



Carmichael Connection

March 2017

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CARMICHAEL ENTERPRISES RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS LTD

IN THIS ISSUE

FAMILY OF B.C. BOY WITH AUTISM DESPERATE TO FIND ONE MEAL HE LOVES

Excerpts from: [Amy Judd](http://globalnews.ca/news/3248262/family-of-b-c-boy-with-autism-desperate-to-find-one-meal-he-loves/) Online News Producer Global News
<http://globalnews.ca/news/3248262/family-of-b-c-boy-with-autism-desperate-to-find-one-meal-he-loves/>

His dad Reed describes his son as a “truly unique little dude” but to say he’s a picky eater is an understatement. Everett has autism and Reed says being on the spectrum means Everett will “physically starve himself instead of eating a food he is familiar and comfortable with.”

“We believe it is related to the overwhelming tastes and smells of most foods, as he prefers very basic things. Many on the spectrum experience varied levels of sensory processing issues,” says Reed in an email interview.

So when Everett spotted something he wanted to eat recently, Reed says they were very excited. “We were walking through Walmart a month ago and he pointed this specific Kraft Dinner out to us, exclaiming, ‘I want to eat that!’” says Reed.

Everett wanted to eat Kraft Dinner Star Wars Mac and Cheese and Reed snapped up as many as he could find. “We were wary at first, as the real test is him trying the food and actually eating it,” says Reed. “I got choked up and my wife cried tears of joy when he ravenously ate a whole bowl and then another! He had previously liked regular Kraft Dinner, but something about the shapes of the new Star Wars version attracted him back to it.”

But it appears the KD Star Wars Mac and Cheese is a limited-edition product, produced to coincide with the release of Rogue One. So Reed is hoping both friends and strangers can help him out. He has even spoken to a local Kraft representative on Vancouver Island. “I’ve already received several [boxes] from people donating their meager supplies, and some in other towns have bought all they could find to send to us, but it’s getting harder and harder to find them,” he says.

Reed says he will be looking for more online, but if anyone has any boxes or sees any for sale, they will go to that store or pay for them. “All of the Botwrights truly appreciate the outpouring of support and know that it is helping our Everett,” says Reed. “It’s also great that people are being educated about the challenges faced by people on the autism spectrum and the people who support them, be they family or friends.”

If anyone can help Everett and his family, they can send any boxes to 1969 Stannard Drive, Nanaimo, B.C. V9X 1B4.



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STAFF SPOTLIGHTS



Birthdays - March 2017

Amanda	Melvin
Sebastian	Stephen P
Curtis	Doug
Donna	Larissa
Devon	Dave



Welcome New Staff & Returns

Mora

RANDOM FAST FACTS



George Washington grew hemp in his garden

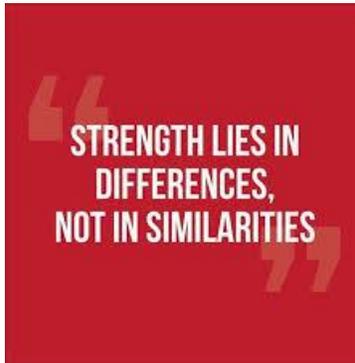


In 1983 the first mobile phones went on sale in the US for almost \$4,000.00 each.

OOPS!

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

THANK YOU!



STEREOTYPING, PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION

Submitted by: Cathy Bontogon, Residential Coordinator

Stereotyping refers to a shared idea about the generalized attributes of others based on perceived physical or cultural characteristics. These are generalizations about all members of a group, in part because they may contain some element of truth. Some stereotypes may seem positive, but they are always negative. It is harmful when individuals are judged according to the perceived norms of their group instead of personal merit. (Elliott & Fleras, 1992).

The following are some examples of stereotypes you might have heard.

- Youth are troublemakers
- White men can't jump
- Chinese people are bad drivers
- Black people are good dancers

It's very important for everyone to know and acknowledge that stereotyping is something that we all do, but that does not make it okay.

FAQ - Why are stereotypes that sound good, actually not good? Look at this, "Chinese people are good at math." If you were Chinese and not good at math how would you feel being judged by this assumption?

Stereotypes set up expectations, standards, and assumptions that are unfair and untrue. When we group people under one statement (or stereotype) we are essentially ignoring all of the things that make each person unique.

Stereotyping can lead to prejudice and discrimination.

Prejudice is different from discrimination. Prejudice is an opinion, value or attitude; discrimination is an action.

Prejudice is a dislike of others based on faulty and inflexible generalizations, involving a negative prejudgment. This frame of mind sets up an irrational and unfounded set of assumptions about minorities, which, in turn, influences our ability to evaluate these groups in a fair, objective, or accurate way. (Elliott & Fleras, 1992). Below are some examples of prejudice:

- Youth are all troublemakers; you cannot trust them.
- Everyone has to be careful of Chinese drivers.

Notice how these examples take the **stereotypes** listed earlier and go a step further towards discrimination. It is very important to recognize that we all have prejudices, and like stereotypes there are no good prejudices when we are referring to people.

Discrimination is putting prejudices into action. We move from being prejudiced to discriminating when we start to treat people negatively because of their gender, race, sexual orientation, language, religion, political belief, etc. Below are some examples of discrimination:

- Being followed in a store because you are young.
- Name calling (racial slurs, sexist and homophobic comments)
- Jokes based on stereotypes or prejudice.
- Avoiding or excluding people.
- Physical violence

Never assume that forms of oppression are the same. Discrimination based on race, sexual orientation, or colour is different from age discrimination. There may be some similar feelings but the effects are very different. You don't grow out of your colour or orientation.

Do we discriminate? How can we help others and ourselves fight against discrimination?



MODEL WITH DOWN SYNDROME LAUNCHES DESIGN LABEL AT NEW YORK FASHION WEEK

Excerpts from: By GLOBALNEWS.CA

<http://etcanada.com/news/204095/model-with-down-syndrome-launches-design-label-at-new-york->

Less than two years after making her runway debut, Madeline Stuart, a model with Down syndrome, launched her own fashion label on Sunday at New York Fashion Week with a collection of sporty leggings, crop tops and skirts.

The Australian-born model challenged fashion industry norms with her first catwalk appearance in 2015 and is credited with changing perceptions about people with Down syndrome. She hopes to do the same with her new label, 21 Reasons Why by Madeline Stuart.

Wearing blue patterned leggings, Stuart kicked off the packed show that featured casual looks designed for comfort and ease. She paired short flared skirts with long and shirt-sleeve crop tops and T-shirts that could be mixed and matched with dark and patterned leggings.

"It really does represent who she is," Roseanne Stuart, Madeline's mother, manager and design collaborator, said about the collection that will be sold exclusively online.

The collection's name is a nod to Stuart turning 21 this year and the extra copy of chromosome 21 that is characteristic of Down syndrome.

The genetic disorder that affects development occurs in about one in 700 births, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. About 6,000 babies are born with Down syndrome in the United States each year.

Since first stepping on the runway, the Brisbane-based model has not looked back and has appeared in fashion shows around the globe. After walking in two other shows in New York, she is heading to Paris and then Los Angeles and other U.S. cities before returning to Australia in late April.

Stuart, whose speech is limited, wanted to be a model immediately after seeing her first fashion show in Australia.

"Madeline has never had the concept that she can't achieve anything," her mother said in an interview, adding that after four seasons modeling in New York, she had shown her staying power.

Sara Hart Weir, president of the National Down Syndrome Society, believes Stuart has been an inspiration for others like her and has raised the expectations of people who have never met someone with the condition.

"By debuting her own fashion line and becoming a businesswoman, she is showing other individuals with Down syndrome that it is OK to have your own hopes and aspirations," she said. "The expectations for children with Down syndrome are higher than ever," she added.



UP COMING EVENTS



NUTRICIAN MONTH

March 2017

<http://www.dietitians.ca/Your-Health/Nutrition-Month/Nutrition-Month.aspx>



CARF Canada

CARF Canada Employment and Community Services, Behavioural Health, and Child and Youth Services 101 Webinar

Wednesday, March 8, 2017
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

<http://www.cvent.com/events/carf-canada-employment-and-community-services-behavioural-health-and-child-and-youth-services-101-we/event-summary-b70800116ffe441c8693bf5bb76b9a5f.aspx>



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

March 12th

GOVERNMENT LOOKING FOR WAYS TO IMPROVE JOB PROSPECTS FOR DISABLED CANADIANS

Excerpts from: Michelle McQuigge, The Canadian Press Posted: Feb 06, 2017

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/disabilities-employment-legislation-1.3968555=1>

The minister tasked with crafting laws to make Canada more accessible to people with disabilities says employment will be a key focus of her efforts. Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities, says removing accessibility barriers will be crucial to tackling long-standing high jobless rates among the country's disabled population.

Qualtrough says details of the Canadians with Disabilities Act are still in the works, adding a series of 18 consultations across the country will play a key part in shaping the new laws. She says she hopes to have the act before parliament by this time next year. The prospective act, which disability rights advocates have been seeking for years, would govern areas that fall under federal jurisdiction. Major examples include financial services such as banks, telecommunications, and interprovincial transportation.

Accessibility strategies

Only Ontario and Manitoba currently have provincial accessibility legislation on the books, though other provinces including Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Newfoundland have all expressed interest in addressing accessibility strategies. Qualtrough said the federal act has to be written to work alongside existing provincial laws without encroaching on their areas of jurisdiction. The sweeping legislation, which may tackle everything from building codes to customer service standards, all have potential to improve Canada's stubbornly high unemployment figures for people with disabilities, she said. "Everything impacts employment," Qualtrough said in an interview. "If you don't have a building environment that's accessible, you can't work there. If you don't have the transportation that gets you there, you can't work there. If you don't have technology that's accessible, you can't work there. All roads lead back to employment in some way. So in that regard, absolutely employment will be impacted quite significantly by this law."

High unemployment rate

Two years ago, Statistics Canada released figures putting the employment rate for disabled Canadians at 49 per cent, compared to 79 per cent for the general population. An online poll commissioned by CIBC last month reached a similar conclusion, saying only half of respondents living with a disability have a full- or part-time job. Qualtrough said employment barriers were a recurring theme in the 17 consultations already held across Canada in a bid to seek input on the new act. The last such session is slated to take place in Toronto this week. The issue has long been recognized as a pressing concern for the disabled community, but some advocates are skeptical that it can be handled through legislation. Joe Dale, executive director of the Ontario Disability Employment Network, said laws can only go so far towards including people with disabilities in the workforce. The sort of change required is more rooted in attitudes and cultures rather than government rules, he said, adding laws can't necessarily do much to dispel misconceptions about people with disabilities or argue the business case for exploring a largely untapped talent pool. "To build legislation that has an employment focus where one of the biggest barriers is attitudinal and bias is a tough thing to do in legislature and it's a tougher thing to sell," he said. "Typically all these types of things end up getting people to the point of interview ... but it can't necessarily guarantee they're going to get through the door."

Business advantages to hires

Qualtrough said Ottawa is keenly aware of the business advantages of hiring people with disabilities, saying research has shown such candidates are frequently well educated, inclined to remain loyal to an employer and highly innovative after years of navigating societal systems that can leave them at a disadvantage. She said the consultation sessions have illustrated the need to take a direct approach with the new act and think beyond simply accommodating would-be employees. "We really need to change the conversation around disability generally from one of need and inabilities and retrofitting and accommodation to one of inclusion," she said. "It's time we started looking at people as contributing members of society instead of burdens on society." Another key message to emerge from the consultations, she said, is the need for the federal act to have strong enforcement powers. Canadians have been clear that an act without teeth will fall short of the mark, she said, adding the government has not yet decided how enforcement mechanisms would look.

Possible accessibility commissioner

Qualtrough did not rule out the idea of introducing an accessibility commissioner who would oversee complaints related to the new law. Nor did she eliminate the idea of maintaining the current system, which sees complaints of discrimination based on disability come before provincial and federal human rights commissions. She acknowledged that the current system leaves something to be desired. "The fundamental flaw with our current system is that it's for the most part reactive," she said. "You have to wait until someone's discriminated against, you have to wait until someone's denied ... a service, a house, whatever." Then people swoop in and two to three years later we tell you, 'you're right, you shouldn't have been denied.'" Eliminating that flaw is one of several demands made by Barrier-Free Canada, an advocacy organization that has been crusading for federal legislation. "(The act) should not simply incorporate the existing procedures for filing discrimination complaints with the Canadian Human Rights Commission or under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, as these are too slow and cumbersome, and can yield inadequate remedies," the organization writes on its list of principles. Qualtrough said it's too early to speculate on timelines or other particulars of the act before the law is drafted. She said she hopes that process will be complete by the end of the year.

Carmichael Connection

Serving Nanaimo to Campbell River

Randi's Place ~ Wellington Place ~ Oceanside Place ~ Creekside Place ~ Shamrock Home ~ Hammond Place ~
Uplands Home ~ Harbourview Place ~ Matt & Dan's Home ~ Buckley Bay Home ~ Bronte's Home ~
Outreach Home ~ Sherbourne Home ~ Nim Nim House ~