

« Les CS ne sont pas mortes »

Les commissaires tenteront d'infléchir le nouveau gouvernement

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SHERBROOKE — Le président de la Commission scolaire des Hauts-Cantons (CSHC), Yves Gilbert, garde espoir de faire changer d'idée le nouveau ministre de l'Éducation, Jean-François Roberge, qui a réitéré sa volonté de faire disparaître les commissions scolaires jeudi lors d'un point de presse.

M. Roberge a assuré que les commissions scolaires seront remplacées par des centres de services. Du même coup, les élections scolaires qui devaient avoir lieu cet automne et qui avaient été reportées à 2020, n'auront pas lieu, selon le nouveau ministre.

« Il va s'asseoir avec ses fonctionnaires et ses sous-ministres pour évaluer l'ensemble de ses dossiers. Il va trouver qu'il y en a beaucoup. On va demander une rencontre avec le ministre pour lui démontrer la pertinence des commissions scolaires. On a les mêmes préoccupations et les mêmes priorités que lui », note M. Gilbert en citant notamment la réussite des élèves. « Les commissions scolaires ne sont pas mortes », lance-t-il en ajoutant que l'on a maintes fois annoncé la disparition de ces

organisations au cours des dernières années. Cet engagement avait d'abord été pris par l'Action démocratique du Québec (ADQ), l'ancêtre de la Coalition avenir Québec (CAQ). Yves Gilbert s'est exprimé au nom des quatre commissions scolaires de l'Estrie, soit les CSHC, de la Région-de-Sherbrooke (CSRS), des Sommets (CSS) et Eastern Townships (CSET).

Il rappelle que les commissions scolaires, actuellement, sont à dévoiler leur Plan d'engagement vers la réussite (PEVR), des plans qui prévoient différentes cibles à atteindre en matière de réussite des élèves et de diplomation, entre autres. « J'espère qu'on va donner aux commissions scolaires les moyens de mettre ça de l'avant », commente M. Gilbert, qui a commencé par souhaiter la bienvenue au nouveau ministre.

Il rappelle que la fonction de ces organisations et des élus scolaires est notamment de s'assurer d'une juste distribution des ressources. « Les élus scolaires ont un travail administratif et politique. Je ne vois pas quelle est la valeur ajoutée d'éliminer les alliés du ministère de l'Éducation. »

Quant au faible taux de participation scolaire qui revient continuellement sur le tapis, M. Gilbert estime qu'il faut tenter

d'améliorer la démocratie. Le taux de participation était de près de 5 % pour l'ensemble du Québec lors du dernier scrutin. Il rappelle notamment la proposition qui avait été faite d'organiser les élections scolaires en même temps que les élections municipales.

LA CSRS ACCUEILLE UNE NOUVELLE COMMISSAIRE

Par ailleurs, la CSRS a maintenant une nouvelle commissaire. Il s'agit de Mylène Rioux, directrice du Centre d'éducation populaire de l'Estrie (CEP). Sa nomination a été entérinée mardi lors de la séance du conseil des commissaires. Elle succède à Maxim Beaugard-Dionne, qui a démissionné le 1^{er} septembre dernier. Ce dernier s'est installé avec sa famille au Nouveau-Brunswick parce qu'il estime pouvoir offrir à sa fillette là-bas un milieu scolaire plus inclusif. La fillette présente une légère déficience intellectuelle. La CSRS a reçu sept candidatures pour le poste de commissaire scolaire de la circonscription numéro 9. En vertu de modifications législatives, la CSRS devait opter pour un processus de nomination; elle n'avait pas à tenir d'élections. Le comité de parents, qui a été impliqué dans le processus, a formulé ses recommandations au conseil des commissaires, qui a lui-même rencontré les sept candidats.



A season for the ages

Sherbrooke Record · 22 Oct 2018 · 7

The Alexander Galt Piper soccer clubs have had a remarkable season capturing five of six ETIAC regular season championship banners. A lot of their success is attributed to their skill level, determination and work ethic in the sports concentration program. The training in the various sports (soccer, hockey, basketball, swimming and badminton) they choose help them to improve their fitness and skill level.

With the play offs beginning this week the Pipers know the biggest challenge awaits them and they will be ready for it. Here is the ETIAC play off schedule:

Monday, October 22: Jr. boys semi final: Richmond @ Galt 1:15 (BU Coulter Field)

Jr. Boys semi

Stanstead 3:34 final: Salesien @

Tuesday, October 23: Jr. Girls semi final: Stanstead @ MVR 1:30

Sr. Girls semi final: Stanstead @ MVR 3:00

Sr. boys semi final: MVR @ Galt 2:15 (BU Coulter field)

Sr. Boys semi final: BCS @ Stanstead 3:30

Wednesday, October 24: Sr. Girls semi final: Salesien @ Galt 1:15 (BU Coulter Field)

Thursday, October 25: Jr. Girls Final: #2 or #3 @ Galt 3:00 (BU Coulter field)

Friday, October 26: Sr. girls final: TBC Sr. Boys final: TBC

Jr. Boys final TBC:

Saturday, October 27: Bantam girls semi final: #4 vs. Salesien 10:00 at BCS

Bantam girls semi final: #3 vs. MVR 10:00 at BCS

Bantam boys semi final: #4 vs Galt (2) at Galt 10:00

Bantam boys semi final: MVR vs Salesien at Galt 10:00

Bantam girls final: 1:00 at BCS Bantam boys final 1:00 at Galt

Caisse Desjardins du Lac-memphrémagog holds first Youth VIP Scholarship soirée

Sherbrooke Record · 22 Oct 2018 · 5 · Record Staff

The Caisse Desjardins du Lac-memphremagog demonstrated its plans to make youth a real priority last Tuesday by holding the first edition of the "Youth VIP Scholarship Soirée", an event gathering nearly 400 young people from the region aged 12 to 35.

This is a first for the financial services co-op, which greeted the young people on the "green carpet" at the sold-out Vieux Clocher de Magog to enjoy a festive evening with comedian Phil Roy. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Caisse and Fondation Desjardins scholarships, and the draw for a \$1,000 scholarship. In total, more than \$15,000 was handed out to young people in the MRC, from high school to university, to support their studies and their academic success.

"Today, we want to support our young people in managing their finances and everything they do in life more than anything," said Patrick Gravel, Executive Director of Caisse Desjardins. "They are our successors and we must give them the means to reach their ambitions."

Gravel had announced, upon his start as head of the Caisse last January, that youth would be among his top priorities. Youth projects were already numerous at the Caisse, but they will be further developed and new initiatives such as Tuesday's will also be put in place to give them a place of choice within the financial institution.

Among the main youth projects initiated or supported by the Caisse are: the Desjardins Student Retention Fund, the Scholarship Program, and the School Caisse offered in a dozen schools in the Memphremagog MRC, the La Ruche School student caisse, the Desjardins Youth at Work program, the Community Development Fund, and donations and sponsorships to organizations working for youth, as well as the My Finances, My Choices Program.

The Caisse also launched the #Fondationdesjardins Awards on October 15. These awards are intended for school and community stakeholders who wish to obtain financial assistance to carry out a project with kindergarten, elementary, or high school students. The winners are determined by a vote of Desjardins Group officers and employees.

A Season For The Ages

**Rob Fisk,
Special collaboration**

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Jr girls soccer banner 2018



Jr boys soccer regular season champions

Sr boys soccer regular season championship.



Sr girls soccer regular season champions

Bantam boys 2 regular season championship.



photos courtesy Alexander Galt High School

Learn how to access Mental Health services

Victoria Vanier

Mental Health Estrie is hosting an important information session in Richmond, on November 15th, in collaboration with the CIUSSS de l'Estrie – CHUS which will be free and open to everyone. At the event, visitors will hear from local Mental Health professionals about what Mental Health services are available to them at CLSC's, the hospitals and in their community, and how to access the services. It will be held in the Community Learning Centre located in Richmond Regional High School, beginning at 7:00 pm.

Besides the presentations by local professionals, there will be a question and answer session and visitors can speak one-on-one or in small groups with people from local and regional organizations.

"It can take a lot of courage and strength to ask for help, and this can be a major barrier to seeking help for a mental health problem. This can be magnified for the English-speaking community who often simply do not know where to access mental health services, let alone what is available in English. Mental Health Estrie receives many phone calls and visits from families and individuals who do not know where to begin on their path toward recovery. We are pleased to provide information and referral services, to help people find the services they need, but we also recognise that we want to make a bigger impact. To this end, we are carrying out this project, to reach people directly in their own communities," commented the Executive Director of Mental Health Estrie, Tanya Gibson.

According to the Mental Health Commission of Canada, 1 in 5 people will be affected by a mental illness in a given year. By the age of 40, 50% of people will have had, or will have a mental illness. Mental illness is something that has touched each one of us, whether we have lived with a mental health problem ourselves, or have accompanied a loved one. The good news is

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First Outreach event at RRHS

that we now know that most people who seek professional help recover and go on to lead satisfying lives. "It is our hope, through this project, that we can help to remove some of the barriers to treatment and remind people that there is hope, help and support out there. We are here for not just individuals affected by mental illness, but also for families and friends as well," added Ms. Gibson. Five other outreach events like the one in Richmond will be held next spring in the MRC's of Memphremagog, Coaticook, Sherbrooke, Haut-Saint-Francois, and La Pommeraiie.

People who are dealing with a mental health problem and are in need of some professional help should contact their local CLSC and ask to speak to the Psycho-social Intake Department (Accueil Psychosocial in French). They do not need to be referred by a family doctor and, in times of crisis, they are usually seen quite quickly by a mental health professional, either on the day of the phone-call or the next day.

Mental Health Estrie will be accepting donations to their Annual HUGS campaign at the event in Richmond (NEW Hats, Underwear, Gloves, Socks and Scarves) for those who would like to help keep a homeless person warm this winter.

For more information contact Tanya Gibson at 819 565-3777 or mhe.info@bellnet.ca

ETSB gets a clean audit report

New parent commissioners introduced

Sherbrooke Record · 25 Oct 2018 · 1 · By Matthew Mccully

During Tuesday evening's Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) Council of Commissioners meeting, the board's auditors read through the financial statements from the previous year, noting that a clean audit report will be passed on to the ministry.

According to Chairman Mike Murray, the financial statements will be available on the ETSB's website in the next few days.

Three of the four parent commissioners currently on the board attended their last meeting on Tuesday evening. Paul Laberge, Ken Waterhouse and Mary Gilman reached the end of their terms. New representatives Daniel Zigby, Marc Mercure and H  l  ne Turgeon have been appointed to replace them as new parent commissioners.

Cindy V  ronneau, parent representative for the Special Education Advisory Committee, was appointed to a second mandate.

Daniel Zigby and Marc Mercure attended Tuesday's meeting as members of the public. They will join the council as parent commissioners during next

month's meeting. Throughout the meeting, many commissioners thanked the exiting parent commissioners for their contributions to the council over the last four years.

Chairman Murray pointed out that Waterhouse and Laberge were the go-to tech experts, helping the board streamline internal communications and set up video patches for commissioners to attend meetings via Google hangout. He added that Gilman was always ready to 'bring us down to earth' with comments and suggestions to improve services for students.

"We do struggle a lot here, but we get good things done for the kids," Gilman said, near the end of the meeting.

"You have large shoes to fill," Murray told the incoming parent commissioners.

During the comments and questions portion of the meeting, Commissioner Claire Beaubien pointed out that there is a lot of confusion in schools regarding what can be used for fundraising initiatives. She used the examples of chocolate and cheese.

According to Beaubien, the unintended consequence of the court ruling in the recent class action lawsuit against school boards has resulted in a need for schools to fundraise to afford certain activities rather than charge a fee to parents.

Baubien suggested that the board provide clear guidelines to schools so that they are aware of what they can and can't sell.

Chairman Murray replied that there has never been a prohibition on selling chocolate within the board. Anyone believing the contrary was reacting to rumours spread by word of mouth only, he said.

Parent Commissioner Paul Laberge added that any schools unclear about what they can and can't sell must not have a representative on the Central Parents Committee. During the CPC meetings, Laberge said the rules regarding fundraising initiatives were made very clear.

During question period at the end of the meeting, Appalachian Teachers' Association President Megan Seline pointed out to the board that Masseyvanier High School had been rated the top high school in the ETSB thanks to its success rate over the last three years. Seline asked if the board intended to promote the school in that regard.

Commissioner Dan Brodie, Chair of the Communications Committee, said the board could look into that and possibly arrange something.

Knowlton Academy off to a busy start

Sherbrooke Record · 25 Oct 2018 · 1 · Submitted by KA Secondary One

Knowlton Academy has elected its new Student Parliament for this school year. From Secondary One: Benji Cantelon, Liam Chabot, Devan Elston, Oliver Greer, Danna Patino and Marlin Tebby.



From Cycle 3: Ain Dagenais, Caleb Elston, Haley Harrison and Sara Miller. Benji was chosen as our Prime Minister.

Our parliament has many exciting activities planned for the year. We kick off the year with 'We Scare Hunger' (a We School campaign). All students will be bringing in non-perishable food items from Oct. 22 until Nov. 2.

Our goal is to collect 1200 items which will surpass our total of 1128 from last year. All collected food will be donated to the Knowlton Food Bank

and members of student parliament will volunteer with the food bank when they put together their annual Christmas baskets.

Next up for student parliament is the very exciting and new event 'We Are Silent'. This campaign will raise awareness and funds for the way too many children in the world who have no voice.

Our younger students will take a vow of silence for a half hour and our older students will take a vow of silence for an entire morning and will participate in a March of Silence on Nov. 20.

A short candlelight vigil is planned during the march (more details to follow). To raise funds, student parliament will host two movie nights and give students a chance to win baskets filled with goodies. Students will also be accepting pledges to encourage their vow of silence.

In other KA news, our wonderful garden project continues to be an amazing success. The students have enjoyed many snacks of healthy vegetables and have an even greater understanding of where their food comes from. On Oct. 12, KA had the chance to learn from author and illustrator Werner Zimmermann.

Mr. Zimmermann presented three different workshops and inspired us all to show our creativity. Another fun event was a bee presentation by MIEL MTL. All our students learned what bees do and how important they are to the environment. KA students raised over \$2,000 for cancer research in our annual Terry Fox Run. The sports season got under way at the Cross Country running event with KA having a large number of participants from all levels of the school. The C soccer tournament was fun for the players and student coaches. The A and B tournament should be just as exciting. And last, but not least, our Principal, Mrs. Gore, and eight teachers journeyed to Montreal for a three-day conference on assessment. They all returned inspired and excited to share what they learned with all staff members.