

Canadian Playground Connections



The Playability Tool Kit is Now Available

The Playability Tool Kit is making it easier to create playspaces that are accessible to children and adults with disabilities.

Playability = Inclusion
Playability is about including everyone in the community when designing a playspace. It means opening up playspaces to children with a wide range of abilities and to parents and other caregivers with disabilities who want to be with children in the playspace.

The Playability philosophy is closely related to the concept of universal design, which addresses the safety and convenience of all users.

The Playability Tool Kit can help communities wanting to build accessible playspaces. It includes: background on the Playability philosophy and the importance of inclusive play, nine guidelines for planning and action how to get a playspace project started, who to involve, what to look for, how to fundraise, what to include in a budget, and a timetable, technical information like recommended slope of ramps and width of pathways.

The Playability Audit, a worksheet for using the audit results questionnaires for children and adults to use



in the planning and design stages. Playability has already proven to be an effective resource in itself.

The Playability Tool Kit was produced through an Enabling Change partnership between OPA and the Government of Ontario, Ministry of Citizenship.

The cost is: \$25-\$70.00
Contact them at (905) 864-6182, Email opa@opassoc.on.ca.



Kids Around the World

Kids Around the World was founded in 1994 through the combined efforts of local businessman under the leadership of Dennis Johnson.

Their goal at that time was to provide safe play equipment for children that found themselves in situations where it was difficult to just be a "kid".

So often children find themselves as victims of situations out of their control, they become victims of economic stress, victims of political injustice, victims of natural disasters and worst of all, victims of war. It was for these children that Kids Around the World began.

We have been fortunate to partner with many organizations and foundations that would agree with us, that we need to do all we can for kids. There may be issues we disagree on, but we continue to work on the things we can support together, children.

We are grateful for organizations like Rotary International Foundation, the Million Dollar Round Table Foundation, Salvation Army, World Vision, Samaritan's Purse, plus many other foundations and organizations that join us to provide quality play equipment for children.

We are also thankful for the many individuals that partner with us and give their resources and time to travel to

foreign countries and construct a playground.

Here is our building playgrounds Dates

- Jan 28 - Feb 3, 2007 Dominican Republic 3 small playgrounds
- Feb 11 - 17, 2007 Andrew Jackson School , New Orleans 1 large playground
- Mar 10 - 18, 2007 Freeport, Bahamas 1 large playground
- March 25 - 31, 2007 Pass Christian, MS 1 extra large playground
- April 15 - 21, 2007 Kiln, MS 1 medium playground

For more info check them out at <http://www.kidsaroundtheworld.com/tandm.htm>



Playground Safety Certification Courses

2007 CPSI Schedule

Theory Courses

Calgary, AB (English Course)
March 12 - 13, 2007

Toronto, ON (English Course)
March 26 - 27, 2007

Montreal, QC (French Course)
NEW!
March 26 - 27, 2007

Quebec, QC (French Course)
NEW!
March 29-30, 2007

Practical Courses

Calgary, AB (English Course)
March 14 - 15, 2007

Toronto, ON (English Course)
March 28 - 29, 2007

Halifax, NS (English Course)
April 25 - 26, 2007

Montreal, QC (French Course)
NEW! April 30 - May 1, 2007

Mail your membership application and/or check to the Canadian Office.

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