

Sharing the Festive Spirit at the Toronto French School (TFS) Marché d'hiver – a Winter Market

By Maggie Wilcox, Grade 10 TFS Student | Photos below by Siena Sujitno, grade 10 TFS student



The Marche committee, photo by Layna Meyler

On Saturday, November 24, TFS - Canada's International School hosted its second annual Marché d'hiver - a winter market. This community event featured a wide range of vendors, a food hall, workshops, festive music and so much more. Shoppers enjoyed the bustling winter market where they found the perfect holiday gifts for everyone on their list.

The "Made in Quebec" pop-up featuring unique gifts from *la belle province* was a huge hit, with proceeds going towards the TFS Parents' Association.

One of the highlights of the Marché were the meaningful gifts for sale in support of important causes selected by TFS students. The first one, SKETCH, a Toronto-based charity, helps marginalized youth build leadership and other life skills through the transformative power of the arts. "I was inspired by an initiative at the advertising agency where my mother works," said Zoe, a Grade 9 student. Zoe decided to sell holiday cards created by the advertising agency to raise money for SKETCH and arts education. She had a goal to raise \$500 and was able to surpass it, raising just over \$600.

Similarly, Grade 11 student Shannon saw her older sister's activism in action after she received a 4oceans bracelet for her birthday and wanted to learn more. She discovered how 4oceans creates bracelets made from recycled materials that help directly reduce the amount of waste in our oceans. Every bracelet sold funds the removal of one pound of trash. When Shannon heard there was an opportunity to sell gifts benefiting charities, she immediately thought of 4oceans. Thanks to generous shoppers, Shannon sold out of all 40 of her bracelets, which translated into removing 40 pounds of trash.

Thank you to everyone who came out and made the Marché a success.

