

FYI

Ministry of Education

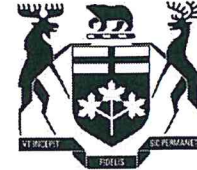
Minister

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Toronto ON M7A 1L2

Ministère de l'Éducation

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Ontario

JAN 15 2018

Ms. Angela Kennedy
Chair
Toronto Catholic District School Board
80 Sheppard Avenue East
Toronto ON M2N 6E8

Dear Ms. Kennedy,

Thank you for your letter requesting an increase in funding for the Focus on Youth (FOY) program. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Please let me begin by stating how much the Ministry of Education appreciates the knowledge, passion and dedication of the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) to the well-being and success of young people and their families.

The ministry recognizes that since the program's inception, TCDSB has successfully supported thousands of young people through the FOY program. The partnerships that your school board has forged with non-profit community organizations demonstrate the importance of school and community partnerships in helping students succeed in school and in their community.

The ministry acknowledges the value of providing recreational experiences and employment opportunities for young people, as the TCDSB has done. We also recognize that disadvantaged students and their families may need more supports than others. This is why the ministry has increased funding to the FOY program since 2007 with an annual investment now reaching \$8 million.

My staff will be in contact with TCDSB program staff in response to your funding request to set up a meeting. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to achieving our shared vision for education.

Sincerely,

Mitzie Hunter, MBA
Minister