



Ken Shannon, a Cameco employee who guided the construction of this new gazebo, and Blind River Rotary Club spokesperson, Sharon Anderson, look over the new structure, located at Berthelot Park. The new gazebo was built to mark the 100th anniversary of Rotary International.

New gazebo highlights partnership

By ROSALIND RABY
of The Standard

Sometimes just sitting outside and enjoying Mother Nature is the highlight of a person's day.

The Blind River Rotary Club (BRRRC) and Cameco have come together in a unique project to provide that kind of highlight.

Rotary Club spokesperson, Sharon Anderson, says 2005 will be a special year for Rotary International.

"Feb. 23, 2005 will mark the centennial year of Rotary International (RI)," says Anderson. "To mark the occasion, RI asked all the clubs world-wide to contribute something to their community in recognition of the anniversary.

Anderson says they contacted Cameco to see if the company wanted to be part of the project.

Blind River refinery general manager, Chris Astles, says the idea was warmly received.

"We're proud to be part of this project," states Astles. "It was something we could do together that would benefit everyone in Blind River, as well as our many visitors who stop in throughout the year."

The cost of the project, shared between the two, is \$5,000. The gazebo was constructed with the volunteer labour of Cameco employees Ken Shannon, Rick Laderoute and John Doucet, over the last couple of weeks.

erous rapport with many groups and charities," emphasizes Anderson. "We're hoping everyone comes out and enjoys the new gazebo.

"Many people have already been sighted stopping, sitting, conversing and relaxing here.

"It also adds a friendly touch to the tourist aspect of the river front and park area as well," adds Astles.

A sign is in the process of being designed to mark the partnership between the two. Stain will be applied to the gazebo in the spring. The naming of the new attraction will also take place next year.

"While the gazebo is slightly ahead of the actual

brate what is good about Blind River," Astles concurs.

It is not the first time either partner had contributed to the community. Rotary is continually giving to local groups and individuals, such as Girl Guides, people in need of medical assistance, playground equipment and the local food bank. Cameco hosts its annual appreciation day helping the town and other organizations with a number of small construction project and the like, as well as the Cameco Stars Program and sponsoring the Newspapers in Education series.

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Rotary Club spokesperson, Sharon Anderson, says 2005 will be a special year for Rotary International.

"Feb. 23, 2005 will mark the centennial year of Rotary International (RI)," says Anderson. "To mark the occasion, RI asked all the clubs world-wide to contribute something to their community in recognition of the anniversary.

"Our club wanted to contribute something central to the town, which all age groups could enjoy. That's how the idea for a gazebo in Berthelot Park was born."

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Blind River refinery general manager, Chris Astles, says the idea was warmly received.

"We're proud to be part of this project," states Astles. "It was something we could do together that would benefit everyone in Blind River, as well as our many visitors who stop in throughout the year."

The cost of the project, shared between the two, is \$5,000. The gazebo was constructed with the volunteer labour of Cameco employees Ken Shannon, Rick Laderoute and John Doucet, over the last couple of weeks.

"It's very obvious that Cameco is sincere in keeping an open relationship with the townspeople and want to maintain and strengthen an already gen-

erous rapport with many groups and charities," emphasizes Anderson.

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"It also adds a friendly touch to the tourist aspect of the river front and park area as well," adds Astles.

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"While the gazebo is slightly ahead of the actual centennial celebration, both Rotary and Cameco are pleased it's getting positive reaction and use from the town," says Anderson.

"It's a great way to cele-

brate what is good about Blind River," Astles concurs.

It is not the first time either partner had contributed to the community. Rotary is continually giving to local groups and individuals, such as Girl Guides, people in need of medical assistance, playground equipment and the local food bank. Cameco hosts its annual appreciation day helping the town and other organizations with a number of small construction projects and the like, as well as the Cameco Stars Program and sponsoring the Newspapers in Education series.

The BRRRC has been a part of the community for more than 20 years. The gazebo is just the starting point for other celebrations and fundraisers that will be held next year, adds Anderson.