

LOCAL NEWS

The kindness and generosity of the community including individuals and businesses in Potton helps to make the baskets at Christmastime a huge success.

Potton's Partage/Share Food Bank sharing food and Christmas cheer!



THE SCOOP

MABLE HASTINGS

After much planning and preparation, the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CAB) Partage/Share Food Bank in Potton delivered food baskets to some 33 families in need on Wednesday, December 21. The work begins long before the delivery day but the last few days prior to delivery are a busy time.

This year prior to the event, some 20 volunteer "elves," committee members and staff were on hand in the three days of preparation and planning involved in making the Christmas baskets possible. The Partage/Share committee is very active throughout the year providing emergency food for requests but at Christmastime, the focus is on providing families with food needed to make the holidays a little brighter.

"I would like to thank all who took part in making the annual Christmas basket campaign another successful en-

deavour," said Claire Alger, Chairperson of the Partage/Share committee. "My sincere gratitude to all the volunteers who participated in this year's preparation and delivery of the baskets. Their generosity is overwhelming!"

For CAB employee, Jennifer McGeean who spearheaded this year's delivery day and prep, the feeling of accomplishment and kindness is almost overwhelming.

"It is always a big job and things can get a little hectic," shared McGeean. "When it is all over however, you just feel good inside and it truly warms my heart."

The kindness and generosity of the community including individuals and businesses in Potton helps to make the baskets at Christmastime a huge success.

"We are able to give all that we do because of the generosity of others," explained McGeean. "Some people stop in with a monetary donation while others stop by with bags and boxes of food. It is truly amazing."

As the last boxes were delivered on Wednesday, hugs were exchanged and smiles shared by those who had worked so hard to make this possible for another successful year.

At this time of year, getting involved with a project like a food bank is the perfect way to remind us all of the joy of giving to and helping others. Help is needed throughout the year as well so it is never too late to get involved.

For more information about the Mis-

sisquoi North Volunteer Centre Partage/Share Food Bank, visit: www.cabmn.org or call the CAB Main Office at 450-292-3114. If you would like to donate to Partage/Share, all donations are much appreciated. Make your check

payable to "The Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre and put "Partage/Share" food bank in the subject line. Your donation can be sent to: CAB Missisquoi North, 314 Rue Principale, Mansonville, Quebec, JOE 1X0



COURTESY

Volunteer driver, James Sutherland and Partage/Share Chairperson, Claire Alger

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CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

Record. The following year, the number of attendees grew to 75.

For its third year, the Christmas lunch was described as divine intervention because an ice storm had caused power outages for many residents in the area. Over 150 people came to the church for lunch that year.

In 2014, as popularity continued to grow, 200 parishioners and community members went to HCC for lunch, and McLean said the basement of the church was close to capacity this year with 265 guests.

In previous years, McLean had joked that all were welcome, and pointed to the second floor of the church as a possibility for more seating if needed. If the popularity of HCC Christmas luncheon continues to grow, McLean may actually have to consider a two-floor banquet in years to come.

The meal was a traditional spread with turkey and all the trimmings. As in years past, a large cake was donated by Lorraine's Bakery for dessert. Guests were also offered some gingerbread cookies as parting gifts after the meal.



MATTHEW MCCULLY

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THE RECORD 2017

HOLIDAY HOURS

Friday, December 23: 8:30 a.m. to noon

Monday, December 26: CLOSED

Tuesday, December 27: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 28: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 29: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Friday, December 30: 8:30 a.m. to noon

Monday, January 2: CLOSED

Tuesday, January 3: back to normal business hours

