



REPORT TO

CORPORATE SERVICES, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT

*"I can do all things through HIM who strengthens me."
Philippians 4:13 (NRSVCE)*

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
February 4, 2020	February 13, 2020	

R. MacDonald, Manager, Central Services
K. Elgharbawy, Senior Coordinator, Innovation and Service Delivery
M. Farrell, (Acting) Superintendent, Environmental Support Services

RECOMMENDATION REPORT

Vision:

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

Mission:

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.

We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.



Rory McGuckin
Director of Education

D. Koenig
Associate Director
of Academic Affairs

L. Noronha
Associate Director of Facilities,
Business and Community
Development, and
Chief Financial Officer

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Toronto Catholic District School Board believes in the critical role that our Catholic schools play in promoting environmental responsibility and in providing leadership and direction for the protection and conservation of the environment.

TCDSB Environment Steering Committee has been meeting periodically during the school year to promote a stronger commitment to the protection and conservation of the environment. Committee members include students, staff and TCDSB partners and stakeholders.

This report recommends that a Trustee be appointed to the Environmental Committee in accordance with B.M.06 Environmental Practice policy.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 4 hours.

B. PURPOSE

This report recommends that a Trustee be appointed to serve on the Environmental Committee.

C. BACKGROUND

1. In 1998, the Environmental Policy was established to help maintain and promote the TCDSB as a community leader in environmental stewardship and sustainability. The Environmental Policy and Committee was revised in 2014 in order to align with provincial policies.
2. In 2019, the Board approved a revised Environmental Practice policy B.M.06. The composition of the committee has been amended to provide for the addition of a Trustee representative.
3. Through the Environmental Committee, TCDSB has made a significant commitment towards reducing its environmental footprint through on-going initiatives and by implementing industry leading practices that support the Board's environmental plan which is improving the classroom environment while reducing expenses and carbon emissions. The success of many of these ongoing initiatives is due to the assistance of TCDSB staff and students.

- Ontario Certified EcoSchools
- Energy & Water Conservation
- Waste Minimization
- School Ground Greening
- Environmental Awareness
- School Travel Planning – i.e. walk to school days
- Curriculum & Environmental Stewardship

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

1. Membership of the Environmental Committee is comprised of representatives across various departments, multiple employee groups, students and parents.
2. The Committee's goals, intended to increase staff and student engagement and foster environmentally responsible stewardship, are as follows:
 - i. promote dialogue and discussion on issues relating to the environment and sustainability;
 - ii. dedicating resources to the delivery of integrated environmental curriculum and programs; and
 - iii. support environmentally appropriate behaviour and operational practices.
3. The Committee will continue to support and promote environmental stewardship through their individual employee and stakeholder groups, including but not limited to:
 - School Ground Greening by improving the amount of green space by reducing the amount of hard surfaces on school property
 - Recycling Programs:
 - Take Back the Light Program – Recycling of all used light bulbs
 - Recycling program of Toner Cartridges for Photocopiers and Printers
 - Recycling program of obsolete electronics
 - Recycling program of surplus school equipment and furniture
 - Surplus Assets Disposal
 - Reduce the energy consumption in schools for natural gas and electricity by 11% over 5 years which will reduce greenhouse emissions

- Introduce renewable energy sources to the schools as a learning opportunity
 - Elimination of Bottled Water from TCDSB sites
 - Increase the Board's waste diversion rate by 5% each year
 - Transportation Demand Plan – active and sustainable transportation
 - Waste Free Lunch Program
4. Through this Committee, students and staff in all schools and Board departments can utilize informed decision-making with our community partners to become environmentally responsible citizens in a safe, healthy and sustainable environment.

E. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That a Trustee representative be appointed as a member of the Environmental Committee in accordance with Policy B.M.06 until the next Caucus of the Board in fall 2020.