



June 8, 2020

**ATTENTION: SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE, TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD ("TCDSB")**

**Re: SEAC – ASSOCIATION NOMINATION**

**Association:** Autism Ontario, Toronto Chapter

**Address:** Autism Ontario, Toronto Chapter, PO BOX 55570 Cedar Heights, Scarborough, ON, M1H 3G7

**Email:** [toronto@autismontario.com](mailto:toronto@autismontario.com)

**Executive Director:** Marg Spoelstra

**Incorporation Number:** 11924 8789 RR0001

**SEAC Nominee:** Melanie Battaglia

**Home Address:** [REDACTED]

**Telephone and email:** [REDACTED]

**The above nominated person meets the following criteria as outlined in Reg. 464/97, SEAC:**

- Canadian citizen
- Over age of 18
- Catholic School Board Elector
- Resides within area of jurisdiction of the TCDSB
- Member, local parent group of a Provincial or National Association that is not employed by the TCDSB

**On behalf of my association, I hereby confirm that the above nominee meets all of the listed criteria.**

08/06/2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature Officer**  
**Marguerite Schabas, President**



## Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Membership Application

*Individuals must complete the following application form for consideration to be a member of TCDSB Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC).*

Position applying for:

Community Member

OR

Local Associations Membership

Surname:	Battaglia	First Name:	Melanie
Main Contact Number:	██████████	Alternate Contact Number:	
E-mail address:	██████████		
Child(ren)'s School(s):	██████████		
Organization Name:	Autism Ontario, Toronto Chapter		
Organization Address:	PO Box 55570 Cedar Heights, Scarborough, M1H 3G7		
Main Contact Person:	Marguerite Schabas (Chapter President)		
Main Contact Number:	416-545-9160		
1. To which other TCDSB parent organizations do you presently belong:			
<input type="checkbox"/> CSAC <input type="checkbox"/> CPIC <input type="checkbox"/> TAPCE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None			
2. List the community organizations/groups in which you are currently a member and provide a brief outline of your role within each of these organizations:			
<p>I am a member of the diversity and inclusion subcommittee on the parent council for St. John Catholic School. I have been a community representative on SEAC for the TCDSB since 2018 and was previously the Autism Ontario alternate for SEAC. I am the former Chapter President of Autism Ontario, Toronto Chapter and Vice-President of the Ontario Autism Coalition. I am a lawyer practicing primarily in family law in addition to providing pro bono and legal aid services for families and children and youth in education law matters.</p>			
3. Briefly outline the reasons why you are interested in being a member of this committee:			
<p>I am a passionate advocate for children with special needs who require special education to meaningfully access their legal right to an education. I am a mother of 2 young boys, currently in grades 1 and 2. My son in grade 2 lives with autism and I am intimately familiar with the experiences of advocating for a child who requires special education.</p>			
4. Please identify and explain any related personal and/or professional experiences which you have that would assist you in the role of a committee member:			
<p>My current involvement with SEAC and the parent council at my children's school in addition to being a parent of a child with autism make me well suited for this role.</p>			
5. Would your personal and/or professional experiences place you in a Conflict of Interest in regards to being a member of this Committee:			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO <input type="radio"/> YES Please explain:			
6. Have you been selected to be part of another TCDSB Committee within the past 12 months?			
<input type="radio"/> NO <input type="radio"/> YES Please specify the Committee:			

**SEAC**



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7. Do you support the Catholic Mission/Vision of TCDSB?  
Yes.

8. Provide any additional comments to be considered in regards to your participation on this committee:

*Completed membership application form and request for nomination letter submitted by Melanie Battaglia [REDACTED] to the attention of the Director of Education and SEAC Chair via email to:*

[rory.mcguckin@tcdsb.org](mailto:rory.mcguckin@tcdsb.org) & [nancy.crawford@tcdsb.org](mailto:nancy.crawford@tcdsb.org)

Date: June 8, 2020

### **Important**

- All nominations shall be made in writing by the executive of the local chapter to the Director of Education/Secretary of the board no later than October 31<sup>st</sup> in the year of the Board's election.
- The appointment of members will be made at the Inaugural Meeting of the Board.

For further details on the Policy for the Special Education Advisory Committee, please refer to Policy No. A23 on the TCDSB website at:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/Policies/Documents/A23.pdf>