

**Endorsement for Iris the Dragon**

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“In this wonderful series, author Gayle Grass tells the story of Skippy, a youngster with ADHD whose frustration with her difficulties at school and home are gradually overcome after she meets Iris the Green Dragon. Although she faces a number of challenges, she realizes her dreams as she learns to love and work with a young colt, Ben. Children and parents alike will love the story, and its powerful and re-enforcing messages.”

Peter S. Jensen, M.D.

Ruane Professor Child Psychiatry & Director
Center for the Advancement of Children's Mental Health
Columbia University/NY State Psychiatric Institute

“Gayle Grass is a conscientious and talented mental health author, advocate and educator. From the Iris the Dragon series, she now presents her 2nd book, ‘Lucky Horseshoes’. She has comprehensively researched the appropriate mental health area, ADHD, and adapted the content into a tale developmentally appropriate and captivating for children. This work is informative and educative for this young audience who may also become more sensitive to mental health issues and less stigmatized by them. Congratulations on your valuable and continued excellence Gayle!”

Simon Davidson, M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.P.(C)

Chairman, Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry,
Department of Psychiatry, University of Ottawa;
Chief of Psychiatry, Medical Director of the Mental Health Patient Service Unit, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario

“Reading together is a wonderful way for parents to share a love of books and lifelong learning with their children. Iris the Dragon helps open the door for families to have conversations that are important, but may be more difficult to navigate without a skilled guide. By creating an accessible child-friendly discussion of children's mental health, Iris helps promote tolerance and understanding in children and adults alike.”

Sunita Vohra MD FRCPC MSc

Director, CARE Program Stollery Children's Hospital
Associate Professor, Dept of Pediatrics University of Alberta Director, PedCAM Network

“One of Equine Canada's key missions is to create and foster an environment whereby Canadians achieve enjoyment from horses and sport excellence. For individuals with intellectual or emotional disabilities, or other personal challenges, the unique relationship formed with the horse can lead to increased confidence, patience and self-esteem. Lucky Horseshoes and Skippy and Little Ben demonstrates the power of such a relationship, and how that can support personal growth and dealing with personal challenges.”

Al Patterson, President

Equine Canada

“Little Ben sees only the beauty of the person within. Little Ben has only a positive and honest agenda. Little Ben knows there is always hope and that dreams can be achieved. I have long believed that the partnership of human and horse as a therapeutic solution is effective and powerful. When we understand children's mental illness, we have taken the first critical step towards conquering that illness. Gayle Grass, I am awed by your creation of Little Ben, all that he stands for and all that he achieves.”

Ian D. Millar CM LLD