



Haldimand-Norfolk Literacy Council

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For Immediate Release

Laugh and Learn for Literacy at Annual Sweet Heart Dinner Fundraiser

Haldimand-Norfolk, CANADA - Haldimand-Norfolk Literacy Council hosts their annual fundraiser **Sweet Heart Dinner & Auction on Thursday, February 11, 2010 at the beautiful Greens at Renton.** Tickets are \$75 each and include dinner, auction and entertainment. A \$50 charitable receipt will be issued for each ticket purchased.

Funds will be raised through ticket sales, silent auction and sponsors. Scotiabank is a lead sponsor. A few featured items will be auctioned live including a garden shed, courtesy of Harthill Contracting, an exciting Toronto Motorsports race package and a Hamilton Limo Casino Niagara trip. The dinner and auction fundraiser will support adult literacy programs and employment and life skills for adults in the community.

In addition to raising funds for literacy, this year's guests will be treated to a truly funny, entertaining and educational evening featuring special guests **Rick Green** and **William J. Thomas**.

Rick Green, a Gemini Award winning director, comedian, TV writer, author, producer, educator, magician & adult with ADHD will act as the evening's emcee. His latest film *ADD & Loving It?!*, features comedian/actor Patrick McKenna, and recently aired on Global TV. Rick is also well-known for his involvement in television's *History Bites*, *Prisoners of Gravity* and *The Red Green Show*. As an adult with ADHD, Mr. Green brings his unique perspective on learning and an opportunity to see things differently.

William J. Thomas is the author of eight books of humour, including bestseller "The Dog Rules (Damn Near Everything)." He's also a scriptwriter, radio and television commentator and nationally syndicated newspaper columnist. His weekly column Land of the Loony, appears in 45 Canadian and American newspapers. Guests are sure to be delighted with his uncanny, funny presentation.

The evening brings together laughter and learning to provide inspiration and support for the many adults in our community who struggle with writing, reading and numeracy skills.

"Everyone deserves the opportunity to feel good about themselves and to earn a decent living," says Lorraine Bergstrand, Executive Director of H-N Literacy Council. "Our world has changed and we need to offer adults the skills and training needed to secure gainful employment, upgrade their literacy for entrance to school programs or to simply engage in life by reading a book or newspaper."

Many of the clients who come through the doors of the H-N Literacy Council are looking for hope and carry a dream to get a better job, return to school or simply read a book to their child or grandchild. The worry and struggle to read with confidence, use a computer, or understand numbers is lifted as they move through literacy and skills programs. Instructors work with learners through small group classes to break down barriers, while volunteer tutors work with students one to one. Programs are varied to meet the needs of individual learners.

For more information about H-N Literacy Council programs, to purchase tickets for the Sweetheart Dinner and Auction or make a donation to the silent auction please call 519.428.0064 today.

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