

# NCHS students to build a sailboat

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE: - Students from New Carlisle High School, teacher Anthony Beer and a number of volunteers will team up between now and June for the realization of an interesting cross-curriculum project, the construction of a small sailboat.

The project, called "The Build", is supported logistically or financially by a number of organizations, such as world-renowned skipper Damian Foxall, Carleton's master builder Georges Lemay, the National Bank of Canada, the Committee for Anglophone Social Action (CASA), Sailing Quebec and the Canadian Wildlife Federation.

The spark that ignited the project came in June 2014, when New Carlisle High School teacher Anthony Beer and a group of students went to Carleton's Écovoil sailing school and rented a boat for an outing on the Bay of Chaleur.

"When we started the new school year, one of the students, Jacob Smith, asked me, as soon as he got off the bus:

"When are we going sailing again?" He thought about sailing during his summer vacation, Mr. Beer said.

The project is encouraged by the Canadian Wildlife Federation, whose representatives and skipper Damian Foxall took part in a video conference with Anthony Beer on February 6. Mr. Beer presented the main aspects of the projects. The video-conference was held during National Wildlife Week.

Mr. Foxall, who has won, half-a-dozen International Sailboat races over the last decade, as a skipper or crew member, could easily relate to the teacher's description of the project as he had visited the Bay of Chaleur area in 2014.

"It's really a nice place. I met a really dynamic group of people. I visited some local schools and used one of Écovoil's boats. I visited Miguasha where you can see fossils, very impressive, stuff that you read about in books," pointed out Damian Foxall, an Irishman who lives in France.

Anthony Beer explains that the project took form following the sailboat outing of June



Photo: Anthony Beer

*Chloé Ward and Jacob Smith enjoyed sailing off the coast of Carleton in June 2014.*

2014 and based on the fact that New Carlisle High School "is a very "hands on" school".

The involvement of the Canadian Wildlife Federation comes "from the whole idea of protecting what we have, environmentally," he adds.

Mr. Beer thinks that up to 85% of New Carlisle High

School's students will get involved in this project at some point over the next five months.

"Getting involved can take many forms, from drawing boats in an art class to many other cross-curriculum subjects. It involves geography, history, math, science, art. We

will be filming it and the students will do a documentary. It also has an entrepreneurial side. We don't want to build one boat. We want to build several," explains Anthony Beer.

**Cont'd on page 13**

## FRIDAY THE 13TH!

### PSYCHO SAVING ON THE UNLUCKIEST DAY OF THE YEAR!

<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>2014 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE</b></p> <p>4X4, stock: 14059 \$51,805 -13,131.31 <b>\$38,673<sup>69</sup></b></p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>2014 GMC Sierra 1500</b></p> <p>4X4, stock: 14225 \$41,695 -8381.87 <b>\$33,313<sup>13</sup></b></p> </div>
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The boat will have a capacity of three people. The design comes from Mirror Sailing. It is a popular model in the United Kingdom.

"It's a wooden model, approved by Sailing Canada. Wood is environmentally friendly. Georges Lemay, our master builder, will be here on Saturdays. We will also work on the boat twice a week, after school. A lot of the young students often say that "there's nothing to do." Here is an opportunity to do something great," says Anthony Beer.

Has Mr. Beer ever been involved in making a boat?

"I learned some skills from a high school carpentry course but that's it. The students can enter this project knowing that I haven't done it either. It is more beneficial when the students learn with you. They often realize that life is a learning experience," he concludes.



Photo: Canadian Wildlife Federation

*Damian Foxall, a world renowned sailor, is encouraging the students of NCHS to proceed with the project to build a sailboat.*



Photo: Gilles Gagné

*Anthony Beer (standing), Jacob Smith and Chloé Ward are eager to start their sailboat.*

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I have always liked having options. Every week, I check the movie listings to see what is playing whether I intend to go or not. I do the same for the evening television selection even though I realize that I will probably decide to go on the computer rather than watch what is on TV. I look through the weekly local newspaper to see what activities I could attend in town if I wanted to go. I know that I could attend yoga classes down the street or I have the option of doing an online version. I know that there is medical QI Gong and Tai Chi offered close-by and I have the option to attend or not. These are options and I do like having options.

As I am sure you have heard, the Supreme Court has lifted the ban on doctor-assisted suicide for desperately suffering patients. As I watched this being announced on the news, I was surprised at the depth of my emotions. There were tears and I breathed a deep sigh of relief.

There was a time that I thought that suicide meant taking the easy way out. I thought I would never choose that action as it would mean hurting my family and as you know, family means so much to me. Over the years, I have learned to be less judgemental as I know full well that we really do not know what another person is going through unless we are indeed that person. It is certainly not my place to decide what is right for another human being.

This Supreme Court decision is a controversial one and forces us to look at issues that are difficult to think about for ourselves and our loved ones. I only know that as I write this at 4:11 a.m. after swallowing some pills for pain relief, I think about the decision once again and am comforted. It is an option and should I one day match the criteria ... well, I do like having options. It is also the option of this paper to print this week's column or not as it does reflect my personal musings. It is also your option to agree with my reflection or not. I hope we never have to exercise our options concerning the Court's decision.

As for me, I think I will exercise the option of trying to get some sleep before I hear a little voice saying "Good morning, Nanny" and then having breakfast and a chat with Liam, or holding Mila in my arms to complete my fill of love. These are my favourite options and I do like having options.

*Wishing you Peace,  
The Cancer Chick*

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