

# Youth programs re-start after summer break in Potton



## THE SCOOP

### MABLE HASTINGS

The Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN) Youth Programs re-started last week after the summer pause in Potton. Groups take place at the Youth Centre located at 282 Principal in Mansonville each week on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays after school. This year Youth Coordinator, Ethan Ball is welcoming a new animator, Sahara Jacob to the team. Sahara, like Ethan took part in the CABMN Youth Programs from the age of 5 through their teen years. The duo looks forward to making this an unforgettable year for the children and youth who attend the groups.

Wednesdays is the Home Economics Club where youth cook together thanks to funding from the Grand Defi Pierre Lavoie funding grant received by the organization. Last week the youth imagined what it would be like to camp in the snow for three days. Sleeping under animal hides, making bush craft projects beside the campfire and cooking amazing food. Each youth prepared "outdoor boys" bread as made popular by the Youtube channel found at this address: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hi4Df\\_gJgkw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hi4Df_gJgkw)

This week the club welcomed new and familiar faces to the kitchen with twelve youth attending. The group made Easy Egg Muffins and played games for a while before parents arrived. Home Economics runs every Wednesday after school, anyone with a child who wishes to attend must notify the secretary at the school where the child(ren) attend of which days and groups that the child is to leave the school with our the CABMN Youth Coordinator and animators.

"This is an important thing for the parents to do," explained Ethan Ball-Coordinator for the CABMN Youth and Special programs. "The priority for us and for the schools is to assure the children's safety and clear communication is the key," he added.

Thursdays is the Leadership Program where, this year, the youth are learning about things in their own community. The first week was spent finding out facts about the Missisquoi River that runs its meandering course through Potton.

"Although we see it every day, we rarely consider where the water is coming from, where it's going and how long it will continue its journey for (130 kilometres)," Ball shared. "The township of Potton is made up of several villages and hamlets," he continued. "Can you name all of them? Our Leadership group CAN!"

Friday afternoons is the Weekly Dance Group that gathers after school



Some of the dance participants pose with new CABMN Youth Animator, Sahara Jacob



SADD program starts for the 2025-26 season in Potton

to welcome all elementary school level dancers who'd like to participate. Working with the animators the youth create their own dances and work as a team to learn and perfect their moves. This year the Dance group recently learned that they will receive a \$1,000 donation from the Boulanger/Bedard (Sutton) to help with the purchase of costumes and more...The group extends a big THANK YOU to the Foundation and to Paul Bruneau for his help.

Friday evenings SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) gathers for its weekly meeting, followed by a light supper, a walk together and group fun. The Mansonville SADD Chapter are a group of High school level students that also welcomes any inspired youth to come join the group on Friday evenings (6 p.m.-8:30 p.m.).

Email [e.ball@cabmn.org](mailto:e.ball@cabmn.org) for more details. Want to see what the CABMN Youth Centre is doing? Visit their Facebook page: Mansonville Youth Centre and find out.



PHOTOS BY ETHAN BALL