



**York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee**  
**January 30, 2023**  
**7 p.m. – Virtual Meeting Google Meet**  
**MINUTES**

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**PRESENT:**

|                             |                   |   |
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| <b>Committee Member(s):</b> | <b>In Person:</b> | Teresa Abbruscato, Olufisayo Bolarinwa, Melena Carrassi, Peter De Quintal, Sahir Jamal, Tony Lorini, Gabriella Marchione, Maurizio Ruberto, Sarah Tjin-a-joe, Jaclyn Toma |
|                             | <b>Virtual:</b>   | Kristina Costabile, Jan De Souza, Sara Angela Figliomeni, Emanuela Polin-Deluca, Maria Praveen, Singai Rani Wilson, Martina Saverino, Andrea Telfer, Florence Wang        |
| <b>Administration:</b>      | <b>In Person:</b> | Domenic Scuglia, Jennifer Sarna   |
|                             | <b>Virtual:</b>   | Evonne Carafa, Elementary Administrator<br>Loredana Foti, OECTA Rep   |
| <b>Trustee(s):</b>          |                   | N/A   |
| <b>Other Trustee(s):</b>    |                   | Maria Iafrate (In Person)   |
| <b>Guest(s):</b>            |                   | N/A   |
| <b>Recording Secretary:</b> |                   | Maurizio Ruberto  |

**REGRETS:**

|                             |                                    |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Committee Member(s):</b> | Rosanna Soda                       |
| <b>Administration(s):</b>   | Anna Polisco (Secondary OECTA Rep) |
| <b>Trustee(s):</b>          | Elizabeth Crowe, Theresa McNicol   |

**1.0 WELCOME / PRAYER / LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

YCPIC Chair Figliomeni welcomed everyone and led the opening prayer followed by the Land Acknowledgement.

**2.0 CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

### **3.0 ROLL CALL**

Absent: Rosanna Soda

### **4.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: Martina Saverino

Seconded: Maria Praveen

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **5.0 APPROVAL OF UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING – November 28, 2022**

Motion: Tony Lorini

Seconded: Olufisayo Bolarinwa

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **6.0 DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Scuglia remarked as follows:

#### **Farewell and Welcome**

We bid farewell to Associate Director Eugene Pivato last Friday, and I am pleased to welcome Associate Director Jennifer Sarna, to the YCPIC meeting and looking forward to working with her.

#### **Kindergarten Registration**

One of the most important events that take place in January is Kindergarten registration. All of our elementary schools are in the middle of registering students for September 2023. It is an exciting time – parents bring their children into the school, get to meet some of the staff, get to see the school, and get a sense of transition.

#### **Student Exchange to France**

Last week we held a parent meeting for a student exchange program for those living in Bretagne, France. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience a culture and a language that has been so important to our Catholic and Canadian heritage. We are also looking launching an exchange to Italy as well. Further info to follow.

#### **OAPCE York Meeting**

The Ontario Association for Parents in Catholic Education held its virtual meeting on Thursday, January 26. Every YCDSB Catholic School Council was encouraged to register their OAPCE rep for this event.

#### **Anti-Racism at York Catholic**

We are encouraging all people to celebrate and learn more about our Black community. Canadians should also take time to reflect on the history and present reality of racism in this country and work together in partnership to eradicate it. There are a number of events taking place throughout the month of February that will celebrate the Black contributions to our School Board and Canadian society.

#### **York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee**

On Thursday, February 9, the York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee will host an online presentation by Dr. Andrew B. Campbell, titled, "Allyship, Advocacy & Action for Authentic Inclusion."

### **Distinguished Alumni Awards**

Every year we reach out to our communities and stakeholders soliciting the achievements of our graduates. Every year we get a number of applicants, and this year is no different. We have a number of outstanding applicants that will be reviewed by our Selection Committee. The candidates will be recognized during Catholic Education Week in May 2023.

### **York Catholic Joins Instagram**

We've added to our social media presence, and are now officially on Instagram. I hope you will follow us at @yorkcatholic\_dsb.

### **Ash Wednesday**

Next month we will begin our Lenten journey on Ash Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> and we are happy to celebrate an Ash Wednesday Mass at the Board office as well as throughout our schools, where students will have ashes placed on their forehead by staff, or by a local pastor if they are at the school celebrating Mass.

A concern about schools' capability of fundraising and establishing an equitable opportunity for all schools was brought forward. A discussion was held regarding technology in schools. YCPIC parents were encouraged to contact their School Principal for any questions and concerns they may have.

## **7.0 CHAIR'S REPORT / UPDATE**

YCPIC Chair, Sara Figliomeni advised that further information regarding the YCPIC Conference with Dr. ABC would be shared by YCPIC Vice-Chair Martina Saverino later in the agenda.

## **8.0 TREASURER'S REPORT**

YCPIC Treasurer, Andrea Telfer provided the Treasurer's Report as of January 30, 2023.

## **9.0 OAPCE's REPORT/ UPDATE**

Sara Tjin-Joe provided a summary of the OAPCE Regional Council meeting held on January 26, 2023, with guest speaker Teresa Hartnett, Director of Family Ministry for the Diocese of Hamilton. Further details and information can be found on the OAPCE website.

## **10.0 PRESENTATION: N/A**

## **11.0 ACTION: N/A**

## **12.0 DISCUSSION ITEM(S):**

### **a) School Messenger Drop Down – Follow Up**

As a follow-up to the November 28<sup>th</sup> YCPIC meeting whereby a request to add mental health as a reason for absence, Director Scuglia advised that work is underway by Chief Information Officer, Scott Morrow to include this drop-down reason in the School Messenger software. Staff are currently in the process of updating the menu. Further updates will be provided at the April 24<sup>th</sup> YCPIC Meeting.

**b) YCPIC Conference with Dr. ABC – February 9, 2023**

YCPIC Vice-Chair Martina Saverino shared an update on the February 9<sup>th</sup> conference with Dr. ABC. Concerns were brought forward regarding the speaker’s cost. Vice-Chair Saverino indicated that she had shared the cost with YCPIC and no concerns were brought forward at that time. She further indicated that she would follow up with Dr. ABC asking if he would honour last year’s price and provide an update to the YCPIC Committee through email.

*Post Meeting – Dr. ABC honoured the same price as the previous year.*

**c) Catholic School Council Election Procedures**

Trustee Maria lafrate, shared comments regarding the new Ministry regulation for the election process when electing the Catholic School Council members where one can be in person or virtual. It was noted that the Constitution has to be reviewed every September when elections take place and further suggested that YCPIC form a Sub-Committee to develop a common template for Constitutions that can be implemented consistently across all YCDSB schools. Interested YCPIC members were asked to email YCPIC Chair Figliomeni to express their interest.

**d) Snow Clearing**

A YCPIC member brought forward concerns regarding the path plowed at their child’s school and whether it met accessibility standards. It was noted that all concerns should be brought forward to their school principal. Director Scuglia followed up with staff to ensure adherence and compliance with accessibility requirements.

**13.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Figliomeni adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM.

Motion: Tony Lorini

Seconded: Gabriella Marchione

**MOTION CARRIED**