

Wiadomości

Czwartek, 7 sierpnia 2008

Wieliczka for the Youth

The young leaders from our municipality listened to the lecture by professor Antoni Jodłowski, the subject of which was the significance of Wieliczka for the history of Poland and were instructed by Father Bogdan Kordula on how differentiate in life between what is important and what is v e r y important. Moreover Marzena Dzik and Paweł Zegartowski spoke about the experience of being a youth leader in the Nowa Huta environment.

The youth participated very actively in the discussion with the vice-mayor Henryk Gawor concerning the vision of development of the town and municipality of Wieliczka.

The programme of the first day of the Forum assumed above all the integration of various youth leader environments from our Municipality.

This was the aim of the dance-theatre workshops organised by the leaders of „the Grupka” Environmental Club from Nowa Huta and the crosscountry race organised by the leaders - organisers. At the end of the first day of the Forum the participants continued to integrate during a grill. The program of the second day of the Forum was much more filled with the substantive content. Esteemed advocate and politician, a distinguished social activist of Wieliczka and presently a senator of the Republic of Poland, Zbigniew Cichoń, spoke of the significance of freedom and responsibility.

He mentioned his hard experience of fighting for the human rights in the times of People's Republic of Poland. He stressed how significant in the modern world is the activity of institutions such as the European Court of Human Rights in Strassbourg or the The Court of Justice of the European Communities in Luxembourg. On the other hand professor Antoni Jodłowski - the director of the Cracow's Saline Works Museum - spoke of partiotism basing on the example of the history of Wieliczka stressing its unique role in the history of Poland. He reminded the young leaders from our municipality that one has to remember that

"each environment creates a community which builds history". Lots of energy was introduced by the workshops conducted by the leaders from Nowa Huta: Marzena Dzik and Paweł Zegartowski, who encouraged the young people to be active, to undertake creative initiatives in their environments.

Marzena Dzik finished her presentation with the wishes "I wish you to always feel like wanting to do

something". Father Bogdan Kordula in an extremely interesting way brought up the problem of the hierarchy of values that should characterise a young leader.

At the end of the discussion panel the time came for the dialogue of the youth with the local government represented by the vice-mayor, Henryk Gawor, concerning the vision of changes in our Municipality and the collaboration between the town authorities and the youth active in the local area.

The starting point for the discussion was an opinion poll conducted by the leaders during the crosscountry race.

The randomly chosen residents of Wieliczka were being asked what they liked and what they didn't like in our town.

The results proved the residents were most of all proud of the „Wieliczka” Salt Mine, the Cracow's Saline Works Museum and the Franciscan Monastery, the Mickiewicz Park and the

High School. On the other hand, they were worried by the fact the park areas and the railway station areas are dangerous in the evening time, the fact there was no entertainment after 5 PM or the ugly facade of the "Kinga" shopping mall.

Vice-mayor of Wieliczka, Henryk Gawor explained that the local government is aware of the mentioned problems and that proper measures have already been undertaken in order to solve them. The mayor presented the charts showing the reconstruction plans of the Market Square, the Mickiewicz Park and of the construction of the recreational complex with a modern pool.

He stressed that all the plans of revitalisation of the town are gradually brought into life.

The municipality is endeavouring to get the European Union funds which shall finance the expensive projects.

There are plans to exclude the centre of the town from the traffic, so that the Market Square and the adherent streets become a strolling space, where one shall be able to take a rest in one of the numerous cafes, listen to the music and breathe some fresh air outdoors.

Activation of the "Regis" shaft through which the tourists shall be exiting the Mine is of key significance for the project.

All of those are long-term projects into the realisation of which may be invited the leaders attending the 3rd Wieliczka Young Leaders Forum.