

# TCDSB 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

*The 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee shall have the responsibility for advising the Board of Trustees and Director of Education of the Toronto Catholic District School Board on matters pertaining to the following:*

- 1) To advocate for commitment, resources, and support to improve student success and to foster well-being for members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community
- 2) To advance best practices that foster equitable education and greater student achievement for students who identify as two-spirited, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender\*, queer, and other members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community
- 3) To support 2SLGBTQ+ families in nurturing their faith through a meaningful relationship between home, school, and parish
- 4) To work toward making the TCDSB a safer and more welcoming space for members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community
- 5) To strengthen the effectiveness of initiatives taken to improve student success and to foster well-being of 2SLGBTQ+ students
- 6) To welcome 2SLGBTQ+ community members beyond students, including family members and staff
- 7) To make recommendations for the allocation of funds to improve accommodations for 2SLGBTQ+ students, including, but not limited, to funds for staff training and student initiatives
- 8) To work in partnership with other marginalized communities in supporting 2SLGBTQ+ students within the TCDSB.

## **Composition of Advisory Committee**

The 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee shall be comprised of the following volunteer members who shall be members of or allies to the 2SLGBTQ+ community:

- 1) Two community members
- 2) Four staff
- 3) Two students
- 4) Three parents/guardians

- 5) Two Trustees
- 6) One Human Rights and Equity Advisor
- 7) One representative of Nurturing Our Catholic Community
- 8) The Superintendent of Equity, Diversity, Indigenous Education, and Community Relations

### **Leadership and Guidance**

The 2SLGBTQ+ advisory committee shall be jointly chaired by the Superintendent of Equity, Diversity, Indigenous Education, and Community Relations or their designate and a Co-Chair elected via a ranked, secret ballot by the committee.

The election of the Co-chair shall be supervised by two committee members who are not participating in the election as candidates.

Elections shall take place annually at the first meeting of the school year or any meeting in which the position of Co-chair is vacant, whichever is earlier. Co-chairs may serve a maximum of two years consecutively in that role.

### **Terms of Service**

The Co-Chair and Advisory Committee shall have a maximum appointment of two terms for two years each consecutively. In the appointment of members, the committee shall consider the ability of individuals to carry out the role effectively and to have the time available for the role. In the event that a Member is absent without the prior approval of the committee for three consecutive meetings, the Committee shall determine a replacement for said Member.

### **Frequency of Meetings**

The Committee shall meet four times per year or more frequently at the discretion of the Chair. Quorum for committee meetings will be 50% plus one of the committee members. The advisory committee community members and the Superintendent of Equity, Diversity, Indigenous Education, and Community Relations shall have ad hoc meetings to follow up on on action items and coordinate future efforts.

### **Reporting Responsibilities**

The 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee shall be accountable to the TCDSB for the effective performance of their roles and responsibilities. The activities of the committee shall be reported to the Board of Trustees in the annual report on advisory committees.

### **Appointment Process**

The Committee seeks to reflect the diversity within the 2SLGBTQ+ community. All positions are

voluntary and candidates should be members of or allies to the 2SLGBTQ+ community who support the mission and vision of the TCDSB. The appointment process shall follow the guidelines laid out in "Selection Process for Parent Membership on TCDSB Staff, Steering, Advisory or Ad Hoc Committees." Committee members may continue in office for a second term by advising the Chair of the committee of their intention.