

movers & shakers

Community collaborations create engaging opportunities

A group of 4-H members from across the Island recently participated in the new 4-H BioFutures Project, created through a collaboration between the P.E.I. BioAlliance and 4-H P.E.I.

Seven of the eight senior members, aged 16 to 19 years old, who took part presented their reflections on the experience at a wrap-up event held recently at Holland College.

During the wrap-up, learning instructor Michael Gibson shared an overview of Holland College's bioscience technology program, which is celebrating 10 years of operation this year. Each of the members was presented with a personalized lab coat and certificate as a part of the event.

Over the six-week project period, 4-H members visited five different local bioscience companies and research labs, giving them a hands-on introduction and insight into the potential for education and career opportunities in the industry.

Members said they were surprised by the number and variety of bioscience organizations across the Island and impressed with the range of opportunities



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Kelly Mullaly, left, administrative director for 4-H P.E.I., congratulates Sarah Somier, Wheatley River 4-H Club, and Joy Donovan, Summerville 4-H Club, on completing the first-ever P.E.I. BioAlliance 4-H BioFutures Project. Joining them is Steve Howatt, BioFutures project committee member, former 4-H member, president and general manager of Atlantic AgriTech and vice-chairman of the P.E.I. BioAlliance.

available within the P.E.I. bioscience sector.

Organizers are pleased with the inaugural 4-H BioFutures Project,

agreeing that exposing young Islanders to new opportunities to apply or pursue science is important.

Vivian Beer, manager of HR Strategy at the P.E.I. BioAlliance, said given the success of the program's first year, she can

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see it growing.
"Our companies are pleased to participate to help build the next generation of bioscience professionals, and 4-H P.E.I. is an ideal partner."

Kelly Mullaly, 4-H P.E.I.'s administrative director, said she couldn't think of a better project to launch during the youth development organization's centennial celebrations.

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