

Successful DSB summer student employment program wraps up

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The Recorder

MINDEMOYA—The Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board (DSB) wrapped up a successful summer of student employment with a luncheon and awards ceremony last week. Held at the Mindemoya Missionary Church on August 20, the Jobs for Youth graduation began with a film by youth leaders Danielle Shank and Amanda Sheppard featuring the students at work.

Students at the function were happy to be a part of the program and would return the next year if they could. Brittany Wall and Ryan Cooper of Little Current worked at the docks there and have really enjoyed their jobs, as did Colin Lloyd of Kagawong who spent his summer at the Old Mill Heritage Centre. "I loved it," he said. "I love history and I would go back if I could."

Miranda Noble had maybe the best job as she worked in the Boo-Bah-Loo candy store in Kagawong. "I loved my job," she told The Recorder. "It was a happy environment and my bosses are great."

Donna Moroso is the director of integrated social services for the DSB and she thanked the youth leaders who put so much into their jobs, board members and MPP Mike Mantha for attending the luncheon and expressed her

(continued on page 8)

...summer student employment program

(continued from page 1)

appreciation for the fact that so many students were in attendance.

"This program just keeps getting better and better," Ms. Moroso told her audience as she explained that the goal is to place 40 students every year and this year 44 youngsters found employment through the plan.

Lou Addison of Gore Bay is a DSB board member and she too spoke of the great success of the program. "It does wonders for students and employers on the Island," she told those in attendance as she went on to talk about the many life skills that the students would acquire and how their work experience would enhance resumes and teach the students how business works.

Derek Stephens, who



Youth leader Danielle Shank, Director of Integrated Social Services for the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board Donna Moroso, MPP Michael Mantha, and youth leader Amanda Sheppard prepare to cut the cake for the graduating students of the DSB Jobs for Youth Program.

lives in Spring Bay, is also a DSB board member and he spoke about the employer

who was so impressed with one of the students hired that they will probably be

hired again. "It is a fantastic program," Mr. Stephens said, "and that young fellow who used his first aid training at Misery Bay was great. He stayed cool, calm and collected. This is my first year on the board and I am glad I got involved."

MPP Mike Mantha also spoke to the students and told them that he too had belonged to a similar program and did summer work in a small community outside Bracebridge where he built relationships that will last a lifetime. He also emphasized that the training the students took will always come in handy and that they must know their rights. He ended by saying, "Don't forget what you learned and don't forget that the Island is your home."

The graduation luncheon concluded with cake and the awarding of many prizes.