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Dear Howie, Sacks Henry L.L.P

May 17, 2010

I would like to take the time to thank you for funding the incredibly heartfelt TIPSYP program at St. Mike's Hospital.

In regards to the TIPSYP program, as a teenager myself, I find the thought of driving scary. I currently hold an Ontario G1 license and have my road test next week for my G2 license. And the TIPSYP program was one of the most effective accident-prevention programs I have ever attended. For me, driving is a mentally demanding privilege and to know that when one variable is missing, or there is a minor malfunction in this simple task, lives can be lost, which is a tragic thing.

With my prom looming in exactly one week's time, my friends and I have taken it upon ourselves to arrange a twenty person limo and have designated drivers for the after party. We consider ourselves to be responsible teenagers and rational people when it comes to playing with other's lives. St. Mike's was of monumental importance in reinforcing this decision made by my friends and I to ensure that on the day we will all remember, no lives will be lost and there will be **no** accidents.

It is of my knowledge that my school has participated in a program like TIPSYP in previous years and it is clearly evident that St. Mike's hospital for trauma, is an extremely effective deterrent for teenagers and an excellent learning seminar. As I have had the wonderful opportunity to experience this seminar first-hand I have encouraged all of my friends to attend whenever the opportunity presents itself. When I arrived back home, I told my parents all I had seen and the impact it had on me.

Prior to the TIPSYP program I was unaware of the effect that such seemingly-petty variables had on motor vehicle collisions, such as passenger distraction. The law firm that supports this program is doing an absolutely wonderful thing for the general public and our young society. It is of utmost importance that the young drivers of Canada remain thoroughly educated in the consequences of poor driving and how it affects other innocent lives. One live lost, is a perpetual cycle of sorrow and affects people in ways that I never though possible, until I listened to some of the stories from TIPSYP, first-hand.

The delivery from MADD, the Toronto Police Force, and the individuals that have been permanently affected by driving -both physical and emotional- was unmistakably effective and had my full, undivided attention. Individual cases reach out to teenagers on a personal level and can show us how their lives are different each and every day after being a part of devastating statistics. The police force was a more professional approach and was the ugly truth to the motor vehicle related collisions. For me, the TIPSYP program prevents possible future victims from being personally traumatized by an easily preventable issue. The message that is being sent is one of necessity. There is no need for innocent lives to be lost in place of the ignorance of another. This program is, in my opinion, top-notch and should be made viral to school's not only across Ontario, but across Canada.

The TIPSYP program is supported by the Howie, Sacks Henry law firm and with their help, creates a marvelous program in which it gives a first-hand experience in handling trauma patients, a tour of the hospital and is given both professional and personal accounts on handling the sensitive matter of motor vehicle collisions. I know I left TIPSYP well-educated on the matter and touched on many levels, this is one program which should go viral.

Respectfully Yours; Ethan Lista, Grade 12: Sir Wilfrid Laurier C.I