



City of
Ville de

Bathurst

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Press release

Bathurst (N.B.)

February 6, 2016

City of Bathurst hosting a Municipal Academy

The City of Bathurst, in collaboration with Head Start Bathurst, will be hosting a Municipal Academy for anyone interested in knowing more about municipal politics and how to organize a campaign if interested in running for a position on a municipal council.

Last year, Bathurst hosted the FCM Project Head Start for Young Women: “**A Call to Action: Increasing Young women’s Participation in Leadership**”. Bathurst was the only project selected in Atlantic Canada and the project was the only one in Canada facilitated in both official languages.

At the end of the project, these young women had identified the major **Challenges** to women’s participation, made **General Recommendations** and identified **Specific Recommendations**.

One of the four major **Challenges** identified was: “**Resources, Knowledge and Education** - Access to resources such as campaign organisation, education of the political system and knowledge of how the political parties can help remove barriers in women’s mind”.

This bilingual Municipal Academy was constructed with the help of the members of the Head Start project as well as with Gerard Belliveau who worked on the Finn Report.

The Academy will be held at the K.C. Irving Regional Centre Friday, February 26th, from 7 pm to 9:30 pm, and Saturday, from 9 am to 4 pm. Environment and Local Government Minister Brian Kenny will address the group on Friday evening.

“Strong local governments help strengthen our communities, and I applaud this initiative to get more women engaged at the municipal level,” Kenny said. “We wish them every success with this event.”

According to Stephen Brunet, Mayor of Bathurst, municipal politics is a very important level of politics as it provides basic services such as police protection, fire protection, good drinking water, street repairs, snow removal and recreational wellness activities, just to name a few. I would encourage anyone and everyone with an interest to put their name forward in the upcoming election no matter your age, your health, your background or any other factor. You are eligible to run and represent your community as long as you meet provincial requirements.

*“Celebrating 50 years of being a Healthy and Vibrant Community!”
« Célébrons les 50 ans de notre communauté saine et dynamique! »*

On Saturday, there will be a series of workshops to help participants increase their knowledge of municipal politics.

There will be no participation fee, but everyone is required to register. Interested persons can go on the City of Bathurst's Website for a detailed description of the sessions as well as a registration form.

For more information more information, please contact Anne-Marie Gammon, Municipal Councillor, City of Bathurst.

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