



Minutes of the Equity and Inclusivity Task Force (TF) of the Lester B. Pearson School Board  
Meeting

Held On-Line

November 13, 2020 19h:00

Chaired by Dr. Myrna Lashley

Present:

Sharad Bhargava  
Natalie Constant  
Lisa Davis Mancini  
Andrew Henry  
Sabi Hinkson  
Carol James  
Colin Jamieson  
Kemba Mitchell  
Wusua Mitchell  
Fariha Naqvi Mohamed  
Matthew Pike  
Thomas Rhymes  
Felix Robitaille  
Shari Waldrich

Absent:

Khobee Gibson  
Tiffany Callender  
Nimalan Yoganathan  
Finn Poirier

The Chair called the meeting to order at 19h:00 and welcomed the members to the meeting.

The minutes of the October 23rd meeting were approved.

The Chair reported that the invitation to the community to share stories and recommendations was widely advertised on several news media outlets including; radio, T.V., and social media.

The Chair advised the TF of receipt of a few letters from the community sharing their experience. The group was reminded that if any portion of the letters is used to substantiate their report anonymity of the contributor must be respected. Also, noted the deadline to receive letters has been set on January 31st. This deadline will be made public on the TF webpage.

The Chair reported that a timeline for the final report was being prepared and will be shared with the TF and the public as soon as it becomes available.

The Chair shared that she had been in communication with an educator from Halifax and the idea of peer mentoring was discussed. She also supported a member's observation that there are valuable opportunities in developing Professional Learning Communities (PLC) and Deep Learning strategies amongst school boards outside of Lester B. including in other provinces.

The *Genders subgroup* met with the *Sexualities subgroup* to work in collaboration, they reviewed inclusive practices and gender accommodation in High schools. The group discovered that there is a lot of content already available from the Student Services department. The group found it valuable to work with the Sexualities group and plan to continue to collaborate in the future.

The *Sexualities subgroup* worked in collaboration with the *Gender subgroup* to review the sex education comprehensive summary document. The group continues to gather information to use in the final report.

The *Abilities subgroup* met to review and discuss subjects such as advocacy, and, Individual Educational Plans (IEP), as well as how they are arranged and carried out in schools. They will continue to gather information to use in the final report.

The Race and *Ethnicities subgroup* has researched academic literature to gather information for the final report. It is also reviewing the Boards Anti Bullying, Anti Violence (ABAV) policy.

The *Religious subgroup* reported meeting regularly, continuing to gather evidence-based information to use in the final report. The group discussed how the recommendations could be carried out practically.

The next TF meeting will be held on December 4th, 2020, at 19h:00.

The meeting was adjourned at 21h:00