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MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR AUTISM CENTRE OPENS IN RICHMOND

Excerpts from: Kamil Karamali, [CBC News](#) Posted: Nov 09, 2016

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/autism-facility-opens-richmond-1.3844834>

State-of-the-art facility will cater to nearly 70,000 people in the province with autism

B.C. Premier Christy Clark was accompanied by federal, provincial and municipal politicians to officially open the GoodLife Fitness Family Autism Hub in Richmond on Wednesday.

"I'm so proud to be a very small part of this," said Clark. "And so proud to see all of you, who have been such a very big part of creating something unique for the world. We have all done it together."

The attendees included Canada's Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities Carla Qualtrough and Richmond Mayor Malcolm Brodie, but most of the smiles at the opening ceremony were on the faces of people who will be using the centre.

Patricia James is looking forward to using the centre for her 7-year-old son, Damon. "I feel absolutely empowered as a parent to have a centre like this open," said James. Damon was diagnosed with autism four years ago. James says since then, there hasn't been anywhere she has felt she could go to get the help they need.

She says the new facility will change that. "There are dental services in here, there's a blood-lab so we can draw blood if we need to for any medical purposes," said James. "There's going to be daycare, pre-schools and treatments that are all created for individuals that are on the spectrum."

The Pacific Autism Family Network is behind the 60,000 square-foot centre and says the state-of-the-art facility for people with autism is a first for North America.

The \$28-million centre will support the roughly 69,000 people of all ages in B.C. that have autism spectrum disorder. The hub is slated to be a one-stop shop for families looking for support with autism and related disorders. It will include clinics, labs, classrooms, observation rooms and research spaces.

Although the hub is located in Richmond, eight other "spokes" will be located throughout B.C. Construction on the multi-million-dollar autism centre broke ground nearly 2 years ago. Premier Clark says the province contributed \$20 million towards the hub.

"I know you want to know that your money gets spent well and that it gets spent on people who need it," said Clark. "Because in a society that is worthy, we are surely defined by how well we look after those who need a little bit of help," Clark added. "This organization, this facility meets that gold standard like almost nowhere else in the world."



Carmichael Connection

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Birthdays ~ January 2017

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Dan	Dayo



Welcome New Staff & Returns

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RANDOM FAST FACTS



In Sydney, Australia they celebrate New Year's by setting off 80,000 fireworks from the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

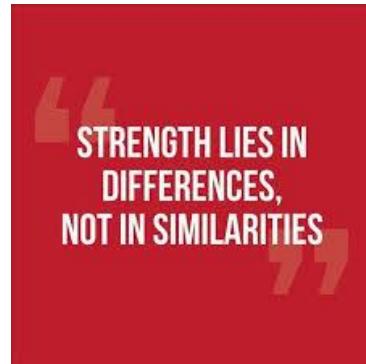


More vehicles are stolen on New Year's Day than any other holiday, statistics from the National Insurance Crime Bureau revealed

OOPS!

If we have missed anyone off the Staff Spotlights please contact the office so we may correct in the next issue.

THANK YOU!



MYTH: Multiculturalism 'ghettoizes' people.

Myths and Facts of Multiculturalism

Submitted by: Cathy Bontogon, Residential Coordinator

MYTH: Multiculturalism works for the benefit of a few ethnic minorities.

FACT: Multiculturalism stands for equal treatment - not special treatment. The Government of British Columbia's multicultural program supports cross-cultural programs that benefit the whole community. We all have a cultural heritage. We are all part of a multicultural nation. We all benefit from a society that is productive, prosperous and united.



MYTH: Multiculturalism divides people.

FACT: Multiculturalism works at building mutual respect and trust between people through cross-cultural understanding. Multiculturalism acknowledges the natural right of all individuals to be treated with dignity. Multiculturalism builds bridges and not walls.



MYTH: Visible minorities do not respect the law. Multiculturalism lowers the values that have made this a great nation.

FACT: Good citizenship includes a respect for the law. Multiculturalism works towards building a social contract where citizens have the right to be treated equally and fair, and in turn have a responsibility to respect the law and contribute to the common good of society. People respect the law if the law respects them. Multiculturalism promotes an understanding of citizenship rights and responsibilities.

FACT: If people are denied opportunity, are subjected to discrimination and denied language skills, they will group together for mutual support and identification. Multiculturalism promotes the full participation of people in the mainstream life of the community, as well as equality of opportunity and freedom from discrimination.



MYTH: Multiculturalism promotes third world immigration and discriminates against immigrants from Europe who "play by the rules."

FACT: Multiculturalism is not an immigration policy. Canada's immigration policy is intended to be non-biased. Multiculturalism addresses the issues of a culturally diverse society created by an immigration policy that admits people from around the world.



Sick llamas, duck bites top list of craziest calling-in-sick excuses

Excerpts from: Global News <http://globalnews.ca/news/3021825/sick-llamas-duck-bites-top-list-of-craziest-calling-in-sick-excuses/>

Remember when you were in grade school and the dog would conveniently "eat your homework" at least once a month? Did your teacher ever believe you?

Well some things never change, even as an adult working in the corporate world looking to sneak in an extra day off or two.

But simply calling in sick just doesn't cut it anymore, especially when many employers these days ask for a doctor's note to confirm your illnesses.

So what's an employee got to do to get a little extra time off? Why, get creative, of course.

And thanks to CareerBuilder and their annual study on the year's craziest excuses for calling in sick, they have compiled some of the most colourful alibis employees have come up with for ditching work

Researchers surveyed more than 3,100 full-time workers and 2,500 full-time hiring and human resource managers in a U.S. survey. Researchers found that fewer people are calling in sick.

According to CareerBuilder, 35 per cent of workers played hooky last year – that's down from 38 per cent in 2015.

Most of the reasons for not coming in to work were pretty normal:

1. 28 per cent didn't feel like going in to work
2. 27 per cent attended doctors' appointments
3. 24 per cent needed to relax
4. 18 per cent needed to catch up on sleep
5. 11 per cent took the day to run personal errands

But those reasons just didn't cut it for some employees who instead chose to conjure up some pretty ridiculous (yet entertaining) stories as to why they couldn't go in to work.

As for whether or not they were successful in convincing their bosses, we'll let you be the judge of that.

1. My llama is sick.
2. The ozone in the air flattened my tires.
3. My pressure cooker exploded and scared my sister so we're staying home.
4. I'm the pallbearer for the funeral of my wife's cousin's pet.
5. I'm blocked in by the police raiding my home.
6. I have to testify against a drug dealer and was mugged by the dealer's friend.
7. My roots are showing so I need to keep my hair appointment.
8. I ate cat food when I thought it was tuna.
9. The hair removal cream I used under my arms caused a chemical burn so I can't put my arms down.
10. I'm bowling the game of my life so I can't make it into the office.
11. There's a huge spider in my house so I'm staying home to deal with it.
12. I have better things to do.
13. I ate too much birthday cake.
14. I was bit by a duck



UP COMING EVENTS



NATIONAL NON SMOKING WEEK

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STAFF CONGRATULATIONS!

Submitted by: Carmela & Mike Taylor

5 year Service Plaques: 2016

★ Patricia Hooper

★ Derwin Van der Muelen

★ Rhianna Walz

10 year Service Plaque: 2016

★ Ian Semple

Vision Awards: 2016

★ Della Kane

★ Shauna Bergstrom



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