



RCD YOUTH GROUP

A Fun Day at the PNE – August 27, 2013

I still remember the weather that day, the cool breeze which gently presses on our faces and the grey sky which paints an overall aura of the weather. That day, gentle, grey and almost about to rain, but the anticipation I see in the eyes of everyone makes a statement: we are ready to have fun!

RCD staff members and participants all took the Canada Line towards the Waterfront station. Fortunately, there weren't too many people in the Canada Line because the time we rode the train was not at the rush hour.

Though there were not too many people riding the train, the bus from Waterfront to PNE is jam-packed with people. Ella who did not ride the bus for a very long time enjoyed the bus ride and she also enjoyed the conversations with other bus riders. Based on their conversations, I guessed that most of them are really itching to be at the PNE which promises an exuberant and exciting experience: the tasty food, the farm animals of varying kinds and sizes, the Super Dogs show, and the extreme pig race.

And, yes, we finally arrived at the PNE. There were line ups, long line ups, but we got in. We first ate and Ella treated many participants with an ice cream. "Oh Sweet! Free Ice Cream!" I guess that's what most participants have in mind.

Then we went to the horse tracks. Gosh! It was really boring. You see the horses jump and run, jump and run, and jump and run. How exciting is that? But not for some horse's enthusiast I think.

Next we headed on to the Super Dogs show. It was one of the highlights of the day for me. There were dogs of different breeds, sizes, and attitude. They were really great!

The first event was the dogs' obstacle course, and they would time every dog how fast they finish the obstacle course. The dogs were fascinating as they faced several long tunnels, the series of hoops that the dogs would jump into long distance, and the flags which they quickly and beautifully skid from side to side. Best time went to a golden retriever that ran the fastest.

There was also the skit that has a really nice choreography which is about a very wise police dog that captured a human goon.

Finally when the Super Dogs show was about to end, we saw the dog race. The dogs were very fast and it was very entertaining. I can hear the loudness from the audience as they were rooting for the group of dogs they liked to win. The loudness of the audience and anticipation of which group will win electrified and echoed at the whole stadium. Even I was shouting very loud to the top of my voice for the team that I was rooting for.

Then the show concluded as they arranged a time where every audience could pet the dogs.

Some of the participants were able to watch the pig race. Unfortunately, I was not able to, but as I heard it was more extreme than the dog race. I'll definitely put that on my list of things to watch for next year, definitely.

After a month we discussed overall how we felt of the PNE outing. I can still feel the excitement I felt that day. Some of the Youth Council members demand – in a funny yet respectful way – to have the outing again at the PNE. Some staff members like Ian enjoyed touching the farm animals and this is what he said. “It connects people back to the old age where everything came from.” Kellen added, “It’s a Renaissance Fair.”

We really had a great time at the PNE. It seems that our thirst for anticipation is quenched by our wonderful experience at the exhibition. We had varied and different experiences, but all of us said the same thing. “We had FUN!”