



Ldao • Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario

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June 25th 2014

RE: The C.J. Skateboard Foundation and the Canadian Skateboard Park and School Association.

As President & CEO of the Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO) I am pleased to offer my support to the charitable status application of the CJ Skateboard Foundation. We have been associated with the Skateboard School since 2008 and have observed the positive impact that skateboarding at the Skateboard School has on kids with Learning Disabilities (LDs).

A child with an LD often has a tough time at school, can suffer in a social setting and lives a life characterized by what appears as failure to them. While support can be offered at school and through charities like LDAO the need for a "win" in their lives is huge. This is where a program like those proposed to be offered by the CJ Foundation plays a vital role. In a safe environment children can learn a sport, make new friends, acquire new skills and most importantly not feel they have failed. That can spark a growth in confidence that can become a seed that will flourish and change a life for the better.

Having worked with Jay Mandarino and his team I offer complete support for the application by the Foundation for charitable status. LDAO believes in the positive effects from activities at the Skateboard School so much that my staff and I volunteered to help the Skateboard School this year as part of our efforts to serve the community.

If you require any further details please feel free to contact me at the number below.

Yours Sincerely,

Lawrence Barns
President & CEO