

## FINALY! @ Work

### EASTERN

FINALY! in partnership with the Random North Development Association and Youth Employment Services, coordinated three **Youth Career Fairs** in Chapel Arm, Clarenville and Bonavista as a part of Canada Career Week during the week of October 30 - November 3.

These fairs focused on education and employment opportunities in trades that exist within the province of Newfoundland and Labrador and were well attended by high school students from each area.

The fairs included interesting presentations relating the personal experiences of working tradespersons, such as a Linesman from Newfoundland Power and an Electrician. Many other organizations also provided information through booths and presentations.

Overall, the fairs provided a great deal of useful information and hopefully generated interest in careers that will help to keep youth in the province.

Recently, I also attended the **pre-budget consultations** for the Clarenville region on behalf of FINALY!. The Honourable Loyola Sullivan, Minister of Finance, President of Treasury Board and MHA for Ferryland and Mr. Ross Wiseman, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health and Community Services and MHA for Trinity North were in attendance to hear presentations from stakeholders from the private and voluntary sectors.

Both seemed very interested in the activities of FINALY!, including the **CCEDNet Conference: Bring It Home – Building Communities on a Rock Foundation** (see page 13) - both especially liked the title! As well, Mr. Wiseman commended the entire FINALY! organization for the great work that we do for the youth in the province. He said that it's encouraging to see youth who have spent their entire life in an area and are interested in building their future in their hometown and in their home province. ■

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### CENTRAL

On November 24, Futures in Newfoundland and Labrador's Youth, in partnership with Harbour Youth Employment Strategy (YES) hosted a youth development workshop entitled **Building Futures, Harboursing Success** at the Community Youth Network (CYN) in Harbour Breton.

The workshop was attended by 25 youth who were between the ages of 15-17 years old, who participated in two interactive presentations.

Denyse Murphy from the provincial government's *Getting the Message Out* program gave a presentation based on labour market information and career development.

This was followed by a joint presentation by Marie Bungay, of the Community Youth Network, and Trina Nippard, of the Youth Employment Strategy's Skills Link Program, on how to create a proper resume. They followed this up with an entertaining skit concerning what a person should do during interviews.

How amazing it was to see how much the youth learned during that presentation!

They all said that they never knew how important using a proper email address was for a resume, or how easily mistakes can be made during interviews.

Many stated that they had made some of these very same mistakes in interviews, and because of that presentation at the workshop, they would never make those mistakes again.

It was an exciting experience holding the workshop in a room full of high-energy youth who participated eagerly and seemed to enjoy everything that took place.

I left thinking that the information provided there that day was enough to inspire someone to do greater things.

Maybe that was too lofty of a goal, but I firmly believe that education is the midwife to not only inspiration, but to aspirations as well. ■

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### LABRADOR WEST

Hello from Labrador West!

Recently, FINALY! Lab West teamed up with the Hyron Youth Development Council (HYDC) ([www.hyron.nf.ca](http://www.hyron.nf.ca)) to do school sessions on **resume building and personal values** – in life and career planning.

The workshops are an opportunity for FINALY! and HYDC to be mentors to youth in the high school, at a time in their life when they may have lots of questions and concerns.

The workshops include fun activities, such as a "Values Auction" which allows for bidding on items with monopoly money.

The underlying meaning of this activity is that people you will work with during your career may have different values and morals.

We need to recognize and appreciate this to have a successful working or personal relationship.

The sessions were well received by the students of Labrador West.

"I like having these workshops in my career development class," said one student.

"They are fun and interesting and a change of pace for students."

"It helps a lot to know if we have questions about what to do after high school, we can ask Maresa and Christie and they will help!"

The Hyron Youth Development Council has also joined the local planning committee to help FINALY! plan youth workshops in the region.

In turn, I will help them carry out Youth Opportunities, a weekend-long event being held in the New Year.

Stay tuned for more information about the **Youth Opportunities** weekend, which will cover a wide range of topics including leadership skills and career development. ■

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