

2016 Winterfest Family Fun Day a big success despite lack of snow!

THE SCOOP



MABLE HASTINGS

On Saturday, February 6, the Municipality of Potton sponsored a Winterfest Outdoor Family Fun Day that was organized and animated by the Missisquoi North Youth Centre (CAB) Former Youth Involvement (FYI) and Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) youth who are proud members of

the CAB family.

Held at the Mansonville Elementary School, the event was attended by 197 people of all ages.

Despite the lack of snow and the impossibility of creating the usual tubing slide or the always much anticipated ski doo rides, organizers made the best of the day by offering: outdoor inflatable games, horse drawn wagon rides with Roger and Adam Cote from the Cote Meadows Farm, First Responder truck rides provided by Francis Marcoux, sugar on snow with delicious syrup donated by Paul Hebert and Paul Boivin and prepared by the Jersey family. Indoor bingo, hair wrapping, and the extremely popular face painting provided by volunteer Laurie Ball and the SADD and FYI youth.

The refreshments including hotdogs, hot soup and delicious hot chocolate prepared by Brenda Clark, the Derby boys, as well as volunteers: Claire Alger, Perry Hicks and Laurette Rouleau were a welcomed treat on a cold and windy day.

The event ended with the drawing of 56 door prizes donated by a variety of businesses and individuals including: The Hatley Clothing company, Jewett's Store, Richelieu (Jacques Ducharme), Rona (Daniel Giroux), Shell (JF Giroux), Reilly House, Lana Lane, Depanneur "13," Salon Coiffure Unisexe, Salon Coiffure Brigitte Laplume, Beaute Design-Brigitte Caron, Salon Boucle D'or-Jennifer Sherrer, Restaurant Missisquoi and Owl's Head Ski.

Families from all over Potton and those from as far away as Montreal attended the day making the most out of what can best be described as a winter with a sparse offering of snow.

The FYI and SADD youth as well as the Youth Centre staff send out a huge thank you to the many volunteers, donors, supporters and attendees who made the day such a huge success.

The children's smiles as they had their faces done up or while taking a big lick of a stick full of sugar on snow, were priceless.



Horse-drawn wagon rides.



Face painting.

The event held as part of the Municipality of Potton's Festival of Hearts was a perfect start to a month of heart friendly fun.

For more information about the Municipality of Potton's Festive Hearts visit: www.potton.ca and for more information about the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre visit: www.cabmn.org



Sugar on snow.

Wonny Song

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Song has also instituted a new award, the Orford Prize, at the centre. The student who wins the award is given the opportunity to perform on three different continents, and is thus given a big leg-up on developing a professional performing career.

With regard to his own performing

career, Song emphasized that the world has not seen the last of him but added that he doesn't mind cutting back on his concerts in the name of fostering future musicians and taking on new and interesting challenges.

"I think it was the right time," the Artistic Director said. "I don't mind cutting down on the concert aspect because

I like to have different challenges in my life."

Song also stressed that the role of Artistic director is one that is very energy intensive and benefits from turnover, suggesting that he doesn't necessarily see himself staying in the position for more than a few years.

Above all, though, Song underlined

the importance of nurturing the talent that passes through the arts centre's halls.

"I'm a product of what could be possible at Orford," he said "I was a student and Orford helped me grow into what I am today."

Now, the pianist said, he wants to help others do the same.

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