

A nod from the community

Record Staff

In December, 2020 Potton's firefighters and first responders got a special holiday surprise. Fire Chief and Preventionist, James Bouthillier approached the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN), wanting to



recognize the Potton Firemen and First Responders during the holiday season. Youth Centre animator, Ethan Ball suggested that community businesses be asked if they wished to contribute to collective baskets for each of the members of the group. From there, the idea was born and all involved got busy with the planning and preparing.

Eleven members of the Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) group joined Bouthillier, firefighter and first responder Giroux and members of the CABMN staff on Saturday morning, Dec. 12 loading the baskets at 7 a.m. and driving to each Firemen/First Responders home from Bolton-Est through to Mansonville. Each basket was filled with donations from local businesses, and included a beautiful hand-painted card by SADD member Kate Eldridge as well as a list of all the donors who helped fill the baskets.



PHOTOS COURTESY

Potton firefighters and first responders

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team and the CABMN volunteer centre to assure that the emergency needs of citizens were met during the pandemic.

"I want to express my gratitude to the entire fire/first responder team for their dedication and involvement throughout the difficult Covid period," said Bouthillier.

Bouthillier reflected upon his first week at his job almost a year ago when a 35+ year retired Fire fighter, Arthur Guilbault had died and the Fire Department took part in his funeral.

"I was deeply moved by the words shared by Shawn Pouliot, Captain of our team as he read the last call," said Bouthillier. "Most of our team was present that day and fire trucks from Potton, Eastman, Austin, Lac Brome/

Sutton....all participated in honouring this man who had given so much of his efforts to the people of his community. I knew then that I had found a very special place to work," Bouthillier shared.

The department has received many notes of thanks from residents who have had to seek their services. Many note the exceptional care, thorough job and kindness displayed by this team.

That being said, this article will end where it began in the words of James Bouthillier:

"TEAM is a small word, but it is packed with "Togetherness, Efficiency, Availability and Motivation, from our team to all others who choose to serve their communities, we are proud to stand side by side for those we protect and serve."

In recognition of years of devoted service

On behalf of the members of the municipal council and all citizens of Potton, we would like to thank our First Responders, Firemen, and essential workers for their invaluable service benefiting our community. We would also like to thank all those who have generously made donations throughout the years.



POTTON

En reconnaissance des années de loyaux services

Au nom des membres du conseil municipal et de tous les citoyens de Potton, nous aimerions remercier nos premiers répondants, pompiers et travailleurs essentiels pour leurs services inestimables au bénéfice de notre communauté. Nous aimerions également remercier tous ceux qui ont généreusement fait des dons au fil des ans.



Robert Lafond

I would like to thank all my employees for their incredible efforts and hard work during this past year.

I would also like to thank all the frontline and essential workers for their tireless efforts since the beginning of the pandemic.

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