



ACADEMIC & LEADERSHIP

2023-2027

Portfolio



Tiana
Fernandes

STUDENT

437 248 6429

Tianafernandes46@gmail.com

Bellashromvaser@gmail.com (for Media Inquiries)

profile

Dual-track student in Advanced Placement (AP) and Full French Immersion

- A combination no longer offered due to difficulty and academic pressure
- Maintained a 4.29 GPA in a program designed to stretch even the top-performing students

Projected to graduate with 52 credits (22 above the minimum)

- 28 credits earned by the end of Grade 10, no repeats
- SHSM Justice Sector

Unparalleled Multilingualism

- Fluent in French, English, and Spanish

Creative & Intellectual Contribution

- Published Author & Contributor in national anthologies and government library collections
- Creator of multiple advocacy pieces recognized by educators, political leaders, and youth organizations
- Numerous Media Publications

Leadership & Community Impact

- Over 700 verified volunteer and leadership hours, with a projected 1,000+ hours by graduation
- RBC Future Launch Scholarship Recipient

Real-World Skillset & Maturity

- Completed over 50 industry-recognized certifications
- Gained hands-on legal experience through a competitive co-op placement at Epstein & Associates Family Law Firm
- Several References including Principal Law Firm Partners

DECA Vice President of Career Development (Provincials Competitor (Top 12)

Accepted into the Prosper Ivey Invitational Competition

Mock Trial OJEN Competitor

Student Council Grade Rep 2024/2025, Social Governor 2025/2026

New Additions

As of August 1st

This page includes new certifications and recognitions completed or received after the original portfolio compilation. These additions reflect my continued commitment to growth, bilingual professional development, and leadership advancement.

Certifications (New Additions)

Leadership Pathway Training

Completion of a structured leadership development pathway, focusing on personal accountability, vision-building, and service-oriented leadership.

Common Illness Prevention: Full Course (Canada - en français)

Completed the French-language version of the national illness prevention training, reinforcing bilingual fluency in health and safety contexts.

Electrical Safety Introduction (Z-462) for Canada (Full Course)

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Built with Intention. Backed by Action

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

I did not stumble into leadership, I walked into it because I belonged here.

In Grade 5, I became the youngest student elected to Student council in York Region, not for recognition, but because I understood what it meant to be responsible for something bigger than myself.

I have never waited for opportunity, but I have always built it. Never to prove myself, but because I have always known who I am and what I am here to do. My purpose has never been about titles or applause. It is about people, about change that is not performative, it is personal, about justice that is not theoretical, it is lived. That is why I will have earned 28 credits by the end of Grade 10, not for a line on a résumé, but because I believe the work should speak before I ever do.

High school did not just educate me, it revealed me. Every subject, every challenge, every late-night essay showed me how law shapes justice, how psychology reveals people, and how politics reflects power. But more than anything, it showed me how all of those live in me, not separately, but as one purpose.

Psychology is how I think.

Politics is how I move.

Law is how I protect.

And leadership is how I serve.

High school taught me that we were never meant to pick one path.

It was meant to help us build bridges between all of them, so we could become the path. But purpose is not just shaped in classrooms. It is shaped in collapse, too. I have faced burnout, health battles, and days when my body could not hold the weight of my ambition.

What I used to see as weakness, I now understand as wisdom. Purpose, like justice, is a scale. It tips, it leans, it teaches you how to reset, when to speak, when to lead, when to pause. My health did not hold me back, it held me up to the light, it taught me how to expand without breaking. How to rest without quitting, how to build something sustainable, not just impressive. Now, I do not just pursue justice, I embody balance, not just in systems, but within myself.

This is not just a mission, it is a promise:

To lead with empathy.

To challenge with clarity.

To rise with integrity.

A promise to use everything I have lived, learned, and carried to create change that lasts.

My name is Tiana Fernandes, and this is my Opening Statement

Contact

437 248 6429

tianafernandes46@gmail.com
www.reallygreatsite.com

QUICK FACTS

TIANA FERNANDES

Basic Information

School: St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic High School (SMK)
Graduation Year: 2027 Programs: AP Advanced Placement + French Immersion
Current GPA: 4.77 (Weighted) / 3.7 (Unweighted)
Projected Credits: 54 (record-breaking in YCDSB)
Advanced Coursework • AP Mathematics • AP Science • AP English • Full French Immersion

Languages

- English (Native)
- French (Fluent)
- Spanish (Intermediate)

Program Certifications in Progress

- SHSM Non-Profit Sector Certification
- DELF B3 French Language Diploma
- SWU Teen Leadership Council Fellowship
- World Literacy Foundation Global Ambassador Program

Experience

- Electoral Community Connector – New Majority Project • Gymnastics Coach
- ReFrame Q & A Panelist Publications and Creative Work
- Published Author – Polar Expressions Anthology (Poem 'The True North')
- Published Work – Ottawa Government Library Collection (2 literary pieces)
- Public Advocacy Writing – 'The Kids Are Not Alright' publication
- Recognized Public Essays and Reflections on COVID-era education, mental health, and advocacy Public Advocacy and Collaborations
- Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) Collaborator – Youth education and justice assemblies
- York Communities for Public Education – Organizer and speaker, #StudentsSayNo campaigns
- Documentary Feature - 'Fault Lines', screened at ReFrame Film Festival and CILFF Artistic Advocacy Contributions
- Black History Month Mural Project - Permanent installation celebrating Black Canadian figures
- Environmental Guerrilla Art Exhibit – Built a large installation from 1,500+ plastic items, raised \$9,000 • Exploring Technologies (SMK Tech Program) - Top project recognition for Spirit Wear Photoshoot design and execution

Leadership & Engagement

Vice President of Career Development *DECA Ontario*
DECA Provincials Competitor (Top 15%)
Mock Trial Provincial Competitor – OJEN (Ontario Bar Association Collaboration)
Student Council – Grade Representative
Athletic Council Member
Law Club Member
Yearbook Committee Member
Model UN Member

Awards and Honours

- Ontario Junior Citizen Award Nominee
Top 15 Finalist (Provincial)
- Excellence in English Award - Mazo De La Roche Public School (Plaque + Name on School Wall)
- Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Day Literary Contest Winner
- Honour Roll - All academic years (consistent)
- Early Admission Offer – ISSOS Yale University Summer Program (by invitation)
RBC Future Launch Scholarship Recipient (Grade 10)

Previous Community Contributions

(Elementary & Middle School)

- 350+ verified volunteer hours
- Peer Tutoring Leader - Math and English tutoring
 - Literacy Program Assistant - Early reader support
 - Event Volunteer - Black History Month, Winter Concerts, Track & Field
 - Green Initiative Volunteer - Recycling and awareness campaigns
 - Community Fundraisers - School drives and events

Community Service Contributions

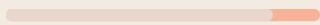
700+ verified community service hours

(goal: 1,100+ by graduation)

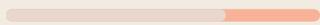
- **Academic Tutor for At-Risk Youth**
- **Volunteer Organizer** - York Communities for Public Education campaigns
Founder & Program Leader – AnchorPoint Youth Mental Health Advocacy Project
- Recruited and trained 12 teen volunteers.
- Designed weekly programming focused on emotional resilience, social mentorship, and leadership development.
- Founder & Director- LaunchTable Academic Mentorship Program
- Supported 50+ students in Grades 8–11 with university planning, résumé development, and course mapping
- Developed infrastructure including digital toolkits, branding, and live support systems • Recruited and trained peer mentors; created feedback and leadership succession plans
- Delivered presentations to students, teachers, and stakeholders (Non-monetary)
York Regional Police, Leo McArthur Leadership Initiative participant

Core Values & Strengths

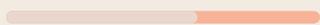
Purpose



Integrity



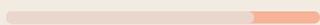
Courage



Advocacy



Empathy



Leadership



Educational Philosophy

To me, education is not about finding one thing to become. It is about understanding how every subject, law, politics, psychology, ethics, literature, connects to who you are and what you are meant to build. I have not just completed courses, I have used them to shape the kind of leader I want to be.

Current School

St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic High School
French Immersion Program | SHSM - Justice | Advanced Placement (AP) Track
Graduating Year: 2027

Academic Performance

Metric Detail

Current Grade: 10
GPA (Weighted): 4.29
Target SAT Score: 1540
Projected Credits by end of Grade 10: 28
Projected Total Credits by Graduation: 52

Specialized Programs

French Immersion:

Full immersion in academic French
Advanced French language proficiency in social sciences, religion, and literature

SHSM - Justice Sector (Specialist High Skills Major):

Focus on law, criminology, and public service
Includes certifications, co-op (planned for Summer 2025), and experiential learning

Advanced Placement (AP) & Enriched Learning:

Academic acceleration in law, history, and interdisciplinary studies
Independent study and leadership in curriculum-based projects

Co-op Internship: Law and Justice

Internship with the prestigious Epstein and Associates Law Firm.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

RBC Future Launch Scholarship Recipient (Grade 10)

Best Witness Award - OJEN Mock Trial (2025)

The Council Award

World Literacy Ambassador (2025)

PIIC Finalist - Youth Innovation Submission (2025)

Panel Speaker - Fault Lines Documentary Screening (2023)

DECA Vice President of Career Development (2025)

DECA Provincials Qualifier (2024)

Mock Trial Provincial Finalist (2025)

Student Council Grade Representative (Multiple Years)

Athletic Council Member (2025)

Ontario Justice Education Network Participant (2023)

Youth Leadership Award - Community Initiative (TBD)

Honour Roll with Distinction (Multiple Semesters)

StandWithUs Canada - Jewish Youth Leadership Program Participant (2025)

University/Scholarship Nominations (Ongoing)

Literary Recognition - Published Work in Anthology (2023)

My Scholarship Funds

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Year	Status	Payment Type	Payment Amount	Currency	Scholarship Name	Paid To	Payment Date
2025	Paid	General	1500.00	CAD	RBC Future Launch Scholarship	Tiana Fernandes	22/08/2025

Certifications & Specialized Training

I believe safety, ethics, and readiness are the foundation of leadership. These certifications reflect my commitment to protecting people, upholding standards, and showing up prepared.

Health & Safety Certifications (Completed – May 2025)

- Completed over 40 industry-recognized online training modules, including:
- WHMIS (Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System)
- Worker Health & Safety Awareness (Ontario)
- AED & CPR (Red Cross Certified)
- *First Aid – Emergency, Seizures, Diabetes, Anaphylaxis (Sabrina’s Law), Asthma (Ryan’s Law)
- Bloodborne Pathogens for Canada
- Lockout/Tagout & Electrical Safety
- Fall Protection, Ladder & Scaffolding Safety
- Office Ergonomics & Back Injury Prevention
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Slips, Trips, and Falls
- Fire Extinguisher Safety & General Safety Orientation

Food & Sanitation Certifications (Completed – May 2025)

- Certified Food Handler - Red Cross Canada (Full License)
- HACCP: Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
- Food Safety & Kitchen Sanitation
- Safe Use & Sanitation of Food Service Equipment

Professionalism, Ethics & Digital Literacy (Completed – May 2025)

- Customer Service (Administrator Stream – Canada)
- General Ethics in the Workplace
- Managing Difficult Behaviour
- Password Security & Digital Safety
- Discrimination & Workplace Violence Prevention
- Conflict Resolution & AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act)

Youth Support Certifications (Completed – May 2025)

- Indigenous Studies
- Babysitting Training - Red Cross
- Concussion Awareness: Athletics (Ontario)
- Nutrition Basics
- Hearing Protection
- Common Illness Prevention (Completed Twice for Cross-Platform Validity)

Total Certified Hours Completed: Approx. 25+ Hours Across 55 Modules + Red Cross Full-Day Training Sessions

CERTIFICATIONS

Certifying Organizations & Authorities

Verified Providers Behind All Completed Certifications

This page lists the organizations and authorities responsible for the training and certification programs I have completed. Each provider adheres to national or provincial standards in health and safety, youth leadership, food handling, and emergency preparedness.

Canadian Red Cross

Emergency First Aid
CPR (AED Certified)
Babysitting Safety Certification
Food Handler Safety (Full Certificate)
redcross.ca

Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS)

WHMIS (Canada)
Worker Health & Safety Awareness (Ontario)
Fall Protection
Ladder & Scaffolding Safety
Back Injury Prevention
PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)
Slips, Trips, and Falls
Electrical Safety
Lockout/Tagout
ccohs.ca

Public Services Health & Safety Association (Ontario)

Workplace Violence & Harassment Prevention
Infection Prevention & Control
Customer Service (Administrator – Canada)
General Ethics in the Workplace
Office Ergonomics
pshsa.ca

Food Handler Certification & Public Health Compliant Courses

HACCP: Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
Food Safety and Kitchen Sanitation
Food Service Equipment Use & Sanitation
ontario.ca/page/food-safety

Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (Ontario)

Worker Health & Safety Awareness
AODA: Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act
Sabrina's Law (Anaphylaxis)
Ryan's Law (Asthma)
ontario.ca

SafeCheck / SafeSchools / Online Safety Education Providers

(Platform-verified micro-certifications in legal, food, and safety sectors)

Bloodborne Pathogens
Concussion Awareness
Nutrition & Common Illness Prevention
Defensive Driving
Password Security & Cyber Safety
safeschools.com

Volunteer Placement Summary

B'nai Mitzvah Program Youth Program Volunteer

Supported cultural education and event coordination 111 hrs

Hall Community Charities Banquet & Event Support

Assisted in fundraising and logistics 107 hrs

YRDSB Mazo P.S. Classroom/School Support

Helped organize educational or outreach events 92 hrs

Silverpit Farm Outdoor Community Work

Supported local agricultural efforts 50 hrs

Community Safety Village Youth Facilitator

Delivered safety presentations and public education 40 hrs

Toronto Cares: Easter Food Drive Community Organizer

Participated in food collection and community outreach 18 hrs

JRCC - Passover Food Drive (x2) Volunteer

Assisted in food packaging and distribution 16 hrs

SMK Grade 8 Opening Student Ambassador

Helped facilitate school-wide welcome event 5 hrs

St. Maximilian Kolbe CHS Internal School Service

Provided leadership support during events 5 hrs

Paramount Banquet Hall Event Assistant

Assisted in community banquet events 8 hrs

New Majority - Provincial Elections Community Connector

Led youth engagement in civic participation

DECA Workshops and Leadership Events

YRDSB Community Assembly (Regular)

Leadership & Engagement

I did not just step into leadership, I grew with it. From elementary school to high school, every role has deepened my understanding of what it means to serve, to represent, and to build something bigger than myself.

Elementary School Leadership

Student Council - Grade 5

Youngest elected council member, supported student voice and helped organize school activities.

Chess Club - Grade 5

Junior Council - Grade 6

Created student leadership for Jr. grades initiatives and collaborated on school spirit projects.

Intermediate Council - Grades 7 & 8

MEC Club (Environmental Club)

Equality Club

Hall Monitor

Door Monitor

Lunch Monitor

Girls in Politics Participant

High School Leadership

Student Council Grade Representative - Grades 9 & 10

DECA Vice President of Career Development

Mock Trial - Lead Witness and Peer Mentor

Athletic Council Member

Canadian Model UN Delegate

Model UN Club Member - School Chapter

Debate Club

Prosper Ivy Invitational Competition

RBC Future Launch Scholarship Recipient



A voice for the community

TIANA FERNANDES

FOR GRADE 10 REP



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Over 450 volunteer hours
- Extra curriculars (i.e. DECA, Athletic council,)

COMMUNITY FOCUSED

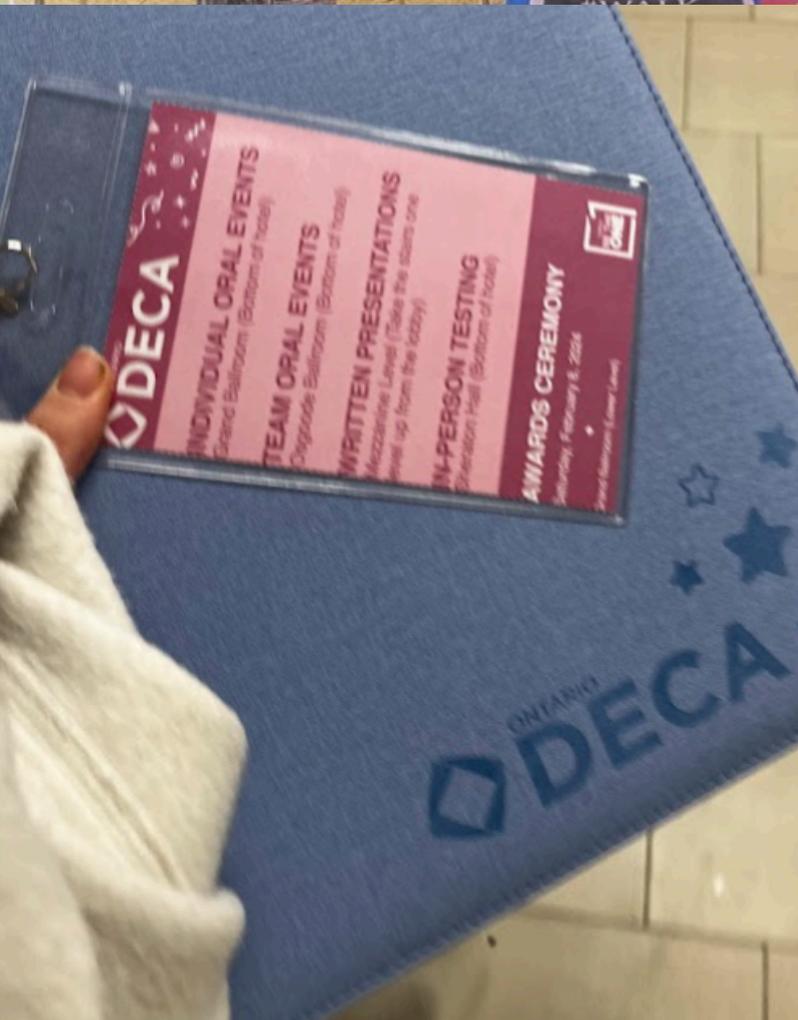
- More dances
- Additional activities (e.g. summer kickoff)
- More paid civics days

MY MISSION

I want to raise SMK spirit and bring the community closer together.

VOTE FOR TIANA

FOLLOW MY INSTA



DECA

INDIVIDUAL ORAL EVENTS
Crescent Ballroom (Bottom of lobby)

TEAM ORAL EVENTS
Orygonade Ballroom (Bottom of lobby)

WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS
Mezzanine Level (Take the stairs one level up from the lobby)

IN-PERSON TESTING
Operation Hall (Bottom of lobby)

AWARDS CEREMONY
Saturday, February 8, 2024
Grand Ballroom (Lower Level)



MOCK TRIAL TEAM

PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA FEATURES

Published Work and Media

Published Author - Polar Expressions Anthology (Poem 'The True North')

Published Work - Ottawa Government Library Collection (2 literary pieces)

Public Advocacy Writing - 'The Kids Are Not Alright' publication

Recognized Public Essays and Reflections on COVID-era education, mental health, and advocacy Public Advocacy and Collaborations

Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) Collaborator – Youth education and justice assemblies

York Communities for Public Education - Organizer and speaker, #StudentsSayNo campaigns

Documentary Feature - 'Fault Lines', screened at ReFrame Film Festival and CILFF - <https://www.faultlinesmovie.com/>

PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA FEATURES



Rob Viscardis' 25-minute short "Fault Lines". (Photo courtesy of ReFrame Film Festival)

A documentary that doesn't quite work, however, is Rob Viscardis' **Fault Lines** (featured in "The Art of Listening: Health, Community, Disparity" shorts program). People who are involved in the healthcare industry and other essential/frontline workers are interviewed about the global COVID-19 pandemic and how it has effected their lives and careers.

Viewers may find catharsis through the stories that are told, and we can't help but share empathy with those who talk about losing loved ones during these turbulent times. Other than this emotional connection, Viscardis' doc is feedback through a megaphone. *Fault Lines* doesn't tell audiences anything they don't know or haven't experienced already.

Aside from a reassuring interview with aspiring political activist Tiana Fernandes, we walk away from the short only reminded of the stress and anxiety this current pandemic provides.



"Fault Lines" to premiere at ReFrame Film Fest 2023

Ontario-wide production for Ontario Federation of Labour

"Fault Lines" to premiere at ReFrame Film Fest 2023

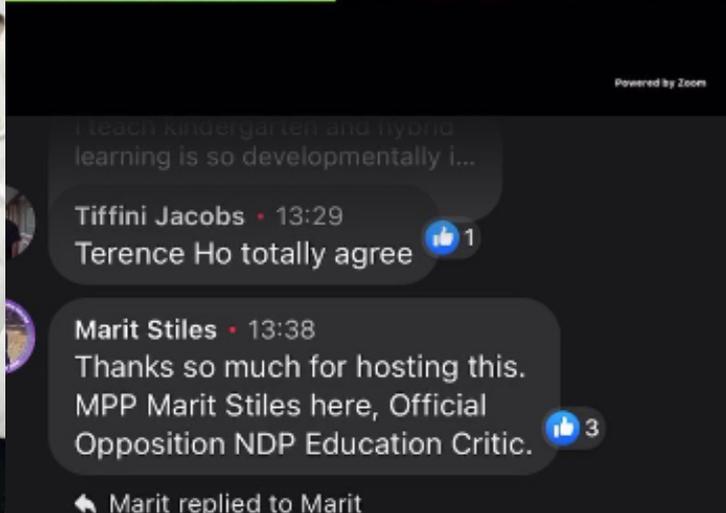


Jun 4, 2022

This spring Ontario Federation of Labour documentary production for We...

mentary, directed produced by s set to premiere onal Film

PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA FEATURES



EDUCATION PRESENTS...

#STUDENTSSAYNO TO NORMALIZING CRISIS LEARNING TOWN HALL

THURSDAY MAY 20, 2021
7:00PM to 8:30PM
Live Broadcast on YCFPE'S YouTube Channel
Register at linktr.ee/yorkcommunities4public



Featuring:

		
Padmira Grade 7 YRDSB Student	Riya YCFPE Co-Chair, Moderator, and Former YRDSB Student	Palwashah Grade 12 YRDSB Student
		
Hannah Grade 7 YCDSB Student	Milena Grade 9 YCDSB Student	

Including performances by Tiana and Adrian!



ARTISTIC ADVOCACY CONTRIBUTIONS

Black History Month Mural Project
Permanent installation celebrating Black Canadian figures

Environmental Guerrilla Art Exhibit
Built a large installation from 1,500+ plastic items, raised \$9,000

Exploring Technologies (SMK Tech Program)
Top project recognition for Spirit Wear Photoshoot design and execution

CREATIVE ADVOCACY



PERSONAL INITIATIVES

GROUNDLAW+

Type: Legal Innovation & Youth Advocacy

Summary:

A transformative youth-led framework rooted in Indigenous justice, land-based healing, and legal reform. GROUNDLAW+ challenges the limits of traditional law by integrating cultural knowledge, restorative practice, and youth voice, designed as a solution for real systemic change, not just awareness.

LaunchTable

Type: Academic Strategy & Peer Mentorship

Summary:

A student-run initiative to help high school students plan their academic journey from Grade 8 to 12, offering course strategy, scholarship prep, résumé support, and mentorship. LaunchTable is designed to fill the gaps left by overburdened guidance departments.

Anchor Point

Type: Healing, Self-Awareness, and Youth Media

Summary:

Anchor Point is a podcast project focused on mental health, emotional growth, self-worth, and cultural reflection. With a conversational tone and zero judgment, it creates space for real talk, raw healing, and laughter between sisters and peers.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE & CO-OP

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE & CO-OP

Founder & Director

LaunchTable - Legal Mentorship Initiative | January 2025 - Present
Founded a peer mentorship platform guiding 50+ students on résumés and academic law pathways. Contributing to measurable increases in student confidence and clarity in justice-sector goals.

Legal Volunteer & Peer Educator

AnchorPoint Youth Advocacy | September 2024 – May 2025
Supported legal mentors with early case research and rights-based content creation. Led 60+ peer workshops on youth mental health, due process, and civic rights, achieving a 64% student return rate through impactful legal education.

Youth Leadership Participant

Leo McArthur Program - York Regional Police | August 2023 – August 2024
Completed 30+ hours of certified training in legal ethics, public safety, and constitutional rights.
Engaged in structured dialogue on restorative justice, youth criminal law, and community-based policing models with due diligence.

Civic Organizer & Outreach Lead

New Majority Project & #StudentsSayNo Campaign | March 2023 – April 2025
Spearheaded region-wide legal advocacy initiatives reaching 300+ constituents. Logged over 400 verified hours advancing education equity, electoral justice, and youth literacy through targeted outreach, policy engagement, and community mobilization.

Speaker & Legal Advocate- Ontario Federation of Labour

Provincial Education Assembly | March 2023 – June 2024
Delivered keynotes to provincial education stakeholders advocating for legislative improvements in student equity, mental health resources, and youth rights. Recognized for advancing legal discourse on systemic educational barriers and influencing dialogue on policy reform impacting 2,000+ Ontario students.

Youth Advocate & Panellist- Ontario Federation of Labour

Through Our Fault Lines Documentary | August 2023- May 2023
Selected to represent youth perspectives in a justice-centred documentary. Articulated legal insights on student rights, post-COVID education law, and mental health policy. Participated in a live Q&A panel with government officials, union leaders, and filmmakers, contributing to province-wide discourse on youth legal equity and systemic reform.

Legal Co-op Student

Epstein & Associates Family Law Firm | July 2025 – Present (anticipated or ongoing)
Selected for a competitive high school co-op placement at a leading York Region family law firm. Supporting the legal team with intake assessments, legal correspondence drafting, and research into divorce proceedings, custody arrangements, and family law precedents. Observing client meetings, mediations, and court preparation with attention to confidentiality, client care, and procedural compliance.

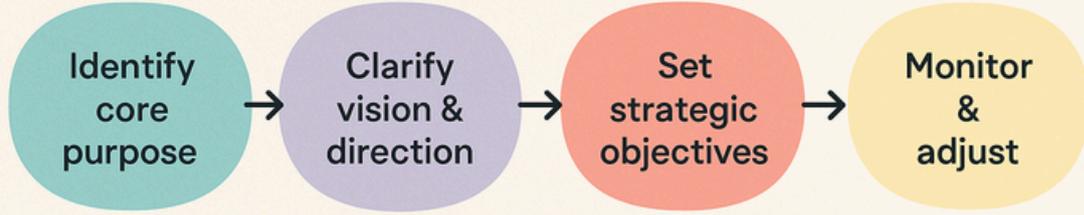
Certified Legal & Administrative Training

Completed a full suite of SHSM-aligned certifications, including:

- WHMIS & Health & Safety (General & Workplace-Specific)
- Infection Prevention, Emergency First Aid, Customer Service, and Workplace Violence Prevention
- Legal-Specific Training: Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), Diversity & Inclusion in Legal Practice, and Data Privacy in Family Law Contexts

STRATEGIC PROFILE & GROWTH PLAN

Strategy Map



REFERENCES & ENDORSEMENTS

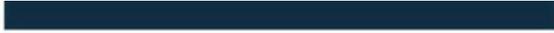
Academic and School-Based References

Mr. De Felice
Law & Leadership Teacher
St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic High School
Relationship: Academic mentor, mock trial coach, Law Reference
Defelice@ycdsb.ca | (905) 555-1234

Leadership Programs & Public Initiatives

[New Majority Program Contact]
Community Engagement Lead
New Majority (Provincial Elections)
Relationship: Youth civic engagement leader
[newmajority@org.ca] | (647) 555-8899

[StandWithUs Canada Rep]
Program Coordinator – Youth Leadership Program
Relationship: Leadership program facilitator
[swucanada@advocacy.org] | (604) 555-3311



EPSTEIN
& ASSOCIATES
BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

Tel: 905-898-2266

Fax: 905-898-2216

e-mail: heather@epsteinlaw.ca

July 31, 2025

Sent via e-mail to: emilio.belmonte@ycdsb.ca

**Mr. Emilio Belmonte OCT
York Regional Catholic District School Board
Cooperative Education Dept.
Holy Cross Catholic Academy
7501 Martin Grove Road,
Woodbridge, ON L4L 9E4**

Dear Mr. Belmonte

RE: Co-op Placement Student - Tiana Fernandes

Throughout Tiana Fernandes' placement at Epstein and Associates, she consistently demonstrated a strong ability to work independently, however did not hesitate to ask questions. Tiana approached her tasks with care and meticulous attention to detail, requiring minimal supervision. She was assigned various tasks that were well above her current education level and handled them with a high level of maturity, particularly given the sensitive and confidential nature of some assignments. Tiana effectively utilized her critical thinking skills to navigate challenging tasks that required strategic problem-solving. Senior counsel at the firm were astounded in her research and writing abilities.

In terms of teamwork, Tiana collaborated positively with colleagues and interacted professionally with clients. While engaging with lawyers and clients in the office, she exhibited a high level of maturity and respect for diverse perspectives. Tiana also demonstrated her ability to adhere to strict confidentiality protocols within the legal profession and further governed by the Law Society of Ontario, such as when she reviewed clients' confidential banking information.

Main Office:

235 Eagle Street, Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 1J8
Tel: 905.898.2266 Fax: 905.898.2216

Barrie - Richmond Hill - Mississauga - Oshawa

www.epsteinlaw.ca

EPSTEIN
& ASSOCIATES
BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

Tiana has shown a genuine interest and strong desire to learn within the legal profession. She is resilient in the fast-paced environment of a law firm, where chaos often occurs where unexpected emergencies disrupt the day's schedule.

It was a sincere pleasure to have Tiana join Epstein & Associates for the summer of 2025. Her strong work ethic, eagerness to learn, and strong opinions make her an outstanding addition to any team. I have no doubt that Tiana will excel in the legal profession in the years to come.

Sincerely yours,



**Heather Cholmondeley
Senior Family Law Clerk
/hc**

Encl.



**YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM
FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT**

Student Name: Tiana Fernandes **Due:** 2025-07-16

Supervisor: Heather Cholmondeley **Placement:** Epstein & Associates

The purpose of this assessment is to ascertain the student's strengths and weaknesses observed by the supervisor at the Co-op placement. The personal information pertaining to the student may be subject to the Municipal Freedom of Information Act.

E – Excellent, G – Good, S – Satisfactory, N – Needs Improvement

Learning and Working Skills	E	G	S	N
Works Independently	E	G	S	N
Works carefully with minimum supervision,	✓			
Solves problems independently,	✓			
Dependable,	✓			
Productive	✓			
Teamwork/Interpersonal	E	G	S	N
Works co-operatively and positively with others,	✓			
Respects thoughts and opinions of others,	✓			
Demonstrates ethics and integrity	✓			
Organization	E	G	S	N
Follows instructions,	✓			
Keeps a "to do" list if necessary,	✓			
Dresses appropriately.	✓			
Work Habits	E	G	S	N
Consistent attendance and punctuality,	✓			
Follows safety procedures,	✓			
Follows company procedures,	✓			
Respects confidentiality.	✓			
Initiative	E	G	S	N
Adjusts to change,	✓			
Shows interest/ desire to learn,	✓			
Seeks help when needed,	✓			
Responds to challenges,	✓			
Requires little prompting to complete a task,	✓			
Displays self-motivation and self-direction.	✓			

Other Job Related Tasks:

Supervisor's Comments

Strengths and Improvements noted:

Respects thoughts and opinions of others, however Tiana was not afraid to ask questions and voice her own opinion on the situation (after the fact) (after a meeting or hearing) which was extremely impressive. She did not hesitate to voice her opinion or ask questions to the lawyer she was shadowing. This demonstrated skill is crucial if she wants to continue in Law. And extremely impressive! will make ^{her} a strong litigator!

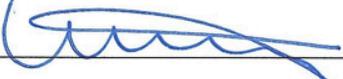
Areas for Improvement:

to keep up the hard work, desire and ambition that she has!!
I see articling student with less desire and motivation than Tiana has/had.

Overall Comments:

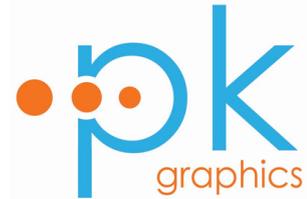
See attached letter.

Name: Heather Cholmondeley

Signed: 

PK Graphics
677 McGregor Farm Trail
Newmarket, Ontario L3X 0H3

Date: 22-05-2025



Subject: Verification of Volunteer Leadership and Contributions - Tiana Fernandes

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of **PK Graphics**, we are honoured to confirm the outstanding contributions and leadership accomplishments of **Tiana Fernandes**, who successfully collaborated with our organization through the creation, launch, and facilitation of the **AnchorPoint: Youth Resilience & Leadership Collective** initiative.

From **July 22, 2024, to May 15th, 2025**, Tiana demonstrated remarkable initiative, professionalism, and dedication, serving as the **Founder and Program Leader** of AnchorPoint, a youth-focused after-school resilience and leadership development program made available to the teenage dependents of our employees.

Through AnchorPoint, Tiana designed, implemented, and sustained a comprehensive youth support program aimed at strengthening emotional well-being, academic accountability, self-leadership, and real-world motivation among adolescents. Her leadership, mentorship, and program development efforts have directly contributed to the overall well-being of our employee families and have exemplified the spirit of youth-driven community leadership.

Specifically, during her time with our organization, Tiana accomplished the following:

- **Program Design and Launch:** Developed and implemented a fully structured after-school peer support program emphasizing emotional resilience, academic mentorship, leadership skills, and community building.
- **Volunteer Recruitment and Leadership:** Successfully recruited, trained, and led a team of **12 youth volunteers**, facilitating their active involvement in weekly peer support activities and leadership workshops.
- **Workshop Development:** Created and facilitated weekly sessions covering topics such as stress management, emotional accountability, academic goal setting, leadership communication, and peer empowerment.
- **Community Impact:** Established a safe, supportive after-school environment serving as an emotional "anchor point" for teenage participants navigating academic, social, and emotional pressures.

- **Sustained Commitment:** Completed and contributed **over 260 verified volunteer hours**, maintaining a consistent leadership presence, adapting programming based on participant needs, and evaluating program impact through participant feedback and outcomes.

Throughout this period, Tiana consistently demonstrated exceptional qualities, including strategic leadership, emotional intelligence, motivational speaking skills, and unwavering commitment to youth empowerment.

Her ability to design, launch, and sustain a high-impact initiative at such a young age speaks volumes about her leadership potential, emotional maturity, and community-centred mindset.

Tiana's partnership with our organization has not only provided a lasting benefit to the youth participants and their families but has also enhanced our overall employee wellness programming.

We are proud to endorse her leadership, innovation, and volunteer contributions for consideration in scholarship applications, university admissions, professional development, and public recognition.

For any additional information or verification inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact **Elyar Khalili** at sales@pkgraphics.ca or **(647)655-5776**.

Sincerely,

Elyar Khalili
Founder
PK Graphics

Appendix A:

The following is Available Upon Request

A1 Ontario Junior Citizen Award Nomination Official Certificate

Top 15 Finalist, Provincial Recognition Certificate photo attached

A2 Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Day Literary Award

3rd Place Winner, Official Legion Certificate Certificate photo attached

A3 Honour Roll Certificates, Multiple Honour Roll Academic Achievement

Certificates Certificates attached

A4 Excellence in English Award (Mazo De La Roche)

Plaque and school award wall recognition. Plaque photo attached

A5 Polar Expressions Anthology Publication Published Poem "The True North"

Certificate of Publication Publication certificate and title page photo

A6 Ottawa Government Library Publications Letters

confirming the publication of two literary works, Letters, screenshots/photos attached

A7 Fault Lines Documentary

Participation Recognition and documentary feature via OFL + ReFrame Film Festival, Film credits or participant photo

A8 Black History Month Mural Project: Mural celebrating Black History

Installed at school, Mural photo attached

A9 Environmental Guerrilla Art Exhibit Installation using

1,500+ plastic straws highlighting environmental pollution. Exhibit photo attached

A10 SMK Tech Spirit Wear Photoshoot Contributor

Contributed to school-wide spiritwear branding and promotion. A photo shoot photo is attached

Appendix B:

Proof of Leadership and Participation Certificates and Letters:

B1 DECA Vice President Appointment Letter

B2 DECA Provincial Competition Certificate

B3 Mock Trial Qualification Certificate

B4 Student Council Grade Representative Service Letters

B5 Athletic Council Membership Confirmation

B6 Law Firm Volunteer Reference Letter

B7 Fault Lines Documentary Featured Speaker Confirmation (and promotional materials)

B8 Gymnastics Coaching Employer Reference /Hours Log

B9 World Literacy Foundation Ambassador Acceptance Letter (Pending)

B10 StandWithUs Teen Leadership Council Acceptance Letter

B11 Kenneth Leventhal Future Leaders Fellowship Acceptance Letter (Pending)

B12 Legislative Assembly of Ontario Model Parliament forms

B13 PIIC Whistler Acceptance Letter