

A Call to Action from the Executive Director

Letter to the Editor (Peterborough Examiner)

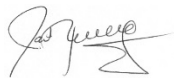
The Unspoken and Forgotten Cost of Work-to-Rule

Sometimes we forget that education doesn't just happen in schools. There are a variety of local organizations that provide enriching, curriculum-linked educational experiences for students that simply can't be replicated in the classroom. Many of us are not-for-profit, charities that have experienced and qualified teacher-trained educators on staff. We provide engaging, hands-on experiences that educate our children about Canadian history, nature, sustainability and the arts. For example, places like Camp Kawartha, Green Up, The Art Gallery of Peterborough, The Peterborough Museum and Archives and the Canadian Canoe Museum - to name but a few. Our educators are highly trained, and while they may receive modest compensation, they do this work because they are passionate about the mission of their organization, their desire to inspire children and their hope to create positive change.

When teachers engage in Work-to-Rule, field trips to places like Camp Kawartha are suspended. As a result, our educators have no work. Over the next few months Camp Kawartha, a not-for-profit charitable organization, will have lost more than \$30,000 in revenue. And children will have lost out on a valuable learning experience. We are facing an even a greater loss if the Work-to-Rule action by elementary and secondary teachers continues. Camp Kawartha respects and admires the work that our teachers do for our children. We call on stakeholders to come to a fair and equitable resolution for the good of all concerned.

Let us remember that takes a community to raise a child. Help us get back to doing what we at Camp Kawartha do best, teaching children to love, protect and cherish the earth that nurtures us all.

Sincerely,



*Jacob Rodenburg (B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed.)
Executive Director*

Jacob's letter to the editor appeared in the January 23rd edition of the Peterborough Examiner.