

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects 2013-2014

Organization	Project Title	Project Description	Amount
Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board	ALCDSB Building Community	A series of events and activities for parents will be offered to enhance relationships and communication between parents and schools. Parents will learn more about bullying prevention, literacy and numeracy, use of technology in schools, access to extracurricular activities, and EQAO.	\$ 20,000
Association for Bright Children of Ontario - Peel Chapter	Two-day Parent Conference	A two-day conference for parents, students and teaching professionals will be held in Fall 2013, for the province-wide membership of ABC Ontario. The conference will provide parents, students and stakeholders in the gifted community with the opportunity to learn about current research and information across a wide range of topics.	\$ 13,000
Black Creek Community Health Centre	Parent Leadership Series: Addressing The Roots of Bullying and Conflict	A workshop series will engage parents in a group of eight high-needs elementary schools in Toronto's Jane and Finch neighbourhood as partners in creating safe and inclusive schools to support student success. Parents will attend half-day parent leadership workshops and will be invited to join parent/student dialogue groups with their children. Parent leaders will also attend a two-part advanced parent leadership workshop.	\$ 12,000
Boost Child Abuse Prevention & Intervention	Sister 2 Sister in Partnership with Parents	This project will enhance and strengthen the involvement of parents in their daughters' lives by providing information and skill-building opportunities. Parents and their daughters will be invited to participate in groups that will meet on a regular basis to share experiences, learn about specific topics and discuss a variety of subjects. A parent website will be created to provide information in multiple languages about adolescent development and other relevant issues identified by the girls and their parents.	\$ 15,000
Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Every Family Engaged: Nurturing Resiliency for Life and School Success	The Parent Involvement Committees (PICs) from Huron Perth Catholic School Board, London District Catholic School Board, Brant-Haldimand Norfolk Catholic School Board and St. Clair Catholic School Board, will hold three sessions on Nurturing Resiliency for Life and School Success in the fall, winter and spring, repeated across their regions. Parents will be provided with practical tools for fostering resilience in their children and fostering a home life that supports their children's success and well-being.	\$ 20,000
Canadian Parents for French (Ontario)	CPF Ontario Workshops/Webinars	Parents as Partners workshops/webinars will be developed and available to all parents with children in Core French, Extended French and French Immersion. The workshops will be promoted and implemented within Upper Canada District School Board, the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario, Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board and Limestone District School Board, and webinars will be provided for parents across the province. The workshops and webinars will cover differentiated learning, strategies to support children's learning of French, taking a leadership role in one's community, and the new French as a Second Language curriculum.	\$ 15,000
Career Education Council	Hot Jobs - Work Here	Parents will be invited to learn from approximately 50 businesses about their current and future employment needs. Parents will learn more about varied opportunities for youth in growth sectors in the Guelph/Wellington area, including Advanced Manufacturing, Agri-Food and Innovation, Environmental Technologies and Green Energy, Information and Communication Technology, and Health and Wellness, and varied career and occupational pathways. Parents will also be provided with resources to help their children make informed career decisions.	\$ 6,000

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects 2013-2014

Organization	Project Title	Project Description	Amount
Centre for Information & Community Services	Active Parents Involvement	The project will encourage and support established parents to mentor and guide parents who are newcomers to Ontario about becoming involved in their children's learning. Information sessions will be provided for mentors, and parents who are newcomers will be offered information about the Ontario education system, school culture, expectations of parents and the value of their involvement. Information sessions, mentoring and practicums will be offered separately and jointly to create opportunities for personal reflection, experience sharing and putting learning into practice.	\$ 7,500
Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children, Western University	Supporting Parent & School Communication through an Electronic Community of Practice	A series of three webinars on the topics of cyber-bullying, media violence and youth mental health will be held. The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health's (CAMH) Centre for Prevention Science researchers will moderate the webinars and evaluate the process. Researchers and program developers at CAMH will collate a resource package consisting of recommendations, promising practices, barriers and strategies for the use of technology in parent knowledge mobilization and dialogue for presentation at a national conference in London, Ontario. Parents will be invited to co-present at the conference and bring the template back to their own school district.	\$ 20,000
Children's Mental Health Services Hastings and Prince Edward Counties	21st Century Learning: Get Connected	Children's Mental Health Services Hastings and Prince Edward Counties, in collaboration with the Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board, will deliver a speaker series that brings 21st century learning resources and perspectives to a community with identified geographical barriers. The series will include Ontario's E-Learning Resources, Blended Learning initiatives, Cyber-Bullying Prevention, Online Safety and Social Networking. The project will also include a parent-developed manual providing 21st century learning resources, an online networking forum (Twitter-based) raising regional awareness about 21st century learning, and the development of a community-based lending library to support parent engagement in their children's education.	\$ 19,000
Community Builders	Building a network of skilled parent leaders for inclusive schools and student success	This initiative will help foster school environments which are inclusive and where instances of conflict are addressed through a whole-school approach. It will build on the parent leadership development initiative started in the Toronto District School Board in the previous school year offering introductory Parent Workshops, Parent/Student Dialogues and Advanced Leadership sessions. Parents who previously participated in the Advanced Leadership sessions will continue developing their leadership and mentoring skills in this year's train-the-trainer leadership workshop to help them reach out and engage more parents in their children's learning.	\$ 10,000
Conoser	Teach 2 Learn In Action	The project will expand a series of workshops with Spanish-speaking parents in order to develop better engagement dynamics among parents, educators and students across various school communities. This initiative will build the leadership capacity of a core group of parents who will then engage more parents to raise awareness about parent engagement among the Spanish-speaking community. The workshops will focus on Parent Engagement in School Communities, How to Navigate the School Boards, and Parent-Student Dynamics. Learning materials will be created for parents by parents of the Spanish-speaking community.	\$ 15,000
Cornwall and Area Family Engagement Steering Committee	Engaging Communities and Families	A steering committee for community and family engagement chaired by the Upper Canada District School Board and the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario will be leading this collaborative project. Community and teacher information sessions will be provided on effective and sustainable outreach and family engagement strategies, best practices and community resources, and how to foster collaboration between school personnel and community partners to support family engagement. Family Fun Kits will be created, and two family engagement sessions will be offered.	\$ 20,000

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects 2013-2014

Organization	Project Title	Project Description	Amount
CUPE Local 4400	Healthy Learning, Healthy Living	The Healthy Learning, Healthy Living (HL2) initiative will promote food literacy and healthy and nutritious eating habits for students, families and communities. This initiative will engage, educate, and build capacity by providing ongoing supports and resources to elementary and secondary school parents. Sessions will be held to introduce the HL2 initiative and symposia will provide updates to parents and engage them in collaborative dialogue. Dinner Date Nights will offer parents the opportunity to visit to teaching kitchens for demonstrations of healthy food cooked and served by students.	\$ 25,000
District School Board of Niagara - Parent Involvement Committee	DSBN PIC Conference 2013 - Plugged in Parents	The PIC will host a regional conference for parents and educators from the board and surrounding school boards within the London Region. Participants will hear from each other about effective parent engagement, meaningful parent partnerships and community engagement, and learn how to implement these strategies within their own communities. Conference participants will leave the conference with a greater understanding of parent engagement and how to increase parent involvement. They will be provided with resources that provide real, meaningful and engaging strategies for parents.	\$ 17,500
Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board - Catholic Parent Involvement Committee	Emerging Technology in our Schools	The PIC will host Emerging Technology in our Schools and Keeping up with our Children. As technology is becoming a large part of children's academic and social lives, parents need to be prepared to both manage and support this learning. Parents will be invited to engage in a variety of workshops over the course of the year with a focus on 21st century literacy. Marketplace/conference activities will provide parents with the opportunity to connect with various businesses and learning organizations within the community and to hear from a guest speaker on how to cope with shifts in technology.	\$ 20,000
Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board - Special Education Advisory Committee	Engaging our Parents on Student Well-Being	The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee will provide a series of four workshops to engage and inform parents of students with special needs about topics such as: mental health awareness; transition planning; student well-being; and Catholic culture and caring community. These sessions will enhance parent engagement and help identify and remove barriers to enable parents to take an active part in their children's success and well-being.	\$ 15,000
Durham Catholic District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Demystifying Youth Mental Health - Phase 2 - Building Parent Capacity	This initiative includes a parent conference and a speaker series. The conference will offer workshops to support parents to proactively raise resilient children. The Demystifying Youth Mental Health speaker series will identify resources and supports on youth mental health for parents. This project will provide accessible resources, tips and knowledge in the areas of parenting around youth mental health issues, coping skills and resiliency. School demographic and geographic considerations will be taken into account to reach out to as many parents as possible.	\$ 11,500
Durham District School Board	Expanding the Focus of Parent Engagement Within the DDSB	Half-day parent engagement symposia will be held for school action teams, consisting of parents, teachers and administrators, to foster continued capacity building and school-community collaboration to enhance parent engagement in their children's learning. The symposia are designed to shift thinking from parent engagement as attending events at school to a perspective of parent engagement that supports learning at home and fosters participation of all parents at multiple entry points.	\$ 20,000

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects 2013-2014

Organization	Project Title	Project Description	Amount
EC Drury School for the Deaf - Parent Involvement Committee	Enhancing Parent Engagement	A weekend conference will be offered for parents of students attending the three Provincial Schools for the Deaf - ECD School in Milton, Sir James Whitney School in Belleville and Robarts School in London - who typically are unable to attend events at the schools due to geographic distance. The parent workshops will focus on a number of topics related to Deaf/Hard of Hearing students, language development (ASL and English), and resources/support available to support parents in Ontario. Parent leaders of the PIC, principals and other staff will work together to host the event, present at workshops and be available for group discussions.	\$ 9,500
Education Academy (The)	J'aime parler français - Parents Engagement in FSL Education	The Education Academy will assist parents of Asian heritage living in the York and Toronto areas who cannot speak French or access French as a Second Language (FSL) resources in their own language to fully support their children's FSL education. The initiative will consist of workshops about Ontario's FSL program and curriculum, an FSL homework help mentoring program, French culture enrichment events, seminars with guest speakers, and the formation of a FSL parent network.	\$ 15,000
Egale Canada	LGBTQ Youth Suicide Prevention Education for Parents	Egale Canada will implement an LGBTQ-specific, suicide prevention, public-awareness and education initiative among school communities, with a particular focus on reaching parents by hosting workshops in partnership with Toronto Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). The workshops will provide information, ideas and activities to help parents identify and manage the risk and protective factors of LGBTQ youth suicide and support their children's success and well-being in school and at home.	\$ 25,000
Eritrean Parents Liaison Council	Annual Parent Conference and Leadership Workshops	A parent conference will provide parents an opportunity to participate in a variety of workshops that will enhance parent engagement in their children's learning both at home and at school. Workshop topics will include: children's mental health and well-being; special education; bullying prevention strategies; children behaviour; understanding middle and high schools; and Homework Help. A series of parent leadership sessions will be offered to parents in order to familiarize them with the Ontario school system and their rights and responsibilities, and to improve their abilities and skills to better support their children's education and well-being.	\$ 15,000
Faculty of Education, York University	Research and Digital Communities On-line in Minority Demographic Schools	This project builds on an ongoing pilot study by the Faculty of Education at York University with school-based, community-referenced research led by parents from linguistically, culturally and racially marginalized communities and their children's classroom teachers. In this phase of the project, the research will be moved on-line by developing a digital discussion forum for the community and beyond. The discussion will bring parents from marginalized communities and teachers together with academic researchers to generate insights around literacy as a priority issue.	\$ 5,000
Friends In Trouble	P.I.E. Parents Involved in Education	This project will increase parent/guardian involvement in their children's education and school-life within a priority neighbourhood of the Toronto District School Board. Through skill development workshops, support groups and leadership opportunities, parents will be able to access resources and work with schools to identify and overcome barriers to supporting their children's achievement and well-being. Parents will be invited to co-facilitate workshops at a conference to share strategies for parent engagement.	\$ 8,500

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects 2013-2014

Organization	Project Title	Project Description	Amount
Ginoogaming First Nation	Support for Parent Participation in their Children's Schools in the Public System	For parents in the Ginoogaming First Nation, lack of transportation to and from their children's schools in Longlac (K-8) and Geraldton (9-12) prevents them from attending school events and being involved in their children's learning. Parents/guardians will be made aware of the benefits of parental involvement in their children's education, and the availability of transportation for them to attend meetings at their children's schools. Parents will be supported to attend monthly school council meetings; parent-teacher nights for report cards; school events; monthly restorative circles for parents and school staff; and a new parents night in Longlac and Geraldton.	\$ 13,000
Greater Essex County District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Parent Engagement Workshops and Conference	The PIC will host a series of workshops and seminars for all parents and guardians in the Greater Essex County area. Workshop topics will include: school councils and PIC; nutrition and fundraising; Gay Straight Alliances (GSAs), homophobia, bullying prevention and safe schools; special education; internet safety; and children's mental health. The PIC will bring parents from the three co-terminus boards together for discussion and sharing of best practices.	\$ 22,000
Halton Catholic District School Board - Multicultural Advisory Newcomer Parent and Community Partners Committee	Diversity Lives and Grows in Halton!	The Multicultural Advisory Newcomer Parent and Community Partners Committee, in partnership with the school board, will host sessions across Burlington, Oakville, Milton and Halton Hills for newcomer parents and families to learn about the many ways they can be more involved with their children's education and how to access community resources. Orientation tools for newcomers to the board will also be enhanced.	\$ 13,000
Halton Catholic District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Halton CPIC Parent Speaker Series	The PIC will organize a speaker series to be held throughout the school year. The speaker series is intended to foster a welcoming environment that provides parents from across the Halton Region with information about a variety of education topics including e-learning, use of social media, special needs, mental health, use of the internet, literacy and numeracy, bullying prevention, and how to raise resilient children. A combination of face-to-face and webinar sessions will allow more parents to attend. Sessions will be recorded and posted on the board website.	\$ 17,500
Halton District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Parent Involvement Conference	The 6th Annual Parent Involvement Conference will feature a keynote speaker, three workshop time slots, community displays, and translators. The conference will provide an opportunity for parents to gather information and knowledge about gifted education, the Special Education Advisory Committee, drug and alcohol education, and community engagement. It will promote PIC membership and provide support to parents already involved in School Councils, Parent-Teacher Associations, and Home and School Associations at their children's schools.	\$ 12,500
Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion	Improving Parent Access and Engagement	The Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion (HCCI) will work with parents to develop a resource, titled School Access and Engagement Guidebook for Parents, on increasing access and engagement opportunities for parents from diverse ethno-cultural/linguistic groups. In addition, parents will receive information and workshops that aim to demystify the school system and enable them to confidently engage with their children's school. The guidebook and workshops will be available in 10 different languages.	\$ 15,000

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects 2013-2014

Organization	Project Title	Project Description	Amount
Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board	Parent Conference	Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board will be hosting a one-day conference to assist parents to help their children and get involved in school related activities. Parents will have the opportunity to network with each other, share ideas and best practices, gather information about a variety of support groups/programs (eco-Schools, Aboriginal partners), and listen to a keynote speaker and workshop presenters on a variety of topics, including Ministry of Education and board initiatives. The conference will include translators to help support parents who are newcomers to be involved in their children's education.	\$ 7,500
Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board	Engaging Parents in Creating Equitable Environments for Student Achievement	In partnership with a local agency, the board will conduct parent outreach sessions to engage and support the parents and families of LGBTQ students of HWDSB. An existing parent resource will be further developed, and another resource will be created that focuses on the key issues such as: understanding how Positive Space Groups function, and how Safe and Caring Schools' Initiatives and the District Mental Health Strategies can support parents. The project will also include a one day interactive parent conference focusing on how to increase student achievement.	\$ 15,000
Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Overcoming Obstacles through Reading	The PIC will host a one and a half day session for parents from across the board with guest speakers who will discuss methods to overcome barriers to learning as well as 21st century literacy. The project will build parents' understanding of the importance of reading, how it is taught in schools and how parents can support reading at home. This event will be open to all HWDSB parents, and will be of particular interest to parents whose children are experiencing challenges.	\$ 15,000
Huron Perth Catholic District School Board - - Parent Involvement Committee	Every Family Engaged: Nurturing Resiliency for Life and School Success	The Parent Involvement Committees (PICs) from Huron Perth Catholic School Board, London District Catholic School Board, Brant-Haldimand Norfolk Catholic School Board and St. Clair Catholic School Board, will hold three sessions on Nurturing Resiliency for Life and School Success in the fall, winter and spring, repeated across their regions. Parents will be provided with practical tools for fostering resilience in their children and fostering a home life that supports their children's success and well-being.	\$ 20,000
Indigenous Education Coalition	Developing Storytelling Literacy	Young mothers and their children in two First Nation communities will meet weekly to learn cultural stories and songs of their community. The meetings will provide opportunities for the children to hear the stories from the storytellers of the community and, as the meetings progress, from their mothers as well. This will allow the stories to be passed on to two distinct generations within the community, developing strength of identity within both of them. These meetings will also provide the young mothers an opportunity to socialize with other young mothers to help develop relationships and will support continued involvement in their children's education.	\$ 20,000
Integration Action for Inclusion	Regional Parent Workshops	Integration Action for Inclusion (IAI) will organize parent workshops in four geographic areas of Ontario. IAI will collaborate with other parent organizations in each community to help ensure the workshops meet local goals and needs. This project will inform parents of strategies and skills, and help support long-term home/school collaboration. Schools will benefit when parents can better engage and participate in discussions about how interventions or assistive technology are planned, and how supports are provided to their children.	\$ 10,000

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects 2013-2014

Organization	Project Title	Project Description	Amount
Kwayaciiwin Education Resource Centre	Parent Conferences	Kwayaciiwin will provide parent conferences to two communities within the Sioux Lookout District that will focus on how parents can support their children's education to improve student attendance, graduation rates, achievement and well-being. Parents will learn about the importance of setting goals and having high expectations for their children and be provided with tips on how they can support their children's learning at home and at school. Parents will also be informed about how to support and prepare their children for their transition to an off-reserve secondary school.	\$ 20,000
Lakehead District School Board	Strengthening Parent Communication	Lakehead District School Board in collaboration with the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) will maximize the operational effectiveness of the board website's navigation to give school councils, the PIC and administration more opportunities to share information with parents to support involvement in their children's learning. Feedback from parents and research from experts in the field of technology will inform changes to the website as well as options for use of social media. Training modules (web conferences or videos) will be developed and delivered to provide support to school councils and school leaders on how to utilize these tools effectively. A session will also be developed that schools can deliver to their parent community to inform them about how to access the information and benefit from its use.	\$ 20,000
Learning Disabilities Association - London Region	From Barriers to Authentic Engagement with Immigrant/Newcomer Populations	This project will focus on parents from two refugee populations in East London - the Nepali and Karen populations. Workshops will focus on increasing parents' comfort in engaging with their children's teachers and their familiarity with the Ontario education system. A parent leadership conference designed to increase parent engagement in support of student achievement and well-being will also be offered. In addition, parents who are already engaged in the education system will share their ideas on how to overcome barriers and engage more parents in their children's education at home and at school.	\$ 15,000
Learning Disabilities Association of Peterborough	Parent-Driven Support Group	Parents will be invited to participate in a workshop series about parent leadership, parent-teacher relationships and assistive technologies, and strategies to facilitate their children's learning at home and at school. After completing the workshops, parents will be invited to join a parent/caregiver support group to meet monthly with more parents to further develop their knowledge and skills and to support each other to help their children develop abilities and improve their success and well-being.	\$ 1,000
Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury	Student Success Through Transitions	This project will engage and support exceptional students and their parents through the transition phases from elementary to secondary, secondary to post-secondary and youth to employment. The project will offer classroom presentations, evening parent and student workshops, and speakers series events to engage parents in support of student success for exceptional students. Parents and families will be better equipped to understand the transition steps and provide support to students through awareness, understanding and strategies for smooth transitioning.	\$ 20,000
Learning Disabilities Association of York Region	Mental Health and Learning Disabilities	In collaboration with the York Region District School Board Inclusive School and Community Services Teacher Liaisons, the Learning Disabilities Association of York Region will work with parents of Cantonese and Mandarin heritage to enhance their understanding of learning disabilities and mental health and how their children are impacted. The project will support parents to develop strategies to increase their children's and their own self esteem, to reduce their levels of stress and anxiety, and to access more services and resources to support their success and well-being. Supports will include a series of seminars, focus groups, workshops, and resource materials in Cantonese and Mandarin.	\$ 20,000

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects 2013-2014

Organization	Project Title	Project Description	Amount
Limestone District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Fostering Digital Citizenship	This initiative will build parents' understanding of the benefits and risks associated with the use of social media in schools and homes, and the tools to teach students the proper use of social media sites. This parent engagement effort will also support professional learning for teachers and administrators in the same focus area to help ensure that students are receiving consistent messages and guidance. The project will consist of two events: one will focus on issues related to social media and communications technology; and the second will focus on the value of effective use of communications technology in promoting student learning and achievement.	\$ 20,000
London District Catholic School Board District School Council - Parent Involvement Committee	Every Family Engaged: Nurturing Resiliency for Life and School Success	The Parent Involvement Committees (PICs) from Huron Perth Catholic School Board, London District Catholic School Board, Brant-Haldimand Norfolk Catholic School Board and St. Clair Catholic School Board, will hold three sessions on Nurturing Resiliency for Life and School Success in the fall, winter and spring, repeated across their regions. Parents will be provided with practical tools for fostering resilience in their children and fostering a home life that supports their children's success and well-being.	\$ 20,000
Muslim Educational Network, Training and Outreach Service	Parent Leader Workshops	This project will reach out to engage more parents in their children's education through training for parent leaders who are familiar with the work of the school boards in their municipalities. The Parent Leaders Program includes workshops designed to develop parents' educational knowledge, personal skills and leadership strategies, covering topics that include: Who is the Toronto District School Board; Common School Procedures; Programs to support students; Provincial Requirements, Testing and the Report Card; Safe Schools; Leadership; and Planning your Involvement. The program will be offered in Etobicoke, York and downtown Toronto.	\$ 10,000
Niagara Catholic District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Through the Years...Integrating New Parents	The PIC will develop: a short video to highlight parent events held by the board, a welcome kit for parents who are new to the board, and a directory of contact information for parents in multiple languages. In addition, video clips will be developed about school councils and PICs, to enhance communications with new families to highlight their important roles as partners in the education of their children, and to improve communication among teachers, schools and parents to support student achievement and well-being.	\$ 22,500
Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Collaborative Partnerships in Achieving Balance - Fostering Healthy Home and School Environments (Parent Series)	In collaboration with the Special Education Advisory Council, the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) will offer parents a speaker series and a learning carousel. Parents and educators will be provided with tips and techniques to help build key skills and a deeper understanding of the many areas that contribute to raising healthy children, including mental health. An information session for school council members, including principals, will provide information about how to maximize the work of the school council and create the optimal conditions for student learning, including increased parental engagement.	\$ 13,500
Northeastern Catholic District School Board	Aboriginal Parent Engagement	The Enhancing Communication Between School and Remote Aboriginal Parents project will foster ongoing communications between Aboriginal parents who are located great distances from their children, and school staff. Travel will be facilitated for board staff to meet with parents, share information on the use of electronic tools, and strengthen communication between parents and teachers to support student success and well-being. The goal is to build relationships with parents who live in remote communities, address their concerns, and link them to teachers and school supports through electronic means to increase parent engagement in their children's education.	\$ 20,000

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects 2013-2014

Organization	Project Title	Project Description	Amount
Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education	OAPCE 75th Anniversary and Conference	The Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education will hold its 75th anniversary annual conference with the theme, When You Thought I Wasn't Looking - The Real Effects of Parent Engagement. The conference will provide parents with the opportunity to learn more about being engaged in school councils, the curriculum, volunteering, and parenting in general to support student achievement and well-being. There will be networking opportunities, a keynote speaker, workshop sessions and display tables. Handouts, resources, tips and references will also be provided.	\$ 22,000
Ontario Federation of Home and School Association	Promoting Parents as Leaders at Home and at School	This project will include: the Ontario Federation of Home and School Association's two-day annual conference; a parent leadership day focusing on effective practices for parent involvement at home and at school; translation of tips sheets and information guides for parents on bridging language and cultures to foster accepting and inclusive schools; and a parent engagement and leadership month. The conference will include a keynote speaker who, along with panel of experts, will address the issues of inclusion and equity and safe and accepting schools.	\$ 22,000
Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres	Alternative Routes	The Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres (OFIFC) will work with 5-6 Alternative Secondary School Program (ASSP) sites within Native Friendship Centres to develop projects that create welcoming school board and school environments for all parents, and that enhance communication between schools and parents to support student success and well-being. The ASSP program was established in 1990 to support the needs of disengaged urban Aboriginal students and to assist them in completing their secondary school diploma. OFIFC and Friendship Centre staff, working with school boards, will deliver projects that bring parents/guardians into the Friendship Centre or the ASSP, which may include traditional teachings with Elders, sharing circles, art projects, and social media engagement strategies.	\$ 25,000
Ontario Library Association	Library and Literacy Interactive Tutorial	The Ontario Library Association will work with Engage Literacy, a parent organization with a focus on the joy of reading and 21st century learning resources, to develop a bilingual, accessible, online, interactive tool for parents. The tool will inform parents about curriculum-focused online resources, the importance of loving to read, and engagement opportunities available through their school library program. The tool will feature media-rich interactivity (i.e., animation, audio, surveys, multiple choice questions, true/false questions, and downloadable toolkits). It will also provide ideas and pathways for parents and school councils in Ontario to plan literacy events or initiatives, which will increase parent engagement in their children's education.	\$ 5,500
Ontario Physical and Health Education Association (Ophea)	5 Strategies for Raising Healthy, Happy Kids	An external review of content by school community partners and parents will inform the refresh of Ophea's current parent resources. These resources will offer current, clear and tangible examples of healthy lifestyle tips for parents to integrate into their lives and the lives of their children. These resources will also provide examples of ways parents can contribute to making their children's school community a healthier place to support student learning.	\$ 20,000
Ottawa Catholic School Board - Parent Involvement Committee and the Catholic School Parents Association	Reaching Every Family	The Ottawa Catholic School Board (OCSB) Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) and the Catholic School Parents Association (CSPA) will reach out to communities that are marginalized and families who have been unable to participate in the yearly regional and theme-based events for parents. OCSB PIC and CSPA will conduct small scale events with literature and outreach programs for priority groups, such as parents who are newcomers, Aboriginal families, and English language learners to support their involvement in their children's learning at home and at school.	\$ 7,500

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects 2013-2014

Organization	Project Title	Project Description	Amount
Ottawa-Carleton District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Building a Bridge from Home to School	The PIC will offer a speaker series on topics such as the development of learning skills, early indicators of mental health concerns and special education supports for students. Elementary and Secondary Parent Guidebooks will also be developed utilizing current Ministry of Education and board resources to help parents work alongside their students as they proceed through the education system. Finally, the project will incorporate an element of community outreach to support parent involvement at school through school councils, and to support parent involvement at home by reaching parents through community agencies.	\$ 22,500
People for Education	People for Education Annual Conference 2013	The 2013 conference will provide information about how to make schools welcoming, how to promote parent involvement, and how to reduce the barriers to involvement that many parents experience. Workshop topics will include special education, building parent-teacher relationships, Aboriginal education, selecting high school courses, effective school councils and partnerships between schools and community. The conference will provide parents with an opportunity to network with each other as well as community agencies, professionals and international experts.	\$ 22,000
Plan International Canada Inc.,	Community Development Resources for Parents by Parents	Each cluster of schools in the TDSB Model Schools for Inner Cities Program will choose an overall area of focus: healthy living, social/emotional well-being and mental health, community building, newcomers to Canada, culturally relevant parent engagement, understanding school programs and structures, students first - student engagement, or leadership and options. Parents will learn about different aspects of their overall goal from local community agencies, students, and one another through monthly cluster meetings. Their learning and experiences will be shared through an online forum and advertised to parents across the system as comprehensive resources developed by parents for parents. The culminating activity will be a series of interactive workshops also presented by parents for parents.	\$ 15,000
Psychology Foundation of Canada	Parenting Tools for Newcomer Families	The Psychology Foundation of Canada (PFC) develops resources to help parents better understand their children's development, how stress affects learning and how to work with their children to help them learn the skills to manage stress and build resiliency skills. Through this project, PFC will translate these parenting resource materials to help strengthen parent involvement in children's education for parents who are newcomers. PFC will work with the Toronto District School Board, Toronto Public Health and outreach workers in the Diversity in Action project to identify communities who will benefit from the translation of resources and identify the topics which are most relevant to the parents in the various school communities.	\$ 20,000
Rainbow District School Board	Parents as Partners - Math Tip Sheets / Videos	Rainbow District School Board will develop Math Tip Sheets to assist parents help their children with math at home. The Tip Sheets will build awareness among parents of what's new in math/numeracy instruction and Ministry of Education initiatives, as well as illustrate math strategies for students in JK to Grade 6. Videos will also be created to demonstrate the strategies explained in the Tip Sheets. The information will be posted on the board's website for parents and students across the province to access.	\$ 10,000
Rainy River District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Family Math Nights	Through a series of family math workshops, parents of pre-school and school-aged children will be provided with strategies, math tips and resources to support foundational math development at the earliest ages and continued math achievement in their children. The workshops will help parents build skills to support their children in extending their learning of math at home. The use of social media, for example, classroom blogs and the Homework Help initiative, will be shared and promoted with parents on these Family Math Nights. Workshops will be provided across the board and throughout the school year.	\$ 18,500

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects 2013-2014

Organization	Project Title	Project Description	Amount
Regional Multicultural Youth Council	Leaving Home	The Regional Multicultural Youth Council will develop a parent engagement section of the Leaving Home portal, a web-based resource that provides strategies to support Aboriginal students, their families and welcoming communities when youth transition from their home communities to high schools in urban centres. The parents' section, titled Reaching Out, will provide a vehicle for parents to support student success and include a toolkit of resources, information and supports that will help maximize communication between schools, parents, youth and their welcoming communities.	\$ 25,000
Renfrew County Catholic District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Head, Heart and Hands: Our Kids, Their Future	The Renfrew County Catholic District School Board and the Renfrew County District School Board PICs will be hosting a joint symposium titled: Head, Heart and Hands: Our Kids, Their Future. The workshops will address key topics in education today, such as: character development, citizenship, communication, critical thinking & problem solving, collaboration & teamwork, and creativity & imagination. The project will foster active parent engagement in their children's education and enhance the partnerships among parents, educators and community partners in the region.	\$ 15,000
Renfrew County District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Head, Heart and Hands: Our Kids, Their Future	The Renfrew County Catholic District School Board and the Renfrew County District School Board PICs will be hosting a joint symposium titled: Head, Heart and Hands: Our Kids, Their Future. The workshops will address key topics in education today, such as: character development, citizenship, communication, critical thinking & problem solving, collaboration & teamwork, and creativity & imagination. The project will foster active parent engagement in their children's education and enhance the partnerships among parents, educators and community partners in the region.	\$ 15,000
Rural Response for Healthy Children	Investing in Children	Workshops, information sessions and community forums will provide parents with information about the benefits of post-secondary education, strategies to foster the desire for post-secondary education in their children, saving strategies, and funding available from the Government of Canada for post-secondary education. Parent leaders will share with more parents information about post-secondary education savings through co-facilitation, information distribution and RESP application assistance. This project will utilize existing programs and partnerships within rural communities. Materials utilized and adapted will be transferable to communities across Ontario.	\$ 22,000
Science North	Science North's Science Family Nights	Science North will host Science Family Nights in English and French elementary schools throughout Northern Ontario. Families will be invited to work together on a series of science activities and challenges that do not require in-depth science knowledge. The activities will provide unique hands-on experiences that are engaging for the students and families.	\$ 19,925
Simcoe County District School Board	Empowered Parents, Successful Students	This initiative will provide information for parents about the many options/programs/courses available for students in high school; how to support teens through the transition from elementary school to high school; and how to help increase the graduation rate as well as the number of students who choose to pursue pathways programs (OYAP, SHSM, Dual-Credit). The project includes: a handbook developed by board staff with input from the PIC and secondary schools; two presentation templates for parent audience and staff; and a video that communicates the importance of involvement and high expectations during the high school years.	\$ 12,500

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects 2013-2014

Organization	Project Title	Project Description	Amount
Simcoe County District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	'Circle of Learning' Parent Conference	Through a regional parent conference, the PIC will provide the knowledge and tools to help parents support their children's learning at home, and a forum for parents to gather information. Parents will have the opportunity to hear a keynote presentation, attend workshops on topics such as: family and science, numeracy, curriculum, special education programs and services, mental health services, transitions, and supports for children and families, and to browse display tables from various community organizations and local businesses that provide education-related programs and services.	\$ 21,000
Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board	Supporting Parents of ELLs Within the Community	The goal of this project is to share information with parents about the importance of early literacy skills and maintaining and developing their first language with their children. Parents who speak languages other than English will be encouraged to visit the Barrie Public Library and become more involved in activities with their children using dual language books, participating in dual language story-time and literacy activities. Parents will be provided with brochures in their first languages outlining the importance of developing early literacy skills.	\$ 20,000
Ska:na Family Learning Centre	Building Community through Traditional First Nations Drum	Ska:na Family Learning Centre will host traditional workshops on drum making based on the teachings of Elders. The workshops will discuss the medicine wheel, care for the Grandfather and Grandmother drum, and other teachings that involve the proper care of a community drum. Participants will meet in the Spring/Summer to prepare the drum to bring to the community on June 21st, 2014, National Aboriginal Solidarity Day. This project will foster a welcoming school environment for parents and the traditional teaching sessions will help to remove barriers for parents to engage in their children's education.	\$ 20,000
Somali Parent Liaison Coalition	SPLC Empowering Through Education	The Somali Parent Liaison Coalition will host four capacity-building, hands-on workshops and sessions, two town hall-style parent-teacher dialogue meetings, production of resource material and a conference aimed at bringing stakeholders together. Somali children and youth will benefit from their parents developing a solid understanding of school board policies and Canadian law, crime prevention for youth, rights and obligations, and meaningful parent involvement strategies.	\$ 15,000
Spanish Speaking Education Network	Building Girls for the Future	Through a series of workshops by the Spanish Speaking Education network, parents, along with their daughters, will build their understanding of the importance of math and numeracy skills in day-to-day life and the broader scope of career opportunities to support their daughters' learning at home and at school. The project will use computer-based programs and all workshops will be available in English and Spanish.	\$ 15,000
St. Clair Catholic District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Every Family Engaged: Nurturing Resiliency for Life and School Success	The Parent Involvement Committees (PICs) from Huron Perth Catholic School Board, London District Catholic School Board, Brant-Haldimand Norfolk Catholic School Board and St. Clair Catholic School Board, will hold three sessions on Nurturing Resiliency for Life and School Success in the fall, winter and spring, repeated across their regions. Parents will be provided with practical tools for fostering resilience in their children and fostering a home life that supports their children's success and well-being.	\$ 20,000

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects 2013-2014

Organization	Project Title	Project Description	Amount
Toronto District School Board - Community Use of Schools	Engaged Parents, Informed Parents for our Schools	Parents will be provided with information, tools and resources to help enhance their participation in their children's health and social activities. The initiative will be carried out in schools that are part of the Model Schools or the Priority Schools Initiative. Workshops will focus on the following topics: mental health and well-being; parent leadership; healthy nutrition; healthy living; and internet safety. A resource booklet will be translated into various languages and will summarize every workshop that was delivered. The booklet will include notes, recipes, instructional-based activities and contact information for the instructors or community service providers.	\$ 10,000
Upper Canada District School Board - Carleton Place Family of Schools	Finding Family Fitness	Carleton Place Family of Schools, in collaboration with local fitness providers, encourages family participation in fitness activities throughout the school year to support student achievement and well-being. All the events occur at one of the schools in the Carleton Place Family of Schools, and school staff participate along with families as co-learners. To enhance this initiative, additional sessions that focus on nutritional information to support student success and well-being will be held.	\$ 3,500
VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children	Expanding & Enhancing Support for Parents of Students with Hearing Loss	Through the VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children Parent Chapters and the Parent Mentor Program, parents will connect with each other to share strategies, information and ways to support effective communication with schools to support their children's education. This initiative will include the development of materials to support parent leadership, the provision of education sessions for parent volunteer leaders, and the development of a guide for the Parent Mentor Program.	\$ 10,000
Waterloo Region District School Board - Count Me In	Count Me In	Count Me In is a group of parents within the Waterloo Region District School Board who will provide professional development programs for teachers on effective parent engagement strategies and provide parents with opportunities to learn more about numeracy, curriculum and parenting skills. Count Me In will also develop a new mathematics kit for parents of children in grades 3 and 4, which builds on the grades 1 and 2 guides created in 2012-13.	\$ 20,000
Waterloo Region District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Parent Conference	The PIC will offer its first regional, full-day parent conference. Waterloo Region has a growing population of families with parents who are English language learners and to welcome these new parents, the conference will offer some of its workshop sessions in other languages. Workshop topics will include School Council 101, transition between grades 8 and 9, career choice and planning, literacy and numeracy activities to help parents support the success and well-being of their children.	\$ 10,000
Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board - Parent Involvement Committee	Navigating The Path	The PIC will host a series of workshops and presentations. The format will include round table discussions, guest speakers, and interactive parent and child sessions. Workshops will focus special education, safe and healthy schools, mental health, stress and anxiety, conflict resolution, social issues, character development and self-esteem. This project will help reduce stigmas attached to issues related to mental health while building a network of support for parents.	\$ 22,500
Woolwich Community Health Centre	Education Outreach and Support for Low German Families	Woolwich Community Health Centre (WCHC) will offer culturally-sensitive workshops and meetings to provide information to Low German Mennonite families about the high school options available to them and the benefits of school attendance at all ages. With the services of a translator, WCHC will develop a variety of resources designed to encourage school attendance at all levels, with an emphasis on the benefits of high school.	\$ 10,000

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for Regional/Provincial Projects 2013-2014

Organization	Project Title	Project Description	Amount
York Region District School Board	Supporting School Communities	The York Region District School Board will offer a region-wide symposium to enhance parent and caregiver engagement. Workshop topics will include: mental health and well-being; equity and inclusivity in school; numeracy and literacy; and character development. The symposium will focus on removing barriers to engagement for families who are newcomers, families with diverse family structures, families living in poverty and other families who may not feel connected. Some of the workshops and information will be made available in multiple languages.	\$ 20,000