

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN



FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES FEMMES DIPLÔMÉES DES UNIVERSITÉS

June 18, 2007

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne,  
Minister of Education  
900 Bay St., 22nd Floor, Mowat Block  
Toronto, ON  
M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Wynne,

On behalf of the Ontario Council of the Canadian Federation of University Women, I would like to commend the McGuinty Government for supporting the "*Roots of Empathy*" program through the generous contribution of \$700,000.00.

Our organization has been very active in advocating for safe schools and has commented on "*The Safe Schools Act*" and anti-bullying programs. We feel that children need to learn how to respect each other through caring and to identify with another's feelings. The expansion of the "*Roots of Empathy*" program into all school boards will create a more uniform environment in our schools to ensure all children have the opportunity to develop empathy towards children and adults.

At our Standing Committee meeting on January 13, 2007, Lucy DiCarlo, Provincial Coordinator for Roots of Empathy spoke to us regarding this program. Ms. DiCarlo emphasized the positive aspects and created a vision of inclusion, diversity, and respect for all children participating. One of our members commented after our meeting; "finally we are seeing solutions to the problem of aggressive behaviour in our schools".

Sincerely,

Linda MacGregor,  
President, Ontario Council  
Canadian Federation of University Women

Wendy Taylor,  
Standing Committee Chair,  
Education  
CFUW/Ontario Council

c.c. Premier Dalton McGuinty  
Lucy DiCarlo, Roots of Empathy