

Speaking of play

News from your Children's YMCA



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Watch for the
next edition of
*Speaking of
Play*
in September
2010

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ymcanorthumberland.com

Programs Have an Impact — A Campbellford OEYC Feature



New Campbellford family thrilled to have access to the OEYC programs

Moving to a rural Canadian town from Saudi Arabia with three young children in tow presented huge challenges for Maha and her family. Her husband, an industrial engineer, was required to stay in Saudi Arabia for many months after their move to complete his work before he could join them and other family members living in the Campbellford area.

Maha, 24, was feeling overwhelmed caring for three children under four years of age, on her own in a new country. She was concerned about their behaviour. When enrolling her son at school, she was given information about the Campbellford Ontario Early Years Centre as a place to meet other families and learn about our parenting programs.

Maha and her children visit the centre two to

three times per week. Her children come for circle time, and for the opportunity to paint and play with Playdoh—activities that are new to them and that they enjoy very much. She met with our

Education and Resource Coordinator, Samantha Kelly, to further discuss her concerns about her son's behaviour and to access resources on strategies to help her son cope with stress and adjust to change.

Maha feels that there have been many benefits to using the Campbellford OEYC, including what she says is an incredible amount of support from staff.

"They have made me feel very welcome, introduced me to other families, and directed me to other services in the community," says Maha.

Maha doesn't drive so she must walk with all three children, wherever she goes. Families who use the centre have invited her to dinner, driven her and her children to the zoo, and helped her connect with other services in the community.

"I have made many friends at the centre," Maha says enthusiastically.

Weeks after meeting with OEYC staff, she called to say that she had been using some of the strategies they suggested and she had already noticed a real change in her son's behaviour. Something else she is thrilled about is that each day that her two-year-old daughters leave the OEYC they have learned a new English word.

The centre is easily accessible and located conveniently so that Maha can walk there with her children. The connections she has made with families who have children that are close in age to her own, and who are experiencing similar stages of development would have been difficult to make outside of an OEYC.

"We are very proud of Maha and how well she is doing under circumstances that must be extremely difficult for her," says Sam. "We commend her for her strength of character. It is an amazing feeling to know that just a few simple suggestions could have had such a positive impact on her.

"I am inspired by her strength, her ability to cope with change, her positive attitude and her genuine love for her children," Sam adds.

Thank you Maha for inspiring us!



Terry Fox Movie Night

Several Terry Fox Y Child Care families came out for a special Movie Night in the school gym recently. Winners of the draw prize are Angela, Brady and Hunter Davis (with pal Austin Tedford). Congratulations.

6th Annual Mega Machines and Family Fun Fair Set for August 19th at Cobourg YMCA

Please plan to join us for our 6th annual Mega Machines and Family Fun Fair event at the Cobourg Family YMCA on Thursday, August 19th, from 5:30-7:30 pm. Come dressed as a pirate and join us for a walk along the Treasure Trail, a barbecue dinner and to climb aboard the Mega Machines. Fun for all ages and funds raised help support the YMCA Strong Kids Campaign



Campbellford Celebrates

Sparky the Magician helped entertain lots of families at the Campbellford OEYC Sharing the Caring event in May. The event brings the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit together with a number of other service agencies for a day of fun and healthy tips.

Four More Graduates

We are thrilled to congratulate four more high school graduates from the Teen Education and Mothering program at CDCI East. In partnership with the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board, Alpha House, the health unit, and Northumberland Children's Aid Society, the YMCA provides child-minding in the school's Infant Room, while the babies' mothers study next door. In the two years the program has been running, 15 young women have now graduated from the program.



News and Updates

Staffing Updates

Children's YMCA will be undergoing several changes, additions and leaves during the summer months. The school-age programs from Grafton and St. Joseph's will merge into one at CR Gummow Y Child Care during this time.

Additionally, and by centre:

At Beatrice Strong Y Child Care — We bid farewell to Supervisor Sheryl Bernard as she goes on her second maternity leave, beginning June 30th . Taking her place, is the familiar face of Laurie Gourd, who has been appointed the Interim Supervisor at the site. YMCA Child Care Program Director Debbie Brown will be lending her leadership and direction to Laurie as she learns her new role. Joining the Beatrice Strong team for summer is Stacey Barron, a summer student who is perusing her teaching career.

At CR Gummow Y Child Care — For children's comfort levels and best professional coverage, staff from the merging centres will join existing site supervisor Jessica Eddy at the Gravely Street site. Joining in, will be Adam Weatherup (Cobourg) and Nancy Pollitt (Grafton) with relief support from Kasie Taylor (Cobourg) .

At Cobourg YMCA Child Care — Kasie, Karen and Daniela will be working with summer student Taylor Whitefield, who is pursuing her ECE diploma.

At Terry Fox YMCA Child Care — Summer student Jackie Wilhelm will be join the Terry Fox team before returning to school to pursue her teaching degree. We wish Sherry Groves well as she departs for her second maternity leave and welcome Dawn Murphy back from her maternity leave.

At Cobourg OEYC — we welcome summer students Brittany Lammers, who will be supporting the Kindergarten Foundations school readiness programs at Terry Fox and Percy Centennial schools, as well as Angela McCann, who will lend support and relief to the Cobourg OEYC crew. Welcome all and we hope you have a wonderful summer with us at the YMCA.

Looking for fundraising success for a YMCA family

YMCA Northumberland prides itself on being inclusive and accessible, and we are therefore excited to be a part of a fund-raising event to help one of our child care clients, Tyler Lynn. Tyler has Muscular Dystrophy and relies on a wheelchair for his mobility.

Tyler's family is anxious to purchase a wheelchair-accessible van and are participating in a series of fund-raising events. The Y is hosting a raffle with great prizes that include:

- 4 tickets to the musical WICKED, the Untold Story of the Witches of Oz on October 23 (value \$320)
- 4 tickets and a parking pass to the Toronto Blue Jays vs the Texas Rangers game on September 9 (value: \$262)
- 4 tickets for a free game at the Putting Edge and a gift certificate to Boston Pizza (value: \$70)

All tickets are \$5.00 each and are available at all YMCA child care centres.

The draw will be made at our Mega Machines and Fun Fair event on August 19th

How to Contact Us

YMCA Northumberland

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Child Care Centres

Beatrice Strong YMCA Child Care
C.R. Gummow YMCA Child Care
Cobourg YMCA Child Care
Grafton YMCA Child Care
St. Joseph's YMCA Child Care
Terry Fox YMCA Child Care

Ontario Early Years Centres

Brighton OEYC
Campbellford OEYC
Cobourg OEYC
Hastings OEYC
Port Hope OEYC
Trenton OEYC

We're on the web:
ymcanorthumberland.com

Speaking of Play newsletter now available on our website. Find it under Early Years or Child Care.

We build strong kids,
strong families,
strong communities.

Y Plus de vie à la vie
des jeunes, des familles
et de la communauté.

YMCA Northumberland

Ontario



Children's Y Events

In this section you will find listings for events that are occurring at Children's YMCA centres across the riding.

For further details on any listing please contact us at
905.377.1271 or 1.866.301.6392

YMCA Child Care Summer Schedules:

ALL School-age Trips:

Jul 8 — Science Centre
Jul 13/14 — Overnight camping for Gummow & Terry Fox at Presqu'île Provincial Park
July 14/15 — Overnight camping for Beatrice Strong CC
Jul 22 — Centreville Amusement Park/Centre Island
Jul 29 — MacLachlan Wood Working Museum in Kingston
Aug 5 — Wild Water Kingdom
Aug 12 — Rogers Centre for Toronto Blue Jays Game
Wednesday, Aug 18 — Lang Pioneer Village
Aug 26 — Metro Toronto Zoo
Sept. 2 — Trenton Air Force Museum of Canada
Jul 6, 20, Aug 3, 17 & 31 — Victoria Beach & pool days for Beatrice Strong and Terry Fox CC

ALL Pre-School Trips:

Jul 7 — Trenton Air Force Museum
Jul 14, 28, Aug 11, Aug 25 — Victoria Beach & Local Exploration
July 21 — Found Farm
Aug 4 — Water Park & Peterborough Zoo
Aug 18 — Lang Pioneer Village
Sept 1 — Bomanville Zoo

Port Hope

Jul 13, 27 — 10:30 am,
Neighbourhood Walks
Jul 23 — 10:30 am, Lilac Lodge Farm Visit and picnic
Aug 10 — 10 am, Beach Day
Aug 24 — 10:30 am, Peterborough Zoo trip

Trenton

Aug 17 — 10 am, Teddy Bear Picnic
Aug 19 — 10 am, Splash Pad visit

ALL sites — Thursday, Aug 19 — 5:30-7:30 pm.

Annual YMCA Mega Machines and Family Fun Fair event.

C.R. Gummow YMCA Child Care Every Mon, Wed & Fri — Swimming at Centennial Pool



It's a Boy!

The YMCA extends its congratulations to the Children's Y Administrator Elayne Linn and her husband Darren for the safe arrival of their first child, Merrick, born June 20th, and weighing 6 lbs 11 oz. Mother and babe are doing well. Our best wishes to the growing family.

Ontario Early Years Sites

Cobourg

My Time with Dad Jul 10, Aug 14 — 11:00-12:30—A fun-filled program just for dads to enjoy with their children. Join us for activities in the gym, circle time, a snack and a chance to get together with other dads.

Campbellford

Jul 19 — 10 am, Teddy Bear Picnic