

## LA BOUTIQUE DE LA POINTE ODETTE LEBLANC IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CLUB VACANCE DES ILES

By Velma Burke

Odette Leblanc is a local entrepreneur who has 15 years experience in fashion design. She has successfully completed her degree in fashion design and training from the SAGA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE in Denmark. She has been working for six years now fabricating sealskin products at the Boutique à La Pointe.

Ms Leblanc is a qualified seamstress who specializes in the fabrication of items made from all types of furs. In the early 1990's Ms. Leblanc was awarded, by the public of Newfoundland, a coat for having submitted the best products at the fair for that year. In 1995 she had been awarded the "Maria Patton award" the "Petit Prix Entreprise Touristique de l'été 1995 Award" and the "Georges Farrah Award" where she had the opportunity to work in Denmark in all furs for the purpose of refreshing her styles and techniques. She not only had the chance to be part of the fashion world in Newfoundland, but also in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver. She also had the pleasure of meeting with several renown designers from all over the world at Newfoundland's first international showing in 1997.

In 1999 Fashion Designer Leblanc set up shop in a nifty little area



*Boutique a La Pointe*



*Odette Leblanc*

at "La Pointe in Grande Entrée". She is native to Pointe-aux-Loups about 15 km from the Grande Entrée point. She travels back and forth every day to create fine pieces of art for which she shares with as many islanders as off islanders. "The boutique is in an excellent location to work and meet many visitors which drop by in bus loads," she added.

During the summer months Odette may be found upstairs on the second floor working away in her workshop.

Articles on hand at this moment consist of a variety of interesting products.... such as; hats, headbands, mittens, tote-bags, shoe bags, coats, slippers, wallets, key chains, book markers, children's booties, hair barrettes and

much much more. This is where she not only produces, beautiful pieces of art, but where she has the opportunity to meet, greet and inform people about what the products are and where they come from. She describes the sealer's role of years ago and how that tradition lives on today.

When the summer season finally comes to a closing Ms Leblanc returns to her winter workshop in the basement of her home in Pointe aux Loup, where she can be found sewing away to complete her Fall orders and other interesting crafts for the upcoming season. Ms Leblanc would like to send a welcoming invitation out to all to visit the little boutique at "La Boutique de la Pointe" in Grande Entrée.