



SAINT JOHN

SAINT JOHN STORY SERIES

Saint John Story Series is a place to profile and highlight City of Saint John staff, service areas, and the positive impacts of City led initiatives within our community.

City of Saint John's Sunshine Program a success this summer

August 31, 2022

The City of Saint John's popular summer Sunshine Program was a smashing success this season with a total of 430 children registering to take part in all the fun in the sun offered at the six sites throughout the city.

The Sunshine Program is a free, outdoor-focused program for local children ages 6 to 12, with daily activities that include sports, active games, arts and crafts, and off-site adventures.

"The objective really is to give children in the Saint John area a memorable summer experience in a safe, secure, consistent, and caring environment with a fantastic group of incredible leaders," says Community Development and Program Coordinator, Lynne Kaine.

"It's really focused on the empowerment of children so that they know that they're absolutely valued, special, smart, creative, brave, and just absolutely awesome."

The program sites for this year's program, which ran from June 27 to August 19, included the Lorneville Community Centre, Island View School, the Vineyard Church, Princess Elizabeth School, Glen Falls School, and Lakewood Heights School.



Lynne says the summer students hired to be program leaders and coordinators went above and beyond, creating various themed days including an Olympics day, Christmas in July and Star Wars day, among many others.

"At one of the program's locations there was a laser activity created by putting red tape all over the playground structure. The kids had to go over and step under it without touching the 'lasers', all while wearing superhero capes," says Lynne.



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“This young staff was absolutely phenomenal. It was blowing my mind; I had never seen anything like that in a playground program before. The City really outdid themselves with leaders, the people they picked were so mature and so ready for this experience.”

The children also went on a variety of outings throughout the summer and took part in three special event days at Little River Reservoir, the Rainbow Park Splash Pad, and Dominion Park Beach.

An extra special experience for the kids this year included a week with Brilliant Labs – a technology and experiential learning platform – who visited each site during the summer.

“They went to each location for a week to teach children coding, robotics, and really interesting science and technology information that these children may not have contact with,” says Lynne, who adds that Fundy Solid Waste, Softball NB, and Parasport NB were also involved in the program this year.

“The Sunshine Program really allows kids to take part in activities that they otherwise may not have had the opportunity to experience, and this year was awesome. Just awesome.”

To learn more about the Sunshine Program, click [HERE](#).

