



ldas • Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury

The right to learn, the power to achieve

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LDAS LAUNCHES GO FUND ME CAMPAIGN

(SUDBURY, ON) — The Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury (LDAS) has launched a Go Fund Me campaign to keep its satellite offices in North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins open for the next school year.

In 2016, the LDAS was successful in obtaining a Grow Grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, to offer services in satellite offices in North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins, thus establishing the Northern Ontario Centre for Learning Differences (NOCLD). This grant provided funding for three years, ending on March 31, 2019.

The programs and services in the satellite offices have seen much growth and success. Students, families, educators and community partners and professionals have accessed the unique services provided throughout Northeastern Ontario. Over the past three years, NOCLD has helped support over 1,800 parents in navigating the educational system and over 2,500 children and youth with support in understanding their particular learning disability. In 2018, the organization hosted a Regional Conference with free workshops in Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie, Timmins, Parry Sound, South River and North Bay. In the end, 24 workshops were delivered and more importantly, 935 parents/educators and 1,717 students attended these workshops.

“LDAS and NOCLD are the only organizations serving families of children with learning disabilities in Northern Ontario,” says Mary-Liz Warwick, LDAS & NOCLD Executive Director. “Our work produces a meaningful and measurable impact on the communities we serve and one that is reliant on external funding to continue its mission. The reality is that without a commitment of funding, these crucial support programs will come to an end in North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins on June 28, 2019.”

The organization is committed to seeking and securing sustainable funding so that families in North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins will continue to be supported. In the meantime, the organization has launched a Go Fund Me campaign to ensure that the satellite offices will be open for the new school year. The campaign can be found by clicking the following link https://www.gofundme.com/f/facilitating-ld-support-across-northern-ontario&rcid=r01-156086467337-851e670909b547e2&pc=ot_co_campmgmt_w

“Every student has the right to an education and the right to learn in a way that best suits their learning style. NOCLD will continue to advocate, at all levels of government and community, for those rights,” said Dr. Kevin McCormick, Chair of the NOCLD Board of Directors and President and Vice-Chancellor of Huntington University in Greater Sudbury.

About the NOCLD

The Northern Ontario Centre for Learning Differences (NOCLD), which includes a head office based out of Huntington University in Greater Sudbury, and satellite offices in North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins, is an organization that provides resources and supports across the north for families of students identified with an exceptionality, such as a learning disability. Front-line services in North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins have been funded since 2016, thanks to the Ontario Trillium Foundation Grow grant (\$600,000 over three years). These locations offer innovative programs and support to learners and their families. The NOCLD team of Resource Facilitators support and advocate for parents of students with learning differences, and help to facilitate positive working relationships between home and school.

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