

# Despite tough times, new programs help students find summer employment

by Sheila Bowes

**LITTLE CURRENT**—Thanks to the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB), the Waubetek Business Development Corporation and the Service Canada Centre for Youth (SCCY), many students and youth can rest easy knowing that despite these tough economic times, there are still programs being implemented to help them find employment.

As of June 5, the SCCY opened its doors to the public at the Little Current Cambrian College campus, offering a variety of services to aid youth in their job search, as well as prospective employers. According to its mandate, SCCY

information on federal, provincial and territorial government programs and services.

“We are open from 8:30 am until 4 pm,” said Steven Lyle, youth services officer for the Little Current SCCY. “We offer a variety of services to help youth find employment. All they have to do is come down here and register; we offer wage subsidies as well as other programs. I will be working between Job Connect locations in Little Current and Espanola this summer, and at times various locations throughout the Island.”

Another new initiative, entitled Summer Jobs for Youth Program, implemented by the government this year,

allowed the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB and Waubetek enough funding to place 100 students on an eight-week fully subsidized placement for youth between the ages of 15-18. Receiving over 65 applications, and 42 orders from employers, DSSAB has currently placed 40 students with various employers across Manitoulin Island. Waubetek received enough funding for 50 students and two youth worker leaders for First Nations on Manitoulin Island, and has since filled the positions.

“We filled all 50 positions,” said Dawn Madahbee, general manager for Waubetek BDC. “This program has created 100 jobs for people on Manitoulin. It’s nice because some of the smaller businesses are getting a chance to get funded. Before this you would see a lot of students working in administrative positions; this really helps out some of the smaller businesses.”

Students will start their jobs on Wednesday, July 8, and DSSAB hopes to place an additional 10 students within the current funding envelope, for a total of 50 students.

What is particularly unique about this program is that employers receive a full wage subsidy of \$9.50 per hour for up to 35 hours per week. DSSAB also provides administra-

tive payroll service for all employers; however, employers are responsible to pay for and provide WSIB coverage or other insurance as required.

“We do still have some spots left,” said Fern Dominelli,



Waubetek general manager Dawn Madahbee, youth leaders Maigan Fox and Tara Dantouzie, youth work experience coordinator Emma Wilkin, MPP Mike Brown, youth worker leader Kristin Bickell, Northeast Town Councillor Al MacNevin, DSSAB director of services Fern Dominelli, and case manager Anne Trottier pose for a picture outside of the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB office in Little Current. Thanks to the summer student program they have helped almost 100 students find summer employment.

photos by Sheila Bowes

centres conduct workshops and events through local communities to provide job-search information and reinforce the “hire a youth” message. The SCCY also helps young people by providing access to job postings, assistance in writing resumes and cover letters, help with job interview techniques, creative job search techniques, casual labour, volunteer experience opportunities, information on health and safety in the workplace, information on wages, employment standards and labour laws, and



Sudbury youth officer Jamie Byerlay, youth services officer Steven Lyle, and Northeast Town Deputy Mayor Al MacNevin were on hand for a recent open house during which students were encouraged to check out the summer job options.

director of social services. “Employers who are interested can find all of the information on our website.”

Whether you’re a student, or a business owner, if you are interested you can stop by the DSSAB office or go to [www.msdsb.net](http://www.msdsb.net) for more information.

“This is definitely a great program,” said Mike Brown, MPP of Algoma-Mantoulin.



## **Summer Jobs for Youth Program**

Date: **Tuesday June 30, 2009**

Time: **2:00 pm**

Place: **DSSAB Office Little Current  
9050 Hwy 6, Unit D, (Island Business Centre)**

### **Attendees:**

Mike Brown MPP, Algoma-Manitoulin

Al Mac Nevin (DSSAB Board member – Municipal Councillor NEIMI)

### **Waubetek Staff:**

Dawn Madahbee, General Manager

Emma Wilkin Youth Worker experience Coordinator

Maigan Fox, Youth Leader

Tara Dantouzie, Youth Leader

### **DSSAB Staff**

Kristin Bickell, Youth Worker Leader

Anne Trottier, Case Manager

Fern Dominelli, Director of Social Services

## **Summer Jobs for Youth Program**

- DSSAB has received 100% provincial funding to place 40 students with employers on Manitoulin Island
- Funded through the Youth Opportunities Strategy, Ministry of Children & Youth Services (MCYS).
- DSSAB received funding to hire (1) student Youth Worker Leaders.
- Waubetek Business Development Corporation received funding for 50 students and 2 Youth Worker Leaders for First Nations on Manitoulin Island

### **DSSAB Program Details**

- Program is open to youth on Manitoulin who are 15 to 18 years old.
- Program is open to Manitoulin private sector and public/not-for-profit sector employers.
- Paid 8-week job placement for July and August
- General Employment training before the job starts
- Support and training after the job ends
- Rate of pay \$9.50 per hour (up to 35 hours per week)
- DSSAB is providing administrative payroll service for all employers
- Employers are responsible to pay for and provide WSIB coverage or other insurance as required
- Students are employees of the employers, (not the DSSAB) and employers are responsible to supervise students

### **DSSAB Current Status**

- DSSAB has received over 65 student applications
- DSSAB has received over 42 job orders from employers
- DSSAB has placed 40 Students with various employers across Manitoulin Island
- A two day training session is scheduled for students July 6 & 7 at Gordon's Lodge Gore Bay
- Students start their jobs with the employers on Wednesday July 8
- We hope to place an additional 10 students within the current funding envelope, for a total of 50 students placed

### **Waubetek Current Status**

- Waubetek has placed 50 Students with various employers in First Nation communities on Manitoulin Island
- Waubetek is hosting three day training session which is scheduled for students July 6,7,8