

"It's not just a matter of putting a halter on them and they're trained." NADINE RICHARD

GREATER SAINT JOHN

ÉRIC POIRIER A DES PROJETS POUR SA COMMUNAUTÉ ET SA FRANCOPHONIE



GAÉTANE LÉVESQUE-DUPONT

Membre depuis déjà quatre ans, M. Éric Poirier a été élu président du conseil d'administration de la Chambre de commerce de Saint-Jean, et il a l'intention de faire de Saint-Jean la meilleure ville au Canada pour s'y établir et y faire du commerce.

Saint-Jean, en étant un carrefour portuaire, (un port en eaux profondes ce qui n'existe pas ailleurs) ferroviaire et routier entre l'est du Canada et le nord des États-Unis, a une position stratégique pour y mener à bien toute entreprise commerciale.

M. Poirier s'attend de générer la confiance des investisseurs à venir s'installer dans notre région et d'y développer un climat positif auprès des grandes et des petites entreprises qui font rayonner l'économie des villes comme la nôtre.

La Chambre de commerce est la voix des entreprises: c'est par cet organisme que les commerces se font entendre et qu'ils peuvent donner leur opinion sur les règlements qui peuvent affecter la santé économique des entreprises et des commerces qui ont pignons sur rues à Saint-Jean.

Celle-ci sert aussi à éduquer, à créer des



Eric Poirier chairs the Saint John Board of Trade. PHOTO: KATÉ BRAYDON/TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

opportunités et du réseautage pour les petites entreprises de moins de vingt employés, elle doit favoriser une collaboration entre les diverses agences dans un but commun, et surtout, promouvoir un climat économique positif ce qui attire les investisseurs et relance l'économie.

La Chambre de commerce veut rallier ses communautés avoisinantes: Grand Bay-Westfield, Rothesay, Quispamsis, et faire un partenariat fort et gagnant pour tous; ainsi qu'entre les divers gouvernements, les agences de développement économique, les chambres de commerce, les marchands et les citoyens, il doit exister un but commun vers l'épanouissement de notre communauté.

Mais ce qui fait vibrer Éric Poirier, c'est de faire rayonner la francophonie et de faire prendre conscience aux gens de Saint-Jean et des environs de l'impact

économique que génèrent les 6 000 francophones et les 20 000 francophiles de la région, impact qui selon une étude de la SANB serait de l'ordre de 165\$ millions par année.

Impliqué autant dans sa communauté que dans le grand Saint-Jean, M. Poirier pense qu'il est grand temps de rayonner et de célébrer le fait d'être francophone et d'en reconnaître tous les avantages économiques.

Toute la communauté francophone de Saint-Jean félicite Éric Poirier pour sa nouvelle fonction et est fière de faire partie de son rayonnement.

(Possibilités d'emplois à l'ARCF de Saint-Jean; veuillez communiquer avec M. Michel Côté au 658-5581 ou par courriel à michel.cote@arcf-sj.org)

Gaétane Lévesque-Dupont est une pigiste pour l'ARCF de Saint-Jean

ÉRIC POIRIER HAS PLANS FOR HIS COMMUNITY AND HIS FRENCH CULTURE

A member for four years now, Éric Poirier was recently elected Chairman of the Saint John Board of Trade, aiming to make Saint John the best place in Canada to settle in and start a business.

At a junction where a unique deep-water port, railway and roadways connect Canada's east and the northern United States, Saint John is situated in a strategic location for all commercial businesses.

Poirier wants to gain the confidence of investors to come and set up shop in our region and develop a positive climate for large and small businesses that form the economic backbone of cities such as ours.

The Saint John Board of Trade is the voice of local businesses. Through them, businesses make themselves heard and give their opinions on regulations that affect the economic health of commercial establishments and companies in and around Saint John.

It also serves to educate, create opportunities and encourage networking among small businesses with less than 20 employees. It fosters collaboration between various agencies who share a common goal, and most importantly, promotes a positive economic climate that attracts investors and revives the economy.

The Saint John Board of Trade wants to bring together its neighbouring communities of Grand Bay-Westfield, Rothesay and Quispamsis to create a strong and winning partnership for all among the various governments, development agencies, chambers of commerce, merchants and citizens, with the one common goal of making our community thrive.

Also, promoting the Francophone culture is something that is really close to Poirier's heart.

Among the people of Saint John and its surrounding areas, he wants to build

awareness of the economic impact that is generated by the 6,000 Francophones and 20,000 Francophiles of the region; an impact that represents about \$165 million a year, according to a study done by the Société de l'Acadie du Nouveau Brunswick (SANB).

Actively involved in his community and that of the Greater Saint John region, Poirier thinks it's a great time to promote and celebrate being Francophone and acknowledge all the economic advantages that it brings.

The entire Francophone community of Saint John congratulates Poirier on his new role and is proud to be part of this new chapter.

(For employment opportunities at ARCF de Saint-Jean; please contact Michel Côté at 658-5581 or by email at michel.cote@arcf-sj.org)

Gaétane Lévesque-Dupont is a freelance writer for ARCF de Saint-Jean inc

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Cherry Brook Zoo celebrates 39 years

SAMANTHA WRIGHT ALLEN
TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

SAINT JOHN – The Cherry Brook Zoo celebrated its 39th year with sunlight, cake and crowds on Sunday afternoon.

The day also featured an animal meet and greet, which is part of its weekly programming.

Zookeeper Nadine Richard led a miniature donkey named Ben as kids rushed up to touch his coarse hair and ask questions.

She said the day was busier than expected, and the interaction is good for the animals as much as it is for the people.

"It's not just a matter of putting a halter on them and they're trained. People don't realize that we do put in a lot of time with these animals and building these relationships."

Goats bleated in the background, the donkey crunched on hay and children chattered around the cages.

It's her fifth summer working at the small zoo and though she's partial to the llamas, she said the clear crowd favourite are the spider monkeys, new to the zoo a couple years ago.

Linda Collrin, zoo director and

primatologist, said the monkeys are "near and dear" to her heart.

She's worked hard to bring in new animals through an international species survival program.

It's under this program that the zoo brought in the kitten-sized jet black Callimico Goeldii monkeys, which Collrin said are "the rarest of the rare" and took five years of paperwork to bring on board.

It's in keeping with the zoo's work in conservation and behavioural research.

It has a section called the "Vanished Kingdom Park" which showcases representations of animals that have gone extinct, but not dinosaurs, which she says most kids associate with the word.

"It has replicas of past, present is (the zoo), and the future is what we hope we can do to change things that animals that are near extinction, don't go extinct."

To that end, Collrin said next year's anniversary is "the big one" and she's been working on a strategic plan to try secure capital funding to make sure the zoo stays and grows over the next five, 10 and 15 years.

She said a new primate house is first on the list.



William Murray, 5, works up the courage to pet Ben, a miniature Sicilian donkey at the Cherry Brook Zoo's 39th anniversary. PHOTO: TOPHER SEGUIN/TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

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