

SPA brings down puppy mill



PHOTO COURTESY SPA

Record Staff

On Friday, the SPA Estrie and the Quebec Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food (MAPAQ), with help from the International Humane Society and the Sûreté du Québec, seized 12 cats and 220 dogs, including several pregnant females, from a large scale 'puppy mill' situated in the region of Bonsecours. All these animals were housed in a barn.

"We sent ten of our staff, namely inspectors, patrol workers, veterinarians, as well as animal health technicians," said SPA Estrie Communications Director Cathy Bergeron. "This intervention was conducted after a routine visit effected by our inspectors and is primarily due to reasons of general negligence and non-compliance with standards of care provided for in the regulations respecting the safety and well-being of cats and dogs."

The worst-off animals were immediately examined by veterinarians and animal health technicians. Due to the large number of rescued animals, dogs were immediately transported to the emergency MAPAQ shelter, while cats were directed to the SPA de l'Estrie.

"No matter where these animals are kept, they will all be examined by a team of veterinarians and receive the attention which their state of health requires," Bergeron says. "We plan to place these animals in new families eventually, by the time they get back on their feet and legal procedures are completed." People interested in adopting can leave their name, phone number and email address to the SPA de l'Estrie at 819 821-4727, ext 129.

'Groundbreaking news'

The Sunshine House in Potton is under construction



MABLE HASTINGS

Pierre Reid, MP-Orford and Allison Leonard who is one of the future residents of the Sunshine House.

By Mable Hastings
Record Correspondent

On Friday, May 23, the official launch ceremony in celebration of the Sunshine House located in Mansonville (Potton) was held as invited guests, board members, families and friends gathered at the site.

Master of Ceremonies, Christine Meunier (Community Organizer for the CSSS Memphremagog) welcomed those in attendance and then proceeded to introduce the special guests who came to address the group: Pierre Reid, Member of Parliament-Orford, Louis Veillon,

Mayor of Potton, Stanley Lake president of the Sunshine House board of directors, Philippe Siebes, Director General of Le Support - a foundation helping persons with intellectual deficiencies, Jocelyn Jussaume, Director of the CLD (social economy and special projects) and Gaetan Giguere, Board member of the Caisse Desjardins du Lac-Memphremagog.

"It is with great emotion that we are gathered today to celebrate the construction of the Sunshine House; a housing complex in the township of Potton for persons with intellectual and physical disabilities," said Potton Mayor,

Louis Veillon. "This project has involved the efforts of the last three Municipal Councils and we are happy that it is in the final stages of being built," he added.

"We are very proud of the collaborative effort made in the realization of this project," said Pierre Reid-Liberal MP Orford. "Thanks to all who contributed, the future residents of the Sunshine House will have a special place in their community where they can remain in the place where they feel most at home and this is a wonderful thing."

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