

*I just want to say how amazed and grateful we are to Camp A-OK....Alex went on his first overnight with the camp yesterday...he's never slept away from either me or his dad!! He didn't sleep all night but he came home tired but happy!! What a relief to know that I can send my son and not worry about him.  
- Alex's Mom*



## A-OK CAMP HONoured FOR PROMOTING ACTIVE LIVING FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

BY CRYSTAL TANCREDI

On May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Autism Ontario - York Region Chapter was honoured with the *Get Active Now* Award from *Get Active Now*, Active Living Resource Centre For Ontarians With A Disability.

The award was presented by Ms. Robyn Golder, Acting President of *Get Active Now Canada's* Board of Directors. *Get Active Now* is a charitable organization that promotes inclusion and active living for persons with disabilities.

The award was accepted by Simone Hubers, President of the Autism

Ontario - York Region Chapter Leadership Council.

Each year, *Get Active Now* recognizes outstanding achievement and presents awards in three categories: Individual; Non-profit organization; and Municipality.

The York Region Chapter received the award (non-profit organization) for the development of their two summer camps, *A-OK Camp* (Autism Ontario Kids Camp) and *KPAS/AO Youth Camp* (KPAS/Autism Ontario Youth Camp). At both Camps, almost all administrative duties- from fundraising to staff hiring, from camper intake to

newsletter production- are provided exclusively by parent volunteers.

The *Get Active* awards panel was "fascinated by the efforts of the parent volunteers, known as the Camp Committee, and their ongoing dedication, as well as the organization's promotion of inclusive programming of active living for the individuals that [they] serve".

The awards panel called the York Region Chapter's promotion and development of inclusive opportunities for persons with disabilities "extraordinary".

