The Scoop
Mable Hastings

Eastern Townships chef Denis Mareuge - owner of Boulangerie Owl's Bread - presented Rick Ferguson, Treasurer of the Missisquoi-North CAB's Ken Jones Centre (KJC) - with a cheque for $300 along with six loaves of his now-famous Potton pain de menhir (standing stone bread).

The cheque represents the profit made from the sale of the specialty bread from Mareuge's bakery, along with a personal contribution to the committee. It also underscores Mareuge’s involvement in Potton's newest and most facetious legend, one that describes the municipality as the place where hybrid granite was first created as a renewable and sustainable resource and now grows into standing stones.

It all began when Michel Trudel, a tourism consultant, proposed the idea of selling standing stone seeds as a FUNdraiser to the KJC - a non-profit organization that provides social integration and leisure services to adults with intellectual disabilities.

Throughout the summer, businesses came on board with their own standing stone products. The project especially appealed to Mareuge, "mainly because it was original... a good way to give some visibility to Mansonville and Potton... which is always good!" But he also found the project funny.

"Quite funny... and for a French guy from France... menhir equals Asterix and Obelix, the famous cartoon characters... it was really talking to me ...."

Mareuge also saw a mystical side to the legend.

"You know [it has] an eternity point of view... something that is growing (combined with) something that is eternal... you know stone is almost eternal... it's funny."

Along with the unique bread, Mareuge also opted to donate the profit to the KJC. It was a delighted group that accepted his gift at a recent meeting. Another $200 cheque is also expected, this one from stone seed bread sold at Potton's Public Market.

Pain de menhir de Potton is available Saturdays and Sundays throughout the year. For more information: 450-292-3088; www.owlsbread.com

Story written in collaboration with Murielle Parkes.