

**TORONTO CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

**Agenda**

**Public Session**

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2009**

**Dario Imbrogno, Chair**  
Community Representative

**Judith Andrenacci**  
Community Living Toronto

**Don Cameron**  
Community Representative

**John Lentz**  
Voice for Hearing Impaired

**Ashleigh Molloy**  
Down Syndrome Association

**Virginia Pearce**  
Community Representative

**Victoria Scamolla**  
Association for Bright Children

**Marilyn Taylor**  
Learning Disabilities Association

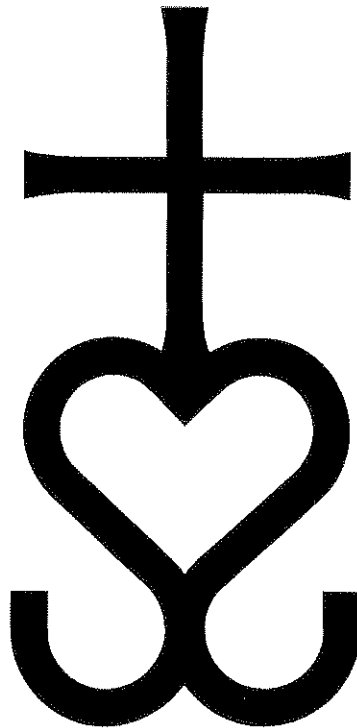
**Ara Zoviguian**  
Autism Society Ontario

**Trustee Members**

**Ann Andrachuk**

**Paul John Crawford**

**Vice-Chair, Angela Kennedy**



**Recording Secretary : Lalita Fernandes 416-222-8282 Extension 2293**

**In a school community formed by Catholic beliefs and traditions,  
our Mission is to educate students to their full potential.**

**Ann Perron  
Interim Director of Education**

**AGENDA**  
**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE**  
**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2009**

**7:00 p.m.**

- 1. Memorials and Prayer.**
- 2. Roll Call and Apologies.**
- 3. Approval of the Agenda.**
- 4. Declarations of Interest.**
- 5. Approval and Signing of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held March 24, 2009.  
p.1-p.5**
- 6. Delegations:**
- 7. Presentations:**
  - a) John Willson, CEO Variety Village, regarding program update and changes.
  - b) Vidiya Rego, Comptroller of Business Services regarding the Grant for Student Needs (GSN).

- c) Frank Piddisi, Superintendent of Special Services, regarding Special Education Focussed Delivery Model.
- d) Susan Menary, Chief Speech and Language Pathologist, regarding Update on Autism Initiatives.

**8. Unfinished Business:**

**9. Notices of Matter and Trustee Matters: (for which ninety-six hours notice has been given)**

**10. Communications:**

- a) Information from Community Living Toronto regarding request for nominations for Awards for Inclusive Education. **p.6-p.8**
- b) Draft Response to Arrowsmith Parents regarding the review of Special Education Programs. **p.9**

**11. Matters Referred/Deferred to the Committee by the Board and Other Committees.**

**12. Reports of Officials and Special and Permanent Committees Requiring Action.**

**13. Reports of Officials and Special and Permanent Committees for Information:**

**14. Inquiries and Miscellaneous:**

15. Association Reports:

16. Update from Trustees on resolutions recommended to the Board by the Committee:

17. Update of Pending List

<b>DATE REQUESTED</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>
June/07	Update on student transition from secondary to post-secondary and how many students were enrolled in special courses.	Deferred until further notice.

18. Adjournment.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2009**

**PUBLIC SESSION**

PRESENT:

Dario Imbrogno, Chair  
Judith Andrenacci  
Don Cameron  
Ashleigh Molloy  
Marilyn Taylor

Trustee: Ann Andrachuk  
Paul Crawford  
Angela Kennedy

Angela Gauthier  
Frank Piddisi  
Susan Menary  
Maria Kokai  
Mary Cordeiro  
Odilia Pariselli  
Lea Cardinalli  
Barbara Komorowski  
Michael Colella

Lalita Fernandes, Recording Secretary

Apologies were received from John Lentz, Virginia Pearce and Ara Zoviguiian who were unable to attend the meeting.

Prayers were offered for Trustee Cicogna and Mary Jo Deighan who are ill.

MOVED by Trustee Crawford that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held Wednesday, February 18, 2009 be approved.

CARRIED

Clint Harder, representing LD Families.org, addressed the Committee regarding the Arrowsmith Program.

MOVED by Don Cameron, that the presentation by Clint Harder, representing LD Families.org, regarding the Arrowsmith Program be received.

CARRIED

Annette Goodman, Chief Education Officer for the Arrowsmith Program, made a presentation to the Committee regarding review of the LD Programs in the TCDSB.

MOVED by Trustee Andrachuk, that the presentation by Annette Goodman, Chief Education Officer for the Arrowsmith Program, regarding review of the LD Programs in the TCDSB be received.

CARRIED

MOVED by Judith Andrenacci, that the communication from Norm Forma, Associate Supervisor, Ministry Supervision Team (The Board) regarding the SEAC recommendations on the Arrowsmith Program be received.

Dario Imbrogno turned the Chair over to Trustee Kennedy.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Trustee Andrachuk,

1. That the Board commence review of the program and that a report come back in June 2010
2. that staff negotiate a one year contract with Arrowsmith and do an in-take for another year and that the parents of the students in the in-take year be advised that the program is under review and depending on the outcome of the research a decision will be made whether to continue the program or not.

With the consent of the Committee, Trustee Andrachuk withdrew her amendment.

The meeting continued with Dario Imbrogno in the Chair.

MOVED by Trustee Andrachuk, that SEAC, in a role of being a voice of parents, their organizations and respective agencies and after a passionate discussion at the meeting, strongly believe that many of the questions are not in their purview to respond and do not have the level of expertise and stand behind their recommendations submitted at their February 18, 2009 meeting.

On the vote being taken, the motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Judith Andrenacci, that the Presentation from Will Young, Manager of Government Relations Arrowsmith Program, to the Board at its meeting held February 25, 2009 regarding support for the SEAC recommendations be received.

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, that the communication from Barbara Arrowsmith Young, Director, Arrowsmith School and Arrowsmith Program addressed to Frank Piddisi, Superintendent of Education regarding the Arrowsmith Program be received.

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, that item 11a) be adopted as follows:

**11a) Recommendations from the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of February 18, 2009.**

1. That the Arrowsmith Program be reviewed for its comparative effectiveness, efficiency and equitable access and outcomes in relation to other LD programs delivered in the TCDSB;
2. That this review commence April 1, 2009 and that a report be available for June 2010 prior to the TCDSB making any decision concerning the Arrowsmith program;
3. That the TCDSB continue to deliver the Arrowsmith program.
4. That the TCDSB fully renew its existing contract for the Arrowsmith Program for the 2009-2010 and 2010- 2011 academic years for the current seven sites;
5. That public consultation will be engaged through out the term of the LD review. The format for such consultation will be defined at a later date and the review will include an analysis for expansion of the existing sites.
6. That SEAC recommend to the Minister of Education to consider the possibility of working with the Arrowsmith Program and use the TCDSB sites as a source of their research.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Trustee Kennedy, to part 3 of the motion to add the words "...as it now exists with the TCDSB and accept the offer from the Arrowsmith Program to take in 30 more students and open 3 more sites at no additional cost to the Board.

On the vote being taken, the amendment was declared

LOST

On the vote being taken, the motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, that the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

SECRETARY

CHAIR



**COMMUNITY LIVING  
TORONTO**

IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE

**A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS  
FOR THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL  
AWARDS FOR INCLUSIVE  
EDUCATION**

**CLOSING DATE:  
FRIDAY, May 29th, 2009**

# Community Living Toronto

## Eleventh Annual Award for Inclusive Education – Call for Nominations

*Inclusive education means that all students attend and are welcomed by their neighbourhood schools in age-appropriate, regular classes and are supported to learn, contribute and participate in all aspects of the life of the school. Inclusive education is about how we develop and design our schools, classrooms, programs and activities so that all students learn and participate together.*

Community Living Toronto is proud to sponsor the “**Eleventh Annual Awards for Inclusive Education**”. This award is given to recognize outstanding practices in inclusion within the school system. Awards will be given to both the Toronto Catholic District School Board and the Toronto District School Board.

This year awards will be given to educators who demonstrate a belief in inclusive education by:

- ◆ Promoting the rights of all children in the neighbourhood, including those with an intellectual disability, to attend their local school and receive a quality education
- ◆ Supporting, encouraging and facilitating the inclusion of children with an intellectual disability within an appropriate grade classroom
- ◆ Assisting the student to achieve their full potential by ensuring necessary classroom accommodations and curriculum modifications occur
- ◆ Providing and modelling a welcoming, accepting environment that ensures the student does not remain or become socially isolated
- ◆ Valuing the unique contribution of all students
- ◆ Welcoming and encouraging the involvement of parents and/or others knowledgeable about disability issues

### **Please attach a DETAILED description outlining:**

1. Who you are nominating for the award?
  - Name
  - Position
  - School
  - School Address and Phone
  - Board
2. How has this person enriched the inclusive educational experience for a child with an intellectual disability?
3. How has this person demonstrated a belief in the principles of inclusion?
4. Any other information which may be helpful in assisting us to make our decision.

5. Nominated by:  
Name  
How do you know this person?  
Address and number where we may reach you

**Please note:**

**Decisions will be based solely on the information you provide.**

**Nominations are not space limited, please ensure that you give as much detail and concrete examples as possible.**

Please return all nominations to:

Community Living Toronto  
1645 Warden Ave.  
Suite 101  
Scarborough, Ontario  
M1R 5B3  
Attention: Sharon Ross

Phone: 416-438-1165 ext. 222  
[sross@cltoronto.ca](mailto:sross@cltoronto.ca)

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**By: Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**Awards will be presented at Community Living Toronto's annual general meeting on Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009.**

*Community Living Toronto: Where choices change the lives of people with an intellectual disability*

**DRAFT RESPONSE TO ARROWSMITH PARENTS**

Funding for the Arrowsmith Program is being considered as the Board develops its 2009-2010 Budget and will be considered along with other requests which impact funding in Special Education.

The budget process begins in mid April and ends early in June. Planning for a review of all of our Learning Disabled programs, including the Arrowsmith Program has commenced and will proceed simultaneously to the budget process. Opportunities for public input and comments around review of our Learning Disabled programs will be made public shortly. Final in-take recommendations for newly admitted students to the Arrowsmith Program will be dealt with once the budget decisions have been made.