CAB welcomes Justin Hines, honours volunteers

THE SCOOP

MABLE HASTINGS

On Monday, June 24, the youth from the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CAB) in Potton honored several community members for their longstanding contribution to the betterment of Potton Township as well as one member from outside Potton who has made significant efforts in supporting youth from the area for many years.

The awards were held as part of the Justin Hines Vehicle of Change Tour celebration which made a stop at the Missisquoi North Youth Centre in Mansonville on Monday where Justin and his crew stayed for the day and then performed an outstanding concert in the evening. The youth centre was truly honored to be one of the stops on the tour.

The Vehicle of Change tour is different from the typical music tour.

It features amazing talent with extraordinary stories, giving back to those who need help spreading their message and raising funds.

The Agency for Extraordinary People’s 2013 Vehicle of Change tour features singer-songwriter Justin Hines, whose first performance at age 14 was in front of tens of thousands. Since then, he has taken his music worldwide, performing in cities from Chicago to Dubai, and the tour is expected to raise awareness of the organization and its work.

Accompanying Justin Hines was the incredible duo “Ash & Bloom” (album soon to be released), with heartbreakingly beautiful melodies and lyrics that redefine ‘cool’. Justin Hines alongside Ash & Bloom has taken the show across North America, raising funds and awareness for charities in every city they visit.

Lead up to the event was a busy and creative one with the youth alongside parents, staff, and volunteers, making signs, preparing gifts and helping to get the centre presentable. The day itself found beautiful white tents decorated with red tablecloths and lights as well as centerpieces behind the youth centre building in the backyard. Jason and Lynn Bedard prepared a delicious meal of beef and pork, baked potatoes and coleslaw as well as rolls, gravy and desserts. Following the feast, the “Justin Hines Community Betterment Awards” were held.

Recipients were selected by the youth and honored through words by members of the youth centre SADD and FYI programs. The youth had each written a few words to talk about each of the recipients (individual or duo) and their achievements and contribution to Potton life over the years. Award winners included: Mavis Aiken, Christine and Clement Caron, Gilda and Rupert Clark, Brenda Clark, Jacques Ducharme, Francois Marcoux, Murielle Parkes, Tom McGovern (out-of-town recipient) and finally, Justin Hines for whom the award was named. These remarkable people have long contributed to Potton’s betterment and growth.

“Anyone who has watched a Justin Hines music video knows that Justin goes into communities all over the world and really makes a difference. It’s great to see his work being recognized in Potton,” said Mable Hastings, the coordinator of the youth centre.

Junior Sadd member Jacob Woodard with singer-songwriter Justin Hines, whose Vehicle for Change Tour arrived in Potton, Monday, to honour community members whose community contribution has stood out.

Sherbrooke Innopolis

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“I am very pleased to join the team at Sherbrooke Innopolis which, in recent years, has managed to position itself as a center of innovation; driving the economic development of Sherbrooke forward,” said Fortin. “It is with great enthusiasm that I accept this challenge, supported by a team of outstanding professionals and a seasoned board of directors.”

The selection process began in March following the announcement of the retirement of outgoing Director General, Pierre Belanger. The process was led by Joanne Roberts, chair of the organization’s Governance Committee and Human Resources Board. Roberts said that the search committee was “extremely pleased to have found the perfect candidate in a relatively short period of time, given the profile.”

Fortin holds an MBA and has spent the majority of her career working on Quebec’s economic development. She has worked as an industrial commissioner for the MRC of Montmagny as well as commercial attaché to the Quebec office in Beijing. Fortin took on her role in management and commercialization of inventions from the University of Sherbrooke through SCoPRA in 2008.

Describing Fortin as a results-oriented team player, Cantin said he was very happy to welcome her to the Sherbrooke Innopolis team. “She brings a wealth of experience and a strong network to the organization, and we are confident that she will be an asset to our team,” he said.

Fortin said she is looking forward to the challenges ahead and is excited about the future of Sherbrooke Innopolis.

“Sherbrooke Innopolis is a dynamic and innovative organization,” she said. “I am thrilled to be a part of this team and to contribute to its success.”
Justin Hines
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When the youth had to determine what the award would actually be, some thought a statue, others thought that maybe it would be a certificate but then, the SADD group had an idea! They decided to make the award a "hammer" to represent an object that you can pick up and put to good use in rebuilding or constructing something positive. Angelina Dawes of Dawes Jewelers engraved each hammer with the name of the award and the date. Recipients were impressed with the choice of the award and held theirs proudly.

The day, from start to finish, from preparation to the last chores of clean-up found everyone smiling despite the heat and the storm that blew in mid way through. As Justin’s Vehicle of Change RV pulled out of the youth centre parking lot at 11:00 p.m., there were still youth there to "wish him well."

If you would like to purchase cd’s or other Justin Hines merchandise, visit his website and Justinhines.com