



# THE INSIDER

A SENL Publication

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

WINTER 2013

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **SENL Central Meetings**  
February 19-21, 2014  
Corner Brook
- **SENL Conference**  
May 27-30, 2014  
Gander
- **CASE Conference** June 17-19, 2014  
Regina, Saskatchewan

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## Promotional Campaign Highlights SENL

September 19, 2013 marked the second phase of our provincial campaign to highlight the work of the Supported Employment Corporations across the province. This event hosted by SENL at the Gander Hotel was a great success attracting many individuals, businesses, families and government members to celebrate the release of our newsletter "The Insider" and our radio promotion campaign.

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Mr. Dan Crummell delivered greetings on behalf of the government and spoke of the importance of a diverse workforce and the province's support for including individuals with intellectual challenges in the work force.

Starting with the release of our

poster and billboard series "Supported Employment Works" and continuing with the momentum of the Canadian Association for Supported Employment Con-



**Dan Crummell,, Minister of Service NL.**

ference being held in St. John's we continued to promote our program over the last number of months.

Our second provincial campaign using VOCM was a tremendous success, we saw a 300% increase in our website activity and received very positive feedback from everyone who heard the public announcement. In addition the release of our newsletter "The Insider" gave an opportunity to highlight the many individuals with disabilities who are working in the province and the valuable contribution that they make to the economy of the province.

SENL has continued to develop media and information strategies to increase the awareness of the public and government to the value of the Supported Employment program in Newfoundland and Labrador.

## 7th Annual Appreciation Luncheon

The Vera Perlin Society Employment Division held it's 7th annual Employers, Clients and Job Coaches Appreciation Luncheon on October 24, 2013 at the Foran/Green Room at St. John's City Hall. New employers were recognized as well as clients. Paul Rideout and Christopher Connors received the Bert Taylor Award and Rick Hammond, Derek Fitzgerald, Samantha Hanrahan and Casey Power received Achievement Awards. John Griffin was also honored for his recent retirement from Service Canada after 30 plus years.



## Supported Employment Works... Because We Do!



## In My Own Words - Mark Barnes



Mark Barnes,  
Reception at Visions  
Employment Inc.

Supported Employment has had an extraordinary and positive impact on my life in the past year. Not only has it been beneficial to me financially but has been very rewarding to me in my social life. I am more outgoing and I am engaging myself in more fulfilling experiences. Another benefit to the Supported Employment I have received in the past year is the development of

my public relations skills, which I developed while answering calls and greeting people when they come into the office. Those things have made me discover and recognize a lot of my gifts that I thought I was lacking. My coworkers have been supportive and understanding and I would like to thank them for giving me the opportunity to demonstrate my gifts to their full potential. In this past year I have learned what a wonder-

ful organization Visions Employment is and how they change lives for the better. In conclusion, I would like to say I hope to see things continue to be the success that I have experienced in the past year and I hope Visions Employment will continue to prosper as a very positive and influential organization to our community.

*Jason Blake is a perfect example of how Supported Employment not only adds to but changes a persons way of living.*

## Showcasing Success in Labrador West

Jason has demonstrated outstanding community involvement over the years. He has shown independence in his community and has set strong examples for persons with disabilities. In the past, he developed a local business- Grab-a-Snack in which he was the owner/operator. He demonstrated showmanship and dedication to this business venture for 6 years. While living in Goose Bay, Jason also volunteered his time at Lake Melville Community Employment.

Upon relocating to Labrador West, Jason became a dedicated client of the Labrador West Employment Corporation. He is a hard working individual who enjoys working in the community. Since being a client of the Labrador West Employment Corporation, Jason has built a rapport in the community holding positions at places such as Iron Ore Company of Canada, Wal-Mart, and his current place of employment, McDonalds Restaurant. Jason continues to

work at McDonald's Restaurant and is now entering his 4<sup>th</sup> year of employment. Never wanting to settle for anything less, Jason, along with the help of his Job Coach, strives for the best he can achieve which makes him a role model to others in the community.

## Marystown Ventures



Gail Loder employed with First  
Venture Cafeteria since 2004.

In 1993 the Board of Directors started up a Board Operated Business called the First Venture Cafeteria located at the Sacred Heart Academy School, its main function was to create employment for clients of the Burin Marystown Training and Employment Board. In its first year of operation it consisted of a small kitchen area and employed one client supported by one work facilitator. Twenty years later it has expanded

to service over 500 students and employee three clients full time (seasonal). The revenue from this Board operated business is used to continually employee three clients, pay for any training that is required. As a result of the success of this Board operated business a second canteen service was opened in 2007, called the Second Venture Cafeteria which is located at Keyin Community College. This business is on a much smaller scale

and employs one client seasonally full time and prepares meals for the student body as well as caters to college functions. The client participates in social activities with the college staff and students and excels in his employment placement. Due to the limited employment opportunities in the geographical area, board operated business are vital in the creation of employment for the clients of the Burin Marystown Training and Employment Board.

## Proud Partner of the PABCEC

Cathy Lomond, owner of Hotel Port aux Basques has hired clients of the PABCEC for the past 15 years and has had up to three employees at a time from the Corporation.

Cathy says, “the workers add value to the staff morale and when given the chance they turn out to be exceptional employees. They also have excellent attendance rates and give 100% of themselves in their work.” Cathy recommends that other businesses try the workers through the CEC. There is nothing to lose and she would be surprised if they didn’t have a positive outcome from them.

## Provincial Statistics

SENL Employed Statistics NL & Lab Period April 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	
Supported Employment Interventions	Number of Clients Employed
Natural Support	93
Job Trainer Supports	297
Purchased Supports	147
School to Work Job Trainer Support	39
School to Work Purchased Support	10
<b>Total Clients Employed</b>	<b>586</b>

SENL Contact Statistics NL & Lab Period April 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	
Contact Types	Number Client Contacts
With Client	3,007
With Family Member	1,388
With Employer	2,005
With Government Agency	417
General Service Meetings	42
On Site Placement Sessions	2,225
Job Trainer Contacts	2,157
<b>Total Contacts Made</b>	<b>11, 241</b>

## In My Own Words— Donna Best



My name is Donna Best. And, yes, I have a disability. I have been working at a daycare for over eleven years. I love small children and they seem to like and trust me. I look forward to going to work each day. It is great to have a job that you love. When people ask me if I’m still working, I proudly say yes. It feels good to be a member of the work force and to earn a living. Before I began working, I spent a lot of time alone watching movies in my bedroom. But now I have confidence in myself. I interact with lots of people and love social gatherings. I can even speak to a crowd of people. Collecting movies is my favorite hobby but working at daycare would come first every time. I thank the people in government who enabled me to get my job through supported employment. It gave me a sense of self-worth in being a useful member of society, and, for this, I am very grateful.

## Chocolate Chip Candy Cane Cookies



### Ingredients:

1 1/3 cups flour  
 1/2 teaspoon salt  
 1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
 1/2 cup butter  
 1/2 cup light brown sugar  
 1/2 cup sugar  
 1 egg  
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract or butter-scotch flavouring (or both! Hint, hint.)  
 8 oz semisweet chocolate chips  
 Approx. 1 cup crushed candy canes

### Directions:

Preheat oven to 350. Lightly spray one cookie sheet with spray oil or line with parchment paper.  
 In a medium sized bowl whisk together flour, salt, and baking soda.  
 In a large bowl, cream together the butter and sugars until light and fluffy. Add the egg and vanilla and combine thoroughly.  
 Add the flour mixture to the sweetened butter. Mix only enough to incorporate flour. Do not overmix. Fold in the chocolate chips.  
 Roll dough into 1 inch balls and press one half of the dough ball into the crushed candy canes. Place on the prepared cookie sheet two inches apart, candy cane side up. Bake until light brown around the edges, about 12 minutes.  
 Cool for 10 minutes on the baking sheet before removing to a wire rack to cool thoroughly.



## Appreciation Night 2013

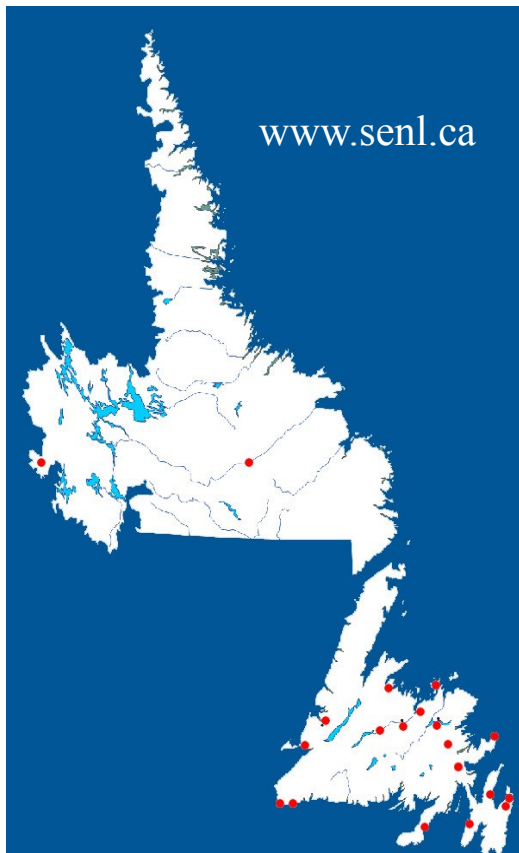


On November 27th, 2013, MRON's Supported Employment Services program hosted its 1st Annual Appreciation Night at the Knight of Columbus, Carbonear. This event was a celebration to show our gratitude to all of the clients, co-workers and employers who have made 2013 a year of success for job placements for individuals with intellectual disabilities. As part of this celebration, special recognition was given to 38 employers who employed 46 SES clients in 2013, recognizing the benefits of hiring individuals with disabilities and the importance of equal opportunity employment,

The counsellors of the Supported Employment Services program, as well as the Board and staff of MRON would like to extend holiday greetings to everyone. Merry Christmas!

## Gambo Employer/Mayor Recognized for Advocacy

Gambo and Area Employment Corporation will be hosting their twenty-seventh annual Christmas social on December 11, 2013. Approximately one hundred and twenty individuals will be in attendance, consisting of employers, staff, and clients etc. This year we will be remembering a true advocate of ours, Lloyd Noseworthy, who recently passed away. Not only was Lloyd the mayor of Gambo for a period of time, but he was also a dedicated employer and a true friend to many of the individuals we serve. In fact he has participated in the many, if not all, of the Christmas socials by providing the after dinner entertainment before the dance. He will be thoroughly missed.



From the clients and staff of Supported Employment  
Newfoundland & Labrador



This newsletter has been sponsored by Supported  
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