

Volunteer centre welcomes new staff member



THE SCOOP

MABLE HASTINGS

The Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN) in Potton welcomes a new staff member to its Volunteer Coordination team. Welcome Gail Seymour who will join Debra Harding (Assistant to the Executive Director) in coordinating volunteers and supporting their efforts at the Centre located in Mansonville but serving the entire Western sector

of the MRC Memphremagog (Potton, Bolton-Est, Saint-Etienne-de-Bolton, Eastman and Stukely).

Gail has been a CABMN volunteer herself and will now assume this role as well as being the staff person responsible for the medical equipment lending program, accompanied transportation service and other duties that time permits.

"I believe in the mission of the CABMN," says Seymour. "I jumped at the opportunity to work at the organization that strives to better the lives of the people living in the communities we serve."

Gail was born in Montreal and spent her youth living in Mont St.Hilaire. She studied at Concordia University where she obtained her Bachelors in Psychology. After forty years living in Westmount where she and her husband raised two children, she purchased a home in Bolton-Est in 2016 and moved to the area full-time in 2020. She was involved in the Rucher

Boltonnois "adopt a hive program" for over three years and enjoyed the experience planning to return to it in the future.

"The pandemic took a toll on all of us and I cannot think of a better way to come out of this in a more positive light than to assume a role such as joining the CABMN team on a part-time basis," she said. "The drive home during road construction takes me forty minutes but as I made the trip last night I was reminded as the fall colors commence that I am right where I'm supposed to be in one of the most beautiful regions of Quebec."

Gail grew up in a family of volunteers and raised her children to give back to their community as well. She admires

those who make organizations like the CABMN a success through their efforts.

"The CABMN has over 250 volunteers implicated and contributing to improving the quality of life," she states. "That is an impressive group to be part of and to support."

Gail's vivacious smile compliments the humour and good nature of Harding bringing a magical mix of collaborative joy to the organization.

"I want to extend my appreciation to my former partner, Krysten Vanier who has decided to further her education," said Debra Harding. "I wish her only the best and enjoyed our time together."

To reach the new dynamic duo call 450-292-3114.



MABLE HASTINGS

Debra Harding and Gail Seymour, the new Dynamic Duo in Volunteer Coordination at the CABMN.

THE RECORD

Job opportunity - Reporter

The Record is seeking a full-time reporter to work in its newsroom thanks to funding provided by the Local Journalism Initiative, a Canadian Heritage program, administered in Quebec through the Quebec Community Newspapers Association.

The Record is the only English-language daily newspaper serving the Eastern Townships and has been recognized as the 'Voice of the Eastern Townships' for 125 years. It covers some 27 communities with significant English-speaking populations situated throughout the vast territory of the Eastern Townships

To fulfil this mandate, The Record is seeking a bilingual reporter with excellent English-language writing skills who understands the mandate of community journalism and the important role the newspaper plays in keeping readers informed on the social, political, economic issues that concern them in their daily lives. This would include covering municipal council meetings, school board meetings, environmental and agricultural consultations, the courts and researching subjects that affect the community.

Given the vast territory, the successful candidate would need to be bilingual, flexible, have access to a vehicle and able to work well with the newsroom team to produce stories of the highest standard for both print and the web.

Qualifications

The ideal candidate is:

- a graduate of a college or university journalism program and/or significant professional experience working as a journalist
- an excellent communicator in English with a good working ability in French
- familiar with basic computer software including InDesign
- a capable photographer
- a licensed driver, preferably with a car

An ability to work some evenings and weekends is essential (with time off provided during the week as compensation).

Appreciation of community journalism and familiarity with the Eastern Townships are strong assets.

Applicants are invited to send a one-page covering letter along with a résumé to **Sharon McCully, Publisher, The Record, at outletjournal@sympatico.ca**

Deadline for application: Immediate

Land Trust

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According to a press release, during the event president of the organization Marie-Claire Planet said she was proud of the Land Trust's achievements over the past 35 years. "I am delighted with the growing support for the Trust and conservation. We feel that citizens want to get involved and want more protection of nature in the Eastern Townships and throughout Quebec," Planet said.

The Ruiter Valley Land Trust protects approximately 800 acres, mainly in Potton, and it exists and operates through the contribution of volunteers and donations from citizens and foundations.

"Protecting is a lot of work. It involves many stakeholders, specialists, and collaboration with other organizations, as well as significant funding," Planet explained. "Like other conservation organizations, we want more commitment, more boldness and more funding," she said.

"Today's meeting is inspiring and motivating. The Trust has a large and growing circle of friends! This support is essential to continue our activities and projects. Today, the Ruiter Valley Land Trust looks to the future with enthusiasm," concluded the president.