Push for Change reaches Echo Bay, Sault, Goulais

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Joe Roberts with the Push for Change campaign walks with students at the Woodstock Community Complex on Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2016. (MEGAN STACEY/Sentinel-Review)

An advocate hoping to end youth homelessness will be arriving in Sault Ste. Marie Tuesday.

Joe Roberts and his Push for Change campaign is pushing a shopping cart, a symbol of chronic homelessness, throughout the Algoma District on a 9,000 km, 517-day trek across Canada to raise awareness and funds to end youth homelessness.

He's scheduled to arrive in Echo Bay at 1:45 p.m. Tuesday and be greeted by students from Echo Bay Public School. Students will join him on a walk to the school from the Township Office on Church Street.

He will then participate in a presentation at the school at 2 p.m., followed by a public meet and greet event.

On Wed. Feb. 1, Roberts will arrive at Mountain View Public School on Mahler Road in Goulais River where he will speak to students and hold another open house meet and greet.

A second event will be held between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Gore Street where Roberts will meet and speak at an outdoor rally. Warming barrels, hot chocolate and other activities will take place at the free outdoor public event.

Roberts, a former homeless youth and current entrepreneur, began Push for Change in 2011 and now dedicates his

life to the cause, educating individuals, schools and communities about the issues behind homelessness.

He has currently walked over 5,000 km – a little more than half of his planned journey.