Burntwood
Regional Health Authority

Press Release

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"Get It On," a youth made STI awareness video unveiled

Thompson, Manitoba – The evening of April 21 was an exciting time for those who were involved in the development of a Sexually Transmitted Infection Awareness video that was produce by local youth. The Bijou Basement of Thompson's Public Library was packed with youth, parents and interested community members as the film, "Get It On" was premiered.

The project began a year ago when the Safer Choices Northern Network had the idea to produce a health promotion video to educate youth in the Burntwood region on STI awareness and prevention. With the help of David Boyce, a drama teacher at R.D. Parker Collegiate in Thompson, a cast and crew of young people between the ages of 12 and 19 was assembled.

The 14-minute film was directed by Jim Saunders with the screenplay was written by Emily Lamontagne. The aim of the video is to increase overall awareness of safer choices related to safer sex, STIs, HIV/AIDS, harm reduction, positive sexual health promotion and healthy relationships.

The cast included Amalia Pope, Scott Cordell, Ryki Deslauriers, Dean Nilghe, Thea McCallum, Nicole Walsh who was also the Safer Choices Northern Network's project coordinator and Nancy Vystrcil, the Safer Choices Northern Network's chairperson and STI Prevention Coordinator for the Burntwood Regional Health Authority. The supporting cast and crew included Crystal Sayies Heis, Delaney Therens, Jean Pierre Desrochers, Warner Dumas, Emily Lamontagne, Darion Latchman, Leah Macinyshyn, Victoria Hykawy and Evan Bercier. All the youth involved received a small award for their contribution to the film during the evening.

This is a Safer Choices Northern Network project, which was funded by the Thompson Urban Aboriginal Strategy and supported by the Burntwood Regional Health Authority.

If you have any questions about the project, you can contact Nancy Vystrcil at 778-5365.

Get It On!