Original Message From: Sue Sri <<u>sues@normericainc.com</u>> Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2017 9:16 PM To: George Bridge Subject: FW: Proclamation Request - Human Values Day - April 24, 2017

Good Morning Mayor George Bridge,

On behalf of the Steering Committee and the large number of community volunteers at the Walk for Values, we like to express our deep gratitude to raise awareness to practice Human Values and to building the "Communities of Character". Canada is a great country and we are proud of its multiculturalism and the rich values we hold.

This is the 15th year while we celebrate Canada's 150 years that we again take an important step walking together at the Walk for Values 2017, not for "fund" raising but taking a pledge to transform self and the community by practicing values. The Walk for Values started in 2003 when street violence took place in Malvern area of Toronto. Your support for this Walk and the proclamation of "HUMAN VALUES DAY" on April 24, 2017 will bring greater awareness about human values that shape our lives and the future of our children. Please be rest assured, we will continue to work diligently to spread your message of living in harmony, caring for each other and our environment, in every city in Canada and around the world.

We have attached with this mail the following documents for your records:

1) A write up about the Walk for Values and how it is spreading the Values and helping us to be better citizens of this great country

- 2) Prime Minister's message from last year's event
- 3) Ontario Premier's message from last year's event
- 4) City's that issued Proclamations in the past

With your dynamic leadership, you have paved the path to a new wave of thinking, inspiring all of us to act lovingly, to do what's right for the city and the nation.

We look forward to your support in proclaiming April 24, 2017 as the "Human Values Day".

Also if you have any suggestions in bringing the transformation and it will be very much appreciated. Through a separate invitation we will send to you the calendar of the Walk for Values to be held in 9 Cities across Canada.

Kind regards.

Sincerely,

Sue Sri WALK FOR VALUES



What is Walk for Values?

This is a walkathon which was started in the town of Malvern, ON., in 2003 by the Parent Council of the Sathya Sai School of Canada, a private elementary school, registered with the Ontario Ministry of Education. The school's thrust is **Education in Human Values**, where the staff, parents, students and volunteers all focus on *integrating human values* into the regular curriculum.

In 2004, this Walk became a national event being conducted annually in the cities of Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary, and Coquitlam where representatives from Vancouver, Surrey, and Abbotsford join together with the City's Teddy Bear Parade. In 2007, it continued at Dundas Square, in downtown Toronto and in 2007, it also became *international* when it was done in Australia in 5 major cities on a national scale. Today it has spread over 4 continents in 30 major cities across the world. This is *the little Walk that grew* from just over 3000 walkers in Malvern in 2003 to over 5000 participants in 2010 at Yonge-Dundas Square, the heart of downtown Toronto, growing by the end of 2014 to an annual <u>international event</u> covering 28 major cities in 4 continents and counting ! Since 2013, this Walk is being conducted from the prestigious Nathan Phillips Square, at Toronto City Hall.

This Walk is aimed at raising awareness of the importance of practicing positive values at helping in the eradication of violence, bullying, drugs, crime, disrespect and greed in our society. The uniqueness of the event is that it is not a fundraiser. Rather, each participant resolves to make the community richer by pledging to practice a value of his or her choice. In this way, it is a "walk of love" aimed at making our city, one citizen at a time, richer in our commitment to human values as a first step towards raising our social conscience.

Mission Statement

"Walk for Values" is a walk designed to raise awareness of Human Values and to promote individual and collective responsibility for the progress of humanity, one step at a time.

Vision Statement

A non-monetary, non-denominational event, this unique initiative, based on the five basic universal human values of Truth, Right Conduct, Peace, Love and Non-violence, is part of a global drive to seed human consciousness with timeless affirmations such as hope, kindness, patience and honesty, along with other positive values deemed integral to the sustenance and survival of mankind.

It calls for an honest self-examination from all its participants who identify areas for personal growth and pledge to practice associated values not only for self-transformation but also collectively for social, environmental and global reformation.

The Objective of the "Walk for Values"

The objective of the "Walk for Values" is to give members of the community, participating organisations and students a clearer understanding of the importance of a values-based life. Basic Human Values of truth, right conduct, peace, love and non-violence have been on the decline in our communities and our nations. We can see this in the daily reports in the newspapers, radio and TV news broadcasts. Guns, violence and drugs have infiltrated our streets, our communities and our families. By doing nothing we contribute to the increase of this decline. As responsible citizens, we simply must do something about it. This WALK is an opportunity to fulfil that responsibility in a positive way by raising the awareness of human values in our community.



Celebrating 15 Years of Walk For Values and Honouring 150 Years of Canada

The Values we walk for are Values to live by

- TRUTH honesty, integrity, optimism, excellence
- RIGHT CONDUCT courtesy, gratitude, fairplay, perseverance, determination, responsibility, sacrifice, initiative, leadership, courage, duty, ethics
- PEACE contentment, discipline, humility, patience, satisfaction, self-control, self-confidence, self-respect, understanding, modesty
- LOVE caring, compassion, reverence, forgiveness, generosity, kindness, enthusiasm, tolerance, dedication, devotion, unity
- NON-VIOLENCE gentleness, consideration, moderation, cooperation, brotherhood, equality, cultural respect, social justice

Current Locations, touching the 4 A-continents of America, Australia, Asia and Africa:

<u>Canada</u>: Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary Fort McMurray and Coquitlam. <u>Australia</u>: Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Canberra, Perth and Brisbane. <u>USA</u>: New York, Austin, Houston, Dallas, Raleigh, Seattle, Detroit, Ann Arbor, Chicago and Tempe. <u>India</u>: Chandigarh, Visakhapatnam New Delhi. <u>New Zealand</u>: Auckland. <u>Malaysia</u>: Kampala. <u>Hong Kong</u>: The city of Hong Kong. <u>Africa</u>: Cape Town and Johannesburg.

Event Highlights focusing on the Tenth Anniversary, 2013

- It's not a fund raiser, but an event to promote Human Values and Character Development.
- The only major public event that supports & promotes <u>excellence in Character</u> in communities
- Collection of non-perishable food items with goal of 10 tons on a National basis for the Food Banks across Canada
- Conducting a National Blood Donation drive in partnership with CBS
- Collecting new and re-usable clothing to be distributed to the needy
- Donated 108 Children's' beds to charity through the agency of 'Furniture Bank'
- Colorful floats, music bands and participation by other local public schools
- Motivational keynote speakers from the various community organizations
- "Go Green" was the theme for 2009 and continues as an underlying goal of all events
- Promotion of family values with fun games and prizes for children
- Leaders from the three levels of Government and other community organisations lead the parade
- Ignite Partner of Pan Am Games
- Alliance Partner for Canada 150

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Naidoo (For Walk for Values, Toronto.)

Hosted by the Parent Council - Sathya Sai School, Sathya Sai International Organization, Canada 451 Ellesmere Rd., Toronto, ON., Canada M1R 4E5; T. 416-297-7970; F. 416-297-0945; <u>www.sathyasaischool.ca</u> Values Without Borders!



June 19, 2016

A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to extend warm greetings to everyone participating in the 14th Walk for Values.

Since its inception, the dedicated organizers of Walk for Values have inspired participants to make a conscious commitment to adopt one or more of the values of love, peace, truth, non-violence and good conduct. This event does much to raise awareness of the importance of tolerance, respect and understanding among citizens, communities and nations.

I commend everyone taking part in today's walk, as well as the organizers, sponsors and volunteers. Your participation demonstrates your commitment to making positive choices, and inspires others — of all ages and from all backgrounds — to do the same.

Please accept my sincere best wishes for a memorable and inspirational walk.

Kathlin augure

Kathleen Wynne Premier



PRIME MINISTER · PREMIER MINISTRE

June 19, 2016

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to extend my warmest greetings to everyone taking part in the 14th annual Walk for Values in Toronto.



What started as a community initiative in Malvern in 2003 has grown to an annual event in cities across Canada and around the world. Today, Canadians of all ages and from all backgrounds have taken a pledge to practice a basic human value that will enrich their personal lives and help make the world a better place. As they do so, they will have a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our blessings as a nation and on the values we hold dear: peace, freedom, respect, compassion and diversity.

I would like to commend all those walking today for their commitment to promoting unity and harmony, one step at a time. I would also like to thank the organizer, Sathya Sai School of Canada, for working together with community sponsors and volunteers to make this event such a success.

Please accept my best wishes for a memorable experience.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Justin P.J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada

