

Potton celebrates its most successful Winterfest outdoor family fun day!



THE SCOOP MABLE HASTINGS

In part thanks to Mother Nature and a beautiful day as well as the combined effort of some amazing volunteers, this year's outdoor family fun day, "Winterfest" in Potton held on Saturday, February 23 was one of the more successful ever held. Coordinated and Animated by the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN) Former Youth Involvement (FYI) assisted by Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) and the sponsorship and involvement of the Municipality of Potton, the day was attended by over 260 people of all ages.

With record numbers enjoying the many activities, this year saw an increased enthusiasm for the Marshmallow roasting pit animated by Potton Community Organizer, Trish Wood and the Sugar on Snow made possible by the Jersey family with the donation of maple syrup, and organized by the FYI group. The addition of music with DJ JERK, Jeremy Eldridge set the perfect ambiance for a sunny day of fun. The sleigh rides provided by Roger Cote of Cote Meadows Farm ran non-stop and continued long past the last call. The Surete du Quebec (Provincial Police), Potton Firemen and First Responders as well as the Mansonville Optimist Club's Bonhomme Carnival, provided a wonderful source of safety, awareness and fun for all attending to enjoy.

The indoor activities including the

bingo with volunteers, the Reverend Deacon Judith Ball (FYI member) and Julia Hastings (Joe) and Real Forget was a hit with many playing to warm up and win small prizes. Kate Eldridge (SADD member) and volunteers Danika Robinson and Emilie-Anne Sherrer provided non permanent tattoos and hair braiding while Laurie Ball and Martha Barnes did some great face painting.

Brenda Clark and her volunteer team (Rejean Neron, Cyndi Marcoux, Claire Alger, Laurette Rouleau) served up over 18 dozen hotdogs and refreshments with many coming back for seconds. Shannon Derby of Derby's Cantine manned the barbecue with his usual flair. NexKemia Petrochemicals Inc. donated fresh fruit for all to enjoy with their meal.

Volunteers from Mansonville Elementary School had a table as well. MES donates the use of the school for the day for the Winterfest in support of the family friendly event each year.

At the end of the day, over 30 door prizes donated by businesses in the community as well as by Hatley Clothing Company, were drawn and many delighted winners went home with a prize. The door prizes are only possible with the generosity and support of the local businesses that are so very kind in helping add to the annual event.

With another event under its belt, the CABMN Youth Centre now prepares for its upcoming Second hand Jewellery, purse, scarf and miscellaneous sale as a fundraiser for dance costumes for the June Youth Talents Show. Donations are welcome, please contact Mable at 450-292-3114 and leave a message to arrange pick up or delivery.

The Youth Centre FYI group as well as the staff and the Municipality of Potton and Trish Wood extend a big thank you to all who attended, volunteered, contributed to prizes and who helped to make this year's Winterfest such a resounding success.



PHOTOS: MABLE HASTINGS

