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Levesque Leads the Charge

At the Four Seasons Lodge building project ground breaking on May 11, Yvon Levesque made a commitment to get things moving. A month later he has been true to his word. During the past weeks he has personally seen that, without delay, the next phase of the project would be ready to begin. With so many volunteers committed to work on the different stages, Levesque knew that keeping things on schedule was going to be a huge challenge and critical to keeping the commitment of others in tact. In the early morning hours of June 7, he finished the concrete portion of the plan, working the basement slab to perfection with his Fraser co-worker and mason, Mike Bouchard. It was a long and arduous process but a big relief to finally be able to pass along the torch to the next group of volunteers. But those who know Levesque understand



that his involvement will certainly not end there.

For anyone who visits the lodge site on Spring Street in Madawaska, there is one thing that is almost certain, Levesque's red Toyota and, of course, his best pal, Buddy, will be there to greet them. An early riser, Levesque tries to take advantage of the morning daylight to organize and prepare materials for the upcoming day. Within a donated transport trailer from Little River Transport of St. David, he has developed a workshop that rivals that of most homeowners. Inside he has managed to bring temporary power, build a workbench, establish

clipboards to monitor work progress, and set up a bench to rest his occasionally tired legs. Not a fan of cell phones, he has learned to keep his attached to his hip throughout the process. Several weeks into the project he helped direct activities on the cell while attending to personal business in Bangor. His wife Madeline understands why her husband is so committed, "He has always been the type to help out. From the soccer lighting project to the Dionne Park project Yvon is always ready to help. This time things are extra special because of all the work he has put into the trails and this will help more people enjoy the outdoors."

People who already know Levesque also understand he has a passion for the outdoors that extends through the four seasons. In the winter time he coaches the high school Nordic ski team and in the process regularly logs over 1,000 kilometers a year, mostly at the Four Seasons Trail. During the fall, spring and summer he hikes, bikes, and kayaks all over the St. John Valley. Mix in little snowshoeing and roller skiing in between and you begin to understand the variety of activities that keep him fit.

One thing is clear that Levesque's enthusiasm has become contagious as people step forward to make the Four Seasons Lodge a reality.