

#ipromiseto SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT



Joe Roberts, former homeless youth turned successful entrepreneur made a promise to pay it forward by pushing a shopping cart 9,064 kms across Canada to support the end of youth homelessness. His promise created **The Push for Change, a national awareness campaign** inspiring and engaging Canadians to make personal promises that make a difference in the lives of youth at-risk, their peers, their mentors and their communities.

INVESTING IN CANADIAN YOUTH



Photo credit: Curtis McDonald...Banting Memorial High School, Alliston, ON

INSPIRE

Walk with Joe through the tough streets of East Vancouver in the 1980's and experience his life in the depths and degradation of a former hopeless, homeless drug addict. Joe's success as a school presenter is due to his honest and authentic message that educators are looking for and students relate to. Joe teaches us to see the power we all have within us to make a change in the world we live in. From a promise made on the streets 25 years ago, Joe was inspired to do something to "pay it forward", to help other young people avoid this fate. Students will be inspired to look within and see their own possibilities.



Craig Kielburger Secondary School, Oct 2016

EDUCATE

The Push for Change youth presentation is designed to educate students on the factors that contribute to youth homelessness and how family conflict, mental health concerns and substance abuse contributes to over 35,000 young Canadians experiencing street life each year. Marie Roberts, Campaign Director, who managed the logistics of the 17-month, 9064 kilometer walk across Canada will lead a facilitated discussion about youth homelessness and it's contributing factors impacts every young person. Raising awareness, collapsing stigma and supporting social justice are at the core of this exercise.



Brooks Junior High School, June 2017

EMPOWER

Students will be inspired to make change in their communities and will be encouraged to make their own commitments through the #ipromiseto campaign. Sharing via social media, students will be fired up to get involved through volunteerism, fundraising and acts of social justice that impacts their peers, schools, and local community. More than ever today we see high levels of disengagement. When we connect young people to the service of others we tap into the deeper human longing to be needed. Young people are struggling to find their place in the world; #ipromiseto will help each student find a deeper sense of purpose and meaning. We all have gifts to share with the world and we promise to help students discover them.

TO BOOK:
contact Marie Roberts
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Schools who hosted The Push for Change:

Algonquin College
Banting Memorial High School
Barrie North Collegiate
Britannia Secondary School
Brooks Junior High School
Burnaby North Secondary School
Caledonia Secondary
Canadore College
Carlton Place High School
Centre Hastings Secondary School
Cornerbrook Regional High School
Echo Bay Public School
Elgin Park Secondary School
FH Collins Secondary School
Ginew School, Rosseau River
HD Stafford High School
Ignace Public School
Indian Head High School
John Oliver High School
Keith Lynn Alternative Secondary
Kelowna High School
King George Secondary School
Langley Secondary School
Lord Akins Junior High School
Maple Ridge Secondary School
Membertou School
Nanaimo Public School
Nicholson Catholic College
North Albion Collegiate Institute
North Hastings High School
Northern Lights High School
Pacific Academy
Pelican Falls First Nation High School
Pine Tree Secondary School
Port Colbourne High School
Port Moody Secondary
Prince Albert Collegiate Institute
Queen Elizabeth Secondary
Regent Christian Academy
Royal Roads University
Sardis Secondary School
Seycove Secondary
Sioux Valley High School
Stayner Collegiate
Strathroy District High School
St. Paul's High School
St. Teresa's Catholic High School
Stó:lō Nation – Chilliwack BC
Surrey School District
Thornhill Junior Secondary
Trenton High School
Tupper High School
Wesmor Public High School
Whitewood School

and countless others!

ENGAGE YOUR STUDENTS

Join the hundreds of schools across Canada
who were inspired into action by The Push for Change.

“The credibility of your message as a presenter was heightened by the fact that you had actually walked the path of which you spoke. It was great to see such a large student body provide their undivided attention to your message of hope and empowerment”

- Dana Barakauskas, Principal

“We may never know the real impact that this presentation had on our students, nor can we make their decision for them. However if we can show them the ugly side of poor decisions, lay before them choices and related consequences, continually reinforcing the positive choices, then perhaps we will be able to keep many from following the same path that Joe followed.” - Bill Gerber Fraser Valley Adventist Academy

“I believe that the presentation had a big impact on our school because of the responses we received after he left. I hope he continues to speak to other schools and youth and get this message across” – Student

“He speaks their language and having been right where some of them are at this moment.” - Mother

“Joe Roberts’ inspiring story is one of determination, courage and overcoming adversity that reminds us of the power of believing that anything is possible. It is testament to the strength of the human spirit and what you can achieve when you set your mind to it.”

- Rick Hansen, Canada’s Man in Motion

“My sincere congratulations and thanks upon the conclusion of your remarkable journey from Newfoundland to Vancouver with a shopping cart. Your work to raise awareness and advance the cause of youth homelessness if of great importance.”

- Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister



Lillian Berg Public School, Vermillion Bay, April 2017