



Date of Meeting: 2019 03 05

Item #: 4.0

REPORT TO:	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Council	<input type="checkbox"/> Program and School Services Advisory Committee
	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy Working Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning and Priorities Advisory Committee
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> IN-CAMERA
TITLE OF REPORT:	Tu Puente	
PRESENTED BY:	Abe Wall, Charlotte Wall, Trish Tomico	
PRESENTED FOR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Approval	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information <input type="checkbox"/> Advice
Recommendation(s):		
Purpose:	To inform the board of the specific needs of the Low German Mennonite community and what we have done to meet some of those needs.	
Content:	Slide decks and we will be speaking to the content of the slide decks.	
Cost/Savings:		
Timeline:		
Communications:		
Appendices:		

Strategic Priority Area(s):

Relationships:

- ☒ Students, families and staff are welcomed, respected and valued as partners.
- ☒ Promote and build connections to foster mutually respectful communication among students, families, staff and the broader community.
- ☒ Create opportunities for collaboration and partnerships.

Equity and Diversity:

- ☒ Create opportunities for equitable access to programs and services for students.
- ☒ Students and all partners feel heard, valued and supported.
- ☒ Programs and services embrace the culture and diversity of students and all partners.

Achievement and Well-Being:

- ☒ More students demonstrate growth and achieve student learning outcomes with a specific focus on numeracy and literacy.
- ☒ Staff will demonstrate excellence in instructional practices.
- ☒ Enhance the safety and well-being of students and staff.

Form Revised October 2018

Building Bridges for our Students



An Update on our 3 Year Latin American Pilot

History

- **"For the child of my father's and my generation, school could be, and often was a painful place. Everything valued by one's parents, everything that made up one's after-school life, was feared, misunderstood, occasionally ridiculed, and always subtly undermined. Everything associated with the most significant landmarks of human existence, everything that was most sacred, most poignant, most satisfying- all of that was somehow second or third-rate."**

Mennonites Now Free To Come Into Canada

Order-in-Council passed by Union Government
Forbidding Mennonite Immigration Into This
Country Has Been Annulled By King Govern-
ment As Result of Steps Taken By W. D. Euler
M. P.

WAS INJUSTICE TO DESIRABLE PEOPLE

(Exclusive to Record.)

OTTAWA, June 9.—The order-in-council promulgated by the Union Government during the war restricting all Mennonite immigration into Canada has just been annulled by the Liberal government as a result of the efforts of W. D. Euler M. P., according to information received by Record's press gallery representative at Ottawa. The Mennonites are now as free to enter Canada as the adherents of any other faith. This announcement will be received with considerable pleasure by the thousands of Mennonites in Kitchener, Waterloo and the country.

MENNONITES PLEASED

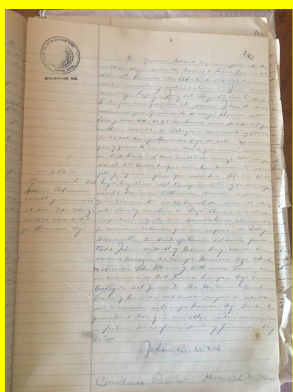
The announcement of the repeal of the order-in-council restricting Mennonite immigration into Canada will be received with a great deal of pleasure by the Mennonite people of North Waterloo, according to a statement made to the Record today by D. B. Betzner of this city, when informed by the Record of the annulling of the restrictions. The news, Mr. Betzner said, will be a matter of extreme satisfaction to the Mennonites of Canada.

TEA AND SUGAR

Broken Promises

- 1920-1925 Saskatchewan levied 5,367 prosecutions against the Mennonites for non-attendance. In a school year, that would equate to approximately **5 per day for 5 years.**
- **Families were fined \$10/day/child.** In 2018 dollars that's approximately **\$125/day/child**
- Parents were jailed and property was seized

“...and in Mexico we found what we had lost in Canada.”
Old Colony Bishop: Isaak Dyck



NUEVO IDEAL “The New Ideal”
Durango Mexico

Numbers

- 2011 Census Canada estimates the Mennonite population in East Elgin county between 12,000 to 15,000 *'at any given time.'*
 - Approximately 1500 are TVDSB students (K-12)
- There are 10 private schools in the East Elgin area, and a strong 'homeschooler' community
 - Thousands of students (vast majority) fall into this category
- We lost approximately 100 elementary students in 2015 due to so-called "Sex Ed Curriculum"
- Enrolment in TVDSB ebs and flows
 - Miscommunication, racism, a general sense of exclusion, not feeling valued or a sense of belonging
- Hundreds of students stayed home on May 17th, 2018
- As of December 21, 2018 the Tu Punte program has provided over 300 collective hours of learning for our students



Participation in Interview process

Provided training to MCC workers

Created Program of Study

Schools Support Students

The Team



Hired MCC Worker (3yr term)

ClassroomSpace

Manage Budget

Regular meetings with TVDSB

Collaboration With Assistant Deputy Minister

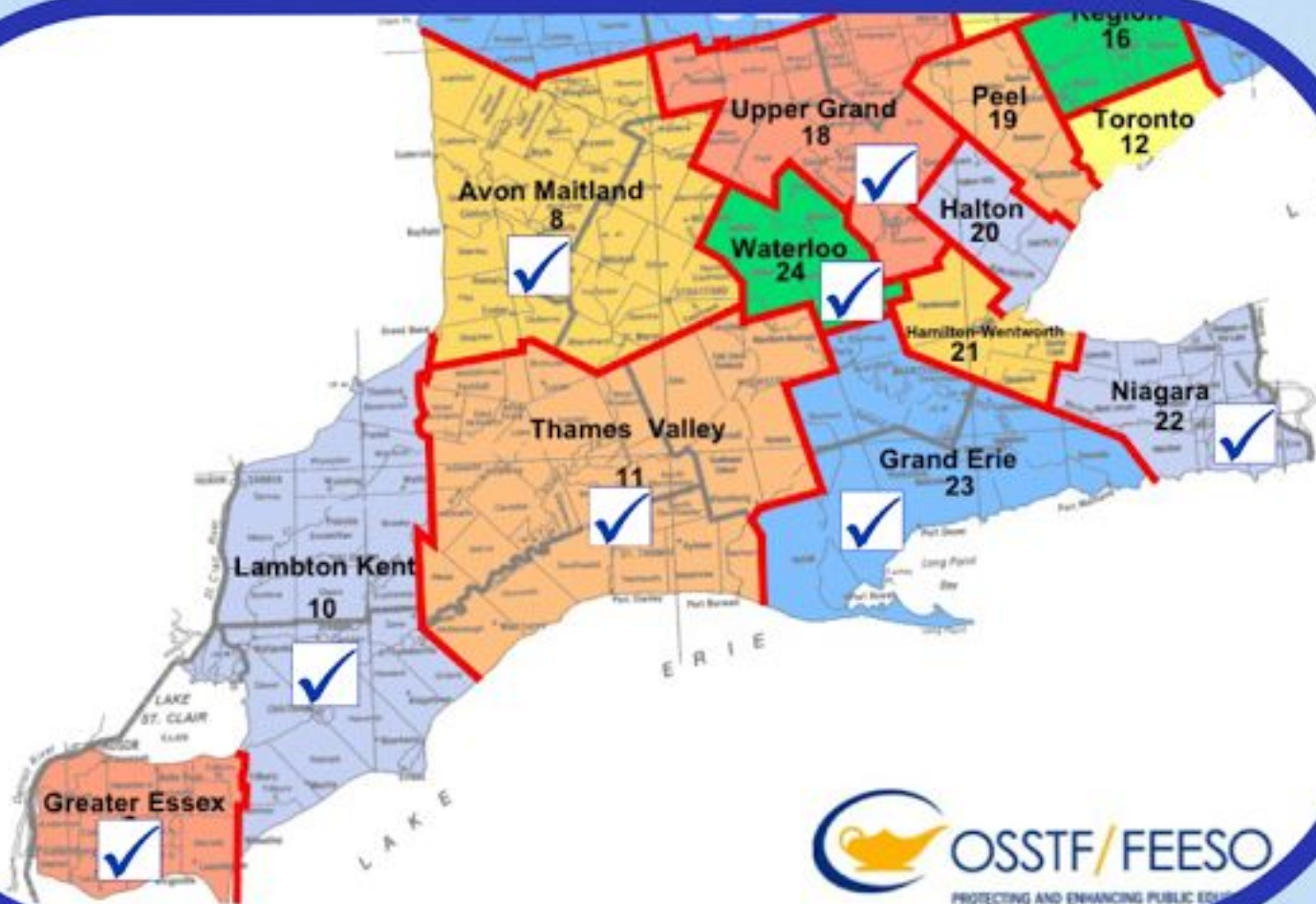
Invited to '*virtually*' attend a meeting with:

Amy Kipfer,	<i>Equity Lead, Avon Maitland DSB</i>
Kim Black,	<i>Superintendent, Avon Maitland DSB</i>
Lisa Walsh,	<i>Director, Avon Maitland DSB</i>
Merrill Mathews,	<i>Education Officer, Toronto</i>
Patrick Case,	<i>Assistant Deputy Minister,</i>
	<i>Educational Equity Secretariat, Ministry of Education</i>

...and others on December 14, 2018

From Nuevo Ideal, Durango, Mexico

ONTARIO SCHOOL BOARDS SERVING OLD COLONY MENNONITE COMMUNITIES



This Changes Everything

- **personally** - individual student and family needs being met
- **locally** - demonstrating TVDSB's commitment to build each student's tomorrow, every day
- **provincially** - setting a new standard of innovation and collaboration
- **nationally** - Thames Valley has changed the narrative of the experience from Western Canada, almost 100 yrs ago
- **internationally** - supporting our students as they live their reality in two worlds
- **multinationally** - partnering and collaborating with a team spread over 2 continents and 3 countries as we develop a model that will impact what learning can look like globally
- Thank you and congratulations, Thames Valley District School Board!

OLD COLONY MENNONITE



Two Different Worlds



Strategic Plan

RELATIONSHIPS	EQUITY AND DIVERSITY	ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL-BEING
We build positive relationships with all members of our education community to foster an engaged and inclusive board culture.	We provide an equitable and inclusive environment that champions learning opportunities for all.	We engage in innovative learning experiences that promote excellence in student achievement and well-being.
✓ Students, families and staff are welcomed, respected and valued as partners.	✓ Create opportunities for equitable access to programs and services for students.	✓ Staff will demonstrate excellence in instructional practices.
✓ Promote and build connections to foster mutually respectful communication among students, families, staff, and the broader community.	✓ Programs and services embrace the culture and diversity of students and all partners.	✓ More students demonstrate growth and achieve student learning outcomes with a specific focus on numeracy and literacy.
✓ Create opportunities for collaboration and partnerships.	✓ Students and all partners feel heard, valued and supported.	✓ Enhance the safety and well-being of students and staff.



For the first time....



Welcome to *Tu Puente* 'Your Bridge'



For the first time....



For the first time....



'I AM A BUTTERFLY.

SEE ME HIDING IN

THE BUSH?'



Welcome to *Tu Puento* *'Your Bridge'*



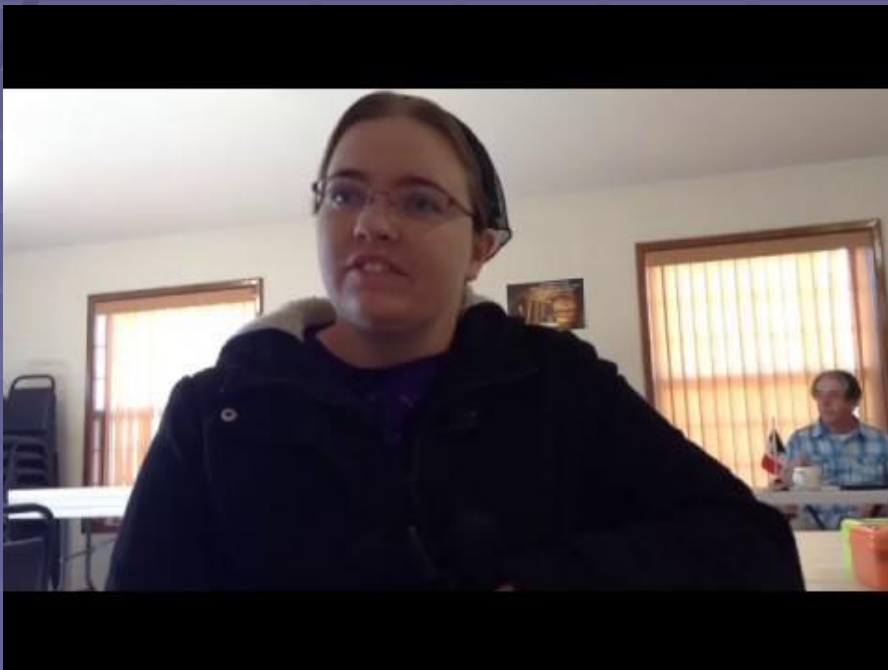
Tu Puente Progress

- **21** students currently accessing program from across **5** TVDSB schools*
- Existing Colony MCC workers ran program Oct-Dec.
- Tu Puente MCC Support Worker began Jan. 2019
- Families from other school districts asking how to be involved
- *Tu Puente* is the 'talk' of the colony, in homes, churches and local schools



Community Voice

“Ontario’s Education Equity Action Plan is a clear and robust blueprint that outlines how we will identify and eliminate persistent inequities in the education system.”
--The Honourable Mitzie Hunter, Minister of Education



Isaak

