



Ontario Association of Education Advocates

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Pam Fitzgerald
President

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Executive Director

Mark your calendars. SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2008

Julian Falconer, noted human rights lawyer, will keynote OAEA's 2nd Annual Parent Advocates Conference & AGM:

Transforming Shared Solutions for All

Mr. Falconer's report on the Toronto school board caused quite a stir last January, public education being what it is. [Listen to the podcast!](#) Drawing insights from his work Mr. Falconer will speak to the rights of children with exceptionalities.

Judy Finlay, Assistant Professor in Ryerson's School of Child and Youth Care, and until recently, [Ontario's Child Advocate](#), will speak to her work for exceptional pupils,

Barbara Roberts is Coordinator of the Post-secondary Accessibility Team at Queen's University. She will paint a picture of how good it can be once through the high school gauntlet. In Ontario's Colleges and Universities [the Code is honored, and disputes mediated](#).

Both Judy Finlay and Barbara Roberts are also doctoral candidates, on the cutting edge where experience informs strategic inquiry.

The afternoon offers a choice of workshops, each of which is worth the price of admission. Read on for more information.

Our AGM will be held on Friday, April 25, beginning at 6 pm, at the same venue as the conference. Everyone is invited to attend.

As a result of feedback from last year's conference we've factored in more social/networking time.

See you there!

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Afternoon Workshops

Each attendee may choose three of the following workshops. Be sure to indicate your choices on the Registration Form.

THE IEP-IP Norm Forman will explain his break-through discovery of the missing link as to why IEPs have universally failed and what to do about them.

SHARED SOLUTIONS Bob Clements demonstrates how to use this Guide to resolve conflicts between home and school, and avoid adversarial procedures.

LEARNING TO READ Susan Smethurst, a special education teacher steeped in research-based teaching tools presents the program she's currently using with great success.

ON-LINE TO SUCCESS Post-secondary Transition programs: Queen's University's "On-Line To Success" and other options. Robin Schock, Assistant Coordinator Regional Assessment and Resource Centre, Queen's University will show you how to make sure students with learning disabilities are accommodated in college and university, from the get-go. Think free psycho-educational assessments!

EDUCATION FOR ALL The road ahead has potholes. Learn how to avoid them. Bob Clements draws out key strategies of this policy which are changing the way exceptional children's needs will be met, or not.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE CLINIC Learn from the pros at this Q&A roundtable led by parent advocates running successful fee-for-service practices.

SUMMER INSTITUTE BRIEFING David Hicks, OAEA's Director of Mediation Services, outlines our innovative training institute, which brings students with disabilities, parents and teachers together in an integrated advocacy curriculum, a Shared Solution if you will. David will be recruiting participants.

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Conference Registration Form

NB: The conference opens at 8 am on SATURDAY, APRIL 26 with a hot breakfast. See full agenda on next page.

LOCATION: [Four Points by Sheraton—Meadowvale](#)
2501 Argentia Road, Mississauga, Ontario. Tel: 905-858-2424
Rooms are available at \$92 (plus 13% tax) per night for those requiring overnight accommodations.

CONFERENCE FEE: Early registration (received by April 21):
Member \$75; Non-member \$150
Registrations at the door: Member \$100; Non-member \$200

Please complete, make cheque payable to OAEA, and mail to:

**OAEA
7 PLEASANT BLVD, SUITE 202
TORONTO, ON M4T 1K2**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

AFFILIATION: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

CHOOSE 4 WORKSHOPS numbering them 1 through 4. We will make every attempt to give you the first 3. First come; first served!

___ THE IEP-IP ___ ON-LINE TO SUCCESS

___ EDUCATION FOR ALL ___ LEARNING TO READ

___ SHARED SOLUTIONS ___ SUMMER INSTITUTE

___ PRACTICE CLINIC

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Conference Agenda

The registration fee includes all of the following:

- 8:00—9:00 *Hot breakfast, meet and greet*
- 9:00—9:10 Norm Forman's welcome and introduction of keynote speaker.
- 9:10—10:00 Julian Falconer
- 10:00—10:50 Judy Finlay
- 10:50—11:10 *Refreshments break (Seattle's Best Coffee and Assorted Tazo Teas)*
- 11:10—12:00 Barbara Roberts
- 12:00—1:00 *Lunch—A Pasta Fiesta*
- 1:00—1:55 First workshop period
- 2:00—2:55 Second workshop period
- 2:55—3:15 *Refreshments break (Seattle's Best Coffee and Assorted Tazo Teas, fresh baked cookies)*
- 3:15—4:10 Third workshop period
- 4:10—5:00 Networking time
- 5:00 Departure

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Annual General Meeting

The AGM will convene at 6:00 pm on Friday, 25 April, 2008, at the Four Points by Sheraton—Meadowvale.

The meeting is open to the public but only members may participate.

Membership

OAEA develops and supports informed educational advocacy for and by parents and students (especially those with exceptionalities).

Formal training in parent advocacy is a prerequisite for eligibility as a member. Experienced advocates may petition OAEA's Membership Committee to be excused from formal training.

Formal training in parent advocacy is available. OAEA's [*Parent Consultant in Education Advocacy*](#) is an 11-week on-line course made available through the Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO).