

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 7, 2020

“Don’t Dis My Ability” - Making the Invisible Visible!

(Sudbury, ON) – The Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury’s (LDAS) flag was raised this morning at Tom Davies Square. Mayor Brian Bigger was on hand to officially proclaim October as Learning Disabilities Awareness Month in the City of Greater Sudbury and has also accepted the role as Honourary Chair for awareness events all month long.



Mayor Brian Bigger and Mary-Liz Warwick, Chair of the LDAS Board of Directors, raise the flag at Tom Davies Square.

"I'm pleased to once again offer my support to the Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury by proclaiming October as Learning Disabilities Awareness Month in Greater Sudbury," said Mayor Brian Bigger. "The LDA of Sudbury does an incredible job demonstrating that students can thrive when the right support and service are available."

To keep the awareness going all month long, the organization has posted a number of events in their 31 days of LD calendar. The calendar can be viewed on their Facebook page LDA Sudbury or their website www.ldasudbury.ca. One of these events will take place on October 14th from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. when the organization hosts a free virtual Youth Conference featuring Carly Sotas. Carly will speak on the importance of mental wellness, life balance and resiliency. Carly Sotas is an author and mental health activist dedicated to empowering the next generation of leaders. After publishing her first book at twenty, Carly Sotas began working with young empowerment and literacy organizations around the world. As an author and speaker, Carly believes that everyone has an important story to share. To register for this event visit Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/step-up-leading-with-courage-registration-122086783857>

The organization is also encouraging everyone to wear blue on October 23rd to help raise awareness for Learning Disabilities. The public is encouraged to upload a selfie wearing their blue attire to Facebook and tag @ LDSudbury in the post.

“Children and youth who carry the identification of a learning disability, are not only intelligent, they are also very creative and with proper accommodations they can excel in their educational pursuits,” says Mary-Liz Warwick, Chair of the LDAS Board of Directors. “Please check out our calendar and take part in as many of our events as you can this month. Our hope is to see Sudbury become the leader in destroying the barriers misunderstanding creates.”

The following are some interesting facts and statistics about learning disabilities:

- By definition someone with a learning disability has average to above average intelligence;
- 1 in 10 people in Ontario have a learning disability;
- Learning disabilities impact certain skills, most of which can be improved with the right supports;
- Because learning disabilities usually exhibit in the school system, those with learning disabilities can be identified early in life. Early intervention improves confidence;
- When they do not receive appropriate support, individuals with learning disabilities have higher than the average rates of school dropout, unemployment and poverty;
- Learning disabilities can be inherited and through their child’s diagnosis, many parents realize that they have been impacted by a learning disability themselves.

(Source LDAC PACFOLD survey)

About Us:

The Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury is a registered nonprofit charity dedicated to improving the lives of children and youth with learning disabilities. Our mission is to support individuals with learning disabilities in reaching their full potential in a community that values their unique contributions and abilities. The Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury receives no government funding for their work and relies on the generous support of donors and funders. Please check us out at www.ldasudbury.ca.

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Media Contact:
Mary-Liz Warwick
Executive Director,
The Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury
705-522 0100
maryliz@ldasudbury.ca