



November 15, 2016

Mr. David Thompson
Chairman of the Board
Near North District School Board
963 Airport Road, PO Box 3110
North Bay, ON P1B 8H1

Dear Mr. Thompson:

Re. *FIRST* Team 1305 Robotics Sponsorship Opportunity

The Near North Student Robotics Initiative (NNSRI), *FIRST* Team 1305, Ice Cubed is once again seeking the support of the Near North District School Board. *FIRST* (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) offers international robotics competitions for youth between the ages of six years and high school to develop technology and business skills by engineering a robot and building a team.

Originating in the Near North District Board, *FIRST* Team 1305 is now looking forward to our seventeenth year of competition. Our team is recognized for bringing *FIRST* to North Eastern Ontario, establishing and mentoring teams in Sudbury, Timmins, Huntsville, Nipissing First Nation and Wikwemikong, as well as other communities. This year we plan to attend two Canadian qualifying *FIRST* FRC competitions for larger robots.

In keeping with our commitment to outreach, we also mentor seventeen NNDSB and one Huntsville ***FIRST* Lego League (FLL)** team for elementary students, aged nine to fourteen. These teams represent several locales as well as a variety of learning needs. Schools may have more than one team. Currently FLL is represented in the following NNDSB schools:

Sunset Park	Chippewa
Sundridge	Ferris Glen
EW Norman	West Ferris
MT Davidson	ET Carmichael
Vincent Massey	WJ Fricker
Alliance	

FIRST provides a \$500 grant for each new FLL team. *FIRST* also contributes an additional \$500 for all girl teams, at least 40% First Nation teams and predominantly low-income teams.

So far this year we have obtained \$5000 in *FIRST* Lego grants and \$1500 in *FIRST* Lego League Jr. grants since the beginning of the school year. We anticipate facilitating further grants for our second all girl FLL team, low-income teams and more FLL Jr. teams.

FIRST Team 1305 will be hosting our second FLL Qualifying Tournament on December 10, 2016. We will also be hosting our second FLL Jr. Showcase in the spring.

FIRST is the largest student robotics competition in the world. *FIRST* Team 1305 had a very successful 2016 *FIRST* season, winning six awards. For the thirteenth time we have qualified for the World Championships. Throughout the entire year we also continued our efforts to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) within the north by participating in conferences, workshops and outreach events. In fact, over the past five years we have averaged more than one community involvement day a week per year.

We are particularly proud of inspiring our community to host the first *FIRST* North Bay Robotics Regional Competition in March 2014. Look forward to the fourth big event at Nipissing University in April 2017. Because of the support that has been provided by the NNDSB to our team, the board joins the city as strategic partners for this event.

100% of students who remain with the team graduate from secondary school and continue on post-secondary studies. Through the efforts of *FIRST* Team 1305, Canadore College and Nipissing University now offer scholarships to *FIRST* students. Additionally, *FIRST* students are eligible for scholarships in many post-secondary institutions across North America.

Last year you graciously donated to our team \$15,000, for which we are very thankful. We ask this year that you once again support our team for that same amount. With that level of sponsorship the NNDSB logo would be displayed on the current year's robot, displayed prominently in our pit and in the North Bay FRC event program.

For further information, please contact business mentor, Ms. Beverly Carmichael, at 705 476-1331 ext. 239.

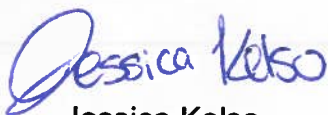
Please make cheques payable to

FIRST Team 1305

and address to FIRST Team 1305, PO Box 1305, Stn. Main, North Bay ON P1B 8K4.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,



Jessica Kelso
Captain

Harikesh Panchal
Business Manager



Beverly Carmichael, CPA, CMA,
Mentor