



## York Region Presidents' Council

### **Meeting #8**

**Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2005 @ R.H.H.S.**

*Minutes Compiled by Husein Panju – Minister of Records*

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#### **SKILLBUILDING/SECURITY APPLICATIONS**

Prime Minister Becky Walker began this meeting by reminding the Council that the applications for Skillbuilders are due on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2005, and the Security applications will be due on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

#### **COLLECTING**

She then reminded the Council that they are still collecting junk mail (for sponsors) as well as Student Council Constitutions and event reports (to assist with the compilation of the Student Council Manual). She also informed the council that she can supply a template for writing event reports if requested.

#### **CHOCOLATE**

Mars bars were sold at a price of \$0.75 each or \$13 for 20 bars.

#### **RACE RELATIONS CONFERENCE**

As a representative of the Race Relations Advisory Committee, Becky Walker invited suggestions for a race relations conference to be conducted in the future.

- Richmond Hill H.S. thought that there should be culture presentations as well as awareness of the different customs of each race
- Thornlea S.S. brought forth the idea that the delegates from the conference be involved in the production of an assembly when they return to their respective schools to encourage the spread of their new-found enlightenment.
- Both Richmond Hill H.S. and Maple H.S. have multicultural clubs and believed that these organizations would be willing to send delegates to such a conference
- Many schools present seemed to have the common problem of unspoken segregation between the different races and believe that this problem should be brought up at this conference.

## **STREET KIDS INTERNATIONAL**

Ms. Emma Rooney, who is a representative from Street Kids International, came to do a presentation to the Council. Street Kids International is a non-profit organization which focuses on health, work, human rights and many other areas that concern children around the world. This group performs classroom workshops, speaks at assemblies and provides internships for promising students. Their most recent activity is the “Tent-Up” challenge, which requires students to build the best shelter that they can using only recycled materials. They can collect sponsors to take part in this event and all funds will go towards efforts to provide better working conditions in Eastern and Southern Africa.

## **SHARING**

### *Tsunami Fundraising*

- Dr. G.W. Williams S.S. encouraged students to donate for the Tsunami Relief Fund by installing an optional “dollar-a-day” program, where students were encouraged to donate one dollar each day for a week
- Vaughan S.S. and Westmount C.I. performed coin drives
- Dr. G.W. Williams S.S. chose to raise the majority of their money in a 1 hour blitz, where they went class to class, asking for donations
- Westmount C.I. teamed up with Free the Children and for every dollar that the school raised, the organization gave ten dollars for medical supplies
- Thornlea S.S. sold ribbons and smoothies and ran a 3-on-3 basketball tournament
- Trudeau raffled off some prizes (including a mini-fridge)
- Thornhill S.S. held song requests in their cafeteria with a cost of \$2 per request
- Maple H.S. sold paper bricks on which students could write their names. These bricks were put up on the walls of the school in the shape of a house.
- Langstaff S.S. held a silent auction in which students’ artwork was sold. They also sold hot chocolate, had a “hat day” and held a “beauty salon” in the school

### *Dances*

- Markham D.H.S. held their winter masquerade at the Moonlight Banquet Hall
- Langstaff S.S. will be using a Monte Carlo theme at their next Semi-Formal. For the first hour, a fake casino will be occupying the dance floor in which attendees can play casino-type games. There will also be a discount if the students are wearing black and white
- Richmond Hill H.S. recommended having proms at golf courses because of the great location and scenery
- Most schools agreed that having a dance on a boat is generally a bad idea for reasons such as the temperature, the food, the inability to leave, etc.
- A key point was noted that although having proms at a hotel may seem like a good idea, the commute may constrain potential attendees and even potential chaperones

### *Fundraisers*

- Richmond Hill H.S., Markham D.H.S., Pierre Elliot Trudeau H.S. and Westmount C.I. each participate in “iflurtz”: a fun matchmaking service
- Westmount H.S. successfully held a “battle of the bands.” There was a \$5 entrance fee for the bands (who also had to sign contracts to prevent any damage to the equipment) and a \$4 fee for the audience members. Free refreshments were available.
- Richmond Hill H.S. has held similar events such as “Star Search” and “Coffeehouse”: a jazz-acoustic themed assembly
- Markham D.H.S. raised over \$8000 for the Stephen Lewis Foundation by holding a 5-kilometre run.