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Dear **MPP**:

On behalf of the Toronto District School Board (TDSB), I am writing you to express our concerns for the reduction in provincial funding for the **Community Use of Schools - Priority Schools Initiative EPO**, as well as the cancellations and reductions of other grants that help our most at-risk communities and youth. Following this letter, you will find a list of our priority schools (Appendix A) and a list of our community partners for the Focus on Youth Summer Program (Appendix B).

Recently, we were notified of a change to the Community Use of Schools - Priority Schools Initiative EPO, which subsidizes school boards to offer free permitting for use of schools in 77 low socioeconomic schools that make up the priority list (Appendix A). Please review the list. **Some of the very communities you represent may be affected.**

The announced change was a reduction of the grant from \$2.6 million to \$1.6 million, a net change of \$1 million. Given the importance of this grant to the city's priority neighbourhoods, the Board will now need to consider whether it will proceed with no cost permits for schools serving these communities without a subsidy from the province.

This funding reduction follows on the heels of grant cancellations to a number of programs specifically geared to serve at-risk communities and young people. The Ministry has announced the cancellations and reductions of grants that include, but are not limited to:

- Focus on Youth after school program, which provides employment and opportunities for youth in the city's priority neighbourhoods;
- Re-engagement 12 & 12+ program that encourages students that have left school to return to complete diploma graduation requirements; and
- Tutors in the Classroom program, which paid university and college students to help tutor students struggling in school.

When the Community Use of Schools grant reduction of \$1 million is added to the list of grant cancellations and reductions that directly impact our students in priority neighbourhoods, the TDSB will experience a \$1.7 million cut in funding for programs, most of which would benefit our poorest and most disadvantaged communities and young people.

In addition, the Ministry has made no decision as to whether funding will continue for the **Summer Focus on Youth Program**. Last year, funding from this program allowed the TDSB to hire and train more than 600 youth to work alongside community partners—from all across the city—to help serve some of our most at-risk and vulnerable young people. I encourage you to view our list of partners (Appendix B) to see the various communities this program has benefited. **Some may very well be in your riding.**

Last year, the program benefited more than 11,000 young people. Typically, by this time of the year, the TDSB would already have started the recruitment process for this program.

This program has documented evidence of helping children living in Toronto's most marginalized communities, and has sought to respond to the high rates of youth violence and poverty, and lack of opportunities for youth.

Surely, young people would get more out of programs that encourage and promote physical fitness, help develop critical life-skills, and provide safe spaces for them to be active and engaged than the cover provided by youth gangs. Surely, our youth are better served playing sports and games after school in safe places, such as our school gyms, than they are in the streets. Surely, if we can re-engage high school students who have dropped out and help them acquire their final credits to earn their diploma, we would be making a significant difference in their future.

The Board's concern is that these grants support programs that are aimed to support our most vulnerable communities and our most vulnerable young people. Each program aims to help level the playing field for these youth.

We have expressed these concerns in person and through a formal letter to the Minister of Education, Hon. Lisa Thompson – and have asked the Ministry to reconsider the cancellation and reduction of these grants, and to continue the funding for the Focus on Youth Summer Program. I have also presented these concerns to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs as part of the pre-budget consultations.

So, I ask you, as a Toronto-area MPP, to raise awareness of our concerns and support our ask to the Minister of Education. With your support, we hope that the Ministry will take a second look at the benefits and outcomes of these programs, and decide to reinstate the funding for programs which were cut and continue investing in the Summer Focus on Youth Program as soon as possible.

Yours truly,



Robin Pilkey, CPA, CA, ICD.D
Chair
Toronto District School Board

c: Mayor John Tory, City of Toronto
All City Councillors, City of Toronto
Focus on Youth Summer Program – Community Partners

Priority Schools Initiative (PSI) Schools

Learning Centre 1 - Beth Butcher

1. Amesbury Middle School
2. Elmbank Junior Middle Academy
3. Flemington Public School
4. George Harvey Collegiate Institute
5. George Syme Community School
6. Greenholme Junior Middle School
7. Grenoble Public School
8. John Polanyi Collegiate Institute
9. Lambton Park Community School
10. Lawrence Heights Middle School
11. Maple Leaf Public School
12. Marc Garneau Collegiate Institute
13. North Kipling Junior Middle School
14. Portage Trail Community School
15. Rockcliffe Middle School
16. Thorncliffe Park Public School
17. Valley Park Middle School
18. West Humber Collegiate Institute
19. York Humber High School
20. Central Etobicoke High School
21. Dixon Grove Junior Middle School
22. Kipling Collegiate Institute

Learning Centre 2 - Karen Falconer

1. Beverley Heights Middle School
2. Brookview Middle School
3. C W Jefferys Collegiate Institute
4. Chalkfarm Public School
5. Chester Le Junior Public School
6. Downsview Secondary School
7. Fairglen Junior Public School
8. Glamorgan Junior Public School
9. Gracedale Public School
10. Highland Heights
11. Lescon Public School
12. Northview Heights Secondary School
13. Oakdale Park Middle School
14. O'Connor Public School
15. Pauline Johnson Junior Public School
16. Topcliff Public School
17. Victoria Park Collegiate Institute
18. Victoria Village Public School
19. Westview Centennial Secondary School

Learning Centre 3- Roula Anastasakos

1. Alexander Stirling Public School
2. Bendale Business and Technical Institute
3. Cedar Drive Junior Public School
4. Cedarbrae Collegiate Institute
5. Charles Gordon Senior Public School
6. Cornell Junior Public School
7. Corvette Junior Public School
8. Eastview Public School
9. John McCrae Public School
10. Joseph Brant PS
11. Lester B Pearson Collegiate Institute
12. Mason Road Junior Public School
13. Oakridge Junior Public School
14. Warden Avenue Public School
15. West Hill Collegiate Institute
16. Willow Park Junior Public School
17. Winston Churchill Collegiate Institute
18. Woburn Junior Public School
19. Military Trail Public School

Learning Centre 4 - Sandy Spyropoulos

1. Alexander Muir/Gladstone Ave Junior & Snr School
2. Carleton Village Junior and Senior Sports and Wellness Academy
3. Central Technical School
4. D.A Morrison Middle School
5. Duke of Connaught Junior and Senior School
6. Lord Dufferin Junior and Senior PS
7. Monarch Park Collegiate Institute
8. Nelson Mandela Park Public School
9. Parkdale Collegiate Institute
10. Queen Alexandra Middle School
11. Queen Victoria Public School
12. Rose Avenue Junior Public School
13. Ryerson Community School
14. Secord Elementary School
15. Sprucecourt Public School
16. Wilkinson Junior Public School
17. Winchester Junior and Secondary School

Summer 2018 Focus on Youth Toronto-Organizations with Student Employees	TDSB School	Street Address	City	Postal Code
Academy of Strength, Learning & Conditioning	Joseph Brant SPS	270 Manse Road	West Hill	M1E 3V4
Albion Neighbourhood Services	Greenholme JMS	10 Jamestown Crescent	Etobicoke	M9V 3M5
Albion Neighbourhood Services	John D. Parker	202 Mount Olive Drive	Etobicoke	M9V 3Z5
Alexandra Park Community Centre		105 Grange Court	Toronto	M5T 2J6
Applegrove Community Complex	Duke of Connaught JSPS	70 Woodfield Road	Toronto	M4L 2W6
Believe to Achieve		160 Chalkfarm Drive	North York	M3L 2J1
Big League Book Club	Humewood Community Scho	15 Cherrywood Avenue	York	M6C 2X4
Black Creek Community Farm		4929 Jane St.	North York	M3N 2K8
Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough	Corvette Jr. PS	30 Corvette Avenue	Scarborough	M1K 3G2
Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough	Eastview JPS	20 Waldox Street	West Hill	M1E 2E5
Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough		110 Mornelle Court	Scarborough	M1E 4R1
Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough - Early Years		4218 Lawrence Ave. E.	Scarborough	M1E 4X9
Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough - Early Years		110 Mornelle Court	Scarborough	M1E 4R1
Braeburn Neighbourhood Place Inc.	Thistletown CI	20 Fordwich Crescent	Etobicoke	M9W 2T4
Cabbagetown Youth Centre	Rose Avenue	675 Ontario Street	Toronto	M4X 1N4
Cabbagetown Youth Centre	Ryerson	96 Denison Avenue	Toronto	M5T 1E4
Cabbagetown Youth Centre	L'Amoreaux CI	2501 Bridletowne Circle	Agincourt	M1W 2K1
Cabbagetown Youth Centre	Rosedale Heights	711 Bloor Street East	Toronto	M4W 1J4
Cabbagetown Youth Centre	Stephen Leacock CI	2450 Birchmount Road	Agincourt	M1T 2M5
Cabbagetown Youth Centre (Evening)	Rosedale Heights	711 Bloor Street East	Toronto	M4W 1J4
Cabbagetown Youth Centre - Clubhouse		2 Lancaster Avenue	Toronto	M4X 1C1
Cabbagetown Youth Centre (Bese Saka)	Greenholme JMS	10 Jamestown Crescent	Etobicoke	M9V 3M5
Cabbagetown Youth Centre Basketball (Day)	Rosedale Heights	711 Bloor Street East	Toronto	M4W 1J4
Catholic Cross Cultural Services	Highbrook Learning Centre	39 Highbrook Drive	Toronto	M1P 3L2
Centre for Immigrant & Community Services		2330 Midland Avenue	Scarborough	M1S 5G5
Community Action Resource Centre in Toronto	Keelestdale JPS	200 Bicknell Avenue	York	M6M 4G9
Culturelink		2340 Dundas Street West	Toronto	M6P 4A9
Dovercourt Boys' & Girls' Club	Carleton Village JSPS	315 Osler Street	Toronto	M6N 2Z4
Dovercourt Boys' & Girls' Club	Perth Avenue JS	14 Ruskin Avenue	Toronto	M6P 3P8
Foodshare	Bendale CI	1555 Midland Avenue	Scarborough	M1P 3C1
Foodshare	Eastdale CI	701 Gerrard Street East	Toronto	M4M 1Y4
Foodshare	Heydon Park SS	70 D'Arcy Street	Toronto	M5T 1K1
Harriet Tubman Community Organization	Sir John A MacDonald CI	2300 Pharmacy Avenue	Agincourt	M1W 1H8
Jamaican Canadian Association (CAFCAN)		995 Arrow Rd.	Toronto	M9M 2Z5
Just B Graphic	Westview Centennial SS	755 Oakdale Road	North York	M3N 1W7
Kiwanis Club Reading Recovery	Lord Dufferin JSPS	350 Parliament Street	Toronto	M5A 2Z7
Lakeshore Area Multi-Services Project (LAMP)	Second Street JMS	71 Second Street	Etobicoke	M8V 2X4
Light Your Life	George Harvey CI	1700 Keele Street	York	M6M 3W5

Summer 2018 Focus on Youth Toronto-Organizations with Student Employees	TDSB School	Street Address	City	Postal Code
Midaynta Community Services	Elmbank JMS	10 Pittsboro Drive	Etobicoke	M9V 3R4
Motion Volleyball Association	Woburn CI	2222 Ellesmere Road	Scarborough	M1G 3M3
Native Child & Family Services of Toronto	Eastview JPS	20 Waldock Street	West Hill	M1E 2E5
North York Community House	Joyce PS	26 Joyce Parkway	North York	M6B 2S9
Phillips Sports & Academic Summer Camp	A.Y. Jackson SS	50 Francine Drive	North York	M2H 2G6
Regent Park Music	Nelson Mandela Park	440 Shuter Street	Toronto	M5A 1X6
Regesh Family & Child Services	R.H. King	3800 St Clair Avenue East	Scarborough	M1M 1V3
Rexdale Community Health Centre		7 Capri Road	Etobicoke	M9B 6B9
San Romanoway Revitalization Association	Westview Centennial SS	755 Oakdale Road	North York	M3N 1W7
Shiloh Foundation	George Harvey CI	1700 Keele Street	York	M6M 3W5
St. Alban's Boys & Girls Club of Mount Dennis		99 Humber blvd. south	York	M6N 2H4
St. Alban's Boys and Girls Club of Mount Dennis	York Humber HS	100 Emmett Avenue	York	M6M 2E6
St. Alban's Boys and Girls Club of Mount Dennis	John Polanyi CI	640 Lawrence Avenue West	North York	M6A 1B1
Success Beyond Limits		88 The Pond Rd	North York	M3J 2S5
Syme Woolner Neighbourhood & Family Centre	George Syme CS	69 Pritchard Avenue	York	M6N 1T6
TB West Community Services	Amesbury MS	201 Gracefield Avenue	North York	M6L 1L7
The PACT Urban Peace Program	John Polanyi CI	640 Lawrence Avenue West	North York	M6A 1B1
The PACT Urban Peace Program	Thistletown CI	20 Fordwich Crescent	Etobicoke	M9W 2T4
Thornccliffe Neighbourhood Services	Thornccliffe Park PS	80 Thornccliffe Park Drive	East York	M4H 1K3
Thornccliffe Neighbourhood Services	Valley Park MS	130 Overlea Boulevard	Don Mills	M3C 1B2
Thornccliffe Park Women's Committee		48 Thornccliffe Park Drive	East York	M4H 1J7
Tides Canada (Summerlunch +)	Marc Garneau CI	135 Overlea Boulevard	East York	M3C 1B3
Toronto Community Housing - Adelaide		501 Adelaide East	Toronto	M5A 4K1
Toronto Community Housing - Brahms		5 Brahms Avenue	North York	M2H 1H2
Toronto Community Housing - Cooper Mills		4020 Dundast St West	York	M6S 4W6
Toronto Community Housing - Dan Leckie		150 Dan Leckie Way	Toronto	M5V 0E3
Toronto Community Housing - East Mall		609 The East Mall	Etobicoke	M9B 4A9
Toronto Community Housing - Glamorgan		6 Glamorgan Avenue	Scarborough	M1P 2M7
Toronto Community Housing - Glendower	Highland Heights JPS	35 Glendower Circuit	Agincourt	M1T 2Z3
Toronto Community Housing - Gordonridge		20 Gordonridge Place	Scarborough	M1K 4H6
Toronto Community Housing - Greenbrae		55 Greenbrae Circuit	Scarborough	M1H 1R2
Toronto Community Housing - Humberline		10 Humberline Place	Etobicoke	M9W 6J5
Toronto Community Housing - Islington, St. Andrews		2063 Islington Ave	Etobicoke	M9P 2R7
Toronto Community Housing - Jamestown		232 Jamestown Crescent	Etobicoke	M9V 1N4
Toronto Community Housing - Kennedy		675 Kennedy Rd	Scarborough	M1K 2B8
Toronto Community Housing - Kingston/Galloway		4301 Kingston Road	Scarborough	M1E 2M9
Toronto Community Housing - Lawrence Heights	Amesbury MS	201 Gracefield Avenue	North York	M6L 1L7
Toronto Community Housing - Markham/Eglinton		3190 Kingston Road	Scarborough	M1M 1P5

Appendix B

Summer 2018 Focus on Youth Toronto-Organizations with Student Employees	TDSB School	Street Address	City	Postal Code
Toronto Community Housing - Markham/Ellesmere		2190 Ellesmere Road	Scarborough	M1G 3M5
Toronto Community Housing - Mc Cowan		400 McCowan Road	Scarborough	M1J 1J5
Toronto Community Housing - Parma		90 Parma Court	North York	M4A 1A6
Toronto Community Housing - Pelham	Indian Road Crescent JPS	285 Indian Road Crescent	Toronto	M6P 2G8
Toronto Community Housing - Queens Plate		920 Queens Plate Drive	Etobicoke	M9W 7J9
Toronto Community Housing - Rowntree		2765 Islington Avenue	Etobicoke	M9V 2R2
Toronto Community Housing - Scarlettwoods		58 Waterton Road	Etobicoke	M9P 2R1
Toronto Community Housing - Shoreham	Driftwood PS	265 Driftwood Avenue	North York	M3N 2N6
Toronto Community Housing - Swansea Mews		21 Windermere Avenue	Toronto	M6S 4V4
Toronto Community Housing - Teesdale		30 Teesdale Place	Scarborough	M1L 1L3
Toronto Community Housing - Trethewey		720 Trethewey Drive	North York	M6M 5A5
Toronto Community Housing - Trimbee		30 Denarda Street	York	M6M 5C3
Toronto Community Housing - Victoria Park		2743 Victoria Park Ave	Scarborough	M1T 1G7
Toronto Community Housing - Weston Towers		3101 Weston Road	North York	M9M 2Z9
Trinity Theatre Toronto		34 Parkview Ave	North York	M2N 3Y2
Trust 15	North Kipling JMS	2 Rowntree Road	Etobicoke	M9V 5C7
Unity Charity	Lester B. Pearson CI	150 Tapscott Road	Scarborough	M1B 2L2
Valley Park Go Green Cricket	Valley Park MS	130 Overlea Boulevard	Don Mills	M3C 1B2
Vision United - St. Andrews Presbyterian Church	Dixon Grove PS	315 The Westway	Etobicoke	M9R 1H1
Warden Woods Community Centre	Taylor Creek PS	644 Warden Avenue	Scarborough	M1L 3Z3
Woodgreen Community Services - Pape	Monarch Park CI	1 Hanson Street	Toronto	M4J 1G6
Yonge Street Mission - summer camp		270 Gerrard Street East	Toronto	M5A 2G4
Youth Association for Academics, Athletics and Character Education (YAAACE)	C.W. Jefferys CI	340 Sentinel Road	North York	M3J 1T9