



*Norm Di Pasquale  
Trustee Ward 9*

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**To:** Corporate Services Committee Meeting , March 10, 2022

**From:** Norm Di Pasquale, Trustee Ward 9

**Subject:** Waiving of Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Education Development Charges for Miziwe Biik, Indigenous Training Institute

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**MOVED BY: Norm Di Pasquale**, Toronto Catholic District School Board

**WHEREAS:** The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action 7, 10, 11 and 12 call for Canada to eliminate First Nation educational and employment gaps, to improve education attainment levels including access to post-secondary education, to enable families to take part in their child's education and develop culturally appropriate early childhood education programs for Aboriginal families, and;

**WHEREAS:** On June 21, 2021, Miziwe Biik Aboriginal Education and Training (MBAET) broke ground on a new Indigenous Training Institute in partnership with Anishnawbe Health Toronto (AHT) as part of the Toronto Indigenous Hub located in Block 10 of the West Don Lands, and;

**WHEREAS:** The Miziwe Biik Training Institute will serve as the employment and training partner at the Hub and will enable MBAET to double its physical footprint and service offerings to accommodate the growing demand for educational and employment services for Ontario's urban Indigenous community, and;

**WHEREAS:** The Miziwe Biik Training Institute will also include a new early learning and childcare centre for 49 children as well as a new Indigenous EarlyON Child and Family Centre that will offer programs for children and families that will support and celebrate Indigenous knowledge, history, and values. In addition, Miziwe Biik also offers a dedicated Indigenous Ngindaasmin Academic program that enables our Indigenous clients to earn their Ontario Secondary School Diploma at MBAET, and also helps Indigenous graduates find post-secondary education as well as housing, and;

**WHEREAS:** On February 3, 2022, Toronto City Council approved a motion to refund the payment of development charges for Miziwe Biik's Institute. City Council directed the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer to refund the \$331,837 in development charges paid, as it was deemed to have considerable strain on the Miziwe Biik's operations, and;

**WHEREAS:** Miziwe Biik is now urging a deferral of Education Development Charges from the TCDSB as Toronto's only dedicated Indigenous training, employment, and education provider. According to existing by-laws, MBAET is required to pay approximately \$40,000 in Education Development Charges to the Toronto Catholic School Board in March 2022, and;

**WHEREAS:** The \$40,000 will go towards supporting the costs of procuring and installing equipment for Miziwe Biik's skilled trades workshop;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** TCDSB waive the \$40,000 EDC for the Miziwe Biik Aboriginal Education and Training Centre portion of the development proceeding under Building Permit Number 19-263742 BLD 00 NB at 425 and 433 Cherry Street.

**Norm Di Pasquale**  
**Trustee, Ward 9**