

**ROUNDTABLE ON CHILDREN, YOUTH AND EDUCATION
MINUTES
MEETING 1**

Date of Meeting:	Thursday, October 21, 2004	Enquiry:	Lyn Morgan
Time:	5:30 p.m.		Committee Secretary
Location:	Council Chamber		416-394-5606
	City Hall		lmorgan@toronto.ca
	100 Queen Street West		
	Toronto, Ontario		

Members

<p>Present: Mayor David Miller Councillor Olivia Chow, Chair Councillor Shelley Carroll Councillor Janet Davis Councillor Pam McConnell Maria Minna, Chair, Social Policy Committee National Liberal Caucus Marie Bountrogianni, Minister of Children and Youth Service Oliver Carroll, Chair, Toronto Catholic District School Board Kehinde Bah, Mayor's Panel on Community Safety Cathy Dandy, Toronto Parent Network George Dei, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education Martha Friendly, Child Care Resources and Research Unit Patricia Ann Mousmanis, Healthy Child Development Program Annie Kidder, People for Education</p>	<p>Marcia Lopez, CUPE 2563 Mary McConville, Toronto Catholic Children's Aid Society Jane Mercer, Toronto Coalition for Better Child Care Faduma Mohammed, Somali Youth Association of Toronto Fiona Nelson, Toronto Board of Health Charles Pascal, Atkinson Charitable Foundation Kenn Richard, Native Child and Family Services Ron Rock, East Scarborough Boys and Girls Club Yves Savoie, Family Services Association of Toronto Jim Tsatsos, Child Care Advisory Committee Kim Warburton, Bell Canada Adam Chaleff-Freudenthaler, Toronto Youth Cabinet</p> <p>Absent: Sheila Ward, Chair, Toronto District School Board Frances Lankin, United Way</p>
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The meeting convened at 5:30 p.m. with Councillor Chow in the Chair.

There were no declarations of interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

1. Welcome

Welcome from Mayor David Miller and Councillor Olivia Chow, Chair, Roundtable on Children, Youth and Education.

Minute 1.1

Mayor Miller welcomed the Members of the Roundtable on Children, Youth and Education and thanked them for agreeing to serve on the Roundtable and for supporting the children and youth of Toronto. The Mayor expressed his appreciation to City staff for their tremendous work in preparing for this first meeting.

Councillor Chow also welcomed the Members of the Roundtable and indicated that she was looking forward to the innovative and positive work that would be collectively produced by the Members for the good of the children and young people of Toronto.

2. The “Quebec Model”: Successes, Challenges and Lessons Learned

Presentation on the “Quebec Model”: Successes, Challenges and Lesson Learned by Nicole Boily, former Assistant Deputy Minister, Province of Quebec.

Minute 1.2

Nicole Boily, former Assistant Deputy Minister in the Province of Quebec, presented an overview of the development of Quebec’s universal childcare and daycare services, indicating that the current model has been in place for the past six years. Mme. Boily reviewed the success of the program and some of the challenges faced by the system and stated that in Quebec, this program has been the single most important social gain and greatest collective adventure of the past decade and that the citizens of Quebec are proud of it.

3. Youth Presentation

Youth presentation by Adrian Johnson, former member of the Toronto Youth Cabinet and currently a student at the University of North Carolina.

Minute 1.3

Adrian Johnson, who had served as a Member on the Youth Cabinet from 1998 to 2001, and as Chair in 2000 and 2001, presented some of the core principles that, in his opinion, needed to be included in the development of a comprehensive youth plan in Toronto including the need to involve all levels of government; to back up commitments with resources; the engagement and involvement of young people in finding solutions to problems regarding youth unemployment, the special challenge of English as a second language, housing and homelessness, youth violence and a good public education system.

4. Federal Initiatives

The Honourable Maria Minna, Chair, Social Policy Committee, National Liberal Caucus, commenting on federal initiatives for children and youth.

Minute 1.4

Maria Minna, Chair of the Social Policy Committee of the National Liberal Caucus and former Minister of International Co-operation, presented background details on some of the child and youth issues and reviewed a number of the concerns and government programs regarding the child tax credit, child poverty and malnutrition, early education and child care, parental leave and family justice system. Ms. Minna submitted a list of Government of Canada programs and services available for children and youth and the web sites through which they may be accessed.

5. Provincial Initiatives

The Honourable Marie Bountrogianni, Minister of Children and Youth Services, commenting on provincial initiatives for children and youth.

Minute 1.5

Marie Bountrogianni, Minister of Children and Youth Services, and Immigration Minister for Ontario, presented some of the provincial government initiatives and programs encompassing immunization, early childhood development and care, child welfare, special needs children, aboriginal children, youth justice, mental health and nutrition. Minister Bountrogianni also acknowledged the need to develop smoother transitions for children and youth through the school system.

6. Toronto District School Board Initiatives

Sheila Ward, Chair, Toronto District School Board, commenting on the Toronto District School Board initiatives for children and youth.

Minute 1.6

Speaking on behalf of Sheila Ward, Chair, Toronto District School Board, Trustee Mari Rutka advised the Members that all of the Trustees believed in the importance of the Roundtable on Children, Youth and Education and in the need for the cooperation of the three levels of government. Trustee Rutka reviewed a number of initiatives the Toronto District School Board has undertaken and reiterated the need for adequate funding required by the Board to support the school programs.

7. Toronto Catholic District School Board Initiatives

Oliver Carroll, Chair, Toronto Catholic District School Board, commenting on the Toronto Catholic District School Board initiatives for children and youth.

Minute 1.7

Oliver Carroll, Chair of the Toronto Catholic District School Board, had to leave to attend a Board meeting.

8. Outline of City of Toronto Services for Children and Youth

Presentation outlining City services and integration initiatives for children and youth by Nancy Matthews, Executive Director, Social Development and Administration Division.

Minute 1.8

Nancy Matthews, Executive Director, Social Development and Administration Division, provided a power point presentation on some of the programs and services available through the Toronto Children's Services, Parks and Recreation, Culture Division, Social Services Division, Public Health, Toronto Public Library and Social Development and Administration Division.

9. Roundtable Workplan

Minute 1.9

Councillor Davis, Chair of the Children's Working Group, advised the Roundtable Members that the Children's Working Group had an ambitious agenda and would be meeting once or twice before January and then again three or four times between January and May in order to bring forward to the Roundtable in May, a draft plan for integrating children's services within the City of Toronto.

Councillor Carroll, Chair of the Youth Working Group, indicated the Working Group would meet approximately once a month and that the Toronto Youth Cabinet would form a major part of the Youth Working Group in considering issues regarding employment, housing, and public health, to develop a Toronto youth strategy. Councillor Carroll asked the Roundtable Members to recommend other people who may be interested in serving on the either the Children's or Youth Working Groups.

10. The City's Strategy for Children: Affirmation or Revision

Minute 1.10

Action:

The Roundtable on Children, Youth and Education affirmed the City's Strategy for Children.

11. Announcements/Members' Updates

Minute 1.11

Members provided details of upcoming events and conferences regarding their specific organizations.

12. Orientation Binder

Orientation Binder from Chief Administrator's Office and Social Development and Administration, Community and Neighbourhood Services, containing:

- Role of the Roundtables;
- Terms of Reference: Roundtable on Children, Youth and Education;
- Membership List;
- Key Staff Contacts: Program Staff and City Clerk's Office Secretariat Support;
- Reports approved by City Council including:
 - (i) Recommended Members for the Roundtable on Children, Youth and Education;
 - (ii) Appointments of Members of Council to Roundtables;
 - (iii) Terms of Reference for Roundtables on Access, Equity and Human Rights; Arts and Culture; Beautiful City; Children, Youth and Education; Environment; and Seniors; relating to the Roundtables; and
 - (iv) Sub-committees, Advisory Committees, Roundtables and Other Bodies;
- Procedures for Advisory Bodies with a Majority of Community Members;
- Outline of City of Toronto Governance System; and
- City of Toronto Human Rights and Harassment Policy and Procedures.

Minute 1.12

Action:

The Roundtable on Children, Youth and Education received the orientation binders.

13. Strategies to Address the Increase in Sexually Transmitted Infections in Toronto

Communication (October 19, 2004) from the Board of Health forwarding the report (October 4, 2004) from the Medical Officer of Health regarding strategies to address the increase in sexually transmitted infections in Toronto to the Roundtable on Children, Youth and Education, for its meeting on October 21, 2004.

Minute 1.13

Action:

The Roundtable on Children, Youth and Education received the communication.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Chair