## A Very "Coole" Purple Day



By Brian Coole and his family

## A Very "Coole" Purple Day



Written by **Brian Coole**Valley Community Learning Association, Nova Scotia

Text, photos and illustrations copyright © 2012 by Brian Coole. All rights reserved. Published by Valley Community Learning Association, Nova Scotia.

No part of this publication can be reproduced in any form without written permission of the publisher. For information regarding permission, contact Valley Community Learning Association, Nova Scotia

Dedicated to Cassidy Megan because she has been helping to raise awareness about epilepsy for many years.

Author's note: I wrote this book because my daughter has epilepsy and we have been involved with Purple Day for over three years.

March 26<sup>th</sup> is Purple Day for Epilepsy Awareness. Purple is known as the colour for epilepsy around the world. Epilepsy is one of the most common, serious neurological disorders affecting approximately 300,000 people in Canada and 50 million people worldwide. It can be associated with profound physical, psychological and social consequences.



A nine year old girl named Cassidy Megan started Purple Day in 2008. She lives outside Halifax. In 2009 my wife saw an article in the Epilepsy Association's newsletter about Purple Day and wanted our family to get involved. Our family, the Cooles, got involved with Purple Day in 2009 because my daughter, Jessica, started having seizures when she was 13 months old. She had seizures until she was 14 years old but they are well controlled with medicine, now. However, we have stayed in touch with the Epilepsy Association.



My daughter Kate and Jessica.

We set up a table at the County Fair Mall to make people aware that kids with epilepsy are the same as other kids and educate people about epilepsy. People started giving us donations and we raised \$300.00.



I suggested we should ask the Lion's Club to donate the proceeds from their next breakfast to Purple Day. They agreed and they have been doing that every year since.



We have also involved the New Minas Elementary School, E.M.S. and Horton High School. They sell purple cupcakes and the students wear purple.



The New Minas Children's Center holds a Bunny Hop to raise money for Purple Day and we give the children a Purple Day cake to celebrate.



## We have been doing this every year and it is something we enjoy. Wear purple to show you care on Purple Day!





www.vcla.ca

This project was made possible through the generous support of the Family Literacy Endowment Fund