



REPORT TO

REGULAR BOARD

## SPECIAL BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RACE RELATIONS

*For I know the plans I have for you, “declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ~ Jeremiah 29:11*

**Drafted:**

January 12, 2024

**Meeting Date:**

February 15, 2024

Roy Fernandes, Superintendent of Indigenous Education and Equity

### INFORMATION REPORT

**Vision:** *IN GOD’S IMAGE: Growing in Knowledge, with Justice and Hope.*

**Mission:** *Nurturing the faith development and academic excellence of our Catholic learning community through the love of God, neighbour, and self.*



**MULTI-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN**  
2022 - 2025

**IN GOD’S IMAGE:** Growing in Knowledge, with Justice and Hope



Brendan Browne  
Director of Education

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

Derek Boyce  
Associate Director of Corporate  
Services and Chief Commercial Officer

Ryan Putnam  
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

## **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At the TCDSB Caucus Board meeting on November 27, 2023, the Action After for Race Relations indicated “*that this committee be reconstituted and that the Terms of Reference be referred to Staff for review, particularly its composition and membership.*”

**The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 15 hours.**

## **B. PURPOSE**

This report has been prepared in response to the Action After the TCDSB Caucus Board meeting on November 27, 2023, where the Race Relations Advisory Committee was reconstituted, and staff were asked to come back with a review of the Terms of Reference, particularly composition and membership.

## **C. BACKGROUND**

1. TCDSB has established Advisory Committees with mandates that focus on matters pertaining to our diverse school communities.
2. TCDSB’s Equity Action Plan (2023-2026) was received by the Board of Trustees in March 2023, and centres on the three strands of Indigenous Education, Dismantling Anti-Black Racism and Support for the 2SLGBTQ+ community.
  - a. These areas of focus are represented with Advisory Committees (IEAC, ACAC and 2SLGBTQ+), along with other Advisory Committees (Filipino, Ukrainian and Spanish Speaking).
3. At the May 25, 2023, Special Board Advisory Committee on Race Relations, the format, and progress of the committee was discussed. Recommendations were shared at the meeting by members which included:
  - a. Create a less hierarchical structure,
  - b. Focus on system documents to guide the meetings,
  - c. Find ways to ensure community members are listened to and heard, and
  - d. Ensure that the meetings are centred in the voices of community members.
4. These recommendations were received at the September 28, 2023, meeting of the Special Board Advisory Committee on Race Relations.

## **D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS**

1. In response to recommendations from Committee members noted above in 2a-d, consideration should first be given to duplication of the work underway

as part of the 2023-2026 Equity Action Plan and ongoing role of TCDSB's Advisory Committees. Should it be deemed that the work of this committee is independent of the work done by other Advisory Committees, the following recommendations should be considered:

2. In response to (a), consideration should be given to consistency with having Advisory Committee meetings in a meeting room instead of the boardroom.
3. In response to (c), consideration should be given to a community co-chair for the committee.
4. In response to (d), consideration should be given to agenda setting with the community co-chair in advance of the meeting for input.
5. For more details, please refer to Appendix A.

## **E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

1. Members will provide feedback at the end of the school year on progress and the new format.

## **F. CONCLUDING STATEMENT**

This report is for the information of the Board of Trustees.