

PERSEVERANCE IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS, EVERY DAY!

Hooked on School Days in Estrie from February 16 to 20, 2015

School perseverance is an ongoing challenge and Hooked on School Days represents a specific time during the year to strengthen the mobilization and rally various sectors around our youth. This time of year is a decisive moment in the school year. For some young people, interest in school may decline after the Christmas holidays and exams, before spring break and more exams.

These days involve talking about school perseverance, effort, risks of dropping out, and the impact of dropping out on society, talking about the advantages of a diploma, talking about the future... Talking, but also taking action.

Hooked on School Days is an occasion to encourage youth, congratulate them on their efforts, and listen to them when it comes to their motivation and their perseverance. These days are also an ideal opportunity to create bonds that will support the success of our youth and young adults. This is why every year, all regions across Québec carry out activities according to their color and the rhythm of Hooked on School Days.

Marie-Andrée Fortin, Proud Ambassador of HSD

Marie-Andrée Fortin will play an active role in the 2015 Edition of the Hooked on School Days in the Estrie region.

As a teacher and an adventure tourism guide, Marie-Andrée Fortin is amazed by nature and passionate about discovering new things. She enjoys sharing her energy and her zest for life with those she meets.

Inspiring Perseverance

In recent months, Marie-Andrée successfully accomplished an extraordinary journey, traveling over 2000 kilometers by cross-country ski from Montreal to



Kuujuuaq. The Karibu Project, which she completed with three other adventure tourism guides, included a school perseverance component. Several activities were organized with the young people of the Estrie region before their departure, during their journey and upon their return. Marie-Andrée and her companions wanted to show these young people that "with determination and motivation, you can achieve dreams and overcome challenges."

For Marie-Andrée, who completed her secondary and post-secondary education in the region, "it seems only natural to contribute to school perseverance in Estrie." Marie-Andrée attended elementary school in Richmond and graduated from Tournesol High School in Windsor. She earned a DEC in social science at the Cégep de Sherbrooke and a Bachelor's of Kindergarten and Elementary Education at the Université de Sherbrooke.

"I want to convey to the young people of the Estrie region the satisfaction and the empowerment that comes with pushing beyond their limits, being passionate and accomplishing things they can be proud of."

Persevering Thanks to Encouragement

Marie-Andrée tells us that her grades and her academic success were at the forefront of her education. "My parents valued academic success and encouraged me throughout my education. I was very proud to succeed at school and I put a lot of energy into doing so." She in turn encourages young people to succeed at school. "Seeing stars in the eyes of young people who persevere and are surprised to see themselves surpassing their goals is extremely satisfying. I am honored to contribute to the Hooked on School Days."

The Qeend, Feb 18, 2015