

Community outrage and pressure from Maria Minna forces Conservative government to grant all 4 student summer job positions for Community Centre 55 after previously being denied funding

JUNE 4 - TORONTO - After much outcry surrounding the cuts made to the summer jobs positions in Beaches - East York, the minority Conservative government granted funding for the four positions at Community Centre 55 that were originally denied funding. On Friday, May 25, we learned that funding for the fourth summer job would be granted.

On Tuesday, May 15, we learned that Community Centre 55 was refused funding for four positions to help students in our community. Each position would help students who need it the most because of where they live and/or barriers including economic barriers producing crushing student loans; students from single parent families and families marginalized and classified as the “working poor”. May 15 marked the first time in 30 years that the Centre was denied funding.

Constituents of Beaches - East York wanted to know why Community Centre 55 was denied funding, what criteria were used, and what the appeal process is. Maria Minna posed a question to the Minister of Human Resources as to why he denied funding to Community Centre 55.

After much pressure from Maria Minna, the Conservative government was forced to grant three of the four student summer job positions on May 23. Two days later, funding was granted for the fourth position.

Community Centre 55 was lucky to finally receive the funding for the jobs they applied for. Still, many organizations in our community did not receive funding. We invite you to read the Toronto Star article written May 17, 2007 regarding student job funding cuts across the City of Toronto. [Click Here](#)

Without the outcry from community members and without the pressure from Liberal Members of Parliament like Maria, the minority Conservative government would never have provided funding to community programs like Community Centre 55.