Parents, family members, educators, professionals and others who live or work with children or teens who struggle with Executive Dysfunction are encouraged to attend.

Executive skills are often lacking in children who struggle with Tourette Syndrome, ADHD and other neurological disorders so we are subsidizing this seminar so as many people as possible can benefit from this seminar.

**Dr. Peg Dawson: Smart ...but Scattered**

**Executive Dysfunction at Home and School**

**Session Description:**

Executive skills refer to the cognitive processes required to plan and organize activities, including task initiation and follow through, planning/organization, working memory, performance monitoring, inhibition of impulses, and self-regulation. Youngsters with poor executive skills are disorganized or forgetful, have trouble getting started on tasks, get distracted easily, lose papers or assignments, forget to bring home the materials to complete homework or forget to hand homework in. They may rush through work or dawdle, they make careless mistakes that they fail to catch. They don’t know where to begin on long-term assignments, and they put the assignment off until the last minute, in part because they have trouble judging the magnitude of the task and how long it will take to complete it. Their workspaces are disorganized, and teachers may refer to their desks, backpacks, and notebooks as “black holes.”

**Learning Objectives:**

As a result of this workshop, participants will:

1. Understand executive skills within the context of brain development.
2. Be familiar with assessment strategies, including interview, rating scales, and standardized tests used to assess executive functioning.
3. Be able to identify how executive skills impact school performance and daily living.
4. Have access to a repertoire of strategies to improve executive skills in students. These will include how to design environmental modifications, how to teach executive skills, and how to use incentives, as well as a brief introduction to coaching as an intervention strategy to support executive skill development.

Continental Breakfast, Break Refreshments and a Hot Buffet Lunch is included in your registration.

April 23, 2013 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Tickets are available for $85.00 at [www.pegdawson.eventbrite.ca](http://www.pegdawson.eventbrite.ca)
### Workshop Schedule:

**REGISTRATION and CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST:**
- **Overview of Executive Skills**: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
  - Definitions
  - Underlying Theory
  - Executive Skills in the Context of Brain Function and Child Development

**BREAK and REFRESHMENTS:**
- 10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

**Assessment of Executive Skills**
- 10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
  - Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews
  - Behavior Rating Scales
  - Formal/Informal Assessment
  - Assessment of Executive Skills

**HOT BUFFET LUNCH:**
- 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Three Intervention Strategies**
- 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
  - Environmental Modifications to Reduce the Impact of Weak Executive Skills
  - Teaching Strategies/Routines to Help Youngsters Develop/Improve Executive Functioning
  - Using Incentives to Help Youngsters Practice or Use Skills That Are Difficult

**BREAK and REFRESHMENTS:**
- 2:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

**Coaching as an Effective Strategy for Building Executive Skills**
- 2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
  - Overview of Coaching
  - Description of 2-Stage Process
  - Coaching with Younger Children
  - Clinical Case Examples
  - Description of Research Studies Supporting the Efficacy of Coaching

### Biography:

Peg Dawson, Ed.D., received her doctorate in school/child clinical psychology from the University of Virginia. She worked as a school psychologist for 16 years in Maine and New Hampshire, and, for the past 20 years has worked at the Center for Learning and Attention Disorders in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where she specializes in the assessment of children and adults with learning and attention disorders.

Along with her colleague, Dr. Richard Guare, she has authored several books, including a book for professionals, *Executive Skills in Children and Adolescents: A Practical Guide to Assessment and Intervention* (recently revised) as well as a book for parents, *Smart but Scattered*. Their most recent books are *Coaching Students with Executive Skills Deficits* and *Smart but Scattered Teens*.

Dr. Dawson is a past president of both the National Association of School Psychologists and the International School Psychology Association. She is also the 2006 recipient of NASP’s Lifetime Achievement Award and a 2010 recipient of the International School Psychology Association Distinguished Services Award.

**April 23, 2013**  
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Ramada Conference Centre Edmonton  
11834 Kingsway Avenue Edmonton, Alberta