

Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN) holds annual general meeting



THE SCOOP

MABLE HASTINGS

On Thursday, June 20 the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN) held its Annual General Meeting at the Mansonville Town Hall with over 60 persons in attendance including the Mayors of Bolton-Est (Joan Westland-Eby) and Potton Mayor Jacques Marcoux who also served as the President of the assembly.

After quorum was confirmed as well as the agenda and last year's minutes passed, those attending were hosted at each table by a CABMN staff and board member in the playing of CABMN-OPOLY, a board game created by the director for the event that featured a variety of bilingual questions about the CABMN. This required those participating to use their AGM reports to find the answers and was a way for the CABMN to present information on activities held and accomplishments achieved throughout the year. The game received much positive feedback and was a great way to get group participation and involve-

ment. Following the game, a list of two and half pages of improvements and additions to CABMN services was shared with the group.

The financial situation of the CABMN, a recognized charitable non-profit following the audit prepared by Duke CPA Inc. was then presented. Thanks to community and business donors as well as an effort to curb spending and increase fundraising activities, while maintaining or improving services, the CABMN ended the year in the positive. As the Annual Financial Campaign will be launched in July, the organization is hoping to have continued and increased support from the donors whose generosity has allowed for many improvements and additions to services of the CAB.

Some of this past year's accomplishments included: the addition of a second VieActive exercise day for seniors as well as a ten-week "Jog Your Mind" workshop with 10 seniors participating regularly. The Volunteer Coordination team increased registered volunteers to 205 and have furthered the volunteer coordination to other local communities in the Memphremagog Ouest sector. Youth programs expanded to offering guitar lessons, exercise through boxing as well as the creation of a Junior Potton Municipal Council as part of the Leadership program. The Partage/Share Food Bank joined in collaboration with the Banque Alimentaire Memphremagog (BAM) in expanding its emergency food service. The Ken Jones Respite Program for the intellectually and physically challenged



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SARAH JERSEY AND LOUISE LAROSE

held its first art exhibit at the Potton Library and added two extra hours of staffing per week. An increase in volunteer drivers, users of services and participants was noted. These are just a few of the achievements on the two-and-a-half page list shared during the meeting.

The election of two new members to the CABMN Board of Directors was held. The board now consists of: Brenda Clark-President, Hilary Head-Vice President, Ron Jones-Secretary, Danielle Cousineau, Murielle Parkes, James Eby and new to the Board, Cathy Riendeau and Jocelyne Veilleux. The Board also acknowledges the volunteer note taker, Sharon Fewtrell. The board said good-bye to Charles Laurin and Guy Langevin who were noted for their contribution, time and support.

A question period followed all of the presentations and throughout the gathering refreshments were enjoyed by all. The meeting ended on a very positive note with many ideas flowing and connections made. The participation and presence of representatives from Bolton-Est, St.Etienne-de-bolton, Potton as well as the CIUSSSE Community Organizer, Genevieve Lecours, made for a wealth of diversity and sharing.

For more information about the CABMN visit: www.cabmn.org and subscribe to their newsletter. You can contact the Main Office located at 314B Principale, Mansonville by calling 450-292-3114 or the Youth Centre located at 282 Principale at 450-292-4886.

Saint-Francis bike path closed in Sherbrooke over safety concerns

Record Staff

The City of Sherbrooke is informing the public that it is taking additional measures to ensure the safety of cyclists who use the Route Verte bike

path along the Saint-Francis River between Lennoxville and Downtown Sherbrooke, not far from the Talbot Prison.

A portion of this bike path has been closed since the end of April due to the collapse of a retaining wall

erected on private property. Given the instability of the wall, the bike path was quickly closed on either side of the collapse and cyclists were invited to take a detour via Talbot, Bowen South and Jean-Maurice streets.

The City is continuing to work with the owner of the retaining wall to see it rebuilt, but due to the size of the project, the time required to complete it, and increased ridership on the Route Verte during the summer months, the Ville de Sherbrooke is taking additional measures to secure the detour route used by cyclists.

As of last Friday, traffic cones were installed on both sides of Bowen Street South, between Talbot and Galt Street East to create a temporary, unidirectional bicycle lane on this portion of the street.

This solution was rejected, however, for the portion of Bowen Street South between Galt East and Jean-Maurice streets because of the amount of street parking in the area and the presence of a major construction site. As a safety measure, cyclists are asked to walk on the sidewalk next to their bike when passing through this busier zone, and signage to indicate as much has been installed. Motorists are also invited to be more vigilant in this sector.

The City of Sherbrooke is hopeful that the bike path can be reopened by the end of July.



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