

# Brome-Missisquoi Federal Member of Parliament, Pierre Jacob meets the SADD and FYI Youth



## THE SCOOP

### MABLE HASTINGS

**O**n Sunday, May 19, Brome-Missisquoi Federal Member of Parliament, Pierre Jacob B.A., and his Constituency Assistant, Catherine Lusson joined the Missisquoi North Youth Centre Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) and Former Youth Involvement (FYI) for lunch followed by an exchange/presentation session. This event was part of a leadership retreat weekend held at the Horizon Hotel in Sutton with some twenty youth and young adults in attendance.

Pierre Jacob was elected to the Canadian House of Commons in 2011 and assumed office on May 30 of that year; representing the district of Brome-Missisquoi. He is a member of the New Democratic Party. Born in Trois-Rivieres, he now resides in beautiful Lac-Brome. Prior to being elected, Mr. Jacob worked with youth in the young offenders program. He holds a college diploma in so-



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Mr. Jacob greeted the youth with a warm smile, introduction and a firm handshake for all. During the meal he was seated with a group of four youth who provided background information on the SADD, FYI and youth programs sponsored by the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CAB) in Mansonville. Mr.



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Jacob and his assistant, Catherine Lusson who had worked with the Youth Director to organize the special session for the youth, listened intently; asking questions and offering positive feedback as information was shared by the youth.

Following the meal, the group in its entirety moved to the conference room where Mr. Jacob gave the group some background information about himself, his party and his experiences thus far as the MP for Brome-Missisquoi. This was followed by a question and answer period where an enthusiastic, comfortable and animated exchange took place. Mr. Jacob assured the youth that after hearing about their efforts and projects, he would be able to share the information with others and positively promote the work of the groups and the Youth Centre.

Following the question and answer period, Mr. Jacob then presented each member of these two groups (SADD and FYI) with certificates in recognition of their hard work in their community. The youth were very touched by this ges-

ture and as photos were taken as each certificate was presented, the pride on the faces of youth spoke volumes.

It was clearly evident that Mr. Jacob had worked with youth before. His gentle persona and genuine words were spoken with sincerity and kindness. He was encouraging, motivating and attentive. At the end of the exchange, the group gathered for a photo with the MP. They gathered around him, joked and one of them summed it up in a few simple words: "What a nice man."

Since the session was held as part of a leadership Retreat weekend at the Hotel Horizon in Sutton, the youth have invited Jacob to make another visit but this time, to come and see the Youth Centre in Mansonville. I'm sure that the link made between the MP and the youth this past Sunday is only the beginning of a long standing collaboration of support and friendship.

To contact Mr. Jacob's office at 505 South Street, Suite 207 in Cowansville, call 450-266-6062 or the Magog office at 343 Main Street, 819-868-1305.

## Archives book (30) HAS ARRIVED!

