



## Passion works, says Renfrew County Legal Clinic's keynote speaker

STEVE NEWMAN

steve.newman@metroland.com

PassionWorks! — the name of Dave Jones's book — was also the theme of his talk at the Renfrew County Legal Clinic's annual general meeting Thursday.

Jones said volunteers and workers within organizations may have to work at finding the right approach, or the right dose of passion, to work more effectively.

Passion is critical, especially for not-for-profit organizations that rely heavily on volunteers' passion and work ethic to reach their goals, said Jones. But passion is not enough, he told an audience of more than 30 people at Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church.

Jones, whose talk was entitled Pump Up Your Passion, spoke about hiking trips with friends in British Columbia and the parallel messages for people in the workplace.

He first noted that some organizations stall because workers and volunteers interpret success in many different ways.

Similarly, many hikers don't appreciate the progress they're making along the way until they've reached a mountaintop and look back to see how far they've come.

Jones said a key to success for organizations is to realign signals of progress, so different people can relate to what others are doing 'during the journey' on the job.

He quoted Albert Einstein, "If you do what you've always done, expect to get what you've always got."

As an example, Jones shared his own experience in a New York airport shortly after the 2001 terrorist attacks

on the World Trade Center and a time of heightened security. A Portuguese couple that didn't speak English was being questioned by a security official, who wanted to know the couple's destination.

The frustrated official kept raising his voice while repeating the question. But he got nowhere, partly because he didn't try something new, like seeking a translator.

Jones said many people would benefit by being like one hiker who stopped in the woods to recognize the many trees or wildlife along the way. At work, then, we need to appreciate the progress being made.

Therefore, Jones advised: Do what you can to change things, but don't spend all your time worrying about it.

Take time, he said, to notice partners and donors. But also take a step back, say every Friday, and recognize steps of progress made on the job during the week.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Later in the evening, in the executive director's report, Richard Owen spoke about highlights during the clinic's 25th year of operation.

For the first time, he said the clinic totalled the one-time payments and additional income collected for clients for the entire year. The amount came to \$928,000.

"Yes, we're making progress," concluded Owen.

In his report, he also noted the clinic is working on a project supported by the Legal Aid Ontario's innovation fund.

The project is about creating a video-conferencing system that enables

clients in more remote parts of the county to do face-to-face interviews with the Renfrew County Legal Clinic.

Partnering agencies are Tyerman and Daughter Employment Services and Community Resource Centre Killalooe.

During the fiscal year of October 2010 to October 2011, the clinic opened 136 new files, compared to 138 the previous year. At present the clinic has 283 files open.

During the year, the clinic provided referral, advice or brief services to 1,728 clients. This is also similar to the previous year's service levels.

The auditor's report was also presented. Total expenses for the year were \$571,811.

Revenues of \$566,428 left the clinic with a year's deficit of \$5,383. Just over 84 per cent of its expenses for the five staff members were salaries of \$404,626, a percentage similar to other years' totals.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elections Thursday night resulted in the addition of new members to the legal clinic's board of directors. They are Patrick Tighe and Michelle Brodeur.

The chair is Baillie Carleton, while continuing directors are Neil Eady, Pat Hartman, Marcia Perryman, Wayne Spooner and Julia Zurakowski.

The AGM also featured the presentation of certificates of appreciation to Mental Health Services of Renfrew County and the Child Poverty Action Network. Accepting for their respective organizations were Rob Wynja and Lyn Smith.

Motivational speaker and author Dave Jones of Ottawa conducts an exercise to make a point during his presentation to the annual general meeting of the Renfrew County Legal Clinic.

Mercury photo by Steve Newman

Bereaved Families of  
Ontario - Pembroke

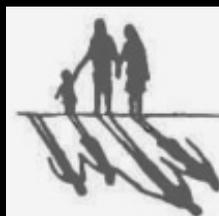
We Can Help the  
Healing Begin

### BFO Pembroke Grief Support Satellite Group

Monday, November 7, 10 a.m.  
Renfrew Seniors Home  
Support Office

For more information  
contact Tracy at  
613-732-7894

BFO Pembroke is committed to providing an encompassing bereavement service for Renfrew County in conjunction with our community partners by providing one on one support, group support and education sessions to grieving individuals, providing training, supervision and support to volunteers who are providing support to grieving individuals, and offering education opportunities and increasing awareness in this community on the needs of bereaved families.



### To The General Public of Renfrew & Surrounding Area

In recent years, the members of The Royal Canadian Legion have asked the towns and cities, schools, businesses and churches, and citizens of Canada to stop for two minutes at 11:00 a.m. on November 11th and pay special tribute to the 116,000 Canadians who have given their lives in war to defend Canada.

The silence begins in Newfoundland and sweeps across the country like a wave, as the clock strikes 11:00 a.m. in each time zone. The objective is simply to allow as many Canadians as possible to participate in Remembrance Day. The "Wave of Silence" has received resounding support from Canadians in all parts of Canada. In previous years, trains stopped, factory workers paused and school children participated in record numbers in remembering the heroic sacrifices of the men and women who went to war in the 20th century.

We come to you again this year to solicit your support for the "2 Minute Wave of Silence". We urge you to encourage your staff and clients, your students and neighbours to sustain the momentum achieved in the observance of Remembrance and in the special tribute paid to the men and women to whom all Canadians owe so much.

Thank you for your support. Please help us to make the "2 Minute Wave of Silence" a continuing tradition of Remembrance in Canada.

Yours Sincerely

Randy Dowell  
President