Putting your best foot forward—support for youth searching for employment in Potton

The Scoop
MABLE HASTINGS

T he Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN), Centre Jeunesse Emploi (CJE) and Townshippers’ Association held a collaborative session that included a one-on-one personalized resume-writing and job search workshop for students and young people searching for employment in Potton and surrounding areas on Friday, May 25 at the CABMN youth centre in Mansonville. All youth aged 14+ and parents were invited to come.

Organized by a team of three dynamic staff from three active community groups with each taking on a responsibility for the session, the outcome was a positive and productive one. Katie Bibbs, Employment Liaison Coordinator for Townshippers’ Association researched and compiled a list of employment opportunities in the Potton region and assured that they were available for posting for the session. Sarah Jersey, Coordinator of youth and volunteer services at the CAB Missisquoi North was responsible for promoting the event and getting youth motivated to attend and partake emphasizing the value of what the youth were being offered through this one-on-one opportunity. Sandrine Hebert, Project Animator-Autonomy and Volunteering for the Centre Jeunesse Emploi (CJE) in Magog provided the one-on-one personalized sessions, which included a one-on-one personalized resume-writing and job search workshop for students and young people searching for employment in Potton and surrounding areas on Friday, May 25 at the CABMN youth centre in Mansonville. All youth aged 14+ and parents were invited to come.

Seven youth took part in the one-on-one timeslots and what resulted was a resume built with confidence, know how and beautifully printed. As each youth exited the office the smiles across their faces as they proudly held up the finished product, was all one needed to attest to the success of the session. Over 13 jobs were posted thanks to Katie’s keen research and while not all of the youth present had signed up for the one-on-one, many were taking down numbers and information about possible employment opportunities during the summer and on weekends.

By evenings end, Sandrine looked ready to call it a day. She had put a lot into her time with the youth and many were on a first name basis as they left the office. One young man had made plans to look into an entrepreneurial possibility and was making an appointment with Sandrine to see her at the CJE office in Magog to get more information and guidance.

“Any opportunity for community groups to work together brings so much more to an event,” said Jersey following the session. “Having the CJE and Townshippers’ approach the CABMN with this idea was something we immediately acted upon. What a gift!”

The dynamic effort and results of sessions like this are a testament to the longevity of the CJE, Townshippers’ and CABMN organizations and the quality of programs offered by great staff. In this particular instance, the youth benefited greatly from the collaboration, the results of which will likely remain with the youth as they search for employment in the months and years to come.

Contact information for the staff and organizations mentioned in this article is as follows:

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