



NEW BRUNSWICK
French International
Student Program

NewsLETTER



Volume 8, Number 3 – SPRING 2018

ALSO,
IN THIS
EDITION...

✈️ Testimonial of a
homestay family

✈️ A great weekend at the
Snider Mountain Ranch

✈️ An experience for life

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From Mexico City to Shediac

The story of Krista Serrano

For some international students, the end of the school year also means returning home. For others, it is the continuation of an enthralling adventure in Canada.

This is the case for Krista Serrano. Originally from the Mexican capital, the Grade 12 student is now receiving her New Brunswick High School Diploma.

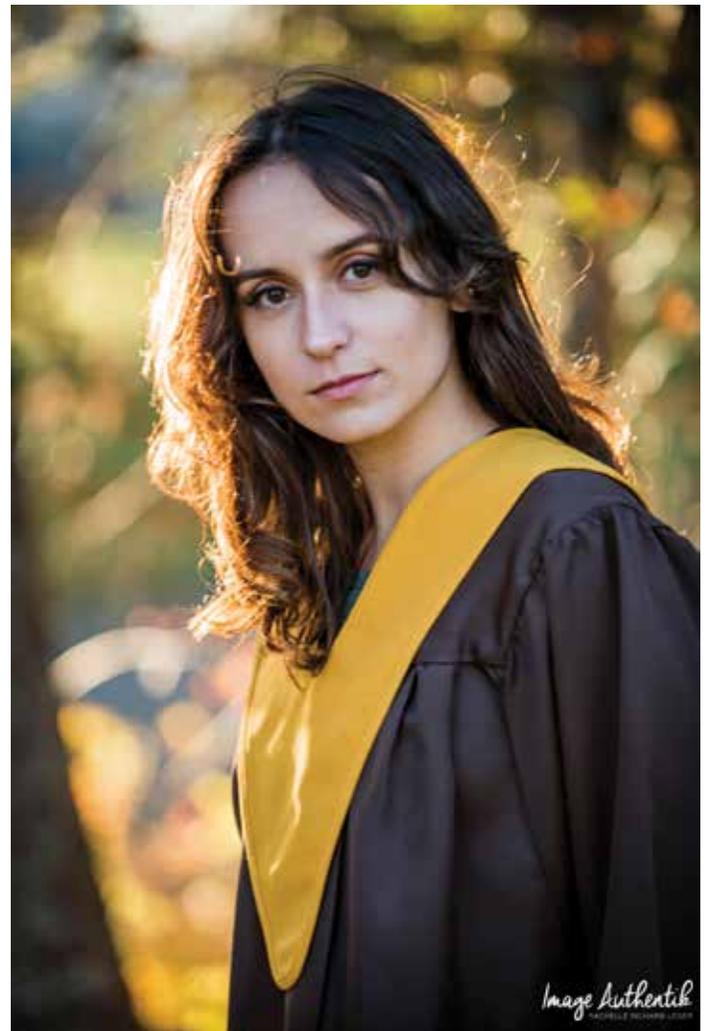
Mexico City has a population of about 9 million people. A dissimilarity compared to Shediac where there are just under 7,000 residents. Despite this difference, Krista is very satisfied with her stay in Shediac. She learned a lot, she says. "I like Shediac. I acquired a new language that I like. I learned to be more independent too."

The young woman intends to stay in Canada for the next year. She will pursue her studies in a Drama program in Toronto hoping to become an actress.

"My dream is to be an actress. Since I was little, I wanted to be an actress and a musician too. That's why I came to Canada, to discover new opportunities," said Krista.

What she particularly liked about her time in New Brunswick is how generous the people are.

"My host family has made this year an incredible one. They treated me as their own daughter. And for my school (Louis-J.-Robichaud), I was not an international student, I was a student like the others," shares Krista who thanks her host family and the community. ★



Krista Serrano has just finished her second year at Shediac's Polyvalente Louis-J.-Robichaud.

Image Authentik



Year-end Celebrations



Polyvalente Louis-Mailloux welcomed two international students during the school year: Seraphine Daphne Reichlin from Switzerland (Grade 11 student) and Vittoria Vignaroli from Italy (Grade 12 student).

At the end of June, the school took time to celebrate their year. "You have been exemplary students and you have demonstrated a great sense of adventure and determination. We are all proud of you both and we wish you good luck in your future projects," said the school's administration.



Many schools that hosted international students in 2017-2018 highlight their time in New Brunswick. Among them is École Mathieu-Martin in Dieppe, who celebrated the successes of four international students as part of a special end-of-year celebration. From left to right: Lavinia Ferri from Italy (Grade 12 student), Bernardo Garcia from Mexico (Grade 11 student), Johanna Leutbecher from Germany (Grade 11 student) and Jimena Garcia from Mexico (Grade 9 student).

Testimonial of a Homestay Family



On the left, Grade 11 student Thorben Léon Kohleisen (Germany) with his host brother Félix-Antoine and host sister Carolane.

Sylvie Landry has been welcoming international students for two years now. She first welcomed a student from Mexico and this year another one from Germany.

For this teacher who loves children, it is quite natural to host a student from the program.

"It's an opportunity for my family to have a cultural experience without having to travel," says Sylvie Landry.

All members of her family were committed to making the experience enjoyable for Thorben Léon Kohleisen. The young German boy landed in the Madawaska area at the end of August 2017.

In order for all family members to have a learning experience, Sylvie's spouse and son regularly speak German with Thorben, a language they now master well.

For Sylvie, who is also the new coordinator for Edmundston and Haut-Madawaska, being a host family is the expansion of her own family.

"Whether I prepare a meal for three, four or five, it does not change much. I think it is an addition to our family. Apart from the language, there is no difference. For us, it's a way of travelling. It broadens our horizons," she says.

She recommends this experience to others. "We have so much to offer in Madawaska, adds Ms. Landry. It is not only the big cities that have something to offer. We really have good people here. I really want to promote our part of the country and welcome more students here." ★



An Awesome Weekend at the Snider Mountain Ranch



A group photo of the New Brunswick French International student program of 2017-2018. We can see them proudly waving the Acadian and Canadian flags, a symbol of their stay in the province.

The 2017-2018 school year ends and as usual, a second group activity was organized to allow international students to meet and say goodbye.

Forty-two students and three adults spent two nights at Snider Mountain Ranch, not far from Sussex.

The Provincial Coordinator for the New Brunswick French International Student Program, Chantal Laviolette, emphasizes the participation of three host parents. A first this year.

"I think it has been enriching and a very positive experience for them. They realized the importance of the International Student Program and the benefits for them after seeing the whole group together."

Even if many have known each other only for a year, the students were happy to meet and do outdoor adventures together before the big departure scheduled for late June.

Finally, the students each received an Acadian flag that they all signed. ★

A Few Nominations

Several students stood out during the year. Charlotte Sommer, from Germany, received the Distinction Award for the most deserving Grade 10 student at École Marie-Esther (EME) for her school's involvement in 2017-2018. During the past year, Charlotte has shown tremendous perseverance and has been very involved in school activities. In addition to learning French, she competed in the EME Swim Team, was part of the Swim Team Club of Shippagan and the Badminton Team.

Charlotte did not only participate in sports. She was also involved with the Fédération des jeunes francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick and the FrancoFête, all of this with outstanding academic achievement.

Also, during the Polyvalente Roland-Pépin Graduation Gala, Flaminia Barillà from Italy was chosen by her peers for the "Most memorable smile" prize.

As for Johanna Leutbecher from Germany, she had the opportunity to be part of a music orchestra at École Mathieu-Martin where she played the flute. Their band took part in a music festival in Montreal, and the young musicians were awarded the silver rank +.

Congratulations to all! ★



At the top left is Charlotte Sommer (Grade 10 student). Bottom left, Flaminia Barillà (Grade 12 student). And on the right, you can see Johanna Leutbecher (Grade 11 student).



An Experience for Life at PRP



From left to right, the artist Kathleen Gallant, Flaminia Barillà from Italy, Meri Maria Orvokki Seppälä from Finland, Sinem Elif Uysal from Turkey, Mareike Kurras from Germany, Serena Savoi from Italy, Jan Imstepf from Switzerland, Louis Hulse from Germany and teacher Liette Landry.

The presence of seven international students in 2017-2018 at the Polyvalente Roland-Pépin (PRP) was first highlighted by a work of art by the Grade 12 visual arts students who took part in a project for international students.

After several brainstorming sessions between the teacher François Landry and the students, the process of creating a huge world map began. With the collaboration of the artist Kathleen Gallant, the 12 students and the teacher Liette Landry, created a painted paper-mâché artwork that illustrates the world map. This work, unveiled on June 13, can be admired at school.

According to the School Community Development Officer, Louise Décarý, this project also acknowledges the 21 students who have studied at Polyvalente over the past three years.

"It is important for students to leave a legacy," said Louise Décarý.

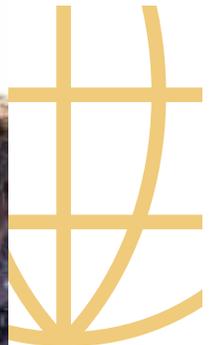
On top of that, a video directed by Francis Gallant also features the seven international students. Their stay in school will not have gone unnoticed! ★

Thanks to the Host Families!

We would like to thank all the host families who have warmly opened their doors to the students of the program. Without your generosity and support, many young people would not have had the opportunity to live such a great experience in New Brunswick, Canada's only officially bilingual province.

The International Student Program **2017-2018** in numbers:

- **60** international students
- from **10** different countries (Mexico, Germany, Turkey, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Finland, Slovakia, Belgium, Colombia)
- who studied in **14** francophone schools in the province.



Johanna Schmieder from Germany is at the back. She is with her host mother Manon Goulette, her host grandmother Lorraine and her host aunts Katty and Caroline.



PLACE AUX COMPÉTENCES

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