

Limoges tourist centre now open for visitors to Prescott-Russell

By Jason Isaac
The Villager Editor

LIMOGES - Julie Leroux, Marketing and Communications Officer for Prescott and Russell Economic Development and Tourism, welcomed residents, area businesses and visitors to the region for the annual Prescott-Russell tourism trade show held this year for the first time and the newly opened tourism trailer located in Limoges on Friday, May 28. In fact, the event coincided with the official opening ceremonies of the tourism centre that expects to draw tourists from all over Ontario, Quebec and beyond "to come and experience what beautiful, unique and plentiful things there are to see in Prescott-Russell," according to Leroux.

Due to funding from all levels of government, and the hard work of the Prescott-Russell Tourism Association led by Claude Leclair, the Limoges site is in a perfect location on Calypso Road just before the entranceway to the newest attraction to the region, the Calypso Waterpark. The park is expected to bring in 350,000 visitors in its inaugural season, something that is not lost on Leclair. "We wanted to locate this bureau in a spot that gives us the biggest bang for our buck and the Limoges site was the best," he said. "Having it near the Calypso Waterpark will ensure we have many people visit the centre and find out much more about what they can do in other parts of Prescott-Russell. This is great for the residents and business in the region."

The tourism board also received an additional \$35,000 announced by Prescott-Russell MP Pierre Lemieux which will go to adding additional staff to man the tourist centre which already employs four seasonal staffers to answer questions and offer directions to its visitors.

Many of those businesses, from restaurants, to artisans, to organizations showed themselves off to the crowd under a big tent that protected the crowd from the heat of the afternoon, that brought mayors from various municipalities. "In all, it is a great way to get everyone together and show off what Prescott-Russell has to offer," said Leroux. "It is now up to all of us to discover what is in our own backyard."



Lots to see and do

Top left clockwise, Liane Carisse from Cereez in Embrun, Opening of the new Limoge Tourist Centre, Julie Leroux and Alain Lapensee of La Cuisine Jean-Bernard, Plantagenet; Artisan Michel Oté; Martine Dion with the Prescott-Russell Wine Show; far left, South Nation Conservation's Michael Petryk and Dana Little; left, Carole Lafontaine and Louise Doran Langenawer from Tric-Knit, Casselman.