

TOKENS OF KINDNESS

AN ACT OF KINDESS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD



Student Transportation of Eastern Ontario (STEO), is the transportation consortium for the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario (CDSBEO) and the Upper Canada District School Board (UCDSB).

STEO provides transportation for approximately 33,000 students on nearly 800 vehicles, traveling over 120,000 kilometres each day, to over 150 sites and schools across Eastern Ontario.

Student Transportation of Eastern Ontario is extremely excited to launch a new program with an eye to building positive bus culture. The **Tokens of Kindness** program will launch in autumn 2016 and is a platform designed to recognize acts of kindness on the bus.

Janet Murray, STEO's Manager of HR, Safety and Training acknowledges that the school bus can be a challenging environment for students. "To some extent, the school bus can be seen as a microcosm of the larger society—a diverse group of people of different ages, backgrounds and motivators, who nevertheless are bound by a shared journey."

Through STEO's **Tokens of Kindness** program, bus drivers will be provided with 'bus tokens' inscribed with the words "an act of kindness can change the world." Drivers will have an opportunity to distribute the tokens in recognition of acts of kindness, as a tangible tool to reinforce positive action on the bus.

"We hope that the program will resonate with drivers and passengers alike" explains Murray. "We often hear from bus drivers that they would welcome a means to recognize and thus reinforce positive behaviour. And for students, this program communicates to them that their acts of kindness really do make a difference."



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