

NOTICE OF MOTION

BY TRUSTEE MARIA RIZZO

GENDER EQUITY IN SPORTS

Whereas fostering gender equality in sport is about creating equal opportunities; and

Whereas TCDSB strives to give student athletes equal opportunity to develop to their fullest potential; and

Whereas the TCDSB seeks to generate a positive environment for the participation of girls, women, and gender diverse people; and

Whereas 62% of Canadian girls do not participate in any kind of sport; and

Whereas the Government of Canada adopted an action plan action plan for Reducing Poverty and Improving Health and Well-Being: Moving towards an inclusive sport system by setting a target to achieve gender parity in sport by 2035

Whereas female students should not have to fight for fair access to sports facilities; and

Whereas there is a lack of adequate playing facilities available in TCDSB schools making it more difficult for female students to engage in sports; and

Whereas inequity stems from the built form (or lack thereof) of sports facilities at schools that are predominantly female; and

Whereas TCDSB facilities in single gender schools for girls is generally abysmal, inadequate or not as favourable as boys' venues or co gender schools; and

Whereas the lack of acceptable sports facilities at single gender schools for girls reflects a lack of fairness and respect for female students; and

Whereas the sports facilities at at Loretto Abbey, Loretto College, St Joseph Wellesley, Madonna, Notre Dame and even the new St Joseph's Morrow Park Catholic secondary schools are devoid and lack equitable sports facilities and fields compared to other high schools; and

Whereas the Toronto Catholic District School Board must address the neglect of the sub-standard condition of school sport facilities for female students, girls, women, and gender diverse people

Therefore be it resolved that school communities (as above) be consulted on how facilities can be revitalized, and

Be it further resolved that that staff prepare a report on the condition of sports facilities and fields at Loretto Abbey, Loretto College, Madonna, Notre Dame, St Joseph Wellesley and St Joseph's Morrow Park; and

Be it further resolved that staff report on short and long term action plans to address the inequities to access equal opportunities for all student athletes; and

Be it further resolved that a strategy be developed to resolve the historic neglect of sports facilities at the aforementioned schools to level the playing fields; and

Further be it resolved that short term efforts be made to flatten fields to ensure safety and use by students (where land is available and possible; and

Further be it resolved that indoor space be enhanced by providing additional equipment and improving indoor and outdoor spaces for schools who do not have land for high performance fields or outdoor facilities; and

Further be it resolved that school communities be work with staff to review budget allocations to secure community sites (facilities) outside of the school (eg. Bussing to community sites, ski hills, tracks, fitness centres etc.) ; and

Be it further resolved that a reserve fund be created to address inequities in sports facilities across the board; and

Be it further resolved that EDC's (Education Development Charges) be considered a funding source for improvements where eligible; and

Be it further resolved that other funding sources be explored; and

Be it further resolved that sports facilities and field work be considered in tandem for replacement schools, additions or significant capital renovations; and

Be it further resolved that the TCDSB request the province of Ontario and the Government of Canada to consider funding for

- a) capital infrastructure improvements for inadequate and inequitable playing fields and sports facilities;
- b) programs to foster gender equality in sport for the participation of girls, women, and gender diverse people

Be it further resolved that the above motion be debated at the next Corporate Services Committee on March 9, 2023.