

June 30, 2015

Letter of Reference for Cameron Cross.

I am pleased to write this letter of reference for Cameron Cross. I have known Cameron since 1996. We worked together at W.C. Miller Collegiate in Altona, Manitoba where I was the school principal and he was the creative and passionate art teacher. Our paths converged back onto the same tablet in 2005 in Pembina Trails School Division (Winnipeg, MB) where Cameron had become the art consultant and I an Assistant Superintendent.

Cameron consistently finds ways to integrate his love for creative arts and the engagement of students in pursuing their artistic intelligence. He is particularly gifted in inspiring colleagues to see art as integral to the students' educational experience. Developing and deepening our students' character and tendency towards positive social action is an important outcome of Cameron's work in education. Cameron's considerable success as an art consultant is built on the foundation that he is a very gifted artist and his ability to work well with others.

Cameron has a special talent for working with large groups of people. He has been successful time and time again in planting seeds for art projects and then working alongside his colleagues in bringing the project to completion. Three shining examples are the *Empty Bowls*, *Brush Out Poverty*, and the *Human Rights* projects. The recently completed Divisional Human Rights Project was a major undertaking involving 13,000 students and 2,000 staff. Cameron planted the seed for the idea and was an integral part in motivating others to become involved. He was on the leadership team that captured the hearts and minds of the Pembina Trails community to bring this major undertaking to a very successful conclusion in May, 2015. All three ventures used art as the cornerstone for awakening the students' and community's desire to take their beliefs from vision into action.

Without reservation, I commend Cameron Cross for being an outstanding artist, educator, and leader.

Sincerely,
Ted Fransen

Superintendent of Education/CEO