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## Weather



TODAY:  
MAINLY CLOUDY

HIGH OF 11  
LOW OF 7



TUESDAY:  
CLOUDY

HIGH OF 16  
LOW OF 12



WEDNESDAY:  
PERIODS OF RAIN  
HIGH OF 17  
LOW OF 4



THURSDAY:  
SUNNY

HIGH OF 13  
LOW OF 0



FRIDAY:  
CLOUDY PERIODS

HIGH OF 14  
LOW OF 2

# Canoe & Co. initiates Missisquoi River clean-up



## THE SCOOP

MABLE HASTINGS

For Rachel Revsnio, her partner Francois Turcotte and their children, who operate Canoe & Co. (kayak/canoe SUP excursions) along the Missisquoi River during the summer months, the desire to see the riverbanks and roadsides as clean and maintained as possible goes beyond the desire to promote the beauty of the landscape in which they operate.

"We are living in such a beautiful and picturesque part of the world," said Revsnio, "it is necessary that we do our part to keep it beautiful for all to enjoy."

On April 24, Revsnio and Turcotte, along with coworkers, family and 15 volunteer Filipino machinist workers from the Estrie Region joined together for a three-hour clean up of the well travelled stretch of the Missisquoi River



PHOTOS COURTESY

bank and roadsides along Route 243 in Potton.

Revsnio, a Phillipine native started implicating the Filipino community in Estrie in the clean up initiative last fall when the group did a 12 km river clean up for a cause. The group wishes to participate annually in this project, as "Bayanihan" is a core essence of the Filipino culture in initiating helping out one's neighbour as a community working together to accomplish a task.

"My children and I always do a river clean up each spring," said Revsnio. "I took the opportunity to try to initiate participation in the fun and worthwhile event in cleaning up from our home through to the "welcome sign" in Mansonville," she added.

The Filipino workers who participated live in Sherbrooke, Magog, Valcourt and Drummondville. They are machinists and mechanics who work for the following companies: Verbom, G.E. Gilbert, Mag-Express, Contraceptomec Magog, Engrenage Sherbrooke, Service, Entretien O. Hainault Sherbrooke, Laser Datoph Inc.

Once the roadside had been completed, Turcotte arranged for the group to get into canoes in Mansonville

and while paddling south back to the Canoe & Co. property, the group cleaned up garbage along the riverbank as well. In total, 23 large bags of garbage as well as three car tires were collected by the group along the roadside and riverbank.

This initiative was only one of the clean ups planned by the group. Upcoming 12-20 km river clean ups through May are being organized and are always done with safety regarding weather and water levels.

Potton Municipal Council member, Jason Ball stopped by the day of the clean up to snap a few photos.

"As council representative on Potton's environmental committee, I was so impressed at the joy seen on the faces of these volunteers as they worked and could not believe how thorough their efforts were," said Ball. "The group truly gave meaning to the old adage that many hands make light work. The environment committee normally organizes a roadside clean up each year," Ball shared. "Due to the Covid pandemic, this has not happened yet this year, so the effort of this group of volunteers is a wonderful gift to our community."



## Ben by Daniel Shelton

