Community rallies in support of Potton dog attack victim

By Matthew McCully

A GoFundMe campaign has been launched for Dominique Alain, who was attacked by three dogs while out jogging on chemin de l'Aéroport in Potton on Friday, March 29.

Alain suffered severe injuries to her four extremities and has undergone several surgeries following the attack. Funds raised will go to Alain and her family to help with costs associated with her injuries and rehabilitation.

The three dogs involved in the attack were euthanized last week after being evaluated by specialists from the SPA Es-trie.

Because the municipality of Potton has no agreement with the SPA regarding vicious dogs, the town council held a special meeting to adopt a resolution in favour of euthanizing the dogs on the recommendation of the SPA.

According to Potton Mayor Jacques Marcoux, none of the members of the public who attended the meeting, roughly 10 people, had an objection to the order to euthanize the dogs. There was also no protest from Alain Barnes, the owner of the dogs, Marcoux said.

Marcoux added that in the coming weeks, based on the comments made at the recent council meeting, the town would work on amending the current bylaws related to dogs.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the GoFundMe campaign can do so by searching ‘Dominique’s Recovery Fund - Potton dog attack’ on the GoFundMe website. (https://www.gofundme.com/f/potton-dog-attack-victim339s-fund)

Potton Municipal Mayor and Council meet with Potton’s Junior Mayor and Council

On Saturday morning, April 13, Potton Mayor Jacques Marcoux and members of the Potton Municipal Council: Jason Ball, Bruno Cote, Andre Ducharme (unable to attend due to a work conflict), Michael Laplume, Francis Marcoux and Eddy Mierzwinski were welcomed to the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN) Youth Centre in Mansonville for a first exchange with the CABMN Junior Potton Mayor: Kate Eldridge and Council members: Hunter Bouchard, Maeva Giroux, Savannah Jersey, Jasmine Mierzwinski, Danika Robinson and Emilie-Anne Sherrer as well as Co-Director Generals: Alexis Eldridge and Kayla Pouliot and community reps: Payton Bouchard and Amelya Jersey. The Municipal Council of Potton is now well into its second year of its four year mandate and the Junior Mayor and Council were formed just over three months ago.

The youth had to learn the election process, campaign and then all took part in a secret ballot vote, the youth representatives were chosen and the experience began. The youth meet every Saturday as part of the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre Leadership youth program. The first three months of the Junior Mandate emphasized on bettering the youth’s knowledge of Potton Township, its history and a sharing of some of the projects being worked on by the present Municipal mayor and council. The youth worked hard to gather facts, absorb them and when they felt fairly confident to hold a first meeting with the Municipal team. The invitation was sent and a very enthusiastic acceptance ensued on the part of the Potton Mayor and Council.

The group of youth ranging in ages from 8 to 13 shared information, then discussed municipal issues, some recent projects as well as sharing some of their own concerns as youth including topics like bullying and intimidation. The exchange included a quiz that brought together teams from each group allowing the youth the opportunity to share their knowledge and their keen sense of pride in their township.

As the session concluded, those attending were treated to a piece of home-made pie and the Mayor and Council had the opportunity to reflect on this.

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