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I GIVE MY HEAD A SHAKE

Hey, the Olympics are coming up. It is an exciting time for our Olympians & sports fans. The drama of the Games is incredible. What Canadian hasn't thought about the chances of a repeat for the women's hockey team, or the men's? I have to shake my head though at the thought of all of the investment, the millions, billions of dollars given over to a sporting event.

The modern Olympics were founded by French aristocrat Pierre de Coubertin who believed in promoting international peace & understanding by reviving the ancient Greek custom of periodic truces for athletic competition. I think the intent was honourable, but something has gotten lost as the Games aged. Not only has amateur



status been removed as a prerequisite, but now the Games are more about one country outdoing another, & not just in the competitions. The Sochi Games are predicted to cost about \$50 billion...yes, that's with a "B"--BILLION. Holy smokes Batman...\$50 billion to host a sporting event. You can see why my head shakes. Governments choose to invest & tell their taxpayers that the Olympics will be a windfall for tourism, & will put the host city on the map. At \$50 Billion, that map better be mailed to every person on the planet!

I know that as I flip through channels in February, with commentators describing everything from Chan's perfect triple lutz, to the value of a gold medal, I will be wondering why couldn't my government invest even a portion of that kind of money in agencies like ours. Ones that are struggling to keep

heads above water while helping some of our most vulnerable citizens. Yes, this is a bit of a rant a la Rick Mercer, but I do seriously wonder about that. Why not invest in an adult who has difficulty reading & cannot hold down a job as a result; or a child who struggles to get passing grades in math & is so frustrated she refuses to go to school? No, helping them won't put us on the map....or will it? Won't helping that adult, that child make us a better society by helping them reach their potential, whatever it is, & make them active, contributing members of society? Maybe instead of thinking of hosting another Olympics, we think about hosting some vulnerable learners. I'm not sure some in Toronto would agree as they discuss spending \$50 million to mount a bid for 2024. Just a bid... really?!

Susan Ramey



United Way
Proud Member Agency

SPECIAL QUOTES TO REMEMBER...

- **“I find television very educating; every time someone turns on the set I go in the other room and read a book.”**
Groucho Marx
- **“Fall seven times, stand up eight.”**
Japanese Proverb

A POEM TO BRING ON A SMILE

In the depths of a dark, cold winter your child might be planning an escape. Do you know Peggy Ann McKay?

"I cannot go to school today" said little Peggy Ann McKay. "I have measles and the mumps, a gash, a rash and purple bumps.

"My mouth is wet, my throat is dry. I'm going blind in my right eye. My tonsils are as big as rocks, I've counted sixteen chicken pox.



"And there's one more—

that's seventeen, and don't you think my face looks green? My leg is cut, my eyes are blue, It might be the instamatic flu.

"I cough and sneeze and gasp and choke, I'm sure that my left leg is broke. My hip hurts when I move my chin, my belly button's caving in!

"My back is wrenched, my ankle's sprained, my pendix pains each time it rains. My toes are cold, my toes are numb, I have a sliver in my thumb.

"My neck is stiff, my voice is weak, I hardly whisper when I speak. My tongue is

filling up my mouth, I think my hair is falling out.

"My elbow's bent, my spine ain't straight, my temperature is one-o-eight.



My brain is shrunk, I cannot hear, there's a hole inside my ear.

"I have a hangnail, and my heart is...

"What, what's that you say? You say today is Saturday?"

"G'bye, I'm going out to play!"

Shel Silverstein



RESOURCES & NEWS

AD/HD T-shirts for Sale



You can own a T-shirt like this for only \$24.00. Just call the office or drop by. All proceeds support the Agency.

JUMP Math Resources Now Available

Are you interested in exploring the JUMP Math system? If you are a Library Member you can borrow our JUMP Math Resources.

Library memberships are only \$20.00, and entitle you to borrow any of our 100's of books, magazines and DVDs.

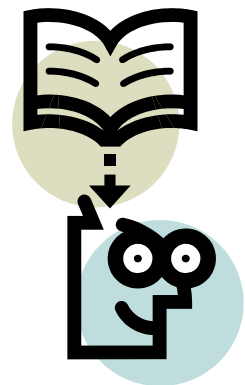


May Auction Coming Up

Watch for our **Annual On-Line Fundraising Auction**. It begins Friday May 9th at 10:00 a.m. and concludes Monday, May 26th at 12:00 p.m.

Just visit our web site at www.ldaptbo.com and register. Once you are registered, you can bid at any time.

It's fun, we have fabulous items, and all proceeds support programming for children and youth!





COBOURG COUGARS HOST LITERACY NIGHT

To celebrate Family Literacy Day, LDAP-Northumberland Services, again partnered with the Cobourg Public Library & the Cobourg Cougars Jr. A Hockey Team to host literacy events. These events support local literacy programs, & promote literacy at home & school. The kick-off at nearby Grant Sine PS featured a visit by

Cougar players to share their love of reading with the kids. During this visit, team mascot, “The Cougar”, gave each student two tickets for a Cougar home game. On January 27th, at the Cougar home game, LDAP-North. & the Library raised literacy awareness offering fun-filled activities like a balloon-pop, a gently-used book giveaway, & a

visit by local author Ted Staunton – he signed & gave away free copies of his books. Theresa McRae, with the Cougars organization, said “The Cougars are proud to support literacy awareness in Northumberland County. The Cougars won the game against Trenton 8-3, but literacy also won”. Many thanks to our

volunteers & our prize donors. We thank you for your generosity & commitment to literacy!!
Mary Lou Spencer



Cougars players Stuart King (L) & Alex D’Oliveira read to students at Grant Sine P.S.

EXAM TIME—HELP FOR THE LD/ADHD TEEN

Taking exams can be a stressful experience, but there are strategies to help.

Before the Exam

Find a good place to study that is free from distractions; Find a good time to study, maybe you’re better in the morning; Find out as much as you can about the exam by speaking with the teacher & attend any exam

review sessions; When studying, summarize, write, recite & practice problems; Have someone ask you questions.

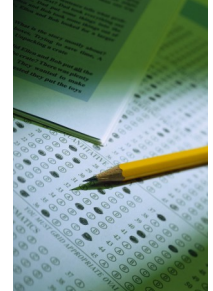
During the Exam

Get your materials organized—pen/pencils, calculators etc.; Listen for last minute instructions; Read all instructions & problems carefully; Do not spend too much time on one question—organize

your time; When finished, go back & read the instructions to be sure you followed them, then check the questions & your answers.

After the Exam

Look for a pattern in the type of questions you do well & ones you do poorly; Discuss your performance with the teacher; Use the exam as a learning experience.



OUR “NEEDS” LIST

Access Fund

What price can you put on learning? It’s priceless, but there are costs to provide it. Your donation of \$25.00 will give a student one free tutoring session in our TFLD Program.

Travel

To reach students who live outside of our main hubs our tutors must travel. \$200.00 will ensure students in Lakefield, or Port Hope, or Fenelon Falls, or Courtice receive tutoring.

Laptops

Several of our tutoring laptops have recently failed and our tutors are struggling to share what is left. Why is it that everything seems to go at once?! \$400.00 will purchase a 16GB laptop for our tutors to use.



Stay in Touch

We are now on Facebook and Twitter.

Like us at... Ida Peterborough

Follow us at @LDA_PTBO



Thank You to Our Donors

* The Foster Hewitt Foundation * Children's Services Council * Lindsay CHEST Fund * Lindsay BIA (Charity Meter) * Five Counties Children's Centre * City of Kawartha Lakes United Way * Knights of Columbus, Council 6361 * Municipality of Clarington * CAW Local 222 * Johansen-Larsen Foundation * Parents Reaching Out * Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 178 * Novartis * Pilkington-Henniger Foundation * TD Financial Literacy Grant Fund (SEDI) * Northumberland United Way * Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough * Janssen * Scugog Communications Group * Purdue Pharma * The Harry E. Foster Foundation * United Way of Peterborough & District * United Way of Durham Region * Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 238 * Rotary Club of Peterborough * Kawartha Credit Union * Greater Peterborough Health Services Foundation * Rotary Club of Cobourg * BEL Rotary Club * ABC Life Literacy * Ontario Trillium Foundation * Collins Barrow Chartered Accountants * Best Western Otonabee Inn * Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 300 * City of Kawartha Lakes—Community Social Investment Fund * JUMP Math * Order of the Eastern Star—Centennial Chapter

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