

May 25, 2021

Dear Economic & Community Development Committee,

I was contacted by Theresa Pastore, Executive Director of Parents Engaged in Education (PEE) approximately 5 years ago. Since that time, Nelson has been not only been a donor but a huge supporter of PEE.

The support that Theresa and her team bring to these students and families is invaluable. They provide very much needed educational services and products to families that live in some of the lowest socio-economic developed areas of the GTA.

The work that is being undertaken by PEE is truly bettering society, giving young people access to learning materials that they otherwise would not be able to afford. We truly believe that this could and no doubt will alter their socio-economic life trajectory. Also, the safe space that their centre provides allows for students to feel safe without distraction so they can engage in learning and that engagement will drive educational involvement and outcomes.

Studies have shown that kids from low socio-economic backgrounds who have little or lesser access to education, cost society more over their life span. Alternatively, altering that trajectory reduces their cost with requirement on lower health cost, drastically reduced cost on likelihood of incarceration, much higher earnings profiles and as a result, higher tax paying contributions to society. This cause is one that cannot be underestimated.

Although corporate partnerships are a huge provider for PEE, it is just not enough for them to continue to provide the much needed support that they give to these communities.

Thank you for your time and I truly hope you will see through to providing the additional support that Parents Engaged in Education is requiring.

Sincerely,



Steve Brown
President & CEO