety of agencies that support families and students</li> <li>• Student workshops were provided by <i>Scientists in the Schools</i> and staff, as a child minding and student learning opportunity to provide equitable access to participation in the conference to all parents</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX: B

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<b>May, 2018</b> <b>TCDSB Mass and Cultural Expose: Asian Canadian</b>	Inform/Engage	TCDSB Community Relations Department organization of a Mass and celebration of Asian Canadian Culture with the goal to engage students and families within TCDSB to celebrate their unique culture and engage other students in learning about diverse cultures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In partnership with Brebeuf CS and St. Joseph Morrow Park, this celebration was attended by 600 participants comprised of students, parents/guardians and staff from 15 schools, along with dignitaries from the Asian community</li> <li>• This celebration highlighted the diversity of Asian culture within our TCDSB Community. It included a celebratory mass, student work and student performances</li> </ul>
<b>May-June 2018</b> <b>TCDSB sponsored Parent Forums for Filipino, Tamil, Vietnamese and Chinese</b>	Outreach/Inform/Engage	The Community Relations Department in collaboration with partners with various ethnic to address questions and provide suggestions for an enhanced partnership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were various events which were attended by anywhere from 200 to 400 parents on a Saturday/Sunday.</li> <li>• Parents/guardians had the opportunity to voice their concerns as they pertain to their respective communities, as well as, to receive information of the various parent groups within the TCDSB</li> </ul>
<b>June, 2017</b> <b>Mass and Cultural Expose: Portuguese Canadian Heritage Month Mass and Expose</b>	Inform/Engage	TCDSB Community Relations Department organization of a Mass and celebration of the Italian diaspora, with the goal to inform students of the Italian culture and to celebrate our Catholicity within the context of diversity within the TCDSB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended by 350 students from various schools, dignitaries, staff, parents/guardians and community members, the celebration highlighted Portuguese Canadian culture and global contributions</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX: B

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<b>June, 2017</b> <b>Mass and Cultural Expose: Italian Canadian Heritage Month Mass and Expose</b>	Inform/Engage	TCDSB Community Relations Dept Initiative featuring a Mass and celebration of the Italian diaspora. The goal is to inform students of the Italian culture and celebrate our Catholicity within the context of diversity within the TCDSB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended by 390 students and community members from various schools along with dignitaries, staff, parents and students. This celebration highlighted Italian Canadian culture and global contributions. It included a celebratory Mass, student presentations and performances.</li> </ul>
<b>June, 2018</b> <b>TCDSB Sponsored Parent Forum for Vietnamese Community</b>	Inform/Engage	The Community Relations Department in partnership with the International Language Department and the Vietnamese International Language Program at James Culnan, organized a community information event on Mental Health and Well-Being, and a celebration of Vietnamese heritage and language.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Around 400 parents/guardian, students, clergy, staff and Vietnamese community dignitaries/leaders, enjoyed student showcasing their talents through poetry, song, dance and instrumental music performances in their native language at James Culnan</li> <li>• 75 parents/guardians attended a Mental Health Session delivered in Vietnamese</li> </ul>
<b>June 2018</b> <b>TCDSB sponsored Parent Forum for Filipino Community</b>	Inform/Engage	The Community Relations Department in collaboration with the Filipino community organized the yearly <i>Proudly Pinoy</i> event: a parent/guardian, student and community educational engagement event with the aim at providing information to engage community leaders and parents to support equitable student outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Around 400 community members attended the event at Francis Libermann CSS</li> <li>• Participants had the opportunity to receive information of the various TCDSB resources, as well as, participate in workshops on the following topics: Navigating the Education System; Communicating with your Child; and Student Supports and Career Choices.</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX: B

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<b>June 2018</b> <b>TCDSB sponsored</b> <b>Parent Forum for</b> <b>Chinese Community</b>	Outreach/Inform	The Community Relations Department in collaboration with the Chinese community provided parent/guardians, students and community information on Health and Wellness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The event was attended by 200-300 Chinese parents/guardians, seniors and medical professionals at Mary Ward</li> <li>• All had the opportunity to learn about personal health strategies, as well as, receive information on diseases, such as cancer, and the available resources for treatment</li> <li>• Organizations and agencies were invited to exhibit their resources</li> </ul>
<b>June, 2018</b> <b>6th Annual “Festa della</b> <b>Lingua Italiana”</b> <b>Hosted by Centro</b> <b>Scuola</b>	Inform	TCDSB International Language Department cultural outreach and community engagement initiative to bring together community leaders, school administration, International Language instructors, parents, students, parish members, and TCDSB school board representatives to build and strengthen existing partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 560 TCDSB students, staff and parents/guardian participated with members of the TCDSB community, featuring Italian cultural performances</li> <li>• Participants in the “Concorso Letterario” essay writing and student art competition were presented with their award</li> </ul>
<b>August 2018</b> <b>Canadian National</b> <b>Exhibition (CNE)</b> <b>Information Booth</b> <b>Enercare Centre</b>	Outreach/Inform	<p>Members of the Board’s Community Relations staff, Superintendents, a Trustee and volunteers from the Angel Foundation for Learning (AFL) participated in staffing a TCDSB Information Booth at the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) on August 25th and August 29th.</p> <p>The booth location was courtesy of the CNE as part of the TCDSB’s</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff volunteers provided lukewarm feedback regarding this “first-ever” outreach initiative.</li> <li>• The general conclusion was that it was extremely challenging to engage the community in a venue that was selling products and service and when the demographic is mostly tourists and visitors from out of town.</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX: B

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		Public Representative membership on the CNE Board of Trustees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There was little beneficial interaction with Catholic ratepayers, most questions were from visitors asking directions. Others were only interested in taking the free pens and pencils.</li><li>• Staff did have negative encounters from critics of publicly funded education – even young students handing out flyers for an AFL event were ignored.</li><li>• Based on comments received, serious consideration should be given to review any future participation in this type of community engagement at the CNE.</li></ul>