

We Love Our Children Family Expo - May 29th & 30th, 2009

Media Release

For Immediate Release

FAMILY EXPO ANNOUNCES AWESOME LINE-UP FOR 09!

Halifax, NS, April 29, 2009 – The We Love Our Children Family Expo is getting set to entertain and enrich Maritime families again this spring. Friday, May 29th and Saturday, May 30th Exhibition Park in Halifax will be filled with energy and excitement as the 5th annual family extravaganza opens its doors. This year's event will feature loads of interactive activities for the whole family, fabulous exhibits, and incredible guest speaker **Ron Clark** (Disney's American Teacher of the year, Founder of The Ron Clark Academy).

The We Love Our Children Family Expo provides a fun and safe environment for families to play, interact, and learn. This year's theme is social responsibility and growing great citizens.

“Great citizens are not born, they're made.” said Event Co-Producer Andree Gracie. “We can all play a part in growing Nova Scotia's future great citizens.” Friday night parents will not want to miss a presentation and discussion on Internet Safety with internet expert and child advocate, **Parry Aftab** presented by **BETSTOPPER**. Families attending the expo will be able to participate in a mock election and the Know Your Canadian Trivia Contest presented by **Elections Nova Scotia**.

Once you've cast your vote, head to the Main Stage for great entertainment! Friday and Saturday catch award winning Hip-Hop artist **Jordan Croucher**, **Mister J the Magician**, My Dad is Better than Your Dad presented by **Tim Horton's**...and of course, the wildly popular Hannah Montana Look-a-Like Contest. Girls of all ages will hit the stage to emulate their fave star for a chance to win a trip to see the Jonas Brothers in concert.

On Saturday don't miss The Great Big Baby Shower; featuring a question and answer session with **Pam Streeter** of Creative Kids Educational Centre, Thyme Maternity prizing, and advice from the Family Expo Nanny. One lucky mom will even be whisked off for a mini makeover and a well deserved romantic night with her partner at the **Delta Halifax**.

Other returning Family Expo favorites include: The Princess Pavilion fundraiser presented by **Concepts School of Cosmetology** in support of Children's Wish Foundation, Journey to the Amazon with Safe Haven reptiles, Diaper Dash, **Z103.5's** Baby Boogie and Kids CBC featuring; **Patty, Sid, Mamma Yamma, Canada, Bo on the Go, Lunar Jim, and Huckle Cat from Busy Town Mysteries**.

And if that's not enough, some lucky family will win a Trip for four to Beaches Resort with Sesame Street friends in sunny Jamaica or Turks and Caicos presented by **TripCentral.ca**.

Families will also enjoy a Marketplace featuring exhibitors where they can sample and purchase the newest products and services on site. The Family Expo is pleased to offer a Comfort Zone if you need to stop to nurse or just to rest.

Ticket Information: Tickets on sale now. **NEW HOURS!** Friday, May 29th, 5pm- 9pm. Saturday, May 30th, 10am – 7pm. Adults and seniors \$10.00, children 12 and under are free. Tickets are available at the door and Ticket Atlantic locations; www.ticketatlantic.com or 902-451-1221.

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The We Love Our Children Family Expo is produced by Offspring Productions. The 2009 Family Expo would like to acknowledge the following Sponsors for their generous support: BETSTOPPER, Delta Hotels, FlyHalifax.com, Tripcentral.ca, Elections Nova Scotia, Province of Nova Scotia, Tim Horton's, Concepts School of Cosmetology, CTV, Z103.5, and The Chronicle Herald.

For more information, interviews or high-resolution images please contact:

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We Love Our Children Family Expo Program

NEW HOURS

WE ARE NOW OPEN FRIDAY NIGHT AND ALL DAY SATURDAY!

Friday, May 29th - Show Hours: 5pm - 9pm

Main Stage presented by **BETSTOPPER**

5:00pm - Doors Open - Meet and Greet with Family Expo characters - first 250 in the door will receive a free goodie bag!

5:10pm - Honour Violinists – HRM Schools

5:30pm - Mister J the Magician

5:45pm - Opening Ceremonies – Special thanks to our Presenting Sponsor - **BETSTOPPER**

6:00pm - My Dad is Better than Your Dad contest presented by Tim Horton's- email info@familyexpo.ca to enter your Dad/child team

6:30pm - Musical performance by award winning recording artist, Jordan Croucher

7:00pm - Presentation and Discussion on Internet Safety presented by **BETSTOPPER**

7:30pm - First round of Hannah Montana Look a Like Contest- dress up like Hannah Montana for your chance to win a Grand Prize getaway – All contestants must be in costume and at the Main Stage seating at 7pm. Classes on the main stage of the Hoedown Showdown.

8:00pm - Meet and Greet with special guests (to be announced)

Saturday, May 30th - Show Hours: 10am – 7pm

Main Stage presented by **BETSTOPPER**

10:00am - Doors open, Meet and Greet with Family Expo characters - first 250 in the door receive a free goodie bag!

10:15am - Honour Violinists

10:30am - Dance presentation

11:00am - Grand Opening – special thanks to our Presenting Sponsor **BETSTOPPER**

11:30am - Kids CBC featuring Patty, Sid, Mamma Yamma, Canada, Bo on the Go, Lunar Jim and Huckle Cat from Busy Town Mysteries followed by Meet and Greet

12:15pm – Baby Boogie Contest

1:00pm - Mister J, the Magician

1:30pm - My Dad's Better than Your Dad Contest presented by Tim Horton's

2:00pm - The Great Big Baby Shower - Expectant moms and new moms are invited to one of Atlantic Canada's biggest baby showers. Thyme Maternity Fashion Show, Shower games, Advice from the Family Expo Nanny and lots of prizes.

One lucky mom will be whisked off for a mini makeover and a well deserved romantic night with her partner at the Delta Halifax.

2:30pm - Know Your Canada Trivia Contest - presented by Elections Nova Scotia

3:15pm - Kids CBC featuring Patty, Sid, Mamma Yamma, Canada, Bo on the Go, Lunar Jim and Huckle Cat from Busy Town Mysteries followed by a Meet and Greet

4:15pm - Second round of the Hannah Montana look-a-like Contest- contestants must be in costume at Main Stage at 4:00pm

4:45pm - Musical Performance by award winning recording artist, Jordan Croucher

5:30pm - Key note address by internationally renowned teacher, Ron Clark (visit www.ronclarkacademy.com) for more info

6:15pm - Hannah Montana Final Round- Grand Prize winner will be announced – Get your Hoedown Showdown

6:45pm - Draw for Trip for 4 to Beaches Resort with Sesame Street friends in sunny Jamaica or Turks and Caicos presented by TripCentral.ca

Plus don't miss.....

Diaper Dashes - babies will dash to the finish line for great prizing

The Princess Pavilion - be treated like a princess, get a princess hair do, magical sparkles and more! \$5 donation to Children's Wish Foundation

Journey to the Amazon - visit the Amazon Forest with Professor Archimedes Q. Porter. See live reptiles and amphibians by Safe Haven Society for Reptiles and Amphibians.

Growing Great Citizens - Great citizens are not born, they're made. We can all play a part in growing Nova Scotia's future great citizens. Stop by to play the interactive game Run Vote Win, take part in a mock election, giveaways and more

Dinky Town - a make believe town with Dinkies Galore

Reading Rainbow - take a moment to relax and enjoy a favourite storybook

Comfort Zone - If you need a spot to nurse or take a rest break, this is the place.

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE