



# Hansard Official Report of Debates

Legislative Assembly of Ontario

38th Parliament

## JOHN YAKABUSKI, M.P.P. - RENFREW-NIPISSING-PEMBROKE

Members Statement

December 1, 2005

### **Children's Garden Nursery**

I rise to congratulate the Children's Garden Nursery School of the City of Pembroke in my riding of Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke as the recipient of the prestigious Donner Canadian Foundation Award for excellence in child care at the awards ceremony last week here in Toronto.

Speaker, out of 842 applicants narrowed down to 31 finalists in nine categories, our very own Children's Garden Nursery came out on top. This award comes with a 5,000 prize. Speaker, this was not an easy year for the nursery school as they were forced to relocate as a result of a serious flood in Pembroke this past spring. Instead of shutting down, the school operated out of a nearby church until repairs could be completed. The support of parents, neighbours and community was vital during that time.

Speaker I had the pleasure of visiting the Children's Garden Nursery School personally last year. They were devoting one week of their activities to each letter of the alphabet and I was honoured to be their special guest during "Y" week. Speaker, what I saw were happy, cheerful children fully engaged in the broad scope of activities at this wonderful facility. There is no better way to evaluate the performance of a nursery school than to see the faces of the children themselves. The young faces at Children's Garden Nursery score their school an A + +. Speaker I know that everyone here in this house joins me in congratulating Executive Director Benita Richardson and all the staff at Children's Garden Nursery and to thank them for the excellent job they do for our children.