

Three Rallies in One Day

Pat Niagara

December 23, 2011

On December 23rd Advocates from all over Ontario took Aim at 3 Children's Aid Offices in Ontario all in the same day, same time. Neil Haskett from the Group "Stop the Children's Aid Society from taking Children from Good Parents" covered the Sudbury C.A.S., In the Niagara Region area the Group "Unregistered CAS/FACS workers unlawfully working in Ontario" took Aim at FACS Niagara's office in St. Catharines while in London, Lillian Christine Sorko from "Voices of Innocent Families in Ontario" hit the London C.A.S. office. All in All a clear message was sent, we will not give up till change in the form of Ombudsman Oversight comes.



Sudbury, Ontario

Photo by Neil Haskett



St. Catharines, Ontario

Photo by Bobbie Gellner



London, Ontario

Photo By Lillian Christine Sorko

Chris York

December 23, 2011

Chris York who attended the St. Catharines event said every voice makes a difference. There are so many people that want the change but do not get out and support the rallies. if we want the change, we will HAVE to FIGHT for it and show up in greater numbers. If you can not show up at the rallies contact any one of the very active advocates such as myself Pat Niagara, Bobbie Gellner, Neil Haskett or Chad Wells to find out what you can do to show your support from home or from in your own community if there is no rallies close to you. There are a number of ways to make your voices heard so there is no excuse why you can't support us. We all support you in your fight and we do this free of charge and at our own expences, please show the support back so we can all obtain the much needed changes that we all so desperately want and need. if not for us then do it for YOUR CHILDREN they all deserve better then the treatment they are getting now. Armchair advocates do not do any good for the cause if they are not getting out there and making there voices heard. Some things you could do to help, you could stand outside the courthouse with petitions for people to sign asking for ombudsman oversight of the CAS. You can also contact your local MPP and ask for a meeting to discuss the CAS issues such as the lack of oversight. Have some petitions ready that have been signed from that particular riding to present to them while at your meeting. While gathering the signatures at the courthouse be sure to stay on public property such as the sidewalk so as to not be arrested for trespassing.

Contributions from several local businesses will ensure that kids being served by Family and Children's Services won't be forgotten this Christmas.

The Family and Children's Services of Niagara took contributions of toys from several local businesses this year. The Niagara Falls Wal-Mart played a big roll with a large contribution of toys to FACS NIAGARA.

What would be nice to see is did these toys make it to the kids in the system in the Niagara area or did some of the gifts make it under the tree's of the C.A.S. employees.



Ann Godfrey
FACS Niagara

The Source

BALLOONS BIRTHDAY WISHES ALL OVER THE WORLD



December 14, 2011

The Balloon Release and Birthday Wishes took to the sky's all over the world for Ayn's.

See Pg 3



Jane Scharf
Ottawa, Ontario

HELP IF THE COURTROOM

If there are any members who would like to help fill the court in a child protection case in Ottawa on January the 5th please email her at jane@janescharf.com and she will send you more details on this event.



Photo by PAT NIAGARA

Santa Claus Stops by Protest

Dec 07, 2011 - Santa attends Dunnville Rally Hosted by Pat Niagara of the Facebook Group "Unregistered CAS/FACS workers unlawfully working in Ontario" for "Canada Court Watch"

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Canada Court Watch
Member and Advocate Badge Set

The 2012 Canada Court Watch Badge

2012 Canada Court Watch Members / Advocate Badge (Lanyard Sold Separately)

If you attend a number of Rallies and want to be IDed easily by others this Badge is a great way to do that. The Bagde is 100% waterproof and will not fade in sunlight. If you would like to have a badge like this you can order it by contacting Pat Niagara or Bobbie Gellner on the pages.

COST: \$5.00 (\$6.00 with Snail Mail Cost)

NEW INFORMATION BLOG OPENS

C.A.S. Ontario

New Web-Blog opens this month with links to Upcoming Events, News Coverage, Rally Videos, Rally Music Videos, Documents, Links to many CAS related sites and CAS NEWS

see Pg 3

CODY X cries for HELP keep going unanswered by CAS



Max Radico Photo

Lillian Christine Sorko

THIS WILL BE MY LAST UPDATE TILL I GET CONFIRMATION THAT CODY X IS FREE!! I was just informed yesterday that "CODY X" tried to asphyxiate himself over the weekend. Sorko immediately called the Provincial Advocate who is on his case and was being blocked to talk to the boy. John F Dunn says, as the matter of fact the worker who let Cody make the call is no longer his worker and the supervisor on this case has had the worker removed and now is personally dealing with Nana & Cody. Back to the advocate, Sorko left a message to advise him of new information and left Nana's number. He indeed called back to the Nana and she gave him the address of Cody at GRAND YOUTH SERVICES in BRANTFORD ONTARIO and spoke to him in great length. The PROVINCIAL ADVOCATE did receive Cody's Ccall for help. Laura Williams Cody's worker should be commended for standing up for Cody at her own expense on Dec 2 2011. THIS WORKER IS A WINNER Sorko said and the PROVINCIAL ADVOCATE will be visiting Cody. Cody was later caught with the recorder and punished by the Supervisor on his file.



Dunnville Rally for CAS Oversight & Accountability



Photo by PAT NIAGARA

December 07, 2011

Pat Niagara (Canada Court Watch)

Dunnville Ontario had it's turn at having a Rally for Children's Aid Oversight & Accountability today. Advocates from Canada Court Watch came together to rally for CAS oversight and to educate the good people of the city about their rights when dealing with the Children's Aid. It was chilly day for the protesters, but they received a warm reception by the towns people. Bobbie Gellner of Canada Court Watch said "We educated numerous people and obtained more than a 100 petition signatures for Ombudsman in less than 4 hours". The Advocates would also like to thank the OPP officers who just came out to talk. Also thanks to Santa who also stopped for a photo shot with our Advocates. The Advocates will head back to the Dunnville area in late spring of 2012 to talk to more town folks and see how things are going between the people and the C.A.S.



After 5 Long Years Samantha Martin's Memory lives on

Dec 20, 2009

Samantha Martin was born with tetrasomy 18p and died at age 13. Her family has created a Samantha Martin memorial page, and that is her web epitaph to the right. The family wants Samantha's medical records, for the reason any parents want to know their own child, and to contribute to medical knowledge of the tetrasomy 18p condition, which has only been recognized for two decades.

When mother Velvet Martin tried to get her daughter's medical records, government of Alberta FOIP representative Jim McLaughlin told her: "There is a flaw in legislation" - "I find it stupid" - but, when a child passes away "guardianship no longer exists". A parent's right of application is no longer valid.



Velvet Martin Photo

Dec 03, 2011 -Memorial to Samantha Martin from her Family. Samantha Lauren Martin was born on June 4, 1993 to her parents, John and Velvet Martin. Samantha was born with a rare chromosomal disorder, Tetrasomy 18p. Despite the struggles, Samantha was much-loved by family and friends. Ministry representatives advised that Samantha must go into a medical foster home in order to receive government funding for extraordinary care required, unavailable to natural families. In the foster home, necessary care was not achieved. Concerns for seizures and other health needs were ignored. At 13 years old, Samantha's parents were finally successful in having her returned home. Within 6 months, Samantha had made vast improvements, including significant weight gain and an ability to speak. Samantha's teachers referred to her as "A butterfly who emerged from her cocoon." However, the damage had already been done and Samantha suffered a fatal heart attack. On December 3, 2006 Samantha passed on and earned her butterfly wings. SOAR LIKE THE BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLY THAT YOU ARE. "SAMANTHA'S LAW" is the legacy she leaves behind for other children and families: "The Family Support for Children with Disabilities Program to have separate legislation from that of child protection services."

Stop the Massive Fraud December 18, 2011

Mr. Vernon Beck of Canada Court Watch writes to Ontario's new Minister of Children and Youth Services, Dr Eric Hoskins asking for reform within the province's children's aid societies. The prime request is for a directive to all societies to get their workers registered with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers. Following the letter is a research paper on the topic of registration of social workers, including extensive material from recent opposition through rallies and the internet. Download the letter at Canada Court Watch.



Photo by PAT NIAGARA (CCW)

A rally group of two people was enough to scare away the strikers at Kawartha-Haliburton CAS in Peterborough.



Photo by Ja Johns

Ja Johns Dec 01, 2011

Lots of support of passers-by, especially the ones that said they will not support our work ethics, then realized we were protesting CAS!! lol. The strikers were out at the back driveway at 9am, then disappeared. Talked with one very vocal observant of the the striking workers and he said their biggest concern was money and he was not impressed with CAS's ability to protect the children!!

Mother Pleads Guilty

Ontario mom gets probation for making her child sick

December 5, 2011

A woman who sickened her infant to attract attention by mixing a handful of crushed Tylenol 3 pills into the baby's formula, has been sentenced to probation for 30 months.



The woman, 25, earlier plead guilty to unlawfully causing bodily harm.

Her name cannot be published under the terms of a court-ordered publication ban.

On Feb. 26, 2010, police and the Children's Aid Society were called to a Hamilton hospital after a four-month-old baby was admitted with symptoms that included vomiting, irritability and lethargy.

It was later determined the infant's mother had crushed between 10 to 14 Tylenol 3 pills and mixed them into the baby's formula.

Over the course of 10 to 12 hours, the baby showed signs of distress, but the mother did not seek medical attention. She waited for her husband to come home and then the baby was taken to hospital.

The woman was interviewed by police and CAS officials and she offered up a number of excuses as to how high levels of codeine could have entered the baby's system.

Court heard the woman at first suggested a pill may have accidentally fallen into the formula bottle and then suggested their proximity to a pharmaceutical company might have had something to do with it.

Eventually, she admitted what she did and said she did it to attract attention. She enjoyed the way her husband responded during a crisis, court was told.

The woman said she also posted pictures of her hospitalized baby on Facebook to garner attention.

Hair follicle testing on the infant suggested exposure to codeine poisoning for a number of months prior, court heard. The infant spent less than a week in hospital after the February incident.

Investigation revealed the baby, and a child a few years older, had both previously been admitted to hospital numerous times for a host of reasons.

Neither child required admission to hospital after the mother's arrest.

A joint submission for a suspended sentence and 30 months of probation was presented to the court by the Crown and defence, and accepted by Justice Gethin Edward.

The mother has agreed to a psychological assessment. She is allowed supervised access to her children.

She was ordered to submit a sample of her DNA for inclusion in the national offender's databank and she is banned from owning weapons for 10 years.



A LOOK BACK AT THE 2011 RALLIES



Pat Niagara (CCW)

This video was put together to thank all the people who fight for our rights and the rights of our children to make a change in the Children's Aid System. The video will cover the rallies of the 2011 year in Ontario. The video was made up from the information that was posted on the Web, not all the rallies have video, some will have still photos due to no video was taken.

Release Date Dec 31, 2011 6pm

'Children's Aid destroys families' Protester Neil Haskett



Photo by Youtube

December 27, 2011

THE SUDBURY STAR

The way Neil Haskett sees it, universities, colleges, hospitals, Children's Aid Societies, police services, municipal governments, and even nursing homes across Ontario are all tied into the public purse and should be accountable to an independent body just like provincial ministries are.

"The Children's Aid Societies, along with hospitals, nursing homes, the police, the MUSH (municipalities, universities, schools and hospitals) sector, are all self-regulated," he said Friday. "We are highlighting that today. They have been resisting opening up the past couple of years."

Haskett, who is one of about 30 local members of the Sudbury chapter of the Ontario Coalition for Accountability, participated in a two-hour protest late Friday morning and early afternoon on the sidewalk in front of the Lasalle Boulevard office of the Children's Aid Society (CAS) of the Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin.

The local protest was one of several held outside CAS offices in 20 cities across Ontario, including London, St. Catharines and Niagara Falls.

Haskett said the CAS is simply unaccountable because complaints by the public or even staff end up going nowhere.

"They do not allow investigations of the CAS," he said. "They will argue they are controlled by the Child and Family Services Review Board (of the Ministry of Children and Youth Services). They say they can't comment on any matter before the courts are already done. That is pretty much every-thing."

Haskett said Friday's protest is the first of many that will be held in the months ahead and different institutions will be singled out.

He said that at the moment, the provincial Office of the Ombudsman can only investigate ministries themselves. Investigations concerning public institutions such as universities and hospitals, he said, come from within as the bodies are self-regulated and cannot be investigated by the Ombudsman in the event of criminal acts, financial issues, or other concerns.

Haskett got involved with the coalition after being dissatisfied with a police matter involving his family.

Colette Prevost, executive director of the CAS of the Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin, said CAS chapters are accountable.

"The accountability group across Ontario, over the past several years, has supported calls for the government to have several institutions be overseen by the Ombudsman," she said. "We have many layers of accountability. We support accountability reviews."

Prevost said the Ombudsman is tied into the CAS supervisory body — the Child and Family Services Review Board — and therefore "there is an element" of involvement there.

The Child and Family Services Review Board, added Prevost, can also be called upon to do investigations involving CAS chapters.