



The Communities Building Youth Futures gathering arrives in Laval *Two local projects inspire 20 communities across Canada*

Laval, November 23, 2022 – On November 10th, Communities Building Youth Futures (CBYF) Laval welcomed 50 delegates representing 20 communities across Canada which, like CBYF, are committed to the success of at-risk youth aged 14 to 30. They had the opportunity to visit two projects funded by the CBYF Innovation Incubator, namely the Espace Zen at the Centre de compétences Pont-Viau (CDC Pont-Viau) and the Coop Micro Fraîcheur at the Centre de qualification professionnelle et d'entrepreneuriat de Laval (CQPEL). The goal was to learn from successful practices and drive inspiration for future initiatives in their respective communities. Students and supervisors presented their projects and shared the positive impacts on motivation and academic success. This visit was organized in collaboration with the Tamarack Institute, CBYF's partner and funder, as part of a larger gathering of representatives from all CBYF projects across the country.

What is the Espace Zen at CDC Pont-Viau?

Created during the height of the pandemic thanks to support from the CBYF Innovation Incubator, this space is dedicated to student well-being and offers a variety of activities that promote physical and mental health. Students help design the activity schedule, and the Zen Space hosts yoga, dance, art therapy, and discussion groups to help them manage stress and anxiety related to their studies and to the COVID context. The youth will also be responsible for upcoming projects including pet therapy sessions and purchasing an aquarium to further brighten up the space.

What is the CQPEL's Coop Micro Fraîcheur?

In this initiative, students develop a variety of skills and abilities through the production of organic micro-fresh produce. The students are involved in all stages of the project, from horticulture to marketing, finance, human resources, and customer service. They experience successes and develop knowledge that will be useful on the job market and as adults living on their own. Their enthusiasm for the project helps them rebuild their tenuous relationship with school and discover new talents. For the holiday season, they plan to prepare a cookbook featuring the microgreens they produce. Stay tuned!

“Both of these projects are innovative ways to foster educational pathways for youth. Youth engagement is one of the keys to their success. By consulting the students and including them in the various stages of ideation and development, they promote their commitment and enthusiasm for the project,” says Véronique St-Louis, Project Manager at the Regroupement lavallois pour la réussite éducative for CBYF Laval.

CBYF Innovation Incubator Program Extension

The CBYF Innovation Incubator is extending its call for proposals until December 9, 2022. Organizations in Laval can obtain up to \$4,000 to support the **educational success of at-risk youth aged 14 to 30** who are struggling to obtain a diploma, a qualification, or socio-professional integration.

[Information](#)

About Communities Building Youth Futures (CBYF):

Communities Building Youth Futures is a collective impact initiative that oversees the implementation of a **regional action plan aimed at increasing the graduation, qualification, and integration of at-risk youth aged 14-30 in Laval**. This project is led by the RLPRE in close collaboration with a multisectoral steering committee and receives funding and support from the Tamarack Institute and the Government of Canada.

Canada



About the Regroupement lavallois pour la réussite éducative (RLPRE)

The Regroupement lavallois pour la réussite éducative's (RLPRE) is a regional consultation group whose mission is to engage and to support local and regional initiatives that promote educational success and improve school perseverance for Laval youth and adults. It also strives to make all Laval residents aware of their ability to contribute to educational success in their community.

Website: rlpre.org

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Source:



Emi Togo | Communications and Development Officer

emitogo@cslaval.qc.ca

office: 450 662-7000 ext. 1271

cell: 514 924-9657