
news release

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Help for Longueuil youth at risk of homelessness

LONGUEUIL, QUEBEC—Yolande Thibeault, Member of Parliament for Saint-Lambert, on behalf of the Honourable Claudette Bradshaw, Minister of Labour and Federal Co-ordinator on Homelessness, today announced funding of \$111,641 for the Carrefour Jeunesse Longueuil Rive-Sud in support of a project that will give meaningful community work experience to homeless young people and other youth at risk of becoming homeless.

“We are pleased to support this project. It will help meet the needs of homeless young people in Longueuil by giving them the tools they need to return to school or find employment,” said Ms. Thibeault.

Under the project “Saisis juste ta chance,” 10 young people will have a chance to develop personal attitudes and practical skills to help them integrate into the job market. The participants will acquire a practical job experience in setting up Café-Ressources, a community space for discussion, information, counselling and referrals.

The funding announced today comes under the youth component of the Government of Canada’s National Homelessness Initiative to alleviate and prevent homelessness.

Carrefour Jeunesse Longueuil Rive-Sud is a not-for-profit organization that aims to improve significantly the living conditions of youth aged 12 to 35. The organization provides information and training that fulfills the needs of this young clientele, supports the youth through their development and provides expertise in psychosocial intervention.

This project falls under the Government of Canada’s \$753-million National Homelessness Initiative announced in December 1999. The Government of Canada’s strategy includes the \$305-million Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI), expansion of existing programs for youth and Aboriginal peoples, enhancement of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation’s renovations and shelter programs, and making surplus federal properties available for homelessness related activities.

Since the launch of the Homelessness Initiative, the Government of Canada has approved more than \$155 million for youth, Aboriginal and SCPI projects. The National Homelessness Initiative is making a difference in addressing this issue by using a community-based approach to help develop solutions that work for communities.

In February 2001, the governments of Canada and Quebec signed a co-operation agreement that respects both governments' jurisdictions, directions and priorities in the area of homelessness. A management committee, supported by an advisory committee made up of representatives of both levels of government and community organizations, oversees the co-ordination of the Homelessness Initiative in Quebec.

Funding for this project was provided for in the February 2000 Budget and is therefore built into the existing financial framework.

PROJECT SUMMARY

- Government of Canada contribution: \$111,641 under the youth component of the National Homelessness Initiative
- Number of participants: 10
- Sector: Youth homelessness and employment

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