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### From the President

With the arrival of spring, we are encouraged to contemplate new beginnings, not only in nature, but also in our own lives and activities. At Easter Seals Nova Scotia we turn our attention to the eagerly awaited spring and summer programming we offer to children and adults with physical disabilities. This includes our therapeutic recreational camping programs at Camp Tidnish and our sport camps for the young people who participate in our Take PART active living programs. We also look forward to working with our volunteers again on the special fundraising events this summer; the 2009 Easter Seals Golf Classic and the 24 Hour Relay. Through this newsletter we want to share with you information about these programs and other initiatives we are excited about this spring.

*Tom Merriam*



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This winter Take PART program participants hit the slopes in the first Kid's Quest activity of the year! Kid's Quest is the adventure therapy component of the Take PART program that offers children and youth with physical disabilities the opportunity to participate in stimulating adventure therapy activities. On February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 we traveled to Ski Martock for a fun filled day of Adapted Skiing. Spending no time on the bunny hill, each participant had the opportunity to have a private lesson and soar down the main hills a minimum of three times. For more information on Kid's Quest activities contact Pam MacLean at pcmaclean@easterseals.ns.ca.



Camp Tidnish has been providing Nova Scotia children and youth who have physical disabilities with a safe and fun camping experience since 1958. Camp Tidnish is a unique residential camp designed to meet the individual needs, abilities and interest of the campers. Each summer, over 275 campers stay at our fully accessible camp to enjoy a safe, challenging and fun holiday. When asked to describe her camping experience, Emily Duffett wrote, "For me the best thing about Camp is the fact that we are all the same, no one stops to think about your disability, you are seen as a real person first and foremost". It's a busy time for the Camp Tidnish Program and registrations are now being accepted for the 2009 camping season.



### Century 21 Classic Realty raises \$25,200 in support of Camping Programs—

Century 21 locations all across Canada re-confirmed their commitment to Easter Seals this past year with the implementation of the nation-wide Century 21 "Kids 2 Camp" Campaign. The campaign encourages Century 21 offices to come on board to raise \$2,100 in support of their local Easter Seals campers. Century 21 Classic Realty of Dartmouth went above and beyond as they raised \$25,200 for Easter Seals Nova Scotia! Tom Merriam, President & CEO and Fallon Smith, Development Coordinator were pleased to be invited to the Century 21 Classic Realty breakfast meeting which included the presentation of the cheque to Easter Seals Nova Scotia.



The photograph at right appeared in a recent Halifax Magazine article. Trainee Nicole Lenson (middle) was asked to describe her experience at New Leaf Enterprises, a work and skills training centre for individuals with a physical disability. "My name is Nicole Lenson and I work at New Leaf Enterprises. I have worked here for 2 years. I work in the Business Services Program and the Kitchen Program. I have learned to fold, insert and label letters. I also bake cookies, banana bread and carrot cake in the kitchen. I have lots of fun working here. I have lots of friends that work here too. I would not be happy if I did not have this job. I am proud to work at New Leaf and I am proud of what I have learned here too. Everyone should come to New Leaf to see what a good place this is."



Photo By Mike Dembeck

## 2009 EASTER SEALS GOLF CLASSIC

In one of Easter Seals most entertaining fundraisers, golfers will gather together on July 9, 2009 to make a difference in the lives of thousands of children and adults with physical disabilities in Nova Scotia by golfing in support of the vital programs funded by Easter Seals. Join us at Granite Springs Golf Club for this great cause. Fees include a round of outstanding golf, shared power cart with GPS, prizes, a delicious meal and refreshments. To make your reservations, contact Stephanie at 902-442-5011, ext. 220 or email: [stephanieg@easterseals.ns.ca](mailto:stephanieg@easterseals.ns.ca).



## THE MONEYMART EASTER SEALS 24 HOUR RELAY MOVES TO THE HALIFAX WANDERERS GROUNDS

On July 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate 24 years of the 24 Hour Relay! The beautiful natural turf of the Wanderers Grounds will provide a more genuine camping experience in the city center and will add a new face for the Relay. So what fun things can you expect at the 2009 Money Mart Easter Seals 24 Hour Relay? 24 hours jam-packed with fun games & activities like volleyball, inflatable obstacle course, costume contest, fire hose splash-out, tug-of-war, *family* feud face-off. Plus live entertainment & non-stop music, a Saturday morning Family Fun Zone with face painting, balloons, and games and a Sunday morning pancake breakfast. For more information about the Money Mart Easter Seals 24 Hour Relay and to find out how to get involved go to [www.24hourrelay.ns.ca](http://www.24hourrelay.ns.ca) or call Fallon at 442-5011.

## VOLUNTEER CORNER

With a busy summer season soon upon us our thoughts turn to the upcoming *fun*draising events we will be holding. Starting on July 9th, if you would like to commit to a day of helping with our Golf Tournament being held at the Granite Springs Golf Club in Bayside, please contact Stephanie at [stephanieg@easterseals.ns.ca](mailto:stephanieg@easterseals.ns.ca) or 442-5011. It will be an 8:00 am start with an early afternoon finish. The day will be spent primarily on the golf course with some indoor activities.

The 24 Hour Relay is looking for volunteers to dedicate 4 hours of their time over the weekend of July 25 – 26<sup>th</sup>. Volunteer positions include Route/Water Station Spotters, Registration Tent Assistants, and Activity Assistants. To donate your time at the ultimate summer fundraising event, contact Fallon by email at [fallon@easterseals.ns.ca](mailto:fallon@easterseals.ns.ca) or phone at 442-5011.

## EASTER SEALS PAPER EGGS

Lawtons Drugs locations all over the province are off to an egg-cellent start with the 2009 Easter Seals Paper Egg Campaign. One location, Lawtons Northwood #157, is really making strides to have a hugely successful year. Store Manager, Anthony Cole, has issued a challenge to staff: if they make it among the Top 10 selling Lawtons locations he will shave his beard, die his hair blonde and add a touch of pink to his hair with some hot pink highlights, the perfect color for Easter. “The staff are really excited and have altered the picture from my badge to show what I will look like if we reach our goal” says Anthony.



In addition to Lawtons Drugs, other participating locations include all The Bargain Shop and Price Chopper stores.

## BLUENOSE MARATHON CHARITY CHALLENGE

This year Easter Seals Nova Scotia will be taking part in the Scotiabank Bluenose Marathon as part of the charity challenge on May 17, 2009. If you would like to support our charity challenge team, please visit [bluenosemarathon.com](http://bluenosemarathon.com). Click the Charity Challenge icon to make a donation. All donations received go directly to Easter Seals Nova Scotia programs and services.

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