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Weather



TODAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF -4
LOW OF -14



TUESDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF -3
LOW OF -12



WEDNESDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF 4
LOW OF -6



THURSDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF 10
LOW OF -1



FRIDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF 15
LOW OF 1

Youth Centre to host coffee house open mic musical evening in Potton



THE SCOOP MABLE HASTINGS

On Friday evening, April 12 the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre Students Against Destructive Decisions youth (SADD) chapter will hold a Coffee House Open Mic musical evening at the Youth Centre located at 282 Principale in Mansonville from 7:00-9:00pm. Tickets are \$5.00 per person, limited to 60 persons and include entrance, homemade dessert and beverage. To reserve a ticket (please only reserve if you are for sure going to attend), call the Youth Centre at 450-292-4886 or email: m.hastings@cabmn.org

A Coffee House Open Mic evening encourages anyone who likes to perform voluntarily, to sign up and share their talents. Hosts for the evening are: Jason Forget (Former Youth Involvement), Ally Charby (SADD Member) and Ethan Ball (CABMN Youth Centre Staff). The evening also encourages those who do not perform but who enjoy music to come out and encourage the performers for an evening of entertainment and fun. Homemade pies are being prepared by parents of the youth and friends and are sure to be a delicious addition to the event.

"I have long wanted to revive the Coffee House evenings," explain Ethan Ball who grew up attending the Youth Centre programs. "Music is such a big part of our lives and getting together for an impromptu and casual evening like this encourages everyone to join in the fun."

For the SADD Mansonville Chapter youth, this event offers people an alternative night out, alcohol free and provides the youth with the opportunity to increase their organizational skills. The SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) youth meet weekly on Friday evenings at the Centre and the focus is on building leadership and community



COURTESY

action skills. The preparing and hosting of evenings like this one and the support of those who attend encourages the youth in these positive initiatives. Of course, success is also based on the volunteer performers who show up to participate and share their talents.

Ball is now offering guitar lessons to the youth and hopes that a couple of them may be inspired and encouraged to perform a number at the event.

"The SADD group does not have money to pay performers," explains Ball. When you are paying people to perform, you tend to get more participation," he continues. "In this case, the SADD group is asking performers to see this as a way of coming out in support of a youth initiative to raise a few dollars for SADD

and their programming."

With only 60 tickets available and performers already signing up, the revival of the Coffee House evenings in Potton may be well on its way. The SADD and Youth Centre hope that bringing these evenings back to life will one day find them being held in larger venues and with more people attending and participating.

"We have to start back up somewhere," explains Ball. "We hope that the community will have missed attending these evenings as much as we have missed organizing them."

For more information, contact the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre Youth Centre at 450-292-4886 or visit: www.cabmn.org

Ben by Daniel Shelton

