

Al MacPhee donates \$250K to Dartmouth youth centre

Car dealer calls on others to donate

CBC News · Posted: Jul 15, 2014

Henri Bishop (left) leads a drumming workshop, teaching young people the basics, and offering a little wisdom along the way. (CBC)

Car dealer Al MacPhee wants other successful business owners to do what he has done — donate to a centre in Dartmouth devoted to helping young people tap into their creative energy.

The former Bridge Centre for Arts and Technology has been renamed the MacPhee Centre for Creative Learning in light of his \$250,000 contribution.



Al MacPhee is urging other successful Nova Scotians to also chip in and help change young lives. (CBC)

“Well I think the community needed it. Youth are very important to the future of this community,” said MacPhee.

Henri Bishop leads a drumming workshop, teaching young people the basics, and offering a little wisdom along the way.

Drumming is one of the many things Seth Glasgow has learned here.

"We've done spoken word, we've done concerts, we've got an art gallery here. The possibilities are endless," he said.



Diteasha Mercer, 16, also regularly drops-in.

"I love dancing. So when we come here, it's like the first thing I do is turn the music on and just dance, not giving a care if anyone judges me or anything," she said.

Her friend Alicia Julian says has a more positive outlook than when she first showed up.

"I used to be like really, really bad attitude and stuff like that. And I would always just like be mean to people and stuff like that," she said.

Sobaz Benjamin, the centre's creative director, says that's the kind of change he likes to see.

"What we're offering is an opportunity for young people to really become focused, centered, empowered," he said.

MacPhee is urging other successful Nova Scotians to also chip in and help change young lives.

"We still need the business community and the community at large to help us because this is an ongoing thing, its not for a month, the building is permanent," said MacPhee.

Source: CBC News <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/al-macphee-donates-250k-to-dartmouth-youth-centre-1.2707131>

