



The Insider

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MRON's Supported Employment Program Celebrates Successful 2016

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Check out our webpage.

www.senl.ca



Lacey Hanlon AGD, Tim King and David Baggs SES client 's and employee's of AGD and Bill Hunt of AGD.

On November 24, 2016, the Supported Employment Services Program of Mariner Resource Opportunities Network Inc. (MRON) gathered to celebrate another successful year. This annual event acknowledges the support of employers, the community, and government partners throughout the region, towards the inclusion of individuals with developmental disabilities in the

local workforce. During the evening, the 13th Annual Employer of Merit Award presentation took place honoring a business on the Baccalieu Trail that has made an outstanding contribution to the increased employment of citizens with developmental disabilities. The award for 2016 was presented to Atlantic Grocery Distributors Ltd. (AGD) for their dedicated service to the Supported Employment Program. AGD have been involved with the Supported Employment program since 2010. During this time they continue to employ four individuals who have earned themselves long-term employment and who have become an integral part of the staff. They have a great understanding of the concept of Supported Employment and the benefits gained by both the employee and the employer. As an employer, this business truly believes in inclusion and the importance of an inclusive workforce. They see the em-

ployees as team members and provide them with every opportunity to learn new tasks and build new skills. The efforts and contributions of our clients are valued and appreciated. AGD is a definite role model for other businesses to follow.

The Supported Employment Services Program continues to grow and the success of our program on the Baccalieu Trail should not go unnoticed. In 2016 there were a total of 54 full-time and part-time employment positions secured along the Baccalieu Trail. Supported Employment counselors continue to work diligently with local businesses to develop jobs that both match the employer's needs and the client's abilities. This past year we have engaged new employers who are providing an inclusive work environment and as a result have gained valuable, dedicated employees who have brought diversity to the workplace.

Supported Employment Works... Because We Do!





SEDLER Client, Cletus Lewis.

Chocolate Peppermint Thumbprints

- 2 cups all-purpose flour (spooned and leveled)
- 2/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/4 teaspoon fine salt
- 1 1/4 cups (2 1/2 sticks) unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1 1/2 cups granulated sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 tablespoon pure vanilla extract
- 1/2 tsp pure peppermint extract
- 5 ounces semisweet chocolate chips (3/4 cup)



Nothing Keeping Him Down

After being kept off work for nearly two years, Fleur de Lys resident, Cletus Lewis, was anxious to return to work.

In December 2014, he injured his shoulder and was kept off work to receive physio. Once he received his clearance, he was eager to return to work and contacted SEDLER Community Employment Corporation. At the time, his ailing parents were still living at home and his previous job was no longer available due to a slow economy, so his parents suggested he stay home and help them out. He obliged.

Having enjoyed working in the past and earning his own money, he still wanted to work but was content helping out at home. But late this summer, his parents decided to move to a senior's complex. Now living at home alone, and caring for his own home, Cletus decided to look at going back to work, should anything be available. He was quick to contact SEDLER once again.

Earlier this spring, PhocaLux International, a new seal processing company operat-

ing in this hometown, called the SEDLER office expressing an interest in hiring a client. When this option was discussed with him, he expressed an interest in working there and a call was made. Upon the first visit to discuss the possibility of the Purchase Support Agreement (PSA) program, they decided to go for it. They have not regretted their decision.

Clet (as he is known) started work that next week but on reduced hours for the first month, just to get him back into the groove, especially given it was a different job. Before the month was up, he was calling the SEDLER office to let them know that he could handle a 40 hour work week and was eager to work full time. Doing a lot of odd jobs when needed, or helping with the production line, Clet does everything from painting, janitorial work, to making boxes. He is willing to do any task they require and always with a smile. He is really enjoying this different work atmosphere.

Previously, he worked at the local convenience store which was different from this line of work. He was always seeing customers coming and going, but the staff was smaller. At PhocaLux, he has several co-workers that he gets along well with and enjoys working with them every day. "It's different but I love it here. I love to work," he said.

When not working, Clet spends his time at home with his new canine companion, Jack. He enjoys teaching him tricks and taking him for rides on the quad. "He just loves to go places with me."

Clet seems very happy and at 62 is quite active. He is happy to have programs such as SEDLER in his community. Aside from a couple of breaks in employment due to switching jobs or illness, Cletus has been working with SEDLER since February 2001.

Congratulations Stephen on Your 5th Anniversary!



Photo: Stephen Hayman, Employee of Newfoundland Power

It has been 5 years since Stephen Hayman joined the Newfoundland Power family.

With support from the Vera Perlin Society, Stephen began work in our Meter Shop at Duffy Place in St. John's. "Stephen was a great worker from the very beginning," says Bill Styles, Team Lead, Meter Shop.

"But over the years he's really found his groove and we've been able to expand his responsibilities. He is a very dedicated employee and takes a lot of pride in what he does."

International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2016

Celebrations were held at Government House with The Lieutenant Governor, The Honourable Frank Fagan and Her Honour Patricia Fagan to celebrate the 2016 United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities on Friday, December 2nd, 2016.

Avalon Employment attended

on behalf of the SENL network along with Individuals, community organizations and Business Leaders with Awards presented to recognize the contributions made in creating a more inclusive community.

This year's proud recipients were Joanne McDonald, Audrey Winsor, Danielle Arbour and Metrobus.

Congratulations!! Well Deserved!!



Green Bay Celebrates 15 Years of Supported Employment



On October 17th, 2016 the Green Bay Community Employment Corporation celebrated 15 successful years in providing supported employment in Green Bay and Green Bay South area for persons with intellectual disabilities. An inclusive workshop was held and attended by employers, partners, businesses, parents and self advocates.

A presentation was made by the Care to Ride program and there was a panel discussion from Colman's whereby an employer and employee talked about how supported employment program benefits their business. Mr. Dennis Gill, President, was keynote speaker and talked on the past and future for persons with intellectual disabilities.

Labrador West Celebrates International Day of Disabilities

The Labrador West Employment Corporation celebrated International Day for Persons with Disabilities with its annual cake cutting at the Labrador Mall on Saturday December 3rd, 2016. The intent of this day was to help break down disability barriers and celebrate abilities. The theme for this year's International Day for

Persons with Disabilities was "Achieving 17 Goals for the Future We Want." This event brought together a number of clients, regional partners, and community members. A huge thank you to all those who attended this international day of recognition.



Joining us for this year's cake cutting from left to right is Jordan Peddle, LWEC Board Member John Penny, Sharon Manning, MHA Graham Letto and Debbie Baggs).

Darren Wells Earns Visions Client Recognition Award



Darren Wells receiving his award.

Darren Wells was the most recent recipient of the E. James Manuel Client Recognition Award, which was presented at Visions Employment's Annual Christmas Appreciation Breakfast.

This award was created in memory of Jim Manuel, a dedicated and long-time Board Member, who passed away in December 2013. The award

criteria was selected based on attributes that Jim himself had possessed and exhibited.

Darren was selected due to the dedication and positive attitude he has shown throughout his five years as an employee with McDonalds on Merchant Drive.

A Big Congratulations to Darren on receiving this award!

