



FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

News Release

Cambridge, Ontario – April 23, 2007

PEC Responds To Private Members' Resolution

Thursday, April 26 will see Liberal MPP Peter Fonseca, Mississauga East, bring forward a private members' resolution to the Ontario Legislature asking all members of the assembly to affirm their commitment to public education and so oppose any attempts to take public money and hand it over to private schools.

“Parents For Educational Choice was organized by parents and supporters for government supported school choice in Ontario,” says Barb Bierman, provincial spokesperson for PEC, “parents seeking the freedom to make alternative educational choices for their children have never sought to take money away from public schools.”

PEC believes that expanding government support for parental choice in education would be a good idea in Ontario. If government would develop new education policy that included financial support for all of Ontario's students regardless of where they attend school, Ontario would join 6 other Canadian provinces, more than 40 American states and most countries in the western world where publicly funded schools are as strongly supported as other types of school choices.

Parents who currently send their children to independent schools in Ontario financially support both public schools and independent schools by continuing to pay their share of education tax dollars for public education in addition to tuition fees to the schools of their choice. It has long been a political misunderstanding in Ontario that government supported school choice would take money away from public schools.

“Independent school parents have always asked that government be committed to all students in Ontario, not just those in a particular system,” says Bierman, “and so this private member's resolution is a weak attempt to mislead the public on this issue.”

PEC continues to grow in numbers and is prepared to speak up on this important issue as much as possible. “We know this is an election year, and that government support for school choice will be a hot topic of discussion leading up to an election,” says Bierman, “it is important that the general public be fully informed on the facts about school choice.”

Parents For Educational Choice is a growing network of parents and supporters for government supported school choice in Ontario. To find out more, go to www.parentseduchoice.org

-30-

For More Information: Barb Bierman, PEC Spokesperson, 519-249-1665 or bbierman@parentseduchoice.org