support every child
reach every student

accompagner chaque enfant
appuyer chaque élève

2016-17 Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants
Regional/Provincial Projects

February 2016
Students are more likely to succeed when their parents are engaged in their learning.

*Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario, 2014* recognizes that parents are a key part of Ontario’s success in education.

Parents who are engaged and actively involved in their children’s learning make Ontario’s great schools even stronger.

Over the past number of years, there have been more opportunities for parents to become engaged, both at the local and provincial level through *Ontario’s Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants.*
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](http://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
• Projects to support Aboriginal learners and their families
• Programs for newcomer families to introduce them to Ontario’s publicly-funded education system
• Information sessions on how parents can support student learning at home and at school
• Parent resources and tools in multiple languages

What regional/provincial projects were funded in the 2015-16 cycle?


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 Regional/Provincial Projects:

1) Visit the ministry website at www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/regional.html to learn more!
2) If applying for a regional/provincial grant for the first time, please register online at: https://goo.gl/bJp8Tl.
3) Once you have registered, access the online application at: http://education.factorial.ca.
4) Work with your organization to develop your parent engagement project, including a budget proposal.
5) Gather the necessary documents that will strengthen your application, including a letter of support from a district school board.
6) Complete and submit your application online.

2016-17 PRO Grant applications are open until May 29, 2016, 11:59 P.M. EST.
WHO MAY APPLY?

- Non-profit organizations operating in Ontario
- Parent groups operating in Ontario
- Publicly-funded district school boards operating in Ontario
- Post-secondary institutions in Ontario

WHAT TYPES OF PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING?

Projects must enhance parent engagement in support of improved student achievement and well-being and must fall under **at least one** of the following areas:

- **Parents as Partners** – involve parents as partners in education
- **Welcoming District School Board and School Environment for All Parents** – designed to make all parents feel welcome and included
- **Skill-Building Opportunities for Parents** – provide parents with the knowledge, skills and tools they need to support student learning at home and at school
- **Enhancing Communication between School and Parents** – develop outreach initiatives to support parent engagement in their children’s learning

Priority will be given to parent-led projects that have been developed in partnership with district school boards.
THINGS TO THINK ABOUT WHEN DEVELOPING YOUR PROPOSAL

Your proposal must include how the project will:

• Meet a demonstrated need to support parent engagement in support of student achievement and well-being
• Involve parents in the development and implementation
• Promote collaboration between parents, schools and community organizations
• Promote parent leadership and build capacity to engage in their children’s learning
• Potentially reach a large number of parents or how it can be adapted to other regions
• Be evaluated

Please ensure that you provide a detailed breakdown of your budget proposal.
Special consideration will be given to eligible projects that:

1) have not been previously funded under the PRO Grants program,
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

Organizations may apply for a maximum grant of $30,000.

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
- Computer software, online subscriptions, voice messaging systems, website maintenance or software applications
- Capital costs
- Portable/handheld devices such as tablets or laptops
- Refreshments exceeding 15% of the approved funding
- Advertising and promotion costs exceeding 5% of the approved funding
- Speaker fees or honoraria exceeding 40% of the approved funding (including speakers' travel costs)
- Operational costs
- Purchase of items that would be given to parents which are not directly related to the workshop, seminar or home application to support their children's learning
- Honoraria for parents
- Out of province travel
- Debts or financial losses that result from a project

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.
• All reporting requirements for previously funded PRO Grant projects must be met prior to funding of 2016-17 projects.

If approved, applicants will:

• Enter into an agreement with the ministry.
• Be required to implement their projects by **August 15, 2017**.
• Be required to complete an interim and final report outlining project activities and expenditures:
  • Interim report is due **February 28, 2017**.
  • Final report is due **August 31, 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!

Inspiriting Your Child to Learn and Love Math

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