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Classroom Management Is About The 5 Rs

By Claudette Bouman

fter 30 years of teaching in two countries and nine different schools, I retired. I've faced enough excitement, delights, challenges, and frustrations to fill a doorstopper. One thing I do know is that when I started out on a given school day to face a room full of eager young faces, I needed to have a plan. I needed to be ready to capture students' attention, to be organized to energize them, and to adapt if necessary to the fire alarm drill.

When I was evaluated at the end of a school year, my principal or head of department would comment on my "classroom management". More often than not, it was satisfactory without being necessarily outstanding. Sometimes it was a problem to be fixed.

> When it was the latter, I already knew for the flipside of classroom management is effective student learning.

Dr. Joanne Foster, a gifted education specialist, says certain principles of "best practice", by parents and teachers, foster learning outcomes. These principles include being: 1) resourceful, 2) reasonable, 3) receptive to changes, 4) respectful of students' feelings and abilities, and 5) responsive to questions.

- 1. Resourcefulness: As the mass of knowledge is always changing, teachers and parents need to continue learning, finding relevant resources, and being proactive in engaging children.
- 2. Reasonableness: The best fit for learning prospects meet children's individual and diverse learning needs from one child to another, based on situation and subject. Opportunities for kids should be fitting and relevant. Parental and teacher expectations help to create fun, interest, creativity, appropriate challenge, technology usage, and adaptability. These are all factors to stimulate engagement and learning.
- 3. Receptiveness: My plans encouraged children to think, anticipate, monitor their own progress, and reflect on their choices and results. This fosters flexibility, and helps to clarify expectations, combine ideas, and investigate their own views and norms.

Trying to model open channels of communication, collaboration, creative problem-solving, and a willingness to entertain possibilities and puzzling ideas help children face changes and transitions with poise and strength.

- 4. Respectfulness: When we talk with children, engaging them in meaningful and respectful dialogue, remaining observant, and being warmly available and open to their questions, we show respect. This encourages them to demonstrate what they are thinking about and learning, and to discover what they don't yet know.
- 5. Responsiveness: Children's curiosity and enquiry fired by effort leads to learning. Inviting them to ask questions as they engage with material, experiences, and others enables them to give gauges to where they are conceptually. When we reflect on their questions, concerns, learning needs, and ideas, our children continue to invest in their own learning. Offering to discover answers together, assists them in finding answers themselves.

Dr. Joanne Foster's notions are not all that new. Parents and teachers through the ages have adopted and adapted many of her ideas to help children learn and grow as they march towards a future that is both predictable and unpredictable.

We know these strategies enhance their levels of knowledge, creative expression, and confidence.



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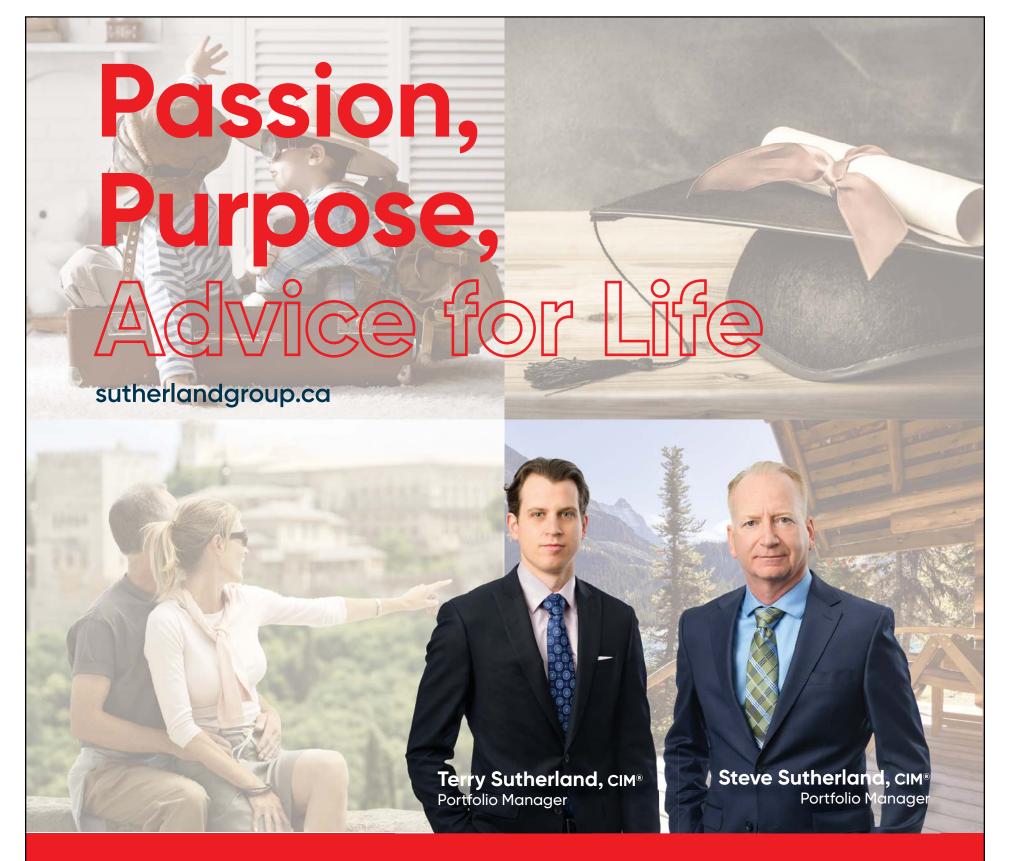




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HRM MLAs and MPs Working Hard for YOU!

A Message from Darrell Samson, the Member of Parliament for Sackville-Preston-Chezzetcook

HAPPY HALLOWEEN, SACKVILLE-PRESTON-CHEZZETCOOK! SUPPORTING FAMILIES DURING BACK-TO-



Whether you're spending Halloween trick-or-treating, passing out some candy, carving pumpkins, or enjoying some autumn festivities, I wish you all a safe and fun-filled "spooky

For the last month, I've been busy on Parliament Hill working with my colleagues to bring positive change to all Canadians. We remain highly focused on building more affordable homes and boosting our economy towards growth.

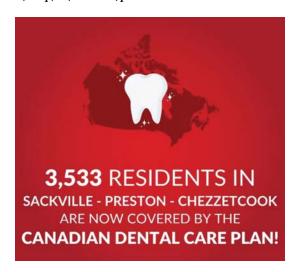
There is much more to be done, and by working together, we will help more Canadians prosper.

CANADIAN DENTAL CARE PLAN (CDCP)

The Canadian Dental Care Plan is making a real difference for Canadians coast-to-coast-to-coast, with over 2 million people registered, including 3,533 right here in Sackville-Preston-Chezzetcook. Applications for children and youth under 19 are open now!

Learn more: www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/dental/ dental-care-plan.

Find an oral health care provider near you: www.sunlife.ca/ sl/cdcp/en/member/provider-search



BACK TO SCHOOL

Back-to-school season can be expensive.

While students focus on their studies, our government is focused on supporting them, and their families, so that everyone can have the best chance at success.

SCHOOL SEASON



- Boosting the Canada Child
- Implementing a National School Food Program
- Helping children and youth access oral health care services through the Canadian Dental Care
- Building and expanding child care facilities, and increasing the number of early childhood educators in rural and remote communities
- Investing in more after-school learning programs and supports, such as mentorship and academic assistance
- Increasing Canada Student Grants and Canada Student Loans
- · Better protecting student renters, and working with post-secondary institutions and municipalities to build more housing on and around university and college campuses

THANKSGIVING

Sending warm wishes to everyone in the riding this Thanksgiving.

I hope you all have a safe and enjoyable day connecting with friends and family and reflecting on everything we have to be thankful for this year.

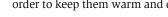
Je souhaite une joyeuse action de grâce à tous!



HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

- 1. Choose the right costume
 - · Over-sized costumes and accessories can be hazardous around candles or other ignition sources
 - Use face paint instead of masks-improperly-fitted masks can interfere with your child's vision or breathing

- Pick brightly colored costumes that can be clearly seen by motorists or add reflective tape to increase visibility
- Dress for the weather—make sure children can fit warm clothing over or under their costumes in order to keep them warm and dry!



- 2. Avoid danger when decorating • Help children carve pumpkins to avoid injuries
 - Candles, jack-o-lanterns, lighters and matches are all fire hazards. Keep them away from flammable objects
- 3. Stay alert while trick-or-treating
 - Keep your children safe by teaching them to stay visible and to be aware of their surroundings.
- 4. Be cautious with candy and toys
 - Always examine treats and toys that are brought home before giving them to your children.

A Message from Rafah DiCostanzo, MLA for Clayton Park West

Fall is here...

What an exciting summer we had in Clayton Park West. The highlight was our Annual Community Barbecue with Friends of Clayton Park. Over one thousand residents enjoyed the BBQ, bouncy castle, and entertainment. It was great to connect with so many of you that day.

NEW SCHOOL

A new school is coming

to Clayton Park West! I am ecstatic to finally announce that the new Junior High School on PALLET SHELTERS Radcliffe Drive is now advancing to the planning and design phase. It will have capacity for 950 students in Grades 6 to 9.

This school has been a long time coming. Both levels of government should learn from the challenges we faced in this project. I really hope we see shovels in the ground soon - our kids

cannot wait any longer for the space they need!

Our community learned that we have been selected as a location for forty pallet shelters to house our most vulnerable beside the Canada Games Centre. I am extremely upset that the community and I as the MLA were not engaged in this process. During the Legislative session I asked questions daily

on this issue and I have If you would like to place. I will also be posting regular updates on my Facebook, so be sure to follow me.

HERE TO SERVE YOU

Our office can assist with any provincial issues. Once a month, I have coffee and conversations with constituents where we discuss the matters most important to them.

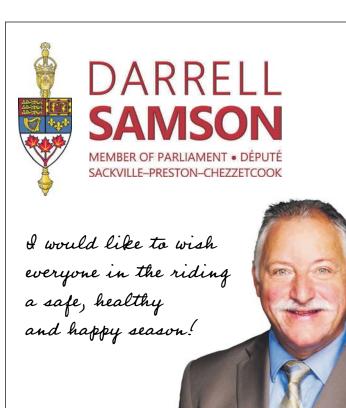
written to the Minister de- have coffee with Rafah. manding that proper safe- reach out to our ofty and protocols are put in *fice for an appointment* 902-443-8318.

by email at Rafah@ RafahDiCostanzo.com or by telephone at

902-861-2311

Darrell.Samson@parl.gc.ca





HRM MLAs and MPs Working Hard for YOU!

Halifax West MP Report

By: Hon. Lena Metlege Diab, Member of Parliament

I want to wish my constituents and all Nova Scotians a very happy fall. As we approach Remembrance Day, I encourage you to plan to attend a ceremony in your community. Stay tuned to my social media, where I'll be sharing details on local ceremonies being held on November 11.

HELPING FAMILIES

Raising kids is expensive. To help families make ends meet, the federal government provides direct financial support to parents through the Canada Child Benefit (CCB)—a monthly, tax-free payment. In the summer, the CCB increased to keep up with inflation. This year, families can receive up to \$7,787 per child through the benefit. The amount of your monthly payment is based on your family income, the number of kids you have, and their ages. That's great news for the more than 13,000 CCB recipients in Halifax West!

Another way we support families is by funding the creation of new child care spaces and the reduction in child care fees. That work continues. By March 2026, we'll have helped add 9,500 new spaces across Nova Scotia, and will have reached our goal of \$10/day child care fees. Some Nova Scotian families are already saving up to \$6,000/year per child, and we can't slow down now.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S HEALTH

Our kids deserve the best possible start in life. That

means ensuring they can grow and learn in a healthy environment, and that they have support available to them when they struggle. These are important priorities for me as your MP. It's why your federal government is launching a \$500 million Youth Mental Health Fund to expand the services provided by mental health organizations in our communities. It's also why we're investing new money into a National School Food

Program that will feed 400,000 more Canadian kids a year and save the average participating family as much as \$800 every school year.

VETERANS WEEK

Veterans Week (November 5-11) is a special time to honour the courage of our veterans. To mark it, I'm proud to be offering free learning resources to Halifax West residents. Principals, teachers, students, and community organizations are welcome to contact my office for Veterans Week posters, newspapers,



recognition cards, and activity booklets. Quantities are limited, so don't wait to reach out to me!

Thank you for your continued support. It's an honour to work for you.



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A Message from Hon. Tim Halman, MLA Dartmouth East

■ hanksgiving is a cherished holiday that invites us to pause and reflect on our blessings. It's a time to gather with loved ones, share meals, and express gratitude for the abundance in our lives. At its core, Thanksgiving is about recognizing the good things we have and appreciating the people that support us.

As we gather around our tables this year, it's important to remember those who may not have the same opportunities. Many families face food insecurity, and this is where our community can make a significant impact. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone donating to food banks. Your generosity ensures that those in need have access to nutritious meals, helping alleviate hunger and bring hope to many during the holiday season.

We are also proud to highlight our NS School Lunch Program. This is a provincial lunch program that offers public school students free nutritious lunch every school day. This program ensures that all students have access to healthy meals during the school day. This initiative is vital in supporting our children's well-being and learning, allowing them to focus on their education without the worry of hunger.

We also want to shine a light on the incredible volunteers at food banks who dedicate countless hours to this vital work. Your commitment to serving others is inspiring. Your efforts make a real difference.

This holiday season, consider ways you can contribute, whether through volunteering your time, donating food, or simply spreading awareness about local needs. Together, we can create a stronger, more compassionate community. Thank you to everyone who plays a role in making this holiday meaningful for all. Your kindness is the heart of thanksgiving.







HRM MLAs and MPs Working Hard for YOU!

A Message from Claudia Chender, MLA Dartmouth South

s the crisp autumn air rolls in, families across Nova Scotia are settling into their fall routines. For many, this season represents a fresh start – new school years, changing leaves, and the comfort of cozy sweaters.

This fall, the province has launched Phase 1 of its school lunch program, designed to provide nutritious meals that meet the School Food and Nutrition Policy guidelines, with options for students with dietary limitations, and exciting options like Mi'kmaw, Acadian, Lebanese, and Indian dishes. From soft-shell beef or black bean tacos to mini veggie or cheese pizzas, the menu rotates on a four-week sched-

ule, ensuring variety for all.

The program is a pay-whatyou-can system. The idea is for every child in the province to take advantage of this program, so now is the time to register at https://nslunch. ca/! You can pay full cost, a portion of the cost, or nothing at all. A good rule of thumb is figuring out what it costs you to provide your children's lunches now, and paying similar or less if that amount is a burden. With the current rise in everyday expenses, it's important to remember that choosing not to pay anything is completely okay.

The information is kept confidential, so there's no need to worry about judgment or

explanations. Every child gets the food, no one knows what the payment is.

For families in the HRCE, ordering opens on October 18th, while some CSAP schools can start as early as October 4th. If this program could give your family the break it deserves, don't hesitate to sign up! Every child deserves access to a nutritious lunch, and this initiative makes that possible for all If you need help payigating

the sign-up process (it is a bit complex), my office is here to assist you. Please feel free to reach out at claudiachender-mla@gmail.com or call 902-406-2301. You can also order meals online at NSLunch.ca, where you can select up to 10 school days of meals at a time. Orders open every Friday at noon and close the following Wednesday at noon.

This is a chance for families across the province to breathe



a little easier, knowing their children are well-fed and cared for. So, take advantage of this wonderful program and give your family the break it deserves this fall.





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- •Christmas Day Dinner
- •Boxing Day Breakfast

2-Night Stay: December 25 & 26, 2024

- •Christmas Day Dinner
- •Boxing Day Breakfast
- •Boxing Day Dinner
- •Breakfast on December 27

3-Night Stay: December 24-26, 2024 Includes:

- •Christmas Eve Dinner
- •Christmas Day Brunch
- •Christmas Day Dinner
- •Boxing Day Breakfast
- Boxing Day Dinner
- •Breakfast on December 27

2-Night Stay: December 27 & 28, 2024 Includes:

•Daily Breakfast for two







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FUN Places To Go! FUN Places To Go!

From Farm to Festivities: Celebrating Christmas in Country at Ross Farm

By Rhea Hamlin, Ross Farm Museum

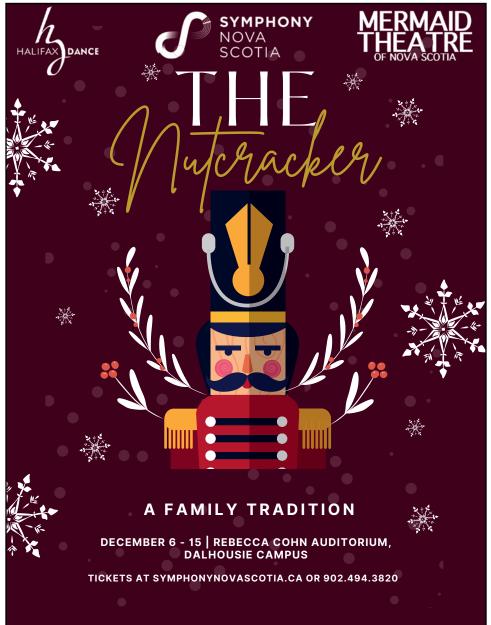
oss Farm Museum brings history to life in the picturesque countryside of rural Nova Scotia. The museum spans 60 acres and features an authentic 19th-century farm setting with traditional buildings

the farm workshop, and others that reflect daily life in the 1800s and early 1900s. Visitors can enjoy hands-on experiences, captivating exhibits, and beautiful landscapes, making Ross Farm a must-visit destination for history enthusiasts and families.

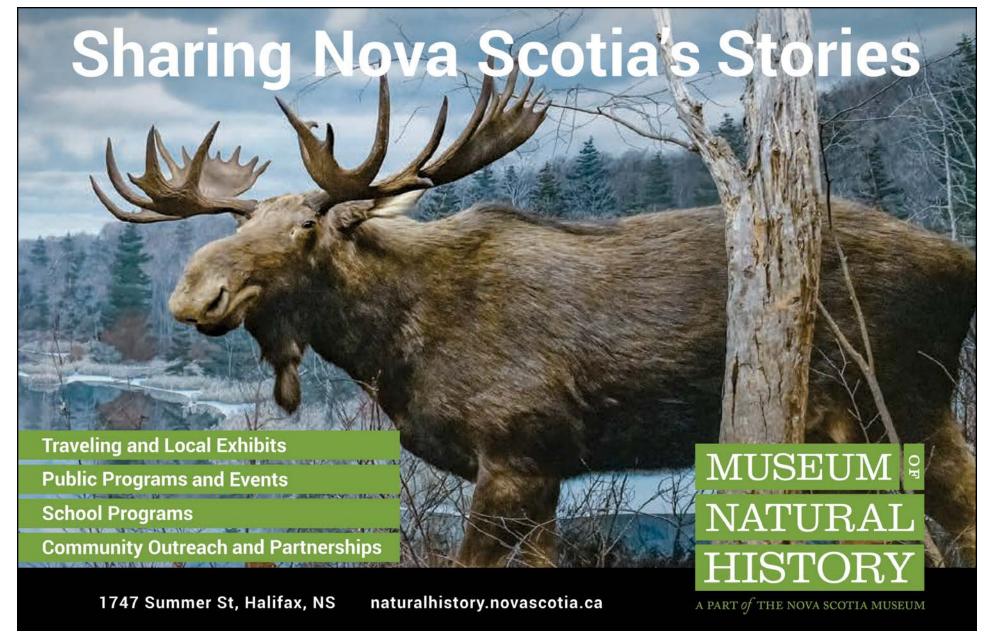
On December 7th and 8th, we are excited to host Christmas in the Country during the 31st New Ross Christmas Festival. Join us for sweets and hot cider in Rosebank Cottage, craft activities in the Schoolhouse and Farm Workshop, find gnomes around the museum, and meet Father Christmas. Take the chance to engage with our knowledgeable interpreters, who bring these stories to life with their passion and expertise! We will also have our annual Craft & Gift Market on December 8th from 10 am to 3 pm.

We also have a series of workshops scheduled for this winter, focusing on skills like cooking, textile arts, and woodworking. There will be workshops for all ages, providing a wonderful opportunity to learn about historical practices. Please stay updated by visiting our website and following our social media accounts for more information.

While you're here, be sure to explore our natural trails, visit our gift shop and our café (The Hearth Room Café).







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YOUNG GIRL IS A WAR AMPS "CHAMP"

even-year-old Michaela Monsigneur is a double leg amputee, and a member of The War Amps Child Amputee (CHAMP) Program. As a Champ, she receives financial assistance for artificial limbs and specialized devices, peer support from other amputees "just like me," and the opportunity to attend regional seminars where Champs and their parents learn about amputation and access valuable resources.

Her parents Michael and Lyndsay describe how The War Amps has supported their family.

"We attended our first CHAMP Seminar when Michaela was three months old. While there was a lot of information to take in, it was also very empowering. Seeing the older child amputees really showed us that everything would be OK and that Michaela would have a great childhood."

"Whenever we've reached out to The War Amps since then, they've always provided the help we need to make life a little bit easier for Michaela and our family. Michaela was one and a half years old when she started wearing artificial legs, and it didn't take her long to start walking with them. She has everyday legs that she wears to school and for playing sports, as well as water legs to keep her safe on wet, slippery surfaces. Her artificial limbs are costly and need to be replaced often as she grows."

The War Amps encourages Champs to develop a positive outlook on their amputation and to pursue any activity they desire. "Michaela's determination and enthusiasm for life inspire everyone around her," says Danita Chisholm, Executive Director of the CHAMP Program. "Thanks to the public's support of The War Amps Key Tag Service, we are helping young amputees achieve their goals."

The War Amps does not receive government grants. Its programs are made possible through the public's support of the Key Tag Service.

For more information, or to order key tags, visit waramps.ca or call toll-free at 1 800 250-3030.



Michaela Monsigneur





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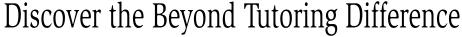






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Submitted by Oxford Learning

There's more to learning in school than memorizing facts and numbers. Learning is about understanding, problem-solving, and enjoying the process of discovery. That's where Beyond Tutoring comes in-a program designed for Primary to Grade 9 students that goes beyond traditional tutoring to help students become better learners and gain a comprehensive education.

So, what exactly is Beyond Tutoring?

Beyond Tutoring isn't just another tutoring program—it's a gateway to academic excellence and personal growth. Unlike traditional tutoring, which aims to patch knowledge gaps, Beyond Tutoring seeks to empower students with the tools and confidence to tackle any academic challenge head-on.

It's about fostering a love for learning that extends far beyond the classroom, instilling a sense of curiosity and resilience that propels students toward success.

Core principles include:

- Nurturing active think-
- Fostering intrinsic motivation
- Honing organizational skills
- Sharpening cognitive abilities

More than just improving grades, Beyond Tutoring seeks to create well-rounded individuals who are equipped with the skills and mindset needed to thrive in an ever-changing world.

What sets our program apart is its innovative approach to teaching and learning. Through personalized instruction, interactive sessions, and handson activities, students are engaged in a dynamic educational journey that caters to their individual learning styles and preferences.

Beyond Tutoring harness-

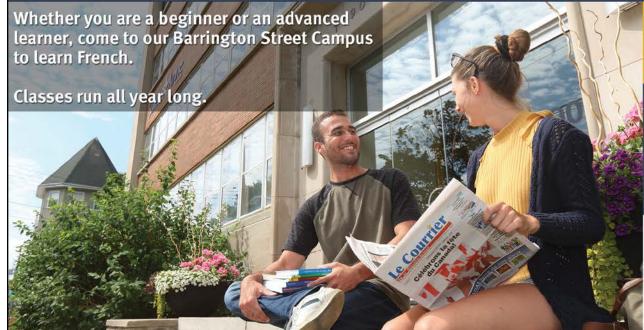
es the power of cognitive learning to deliver engaging and interactive lessons.

Using our cognitive approach, our tutoring lessons help captivate students' attention and foster a deep learning experi-

Plus, Beyond Tutoring recognizes that learning doesn't just happen in the classroom—it's a continuous process that extends into all aspects of life. That's why we encourage students to apply their newfound knowledge and skills to real-world situations. This helps to foster a deeper understanding of concepts and promotes lifelong learning habits, thus providing a comprehensive education.

Whether a student is just starting their academic journey in Grade 1 or navigating the complexities of middle school in Grade 8, Beyond Tutoring is tailored to meet their individual needs. The Beyond Tutoring program allows continued on page 15

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Health & Wellness

Is "good enough" Enough?

By Dr. Sarah Davidson DDS, MSc (Ortho) FRCD (C)
The Brace Space

recently had a very open and candid con-▲ versation with a friend and fellow parent about the need for braces, and while we looked at his daughter's teeth, he uttered the phrase: "I think they are good enough." It is a phrase I often hear. As an orthodontist and as a parent I understand. Some patients we see are 'good enough.' In fact, their occlusion is correct and there would be no benefit from braces. But there are many others who would greatly benefit from a correction and timeliness of this treatment can limit invasiveness. I can appreciate that it seems every teen you see is sporting braces and that many young kids these days are excited to get their braces, if for no other reason than all of their friends have them. Some people even call braces "a rite of passage." While I disagree with the notion of braces being a rite of passage, there are some very solid reasons why braces are so widespread these days.

There are two main reasons braces have become so prevalent. It is a fact that malocclusions, or the deviation from a normal bite, are on the rise. Genetics and a host of other factors have ensured that bite and excessive crowding or spacing issues are part of our genetic makeup. The second reason is that oral health has finally received due recognition for its importance to overall health. With this acknowledgement there has been an increased value placed on teeth and their surrounding structures. There is an awareness that teeth can be maintained throughout life and that maintenance means that today's youth should never need to wear dentures, which were commonplace in the elderly not so long ago. The reason you see more braces is because more people are choosing to set up their children or themselves for excellent present day

and future oral health, not to mention the improved self-confidence that comes with a beautiful smile.

Any orthodontist will tell vou that braces are never "needed." True needs in life are few: food, shelter, water. Braces are almost always elective in some nature but that does not mean that they are "just cosmetic" and are not indicated to improve function, decrease breakdown and wear of teeth and to foster a healthy bite and smile. Most orthodontists are focused on the occlusion or bite first and esthetics second. The truth is, teeth that are aligned and in a proper bite look better and last longer. Minor rotations or deviations in tooth position can have a large impact on the health and prognosis of teeth.

So, I would ask is "good enough" enough?" For all that we do to set up our youth for the future, oral health should not be neglected. It is not the place



to cut corners. We get one permanent set of teeth and we need to protect them to maintain them for a lifetime. Given the opportunity to do this at an early age, when damage to the teeth can be minimized and a young person can reap the rewards of having a beautiful and healthy smile for their lifetime, is invaluable.

Dr. Sarah Davidson is a Board-Certified Orthodontic Specialist. She is a co-owner of The Brace Space Bedford (Larry Uteck), The Brace Space Dartmouth, The Brace Space Sackville and The Brace Space Halifax, offering conventional braces and Invisalign for children, teens and adults. For more information, contact 902-455-7222.





Nova Scotia Nature Trust is Raising Hope for the Coast

Submitted by NS Nature Trust

hat does childhood look like, when you grow up in a place called "Canada's Ocean Playground?"

With 13,000 kilometres of coastline and 3,800 islands (yes, you read that number correctly), Nova Scotia's coasts are an integral part of who we are – and who we grow up to be. Our rugged rocky shores, rich salt marshes, dramatic coastal headlands, and wind-swept beaches support vibrant, living communities and thousands of species of wildlife, including huge numbers of migratory birds on their long journeys. Coastal habitats also provide ecological services we all depend on, buffering us from storms, controlling floods, and storing carbon.

But growing pressures like development and invasive species threaten these fragile ecosystems. Intact, wild coastlines have been disappearing for decades. So, too, has public access to our beloved coast. Nearly 90% of Nova Scotia's coastal lands and islands are privately owned and facing increasing development, destruction and fragmentation.

Only 5% of our coast is protected, but the Nova Scotia Nature Trust is on a mission to change that. Local, focused, and agile, the organization can act swiftly to acquire private land and protect it forever, and the Hope for the Coast campaign aims to save at least 5,000 acres of critical coastal habitat - before it's too late.

"We know that Nova Scotians are deeply concerned about coastal protection and public access to the coast," says Bonnie Sutherland,



Executive Director of the Nova Scotia Nature Trust. "The outpouring of support we've seen from the community and from our partners in conservation to save coastline and islands has been deeply inspiring. Saving nature makes a real and tangible difference, and it's heartening to see so many people stepping up to raise Hope for the Coast."

"Our natural legacy is something we want to protect for our children and theirs, so they too can enjoy all the wild adventures and beauty of growing up on an ocean playground," she adds. Donating to the Nova Scotia Nature Trust can make a lasting impact today. To learn more, visit nsnt.ca.

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