

HWDSB

August 20, 2018

Dear Community Partner Organization

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) is committed to the principles of equity through inclusive programs, curriculum, services, and operations. In addition, HWDSB believes in ensuring high levels of student, parent, community and staff participation, involvement and engagement contributing to student achievement and well-being. In support of our commitments, the Board of Trustees has established the Faith Community Advisory Committee.

HWDSB is currently seeking representation from a community organization which is involved in advancing multifaith dialogue within the community. The Committee will meet at least once a year with a schedule determined by the Committee. The Committee will be responsible for providing the Board of Trustees with advice on specific areas of Board policy or program consistent with the Education Act and the policies of the Board, and on services that affect the educational success and well-being of HWDSB students.

Within our membership, we have one seat for a community organization. This position is a one year term. We are seeking representation from an organization who has:

- an interest, experience and solid knowledge of advancing multi-faith dialogue;
- knowledge of multiple faiths;
- an individual who can attend meetings as per the schedule established at the first meeting.

If your organization is interested in participating, please complete the attached application and forward to Joanne Cravero (jcravero@hwdsb.on.ca) by **September 14, 2018**. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office.

We are looking forward to working with you in support of Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board students.

Sincerely

Bob Sim

FCAC Co-Chair

Anne Pearson

FCAC Co-Chair

Sharon Stephanian

Superintendent of Student Achievement, Equity and Well-Being

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Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board FAITH COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mandate: The mandate for Community Advisory Committees is to provide the Board of Trustees with advice from the community on specific areas of Board policy or program consistent with the Education Act and the policies of the Board, and on services that affect the educational success and well-being of HWDSB students. (Trustee Handbook, pg. 53)

Composition: Voting membership of the Faith Community Advisory Committee (FCAC) will consist of a **minimum of 7** and a maximum of **13 individuals** reflecting the diversity of the student population in HWDSB schools and each with a strong affiliation to one or more schools.

- a) One parent/guardian/caregiver/community leader with a strong affiliation to HWDSB schools **and** a strong affiliation to one of the following faiths and/or spiritual traditions (10 people):

Bahá'í	Hindu/Jain
Buddhist	Jewish
Eastern Orthodox	Muslim
Evangelical	Protestant (Mainline)
Indigenous Spirituality	Sikh

Note: representation will be sought across all Families of Schools to support balanced representation.

- b) One Community Member at Large
c) Two secondary students

Non-voting membership will include up to 2 Trustees (appointed annually), a senior staff representative and other staff resources as required.

Terms of Office: The term of office for a member of a community advisory committee shall be one or two years commencing on September 1 and ending on June 30.

When a community advisory committee is established the members shall be divided into members willing to serve for a one-year term and those willing to serve for a two-year term in order to initiate staggered terms.

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Under normal circumstances a member who has served for more than two consecutive terms or partial terms shall be replaced by a new member; however the Board may approve that an individual member be appointed for more than two consecutive terms or partial terms.

If a member is appointed mid-term, the committee shall recommend whether the term should end on June 30 of the current year or the following year.

A community advisory committee shall appoint a chair or co-chairs from among its voting members at the first meeting each year.

Meetings: A community advisory committee shall meet at least once per year, with quorum (50% +1 of voting members) and provide a committee report to the Board of Trustees.

A community advisory committee shall not meet during July or August unless requested to do so by the Chair of the Board.

A community advisory committee meeting shall be open to the public for observation and notice of the meeting shall be posted on the Board's website.

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HWDSB Faith Community Advisory Committee

Community Organization Application Form

We appreciate your interest in Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board's Faith Community Advisory Committee (FCAC). FCAC will meet a minimum of once a year with other dates determined by the Committee. Child care is available if needed. Please complete this application form and return it to either your child's/local school or mail it to the Board office at: 20 Education Court Hamilton, ONT L9A 0B9 c/o Joanne Cravero. You may also email it to Joanne Cravero (jcravero@hwdsb.on.ca) or submit by fax: 905-521-2507. Applications may also be completed online at www.hwdsb.on.ca or through your school's website. All applicants will receive confirmation of receipt by email.

Date of Application: _____

Organization Name:

Address:

Phone: _____

Email: _____

_____ Applicant's Signature (on behalf of the organization)

_____ Role within the Organization

Application deadline is September 14, 2018.

Our organization has:

- an interest, experience and solid knowledge of advancing multi-faith dialogue;
- knowledge of multiple faiths;
- an individual who can attend meetings as per the schedule established at the first meeting.

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PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF YOUR **ORGANIZATION**:

School Involvement/School Affiliation (current or previous)

Faith/Spiritual Affiliations of the Organization

Organization Experience (within the past 10 years) advancing multi-faith dialogue within the community

Date	Experience

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Why is your organization interested in joining the Faith Community Advisory Committee?

Name of Organization Representative to participate on the HWDSB Faith Community Advisory Committee: _____

To Be Completed by Organization Representative:

The Canadian Multifaith Federation (CMF) identifies the following multifaith competencies as considerations for school boards when determining membership on Faith Committees. Please indicate “yes” or “no” to each of the following and provide a BRIEF paragraph explaining your answers

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Yes | No | Knowledgeable about religious accommodation and related rights and responsibilities |
| Yes | No | Knowledgeable about your own faith and/or spiritual tradition and respectful of multifaith identities and communities |
| Yes | No | Competent with interfaith dialogue and multifaith support |
| Yes | No | Knowledgeable about cultural diversity within faith communities |

Brief paragraph explaining your answers above.

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Thank you for your interest in the HWDSB Faith Community Advisory Committee. As a potential future member, we ask that you review the following commitments as part of your application.

As a member of the HWDSB Faith Community Advisory Committee, I am committed to:

- Attending meetings with an open heart and mind and in the spirit of working together for the good of the community.
- Fostering an inclusive environment that values and protects the dignity of all.
- Engaging in open dialogue that promotes understanding and cooperation as the basis of all interactions.