



Block Parent[®] Program of Canada Inc.

Communiqué

Fall/Winter 2016

BLOCK PARENT[®] WEEK

The theme for the 2016 National Block Parent[®] Week was “First Sign of a Safe Community”. The poster this year showed a lovely country road with the well-known Block Parent[®] community sign leading the way into town. The photo was courtesy of Michael Squance of Calgary, Alberta. The poster was created by Ryan Sereda, who works with the Winnipeg Block Parent[®] Program and is the newest member of the National Board of Directors. Thank-you Ryan, for all your hard work on the poster.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The BPPCI Facebook page www.facebook.com/blockparent is updated regularly with interesting information. If you have an event or special news that you would like to have posted, please send the information to Linda lindapatterson100@gmail.com and she will post it to our site.

SPONSORSHIP

We have been and continue to actively seek financial support from Foundations, Corporations and Individuals. We are appealing to you, our Block parents, for your help finding new sponsors. If you are aware of any opportunities that might be available to the National Program, no matter how large or small the contribution might be, please contact our National office.

SEASONAL SAFETY TIPS

Celebrate safely. When family and friends get together for the holidays, excitement is in the air. Keep the following safety tips in mind and make sure your home is equipped with working smoke alarms and fire extinguishers. Develop and practice a fire escape plan and ensure overnight guests are familiar with your procedures.

Use candles with care.

Candles create a festive mood and a warm, inviting atmosphere. But left unattended or put in the wrong place, they become a hazard.

Know these safety rules for candles.

- Never leave burning candles unattended
- Extinguish all candles before going to sleep or leaving the room
- Do not permit children to keep or use candles or incense in their rooms
- Candles should only be used when an adult is present and awake
- Never use lighted candles on or near a decorated tree or other greenery
- Keep candles at least one metre away from anything that can burn, including curtains, decorations and wrapping paper
- Always use stable, nonflammable candle holders
- Place candles where they will not be knocked down or blown over
- Always keep burning candles up high, out of the reach of children and pets
- If you have children in your home, store candles, matches and lighters out of their sight and reach

This information is provided by SafetyInfo.ca

Ice Skating

Canadian families can't get enough of outdoor ice skating. But before lacing up those skates, keep these tips in mind to keep you whole family on the safe side of this winter sport.

- Skates should give firm ankle support and fit snugly; for youngsters whose feet are growing, softer boots are better than hard, unyielding ones
- All skaters should wear CSA-approved hockey helmets when skating because they are tested for falls on ice. Replace helmets every five years
- Check that skate blades aren't dull or rusted
- Teach children to skate only in places you know are safe
- Check that the ice surface is in good shape without bumps, melting or slushy ice
- Check for skating hazards such as pebbles, rocks and branches
- Ice on frozen ponds, rivers, lakes or canals should be at least 15 cm thick and 20 cm for skating parties or games; beware of quick thaws, which can weaken the ice surface
- Teach children to skate with friend – never alone – and always in safe areas, away from traffic and free of obstacles

2017 SYMPOSIUM AND AGM

The dates and location of the 2017 Symposium and AGM will be determined in the near future. We will let you know the details as soon as they are available and remember to watch our website and Facebook page for updates.

The Board of Directors and Staff of the Block Parent® Program of Canada hopes you enjoy all the beauty, warmth and traditions of the holiday season.

