



Rural Secretariat/
Strategic Social Plan
Newfoundland and Labrador

November 29, 2004

Partners Plus

Keeping you up-to-date with the Cormack-Grenfell Regional Steering Committee

HR project hits the air waves

It was a unique way to get our message out.

The Rural Secretariat/Strategic Social Plan partnered with Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters Newfoundland and Labrador to put off a live radio broadcast from Stephenville High School on September 27. For eight hours, volunteer hosts and guests discussed a variety of topics, including projected shortages in the skilled trades sector and the results of the Rural Secretariat's Human Resources (HR) Project.

The event, broadcast over 104 FM using Ryakuga communications technology, helped the Rural Secretariat begin the process of communicating information gathered through high school, post-secondary, adult basic education and expatriate surveys. The broadcast was designed so that business people, youth, government, students and others could talk candidly about topics that included the labour market. Sixty-plus participants, including Journalism, Recording Arts and Music Industry students at College of the North Atlantic helped make the event a success.

Caregiver week events were well attended

The first Newfoundland and Labrador Caregivers of Family/Friends Week was celebrated from October 18-24. The Humber Valley Regional Caregiver Network marked the occasion by hosting two events for unpaid caregivers – a breakfast and a day away featuring guest speakers, Indian dancing and yoga. Also paying tribute to Caregiver Week, two feature articles discussing the role of unpaid caregivers were submitted to and printed in the Western Star and Northern Pen newspapers.

FAST program introduced at city elementary school

Social worker Jennifer Howlett and a team at C.C. Loughlin Elementary School have been trained under the Families and Schools Together (FAST) program that encourages positive involvement within a school, builds resilience in children and enhances child-family relationships. The project is also ongoing in Lourdes, under the guidance of the Community Education Network.

Neighborhood Accounts = value added information

Students, educators, researchers and policymakers can use a web-based tool that provides greater knowledge of Newfoundland and Labrador's urban centres. Neighbourhood Accounts at www.communityaccounts.ca accesses information on 23 Corner Brook neighbourhoods, eight Stephenville neighbourhoods and two neighbourhoods in Kippens. Users must have a password and username, available through the Rural Secretariat. Call Shelley at 637-2648, or Doris at 637-2937, for information.

West coast Regional Economic Development Boards hold events that focus on youth, careers and job opportunities



Participants in the Humber Economic Development Board Inc Career Fair.

Three Regional Economic Development Boards this fall held events that targeted youth. Nordic Economic Development Corporation (Zone 6) hosted an event in St. Anthony that included everything from workshops to a talent show.

RED Ochre Regional Board Inc (Zone 7) encouraged young people to have their voices heard during its day-long session. Humber Economic Development Board (Zone 8) staged an interactive Career Fair at Sir Wilfred Grenfell Collage that was open to students and the general public.

Also this fall, the Regional Volunteer Network invited youth to *Get Your Assets in Gear*. The workshop featured a motivational speaker, as well as concurrent sessions focused on the importance of volunteering.