



REPORT TO

CORPORATE SERVICES, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

DELEGATED AUTHORITY – UTILITIES

“What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you, guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.”

2 Timothy 1:13-14

Created Draft	First Tabling	Review
March 4, 2022	March 10, 2022	Click here to enter a date.
Rose MacDonald, Manager, Facilities Central Services Jacqueline Charles, Coordinator, Procurement Services Martin Farrell, 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.



Brendan Browne
Director of Education

Adrian Della Mora
Associate Director of
Academic Affairs and
Chief Operating Officer

Derek Boyce
Associate Director of
Facilities, Business and
Community Development

Ryan Putnam
Chief Financial Officer and
Treasurer

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/PURPOSE

As required by the TCDSB Purchasing Policy (FP.01), the Board of Trustees approve all procurement activity/awards exceeding \$50,000. Staff is requesting that the Board of Trustees provide delegated authority to the Director of Education and/or designate for the ongoing purchase of utilities.

B. BACKGROUND

The Board's annual operating budget for utilities is approximately \$20M (\$13M hydro electricity and \$7M natural gas). The purchase of utilities is done by way of brokers/advisors procured by the Ontario Education Collaborative Marketplace (OECM) and the Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC) on behalf of all Ontario School Boards. Pricing is based on open market conditions and can fluctuate suddenly due to shifting global economic factors and ongoing worldwide conflict. Market conditions and price predictions/fluctuations are monitored daily by the brokers/advisors. Boards are advised of pricing strategies and recommendations to take advantage of favourable market conditions and/or to avoid significant increases. Given the magnitude of School Board utilities spend the Education Act was amended a number of years ago to allow Boards to purchase utilities in the futures markets to effectively manage the energy portfolio.

C. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

Strategic utilities commodities transactions are proposed by brokers/advisors on a regular basis and often require the decision to purchase (lock in) pricing and volume within a 24 hour turnaround when markets are shifting or longer term pricing becomes favourable. Delays can result in significant increases in pricing or missed opportunities unless Boards are able to authorize the transaction on a timely if not immediate basis. Pricing has been secured to August 2022 however market volatility would suggest purchasing for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year and possibly beyond will need to take place fairly soon and possible suddenly given current global economic conditions.

D. RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Trustees provide delegated authority to the Director of Education and/or designate for the ongoing purchase of utilities with such transactions to be reported on the next monthly procurement report.