



Submitted photo

Back row from left: Andrew Leavitt, Brody McGee, Nick Kohler, Jason Taylor, Phil Smith, General Manager of Fairmont Algonquin and Jay Remer. Front row from left: Christine Craig, Courtney Lord, Jenna Garnett, Geny Rago and Chandra Leavitt, life coach.

Teens learn social graces through pilot program

St. Andrews businesses teach life skills, manners to youth

ST. ANDREWS – Conquering fear, planning their future, setting goals; writing thank you notes; making toasts at formal dining experiences; how to network and initiate relationships; and simply dreaming and exploring their life purpose were some of the highlights that eight local teenagers experienced and critiqued in the two pilot programs launched by two new local businesses this past week.

Local sponsors, Rockport Mining Corp. and The Fairmont Algonquin made it possible to trial run the LEAP program by Chandra Leavitt, Life Coach, and Outclass the Competition by Jay Remer, both of St. Andrews. At a random draw in December, after pitching the need to school and district administrators and students, eight students in Grades 11 and 12 agreed to critique the programs while sponsors came to the assistance to make it all happen.

On Sunday and Monday, Jan. 27 and 28, youth from Sir James Dunn Academy in St. Andrews were exposed

to a new coaching program called LEAP. The program helps teens and young adults identify their purpose, overcome their limiting beliefs, enhance peer relationships and develop a plan for reaching their true potential.

Students gave lots of feedback and comments included: "I will tell other students that if they feel lost and disconnected, this is the program for them." "This is a very beneficial experience which I would recommend to everyone. It can change your entire outlook on life and improve the quality of it".

After the completion of LEAP, students then leapt right into critiquing the Outclass the Competition program facilitated by Jay Remer.

In today's fiercely competitive business arena, etiquette and protocol intelligence will distinguish anyone from a crowd. Students benefitted by learning how to greet people properly, how to dress for success, and what protocol is necessary if you were a guest of honour or host at a dinner party and what every glass and piece of cutlery is used

for at a formal meal.

Students experienced a beautiful four-course meal at the Fairmont Algonquin and enjoyed feeling totally classy while being tutored on etiquette and protocol throughout the process.

Students gave lots of feedback here too: "Thank you for allowing us to learn how to be more classy." And "The Outclass the Competition program is an extremely useful program which has been an unforgettable experience."

Overall these progressive and skill building programs were beneficial and all students took away great learning and skills that will help them enter their future with more clarity and be better equipped to succeed in the world of relationship building and work.

Staying at the beautiful Fairmont Algonquin and being financially supported by Rockport Mining certainly added to their sense of feeling valued.

For more information, visit www.chandraleavitt.com for LEAP and www.etiquetteguy.com for Outclass the Competition to find out more.