# Playground Inspector Certification Program

Professional staff who are responsible for playground equipment have an incredibly important job. They are helping ensure the safety of toddlers, children and youth across this country and in local neighbourhoods.

If you are one of these dedicated staff, you - and your employer - can be confident in taking on this role by having up-to-date theoretical and practical knowledge about playground safety and by confirming this knowledge through the completion of the Playground Inspector Certification courses.

#### **Playground Inspector Certification**

The Canadian Certified Playground Inspector certification program is offered through the Canadian Playground Safety Institute (CPSI) and supported by the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA). Certified instructors have developed the Theory and Practical courses, which are offered at classroom locations regionally across the country. The classroom courses include 1 ½ days of training and an exam. The Theory course is also available online.

Those who complete both the CPSI Theory and CPSI Practical courses, and who receive a passing grade on both exams, achieve the industry-recognized status of Canadian Certified Playground Inspector. The Inspector status is valid for a 3-year period and can be renewed by completing a recertification exam either online or in the classroom.

## **Theory and Practical Course**

Playgrounds are fun – but complex – spaces. The Theory course helps individuals thoroughly understand the Canadian playspace safety standard from CAN/CSA Z614 'Children's

Playspaces and Equipment.' Individuals who wish to take just the Theory course, which is available online or in a classroom setting, are welcome to do so. The Practical course is a classroom and playground experience which provides hands-on instruction on conducting an inspection/audit of a playspace. The Theory course is a pre-requisite to the Practical course and must have been taken within a preceding 24-month period. Successful completion of both courses within a 24-month period is required to achieve the status of a Canadian Certified Playground Instructor.

#### **Who Should Take These Courses?**

This training is designed for maintenance/public works personnel, daycare staff, health inspectors, owner/operators, private inspectors, contractors, manufacturers, installers, parks and recreation staff, and/or insurance agents who work - or support the use of quality playground equipment – in schools, municipalities, housing complexes, condominiums or other areas that contain public playground structures.

## **Re-certification Made Easy**

Inspectors whose certification will soon be expiring can renew their status by taking a recertification exam online or the Practical course and a classroom-based re-certification exam. Inspectors wishing to re-certify online are asked to contact cpsi@cpsionline.ca for further details.

For more information, please contact CPSI:

by email: at <a href="mailto:cpsi@cpsionline.ca">cpsi@cpsionline.ca</a>, by phone: toll-free at 1-877-536-2338 on the web: visit www.cpsionline.ca



