

Futures to provide people with another chance

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youths who choose the part-time work/part-time school option will receive \$100 a week while attending school, as well as the minimum wage for part-time hours worked. Participants must work 16 to 20 hours a week, and attend school to earn at least three high school credits.

The option will be available to youths who have less than a Grade 12 education, have been out of school for at least 12 consecutive weeks or have accumulated a total of 16 jobless weeks in the past year. Local school boards will be closely involved in implementing the new Futures option.

The new part-time work/part-time school option is expected to attract 7,000 participants during the next year.

Mr. Sorbara emphasizes that youths who choose the new option must be well-motivated and prepared to work hard.

"It will be a challenge for them, there is no doubt. But the reward is progress toward a high school diploma; so critical for secure employment in today's society," he says.

"We needed a more aggressive stance to reach those unemployed youths who were unlikely to seek or get educational upgrading. The new part-time work/part-time school option offers these young people work experience, financial security and time to study," Mr. Sorbara says.

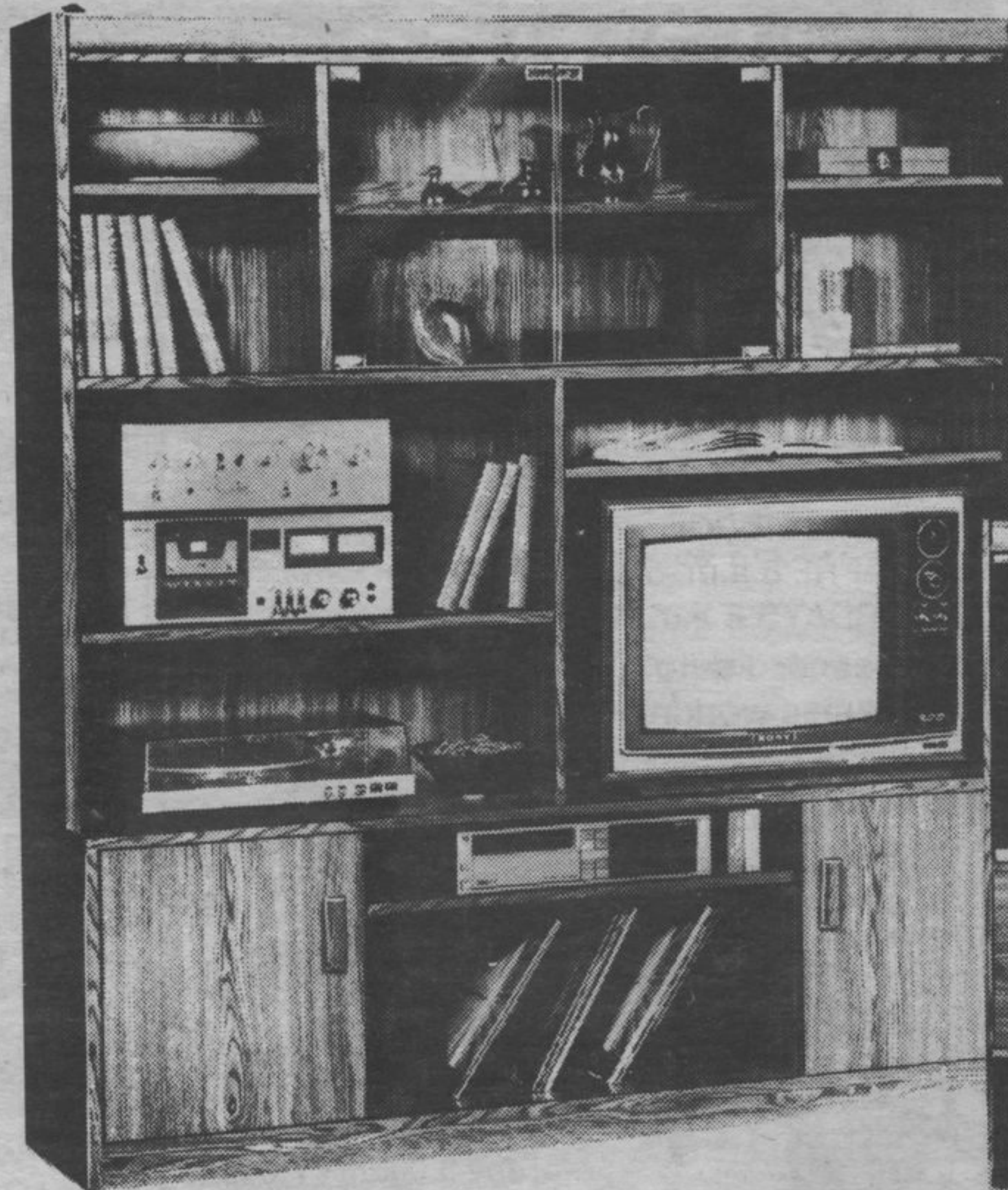
Mr. Sorbara also announced an amendment to Futures eligibility rules and an extension of the on-the-job period. The eligibility change takes in young people who are frequently unemployed but never long enough to qualify under the Futures requirement of 12 consecutive jobless weeks. The enhanced training option provides up to an extra 10 weeks of training opportunities when employers are willing and able to offer more intensive training.

Futures, a province-wide program started nearly two years ago by the Ministry of Skills and

Development, helps unemployed youths gain skills upgrading, training and work experience so that they can find, and keep, a job. More than 70,000 young people have participated in the program since it began in November, 1985.

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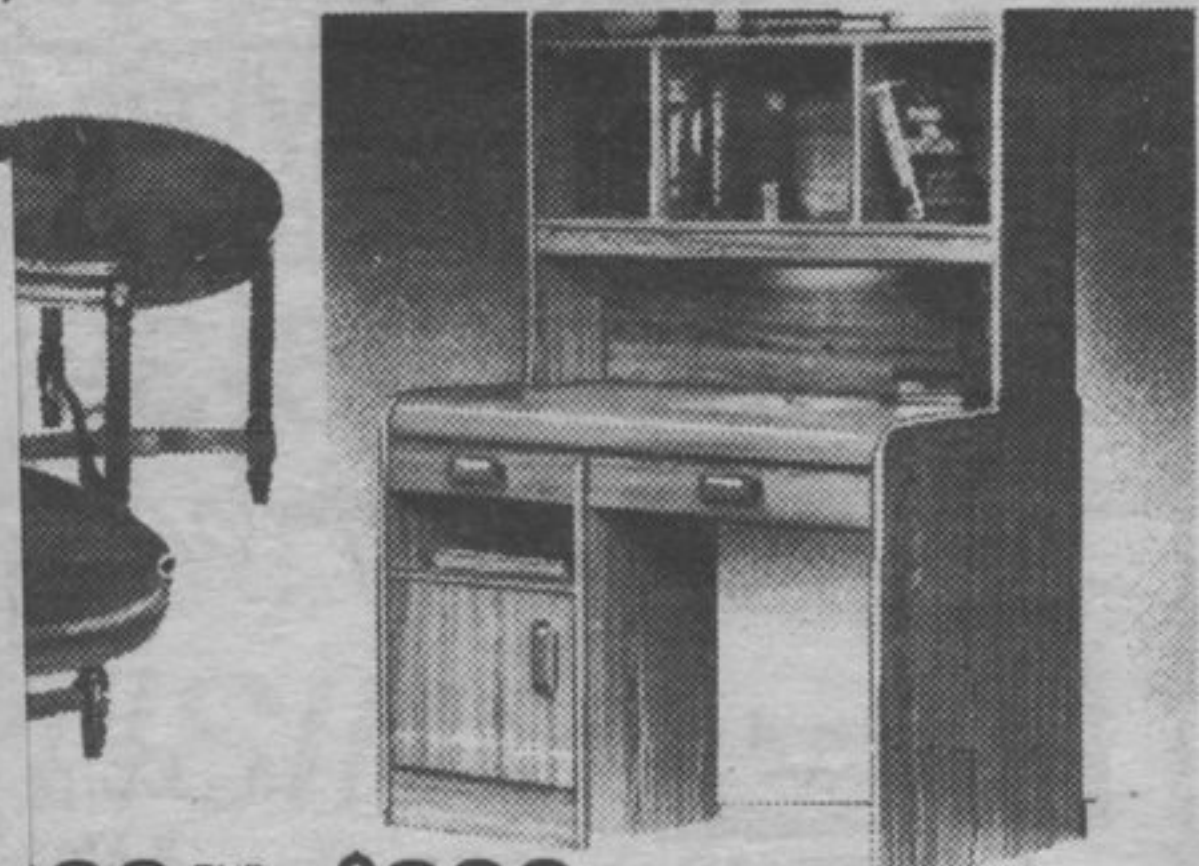
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Thank you

By Tonya Zborowski

This year I was once again given the opportunity to work at the Terrace Bay-Schreiber News office. I think that my work at the paper has helped me to become more sure of what field of work I want to go into.

I would like to thank the Laurentian Publishing Company for letting me replace Ken while he went on holidays.

Well, I hope that this paper is

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