## Partage/Share food bank in Potton brings joy to families in need over the holidays



THE SCOOP

MABLE HASTINGS

——ho Partago/Sharo Fo

The Partage/Share Food Bank, a program of the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN) in Potton is proud to announce that their Annual holiday food basket initiative to help families in need during the holidays was a great success. On December 20th, over thirty families and individuals were helped and many volunteer "elves" worked hard in preparing and delivering the baskets prior to Christmas.

"We could not have asked for better volunteers," said June Peacock a member of the committee. "While there is always room for improvement, our committee was extremely proud to have the terrific volunteers who gave of their time and talents in preparing and delivering the boxes throughout the region just before

The Partage/Share committee extends a big thank you to Jacques Ducharme, owner of the Marche Richelieu for his help and kindness as well as the Retiree group from the St.Cajetan Catholic Church for allowing their space to be used in preparing the boxes. Windmill Plastics in Knowlton donated laundry baskets to help transport the food, Knowlton Packaging provided boxes and local stores, schools (including Massey Vanier) and businesses collected food...Volunteers worked over a two day period and while some people stopped to prepare boxes and others to help with the delivery, there were some who brought items to contribute. The initiative was a true show of community

"We must acknowledge the many donations received from people in the communities we serve," said Charles Laurin President of the CABMN. "It is the donations of food and money from the community and the kindness of the Banque Alimentaire Memphremagog that made all the difference," he shared.

The Partage/Share food bank serves the community all year long for emergency food requests but Christmas is a time when special consideration is made in helping those in need who request help from the group. Potton, Bolton and adjacent communities are fortunate to be surrounded by people who believe in



MABLE HASTINGS

Pictured here are just a few of the folks who helped to prepare this year's Partage/Share Christmas baskets

helping others.

As we embark upon a New Year, we are reminded that needs arise throughout the year and the kindness shown at Christmastime is appreciated all year long. For more information about

Partage/Share or any of the CABMN programs, visit www.cabmn.org and sign up for their electronic newsletter. You can also call the CAB Main Office for information at 450-292-3114.

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## 2017 Year In Review-

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former Montreal Maine and Atlantic railway employees Thomas Harding, Richard Labrie, and Jean Demaitre. Although tried together with one jury at the courthouse in Sherbrooke, the three are each separately accused of Criminal Negligence causing the death of the 47 people killed or presumed killed in the 2013 Lac-Mégantic train derailment and explosion. The trial continued through the remainder of 2017 and is hearing closing arguments from the defence this week.

The beginning of November was a busy time at The Record and across the Townships as it was the height of municipal election season in Quebec. While many municipal officials were able to hold onto their seats, the winds of change blew hard through cities like Sherbrooke, where the majority of the former council, including Mayor Bernard Sévigny, found themselves replaced by fresh faces.



The year 2017 marked the second year that The Record partnered with the Lennoxville and District Women's Centre to present articles for the 16 Days of Action to End Sex and Gender Based Violence. Overlapping November and the beginning of December, the stories and messages shared over the 16 days proved to be particularly impactful, as many readers wrote letters or phoned in to the newsroom to express.

December, a month largely framed by celebrations, will be remembered by many in Sherbrooke this year for the fire that destroyed the Magog House. Although revered by many as one of the city's heritage treasures, Sherbrooke's fire department surrendered the former downtown hotel to the flames on December 20, leaving little more than an icy pile of rubble behind the following morning.



These stories stood out, in looking back, but they were far from the only ones that touched the Townships in the last year. As for what is yet to come in 2018, we'll just have to wait and see.