

Maureen's Reel Irish Dancing

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Ontario Trillium Foundation
45 Charles Street East, 5th Floor
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To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the O'Connor Irish Heritage House I write to heartily support their application to Ontario Trillium for capital funds. Your support would help in developing a place that is beautifully suited to becoming a home for Irish Culture, Heritage and Learning – beneficial to not only the local community but to people across Toronto.

The Irish have promoted and shared their rich heritage in Toronto and Ontario for decades. This on-going purpose is worthy of support by the Trillium grant. Our own school of Irish dance and music has been involved in the Toronto Irish and wider Ontario Irish community for over 25 years. From our experience the number of young people with Irish heritage is continually growing. In all generations: children, teenagers, young adults, the middle aged and well into the golden years – our *Maureen's Reel Irish Dancing* classes are alive. Their desire to learn of their heritage and learn of their ancestor's dance, music, language and so on ever deepens, it is palpable. There is a deep interest among the young to know their heritage. In addition it is a healthy, safe, fun activity for all ages – dance, movement, co-ordination, family building and community relationships.

We welcome a venue such as this and are fully confident in the ability of this dedicated O'Connor Irish Heritage House Board of Directors to bring these possibilities to life at a restored O'Connor Estate. We have heard people speak of a new home and we have felt the anticipation. *Maureen's Reel Irish Dancing* very much looks forward to contributing to the culture and learning at O'Connor Irish Heritage House: teaching children's dance, adult ceili dance and Irish step dancing.

I am happy to be a reference for this application. Please feel free to contact me if you require additional information.

Sincerely,



Maureen Mulvey
Director