

## **PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

Minutes of a meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee of the Peel District School Board, held in the Brampton Room, the H. J. A. Brown Education Centre, 5650 Hurontario Street, Mississauga, Ontario on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 19:00 hours.

Members present:

Barbara Byers, Fragile X Research Foundation of Canada, Chair  
Shelley Foster, VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children, Vice-Chair  
Carrie Andrews, Trustee  
Nancy Bratkovic, Canadian Mental Health Association, Peel Branch  
Barbara Cyr, Association for Bright Children, Peel Chapter  
Nokha Dakroub, Trustee  
Jennifer Knight, Easter Seals Ontario  
Nancy Leaton, Autism Ontario, Peel Chapter  
Brad MacDonald, Trustee  
Wes McDonald, VIEWS for Blind and Visually Impaired (19:05)  
Carol Ogilvie, Learning Disabilities Association of Peel Region  
Carol Oitment, Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario  
Dorothy Peddie, FASworld Canada, Peel Chapter (19:05)  
Ann Smith, Brampton-Caledon Community Living

Absent: (apology received)

Mary Wright, Peel Caring Network for Challenged Kids

Also present:

Tammy Bowman, Educational Resource Facilitators of Peel  
Stan Cameron, Trustee  
Sue Lawton, Trustee  
Janet McDougald, Board Chair

Administration:

Louise Sirisko, Superintendent, Special Education Support Services (Executive Member)  
Joy Uniac, Superintendent of Education (Executive Backup Member)  
  
Lorelei Fernandes, Board Reporter

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Chair Byers welcomed the new trustee, Nokha Dakroub, Special Programs Consultant, Christy Hutchison, and Special Education Additional Qualification students from Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), University of Toronto.

Item 12.1, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Association – Work Opportunities, is withdrawn from the agenda and will be presented at a future meeting.

SE-06, moved by Nokha Dakroub, that the agenda, as amended, be approved.

..... carried  
(2/3rds' majority)

**2. Conflict of Interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

**3. Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting, December 16, 2014**

A member referred to Item 5, Ontario Special Needs Strategy, in the Minutes and requested a copy of the PowerPoint presentation by email. Superintendent Sirisko will arrange to send out the presentation.

SE-07, moved by Nancy Leaton, that the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of December 16, 2014, be approved.

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**4. Updated Special Education Advisory Committee Member List**

Members reviewed the list. Contact information for Carol Ogilvie and Shelley Foster will be updated.

SE-08, moved by Shelley Foster, that the Updated Special Education Advisory Committee Member List, be received.

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## **5. Ontario Special Needs Strategy – Coordinated Services**

Superintendent of Special Education Support Services, Louise Sirisko, introduced Bob Cambria, Coordinator of Integrated Services, who has been representing Peel DSB on the Peel Coordinated Services Planning Committee (PCSPC). Bob Cambria advised that the deadline for the Ontario Special Needs Strategy has been changed, which allows for more time to complete tasks on this initiative. He introduced David Fry, Vice-President Patient Care, Mississauga Halton Community Care Access Centre, and Co-Chair of PCSPC. David Fry stated that the Ontario Special Needs Strategy is a collaboration between four Ministries, Children and Youth Services, Community and Social Services, Education, and Health and Long-Term Care. He explained that children, youth, and families with complex needs receive care from a variety of sectors and the four ministries have recognized the need to remove barriers to care services and create a seamless system to support families. David Fry stated that studies have indicated that the service system is difficult to navigate and resources need to be used across the province to organize and improve service delivery. He advised that the PCSPC has been asked to provide service planning for individuals with complex needs in Peel.

Handouts of a PowerPoint presentation were circulated and David Fry reviewed the areas of focus as: identifying potential risks to children's development and connecting families to services; establishing coordinated service planning processes for complex special needs children; implementing integrated delivery of children's rehabilitation services. He outlined the new timelines for proposal submissions to the ministries as June 2015 for Coordinated Services Planning, and October 2015 for Rehabilitative Services. David Fry advised that the new model for Peel which focuses on complex individual needs will involve a Service Planning Coordinator (SPC) to assist in connecting families with services and supports. He added that, a coordinated service plan will be developed, information will be shared among service providers with consent, and tracking of outcomes and the service plan will be monitored and updated. In terms of the implementation process, David Fry stated that 34 communities will be represented through a lead agency in each community, and the lead agency will be responsible for the development and implementation of the coordinated service planning, as well as act as a transfer payment agency. The PCSPC membership list was reviewed. David Fry highlighted the four components of community engagement: analysis of reports; parent and youth advisory groups; presentation at SEAC; newsletter/bulletin. He invited advice and input from members.

A member inquired about accountability after implementation, in terms of expansion in growth, and asked how the lead agency will be determined. David Fry advised that accountability and growth will be an arrangement between the lead agency and the Ministry, and the lead agency will be determined through consensus or voting process. He added that there will be specific signatories such as, community care access centres and children's treatment centres, and guidelines will be provided. The member inquired about confidentiality of personal information, and obtaining information from stakeholders to proceed to next steps. David Fry replied that maintaining confidentiality is an operational process which will be decided by the lead agency. In terms of timeline, he indicated that community engagement plans are expected to be completed by April 2015, after which minor changes may be made to the draft plan. In response to another member's query regarding signatories, David Fry stated that the signatories were identified by the four ministries and a signatory will be the person holding the highest position in the agency. He offered to send the list of signatories to the Chair; however, later in the meeting he read out the list of signatory agencies.

**5. Ontario Special Needs Strategy – Coordinated Services (Continued)**

Superintendent Sirisko asked for an update on the progress of the PCSPC to date. David Fry highlighted three areas of work: governance or committee members' tasks and values for building the service proposal model; identifying strengths and areas of improvement; preparing a work plan which includes identifying the community engagement process and developing the model which will include children's mental health agencies. Responding to a member's question, Bob Cambria advised that parent advisory groups are not yet in place.

SE-09, moved by Brad MacDonald, that the oral report re Special Needs Strategy – Coordinated Services, be received.

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**6. Letter from Thames Valley District School Board re Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder**

SE-10, moved by Barb Cyr, that the Letter from Thames Valley District School Board re Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder be received.

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**7. Question Period**

There were no questions.

**8. Public Question Period**

There were no public questions.

**9. Adjournment**

SE-11, moved by Carol Oitment, that the meeting adjourn (19:50 hours).

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