



Restigouche Multicultural Association (RMA)
 Telephone: 506-789-7747 email: info@rma-amr.ca website: <https://www.rma-amr.ca/>

THE BULLETIN BOARD

Reference: File 530 - News Articles

April 6, 2021

INTERVIEW

Leah Stevenson



Rural Settlement Network (RSN) Coordinator Grand Lake Region, NB



Figure 1. Location of study area at Grand Lake Meadows, New Brunswick, indicated by open red line located south of Grand Lake.

Q. Place of birth?

Huntsville, Ontario

Q. Did you choose NB or did it choose you?

A bit of both.

We had a call to a job prospect in Shediac, NB in 2000. I chose Petitcodiac because it was between both of my passions:

- Skiing at Poley Mountain in the winter and
- hiking, camping, biking and fishing in Fundy National Park.

Q. Your passion?

People are my passion!

And making sure they are comfortable. ☐

Q. Which of our four seasons do you prefer & why?

Summer!



I am a heat bug-who loves gardening, kayaking and water activities.

Q. Preferred leisure activity?

Anything to do with water: kayaking, swimming, fishing, and hiking to new waterfalls



Q. Favorite Music?

I love music period.

All genres but my favourite would have to be

country.

Q. Most enjoyable voyage?

Cuba.

It was my first experience of the Caribbean and the wonderful culture of its people – kindness.

Q. Destination yet to be discovered? Why?

Hawaii – always been a dream destination – Warm Sunny beaches and a place to unwind and regenerate.



Q. Last book read?

You are AWESOME!!!

Q. Favorite expression?

A warm smile is the universal language of kindness.

Q. You are most proud of?

My children!



And for their over-coming various difficult obstacles, especially one who constantly tries to take the *dis* out of disABILITY.



My daughter, Kourtney, is achieving her dreams and living independently.

And, of course, my son!



(Kyle & Nathan)

Q. You win the lottery grand prize. What do you do?

Construct a new facility / centre designed especially for young adults with disabilities to live in self-contained apartments with on-site 24 hour care to assist with any of their daily needs and to support them to live as independently as possible

Q. Your advice to the newcomer to your Region (New Brunswick / Canada)?

Welcome to our quaint little village. Please make yourself at home.

If you need something to make you more at home – culturally, food, traditions, etc. let me know.

If it is possible, we will do all that we can to make it happen.

Q. One word describes you?

COMPASSIONATE

Q. You have three wishes?

- Have another day with my father.



- My daughter would experience life walking.

- Excellent health

Financial partner:





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Q. Hero in youth? Today?

In youth, *my father* – He was so compassionate and he taught me what it was like to help people along the way. The way it feels in your heart to truly help someone and never expect anything in return.

Today my hero is

my daughter

She advocates for people with disabilities and she does not take no for an answer.

Kourtney truly stands up for the rights and the freedoms for those who are physically and / or mentally challenged.

Q. In your field of expertise what are some of the challenges (and benefits) for the newcomer in your region?

Housing and language training would be the greatest challenges

A warm and inviting community is the primary benefit.

Q. What would you like to see written on your tombstone?

This is the LAST time she will be LATE....

Q. Share something people may not know about you!

My father's name was



Kenny Rodgers.

Financial partner:

