

March 27, 2012

Dear Ms Schirmer,

Please accept this letter of reference in support of the Cabbagetown People program.

I have been a teacher for 13 years at Quest Alternative Sr. P.S., a Toronto District School Board school of 68 grade 7 and 8 students. I have involved our grade 7 students in the Cabbagetown People program activities each June for the last 5 years, and I can endorse the program without reservation. My students have found it to be an engaging and informative program, and they consistently return from their 2 hour walking tours filled with questions and comments about what they have experienced.

I have often used the tours as a lead up activity to other community awareness activities that we provide through our Guidance program. Additionally, the program addresses many of the expectations of the History curriculum (the achievements of individuals and groups who have contributed to the cultural/technological development of Canada), the Geography curriculum (patterns of human settlement, living and working conditions), and the French as a Second Language curriculum (tours can be delivered in French, allowing the students to respond to oral texts, convey understanding, and strengthen their French vocabulary).

This is a terrific way to spend a half day in June, and we look forward to continuing our participation, and taking advantage of this valuable community resource.

Thank you for your time. Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information.

Joel Grisell
Quest Alternative Senior P.S.
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Toronto