



REPORT TO

REGULAR BOARD

REPORT OF THE GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE ON LEGAL COUNSEL POLICY

O Lord, You have pleaded my soul's cause; You have redeemed my Life. Lamentations 3:58

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
January 12, 2015	January 20, 2015	March 26, 2015

Ann Andrachuk, Chair, Governance and Policy Committee
Loretta Notten, Superintendent Governance and Policy

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 rooted in the love of Christ. We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.



Members of the Committee:

Ann Andrachuk, Chair
Angela Kennedy, Vice Chair
Maria Rizzo, Trustee Ward 5
Mike Del Grande, Trustee Ward 7
Gary Tanuan, Trustee Ward 8
Jo-Ann Davis, Trustee Ward 9
Nancy Crawford, Ex-Officio

A. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

At the January 20th, 2015 Governance and Policy Committee, it was recommended that:

1. Referred back to staff for a revised policy to be incorporated into a comprehensive policy including regulations to reflect the process for retaining legal counsels in the areas of external, general, real estate and planning, human resources and labour relations.
2. Staff to also come back with the criteria by which the Director uses in-house and external counsel.

At the February 17th, 2015 Governance and Policy Committee, it was recommended that:

1. Under Metrics to add the words “and the subject matter when” after “the number of times”
2. In Regulation 11 replace Administrative and Corporate Services Committee with Corporate Affairs, Strategic Planning and Property Committee.

B. ORIGIN

At its Corporate Affairs Committee meeting of September 15th, 2014, trustees approved a motion to revise TCDSB Policy A. 12 (Legal Counsel). External legal counsel may, on occasion, have a more specialized level of expertise to offer in terms of the risks and or opportunities pertinent to the particular deliberation or proposed actions under consideration in a given Board or Committee meeting. Thus, the policy is intended to allow for the retention of outside counsel while providing some guidance as to when that would be necessary.

C. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On September 15th, 2014, arising from a trustee motion, there was a request to revise Policy A. 12 Legal Counsel. In particular, there was interest in revising the policy to consider the use of external legal counsel where appropriate. The Governance Committee in its January 20th, 2015 meeting recommended further detail regarding the criteria for use of external counsel. The Governance

Committee also identified at its February meeting an interest in knowing the subject matter when external counsel is retained. There was discussion at both meetings in regards to understanding the RFP process and how it would operate when identifying and retaining external counsel. This report recommends the approval of the revised policy.

D. APPENDICES

1. Revised Legal Counsel Policy A. 12
2. Appendix A: Side by Side presentation of revised Legal Counsel Policy
3. Appendix B: Report to Governance Committee on revised Legal Counsel Policy

E. MOTIONS

That the board approve the revised policy A. 12 Legal counsel, as found in Appendix A.

Motion as amended carried.