

access ABILITY

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smd

WINTER 2012



We All Have Ability To Give

Ambassadors Lead the Way to Success!

Last year, SMD Foundation/Easter Seals™ Manitoba proudly introduced Victoria Scott as our Youth Ambassador. Victoria is 9 years old, bright, very cheerful and always smiling. In each of our community events and campaigns, she displayed her enthusiasm for taking on new challenges.

We appreciate Victoria's commitment to our organization and look forward to another successful year. In addition, SMD Foundation/Easter Seals™ Manitoba is proud to welcome Paul MacDonald as the new Adult Ambassador for 2012-2013.

Let me introduce you to Paul.

Paul is an individual who doesn't like to be in the limelight. He's not looking for fame, glory or riches. Rather, he is an individual who finds that volunteering makes him feel good and that it is a gift to give freely of oneself.

About 10 years ago, Paul took a computer course offered through Vocational Services at the Society for Manitobans with Disabilities (SMD). While learning computer skills, Paul also found that he enjoyed helping his classmates. As an SMD volunteer, he now teaches information technology to countless people with disabilities that SMD serves (consumers) in the SMD computer training classroom. He has been a valuable asset to SMD and has contributed over 2500 hours of volunteer service since 2004.

"You can do anything you want to do as long as you want it bad enough."

In 2008, Paul was awarded the SMD Gord Young Volunteer Award of Distinction, presented to an outstanding volunteer who is a positive role model and who excels in his or her placement, demonstrates leadership qualities such as initiative, problem solving and teamwork, and is involved with making positive changes or recommendations to help SMD strive for excellence on a continual basis. This volunteer lays aside his or her struggles to ensure the betterment of the community without seeking recognition or reward.



In 2009, Paul was invited to contribute his talents to the writing of a publication for SMD Volunteer Week called Reasons to Volunteer. He explained that the benefits of volunteering include self respect which comes from working side by side with others and by sharing life skills and knowledge while developing a sense of self worth that comes from being a team player.

In 2011, Paul was the recipient of the first ever Safeway Celebration of Ability Award that was presented at the 2011 Volunteer Awards hosted by Volunteer Manitoba.

Paul enjoys creating YouTube videos that show the world from the perspective of individuals in wheelchairs and the barriers that exist for people with disabilities. Paul's also involved with writing informative articles for the Canadian Paraplegic Association newsletter. He enjoys finding creative ways to educate and to raise awareness of issues that affect people with disabilities. His interests also include listening to music and exploring science.

According to Paul, "the new role of Adult Ambassador will allow me to take my volunteer work to the next level. While representing an organization I truly believe in, I will be able to continue my advocacy of removing barriers and equal treatment and opportunities for all persons living with disabilities."

Paul believes in "living ability", and hopes that this has an impact on others. Paul says, "You can do anything you want to do as long as you want it bad enough."



Thank You 2011 Corporate Supporters

SMD Foundation/Easter Seals™ Manitoba extends its sincerest appreciation to our generous corporate supporters for their ongoing commitment and caring. Each gift ensures there is an investment in the vital programs and services that assist us in furthering the success of the children, youth and adults we help.

Upcoming Campaigns

For more information about our campaigns and events, please visit www.smd.mb.ca and click on Fundraising & Lotteries.



VIP Lottery

Tickets for our annual fundraising lottery are on sale January 9 - March 31.

There are over 136 prizes to be won including cars, cash, trips and electronics. Tickets are only \$50 each or buy 2 tickets and get 2 free! To order, please call 204-988-3333 or toll free 1-800-455-6439. For more info, please visit www.VIPLottery.ca or email lottery@smd.mb.ca



Paper Egg

From March 5 - April 8, show your support by purchasing a Paper Egg for \$2 at participating Booster Juice, Mac's Convenience stores, Old Navy, Rona, Smitty's restaurants, tb!s - the bargain shop and the Cupcake Corner.

Each egg will be displayed inside each retailer to share with your community.

For more info, please visit www.paperegg.ca or email paperegg@smd.mb.ca



Cupcake Day

On April 3, join Hot 103 FM at The Cupcake Corner, 439 Stradbrook Avenue, and purchase a box of mini cupcakes for only \$15.

Receive a free cup of Starbucks coffee and a Winnipeg Free Press newspaper.

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