

support every child
reach every student

accompagner chaque enfant
appuyer chaque élève

2016-17 Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants

School Councils

February 2016

PARENTS REACHING OUT (PRO) GRANTS

What are Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants?

PRO Grants are designed to support parents in identifying barriers to parent engagement in their own community and to find local solutions to involve more parents in support of student achievement and well-being.

There are two types of PRO Grants:

- 1) **PRO Grants for School Councils** support projects that focus on engaging parents within their school community who may experience challenges in becoming involved in their children's learning.
- 2) **PRO Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects** enhance parent engagement to support student achievement and well-being in a region of the province or at the provincial level.

Visit the ministry website at www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/reaching.HTML for more information on PRO Grants for School Councils and Regional/Provincial Projects.

WHAT KIND OF PROJECTS CAN BE FUNDED THROUGH PRO GRANTS?

Here are some project ideas!

- Workshops for parents to inspire their children to learn and love math
- Parent resources and workshops on mental health and well-being, cyber bullying and healthy living
- Programs to support Aboriginal learners and their families
- Information sessions on how parents can support student learning at home and at school
- Parent resources and tools in multiple languages

What school council projects were funded in the 2015-16 cycle?

English: http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/progrants_schools2015.pdf

French: http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/fr_progrants_schools2015.pdf

For examples of promising practices, visit

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/videos.html>.

APPLY NOW FOR A PRO GRANT!

How to apply for a PRO Grant for School Councils:

- 1) Visit the ministry website at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/schools.html> to learn more!
- 2) If applying for a school council grant for the first time, please [register online](#) at: <https://goo.gl/im5CWJ>.
- 3) Once you have registered, access the online application at: <http://education.factorial.ca>.
- 4) Work with your school council to develop your parent engagement project, including a budget proposal.
- 5) Complete and submit your application online.

2016-17 PRO Grant applications are open until **May 29, 2016, 11:59 P.M. EST.**

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO APPLY

Who may apply?

- School councils of publicly-funded district school boards in Ontario.

What types of projects are eligible for funding?

- PRO Grants for School Councils are intended to support projects that help identify and remove barriers to parent engagement that may prevent some parents from fully participating in their children's learning.
- School councils are encouraged to work with their district school board's Parent Involvement Committee and other school councils to identify potential project opportunities.
- School councils may develop proposals individually, with other school councils, or with other groups in the school or in the community.
- When working in partnership with other school councils, each school council must submit its own application. Each school council is eligible for a maximum amount of \$1,000.
- There is an opportunity in the application form to indicate a partnering school.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT WHEN DEVELOPING YOUR PROPOSAL

Your proposal must focus on informing or engaging parents in support of student achievement and well-being. Projects may fall under the following categories:

- **Communication** – may include translation of documents into multiple/other languages, providing parents with information related to curriculum or other school-based initiatives
- **Geography** – reaching parents living in a larger or remote geographic area
- **Parents New to the System** – parents who have a child in school for the first time, have recently moved into the area, or have recently arrived as newcomers to Ontario
- **Overcoming Local Barriers** – identifying local barriers to parent engagement and finding local solutions to support more parents get involved
- **Other types of barriers**

Please ensure that you provide a detailed breakdown of your budget proposal.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT WHEN DEVELOPING YOUR PROPOSAL

Special consideration will be given to eligible projects from school councils that:

- 1) did not receive funding for 2015-16,
- 2) promote increased access and awareness of math strategies and resources for parents to support their children's learning at home and at school, or
- 3) support engagement of parents in fostering safe, inclusive and accepting schools.

Alignment with provincial priorities, such as:

- Aboriginal Education Strategy/First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Education Policy Framework
- Character Development
- Early Years
- English Language Learners
- Literacy
- Mathematics and Numeracy
- Healthy Schools
- Safe, Inclusive and Accepting Schools
- Special Education
- Student Success/Learning to 18
- 21st Century Teaching and Learning

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW – BUDGET

School councils may apply for a maximum grant of **\$1,000**.

Ineligible Project Costs or Activities

- Activities that have already taken place
- Payment to staff
- Cost of police background check
- Purchase of goods and services for which the Ministry provides funding
- Student-focused activities
- Capital items
- Portable/handheld devices such as tablets or laptops, unless devices are to be used as part of a parent lending library and the cost does not exceed 50% of the approved grant
- Computer software, online subscriptions, voice messaging systems, website maintenance, or software applications
- Entertainment activities
- Art mural projects, field trips
- School signs, announcement boards/screens
- Landscaping, creation or equipping of outdoor classrooms
- Refreshments **exceeding 15%** of the approved funding
- Advertising and promotion **exceeding 5%** of the approved funding
- Prizes or incentives to parents and/or students
- Lessons for parents
- Fundraising events

Grant approval is subject to the number of eligible applications received by the Ministry and available funding.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I SUBMIT MY APPLICATION?

The grants will be awarded through a provincial review process. Applicants will be notified by email about the results of their application.

If approved, school councils will:

- Be responsible for carrying out their project as outlined in the application
- Be required to implement their projects by **June 30, 2017**.
- Be required to complete a final report outlining project activities and expenditures by **July 15, 2017**.

QUESTIONS: WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

Technical Support

SmartSimple Technical Support toll-free at 1-866-239-0991 or by email at support@smartsimple.com

Questions about PRO Grants

Please contact your Regional Office:

Barrie	(705) 725-7627	1-800-471-0713
London	(519) 667-1440	1-800-265-4221
Ottawa	(613) 225-9210	1-800-267-1067
Sudbury-North Bay	(705) 474-7210	1-800-461-9570
Thunder Bay	(807) 474-2980	1-800-465-5020
Toronto & Area	(416) 212-0954	1-800-268-5755

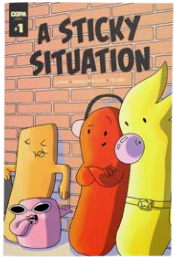
Parent and Community Engagement Office: PRO@ontario.ca

IN OTHER NEWS...NEW RESOURCES FOR PARENTS!



Inspiring Your Child to Learn and Love Math

http://www.ontariodirectors.ca/parent_engagement-math/en/index.htm



We All Belong - A Sticky Situation

<https://infocopa.com/products/63-a-sticky-situation-new-?locale=en>



A Circle of Caring – A Multimedia Tool Kit for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Families, and Schools

<http://copahabitat.ca/en>