



York Region Presidents' Council

Meeting # 2

Wednesday, October 5th, 2005 @ R.H.H.S., 7pm

Minutes Compiled by Matthew Colphon – Minister of Records

Schools Represented: Aurora H.S.; Dr. G.W. Williams S.S.; Dr. J.M. Denison S.S.; Emily Carr S.S.; Langstaff S.S.; Maple H.S.; Markham D.H.S.; Milliken Mills H.S.; Pierre Elliot Trudeau H.S.; Richmond Hill H.S.; Thornlea S.S.; Vaughan S.S.; Westmount C.I.; Woodbridge College

- 1) The meeting commenced with a presentation from World Vision.

Kevin Chan, a representative from World Vision Canada attended the YRPC meeting on October 5, 2005. This is a non-profit organization which had 25,000 staff members world wide. Although this organization is based within Christianity, it offers relief to persons of all religions in disaster zones such as those found after the tsunami, as well as providing aid to struggling third world communities. During the presentation, Mr. Chan was marketing the 30-hour famine, an event which is run nationally during April 1-2 as a fundraiser for world vision's causes. During this event participants abstain from any solid food for a full 30 hours to simulate the conditions of living in a third world country. Currently, about 50% of York Region's high schools participate in the famine, some of which raise upwards of \$10,000 during the event and involve over 400 students in each school. For more information about the famine or world vision, please contact Kevin Chan at kevin_chan@worldvision.ca or go to www.famine.ca.

- 2) John Havercroft, the Superintendent of Markham-Stouffville schools, speaks.

Mr. Havercroft, who appeared at the meeting as a Board liaison to the council and as a representative for the York Region Character Committee, spoke about the importance of showing good character. He also appeared in search of 2 student representatives for the character committee as well as student representatives to a character conference being held on December 2, 2005. For more information on these opportunities or if you have any general inquiries of the Board, do not hesitate to contact Mr. Havercroft at John.Havercroft@yrdsb.edu.on.ca.

- 3) Presentation by the iRealize Campaign.

The iRealize campaign is a fundraising program which uses orange bracelets similar to the Live Strong ones in order to promote awareness for charities. Interested schools would sell packages containing one of these bracelets and a matching key tag for \$2 a piece, for a profit of \$1, provided that a minimum of 50% of the profit is given to a charitable cause of the school's choice (the other 50% may be spent at the discretion of the school). The organization claims that on average its bracelets sell at a rate of 1.25 bracelets/student at the school, making an effective fundraiser. For more information about the campaign or about ordering materials, please view their website at www.irealizecampaign.org, call 1-866-473-2549 or email join@iRealizecampaign.org.

- 4) Subministries have been created to aid executive members with larger tasks and to promote involvement in YRPC. Subministry forms are available for anyone who is interested in helping with the YRPC council but is not part of the executive. For more information please contact YRPC Prime Minister Tania Kolesnik at yrpcpm@hotmail.com.
- 5) The applications for security and skillbuilding (group leaders) for YRPC's conference positions will be available next meeting.
- 6) Husein Panju, YRDSB Student Trustee, speaks:

The role of the Student Trustee is to act as a liaison between the students of the Region and the Board. It is their job to represent the needs of all students and ensure that their voices are heard. YRPC is an excellent venue to do so as it is comprised of a diverse group of students from all over York Region. Please feel free to email trustees with any concerns or ideas, requests for appearance at student council meetings, or if you need to talk to the Board of Education.

Please visit <http://www.studenttrustee.yrdsb.edu.on.ca> for more information on the Student Trustees. Questions or comments regarding student trustees can be sent to either Husein Panju (husein.panju@yrdsb.edu.on.ca) or Abbas Lakha (abbas.lakha@yrdsb.edu.on.ca).

7) Sharing

Sharing is a time during YRPC meetings which representatives from each school's Student Councils have the opportunity to share upcoming events, recent events, problems encountered with their councils, and helpful suggestions. Representatives may also address the YRPC as a whole as well as the student trustees at this time.

Dr. J.M. Denison S.S.

-“Wrecking Day”, a grade 9 welcome day held onsite at their school was a success

-Is planning to run niTO (nines in Toronto) which is a grade 9 welcome event involving approximately 200 students who will attend a Blue Jays game as a school group.

-Is having a dance at the end of October, and recommend Wayne Jones DJ (905-775-2915) due to their impressive pricing.

Markham D.H.S.

-Had a successful grade 9 welcome day at Woodland Trails scout camp. Highly recommend the Barbeque Gourmet to schools planning to have barbeques.

(www.BBQGourmet.com)

Milliken Mills H.S.

-Inquired as to whether there was a policy stating that police had to be at dances instead of a private security force.

Thornlea S.S.

-Inquired about possible spirit day events. Suggestions of a “Bling Bling” dress up day and formal day were given.

Westmount C.I.

-Had a successful grade 9 day and recommend camp Green Acres.

-Are hosting speaker Andy Thibodeau at their next assembly.

Thank you again to all schools that attended this meeting. For any inquiries about the York Region President's Council please contact Tania Kolesnik, YRPC Prime Minister, at yrcpm@hotmail.com.