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Weather



TODAY:
MIX OF SUN
AND CLOUD

HIGH OF 22
LOW OF 14



TUESDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF 19
LOW OF 12



WEDNESDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF 23
LOW OF 8



THURSDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF 24
LOW OF 11



FRIDAY:
MIX OF SUN
AND CLOUD

HIGH OF 25
LOW OF 10

Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation brings joy of skating to Potton youth



THE SCOOP MABLE HASTINGS

Thanks to a donation from the Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation and in addition to a fundraiser made possible by the organization last year, youth from the two local Mansonville Elementary schools (Le Baluchon and MES) in Potton will be receiving a new pair of ice skates this coming fall. With Potton's evolving multi-functional shelter and skating rink, this generous contribution from the Foundation will give Potton's youth the opportunity to skate alongside friends and family getting some welcome exercise during the winter months.

At a ceremony held at the Bell Centre on May 17 recipients were announced from ten regions throughout the province in an effort to promote an active lifestyle among youth from disadvantaged backgrounds. The Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation offered financial support totaling \$569,650 to 41 organizations working for the well-being of children in need across Quebec, including the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN) located in Potton.

"We are happy to offer our support to these organizations that meet the different needs of children from more vulnerable backgrounds by allowing them to take part in quality programs in their community," explains Pierre Boivin, Chairman of the Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation's Board of Directors. "After two difficult years, it is essential that young people regain a taste for sports and active leisure activities, and thus integrate the joys of an active lifestyle into their daily lives."

The CABMN non-profit held a fundraiser over a year ago thanks to the foundation with the support of retired Montreal Canadiens defenseman, Stephane Quintal who makes Potton his part-time home and he helped to get an autographed Shea Weber jersey donated and it was put up for bids, bringing in over \$4,000. These funds were put aside and another application was made in the fall for additional help to increase the amount to realize the purchase of ice skates for the students in both local elementary schools in Potton. The foundation granted the amount.

These community grants are presented annually to charitable organizations supporting youth sports programming in low-income areas across the province. Eligible registered non-profits can apply online between Sept. 1 and Nov. 30 of each year. Submissions are reviewed by a selection committee, and donations are awarded the following spring. Since

its inception in 2000, the Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation has donated over \$19 million.

Through a sporting goods store in Sherbrooke, in the fall the two local schools will be contacted by the CABMN to determine the sizes needed for each student and the order will be placed through CCM with each student to receive a pair of skates as well as a hockey stick.

"This will be a tremendous gift to the local youth," said Mable Hastings who approached the foundation on behalf of the CABMN. "I am hoping to involved Stephane Quintal in the presentation of the skates and sticks to the children as he played a big role in making this happen," she added.

Hastings notes that a big thank you must also be extended to Sylvie Nadeau, Senior Coordinator, Donations and Administration - Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation for the help she gave in explaining the application process.



COURTESY

Ben by Daniel Shelton

