

Update on GCA –Education Committee

The purpose of this note is to clarify the GCA position with respect to the current Accommodation study and to put forward some guiding principles that are generally supported by the GCA Board.

In developing these guidelines, I sought input from the following:

- GCA Board – May 24th. Reviewed background and CGOOS Accommodation Study, discussed progress of Accommodation Working Group, and requested Board feedback re:
 - GCA-EC participation in Working Committee: neutral observer vs active facilitator
 - Issues GCA-EC should bring forward
 - Community preferred option: should one be developed and if so, how?
 - Need for more diverse membership in GCA-EC
- Various Board/community members: June Creelman, Carol MacLeod, Cam Robertson, Christine McAllister

Based on these discussions I offer the following principles that will guide the GCA-EC through the Accommodation study process:

1. The role of the GCA-EC in this process is to advocate for Glebe families and ensure that they are well served considering broader community issues.
2. The GCA-EC supports quality program choice and the need for viable programs in the Glebe.
3. Since the Glebe is a walkable community, there is a desire for students (particularly in the earlier grades) to walk to school.
4. Student safety must be considered and accommodated.
5. The GCA-EC is mindful that future demographic changes can be difficult to predict. Therefore, the GCA-EC encourages flexibility in the recommendation of the Accommodation Working Group so that possible future increases or decreases in enrolment could be accommodated.

Further, the Board's directive was that the GCA-EC remain neutral in the process, supporting both involved schools in the Glebe, with no development of a GCA scenario.