

Local motivational speaker to host community event

Written By Jasen Obermeyer

Peter Toliás, co-founder of the social movement I Can, We Can!, was at Caledon Council, to give tickets to councillors for an upcoming community event for kids to help bring a positive atmosphere for youth.

Mr. Toliás is an entrepreneur, public speaker, and philanthropist, who wants to help change the way youth think, feel, and achieve their dreams. According to their website, he was abused and unmotivated as child, and so, sought to bring positivity to kids.

The goal of the movement is to "educate youth on the importance of goal setting and to develop soft skills," by putting large scale community events "with celebrity personnel and profile Canadian talent," and to connect people, groups, and organizations "in order to build strong partnerships and enhance civic engagement."

"Our target audience is kids that are in bad neighborhoods," Mr. Toliás explained to council, and has met several celebrities, including Snoop Dog, 2 Chainz, and the Dali Lama. He will be traveling to the Vatican next week to meet with Pope Francis.

He came to not ask council of anything, but to give them 500 tickets to kids "who are doing positive things," as we want to partner up with celebrities to bring some to Caledon. The date of the event is still being worked out, but Mr. Toliás did say that Drake will be among the celebrities in attendance. "We're looking to do something huge."

He added he is doing this to try and create "the biggest positive movement," in Caledon.

Ward 2 Regional Councillor Johanna Downey thanked Mr. Toliás for coming. "I love your energy, I love what you're doing" she said to him. "I'm here, I know the rest of council is here to help you do that. If there are groups you have or have not spoken to, let us know."

Ward 5 Regional Councillor Annette Groves commended Mr. Toliás for what he is doing to help youth realize there is help, and they can do whatever they set their mind to. "I think that's a very strong message to the kids, to the community."

She suggested to get in touch with the OPP, as they have a youth leadership program. "They would be happy to work with you."

"You're definitely a Caledon champion here," added Mayor Allan Thompson to Mr. Toliás.