

De la Chantignole School in Bromont launches new composting program

BCN Staff

De la Chantignole Elementary School in Bromont has made a new year's resolution and staff and students are sticking to it. The school, as of 2020, has started composting in all 31 classes, from kindergarten to Grade 6, while involving the cafeteria and daycare services.

The Brome-Missisquoi MRC simply had to give a helping hand to the students of the green committee accompanied by their teachers, Isabelle Drouin, Marie-Ève Lozeau and Mylaine Fournier, who were already very involved in this school project. All their efforts to raise awareness and mobilize the school made it possible on Friday, Jan. 10 to finally say: “GO, ON COMPOSTE!”

“A number of initiatives have been taken,” explained Mylaine Fournier, one of the initiators of the project. “The students on the green committee have produced video clips to inform and sensitize staff and all students to proper sorting; will be touring the classrooms to distribute the starter kit; and have made available to everyone a bank of books on a number of subjects such as composting, the environment, pollution and the planet.”

“We want to take better care of the planet, and by promoting compost at school, we are moving in the right direction,” added teacher Isabelle Drouin.

It’s not just the classes that will be composting their leftover snacks and lunches. Food leftovers from the cafeteria, which were used to cook lunch, will also be composted.

Mylaine Beauregard, the cook, is very happy to do her part and is on board with the project. The objectives are to reduce waste in the garbage cans and to compost all snack and lunch leftovers in the brown bin. “We want to make a difference every day, not just during Environment Week,” explained Marie-Ève Lozeau, who helped get the project off the ground.

Denis Hudon, the school principal, said he is delighted with the initiative and reminds us that everyone’s efforts and participation are essential to the success of the project. “I would like to highlight the initiative of the teachers who took the project under their wing. It is mainly thanks to them that the project can finally see the light of day. I would also like to thank the City of Bromont for graciously providing the mini-bins, which will be used in the classrooms, in addition to ensuring the collection of the brown bins at the curb.” said Mr. Hudon.

“Adopt a beehive” community beekeeping enters fourth season in the Bolton-Est area

The Scoop

Mable Hastings

The East Bolton Adopt a Beehive community beekeeping project is entering its fourth season in 2020 and the interest and involvement has been extremely encouraging.

“In 2019, 54 families adopted a hive and participated in seasonal beekeeping activities,” explained Alain Dery, President of the Rucher Boltonnois. “More than 4200 pounds of honey were collected and shared between the participants and the non-profit “le Rucher Boltonnois”, which oversees this project,” he continued.

Young and old alike were fascinated by the magic of bees. Many have showed an interest in becoming involved in the project. As a result, the Rucher Boltonnois will be holding an information session on “I Adopt a Beehive” in 2020 for interested participants. This meeting will take place at the Miellerie du Rucher, 2616 Nicholas-Austin in East Bolton, on Saturday, February 15 at 1 p.m.

The project mainly targets the citizens of the villages physically connected to East Bolton, namely Austin, Saint-Étienne-de-Bolton, West Bolton, Eastman, Potton and East Bolton of course,” said Dery.

According to its website, founded in February 2018, the Boltonnois Apiary is a social economy non-profit organization with the following mission:

* Develop a social network for its members;
* Develop and maintain a community beekeeping project;
* Organize and facilitate the holding of workshops and courses;
* Promote the creation of community cooking groups;
* Group people around activities related to this mission;
* Experiment with innovative techniques of agro-food production;
* Offer citizens a public market and a meeting place conducive to the exchange and discovery of the agri-food heritage of the region;
* Offer a catering or mobile Bistro service at local events;
* Create a place of gathering and sharing for the citizens, both in the honey house and also by the creation of a village café organized to be a place of life, meetings for exchanges and cultural dissemination.

* Receive gifts, bequests, property and other similar contributions in money, securities or real estate; raise money by using public or private subscriptions, sponsorships, government or municipal grants.

If you have a passion for community initiatives and taking part in a collective common interest for young and old, visiting the Rucher Boltonnois website for more information is suggested. This community-minded initiative has, by the nature of its proven involvement, activities and diversified learning opportunities, and proven its value and success.

Those interested can register on the Apiary website at: rucherboltonnois.net/inscription for more information: info@rucherboltonnois.net.