Two schools are rewarded during Co-operation week

Sudbury, October, 2012—To mark Cooperation Week and the International Year of Co-operatives, Desjardins Voyageurs Credit Union surprised the students and teachers of Hélène-Gravel Elementary School with new uniforms for the volleyball and basketball teams. Desjardins will also be donating the necessary materials and resources to enhance the space at the Corpus-Christi Elementary School yard in Oshawa.

For the 2012 School Solidarity contest, schools located in the Credit Union’s catchment areas in Sudbury and Oshawa were invited to identify a tangible need for which the Credit Union could offer its support. “We continue to show that the values of cooperation and social responsibility make all the difference,” explained Jean-Marc Spencer, Executive Director of Desjardins Voyageurs Credit Union.

It was the originality of the schools projects that caught the attention of the 2012 School Solidarity judges. “There are many of us who believe that cooperative institutions build a better world and that cooperative education is essential in seeing Desjardins’ mission materialize. The more we support our schools, the more we demonstrate the strength of cooperation and the depth of our commitment to education,” added Mr. Spencer.

According to the Principal of Hélène-Gravel Elementary School, Joanne Leclair, it is an honour to be one of the winners of the 2012 School Solidarity contest. “Thanks to the support of a partner who believes, like we do, in the merits of solidarity and cooperation, we are able to offer new uniforms to our volleyball and basketball teams for them to participate in tournaments while working as a team” added Miss Leclair.

The Corpus-Christi Elementary School in Oshawa has been waiting for a number of years for funds to improve their school yard. “Our school yard is very small and we want to maximise the space by adding games on the school walls and on the pavement. Now we’re able to offer educational games to our students during recess, which will encourage them to socialize and have fun” said Miss Sylvie Gendron, Principal at Corpus-Christi Catholic Elementary School.

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