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BACKGROUND

The Youth Services Partnership was established to provide a collaborative network to facilitate effective and efficient delivery of programs and services for youth at the provincial and local level. Through collaboration, provincial and federal government agencies are able to offer a range of programs and services to youth that address specific needs and avoid duplication.

The needs of youth are diverse in nature and span the jurisdictional responsibilities of any single federal or provincial government department. The Youth Services Partnership reflects an inclusive network of federal and provincial departments, community and youth serving agencies, and private sector representatives who seek to provide a continuum of programs and services. The partnership supports the development of a culture among community members to identify needs, available resources, and innovative approaches to service delivery. The objective is to ensure that services are comprehensive, responsive and flexible to the needs of youth.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this annual report is to raise awareness of the many partners involved with the Youth Services Partnership network and to provide senior management with a compilation of realized activities made possible from this collaborative effort during 2006-2007.

YOUTH SERVICES PARTNERSHIP - OVERVIEW

PRINCIPLES

- Maximize use of existing community, provincial and federal resources to address youth needs;
- Include the consultation of youth both in identifying and finding solutions to youth concerns;
- Recognize that the needs of youth are many, unique and varied;
- Participation of federal and provincial government departments must be consistent within all levels of the partnership;
- Strong partnerships must be developed locally with partner departments and community stakeholders;
- The primary goal of providing programs and services to youth is long-term self-sufficiency and self-management;
- Mutual responsibility must be established between the service provider and the recipient of service; and,
- An equitable, holistic, client centered approach should be used when providing programs and services.

OBJECTIVES

- To facilitate the establishment of a collaborative network which will eliminate duplication and introduce a range of complementary programs and services designed to enhance the employability of youth;
- To jointly plan, fund and implement programs and services which meet the needs of youth through sharing of information, responsibilities and decision making.

CLIENT GROUP

Youth 15 - 30 years of age inclusive.

(NOTE: Departmental involvement is dependent on their respective mandate and age criteria.)

PARTNERS

The partners in the Youth Services Partnership include, if possible, public, not-for-profit and private organizations that are involved in the delivery of programs and services to youth.

Current partners common to local and provincial committees include: Service Canada, Family and Community Services, Post Secondary Education, Training & Labour, Health and Public Safety.

STRUCTURE

The management structure of the Youth Services Partnership includes the Provincial Committee and 10 Local Committees. Committees at all levels are co-chaired by Service Canada and Family and Community Services.

PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE

MANDATE

The Committee exists to maintain a conduit between local committees and Senior Managers for issues that require provincial attention. The Committee also promotes collaboration between federal and provincial government departments and provincial youth serving agencies in an effort to facilitate and support local complementary networks of programs and services for youth.

WORKING STRUCTURE

Meetings are held as required.

Activities/Projects carried out in 2006-2007

Youth Services Partnership Annual Conferences 2006

This regular event provides representatives of local committees with the opportunity to share information about the activities they are involved with in their area. Participants have the opportunity to network and learn valuable information from other local committee members. Positive feedback was received from conference participants. Family and Community Services and Service Canada shared the expenses associated with this conference.

In 2006, the conference was held in Miramichi, May 18-19. Agenda items included:

- A youth drama presented by Miramichi Y.E.S (Youth Extended Services),
- A presentation on Developmental Assets by invited guest Mary Lynn Jardine,
- A visit to local youth artisan Stone Palette
- Regional YSP Committee presentations
- Cup stacking demonstration

Questionnaire – Youth Services Partnership Annual Conference

A questionnaire was circulated to all YSP co-chairs and encouraged to be shared with committee members concerning the YSP Annual Conference. Respondents were given the opportunity to provide feedback on the meeting frequency, location and content. Recommendations, as a result of the survey, include:

- The conference will be held in the spring of each year with an effort to choose a date that does not conflict with any other provincial youth activities / conferences.
- There is an opportunity for all local committees to provide input on the conference format, including suggestions for agenda items and a possible keynote speaker.
- The Provincial Co-Chairs put an emphasis on ensuring that there is appropriate conference follow up each year. This would include circulation of any written information and presentations.

LOCAL COMMITTEES

NORTHWEST

MANDATE

To support youth and provide them with services in order to contribute to the overall, unique development of each young person in the community.

WORKING STRUCTURE

In the absence of a coordinator, we have adopted a more flexible structure and a mandate within our means. The committee will focus more on meetings aimed at exchanging information and identifying priorities that can then be incorporated into each partner's youth services plan.

The committee is comprised of representatives of FCS, Service Canada, PETL, the CCNB, Public Safety, School district 3, the Edmundston Police department, Mental Health, and others, and is co-chaired by Family & Community Services and Service Canada.

The committee is affiliated with Parachute Info-Jeunes Ltée, a community group created in support of some of the activities of the Northwest Youth Partnership committee and of youth in general.

Activities/projects carried out in 2006-2007

Alternative education centres

In the wake of the study on the difficulties and needs associated with youth training and labour market entry in northwestern N.B. (2003), the partners had supported the establishment of two alternative education centres, one in the Edmundston area and the second in the Grand Falls area. These Centres are in their 2nd year of operation. Each centre can accommodate up to 25 participants, and learning is based on practical methods. The centres came about thanks to a partnership between School District #3, Service Canada, and the New Brunswick departments of Family and Community Services, Post Secondary Education Training and Labour, and Public Safety, along with the involvement of volunteers with the community organization Parachute Info Jeunes Ltée.

Many members of the Youth partnership committee also sit on the advisory committee for the Alternative education centres.

Alternative Education Centre for Older youth

The northwest YSP committee is involved with the Alternative education advisory committee to develop a similar centre that would be aimed at older youth who do not fall under the mandate of the school district. CCNB Edmundston has been identified as a logical partner and is leading the project.

Life Skills (dynamique de la vie)

The northwest YSP committee and the alternative education advisory committee has also identified a need for regularly available life skills for some youth as a prerequisite to alternative education and in some cases as an alternative to the alternative education centres. Service Canada along with FCS and CCNB Edmundston are actively pursuing solutions to this need.

Le Nord-Ouest, mon Patelin, j'y reviens ! [Northwest: I'm coming home !]

This activity is an initiative of the Work-Ready Workforce Committee for Northwestern N.B. and targets young people who were born in the Northwest in hopes of luring them back to the region to work. Several partners of the Northwest Youth Services Partnership (YSP) Committee helped to make the activity a success. In 2005 and 2006 the activity was held in Edmundston. In march 2007, the activity will be repeated for a third time, this time in Grand Falls. The ultimate goal of the activity is to meet the projected needs of the northwestern N.B. labour market by encouraging young people to come back. The 2005 and 2006 activities were termed a success, bringing back many young people who've since been welcomed with open arms by area employers.

Entreprends ton avenir / Take on your future

In co-operation with professional organizations, major employers, and educational institutions, a number of YSP Committee partners organized this interactive career fair under the terms of a mandate from the Work-Ready Workforce Committee. The activity, which included a motivational speaker, and involved students in Grades 10 and 11 from Victoria and lower Madawaska counties was held on April 4th and 5th 2006 at the Polyvalente Thomas Albert in Grand Falls .

The goal of the activity was to encourage smart career choices among northwestern N.B. youth while seeking to meet the projected needs of the labour market.

Reverse job fair / Tourism show

A reverse job fair was held on March 24 to 26, 2006. This fair gave young people whose studies relate to the tourism sector the opportunity to show off their abilities to potential employers. Employers from large hotel chains and other businesses in the New Brunswick tourism sector were present to engage in recruitment. The activity was organized in co-operation with the Work-ready workforce committee of Northwest NB.

Data bank on northwestern N.B. graduates

The youth exodus is an alarming reality to which communities in northwestern New Brunswick have to respond. The Work-Ready Workforce Committee, which includes a large number of the local YSP Committee partners, therefore decided to create a data bank containing contact information for postsecondary graduates born in the region. This directory makes it possible to communicate regularly with them in order to share attractive employment opportunities in the area. The data bank facilitates the recruitment of hard-to-find, qualified workers. Enterprise Grand Falls region and Enterprise Madawaska operate the Graduates databank jointly.

PROSPECTS FOR 2007

Since the committee has no coordinator at present, it will continue to focus more on exchanging information and identifying priorities that can then be incorporated into each partner's youth services plan.

The Northwest YSP committee is also looking at hosting the provincial YSP conference in order to showcase some of the successes it has achieved in Northwestern New Brunswick.

Le Nord-Ouest, mon Patelin, j'y reviens ! [Northwest; I'm coming home !] will follow the same format as before and will be held on March 16-18, 2007, at the Auberge Près du Lac Inn, in Grand Falls.

YSP partners are working on a continuous Life Skills (dynamique de la vie) proposal as mentioned above.

Entreprends ton avenir / Take on your future ! is planned for Fall 2007 in Edmundston.

JEUNESSE RESTIGOUCHE YOUTH

MANDATE

Jeunesse Restigouche Youth (JRY) helps young people under the age of 30 to become self-sufficient and realize their full potential from an educational and social standpoint so they can enter the labour market by encouraging partnerships between government agencies, the community, businesses, and youth.

WORKING STRUCTURE

Jeunesse Restigouche Youth is made up of a large committee that meets every three months, an Executive Committee that meets as necessary, and four subcommittees that meet on a monthly basis. A co-ordinator also works with the committee members to ensure that all activities outlined in the action plan are implemented.

Activities/Projects carried out in 2006-2007

Mailout to Restigouche Employers (Annual activity for over 10 years)

A mailout describing the employment programs available to businesses and a listing of resource persons for each program were distributed to local employers. This was a way to acquaint employers and unionized workers with the benefits of employment programs and to collect information about ways to enhance the quality of placement experiences for both youth and employers.

Jeunesse Restigouche Youth Information Line - 759-6699 (Ongoing activity since 1994)

The Jeunesse Restigouche Youth information line was promoted through a variety of media. The entire population of Restigouche County was targeted during this project, resulting in an increased awareness of Jeunesse Restigouche Youth and a jump in direct inquiries from youth.

List of Resource Persons Available to Give Presentations (Annual activity for over 10 years)

A list of resource persons who are available to give presentations on the new realities and trends of the labour market and on entrepreneurship was distributed to local schools. All stakeholders throughout Restigouche County were targeted.

Learning Centres (Ongoing activity since 1999)

The operation of four learning centres in Restigouche County for approximately 60 school dropouts aged 15 and over was ensured through a continuing partnership among several agencies.

This project has led to many positive results, including the maintenance of partnerships between schools, the community, and families and the prevention of criminal behaviour. This is an ongoing activity that began in September 1999.

Summer Employment Promotion (3 years)

This initiative had two objectives: to raise awareness among Restigouche employers and community members of the importance of hiring students for the summer and to make them aware of the advantages of hiring summer students for sectors in demand, in accordance with the Restigouche community economic development strategy. The initiative consisted of two main activities. The first was to conduct radio interviews with different students each week. The hosts highlighted the employability skills of the students selected, as well as their training and qualifications. The second activity consisted in conducting interviews with employers to provide testimonials of the benefits of hiring students in their businesses.

Turnaround Achievement Awards (Annual activity since 2001)

Thanks to an ongoing partnership among agencies, the Turnaround Achievement Awards initiative was held again for a sixth consecutive year. Thirty students were recognized for their efforts to turn their lives around during a celebration held at the Campbellton Civic Centre on May 15, 2007. The evening was a huge success, and many positive comments were received from those in attendance.

Outreach Worker (Street Worker) (Ongoing activity since 2000)

Thanks to an ongoing partnership among agencies, an outreach worker continued to be employed in the Campbellton/Kedgwick/Saint-Quentin area to provide young people aged 30 and under with the support and information they require at a time and place that is convenient for them. This has

proved to be a very successful activity and one that is welcomed by the many youth who are in contact with the outreach worker.

Destination Work World (Activity since 2002)

During the Jeunesse Restigouche Youth strategic planning process, the partners identified a need to develop a program for high school graduates who are not pursuing post-secondary studies and/or are unable to enter the labour market. This training and work internship program, called Destination Work World, enables 30 young persons to acquire employment skills while planning their future.

Web Page (Ongoing activity since 1998)

The Jeunesse Restigouche Youth committee has a duty to inform young people and the representatives of various agencies about the numerous services available to young people in the Restigouche region. The Web site was recently given a younger, more active image. The committee members agreed that such a site would help young people by acquainting them with the committee and the agencies and resources in the region. Not only does this site inform young people about all the services, but it informs the agencies as well. Since it was very active, the committee joined with several partners that could benefit from this kind of tool. The update focused on providing information while making the site interactive and attractive for young people. (www.jry.org)

Wellness Rally (since 2004)

Together with several Jeunesse Restigouche Youth partners, our second wellness rally was held in November 2005. The event was aimed at promoting services and programs through physical activity. About 1000 young persons attended.

Radio Campaign for Destination Work World Registration

A radio awareness campaign was launched to encourage young people to register for the new Destination Work World program and inform them about youth programs and services as well as where to access them. A number of 15- and 30-second radio spots were produced, each specifying a need, the related service, and information on how to obtain it.

Case Management

Case management was provided for about 15 to 20 young persons under the age of 21 to help them to return to school, take training and/or enter the job market.

Volunteer Program (May 2006)

A new initiative was implemented this year to enable the members of Jeunesse Restigouche Youth to work on another of their objectives: that of increasing young people's appreciation of volunteering and making them aware of the benefits of volunteering as a form of work experience.

Project Objectives

1. Increase young people's appreciation of volunteering.
2. Prepare young people indirectly for entering the labour market or returning to school through volunteering.
3. Acquire relevant work experience and transferable skills through volunteering.
4. Encourage young people to participate in the community.
5. Increase the contribution of young people to society through volunteering.
6. Help agencies with the recruitment of a new generation of volunteers.
7. Provide increased support for local agencies.

The Volunteer Program will encourage young people under the age of 30 to volunteer their time with an agency (e.g., school, hospital, social club). Not only would the young person benefit from the experience by acquiring transferable skills and having the opportunity to volunteer in a positive environment, but the sponsoring agency would benefit as well from the new volunteer's contribution.

Jeunesse Restigouche Youth will reward participants for their efforts provided they volunteer the minimum number of hours required.

1. All young people who volunteer at least 40 hours will receive a certificate, a T-shirt, and an invitation to a prize-drawing event.
2. All young people who volunteer at least 100 hours will receive a knapsack, the chance to participate in a prize draw, and an invitation to the prize-drawing event.

New participants will be able to join this program aimed at young persons under the age of 30 at any time. This will enable them to begin volunteering and earning rewards when they feel the time is right.

CHALEUR YOUTH FUTURES COMMITTEE

MANDATE

The mission of the Chaleur Youth Futures Committee is to work with partners to promote the development and the social and economic integration of young persons between the ages of 15 and 30 in the Chaleur region.

Under its mandate, the Committee seeks to inform young people, the community, and its partners about existing youth programs and services, identify the needs of young people, and see to new initiatives according to the identified needs.

WORKING STRUCTURE

The Chaleur Youth Futures Committee is made up of a plenary committee that includes all the members of the Youth Futures Committee and two co-chairs: one from Family and Community Services (FCS) and one from Service Canada (SC). It was previously made up of sub-committees; but last year, the Committee decided that the structure would no longer include sub-committees, but rather ad hoc committees that would be struck dependent on the activity or event planned.

Activities / Projects realized in 2006-2007:

A strategic plan with objectives and priorities was developed during meetings with the plenary Committee.

The Turn-Around Achievement Awards Banquet was held in May 2006. This banquet acknowledges the work and efforts performed by youth who have overcome difficulties in their personal lives and who are now moving forward in a positive manner.

A Youth Strategy Coordinator has been hired recently and is working on establishing a Youth Advisory Committee. Representatives from all learning institutions as well as youth at large will be invited to sit on this committee and give recommendations on existing programs and ideas for new services needed.

A meeting with the Youth Futures Committee is planned for April. This meeting will serve to introduce the new coordinator as well as to revise the Action Plan and to prioritize items from this plan.

COMITE AVENIR JEUNESSE DE LA PENINSULE ACADIENNE

MANDATE

To provide a practical and efficient vehicle to share information, discuss issues related to youth and respond to those issues in a collaborative manner in order to provide a quality service that eliminates overlap and duplication while providing a full continuum of services.

MISSION

To work with partners on developing long-term actions aimed at helping young people on the Acadian Peninsula realize their full potential and join the labour market.

WORKING STRUCTURE

The Comité Avenir Jeunesse de la Péninsule acadienne is divided into four subcommittees: work, education/training, health and wellness, and sociocultural. Each subcommittee is responsible for objectives determined beforehand at an annual planning meeting. The action plan is subsequently reviewed periodically with the members. A coordinator ensures that the activities and projects set out in the action plan are implemented.

The management committee meets four times a year and holds two other meetings in which all of the subcommittee members participate. The subcommittees meet four to five times a year, not to mention the collaboration of working groups tasked with specific projects.

Activities and Projects Carried Out in 2006-2007

The members of the **sociocultural subcommittee**:

1. Developed a mechanism for educating as many persons as possible about the harmful effects of bullying. Together we took on the mandate of creating a tool that would make it possible to initiate discussions relating to this problem.
2. In collaboration with the National Crime Prevention Strategy, Cojak Productions Inc., 15 young people from the program “Je me prends en main,” and many partners: community organizations, departmental agencies, and private enterprise.
3. More than 300 persons attended the launch of the film at the Cinéma de la Péninsule.
4. During the coming months, the film will be presented in the different communities by young people.

The members of the **health and wellness subcommittee**:

1. Organized a one-day event with professionals working in **physical** and **mental** health, learning associates, and volunteers. The organizers were mostly from the Acadian Peninsula, but we also had the opportunity to partner with Louise Colette-Bois from Bathurst and Diane Fraser from Moncton.
2. More than 80 participants had the opportunity to spend the day with us.
3. 15 topics were discussed:
 1. Eating disorders
 2. Adosanté.org
 3. Our fat requirements
 4. Breakfast cereals
 5. Cardiovascular physical activity
 6. Self-esteem
 7. Suicide prevention
 8. Smoking
 9. Mental health
 10. Bodybuilding
 11. Alcohol/drug dependency
 12. Contagious diseases
 13. CyberVillageSanté.com
 14. Dating violence

The members of the **work subcommittee**:

1. Worked on the youth profile, assisted by researchers from the Université de Moncton, Shippagan campus. Analyses of the data will be available in the next few weeks.

2. An ad hoc committee (composed of young adults) was set up to organize Rendez-vous 2007. The goal is to bring together close to 200 young persons between the ages of 18 and 35 for three days. Generation X and Generation Y members will have the chance to take advantage of their rural life experiences, in addition to discussing the many challenges they will have to overcome. This ambitious and innovative project for and by young people will boost the development of the Acadian Peninsula and is meant to serve as a prelude for a youth meeting at the Acadian World Congress in 2009.

The members of the **education/training subcommittee**:

1. Brought together persons from different departments to discuss our young students enrolled in special education programs.
2. After that, a study group will be set up to make recommendations that will be taken to a higher level in order to find potential solutions for young persons who seem to have no prospects at the end of their post-secondary studies.

The option put in place ensured follow-up of the issues while making it possible to meet the immediate needs of the Comité Avenir Jeunesse de la Péninsule acadienne. The strategic plan remains in place, and work on the actions is continuing.

Lastly, it should be noted that all of the actions of the Comité Avenir Jeunesse de la Péninsule acadienne are made possible thanks to the shared efforts of a number of partners. The steering committee consists of 18 executive directors, while the plenary committee, which brings together the members of the sectoral groups, is made up of about 45 local stakeholders.

Current activities are continuing, including:

- Carrière sur mesure 2006 [Tailor-made career]
- Je me prends en main III [Taking charge of my life]
- Data bank on young high school graduates
- Promotion of awareness of sexually transmitted diseases
- Canada Volunteerism Initiative
- Je reviens.. J'y reste [Coming back to stay]
- Co-op placements
- Festival jeunesse de l'Acadie [youth festival]
- Work experiences for young people
- Entrepreneurship
- Workshops on drug/alcohol dependency (choices)
- PHARE program (alternative classes)
- Learning associates
- Réseau des Complexes Jeunesse Multifonctionnels [Network of multipurpose youth complexes]
- Fondation communautaire de la PA (philanthropy)
- Leadership camp
- Healthy eating and self-esteem (in schools)

- Table de concertation pour contrer la violence [Round table on family violence]
- Smoking prevention
- Promotion of the CyberVillageSanté in partnership with the Collectivité ingénieuse de la Péninsule acadienne (CIPA)
- Collaboration with the RCMP on the DARE program and the prevention of bullying

The Youth Futures Committee is more than ever present in our communities and is the driving force behind a new generation that wishes to take its rightful place.

MIRAMICHI YOUTH SERVICES PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

MANDATE

Through effective partnering, discussion and information sharing, the Miramichi Youth Services Partnership (MYSP) will create and coordinate innovative and relevant programs and services in order to assist Miramichi youth in:

- becoming self-reliant, contributing members of society,
- avoiding participation in criminal activity, and
- becoming good citizens who participate fully in the workplace and community.

The Miramichi Youth Services Partnership focuses on:

- youth at risk of not participating productively in society,
- youth at risk of dropping out of school,
- unemployed youth who lack opportunities for experience, basic work-related vocational skills, life skills, and / or basic education, and
- marginalized youth including youth with a criminal history and youth from minority groups.

WORKING STRUCTURE

The MYSP normally meets on a monthly basis. Meeting agendas include a review of ongoing projects, budget updates, departmental program and service updates, and initiatives under discussion. Special guests are invited to make presentations to the committee or to submit proposals.

Activities/Projects Carried Out In 2006-2007

Career Exploration In Apprenticeable Trades For At-Risk Youth

In early February, twelve (12) at-risk youth between the ages of 18 and 25 began this 17-week program. A total of thirty-two (32) youth had been referred for the program by late December 2006 – several were screened out, some removed themselves from consideration, and the remainder underwent a rigorous assessment and interviewing process involving CAAT Testing, Self-Directed Search, career counselling sessions and program selection interviews.

The program began with two (2) weeks of Life Skills and Math Refresher with Cheryl Courtney, the Program Coordinator / Life Skills Facilitator. Following this, the trades training began with four (4) days per week in the trades classroom / shop and one (1) day per week of Life Skills. Tradesmen Delbert Matchett and Chris Bowes are leading the group through an exploration of trades under the watchful eye of Ray Desveaux, the Provincial Coordinator of the United Association – Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee. Dr. Charles Emmrys, a psychologist who provides valuable services under contract to Family and Community Services in Miramichi assisted in the design of the program and meets for a half day on a monthly basis with the participants. The participants have complex barriers, and Dr. Emmrys' s group sessions are aimed at helping them overcome these barriers through self-evaluation, goal setting and use of specific individualized strategies to increase the likelihood of their success in the workplace.

The program continues with a work placement during weeks 15-17. Following this, the participants are expected to move on to a trades program at a New Brunswick Community College, begin an apprenticeship placement with a tradesman, or find employment as a trades labourer.

By the end of March, two participants were ready to be tested for their B Plate welding ticket. Most of the participants are expected to be able to complete this qualification during the program.

The program is a partnership between the United Association – Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee and the Miramichi Youth Services Partnership. Funding and referrals have come from Post-Secondary Education Training and Labour, Family and Community Services, Public Safety and Education – School District 16.

STARS & QUASARS

STARS and QUASARS are two exciting and comprehensive Personal and Career Development Programs for youth at risk. The programs are located at The Learning Centre in Miramichi West, and are co-located with alternative education day programs of School District 16.

The Learning Centre provides a high tech learning environment where the life skills and educational needs of the youth are addressed by highly skilled teachers, learning facilitators and support staff. All of the programs of The Learning Centre benefit from the sharing of resources.

STARS focuses on youth aged 17 to 24 who have multiple barriers and who have been out of school for more than a year. QUASARS focuses on youth aged 15 to 21 who are in conflict with the law.

In addition to strong life skills programming, participants are assisted to establish career goals and complete their high school education, and many take part in work experiences which help them acquire the skills to eventually transition to the workplace. This combination of life and personal management skills and education significantly reduces the critical risk factors of the participating youth, and helps to pave the way for a successful future.

There have been more than one hundred (100) graduates to date with an additional seventeen (17) youth expected to graduate in June 2007.

Supportons Notre Jeunesse -- Club Sportif de Rogersville

The main objective of this project is to create an opportunity for youth in Rogersville and the surrounding communities to help them secure a better future for themselves either by pursuing their education or finding employment that will match their skills and abilities. This project is focused on helping those youth who are facing barriers that prevent them from moving ahead.

This is a 40-week Skills Link project running from November 2006 until August 2007 that will help 10 participants. It includes 8 weeks of Life Skills, 6 weeks of Employability Skills and 24 weeks of work experience for the participants. The community of Rogersville has been very supportive and involved in the project, as always. Their previous project, Community Project 2005, was quite successful with all participants being either employed or in training upon completion of the program.

Budgeting and Financial Management

This workshop which lasts three (3) half days and is normally delivered over a period of several weeks was developed by Family and Community Services Case Managers Darlene Stewart and Greg Daley. Along with their colleagues Lisette Durelle and Kristine Williston-Hovey, they continue to offer this program to both youth and social assistance clients. The objective of the workshop is to assist individuals to get a handle on their finances through acquiring knowledge and trying out some of the skills and techniques they learn in the program. Approximately half of the participants are youth -- what better time to acquire these skills!

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Family and Community Services and Post-Secondary Education Training and Labour continue to partner in the delivery of ten (10) week PLAR Programs in Miramichi. Sharon Campbell -- FCS Career Consultant, Tara White -- FCS Case Manager, and Lisa Blackmore -- PETL Employment Counsellor have been involved in the delivery of the program which attracts both youth and adult clients. Approximately 50% of the participants have been youth. These programs have been enormously successful in preparing the participants for education and employment while providing a significant boost to their self-esteem and self-confidence. A number of Case Managers and Employment Counsellors have participated in the training and have completed their own portfolios. This has enabled them to be more knowledgeable and proactive in working with their respective clients. At least two (2) of these individuals will continue on to become PLAR Practitioners. Plans are in place to expand the offering of PLAR to Néguaac and to a CALP Program in 2007-2008.

Methadone Treatment Program

The Miramichi Addictions Recovery Clinic opened its doors in Miramichi East in mid-fall 2004. The original clinic physicians -- Dr. Linda Hudson, Dr. Camille Haddad, and Dr. Jeff Hans, have been joined this year by Dr. John McCann. Along with an 1.5 RNs, two (2) Addictions Social Workers and a receptionist / secretary, they provide this excellent program to addicted individuals

from the Miramichi Region. The program includes regular physician visits (normally weekly), random drug tests, and both group and individual counselling. At the present time, the clinic is serving 168 clients of whom 66 are youth. There are 219 clients on the waiting list of which 101 are youth. The Methadone Stakeholders group which includes three of the YSP partner departments continues to provide advice and support to the program.

THRIVE National Conference On Positive Youth Development

During the past year, a group of local people representing over twenty (20) agencies and organizations involved in youth programming and youth development have been working together tirelessly to prepare for “Helping Canadian Kids Thrive! 2007”, the THRIVE National Conference on Positive Youth Development which will be hosted in Miramichi in May 2007.

The mission of THRIVE is “To provide leadership, knowledge and resources to develop capable young Canadians of positive character.”

Skills Link – Individual Work Experience

In addition to the group projects, there are also several Individual Work Experience projects underway through the Skills Link Program. The main objective of these projects is to help a youth facing barriers to employment develop the broad range of skills, knowledge and work experience needed to participate in the job market. Throughout the year, participants are placed with Miramichi Fisheries Management, Tabusintac Community Economic Development, Miramichi Senior Citizen’s Home, the Miramichi Salvation Army Thrift Store, and Metapenagiag Mikmaq Nation.

Job Fairs

This year we are working with NBCC Miramichi to host 2 jobs fairs in the area. The objective of the fairs is to make graduates aware of opportunities within the province in their field of study. The first fair will be held in May for the Graphic Design, Business and Office Administration graduates, while the other will be a Reverse Job Fair in June for graduating students of the Electronic Game - 3D Graphics, Electronic Game - Design, and Animation & Graphics programs. It is expected that a minimum of 20 employers will attend the fair with jobs to offer graduates, while 50 soon to be graduates will participate. It is also anticipated that potential employers from outside of NB will consider Miramichi as a viable option for their business or satellite office, which will in turn help to address the issue of the out-migration of our youth.

Miramichi Youth House

Miramichi Youth House originally opened its doors in the spring of 2002. The need for accommodations for homeless youth was significant, and homeless youth were welcomed even before all of the needed building renovations were completed.

Significant funding was received over the years through Service Canada’s Homelessness Initiative, Family and Community Services, the Department of Justice Community Mobilization Initiative, and Regional Development Corporation (RDC).

MYH closed down temporarily in August 2004 due to financial difficulties. The house reopened in October 2004 with a new Board of Directors and new staff. It is geared for youth between the ages of 16 and 19 inclusive. Becoming self-sustaining is an ongoing challenge for the very hard-working Board. The Board continues to complete renovations both inside and outside the building. The house is currently structured to accommodate six (6) youth with two (2) additional emergency beds.

All youth residing in MYH are expected to attend school or post-secondary training, receive counselling or therapy, or be gainfully employed. FCS Youth Case Managers develop a case plan with each resident. The dedicated Board members and staff have worked hard in helping the residents make positive changes in their lives.

Miramichi Skate Park

Miramichi is home to the largest outdoor skate park facility in the Atlantic Provinces. This park was developed several years ago through a partnership involving Family and Community Services, Service Canada, Post-Secondary Education Training and Labour, and the City of Miramichi.

The facility provides a healthy and safe recreational environment for skateboarders, rollerbladers and BMX bikers. It hosts several competitions each year in each discipline. The Miramichi Skate Park is located adjacent to the Golden Hawk Rec Centre and is managed by the City of Miramichi. During the past year, three (3) youth from Miramichi and two (2) youth from Néguaac were selected to compete at the DC Nationals Atlantic Qualifier in Halifax. Youth and professionals came together at the Skate Park in late spring of 2006 to honor the memory of a young skateboarder who lost his life to suicide. The event raised funds to provide a bursary in his name to a graduating student from Miramichi Valley High School.

The Miramichi YSP provides ongoing support to the Miramichi Skate Park Commission through the participation of a member on the Commission, as well as the participation of various employees of the YSP departments at competitions and special events.

Partners For a Drug Free Miramichi

Since 1998, at least ten (10) youth in our community have died as a result of substance use. This has coincided with an increase in prescription drug misuse in our area. By 2001, our community began to see a dramatic increase in drug use and consequences, including an increase in drug related crime. The alarms went off - our police force, our schools, treatment and service providers began to look at the problem collectively - as a community we needed to act. In response to the call for action, Partners for a Drug Free Miramichi was formed in January, 2003.

The mandate of Partners for a Drug Free Miramichi is to raise awareness of the dangers of substance abuse for all members of society, with a focus on youth. The strategy of this group is to collaborate on the implementation, development and evaluation of programs and materials for our community to achieve this mandate.

Partners For a Drug Free Miramichi is dedicated to bringing the anti-drug message and the developmental assets message to youth in the community through a variety of speakers and public forums. Key players include the City of Miramichi Recreation Department, School District 16, Addiction Services, and Miramichi Police Force. Significant work in the area of developmental assets is ongoing and a weekly column in the local newspaper serves to continually educate the public on building developmental assets. During the past year Partners has been working closely with School District 16 on projects geared to delivering positive messages to students at the middle school level.

Programming For Offenders

In providing community based services, Miramichi Community & Correctional Services utilizes a case management component in which Probation Officers assess individual files involving Youth Offenders in an effort to determine each offender's level of risk and areas of need. Once the areas of need are identified, youth are referred to the appropriate service agency to address those specific needs. Miramichi Community & Correctional Services liaises with many and varied agencies within the Miramichi community and surrounding areas. Services are provided and accessed through Addictions Services, Mental Health Services, Family and Community Services, The Learning Centre (School District 16) – STARS & QUASARS, and the John Howard Society.

In Miramichi, efforts have been made to promote the use of the Intensive Support Program. The vision of the Department of Public Safety emphasizes the shift that has happened towards implementing effective community based initiatives, which encourage rehabilitation for low risk offenders. Greater emphasis is being placed on community interventions, which target the youth and provide treatment within the youth's natural environment. The program is geared to youth aged 12 to 18 years. The strength of the program depends on the support and direction of the facilitation team, innovative assessment and intervention techniques, and the delivery of high quality intensive services focusing on youth and their families.

The John Howard Society Miramichi offers programming for offenders focusing on anger management, life skills, goal setting, decision-making, self-esteem, assertiveness training, financial planning, grief counselling, and health and wellness. This very valuable programming assists enormously in meeting the needs of offenders, helps them to become productive citizens, and promotes crime free communities.

YOUTH SERVICES PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SOUTHEAST REGION

MANDATE

To provide a practical and efficient vehicle to share information, discuss issues related to youth and respond to these issues in a collaborative manner in order to provide a quality service that eliminates overlap and duplication while providing a full continuum of service. The YSP for the Southeast region focuses on:

- Unemployed youth who lack opportunities for experience, basic work-related vocational skills, life skills, and / or basic education, and
- Disabled youth facing greater barriers to enter the labour market
- Marginalized youth including youth with a criminal history and youth from minority groups

WORKING STRUCTURE

Following a dormant in 2005-2006, it was decided in late 2006 by the local Omnibus committee that the *Youth Services Partnership For The Southeast Region* should be reorganized. Two new co-chairs were named by the Omnibus committee and made responsible to contact previous agencies that had representatives on the YSP committee as well as new agencies that had a mandate to help youth to seek their interest in joining our local YSP. As well, they were mandated to organize monthly meetings and set priorities to assist youth in the region for the next Omnibus meeting to take place in May 2007. The response from the various agencies was excellent and 14 agencies were represented at our first meeting on January 17, 2007. The YSP for the Southeast Region has 2 co-chairs named by the Omnibus members; Mireille Roy from Service Canada and Rachel Thériault from FCS.

The YSP for the Southeast Region is meeting on a monthly basis for the time being. This format will be discussed at our next meeting to see if this is suitable or if another format should be explored. With time, it is our hope to have meeting agendas that will include a review of ongoing projects, perhaps budget updates, departmental program and service updates, and initiatives under discussion. Special guests may be invited to make presentations to the committee. This will also be discussed at our next meeting scheduled for March 28, 2007.

- January 17, 2007 (1st meeting)

The first meeting we had in January was basically to introduce all new and former participants and review the mandate of the YSP and past activities completed over the past by the YSP.

- February 28, 2007

During the February meeting, we had special guests Cathy Manuel (Associate Director) and Tania Pitre (Case manager) for the first hour to provide information on the *Youth Quest Case Management*. This was based on a request from the members at our first meeting due to fact that several members were not familiar with the kind of services being offered to youth in the region by this fairly new service provider.

Activities/Projects carried out in 2006-2007

Due to fact the YSP committee was not active; no formal activities have been organized by the committee during the year. However, the various local agencies have continued to collaborate together on the development and implementation of several local projects for youth in the Greater Moncton area as well as in some rural regions.

Several individual and group projects were undertaken in cooperation with local sponsors and in partnership with other federal or provincial agencies to assist the needs of youth at risk in our region. Here are some examples of those projects.

- 1) **Community Arts project:** Skills link –Community to help 6 youth at risk acquire basic life and employment skills while developing an art project for the community from March 31,2 006 to August 11,2006. Involving local sponsor’s and FCS mainly as well as Youth Quest Case management.
- 2) **MYR WORKS I** project (MYR): Skills link –Group based to help 10 youth at risk acquire basic life and employment skills from March 31,2 006 to October 01,2006. Involving local sponsor, SC and FCS mainly as well as Youth Quest Case management.
- 3) **Employment Transition project**(METS): Skills link –Group based to help 10 youth at risk living with mild intellectual disabilities acquire basic life and employment skills from March 31,2006 to September 29,2006. Involving local sponsor with case management capacities SC and FCS.
- 4) **Career Designing project** (NLWC): Skills link –Group based to help 12 youth at risk acquire basic life and employment skills from March 31,2 006 to July 28,2006. Involving local sponsor, SC and FCS for case management.
- 5) **Habitat For Humanity project** (JHS): Youth Employability Skills project/work experience to help 6 youth at risk acquire basic life and employment skills from April 3,2 006 to September 29,2006. Involving local sponsor, SC as well as Youth Quest Case management, Probation Services and Habitat for Humanity.
- 6) **Trades Skills** (AHS): Youth Employability Skills/work experience; to help 10 youth at risk acquire basic life and employment skills from April 3,2006 to September 29,2006. Involving local sponsor, SC and FCS mainly.
- 7) **Career Quest** (NLWC): Youth Employability Skills-Work experience based to help 10 youth at risk acquire basic life and employment skills from April 3,2 006 to June 30,2006. Involving local sponsor . SC and FCS mainly as well as Youth Quest Case management
- 8) **Food Depot Project I** (JHS); Youth Employability Skills project/work experience to help 6 youth at risk acquire basic life and employment skills from April 3,2 006 to June 30, 2006.
- 9) **Dare to Dream project** (AHS); Youth Employability Skills-Group based; to help 10 youth at risk acquire basic life and employment skills from April 3,2006 to April 22,2006. Involving local sponsor, SC and FCS mainly.
- 10) **MYR WORKS II** project (MYR): Skills link –Group based to help 10 youth at risk acquire basic life and employment skills from Nov 27,2006 to May 25,2007. Involving local sponsor, SC and FCS mainly as well as Youth Quest Case management.
- 11) **Making a Living II** (JHS): Skills link –Group based to help 6 youth at risk acquire basic life and employment skills from August 14,2 006 to February 09,2007. Involving local sponsor, SC Probation Services as well as Youth Quest Case management.
- 12) **Dare to Dream II project** (NLWC) ; Youth Employability Skills-Group based; to help 10 youth at risk acquire basic life and employment skills from January 8,2007 to May 25,2007. Involving local sponsor, SC and FCS mainly.
- 13) **Food Depot Project II** (JHS); Youth Employability Skills project/work experience to help 6 youth at risk acquire basic life and employment skills from June 30, 2006 to Dec 29,2006.
- 14) **Employment Transition II project**(METS): Skills link –Group based to help 10 youth at risk living with mild intellectual disabilities acquire basic life and employment skills from November 7 to Spring 2007. Involving local sponsor with case management capacities SC and FCS.
- 15) **Food Depot Project III** (JHS); Youth Employability Skills project/work experience to help 6 youth at risk acquire basic life and employment skills from January 2, 2007 to June 29,2007.
- 16) **Irishtown trails project** (JHS); *Under development*, Skills Link-Group-Work experience; partners are SC, FCS, sponsor, City of Moncton, Probation Services
- 17) **Forum Jeunesse** (Enterprise Kent); *under development (to take place in April)*, Youth Awareness, Partners are SC, DPET, FCS, sponsor.

- 18) **Quest Case Management Services-** This service is an ongoing services funded by DPET and FCS. This service provides case management services to at-risk youth who would not receive case management services from any other agencies. In the past year, with extra funding from FCS, they have expanded their services to include SAR Youth Dependants.
- 19) **Youth Parent Program** – FCS is presently funding a program which takes place in the afternoons at Turning Points. The following topics are covered in these afternoon classes: parenting skills, life skills program and employability skills. The service dates are from October 3, 2006 to June 15th, 2007.

SAINT JOHN YOUTH SERVICES PARTNERSHIP

Saint John currently does not have a formal Youth Services Partnership (YSP) committee at the present time. However, agencies in the Saint John area do collaborate to provide services for youth.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Charlotte County region does not have a formal Youth Services Partnership (YSP) committee at the present time. However, agencies in the Charlotte County region do collaborate to provide services for youth.

FREDERICTON YOUTH SERVICES PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

MANDATE

To provide a practical and efficient vehicle to share information, discuss issues related to youth and respond to these issues in a collaborative manner in order to provide a quality service that eliminates overlap and duplication while providing a full continuum of service.

WORKING STRUCTURE

All members meet monthly, with a rotating Chairperson. These meetings are followed up with an email of the Minutes for review. Prior to each monthly meeting, reminder e-mails are sent, with Minutes and action items.

Activities/Projects carried out in 2006 - 2007

In 2006 we lost two co-chairs and started with new co-chair John Lutes from Service Canada. This had been a unexpected but John brings a new focus and energy to the Fredericton Committee.

Our activities have been directed towards two goals. One is to have an updated directory of services that will be available to all service providers, government and civil agencies. This directory may take form as a booklet and a CD. This is currently a work in progress taken on by one of the sub-committees. The other item is the goal to bring in a special speaker to encourage the different organizations that work with youth throughout the Region. Work continues towards these two endeavors.

SAINT JOHN RIVER VALLEY YOUTH PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

MANDATE

To provide a practical and efficient vehicle to share information, discuss issues related to youth and respond to these issues in a collaborative manner in order to provide a quality service that eliminates overlap and duplication while providing a full continuum of services.

WORKING STRUCTURE

The Saint John River Valley YPC meets every six weeks. We incorporate members from various agencies in the Woodstock and Perth areas. We currently have four sub-committees or working groups which have been formed from our 2005-06 work plan.

Activities / Projects carried out in 2006-2007

Building Pathways

The purpose of this project is to focus on a community and have a public forum/meeting with members of the public, service providers and village council to determine the needs of youth in that area and to empower the community to address the needs of youth. In 2006-07 we have looked at various rural communities to hold this forum and our goal is to focus on one community for 2007.

“Out Migration Project”

This working group is establishing a registry for non post secondary youth in collaboration with the seven high schools within this district to work with youth to inform of existing programs and services in terms of employment and training. Funding has been approved and a labour market analysis will be done. Guidance counsellors at the high schools are assisting graduates with completing a form to track information and packages have been sent to parents of graduates outlining what the program is about. Graduates who are not going on to post-secondary education will be contacted first and will be offered workshops on employment skills (resume, cover letters, interviews, how to get a job and keep a job). This program will be on-going for three years and job search techniques will be provided internally by Employment Assistance Service and DPETL.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it must be stated that the development of an effective partnership is an extremely complex but beneficial exercise. Common vision and expectations, communication, commitment and involvement are challenges which must be addressed continuously and demand a great deal of time and energy. The results though, create synergy, co-operation and a co-ordinated approach to program and service delivery.

The Youth Services Partnership, particularly at the local level, has made significant strides in recent years. In many locations throughout the province, the YSP is a true testament to the concept of partnership.

APPENDIX A

Current Provincial Operations Committee Members

Dana Sappier	Service Canada (co-chair)
Angela Carr	Family & Community Services (co-chair)
Kelli Greene	Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour
Bob Eckstein	Public Safety
Terry Robichaud	Health
Barry Wishart	Wellness, Culture and Sport

APPENDIX B

Current Local Committee Co-Chairs

Moncton Region	Rachel Thériault, FCS Mireille Roy, SC
Saint John Region	Heather Hartley Brown, FCS Gloria Boyd, SC
Charlotte Region:	Bob Conley, FCS Debbie Scullin, SC
Fredericton Region:	John Otteson, FCS John Lutes, SC
Woodstock Region:	Andrea Gallagher, FCS Sarah Touchie, SC
Northwest Region:	Mona Bélanger, FCS Luc Levesque, SC
Chaleur Region:	Sandra Cowan-Roy, FCS Roger Robichaud, SC
Restigouche Region:	Donna Cormier-Pitre, FCS Samia Awad, SC
Miramichi Region:	Don Lynch, FCS Kristy Hamilton-Stewart, SC
Acadian Peninsula Region:	Reno Lebouthillier, FCS Roger Robichaud, SC

APPENDIX C

Provincial and Local Committees Composition

PARTNERS	PROVINCIAL	CHARLOTTE	FREDERICTON	WOODSTOCK	NORTHWEST	RESTIGOUCHE	CHALEUR	PENINSULA	MIRAMICHI	SOUTHEAST	SOUTHWEST
Service Canada	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Family & Community Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Education			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wellness Culture & Sport	✓			✓							
Health	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Post Secondary Education Training & Labour	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
New Brunswick Community College			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Public Safety	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
RCMP / Police				✓	✓	✓					✓
University					✓		✓	✓			✓
Chamber of Commerce				✓		✓					
Fédération des jeunes francophones du N.-B.							✓	✓		✓	
Youth Centre / Maison des jeunes / Boys & Girls Club/YMCA							✓				
First Nations						✓					
Other community and youth serving agencies				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Youth representation					✓						✓
Community Outreach Worker					✓	✓					
Committee Staff (coordinator / Webmaster)						✓	✓	✓			

Approximately 200 people are involved with the Youth Services Partnership at the provincial and local level.