<u>General</u>

A Smile of Joy with Adam's Chair

1 October 2018

Pekan, September 6 - A smile of joy lit up Adam's face after receiving Adam's Chair, a custom made wheelchair named after him, specially designed by a group of undergraduates and lecturers from Faculty of Mechanical Engineering. Adam, a year two students at Sekolah Kebangsaan Serandu was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy at birth, which caused impaired movement associated with abnormal reflexes, floppiness or rigidity of the limbs and trunk, abnormal posture, involuntary movements, unsteady walking, or some combination of these.

According to his mother, Hafizah Mohamad Hamdan, 27, Adam need to use stroller or wheelchair to move around. But with his growing size, the stroller cannot fit him anymore.

"There's a lot of changes in Adam nowadays. He is more excited and eager to go to school. With this chair, Adam now can learn and write comfortably on the table like other kids at the school," added Hafizah who is also a single mother.

Hafizah appreciate the effort and care shown by the teachers towards his son and thanked UMP for designing the chair to cater the needs of his son.

Attended in the handover ceremony was Deputy Dean (Academic & Student Affairs), Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Assoc. Prof. Ir. Dr. Haji Nik Mohd Zuki Nik Mohamed with his team. According to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nik, this project is in line with university's agenda in communitising the technology for the benefit of local community.

He said this idea started during the FKM visit to the school and the school informed about the situation of a student with Cerebral Palsy which needed a special chair that meet his condition.

Hence, after several discussions between the school and UMP, Adam's Chair was successfully created with the cooperation of a group of lecturers within a month. He added, this chair takes into account several key features such as mobile desk boards, brake and lock systems, comfortable seating and other security features.

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