



REPORT TO

REGULAR BOARD

CVRIS PROGRAM DELEGATED AUTHORITY (ALL WARDS)

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

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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.



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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In anticipation of the the Ministry approval of COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (CVRIS) funding for TCDSB with an overall budget of approximately \$25.7M, this report recommends that the Board delegate authority to the Director of Education, or designate, to award all CVRIS funded contracts for the duration of the program.

CVRIS projects must be substantially completed by December 31, 2021. Failure to meet this timeline could result in funding risk to the TCDSB.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 3 hours.

B. PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to recommend that the Board delegate authority to the Director of Education or designate, to award CVRIS funded contracts for the duration of the program.

C. BACKGROUND

1. *As required by the TCDSB Purchasing Policy F.P.01 the Board of Trustees approves any procurement activity/awards in excess of \$50,000.* The policy provides for delegation of authority to the Director of Education to approve the award of all contracts and expenditures not to exceed a threshold of \$50,000 where the Board of Trustee has approved an associated budget.
2. *The TCDSB is anticipating, the Ministry of Education to confirm approval of federal COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure (CVRIS) funding for TCDSB of \$25.7M.* The approved projects and budgets will be confirmed by the Ministry and include over 400 projects in the following categories:
 - Heating and ventilation system replacements
 - Window replacements
 - Nutrition Room Upgrades (handwashing)
 - Water bottle filling stations
 - Cooling centres
 - Replacement of roof-top air handling units
 - New mechanical ventilation systems

- Air conditioning upgrades in portable classrooms
- Upgrading handwashing facilities
- Playground projects
- Child Care playground expansion/division
- Child Care separate washrooms and entrances
- Wi-Fi cabling infrastructure and access points

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

1. ***CVRIS projects must be substantially complete by December 31, 2021, to be eligible for funding.*** Ministry Memorandum 2020:B20 notes that “*failure to meet program requirements, including timelines, could constitute project default and ineligibility for funding through this program. School boards would be expected to manage any ineligible costs (e.g., using existing renewal funding), as no additional funding will be made available to offset ineligible costs.*”
2. ***Start-up and preparation of tenders for the program is underway and staff are being informed of potential delays with material delivery and labour that could impact timely completion.*** Furthermore, the pressure on the construction market could be very high since all school boards in Ontario will receive CVRIS funding. To reduce the overall impact of these delays, an exceptionally quick procurement process is need for this program to be successful.
3. ***Delegation of Authority to the Director of Education to approve contract awards over \$50,000 for CVRIS projects will facilitate completion of projects within the required timeline.*** This delegation should be effective immediately as tendering of projects must proceed as soon as possible, in anticipation of an official announcement from the Ministry of Education to provide sufficient time for construction. Delays of even one week in the approval of contract awards could jeopardize timely completion and funding eligibility.

E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. *A report of all contracts awarded under the CVRIS program will be provided to the Corporate Service Committee at the completion of the CVIRS program in early 2022.* CVRIS projects will be tracked and reported through the Board's financial systems and audit processes. The Ministry will also have specific CVRIS project reporting requirements for school boards.

F. IMPLEMENTATION, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

1. *Director of Education or delegate will review and approve procurement awards/contracts exceeding \$50,000 for the CVRIS program implementation.* The majority of tendering is expected to take place during the months of April, May and June and staff will follow all existing procurement practices and controls when awarding new contracts.
2. *Facilities staff will meet with affected school Principals to advise them of the anticipated activities over the course of 2021.* If the construction commences during the summer, while the school is not in session, the status of the project will be communicated to the Principal by email.

G. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Trustees delegate authority to the Director of Education or designate to award all necessary procurement awards and contracts related to the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (CVRIS) funding until the completion of the program.