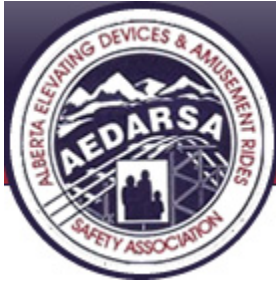


## Three Thousand Students attend the AEDARSA Safety Expo May 8, 2007



**Calgary, Alberta, Canada** – The Alberta Elevating Devices and Amusement Rides Safety Association (AEDARSA) participated in a Safety Expo that was held in the Municipal Building in Calgary, Alberta on March 7 and 8, 2007. Over 3,000 kids in grades 3 to 7 visited the expo. AEDARSA, a member of the Elevator Escalator Safety Foundation of Canada (EESFC), focused its demonstration on escalator safety.

According to Tanis Golin AEDARSA Client Service Representative, the theme for the display was “See Ya Later Escalator – Live to Ride Again.” The display featured the *Safe-T Rider* program poster with the safe riding rules as well as a step with combplate to demonstrate how escalators work and how their movement is possible.



Above: Students visit the AEDARSA Escalator Safety Booth in Calgary, Alberta.  
Below: An egg cutter, dirt, bird seed and Play-Doh was used to demonstrate the potential dangers of escalators.

Each exhibitor also used an interactive demonstration as part of their display. AEDARSA used an egg cutter to simulate the action of an escalator. Each student was given the opportunity to attempt to close the grate portion of the cutter over various objects such as dirt, bird seed or *Play-Doh*®. The kids found that dirt and some of the bird seed feel through the grating. Then the children found that some of the bird seed did not filter through the grating. They were directed to close the cutter. Although the cutter was difficult to close, it did



closed when extra force was applied cutting the bird seed in half. Finally, the children were directed to use *Play-Doh* to create models that represent the objects that can be caught in an escalator such as scarves, flip-flop sandals, shoes laces, etc. The children again saw that the egg cutter was more difficult to close but when they added more force each object was cut into little pieces. Golin described that the egg cutter and an escalator were similar; when either object has an obstruction, with enough force the egg cutter or escalator will move and cut through the object. Golin explained to avoid getting into dangerous situations that could result in someone being hurt; each person should follow the safe riding rules.

Escalator Safe Riding Rules – 1. Step on and off quickly and carefully; 2. Hold the handrail at all times; 3. Always stand and face forward - Never sit on the steps; 4. Keep hands, feet and clothing clear of all moving parts; 5. Use only for the purpose intended - Escalators are not for entertainment – they should not be used as stairs; 6. Passengers only - No strollers, carts or large packages; 7. Hold the hand of all young children.

Golin said, “We were able to keep the kids attention for the entire presentation and many of them had strong reactions to what could happen if they didn’t follow the rules. The parent volunteers that supervised kids gave us some very positive feedback and we overheard them telling the other parents to make sure they don’t miss the escalator booth because it was so good.”

For more information on escalator and elevator safety visit these safety websites; [www.eesfc.org](http://www.eesfc.org), [www.safet rider.org](http://www.safet rider.org) and [www.aedarsa.com](http://www.aedarsa.com).

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