Wednesday, September 12, 2012

SPEAKER.

SECTION C

TV GUIDE

Francophone conference in Temiskaming Shores showcased city

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Speaker Reporter

CLASSIFIED

TEMISKAMING SHORES – The Association Francalse Des Municipalités de l'Ontario (AFMO) conference took place in Temiskaming Shores Wednesday, September 5 to Friday, September 7 with 120 registrants attending.

This was the 23rd year for the organization's conference and numerous workshops and speakers made presentations on topics related to economic development, networking and tourism.

It was an opportunity for people to meet and network, said AFMO president and mayor of McGarry Township, Clermont Lapointe.

There was also entertainment and exhibitors during the conference. The Mini Foire Gourmande took place at the Home Granite Curling Club Wednesday evening. Over 1,000 people from throughout the region, including Quebec, turned out. They were able to purchase tickets for a minimal cost to sample food items made in this region. The Mini Foire Gourmande is associated with the annual Foire Gourmande held in August in Ville-Marie, Quebec.

Numerous exhibitors in businesses, services and the arts were also on hand with booths.

INTERACTIVE WALKING TOUR

Also as part of the ceremonies that evening, the interactive walking tour being developed through Le Centre Culturel ARTEM, with project leaders Nicole Guertin and Jocelyn Blais, was also kicked off with further funding announcements. The first tour, narrated in French by renowned scuiptress Rose-Aimee Belanger, who lives in Armstrong Township and was present that evening, was made available, and Ontario French Language Services Commissioner Francois Boileau was among those who tried the new interactive walking tour. Mr. Boileau commented that using the interactive tour provided a deeper insight into the area's francophone history. The Continued on page 8c



Almee Hennessy of Kingston, an employee of Ontario Clean Water Agency who had a booth at the Association Francais Des Municipalités de l'Ontario conference in Temiskaming Shores, enjoyed the Mini Foire Gourmande at the Horne Granite Curling Club Wednesday evening, September 5. Among those with booths was Normand Olivier of St-Bruno-de-Guigues in Temiscamingue, Quebec serving up some of his Guizou—sparkling strawberry juice.



Sugar pies and other tempting treats were served up by Jacqueline Morin of Halleybury (right) at the Mini Foire Gourmande at the Horne Granite Curling Club Wednesday evening, September 5, as part of the Association Francaise Des Municipalités de l'Ontario conference. Enjoying these treats were Loïc Thornton (front), and brothers Thierry (middle) and Adrien (back) of Dymond.



The development of a French community interactive tour, spearheaded by Centre Culturel ARTEM, had its early launch Wednesday, September 5 at the Association Française Des Municipalités de l'Ontario conference in Temiskamina Shores. A toast was held to celebrate the project. (Staff photos by Darlene Wroe)

Francophone conference in Temiskaming Shores showcased city

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for physical activities along the complexities." way, and is prompted by GPS technology.

L'Association canadienne-fran- development." calse de l'Ontario held a flag-raising ceremony at the Temiskam- oppement économique et ing Shores Ontario Provincial d'employabilité de l' - the net-Police station. "It was truly a spe- work of economic development cial event with many hundreds and employment)Ontario was of children involved there," compresent to encourage municipal mented Mr. Lapointe.

Berthiuame spoke about the ships and networking." challenges and requirements of

tour also includes suggestions ing changes, uncertainties and

He outlined the need for municipal leaders to engage their On Wednesday morning, citizens in creating "a vision of

RDEE (Le Réseau de déveland business leaders in "creat-Hawkesbury Mayor René ing business alliances, partner-

Delegates were told the prob-

municipal leaders in "manag- lem in small and medium business is that they're isolated. RDEE offers a resource that "allows organizations to network and work together," delegates heard.

> Organizations were advised to "work with local economic strenaths."

it was recommended that businesses in the same sectors work together to tackle chal

The role Caisse Populaire can play in local development was range of topics. also outlined.

Temiskaming Shores resident

Northdale Manor new build- ogy to projects was outlined by ing project became a reality Cité Collegial professor Remy through community coopera- Aubin. Mr. Aubin explained that tion, and with the financial as- blomass can include a range or sistance of Caisse Populaire. The materials including swamp mat retirement home now employs ter, fungus, com, grape vine resi 18 full-time employees and 15 dues, and even cow patties. part-time employees, as well as providing a home to over 70 residents. The Northdale Manor Create bio-oils and gases tha Is "a concrete example of cooperation," she said.

Other workshops included a

BIOMASS RESEARCH

Opportunity for research into

Therese Bain outlined how the applications of biomass technol

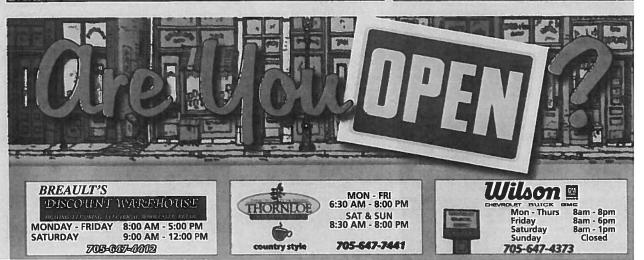
Mr. Aubin talked about how such materials can be used to are able to combust. He noted the availability of forests in the region, and noted wood chip and composted wood material also have opportunities for ap plication.

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Tammy Beaudry (centre, in green), of Centre de Sante Communautaire de Temiskaming, celebrated with some of the many families she has assisted in the past year to become more active through such outings as swimming and skiing. Ms. Beaudry's work has helped to inspire the exercise component of the new franco-phone interactive community tours now being produced through Artem. (Staff photo by Darlene Wroe)

Francophone conference

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Mr. Aubin acknowledged the debate over using com, a food source, for fuel. He also acknowledged the resistance to genetic manipulation of materials, although he commented, "genetic manipulation might become necessary." He noted, "There are some people who are trying to develop some new organisms."

Application of biomass use to local business opportunities, can be researched through Cité Collegial, he said. The research needs to involve students and the businesses who will have ultimate use of the data would have to contribute financially, but Mr. Aubin pointed out.

The 2013 AFMO conference will be in Sturgeon Falls September 11 to 13. The 2014 conference will be in Welland. Mr. Lapointe said that will be the first time the AFMO conference will take place in the south.

Temiskaming Shores Mayor Carman Kidd said the municipality was asked to host the event about a year-and-a-haif ago. Along with networking with other municipalities and area leaders, the conference provides the community an opportunity to be showcased, he pointed out. Temiskaming Shores is "sort of a hidden-away area," he told conference delegates Thursday evening, September 6, at the conference banquet. But once people come to visit for an event such as the AFMO conference, "they tend to come back," he stated.

LOCATIONS

People from across Northeastem and eastern Ontario, and from as far away as Welland, were present for the AFMO conference.

Mayor Kidd noted the proximity of Riverside Place and the Horne Granite Curling Club helped the municipality in being able to host the conference. This was the first time the AFMO conference was hosted in Temiskaming Shores. Le Centre culturel ARTEM president
Ruth Belliveau-Blain (right) thanked
Ontario Trillium Foundation local
board member Helene Cuihane (left)
Wednesday evening, September 5, at
the Horne Granite Curling Club in New
Liskeard on the announcement that
Artem is the recipient of a \$42,700 grant
to assist in the development of a series of
French-language interactive community
tours in the Temiskaming area. Rhonda
Chartrand (centre) was also on hand
representing Timiskaming-Cochrane
MPP John Vanthof.
(Staff photo by Dariene Wroe)





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