

RGK manufacture BESPOKE (custom made) wheelchairs for daily use and active living customers. Made to measure products with RGK's industry leading ERGO Seating ensures the ultimate in postural support and performance!

Hi-Lite



Max Lite



Octane



Interceptor Extreme



Canada Day 141

On June 20, 1868, a proclamation signed by the Governor General, Lord Monck, called upon all Her Majesty's loving subjects throughout Canada to join in the celebration of the anniversary of the formation of the union of the British North America provinces in a federation under the name of Canada on July 1st. The July 1 holiday was established by statute in 1879, under the name Dominion Day.

After the first anniversary there were special celebrations in 1917 and 1927. Then in 1958 the government arranged an annual observance of Canada's national day with the Secretary of State of Canada in charge of the coordination. Canada's Centennial in 1967 was highlighted by the attendance of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. In 1968 July 1st seen the addition of multicultural and professional concerts held on Parliament Hill including a nationally televised show from the National Capital Region. On

October 27, 1982, "Dominion Day" became "Canada Day" and since 1985, Canada Day Committees have been established in each province and territory to plan, organize, and coordinate the Canada Day celebrations locally. Grants are provided by the Department to those committees. This year **Rémi Petitpas**, a 13 year old from New Brunswick (Haute-Aboujagane) used a GPS screen to present his view of "My Canada Today!" It is a special time to be in the National Capital Region on July 1st.



The big day for our friends to the south is on Friday ... **Varilite®, Kenda, and Ki Mobility** will be closed July 4th for a long weekend.



ALACD Youth Exchange

Chris Bourne, Acting Executive Director of the Active Living Alliance for Canadians with a Disability and Nadia Smith, Program Coordinator participated in Canada Day celebrations as part of their organizations 2008 Youth Exchange.

We had the pleasure of attending an information fair with them on June 28th at Carleton University. The Alliance welcomed organizations interested in supporting physically active lives of individuals with a disability who seized the opportunity to provide information to the 100 plus delegation from all provinces and territories.

Thank you ALA and we look forward to being involved every opportunity we can! For more information, check out the www.ala.ca.



Quattro



Performance



Interceptor



Grand Slam



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Katsuyuki Hamamoto

Chika Uemura and Kaoru Nakayama, friends in Japan, broke the news to us on the passing of Katsuyuki Hamamoto June 8th, 2008. The "Otsuya" was June 11th and the funeral was held on the 12th. The Otsuya is a ceremony that used to be for relatives and close friends, now for others who are not able to attend the funeral, who gather in order to console and honor the deceased. Our best goes out to his wife Keiko Hamamoto who attended most every event with Katsuyuki. The Emperor and Empress provided this bouquet. Robert J. Szyman, former Secretary General of the International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF) wrote the following while bestowing on him that federation's highest honor, the Gold Medal Triad! *"The words "Hamamoto himself is the history of wheelchair basketball in Japan" repeatedly echo through the wheelchair basketball community in Japan and define Hama Moto's immeasurable contribution to our sport. In 1963, Hamamoto began playing wheelchair basketball, the following year he competed in basketball and athletics at the Tokyo Paralympics. He then began forming teams and introducing wheelchair basketball to the public throughout Japan. By 1975, he established the Japanese Wheelchair Basketball Federation (JWBF) and became its President. By 1983, he had proved instrumental in the introduction of twin basketball in Japan, a sport played by tetraplegics. He played an instrumental role in the formation of the IWBF's Asia/Oceania Zone and served capably as founding President of that federation in 1995."*



Sara Chenette Off To Korea

Many of you have spoken to Sara at our shop over the last few months. She is the daughter of good friends of ours (Dana and Carol) and graduate of Concordia University where her major was in English. She just got us trained and now this perfectly bilingual lady is off to Korea to teach English and explore the world. Join us in wishing her all the best and hope she comes back to hang out with us at the shop again real soon!

Bits and Bytes

- ALACD 2008 Youth Exchange Ottawa June 27th – July 3rd;
- RESNA Annual Conference June 26th – 30th in Arlington, VA;
- Canada Day celebrations July 1st throughout the nation;
- Paralympic Games September 6th – 17th Beijing, China;
- Rehab Equipment Expo September 9th in Vancouver;
- Canadian Seating & Mobility Conference September 24th – 26th in Toronto;
- Shoppers Innovations Conference/Trade Show November 17th, 18th in Toronto;
- Shoppers Innovations Conference/Trade Show December 9th in Calgary!



BESPOKE PLUS helps to market and promote **RGK Wheelchairs**, **VARILITE®** Seating and Positioning Systems, **KENDA**, and **Ki Mobility** products, along with Spinergy, Glance, Rogue, Frog Legs, Schwalbe, KIK, Sun, MBL and other great products.

If you have something that you think we should be expounding on, please contact the editor, Reg McClellan.