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Weather



TODAY:
ISOLATED
SHOWERS

HIGH OF 7
LOW OF 1



TUESDAY:
CLOUDY

HIGH OF -6
LOW OF -11



WEDNESDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF -3
LOW OF -6



THURSDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF 1
LOW OF -3



FRIDAY:
PERIODS OF
SNOW

HIGH OF -3
LOW OF -10

Rock-a-thon raises funds for SADD and youth programs



THE SCOOP MABLE HASTINGS

On Saturday, Nov. 20 the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN) Youth program held its annual Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) and Youth Program fundraiser to raise funds for youth activities held through the CABMN Youth Centre located at 282 Principale in Mansonville. The event took place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. where youth and Former Youth Involvement (FYI) volunteers rocked in rocking chairs for four hours consecutively after receiving sponsorship and donations for their efforts from friends, family and community.

Twelve participants arrived early on Saturday to set up their rocking chairs brought from home and borrowed from neighbours. The group included three year old Chloe Forget and her six year old sister, Isabella who decided to join in on the activity and who were able to rock the entire four hours!!! Like their parents, Starr Dostie and Jason Forget who are members of the CABMN FYI committee who attended the youth programs themselves since they were very young, Chloe and Isabella brought in over \$250 to the cause collectively.

Activities are animated throughout the four hours including, for the first time, a donated lunch through the kindness of Potton Firefighter, Shannon Derby and FYI member, Julia Eldridge. The meal was prepared by Shannon and served by him and volunteers, Julia Hastings and Real Forget. Delicious hotdogs, chips, juice followed by Eleanor Cote's homemade peanut butter cookies for dessert! A kid's dream meal! Thanks to this donation, organizers did not have to



ETHAN BALL

look after this portion of the event and since the food was all donated by Derby and Eldridge, this saved on expenses and added to the total raised.

The big surprise of the day was the efforts put in by the SADD youth who are younger in age this year than the normal SADD youth board. Alexis Eldridge (whose parents have also been in programs since they were very young), was able to raise a record amount of \$1,500! Encouraged by generous donors who offered her additional donations as she reached certain goals in her efforts, Alexis was determined to raise more than \$1,000 and she certainly did it! The second place fundraiser was Dakota Paige with a whopping \$420 raised!

"The youth are encouraged to try and raise \$50 to \$75 each for a fundraiser of the sort," said Youth Coordinator, Ethan Ball. "Every one of these kids raised three to four times that amount each and I couldn't be prouder," he added.

The grand total reached thanks to the support of friends, family, neighbours, the youth themselves and generous business person as well as CABMN Board and committee members was, \$3,160!!! These funds will enhance the equipment, programs and activities for the kids taking part in SADD, Mayo/Jam, dance, drop-in and more....

Games throughout the day included, "write a group article for the newspaper/phrase scramble," ball and burn, charades, draw and guess, jib/jab Christmas fun and more... At the end of the activity prizes were drawn with everyone who participated receiving a gift for their efforts.

"We have an amazing support system in our community that takes care of its youth whenever help is requested," said Ball. "Potton and area gives living proof to the old adage that it takes a community to raise a child and this community could not be kinder."

With the Annual Rock-a-thon under their belts, the CABMN youth centre staff can now put their efforts into Christmas activities and winter fun. For more information about the CABMN youth programs visit www.cabmn.org and sign up for the newsletter. You can also visit the Mansonville Youth Centre facebook page updated by Ball on a weekly basis.

"A heartfelt thank you goes out to ALL who helped before, during and after this event and most importantly to the youth, future youth and former youth who raised, contributed and participated in this fundraising effort" said Eleanor Cote, Animator at the Youth Centre.

Ben by Daniel Shelton

