

Spring 2017

# The OPTIMIST



Swing into Spring with Optimist Junior Golf!







## THE CANADIAN CHILDREN'S OPTIMIST FOUNDATION RESPONDS TO THE CALL

A municipal park is a key place for children's development. Children move, play and develop their social circles. Therefore, it is important that it is set up adequately, but in some cases, cities and towns do not have the resources necessary. Many Optimist Clubs strive to collect funds and to work hand in hand with community organizations and various levels of government to offer their community's youth a place that will become a fond childhood memory.

That is the case of the Trois-Pistoles Optimist Club in Québec, which is working with a society to help local development, to add a gazebo to the church park. This idea was itself proposed by the community's youth!

**"This infrastructure will allow today's and future youth to gather together and energize Trois-Pistoles' central park for years to come. Whether it's used as a performance venue, for social-cultural activities or for outdoor ceremonies, this place remains the heart of Trois-Pistoles' town centre."**

Philippe Veilleux, Optimist Member

The local church and its park are very close to two resource organizations, one for families (Maison de la famille) and the other for 12 to 17 year olds (Maison des jeunes). Numerous young people will be able to use the gazebo after its inauguration planned for June 2017.

The Trois-Pistoles Optimist Club is an active sponsor for fundraising the \$25,000 needed. To optimize their efforts, they have benefited from the Outsourcing Program of the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation.

"This precious partnership with the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation permitted the March 2016 launch of the fundraising campaign. It allows donors to receive a charitable receipt for their taxes, an important benefit for project contributors. The Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation has permitted the promotion of a direct incentive for participating in the project," according to Veilleux.

That is not all. This direct involvement in the community has brought the Club a lot of visibility and enabled intergenerational collaboration.



**"For the Trois-Pistoles Optimist Club, it certainly is an important community project that could promote the next generation of membership."**

## ADDITIONAL PROJECTS

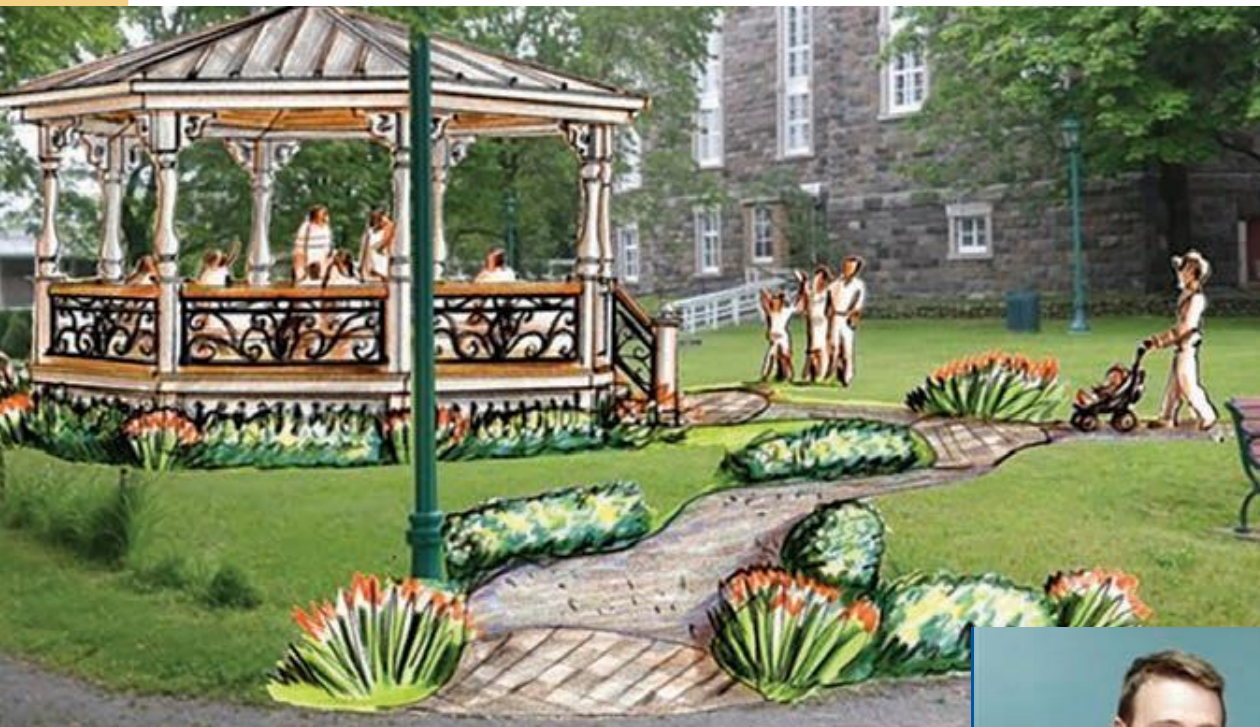
The Trois-Pistoles Optimist Club is not the only one wanting to improve infrastructures for children in their region. The East River Park Optimist Club in Ontario started fundraising to refurbish the local park.

"We would like a safe and engaging place for our children in the community to play. We hope to create an inviting place for families to share with neighbors," said Lia Ham, a Club Member in charge of the project. The Club applied to the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation Outsourcing Program in order to offer fiscal advantages to their donors.

Another project is "Skatepark 4 Penhold." The aim of the project is to build a safe place for youth of all ages who want to participate in skateboarding, in addition to biking, scootering and inline skating. The funds collected in the campaign "will be used to build a facility that our youth and community can be proud of," according to Brenda Mahoney who is in charge of the project. The Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation was proud to collaborate with a project that promotes physical exercise. Thanks to the Outsourcing Program, the Penhold & District Optimist Club is on its way to collect the funds needed for its project.

If you want to leave an indelible mark on your community's landscape and in the memories of your region's children, follow the example of these three Clubs. No matter the amount of funds to be raised, you can count on the Outsourcing Program to help you.

For more information, visit [ccof-foec.org](http://ccof-foec.org) or call 1-800-363-7151, ext. 336.



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