Appendix B

FILIPINO-CANADIAN PARENTS ASSOCIATION IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION (FCPACE)

April 25, 2018

Mr. Rory McGuckin
Director
Toronto Catholic District School Board
Catholic Education Centre
80 Sheppard Avenue East, North York
Toronto, Ontario

Dear Mr. R. McGuckin,

November 8, 2017 was a historic day for the Filipino community particularly in the City of Toronto. On this day, the City of Toronto council passed the motion declaring the month of June as a Filipino Heritage Month annually. It is the first in Canada. It is time to recognize and acknowledge the many contributions that Filipinos have contributed to the fabric of Canada
On behalf of the Filipino-Canadian Parents Association in Catholic Education (FCPACE), I write to you to support the call to also declare the month of June as Filipino Heritage Month in the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB). Specifically, we request that TCDSB celebrate June 12 of every year (or the Monday following if June 12 falls on a week-end).

You probably know that a great majority of the TCDSB student population is of Filipino origin. The Philippines is the only Christian country in Asia and more than 80% are Roman Catholic. The Philippines is also the top source of temporary foreign workers by Canada. The Filipino community is the fourth largest diverse group in Canada and in Toronto (considering that Filipinos come from one country as opposed to the other diverse groups). There are about 160,000 people of Filipino origin in Toronto.

In this light, the Filipino-Canadian Parents Association in Catholic Education (FCPACE) requests that TCDSB declare June as a Filipino Heritage Month and June 12 be designated as a special day for the students of Filipino origin. June 12 is especially significant for the Filipino community because it is the Independence Day of the Philippines.

Congratulations as well. I am happy that the TCDSB has implemented the PASSOC project. Celebrating the Filipino Heritage in the TDCSB would greatly improve the continuing efforts to engage and inspire the parents and students of Filipino origin in identifying and understanding their roots, culture and heritage.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact me at 6474778722 (home) or 4163208703 (mobile).

Mabuhay and God bless,

Paulina Corpuz
President, Filipino-Canadian Parents Association in Catholic Education (FCPACE)

cc:
Board Trustee Chair Barbara Poplawski; Trustee Garry Tanuan, Philippine Consulate General Rosalita S. Prospero

*Formed in October 2013, the **Filipino-Canadian Parents Association in Catholic Education (FCPACE) is** a community based organization of parents, guardians and supporters whose aims are to organize and engage parents to support Catholic Education and improve student achievement and success.*