

The National Quality Institute is Coming To Leeds, Grenville & Lanark

Submitted by the Quality Improvement Committee

On the afternoon of June 6th, Mr. Dan Corbett, President of the National Quality Institute is coming to Gananoque to speak to Board members and staff from our Health Unit and the Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Health Unit. The half-day workshop is designed to enhance our knowledge and understanding of continuous quality improvement principles and their application in a health unit environment.

The National Quality Institute (NQI) is an independent, not-for-profit organization committed to enhancing Canada's national well-being and global leadership through the adoption of quality principles and practices in all sectors of the economy. NQI promotes awareness and education of quality principles and practices and recognizes excellence in non-profit and for profit sectors.

The following NQI Quality Principles form the foundation for long-term quality improvement:

- Cooperation and teamwork
- Leadership through involvement
- Primary focus on customers/clients
- Respect for the individual
- Encourage people to make a contribution
- Process-driven and prevention based strategy
- Focus on continuous improvement
- Factual approach to decision making

Any interested Board of Health members are welcome to attend this workshop. For more information please call Shani Gates, Chair of the Quality Improvement Committee, at 345-5685, ext. 2270.

Love Me, Buckle Me Right

Submitted by Erin McLean



On Saturday April 21st, 2001, five car seat clinics were held in Leeds Grenville and Lanark as part of the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario's spring seat belt campaign. There were 86 other clinics held across the province on the same day.

Parents to be, parents, and grandparents came in to the car seat clinics with their car seats to have them checked for any recalls, missing parts and to ensure that they were correctly installed into their vehicles. 185 seats were checked in our five clinics and less than 5% of them arrived at the clinic in safe working order.

Public health nurses at our Health Unit have been training community partners and volunteers and arranging clinics in the tri-county for several years. Even with continued public education at prenatal classes, baby talk sessions and during home visits, there continues to be a need for these clinics. The wide variety of child car seats and seat belt systems makes it challenging for parents and other caregivers to understand how to safely use their car seats. Our goals are:

- to have each child in the correct seat for their height, weight and stage of development, harnessed into the car seat properly, in the correct seating position in the car, using the proper anchorage of seat belt system and tether straps.
- And for the parent to be able to understand and safely use and install the car seat when they leave our clinic.

