

## Community Living Toronto – Kids Exposed to Inclusion Concepts Through Spinclusion Game

**Sharon Ross and Bruce Rivers of Community Living Toronto** arranged for more than one thousand youngsters to take part in the **SPINCLUSION GAME** – during National Inclusive Education Week in Canada – February 17-24. The project involves students and teachers in selected schools from the Toronto District School Board.

Participants were from eight different schools in the TDSB: Martingrove C.I. - 25 students; Rouge Valley P.S. - 7 classes; Inglewood Heights P.S. - 4 classes; King Edward P.S. - 4 classes; Broadacres Jr. P.S. - 3 classes; Fairmount Jr. P.S. - 8 classes; Ionview P.S. - 8 classes; Jesse Ketchum P.S. - 3 classes.

Designed for children and youth, **Spinclusion** is an interactive game that promotes acceptance and respect for people with special needs and different abilities. The game is currently used in classrooms with children between the grades of 1-12 and with City of Toronto Parks and Recreation staff training. **Spinclusion** has been very well received, not only does it help children learn, its fun too!

### **Here are comments from 3 of the principals involved in the activity:**

- **From the principal at Rouge Valley School:** – *“the Spinclusion sessions have been fantastic and our kids have had a great day.”*
- **From the principal at Jesse Ketchum School:** – *“Spinclusion was a success today for our grade 8 classes. I even got to go and see the last part. I am hoping to book another date for our 2 grade 3 classes”*
- **From the principal at Ionview P.S.:** *“We really enjoyed having the presenters on Friday. They were on time, involved with the students and staff and overall the feeling was it was worthwhile. Thanks to all who put this together”.*

For more information check: [www.communitylivingtoronto.ca](http://www.communitylivingtoronto.ca) This is one of several strategies being used by Community living Toronto to promote inclusion in education.

Community Living Toronto is working with Community living Ontario and CACL to develop tri-party initiatives in the Toronto area. It is home to all 3 levels of our association and is Canada’s largest city. All this makes it an area of priority in the months and years ahead.