

Local youth learn value of fair trade

By Peter Cantelon

Area students spent a day last week becoming experts on all things fair trade at Manitoba Council for International Cooperation's annual conference held in Morden on Nov. 30.

The event was held at the Access Event Centre and was attended by a select group of students from École Morden Middle, Winkler Elementary, Parkside Junior High, Carman Collegiate, Bothwell, and Cartwright schools.

The official title for the event was Generating Momentum for Our World: Go Fair Trade Middle Years Conference and it offered a number of educational sessions and activities for the students around the theme of fair trade.

After an opening presentation about the subject, students participated in sessions focused on public speaking, planning and promoting, developing a fair trade procurement policy, the-

atre, digital photography, silk screening and video making.

"It's at a time when students can see what's right and wrong, whether it's water for all, food security, or fair trade," said Janice Hamilton, executive director of MCIC. "This year we're hoping they will influence their school division's and school's procurement policies. We're trying to encourage them to see that they have power in their choices."

"The follow-up activity the students do when they go back to their schools are really interesting," noted Hamilton. "A couple of years ago the issue was water and the students at École

Morden created this whole play and videotaped it then did an assembly for the whole school and a number of activities and simulations in their classrooms."

For more information about MCIC and the Generating Momentum program, visit www.mcic.ca or www.generatingmomentum.ca.

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PHOTO BY PETER CANTELON/VOICE

Area students were invited to participate in a daylong conference on fair trade at the Access Event Centre in Morden last week.

Olde Tyme Christmas at museum Friday

Holiday music, treats, and history on tap for Winkler Heritage Museum open house Dec. 9

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Heritage Museum is celebrating its new location in the Southland Mall with an Olde Tyme Christmas Open House this weekend.

On Friday, Dec. 9 starting at 7 p.m., the museum will open its doors for a celebration packed full of holiday music, refreshments, and history,

said curator Dora Hildebrand.

"We have just re-located and we didn't want to do another grand opening but we did want to introduce people to our new spot," she said, referring to the fact the museum moved down the hall to its current, much larger home in the old Time-Out Sports clothing store just last week.

On tap for the evening are Christmas carols from a group from the Mennonite Brethren Church and several selections from classical guitarist Ben Kehler, a Christmas reading by Marjorie Hildebrand, fun activities for children such as popcorn stringing, and free apple cider, peppernuts, and oranges.

"We going to end things with the Hallelujah Chorus," Hildebrand said.

The hope is for this event to become an annual Christmas celebration for the community, she said.

Many area residents have checked out the museum since its opening in early August.

"We've had quite a few people through," Hildebrand said, estimating they've had over 3,000 visitors in that time.

The museum is packed full of artifacts that tell Winkler's story, with new items coming in nearly every week.

"We're always getting new stuff in," Hildebrand said, noting anyone with relevant historical artifacts they'd like to donate should give her a call at 325-9117.

The museum is run completely by volunteers from the Winkler Heri-

tage Society and is open Thursdays and Fridays from 6-9 p.m. and Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m.

The Borderline Singers
present
Everywhere Christmas Tonight
at the Manitou Opera House
Saturday, Dec. 17 - 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 18 - 2:30 p.m.
Tickets: \$10
children 12 and under free
Advance tickets available at
Mueller's Hardware,
Morden 55+ Activity Centre
and from choir members

The **Winkler Morden Voice**

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