

Bringing Out the Best



Into the Next Century

The Optimist

Fall 2018



Promise Yourself...
to Bring Out the Best!





CLUB OPTIMISTE DE CAP ROUGE SPREADS RELIEF IN QUÉBEC CITY



"They can even follow the score. Instead of music notes, they read colored rounds. Eventually, some of them may even be able to compose music."

– Ms. Boivin

On June 4, Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation President Raymonde Michaud attended a very special concert at the Madeleine-Bergeron school in Québec City. The musicians were teenagers with special needs and they played an instrument you probably do not know: the Skoog. The school acquired the instrument thanks to the Club Optimiste de Cap Rouge and the Spread Relief program!

A Skoog is a musical instrument that anyone can play. This customizable electronic device is designed to be inclusive and accessible to those unable to play conventional instruments. This cute colored cube with five touch-sensitive surfaces plugs, via USB, into a computer or a tablet. The musician can choose whatever sound they want to hear, from guitar strings to xylophone, including about any regular instrument you may think of. They can produce sounds by pressing, tapping, rolling, shaking and twisting the Skoogs. One of the young musicians even played with his head, thanks to a homemade support.

Marie-Dominique Boivin is the music teacher at the Madeleine-Bergeron school. Her students have many physical and mental disabilities. In her classroom, all kinds of instruments are hanging on the walls, but many of her students cannot play traditional instruments. For them, the Skoog is quite a miracle, as they can now play music and be part of the class orchestra, like everyone else.

When the idea of buying Skoogs began, asking the Optimist Club for help was one of the first things that came to their mind. The Club Optimiste de Cap-Rouge is very active in the Québec City area. With the help of \$1,500 in seed money allocated by the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation, the Optimist Club and the Madeleine-Bergeron school are now building a partnership that will last. The young musicians may participate in the Walk Against Bullying, one of the Club's most popular projects.

The closer you are to a community, the more you recognize their needs. The Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation believes Optimist Members and Clubs are well placed to know how they could serve youth in their community.

Does your Club have a childhood health and wellness related project needing a little monetary boost? Apply to the Spread Relief program and you could receive up to \$3,000 in seed money to help you initiate your fundraising.

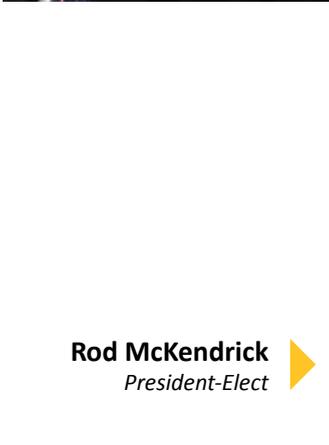
Visit www.ccof-foec.org for more information about the Spread Relief program and the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation.



Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation Board



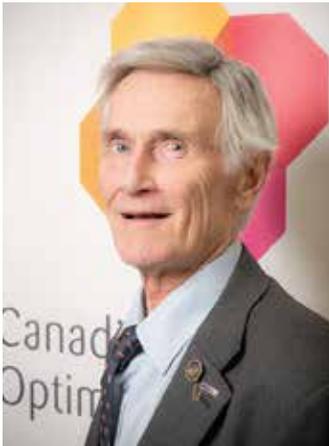
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