

Thank You!  
Volunteers!

**SALUTING OUR VOLUNTEERS**  
Profiles and community messages begin on Page 16.



# The MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR



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Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

## Manitoulin expats report on pandemic experiences from around the world

by Michael Erskine and Warren Schlote

PLANET EARTH—Although Manitoulin has seen relatively few confirmed cases of COVID-19 to date, many people with connections or roots on the Island have found themselves, their family or their friends scattered around the world dealing with the effects of the virus. The Expositor contacted a selection of 'Islanders abroad' who discussed their experiences in other countries.

**Amanda (Flanagan) Mwangi, Kenya (formerly of Gore Bay)**

Amanda (Flanagan) Mwangi is well-known on Manitoulin Island and several years ago she established The Kuku Hut, a fair trade gift shop that features artisan work from Kenya, where she now makes her home with her husband Denis and her children Milaka (in Grade 4) and Zuri who is still in Kindergarten.

Ms. Flanagan and her family have been on lockdown in her family's apartment for more than five weeks. Her children are at the beginning of online learning. "There is a three-week school break that takes place here in Kenya, so the children haven't really lost a lot of school time as a result," she noted. "They are in a private school, a Waldorf school, with very small class sizes of around 19 kids. Teachers can manage it better and the children receive a lot of one-on-

one."

There are about 19 apartments in the building where the family lives, so they are near other families, but Kenya has instituted some very strict physical distancing rules. "Everyone must wear a mask when they go out," she said. "There cannot be more than two people in a vehicle together at one time—or half the seats filled. There

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From left is 14-year-old Jake Follest, his father David Follest, who co-founded CanCOV Medical, CobraMask founder and CanCOV Medical co-founder Jeremy Hannan, and retired Mindemoya paramedic Bill Cranston, who had previously engineered a similar snorkel mask-turned personal protective equipment item in his garage alongside Dr. Mike Bedard. To celebrate their efforts, MHC became the first hospital client of the new mask company, receiving 50 units this past Monday, April 20.

photo by Warren Schlote

## Toronto manufacturer acts quickly to produce Manitoulin Island-innovated snorkel adaptation, MHC purchases Northern Ontario's first units

by Warren Schlote

LITTLE CURRENT—Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) is the first hospital to secure an order of newly re-engineered full-face snorkel masks by CanCOV Medical Inc., a partnership between Toronto snorkel mask manufacturer CobraMask and Oshawa fixture design and certification company CMM Precision, which worked with Mindemoya's Bill Cranston to develop a life-saving tool to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

"It's really amazing. I'd never thought in a million years that my masks would be used for this. Personal protective equipment (PPE) is the most in-demand item in the world right now and I'm glad to be part of it," said CobraMask founder Jeremy Hannan, who is a co-founder of CanCOV Medical. Mr. Hannan had seen a similar

solution from an Italian manufacturer of snorkel masks and resolved to develop a product for his design. He contacted David Follest, the owner of CMM Precision, a dimensional measurement lab that certifies fixtures for use in medical, aerospace and mili-

tary applications among many others. Mr. Follest is the other co-founder of CanCOV Medical.

Because this innovative product is only a week old it has not been certified by Health Canada for use, but the manufacturers

...continued on page 15

## Manitowaning, M'Chigeeng will host COVID-19 recovery beds for people in recovery mode but too sick to go home

by Warren Schlote

MANITOWANING—Community-run COVID-19 recovery centres are beginning to take shape in Manitowaning and M'Chigeeng First Nation which, when opened, will offer a last-stage level of care before patients recovering from the virus can return to their homes if they need a little extra support.

"Our site is going to be the town arena, so we have a big ante room that we're going to be able to set up which will be taking in patients who have been discharged from a hospital but still need extra TLC, in

case the field hospital gets overflowing," said Joanne Mellan, a nurse practitioner who works with the Assiginack Family Health Team and will be involved in this clinic.

"It's for patients who are no longer acute, who don't require to be potentially intubated or need extra IV fluids, and are almost ready to go home but we're trying to get them active and stronger here," Ms. Mellan said.

Sandra Pennie, executive director of the Assigi-

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## First Nation leaders urge local emergency status for COVID-19 municipalities reluctant to take this step

by Michael Erskine

MANITOULIN—Although the door of the Manitoulin Municipal Association (MMA) has always been open to the First Nation chiefs of Manitoulin it is a rare occasion when they take the MMA up on that offer. The recent attendance of four Anishinaabe chiefs in an online Zoom meeting held by the MMA proved a singular exception. The chiefs had come to the meeting seeking a unified front on measures to combat any community spread of

COVID-19.

M'Chigeeng Ogimaa-kwe Linda Debassige addressed the meeting with an update on the data her community had gathered through a voluntary checkpoint that was established by the band on the Highway 540 entrance to her community. (See story on the data on Page 1.)

The data revealed by Ogimaa-kwe Debassige painted a disturbing picture of who was travelling

...continued on page 10

## Staying home?

### M'Chigeeng Hwy 540 checkpoint reveals travellers heading to 'camp'

M'CHIGEENG FIRST NATION—On April 8, M'Chigeeng First Nation Ogimaa-kwe Linda Debassige announced her community would be instituting a volunteer-led checkpoint on Highway 540 at the east entrance to M'Chigeeng, its goal intended to establish where travellers are coming from, their destinations and their reasons for travel as the community's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and, specifically, concerns about who is trav-

elling through the M'Chigeeng territory along the Highway 540 corridor. Statistics were gathered from travellers both west- and east-bound.

Last week the ogimaa-kwe released six days of data to Manitoulin's municipalities and First Nations, which The Expositor has also had the chance to review.

From April 9 to April 14, the Highway 540 checkpoint volunteers stopped 1,944 vehicles. Thirty-one percent of those vehicles (and their drivers and passengers) were coming from off-Island and 47 percent of these indicated they were going to their camp or to self-isolate on Manitoulin. Twenty seven percent of those off-Island travellers did not specify (the answers are voluntary) with the volunteers as to why they were on Manitoulin. The remaining 69 percent of travellers came from across Manitoulin. NOTE: It should be noted that it is impossible from the data received to differentiate Islanders who may have been coming home from an

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# Island health partners encourage you to join them for a wild safari #ManitoulinAnimalHunt is on now until May 1

by Alicia McCutcheon  
MANITOULIN—Noojmowin Teg and Mnaamodzawin Health Services are encouraging Islanders to go on safari! But don't worry, while some of the animals you'll be seeing may be in 'the wild,' it's just their photos that hunters will be seeking.

There are 20 different photos of animals—all local creatures—that can be found hidden across the Island. Each photo includes the animal's Anishinaabemowin name too so 'the hunt' doubles as a great way to learn the language.

The idea came from Noojmowin Teg's own Kim Stewart, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder co-

ordinator and Lauren Dewar, Mnaamodzawin maternal and child health nurse—both mothers of young children who are currently working at home and trying to keep their families entertained.

"We realize the importance of still getting out safely and getting the kids excited," Ms. Stewart told *The Expositor*.

Once you find an animal you must snap a photo, upload it to either Instagram or Facebook and be sure to tag it with #ManitoulinAnimalHunt. Each time a photo is uploaded with this hashtag, you and your family will be entered into a draw for some great prizes.

"We're hoping to generate a buzz that's not only COVID-19," Ms. Stewart said. "They (the animal hunt photos) are literally everywhere across Manitoulin, including in some of our smaller communities."

A sample of what to look for can be seen in the photo to the right, but the photos will also be easy to spot as they will include both the Noojmowin Teg and Mnaamodzawin logos as well as the Anishinaabemowin word for the animal. "It's open to all, and all ages!" Ms. Stewart added.

The #ManitoulinAnimalHunt is on now until May 1. Happy hunting!



Noojmowin Teg Health Centre and Mnaamodzawin Health Services have hidden 20 photos of animals around Manitoulin. If you see one, snap a photo and put it on Instagram or Facebook using #ManitoulinAnimalHunt for a chance to win prizes.

## OSSTF and province negotiate tentative central agreement

by Warren Schlote  
ONTARIO—The Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation (OSSTF) has reached a tentative central deal with the province and the Ontario Public School Boards Association, as well as an agreement between OSSTF-represented education workers and the Council of Trustees' Associations, becoming the final of four teachers' unions recently engaged in labour negotiations to reach a proposed agreement.

"It's been a long time coming.

We began this process back in late October, early November, so to finally get a tentative deal, although the details have yet to be shared, I'm sure the membership here in District Three are looking forward to hearing those details," OSSTF District Three president Eric Laberge told *The Expositor* shortly after the news broke Monday morning.

OSSTF District Three represents teachers and occasional teachers in Rainbow District School Board secondary schools

and has bargaining units for the Sudbury Student Services Consortium, educational support staff and professional student services personnel.

"Our priority has always been to reach good deals with teachers' and education workers' unions that advance the priorities of students and parents. That is exactly what we have done by reaching deals with every education union in this province," said Ontario Education Minister Stephen Lecce in a statement issued April 20.

"We will remain focused on the government's dual priority of keeping students safe while ensuring the continuity of education. Moreover, we remain determined to continuously strengthen teacher-led learning and virtual learning for the benefit of our students, and we continue to look to our educators to rise to the challenge and deliver quality education to every child, wherever they may live," added Mr. Lecce.

OSSTF president Harvey Bischof said the current state of the world is beyond anything that could have been predicted when labour negotiations began nearly a year ago.

"While this tentative agreement does not satisfy all of our concerns, we recognize the current environment we are in and the need for students to have stability once this emergency is over. Even now, educators continue to do their best for students during

this crisis and look forward to welcoming them back to the face-to-face support we know is best for most students," said Mr. Bischof in a statement.

"We will continue our advocacy to protect the world-class education system that we have been instrumental in creating. Our members and our students deserve that never-ending effort," he said.

Mr. Bischof said the state of his union was stronger for having gone through this negotiation process and said they managed to convince the Ontario government to abandon "some of its most egregious proposals" in this central deal.

As with the other recently negotiated teachers' union deals, the specifics of the tentative agreement will not be made public until the district leaders of OSSTF get a chance to meet via teleconference, ...continued on page 9

## Rapid test kits not yet available for PHSD

by Warren Schlote  
MANITOULIN—Although Health Canada has recently approved rapid COVID-19 testing kits made by Ottawa-based Spartan Bioscience Inc., don't expect any in this region any time soon, said local health officials.

"The rapid test kits are issued by (PHSD). It is highly unlikely that Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) will receive any of these. They are more suited to the more Northern and remote locations," said MHC president and CEO Lynn Foster in a statement to *The Expositor*.

PHSD added that the new tools being released to better diagnose COVID-19 were very exciting to health officials.

"At this time, there has been no announcement to local public health about the availability of additional COVID-19 diagnostic tools for use within Ontario," read an unattributed statement from PHSD.

MHC has a plan to handle a potential surge in patients should COVID-19 numbers worsen on Manitoulin Island. Ms. Foster shared some parts of the plan with *The Expositor*.

"We will be dividing our hospital into a COVID-19 site (Little Current) and a non-COVID-19 site (Mindemoya), so all inpatients that don't have COVID-19 would be moving to the Mindemoya site, and we'll keep the COVID-19 patients here," said Ms. Foster.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has approved eight extra beds at the Little Current hospital site, should those become necessary.

"If that gets to the point where all occupancy or availability is taken up, we'll have some of our patients move up to what we've called our field hospital, and Dr. (Mike) Bedard is the clinical adminis-

trator of that space," said Ms. Foster.

Critically ill patients will continue to be treated at the Little Current hospital, while those who need care but are not in critical condition will get moved to the field hospital. Patients can flow back and forth between the two sites as their conditions change.

The goal of the field hospital and the main site is to get people recovered enough so that they can be independent at home. If that is not possible and they still need some personal care help, they will be transferred to the community recovery centres (so far, one is planned for Manitowaning and another is planned for M'Chigeeng First Nation). The community centres are not affiliated with MHC.

Last week, MHC sent out a call for registered nurses, registered practical nurses, personal support workers, housekeeping aides and volunteers. Ms. Foster has clarified that this is part of the hospital's surge planning to determine what skilled workers presently exist on Manitoulin and plan their work strategy.

"Up until now, we have been working collaboratively with the employees and trying to decide on which site they preferred to work at (for people who might work at both MHC and the Manor, as an example)," said Ms. Foster. Provincial regulations have since mandated that practice across Ontario.

Since the testing guidelines loosened this month, traffic at the MHC testing centres has increased.

"I haven't received feedback but the fact that the numbers are increasing indicates people have concerns and are stepping forward to be tested," said Ms. Foster.

With more testing will likely come more cases, sta- ...continued on page 9

## Salmon Classic, Manitoulin Art Tour announce cancellations

MANITOULIN—The Manitoulin Expositor Salmon Classic is the latest of Manitoulin's events to bid farewell to the 2020 season.

"It is with great sadness that we are announcing the cancellation of the 2020 edition of the Manitoulin Expositor Salmon Classic scheduled to take place from July 25 to August 22," a press release from organizer Dave Patterson released last week states. "After closely monitoring the situation for the past month and listening to our chief medical officers of health, we have come to the only responsible conclusion: we must forgo this year and focus on keeping anglers, volunteers and Manitoulin residents safe."

Mr. Patterson went on to thank

the derby's past, present and future sponsors, anglers, volunteers and residents of Manitoulin Island for their understanding. "We are incredibly grateful for your support," he added.

"We hope that everyone stays safe through this unprecedented time and we look forward to beginning the planning of Salmon Classic 2021 and hope to see all the familiar faces—and new ones too—there," Mr. Patterson said.

Last week, the Manitoulin Fine Arts Association also cancelled its popular July event, the Manitoulin Art Tour, and said it will not be opening the North Channel Gallery in Little Current.

## Arts organizations on Manitoulin Island feel strong impacts of COVID-19 pandemic

by Michael Erskine  
MANITOULIN—Arts organizations are scrambling to find their feet in the new world order of pandemic precautions. For many, such as small art galleries, this latest hit has wiped them from the map, for others it is a time to retrench and compose as they wait for better times, while still others are taking this opportunity to reinvent themselves and who they are as an organization.

"It certainly is a new world out there," said Debajehmujig Storytellers Executive Director Lynda Anne Fox Trudeau, "but we are pretty adaptive."

Even as Debaj's international collaboration has been essentially put on hold for this year due in large part to air travel restrictions and the future of this year's mainstage is very much up in the air, the versatile Debaj crew has been livestreaming events and performances and finding

innovative ways to continue their artistic endeavours.

"We even managed to find a way to put together a livestream of the Passion Play we do every year (at Easter) for Holy Cross," she said. Each of the Debaj members found their own way to participate on the digital highway, even while maintaining a physical distance.

"Technology has been a blessing in this time," she said of distance collaboration. "You are seeing a lot of artists, musicians and performers log in with performances."

The company has put its acclaimed 'Elders Gone AWOL' online the weekend of April 11 and 12 and posted a musical performance with Elijah Manitowabi streamed live from the sugarbush.

Meanwhile legend keeper Sunny Bear Osawabine has been regularly conducting flute performances, livestreaming on Face-

book to ground the community and bring messages of hope and resilience.

"Imagine if this had happened 20 years ago?" noted Ms. Fox Trudeau.

Ashley Manitowabi has been working his magic with heirloom seeds, preparing more than a thousand packets ready for distribution into community gardens across Manitoulin.

"We are maintaining our connection to the land," Ms. Fox Trudeau noted.

In the meantime, the company is conducting research (notably a genealogical exercise for the troupe members) and preparing items for next year. "We are laying foundations and the building blocks."

Plenty of things have been coming out of the isolation booth performances as well.

Susan Snelling, chair of 4elements Living Arts, noted that her organization had already migrated to a "virtual organiza-

tion," having given up the lease on its physical space last year.

The organization is also focussed on building a mobile studio "based on tiny house principles."

"So, instead of people coming to us, we will be going to people," said Ms. Snelling, of course after the restrictions of physical distance have passed. "For now, while actively interacting is tougher for us, maybe we can find new ways to engage virtually."

Ms. Snelling noted that the company was perhaps a bit better positioned to be able to work than live theatre companies, noting that the restrictions on gatherings of any size will likely be in place for some time to come.

Ms. Snelling said there are likely to be many projects, particularly in regards to ...continued on page 9

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“who dares not offend, cannot be honest”  
**One Manitowaning Road**  
opinion

**editorial**

**Disastrous season predictions call for immediate tourism aid**

A leaked Destination Canada study prepared by McKinsay and Company suggests that more than 61,000 tourism businesses could close within two months, leading to more than 1.7 million layoffs. The same report indicates that more than 60 percent of tourism-based businesses are projected to run out of cash should this year's summer season not materialize. That was as of March 27—and the outlook has not gotten any better in the interim.

The study suggests that as much as \$15 billion may be needed at the national level to barely hold the line in an industry that is a mainstay for youth and students and which, until the advent of COVID-19, was showing increasing promise of helping to create a more sustainable economy among many remote and Northern Indigenous communities.

That isn't small potatoes to be sure, but when it is taken into account that tourism contributes more than \$5 billion annually in tax revenues into provincial government coffers, larger than the combined economic contribution of agriculture, forestry and mining combined, alarm bells should be ringing and ringing loudly in the halls of power. If the current stimulus measures are to be paid for in the long run, the tourism industry must play an integral role in that fiscal recovery.

There is no other industry, taken as a whole, that will take as hard a hit as the tourism industry from the impact of COVID-19 and in an industry that has typically struggled (given many of our short summer seasons) to maintain experienced staff and resources, this setback will prove the death knell for many a promising endeavour.

Among the hardest to be hit will be Indigenous tourism, where much of the product development is still in its infancy. But for all regions (mostly rural) that depend on tourism to maintain and improve vital, shall we even say essential services, this untimely collapse in the tourism industry will prove to be a slap backwards from which it will take years to recover, even when things return to a semblance of normalcy.

Despite the worst of the doom and gloom predictions facing tourism, the industry and our economies will come out the other side of this global catastrophe. The question is, what will we have to work with when those sunny days return? As manufacturing declined in

Ontario, tourism was on the rise and in recognition of that fact led the provincial government into taking concrete steps in order to strengthen and improve the potential of this multi-billion dollar golden goose. It makes no sense whatsoever for the federal and provincial governments to now turn their backs in neglect and let the tourism industry starve.

While it certainly does make sense to freeze marketing efforts aimed at drawing people to the North, given the undesirable side effects of unrestricted travel into rural regions that are ill-equipped to cope with any spike in ICU admissions, that does not mean it makes sense to let the tourism industry wither and die on the vine when it shows such potential for lifting economically disadvantaged regions out of the doldrums.

There are few industries that can bounce back with any speed should their essential infrastructure be fundamentally disrupted, and tourism is certainly not one of those industries so blessed. But tourism would be well poised to benefit from pent up demand once the economic keel has been righted if it can retain the product base. It is of vital importance to the future of Ontario's provincial economy that tourism infrastructure be maintained to be ready for those opportunities. This is particularly true for rurally based operations such as those to be found on Manitoulin Island and throughout the North.

Many people will continue to be understandably skittish of traveling to densely packed urban centres and the less crowded rural vacation and recreational opportunities have products tailor-made for that new paradigm. But the product will need to survive for that to happen.

There will be immense pressure from large, urban based industries seeking aid from the various levels of government, but it is in the tiny, largely mom and pop tourism operators who could raise the boats of the Northern economies in a sustainable and long-term manner.

It is vitally important to the Ontario economy that all levels of government step up to the plate to provide meaningful supports in order to preserve the tourism industry.

**letters**

**For greater clarification on the cottages in Birch Island**

*Modeling shows, with no action taken, 19 Whitefish River First Nation members would die*

**To the Expositor:**

Re: 'Birch Island denies access to cottagers with leased lots,' April 15, Page 1.

I have always been taught that life is sacred. I take that seriously. This is a critical time in which we hold each other's lives in our hands. Each person's every day actions matter more than ever.

The tagline of this pandemic has been “stay home, save lives.” Our First Nation is asking cottagers to do no more than that. What we are asking of our cottagers is consistent with advice from the top doctor in Canada and the messages from the premier, who have both urged cottagers to remain home for a while.

Laws from all governments are requiring people to take difficult measures at this time: To stop work; to avoid many activities; to avoid gatherings. Our First Nation is no different. This is a hard time for our members. We had a death recently, and we could not allow a normal funeral. This is not normal life.

But it is important for everyone to follow the laws in place, whether that's First Nations laws, federal, provincial or municipal. When it comes to cottagers, we are not evicting anyone and not terminating anyone's lease. Cottagers have to follow the laws like everyone else. Most of our cottage tenants completely get this—and I totally get that those laws are not fun to follow right now—but lives are at stake.

A nurse working with us told me that eight percent of Ontario's population has a chronic health condition vulnerable to COVID-19, and in our community that number is 75 percent. Think about that. This is not the place to “ride out the pandemic.” First Nation reserves are the pandemic's most vulnerable targets.

We look forward to reaching the time when we can welcome cottagers back to Birch Island.

Chief Shining Turtle  
Whitefish River First Nation

**‘Evil Conquered’**

*A poem about the current pandemic*

COVID, COVID go away,  
Never to return another day,  
The children need to get out to play,  
While the rest of us fight to find our way.

You tried to destroy us, to take all our lives,  
To bind us, to kill us, alas, failure to thrive.  
Many you took, but many are left,  
To pick up the pieces, and then do our best,  
To return to the world where we once felt blessed.

We will rise again, although through tears,  
Remembering those so shaken with fears,  
Who succumbed to your rage knowing death was near,  
Sad loved ones and friends held them so dear,  
They passed to a place waiting for them,  
Wrapped in the arms of our Lord to the end.

As we turn a page we watch you fade,  
Be subdued, defeated, crushed and caged.  
God bless the heroes who brought you down,  
The doctors and nurses and all the housebound.

To all those who laboured day after day,  
To bring back our world that you took away.  
Onward we strive to get to that place,  
We knew before you, tried so hard to erase.

We are strong and determined to reach for the top,  
Together our fight will be gloriously fought.  
Onward and onward we march to the summit,  
We'll shout out in praise, ‘hey, we've finally done it!’  
Our resolve is to win, win and win!  
Never again to let evil creep in.

Pat Nelder  
Mindemoya

**Time for a bridge checkpoint**

*Mayor MacNevin needs to get plan in motion*

**To the Expositor:**

I've spoken to different people around the Island. Why does the mayor of Little Current refuse to put a checkpoint at the bridge?

We have lots of extra lanes to do so. You don't have to block the highway. You were elected to elect the people—start doing it.

Charlie Pratt  
Honora Bay

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR?**

email:

[editor@manitoulin.ca](mailto:editor@manitoulin.ca)

"With the participation of the Government of Canada."

Canada

*op-ed*

## 'The Great Pause' should encourage us to reflect, take better care of Earth

In 1962 a biologist named Rachel Carson wrote a book exposing the effects of dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) on bird populations. This book, 'Silent Spring,' launched the environmental movement in a big way.

By 1970 the movement in the United States led a whopping 10 percent of the population to mass protest, activating Earth Day for the first time.

Today, Wednesday, April 22, 2020 finds us in perhaps the most poignant time since Earth Day began 50 years ago. In a recent article on Medium.com, Julio Vincent Gambuto called this time of coronavirus measures 'The Great Pause.' After 100 years of run-away dependency on oil for transport, industry and consumables, we are amazed to see shockingly blue skies from a sudden and huge reduction in nitrogen and carbon emissions.

Mount Kenya is visible in Nairobi! The Himalayas are visible from India! All major cities are experiencing this 'breath of fresh air.' In many of these cities, just weeks ago, the air was literally unbreathable.

For our entire lives, we lived in a situation that we knew was unhealthy, we knew was destroying our planet, we knew was destroying local ecosystems. We developed certain patterns of coping, of pretending that we were okay when subconsciously we knew we really weren't.

Finally, thanks to remarkably young warriors like Greta Thunberg and Wiikwemkoong's own Autumn Peltier, we saw a magnificent world-wide uprising of young people forcing us to recognize that things are not okay. And these young people did not let up. They protested in ever greater numbers every Friday for more than a year. Their message was starting to change us, but slowly...too slowly.

Then, just two months ago, tensions between Indigenous traditional belief systems and 'big oil' was tearing our country apart. And now, suddenly, The Great Pause and we are forced into seclusion. Many of us are doing some serious introspection. Some thinkers are proposing radical yet exciting changes to our systems of capitalism, colonialism, democracy. We are all experiencing shifts in the way we relate to each other.

What will happen next? What will tomorrow look like, or next month, or next year? What about the economy? The virus is scary enough, and now this? What can we do? It's overwhelming, and our fear and powerlessness can be crippling.

In the spirit of Rachel Carson and the environmental movement, there is something very, very simple that we can all do every day. Even though some community parks have been blocked off, there are many roadways, fence lines, shorelines and forests that we can still visit and there is plastic litter everywhere!

When plastics break down they act as endocrine-disruptors. This means they mess with hormones of living things. At this microscopic level they get into our water, and then into our bodies. Since the 1990s we've heard about the potential effects of endocrine-disrupting plastics on human health: early menses in girls, breast cancer and prostate cancer, autoimmune disorders and more. For our fish, amphibians and waterfowl, plastic pollution means strangulation, blocked intestines, ulceration of delicate tissues by jagged fragments and reduced reproduction.

As Islanders, we are all in close contact with the waterways that feed into the Great Lakes, and it is just so easy and fulfilling to get out there and clean up this plastic garbage. If every one of us picked up litter for one or two walks every week, the entire Island would be blessedly free of plastic litter by the end of the summer!

Something magical happens when you stop and search and bend and reach for litter—you connect with the plants, insects, micro-level life forms, and even the spirits of these lives all around us. They are grateful that we love them enough to keep these plastics out of the system.

If you want a little extra motivation, look no further than Anishinaabe-kwe, deceased but still with us, Josephine Mandamin. This extraordinary woman's Water Walker movement has now gone global and helps humans all around the world understand that protecting our environment isn't just scientific, it is spiritual.

Finally, scientists, physicists, mathematicians, Indigenous knowledge keepers and elders can all agree on one important point: it is all connected.

Whatever we put into the environment will become a part of us soon enough.

So, if you were wondering what to do this Earth Day, go to the website EarthDay.org. You and your children can become online science citizens by recording the days and amounts of litter that you save from entering our ecosystems. You could even try plogging—yes, that is a movement too. You can learn about it and other powerful ideas on that website!

Good luck, my friends. Stay safe, stay isolated physically, but stay connected emotionally. If this moment truly is The Great Pause, may we all use it as a gift to connect in new and deeply meaningful ways with ourselves, our family, our neighbours and our ecosystems.

**Sarah Baron  
Little Current**

*Sarah Gabrielle Baron is a writer and teacher on Manitoulin Island.*

*more letters*

### Do the right thing: stay home

#### *It's time for more enforcement to 'turn errant travellers back home'*

**To the Expositor:**

The prime minister of Canada has recommended and ordered people in Canada to stay at home. The prime minister has indeed advised/ordered people who are out of country to come home directly. The premier of Ontario has asked people to stay at home and avoid cottage country in Ontario. The Ontario Cottage Owners Association has advised cottage owners to stay home. Our mayors/reeves/First Nation chiefs have pleaded with people to stay home. Our own Member of Provincial Parliament, Michael Mantha, has politely asked and urged people to stay home. The Wiikwemkoong, Whitefish River and M'Chigeeng First Nations have stepped up to the plate and

shown those in high places how it is done and as well produced and published their findings with the results of the sickening lack of co-operation and safe reaction to this virus. They have shared that information for all to see in the media or social media.

Now is the time for our MPP Michael Mantha to place pressure on the government of the day to have police administration have their people turn these errant travellers back home. No excuse that this places our police in harm's way for a 30 second stop on the highway. It will actually save a health care person perhaps hours, more than likely days' exposure for those who pick up the virus.

Our First Nations have proven beyond a reasonable

doubt, at their own risk, beyond all doubt, the abeyance to our country and province, safe and ethical rules are being ignored. Stay home! Here is another example of our government, despite planning to be inclusive, keeping First Nations opinion in mind, failing to do so. They documented all they did in an ethical and responsible manner. Flying in the face of Truth and Reconciliation have again ignored them and let them down again when only trying to contribute to the health of society.

As a final note, even mayors of cities like Sudbury and Toronto are asking residents to stay home.

**Larry Killens  
South Baymouth**

### Northeast Town should re-open trails

#### *Green space access allows residents to take care of their physical, mental health*

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The following is an open letter to the mayor and council of the Northeast Town. It has been reprinted here at the author's request.

**Mayor and council:**

I am writing to you once again with regards to public trails in NEMI. I did attend the previous meeting and was left in no doubt the feeling of council towards my letter at that time. Having said that, I do feel a significant event occurred April 14, when Premier Ford announced the extension of emergency powers until May 12.

Following the announcement of the 14th, I have personally

heard people speak to me of desperation at the current measures and have seen many more express their concern on social media. Media outlets on behalf of our governments have been espousing the need to take care of both our physical and mental health, however that becomes more and more of a confining task.

Access to trails could be controlled with signage indicating expectations of social distancing. In order to avoid people passing each other, travel could be one way on those trails that are narrow.

The citizens of NEMI are good and law-abiding people.

The vast majority of us will always try to do what is right, without insult or injury to our neighbours. We care and we deserve your respect.

Currently, Manitoulin Island has no known active cases of COVID-19. If we can't re-open our trails now to residents, then it could appear that they will never be re-opened. Please, do the right thing for the well-being of our community. Please re-open trails in NEMI immediately.

Sincerely,

**Zak Nicholls  
Little Current**

### An open letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

#### *Four simple suggestions to ensure future generations can survive and thrive*

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The following letter has been sent to the Prime Minister's Office and has been reprinted here at the author's request.

**Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,**

Kindly permit me to suggest four things that Canada can do to combat climate change so that your future grandchildren and my great grandchildren will survive and thrive.

Prohibit shipping of food by air. Road, rail and ships are

adequate for transporting food. We simply don't need zucchini from Holland and snow peas from China!;

Ramp up electric car production so that 80 percent of vehicles are electric by 2030. It would be a great way to get people back to work once the pandemic passes;

Do not build any more oil pipelines; and

Provide financial incentives to help Alberta put the tar sands on hold until 2030.

In 1973 I attended my first forum on climate change in Ottawa. We have been talking about climate change, and witnessing it, for almost 50 years! Please take quick and decisive action to make Canada a global leader on climate change. We are all in this together.

Sincerely,

**Ed Burt  
Kagawong**

### Hawewater reflects on growing up on Manitoulin, 82 years later

#### *'I am very proud to have been born in such a beautiful place'*

**To the Expositor:**

I was born on the Manitoulin Island in the Red Cross Hospital on January 16, 1938. My father, Stanley MacInnis, and his brother Frank MacInnis went to school in the Old School in Mindemoya. I have photographs of their class and it must have been the early 1900s. They looked to be only seven and nine years old. Later they moved to Meaford, Ontario. Their dad had a fishing business in Meaford.

One night their tug burnt down and not having any

insurance for the boat, they were wiped out. They decided to go back to the Manitoulin and start a fishing business there. My mother and dad were married at that time and had one son. My mom got pregnant with her second child and she went into labour and on a cold winter night she was put in a boat and taken to, I believe, Parry Sound where she gave birth to a son who was stillborn. I was born after that and my sis June was born after that.

I am enjoying reading about the Island. My cousin and his family own the island near the top of the Island. It is the

Fielding Island. I was taken to Toronto when I was six weeks old. When my mom turned 80 and dad had passed, our family went up to the Island to see it. I had never seen it. I loved it and we stayed in some cabins on a little lake.

Bye for now and thank you for reading my story. I am very proud to have been born in such a beautiful place.

**Jo Waites (nee MacInnis)  
Toronto**

# ...Manitoulin expats report on pandemic experiences from around the world

...continued from page 1

are mandatory fines and jail time for those who do not follow the rules."

Both Ms. Mwangi and her husband lost 100 percent of their income when the full impact of the pandemic hit on March 6. "Luckily we have some savings, so we are getting by," she said. But she said she fears for the poor living in the slums. "Those people source daily in order to eat." She noted that roughly 98 percent of those living in the slums share communal toilet and shower facilities at the end of the corridor. "There are heavily congested areas with very poor hygiene."

It is common in Kenya to have a housekeeper come in regularly to assist with the cleaning, but the Mwangi family had to make her stay at home as she lives in the slums. Their housekeeper is among the luckier ones, however, as they are still providing her with some money during the pandemic.

With two young children in lockdown the days can be tough. "We can't let them go outside," she said. But the addition of a hammock on the balcony of their apartment has helped to ease that strain.

Despite the lockdowns and concerns, Ms. Mwangi said she has confidence in the country's health care system.

"I'm proud of Kenya," she said. "Schools



Amanda Flanagan Mwangi, husband Denis and daughter Milaka and Zuri from their Kenyan home.

closed with under 10 infections. There are local county lockdowns and roadblocks to keep people within specific areas. They closed down the international airport and now local flights are grounded."

"I feel like we might be ahead of this thing here," she said. "African people (living in Africa) have been dealing with disease their entire lives. TB, hepatitis etc. The BCG vaccine is still given at birth whereas my generation did not have that in Canada. I think the nation is overly cautious but like everywhere, we still have those individuals whom will not take it seriously. We can really only hope for the best and trust the scientists and medical profession right now."

Leaving Kenya was not a viable option for the family, she pointed out, as travelling to Canada presented major hurdles. "My husband only has a visitor's visa, but we have never really felt the need to travel." She went on to explain that there is a significant expat community in Kenya and very few of those who had an option elected to leave. "In some cases their companies insisted that they leave," she said. "Nobody from our international friends group has left."

Ms. Mwangi said that she is trying to come up with a way to continue the Kuku Hut work, as the income it provides for local artisans is needed more now than ever.

## Esther Anstice, England (formerly of Tehkummah)

"It's quiet, really, really quiet," said Esther Anstice of life in London, England these days. "It's very strange." Ms. Anstice, whose family operates a Tehkummah dairy farm, is serving as the deputy verger at London's venerable St. Paul's Cathedral.

Back in medieval times the verger (spelled *vergir* in England) was a lay person who led the procession of acolytes, robed lay leaders, choir and clergy into an Anglican Church. Even onto today, the verger walks at the front of the procession bearing a symbolic rod-like mace. In the old day that rod was used to keep back animals, ruffians, and ne'er-do-wells who might interfere with the procession, but those rough and ready

days have long since passed.

Not that there are any processions to lead or hordes of ne'er-do-wells (or even overeager faithful) to beat back in these days of COVID-19. "The church is closed," said Ms. Anstice as her only comment on the cathedral she serves.

While things are quiet in the streets of London, there are still some folks out and about, just not in the numbers familiar to one of the most dynamic and historic capital cities of the world—seat of a once globe-striding British Empire where the "sun never sets."

"It is a city of nine and a half million people," said Ms. Anstice, "so there are people about, but almost everyone is doing their best to maintain a safe distance."

Still, she notes, "the police are having to break up the odd sunbathing party in the parks." There goes another cherished myth of a city widely famed for its misty atmosphere.

England is somewhat ahead of where Canada is on the pandemic curve and life is approaching something a bit closer to normal, especially in the supermarkets.

"At first it was a bit crazy," recalled Ms. Anstice, "there were a lot of empty shelves in the stores, you couldn't find bread, eggs or loo roll (Ms. Anstice's vernacular has gone a bit native during her time in Blighty, in the latter she is referring to toilet paper). "But the government and organizations put out a lot of advertisements saying 'listen, if you just buy what you need for now, we will have enough for all of you.' After that things settled down and you can find whatever you need in the stores now."

Ms. Anstice suspects that she might have contracted the virus at some point, having suffered a fever and a nasty dry cough. "But there was no way to get tested, maybe I didn't have it," she said, going on to count blessings. "I'm fine now. I am safe with friends. I have a job."

The pandemic has magnified the distance that lies between Ms. Anstice and her family, however. "It has been 5,000 miles and an ocean between us," she said, "but that 5,000 miles seems so much farther. It's scary."

But Ms. Anstice notes that she is happy to live in a country like the UK or Canada where she can pick up the phone with confidence and call for an ambulance if she needs one. She notes that the National Health Service in England has not been overwhelmed by the virus. She said that she is now more concerned about how the community will recover in terms of mental health in the aftermath of the pandemic than even the economic recovery.

She noted the incredibly inspiring story in England right now concerning Captain Tom Moore, a 99-year-old veteran who has raised an astounding 20 million pounds for the NHS battle against COVID-19 by walking a thousand times across his garden.

"A saying I am hearing these days that I really like is 'our parents gave their lives to protect our freedoms, now we can give up our freedom to protect their lives,'" she said.

"I have three jobs right now," she said. "Stay home, wash my hands and love my friends."

## Medeine Tribinevicius, South Africa (formerly Tehkummah)

Medeine Tribinevicius is currently in lockdown with her husband Richard and two children, aged 5 and three in the South African capital of Johannesburg, but their isolation does contain a few mental health perks that help to ease the experience.

"We are fully locked down as well," said Ms. Tribinevicius. "We are very fortunate in that we live in a sort of communal situation." She went on to explain that their landlord lives on the same property and they have a big garden for the children to burn off the copious quantities of energy to be found in tiny folk. "Our landlord also has his small grandson, so the three of them are able to play together," she said. Still, the children do seem to be missing their school. The national lockdown started on March 27 in South Africa, but schools closed earlier on March 18. "The children miss their school, and so does their mother," she laughed. "The school closure was going to be for three weeks but it has now been extended for, well, to be announced. The school is sending home video assignments so they don't fall far behind and so is their ballet teacher."

Ms. Tribinevicius, like many folks across

the globe, is currently working from home. A former journalist (who once worked at The Expositor and the Toronto Star among others) is now trying to balance the added roles of school teacher and ballet teacher to her work helping to run an artist's photography studio. "It's basically a small business, I do everything from helping with pro-



Medeine Tribinevicius is currently in lockdown with her husband Richard and two children, aged 5 and three in the South African capital of Johannesburg.

duction to peeling stickers off frames, as well as helping with strategies to grow the business. It's a lot like journalism really," she laughs.

Her husband Richard is a journalist, so like here in Canada listed as an essential worker. "He walks to and from work every day, so we kind of have a chance to spell each other off," she said.

"Only one person in the family is allowed to leave and then only for essential things like medical appointments and food," said Ms. Tribinevicius.

Although masks are not mandatory in South Africa, Ms. Tribinevicius said that they are advised. "There is a lot of crowding here and a large percentage of the population is high risk," she said, noting that tuberculosis and HIV are prevalent. In fact, the health situation for many communities in South Africa is much like that of Indigenous peoples in remote and Northern Canada, except with much denser communities that multiply the risks from the pandemic's spread somewhat exponentially.

"The First Nation communities have the advantage of being more remote," she said.

Ms. Tribinevicius said that deciding not to leave was a difficult one, not so much because of concerns about where she is living, but more about her family back home.

"My parents are in their late 60s, early 70s, so of course I want to be closer to them," she said. "It's hard not to be with family, but then there are the concerns about flying through airports, it's safer for them living on Manitoulin Island than it would be with us going there."

Ms. Tribinevicius is registered with the Canadian embassy and the embassy keeps emailing to ask if they want to fly out to Canada, but she said that she feels the bigger risk would come from travelling. Currently the flights are being put together with a disparate group of internationals as there are not enough Canadians in the country now to fill a plane on their own. "The last one is set to leave soon," she said.

Technology is helping to lift some of the strain of distance, with video conferencing making a big difference in keeping in touch. "At least we don't have to wait for letters," she laughed, "at least not yet."

## Lauren McCormick, Colombia (formerly of Little Current)

Photographer Lauren McCormick has relocated to Medellin, Colombia in recent years and shoots weddings around the world. However, that business has vanished during the pandemic. Colombia has been on a strict lockdown for a month and Ms. McCormick and her partner have only left the house once for essentials, instead relying on a start-up delivery service for most of their needs.

"I'm really trying to stay positive but some days are better than others," said Ms. McCormick.

Fortunately, her partner has been able to work from home to help cover their expenses during this time. Ms. McCormick would ordinarily be travelling the world at this time to shoot destination weddings and spend the summer months in Canada. Instead, she has been making use of this downtime to work on the back-end of her

business such as refreshing her website and revisiting the way she does business.

"Eric and I actually started a second business that's still in the idea phase, for 100 percent sustainable clothing made with alternative fabrics like hemp and linen that are not mixed with cotton," said Ms. McCormick, adding that she will be announcing more details about the venture on her photography social media accounts when it takes off.

Colombia's strict nationwide lockdown has led to interesting results. Just shy of 3,000 people are infected in that country, with roughly 130 deaths. These figures are below Ontario's reported figures, and far lower when accounting for Colombia's higher population and population density than Ontario.

Colombia's case rate expresses a similar curve to that of South Korea, a country praised for its response to the virus. This was partly made possible because Colombian security forces have been actively enforcing the restrictions and citizens have



Lauren McCormick and husband Eric from their Medellin, Colombia home.

been complying with their directives.

"There's police patrolling the streets and ticketing people, checking their IDs to see if they're out on their allowed days. They're also checking IDs at grocery stores, pharmacies and other essential places that are still open," said Ms. McCormick. "It's another world, but I do think it's a great thing because it seems like it might be stopping the spread of the virus."

## Giovanni Capriotti, Manitoulin lover (formerly of Rome)

Former Expositor photojournalist Giovanni Capriotti is from Rome, in the region of Lazio, within one of the harder-hit countries in the world, Italy. He still has many family members and friends living there but fortunately, the northern portions of the country have been impacted far more than those at the southern tip of the boot. Lazio is roughly in the latitudinal centre of the country.

Mr. Capriotti's mother, 76, and father, 82, have been within their home except for one trip his father made to pay bills (though those have all since been suspended in the country). All trips outside the home have to be approved by the Italian government through filling out forms in advance.

Convincing his parents—especially his mother—to stay home took a bit of tough love at the beginning, especially when it came to religious gatherings.

"I had to tell my mom, 'you don't go to church, there's no need. You pray at home,'" he said, adding that he has been urging his friends to stay home as well.

Mr. Capriotti said he got used to the distance because he would not be able to visit his family even if he was back home in person. He has been keeping in touch with them through regular virtual visits. Mr. Capriotti praised the Canadian response to the virus, which might initially look like a big reaction to a smaller number of cases, but he said that has been the key why Canada has not been as hard-hit as Italy.

"I believe all categories of society need to be protected," he said. "It's good to approach it like that, which is saying two or three people is an outbreak. That is preventing the real outbreak and should have happened in Italy in the beginning."

Mr. Capriotti's wife and daughter are in Canada, but his wife's family is also abroad in London. His work as a freelancer has become very limited but fortunately Mr. Capriotti also works as a photographer at a Toronto university so he has some income remaining.

"It's unpredictable. I would have never expected to face something like that in my life, but we've got to do it somehow," he said.

# Ice Chips and Canoe Quips

## Where are they now?

Okay, I know this may seem like a bit of nepotism here, but my brother **Wade Leblanc** is the epitome of an athlete. I can remember him interrupting our fuzzy “TFC” (Two F’n Channels) with his hand-eye coordination drills. He would be constantly throwing a tennis ball up against our rough fireplace mantle to keep his cat-like reflexes in top shape or he would be juggling three tennis balls in front of iconic and groundbreaking television programs such as Three’s Company and Rockford Files.

From my Dad’s amazing memory, Wade’s story can be properly told: He was skating on the backyard rink when he was three and four years old. In his fifth year he strapped on the goalie pads for the first time. Some 20 years later he took those pads off for the last time and packed his goalie skates away for the last time ever. A fall from a bike landed him on a large spruce root growing above the ground and he would soon have a hip replacement at the age of 30. Between the beginning and the fall he loved his net as much as anything else. Wade began with the Mindemoya tykes, atoms and peewees. When the erstwhile Manitoulin/North Shore League was formed he joined the Manitoulin Dolomite bantams that contained players from most of the Island. Wiikwemkoong had their own entry in the league. Three years in a row they led the league during the regular season. An important and integral part of that success was due to Wade and his fellow goaltender, **Sean Gjos** of Little Current. In their final year in the League the Dolomites won every game but the last on the schedule, in which they tied.

It was during these bantam years that this group began to have great success in B, A and AA tournaments. These were the years that they began to challenge AAA minor bantam teams from North Bay and Sault St. Marie. In a two-game set with the Soo they surprised the city lads with two consecutive 5-2 victories making the opposition coach loudly furious with his own players. During those years they won tournament in Elliot Lake, Sault Ste. Marie, Blind River, Durham, Espanola and others. The confidence of the Island skaters grew by leaps and bounds. They also won consolation tourneys on three occasions.

During those three years, they were also in the Region 7 Silver Stick Tournaments in Sudbury. Each time they were off to the North America Silver Stick Finals in Port Huron and Sarnia and all great experiences. Since the Island boys had achieved this level of on-ice success they applied to join the much more difficult Nickel District League. Once this happened the Wilky boys joined our rep squad.

After much contentious “negotiations,” the Panthers (albeit with a new association formed) won a spot in the league by a single vote! Unfortunately, the fight to get into the league was approved so close to the season opening our midget Panthers had time to have only one exhibition game prior to starting the season, and on the road, in Rayside-Balfour. By a strange coincidence, Rayside had formed a AAA team that year but declined to enter the newly-founded Great North AAA Midget League. The NDHL finally gave Rayside permission to play in the AA league for one season only.

Talk about walking into the lion’s den. The Rayside team had been on the ice early and had recruited players far and wide (Oshawa, Oro and even two players from BC).

Needless to say they got trampled. Veteran Manitoulin defenceman **Dale Harper**, when asked what was happening out there uttered, “Coach, I swear they are multiplying out there.” Indeed, they seemed to be as their play, cycling and passing had “our lads taking a ton of penalties in trying to stop or slow them down. Sadly the final score was 19 to one!”

But they “never said die” and after only two months later the Panthers gave the Canadiens their first and only league loss that year. The game, held in Wiiky, drew a large crowd “as our boys toughed out a win, a five to three victory. The team continued to improve quickly, so much so that the next year the Panthers won the league championship over Valley East right in Sudbury.

That year Wade also won the top goalie award at the Valley East shootout competition beating out a dozen opponents. During their first two years in the NDHL, goalies Sean and Wade were voted to the league All-Star team. Also receiving All-Star honours were **Mike Cheecho-baa**, **Trevor** and **Trace Aljoe** while **Harper** was named to the 2nd team.

This was the final year of midget for half these champs and some moved on to a higher level. Wade was invited to try out by seven southern Ontario junior teams. He chose the Collingwood Blues, spending some time with the Stayner Siskins also.

Sean was recruited by the Ivy League and went to Providence, R.I. to play for Brown University. Dale ended up with the Welland Jr Bs . The Aljoe twins suited up with the Walkerton Jrs. The next year, Wade transferred from Georgian College to Canadore College in North Bay. The Canadore team was also known as the Panthers. In his first year there he played back-up but in his second year became the starter for Canadore in a very tough OCAA ranks. Facing 40 + shots a game he was recognized for his success and work effort by being recognized with the most improved player award.

In addition to this accolade, he earned himself an invite to the rookie camp of the Chatham Pro team of what would become the ECHL. He had an outstanding camp, lasting to the final two goalies, only losing out to a former WHL major junior veteran. He had an opportunity to go to camp with the Pensacola (FL) Ice Pilots but declined as he had just been hired by the city of Barrie. Wade rose in the Barrie ranks from the Eastview Recreation Complex, then supervisor of all Barrie arenas and now works out of city hall as manager of operations and facilities of all city buildings. Hard work leads to success.

## Future sports?

Here is the latest on anticipated spring sports. The Mindemoya Youth Ball Tournament, thanks to organizer Greg Lockyer, was able to release: “June 26-28 organizing committee is holding out hope (as faint as it might be) that things will change and we will be able to host our youth ball tournament. We realize our decision might be made for us if this pandemic continues. We just don’t want to give kids more bad news at this point. A decision will be made in the next couple of weeks. Maybe the end of June can be a celebration for all the youth. Stay safe...”

**A good sport is good for sports.**  
[chipstoquips@gmail.com](mailto:chipstoquips@gmail.com)



Shihan Dan has turned to online classes for the Manitoulin School of Martial Arts over the past three weeks, teaching 45-minute classes every Wednesday evening for beginner and advanced belts.

## Manitoulin School of Martial Arts goes virtual

MANITOULIN—During this unprecedented time of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Manitoulin School of Martial Arts has had to adapt its method of teaching the martial arts and become more familiar with technology and virtual platforms.

Shihan Dan has been hosting karate classes using

the Zoom app for the past three weeks and the response has been overwhelming. Shihan Dan has had to split the classes in two: one for beginners (white, yellow, orange) and one for advanced belts (green, blue, brown and black).

Classes are hosted on Wednesdays (from Shihan

...continued on page 8

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# E-sports, online gaming gain prominence during physical distancing

## Gaming world donates computer processing power in off-times for COVID-19 research

by Warren Schlote

NORTHEASTERN ONTARIO—The world of e-sports and online gaming is getting a boost from the physical distancing implications of COVID-19, with many of its activities able to continue remotely from competitive gamers' own homes, creating new opportunities for groups such as the recently launched North Shore Gaming Group (NSGG) based in Espanola. The gaming community is also giving back to efforts to stop the spread of the virus by using their computers' processing power to help decode protein molecules such as COVID-19.

When one thinks of gaming, the rural and Northern stretches of Ontario are likely not the first places to come to mind. Many places can have limited internet connectivity and technology in general is not as widespread as in large, urban centres. This is an untapped opportunity, says 31-year-old Espanola resident Ryan Jerome who founded NSGG in September 2019, a collective of video game enthusiasts and e-sports competitors alike.

"The North has got a great hunting, fishing, farming and outdoors-type community, but technology isn't as well represented here. When I would go around to all these fairs and get-togethers I noticed there was a need for this, so I stepped up and started NSGG to try to fill that void," says Mr. Jerome, who also streams his gaming under username the\_fo0d.

NSGG has more than 80 members and is based in North-eastern Ontario, though its membership extends worldwide. It is the premier group of its kind in the North.

E-sports is the competitive side of electronic gaming. The industry has exploded in recent years and there are major league teams around the world including Toronto and Vancouver, just like real-world physical sports, with some top players making earnings in the millions.

Laurentian University, according to Mr. Jerome, has one of the top-five collegiate teams worldwide for a game called League of Legends. There is a small team within NSGG that plays The Cycle that is in the top 10 around the world. NSGG players have won prize money for their performances in recent months.



Ryan Jerome, who streams and games as the\_fo0d, hosting a recent stream. Public health directives to stay indoors has strengthened the already-growing legitimacy of online games and competitive e-sports.

That is only one part of the NSGG mission, though. Anyone with even a casual interest in video games, regardless of the platform, is welcome to join the group and get connected with like-minded individuals.

The recent COVID-19 outbreak has been a double-edged sword for Mr. Jerome—on one hand, e-sports is gaining more exposure and legitimacy and has even begun to be aired on television sports channels. But on the other, for a new group that Mr. Jerome had planned to grow and promote through in-person events throughout the area, spreading the word has been a challenge.

"The momentum is coming. With social distancing, more people are playing games and taking note of the gaming world. But our community is about more than that. We don't just sit at home all the time, we get out for social activities, such as a Pokémon Go group that plays regularly in Espanola. It's things like those that I'm trying to facilitate," says Mr. Jerome.

For Northern Ontario, whose economy has always been primarily driven by resource extraction, the untapped gaming industry might offer new opportunities for economic

## ...virtual karate lessons

...continued from page 7

Dan's living room) at 6 pm and 7 pm for approximately 45 minute sessions.

"We have suspended all tuition payments during this time as well to help families out," Shihan Dan explained. "We wanted to provide classes to keep our students interested and engaged, give them something physical to do at home, and have something to look forward to during the week. We have also invited guest instructors from Sudbury and Toronto to teach and train with us."

Unfortunately, belt gradings have been postponed because it's hard to judge performance and strength through a computer

screen.

If anyone is interested in participating in karate from the comfort of your own home, you can email Shihan Dan at renshidanf@gmail.com.

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growth through sponsorships, catering to technological hardware needs and providing alternative sources of income, should someone be fortunate enough to make it professionally.

Grasping the concept of e-sports as a legitimate entertainment industry may be difficult for some who have lived in pre-internet days, when a neighbourhood's 'gamer' was the lone antisocial recluse who never saw sunlight for weeks at a time while playing their Super Nintendo in their parents' basement. That's far from the case in today's world of millions of interconnected gamers across the globe.



North Shore Gaming Group last week unveiled its team name, the NSGG Eagles, and the new logo for its competitive e-sports division. This sub-section exists alongside its more casual gamer community that connects as a social club.

"People should really take this seriously. You might have children that are missing playing competitive sports these days, missing hockey on TV, but there's a little something for everyone (even sports games). There's no difference from other sports. It's structured the same—you have amateurs and then leagues like your OHLs and NHLs. It's very organized, very competitive and it's free. What more could you want?" says Mr. Jerome.

Players in the District of Manitoulin have taken notice of the new group. One of Mr. Jerome's team captains is a player from Wiikwemkoong and another player is a Whitefish River First Nation band member currently living in Garden River First Nation.

"It's a good pace to meet people and socialize and make friends," says 19-year-old Montana McGregor, adding with a laugh that he's happy to be in Garden River because his internet on Old Village Road in Birch Island would not have handled gaming very well.

"Most of the other teams I've been part of are mostly in the US or out in BC. It's cool to have a team that's more local and is not as populated in a way," says Mr. McGregor.

Mr. McGregor has played soccer and hockey for most of his life and he is starting to get into mountain biking. He is also a competitive fancy feather, grass and hoop dancer and has taken part in powwows across Turtle Island.

Aside from the cost of buying a game console or building a PC, as well as paying for the games themselves, gaming has a relatively low barrier to entry for people of all physical abilities and can create legitimate chances of earning substantial prize money.

All of the cost and effort invested into building a serious gaming rig can also have worldwide benefits through a program called Folding@home. When gamers are not using

their computers, they run software that links their computer up to a worldwide network of other powerful PCs and biomedical researchers.

Those researchers can tap into the processing power of gamers' powerful central and graphics processing units as if they were using one massive supercomputer. These can run simulations on various molecules to better understand how they work and possibly discover treatments for conditions such as Alzheimer's disease, cancer, Ebola and COVID-19.

Mr. Jerome is on a competitive Folding@home team and has amassed 140,000 points doing those activities. He says it offers useful information to PC performance enthusiasts as well, since it gives real-world statistics of just how much information their rigs can process.

"One thing I like about gaming is it caters to the fringe. You don't have to be the most physically fit or active; even if you can't play sports because of a disability you can still have fun," he says, mentioning a champion gamer who is nearly fully paralyzed and plays using his mouth.


"Nobody can not play video games. It's your own little world to get away in, and I'm more than happy to help them find that world."

Mr. Jerome is currently revamping NSGG's online home and has recently launched the branding for its competitive e-sports teams, dubbed the NSGG Eagles. To learn more about the group, visit NorthShoreGaming.ca.

Manitoulin Secondary School


## PLAYER PROFILE

by Mackenzie Cortes  
Public Relations, M.S.S. Athletic Association



**CARTER MOGGY**

**CONGRATULATIONS, CARTER!**



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Carter Moggy is one Mustang who has many opportunities to demonstrate his athletic abilities. Carter is a Grade 10 student, and in his spare time he enjoys playing video games, hanging out with friends and taking part in outdoor activities like biking.


While Carter attended Central Manitoulin Public School, he participated in basketball, volleyball, baseball, soccer, flag football and track and field. During these years he won volleyball and basketball island championships with his teammates. In his Grade 8 year, he set the high jump record at CMPS. He also started playing hockey with Mindemoya Thunder when he was 4 years old, and he will be playing for them again next year. He has continued playing sports in high school including volleyball and basketball for both Grades 9 and 10. In basketball, he plays as a power forward, and in volleyball he plays as power and as middle. This year Carter played up a year on the senior volleyball team, and he and his teammates won NSSSA and were able to place third at NOSSA. Outside of school, he also enjoys playing hockey and golf.

Throughout his sports season, Carter is constantly keeping up the spirits of his teammates with his humour and positive attitude. His favourite sport is volleyball because it's a great team sport that always requires you to be on your toes and ready for anything. There's no better feeling than smashing the ball down on the other team. Carter enjoys playing sports in general because they keep him active and healthy, and they're a great way to make friends and memories.

In school, Carter's favourite subject is gym because it allows him to be able to work on skills in different sports and to stay active. He is inspired by his family because they encourage him to be the best he can be.


Carter is one of many talented Mustangs, and with his kindness, determination and sense of humour, he is sure to make MSS proud. Let's go, Carter, let's go!

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# ...Manitoulin arts groups feel COVID-19 impacts

...continued from page 3

social media, “once we have come out of our isolation.”

“So many of us are now turning to baking, listening to music, making music ourselves,” she said. “I think in times like these so many of us are drawn to the arts. It is important that we support those creative impulses.”

The artistic community is finding ways to connect and exploring different ways of thinking about the world around us, she said. 4elements Living Arts is still working on the Elemental Festival that normally takes place in the last week of September.

“We will see what is possible,” she said. “If not then perhaps we will move to virtual activities.”

When it comes to visual arts, Perivale Gallery stands clearly among the forefront of Manitoulin’s art community, but owner Shannon McMullan admits this will be a challenging year.

Normally, Perivale Gallery, situated on the shores of Lake Kagawong, kicks off its Manitoulin season with the unveiling of the latest works by its artist emeritus Ivan Wheale. Alas, that high-water mark will pass without the normal gathering of fans old and new this year.

“I’m really going to miss that this year,” admitted Mr. Wheale. “It really is a homecoming of a kind with people I don’t get to see that much otherwise.”

But like many artists, isolation is kind of the norm for the world renown chronicler of Georgian Bay scenes whose prolific works of all sizes grace galleries from Ottawa to England and beyond.

“I sent a letter out to my artists in mid-March,” said Ms. McMullan. “It took me a very long time to write.”

Ms. McMullan is often a central

part of the Gore Bay Theatre productions, winning accolades for her outstanding performances, but this year she was not in the production and so could focus on the gallery, and focus she did.

“All my efforts were on the gallery,” she said, having lined up a number of Celtic music performances that double as fundraisers for local charities and the Liver Foundation of Canada. Ms. McMullan also had an incredible lineup of bespoke workshops with some of the top artists in their fields.

“These are not just paint parties where you are told to put a stroke here and a stroke there,” she emphasized. “The artists spend a lot of time with each of the participants.”

Sadly, much of that effort is now in question given the restrictions that are in place due to the pandemic. The uncertainty of if and when those restrictions will be lifted makes planning very challenging.

“We are in a good position compared to many galleries,” noted Ms. McMullan, who is a retired educator.

Luckily, having built a strong relationship with her artists and patrons, Ms. McMullan has been able to move a lot of the gallery online—not usually a viable option for artwork. “Those relationships are helping to make that work,” she said.

For her part, Ms. McMullan is pouring her deep well of energy into improving the gallery and its grounds. “This is a good time for gardening I suppose,” she laughed. “When the gallery does reopen to visitors we will be better than ever.”

Uncertainty is mixed with disappointment for the Gore Bay Theatre Company, whose QUONTA dominating tour de force ‘Molly Sweeney’ was lined up to score at this year’s now cancelled Theatre Ontario Festival.

The pandemic has also trimmed plans for the summer offerings.

“We won’t be putting on a second play this year,” said director Walter Maskel. “We just might be able to hold a limited performance of ‘Molly Sweeney’, but that will depend a lot on how the pandemic plays out.”

Mr. Maskel noted that ‘Molly Sweeney’ is tailor-made for social distancing onstage. “When you think about it, none of the actors are within the proscribed distance during the play,” he said. “It is a collection of monologues.” That format is one of the most challenging to be found in live theatre and to their credit the Gore Bay Theatre troupe pulled it off brilliantly, adding deeply to the disappointment of having to forgo the provincial competition and facing at best a truncated season. They deserved better.

As for the arts funding recently announced by the federal government, Mr. Maskel said he doubts any would trickle down to community theatre groups.

“When you look at the multi-million dollar losses that are being faced by the National Ballet, large scale companies like Stratford and Shaw, most of the focus for those dollars will likely be aimed at those areas,” he said.

Still, Manitoulin’s artistic community is quite used to adversity and challenges. “It may be a while, but we will be bringing live theatre back,” assured Mr. Maskel. “When you think about it, our audiences are usually part of the over 50 crowd and aren’t likely to want to be in any kind of crowd, at least until there is a vaccine. It’s a trying situation to say the least.”

# ...OSSTF, Ontario government reach tentative deal

...continued from page 3

review and vote on the tentative agreement. Should the local leaders approve the deal, they will then pass it to the union members themselves for a final vote.

The whole-member ratification vote is expected to take place in May, as of the time of the tentative agreement.

Once the central agreement details are released,

Mr. Laberge said the district would begin to frame its local negotiations with the Rainbow District School Board. He did not indicate that the central deal would have to be ratified before those discussions could begin.

“This process is about getting the best possible learning environment for our students. That’s what we job actioned about and we’re glad to see that in

these difficult times we can focus more on delivery of curriculum and our members can focus on trying to navigate distance learning,” said Mr. Laberge.

The Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario (ETFO), which represents elementary school teachers in Rainbow schools, is expected to release the results of its central agreement ratification vote this coming Tuesday, April 28.

# ...MHC readies surge plan

...continued from page 3

tistically speaking, and Ms. Foster said MHC is following Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care guidance.

“MHC has taken the time to put rigorous processes in place and we are prepared to handle an increase,” said Ms. Foster. “We’re being cautious, especially now that the symptoms list has increased, and we’re hoping that if we have the virus in our community that we can find it and stop it before it spreads. That’s our goal and, as I said, we’re prepared to do that.”

The current list of COVID-19 symptoms includes fever, cough, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle aches, loss of appetite or smell or taste, sore throat, runny nose and diarrhea, according to PHSD.

“If they are experiencing any one of the symptoms just described, I urge them to come forward. It is important to try and determine whether this virus is in our community so we can eradicate it or at least stop it, and minimize the contact and the spread,” said Ms. Foster.

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# ...First Nation leaders urge local emergency status

...continued from page 1 through her community and why.

"As was discussed at an earlier meeting today, what we are seeing is a significant amount of travellers coming to our community from off-Island," said Ogimaa-kwe Debassige. She listed communities of origin such as Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie and even out of province. "They were headed to places like Providence Bay and Spring Bay, places in Western Manitoulin. Basically, a lot of non-essential travellers coming here to self-isolate."

There have also been many calls to First Nation businesses seeking to have propane and hydro hookups at seasonal residences, she noted. "They are not staying at their permanent residences." The chief pointed out that the tax dollars being paid into health services "go to where they permanently reside." Her data establishes clearly that many of those coming to the Island have been laid off and are seeking to take refuge here on Manitoulin.

Ogimaa-kwe Debassige noted that in conversations with a number of different municipalities, "Many tell me they are happy with what we are doing," she said, "others not."

One question she gets asked a lot is "why we are not doing it at the bridge?" The answer is that such an action needs to be taken in a "collaborative and careful approach."

Ogimaa-kwe Debassige said that her community "would be happy to assist" in manning such a checkpoint. She said "when the virus gets here, and it will, it is only a matter of time" the statistics gathered would go a long way toward helping to trace the contacts.

Currently, Ogimaa-kwe Debassige pointed out that her community is experiencing a great deal of lateral violence on social media. "Our people are glued to it," she said.

Ogimaa-kwe Debassige also pointed out that although there has been a lot of co-operation with the Highway 540 checkpoint, there are those who simply drive past it and there have been reports of high levels of traffic on the Rockville Road as people attempt to avoid the checkpoint.

But of those who have stopped, Ogimaa-kwe Debassige related two stories of front-line workers she had spoken to who were coming to the Island after being exposed to the virus in their facilities and were coming to self-isolate for 14 days from their families.

"We don't have the authority to ask for driver's licences," said Ogimaa-kwe Debassige, qualifying that the information on traveller origins is given voluntarily. "We do jot down licence plates," she said. Many of those travelling through are seasonal residents going home to self-isolate, but the information is "as accurate as we can get it."

As to rumours that the band intends to shut down

the highway through M'Chigeeng, Ogimaa-kwe Debassige said that was not yet the case, but that "I will say that it is on the table. It is something that we hope we will not have to do, that is why we are bringing up the bridge."

"I know I speak for everyone when I say that we appreciate what you are doing so far," said Burpee and Mills Reeve Ken Noland, who acts as chair of the MMA.

Ogimaa-kwe Debassige clarified for Tim Mckinley (unorganized townships) that driver's licences were not being asked for at the checkpoint.

The concerns of the chiefs, first iterated by Ogimaa-kwe Debassige and reinforced later in the discussion by Aundeck Omni Kaning Ogimaa-kwe Patsy Corbiere, are that with Manitoulin's economy being very closely linked to tourism, there is a danger that First Nation businesses will take the brunt of the pushback from efforts to keep COVID-19 from Manitoulin's shores.

"We are looking for a collaborative approach for all," said Ogimaa-kwe Debassige.

Central Manitoulin Councillor Dale Scott said that he agreed with the need for some action, but suggested that it should be put in place south of Espanola, thereby also helping to protect Whitefish Falls and Birch Island.

Northeast Town Mayor Al MacNevin noted that he had seen the data supplied by Ogimaa-kwe Debassige and that it was enlightening. But he pointed out the "unfortunate fact" that people coming from other regions to Manitoulin Island to self-isolate was not in itself illegal. "The province has not legislated that at this time," he said. Mayor MacNevin pointed out that the province has

the power to invoke the Emergency Act and restrict travel, but that a mayor declaring an emergency does not gain any additional powers and that the ability was more attuned to larger urban centres to better enable them to manage the divergent resources in their communities.

Mr. Mckinley noted that unorganized townships have no power to declare states of emergency.

Billings Mayor Ian Anderson noted that he had come to the same conclusion following discussions with their CAO. Gore Bay Mayor Dan Osborne said that his community has not yet declared an emergency. "If it would give us control at the bridge, I would," he suggested, "but I don't think that it would give us control."

Mayor MacNevin also noted that none of the Island municipalities has the resources and trained personnel needed to put a checkpoint safely in place. When it comes to placing any kind of block on people coming to Manitoulin, Mayor MacNevin stated that he would not be in favour of supporting any action that lies outside of the law.

Wiikwemkoong Ogimaa Duke Peltier suggested that the Municipal Act does place significant options for the municipalities to declare a state of emergency and then to enact laws to protect public health. "Wiikwemkoong is willing to work with anyone in the interests of doing what we need to do here," he said.

Ogimaa-kwe Corbiere noted that she supports Ogimaa-kwe Debassige and said that her community has declared a state of emergency. "We could close the road right down," she said. "We don't intend to do that, but if it were our road we would have shut it down

already."

Ogimaa-kwe Corbiere said that closing the road would "affect our businesses. If we are going to do anything, it all has to be working together." She noted her community was putting up signs warning non-residents to not come to the community. She pointed to the huge increase in non-Native people coming to her community for cigarettes and because other communities had shut down their parks."

She went on to point out that the arrival of off-Island people is "a Manitoulin problem, not a First Nation problem. I don't want to see us labelled as

...continued on page 12

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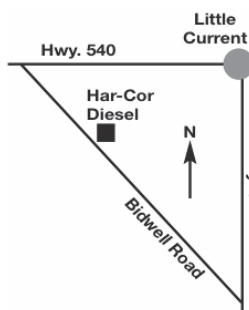
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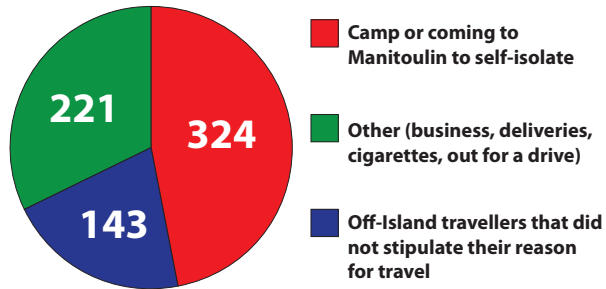
## ...reveals travellers heading to 'camp'

...continued from page 1  
off-Island shopping trip, for example, from those who live away from Manitoulin so these numbers may be skewed.

The highest travelled day fell on Good Friday, April 14, which was also the last day of the statistics released by M'Chigeeng. Numbers of travellers steadily increased throughout the six-day period.

A breakdown of the six days is as follows: April 9: total travellers, 206; off-Island travellers, 108; number of travellers giving 'camp' or 'self-isolate' as a reason for travelling to Manitoulin, 26; number of off-Island travellers that did not specify a reason, 52; checkpoint run-throughs (drivers did not stop), one. April 10: total travellers, 369; off-Island travellers, 169; number of travellers giving 'camp' or 'self-isolate' as a reason for travelling to Manitoulin, 79; number of off-Island travellers that did not specify a reason, 20; checkpoint run-throughs (drivers did not

**Off-Island travellers: 688**  
**April 9 - April 14**



stop), five. April 11: total travellers, 406; off-Island travellers, 142; number of travellers giving 'camp' or 'self-isolate' as a reason for travelling to Manitoulin, 52; number of off-Island travellers that did not specify a reason, 10; checkpoint run-throughs (drivers did not stop), seven. April 12: total travellers, 202; off-Island travellers, 61; number of travellers giving 'camp' or 'self-isolate' as a reason for travelling to Manitoulin, 17; number of off-Island travellers that did not specify a reason, eight; checkpoint run-throughs (drivers did not

stop), none. April 13: total travellers, 343; off-Island travellers, 77; number of travellers giving 'camp' or 'self-isolate' as a reason for travelling to Manitoulin, 19; number of off-Island travellers that did not specify a reason, 18; checkpoint run-throughs (drivers did not stop), 13. And April 14: total travellers, 418; off-Island travellers, 131; number of travellers giving 'camp' or 'self-isolate' as a reason for travelling to Manitoulin, 28; number of off-Island travellers that did not specify a reason, 35; checkpoint run-throughs (drivers did not stop), six.

## ...leaders urge local emergency status

...continued from page 10  
rebels."

Sheguiandah First Nation Ogimaa Andrew Aguonie said his community is also putting up signs, although they had not yet declared a state of emergency. His community is also divided by a provincial highway. He invoked the treaty relationship and suggested that, at the very least, signs should be put up at the bridge. He suggested that would help to bring calm to many of the very worried people in his community.

Central Manitoulin Mayor Richard Stephens also said that although he has seen unusually large numbers of vehicles on the backroads of his community, he did

not see any advantage to a declaration of emergency.

Chair Noland agreed that stopping people at the bridge is "not in our legal authority."

Mayor MacNevin asked if this was the time to "take away the rights of people to travel," but did commit to bringing the question to his council.

Billings Mayor Anderson said that he would defer to Mayor MacNevin as the more veteran municipal leader.

In the end, while the municipalities supported the efforts of the First Nations, they would not commit to declaring their own states of emergency and would defer to the province when it came to the flow of traffic.

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## ...will host COVID-19 recovery beds

...continued from page 1

nack Family Health Team, said the facility will have an initial capacity of seven beds but could be expanded to between 10 and 15 should the need arise. These community recovery centres are not affiliated with Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) in any way, although they will be sending and receiving patients between the MHC facilities and the recovery centres as patient conditions change.

"I need to give a shout-out to the township, Assiginack has been fabulous. They've stood behind us in all the changes we had to make here at the family health team, and five ladies got together on the weekend to make enough masks so at least every household has one," she said.

The recovery centre will have a limited staff and volunteers with skills such as personal support workers are being sought to help with the effort. However, since the patients in the recovery centre will generally be past the worst of the virus and simply trying to rebuild their strength, the organizers hope caregiver needs will be relatively low.

There are four oxygen concentrators (which take room air, extract the oxygen and deliver it to a patient) and municipal staff are building two negative pressure rooms for donning and doffing personal protective equipment (PPE).

Given Cortes has volunteered to lead exercises for the patients and provide some entertainment for those in the facility.

Although the recovery centre will be ideal for those who need to build up some strength near the end of their COVID-19 journey, Assiginack is also seeking spaces that can be used for people who are strong enough on their own but cannot return home in circumstances such as the rest of their co-habitants being vulnerable to the disease.

"We're referring to those people as the 'walking well.' They're becoming more independent but they may still be infectious so they can't be at home until they're identified as being cured. People have been talking about donating their unused RVs, tents and cottages for this since they can't use them," said Ms. Mellan.

Dr. Mike Bedard, who works with the Assiginack Family Health Team and will be

the clinical administrator of the Little Current field hospital, stressed that while he hopes all communities get their own facilities in operation, the Assiginack recovery centre will not turn people away if they live elsewhere.

There will likely be two people on staff at any given time in the recovery centre, though these plans are evolving alongside the virus itself and the available manpower. The organizers of this centre are cautious to mind the PPE and staffing needs of the main MHC front-lines and say the recovery centres cannot take resources away from the higher-need parts of the Island health system.

"We've had people phoning since the news of the field hospital came out, there were respiratory therapists on the Island that have not been working who have since signed in with MHC to start again, which is awesome, but we're still looking to see who can volunteer here for both medical help and for things like cooking meals and deliveries," said Ms. Pennie.

The care beds are now in place at the arena and the facility can be cleaned up and readied for patients in as little as 48 hours when the need arises.

Community-based recovery centres that are run independently of MHC, such as this one in Manitowaning, are aligned with the main health centre's priorities and initiatives to minimize the impact of the virus.

"The purpose of the step-down recovery centre is all part of the continuum of MHC's surge plan," said MHC president and CEO Lynn Foster. "We certainly have a lot of community support, so rest assured, we are prepared (for an increase in cases)."

Facilities such as these for patients who are not in need of major medical attention will be a way to optimize Manitoulin Island's finite resources as the case numbers continue to increase across Canada.

"Even though we may be in a crisis, we still have to provide the right level of care at the right place, so you have to ensure you have the right equipment to care for the individual," said Ms. Foster.

M'Chigeeng Ojima-kwe Linda Debassige said details were still being coordinated for her community's recovery centre and reserved comment until the project reaches a later stage.

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# ...Manitoulin Island-innovated snorkel adaptation

...continued from page 1  
 expect the device to eventually pass inspection. CMM Precision routinely certifies medical products and engineered the mask modifications following Health Canada guidelines.

In the April 8 edition of The Manitoulin Expositor, the front-page story 'Island paramedic re-engineers snorkel masks to deliver oxygen, protect front line medical staff' described how Mr. Cranston, a retired paramedic in Mindemoya, partnered with MHC medical staff president Dr. Mike Bedard in his home workshop to turn a full-face snorkel mask into a unit that could feed oxygen to patients and be worn by medical staff to filter the air they breathe. Exhalation filters were added to further reduce the virus' spread.

Mr. Hannan saw the story online, noticed that the two had used a CobraMask for their home-brew project, and contacted this newspaper to reach Mr. Cranston. They have been collaborating ever since.

Both Mr. Cranston and Dr. Bedard were at the Little Current field hospital site, which has yet to see any patients, when Mr. Hannan, Mr. Follest and his son Jake Follest travelled from southern Ontario to personally deliver the first 50 units for MHC on Monday, April 20.

"Mike and Bill deserve all the credit for advocating

for our communities and ensuring Manitoulin Island was prepared, even though they faced much opposition at the start. We wouldn't be as far ahead without them," said MHC VP of clinical services and chief nursing officer Paula Fields.

"We're very grateful we have people on our Island who are so community-minded. None of this would have happened without them," added MHC VP of corporate support services and chief financial officer Tim Vine, who was also present for the delivery.

MHC became the first hospital to directly receive an order of these units from CanCOV. Mr. Hannan said he wanted to make sure MHC was right near the top of the list because of how closely the health centre has worked and continues to work on the development of this product. He planned to create a survey for patients and medical staff members who end up using the mask so he can improve future versions.

"Big centres are probably going to be getting assistance before rural and Northern communities, and I'm so glad we're here working with MHC," said Mr. Hannan.

Mr. Follest and Jake worked together to create a handful of prototypes, making fine adjustments to the details as they worked. It only took three rounds of testing and making adjustments before they found an

adapter that would work for their purposes.

These masks are intended principally for a health care setting, and Mr. Hannan said he would not be taking personal orders until all medical orders can be filled. However, he said the masks have many uses beyond COVID-19-positive patients.

"I'd like to see these put on someone as soon as they enter a hospital waiting room because you don't know who might have (COVID-19)," said Mr. Hannan, adding that the masks would benefit long-term-care workers, personal support workers, grocery store and other essential workers and people living with someone who has an infectious airborne disease.

The masks themselves have detachable modules to hold filters and connect a range of equipment, such as oxygen lines and attachments to maintain positive airway pressure.

Mr. Hannan had to make some modifications to his existing CobraMask design to better suit it for clinical use. A one-way mushroom valve for exhaling used air was removed in place of the exhaust filter, and the mask's built-in GoPro mount was taken off.

"We actually think we're going to be putting the GoPro mount back on," said Mr. Hannan; no, not for the next hit reality show (although Cobra-

Mask was featured on Dragon's Den two years back), but because users such as dentists could mount LED lights to that plate which would help with their work.

The filter holders are detachable from the mask and they support small N100 filters (which eliminate 99.97 percent of particulate matter, as opposed to the gold-standard N95's filtration rate of 95 percent). Oxygen lines can be fitted to the filter housings themselves, a major upgrade to Mr. Cranston's design that he was struggling to solve on his own.

...continued on page 22

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# Volunteer Appreciation Week 2020

## Norma Hughson prefers the back-stage of volunteerism

by Warren Schlote  
SHEGUIANDAH—Norma Hughson is a volunteer who prefers to help make things happen behind the scenes and celebrate the power of working together as a team to accomplish great things, but after much persuasion The Expositor convinced her to share her life's wisdom with the next generation of volunteers.

"If you don't have a good crew behind you, you can't do any of it. You can't do it solo; you need that crew and over the years I've had some really good ones," said Ms. Hughson.

Her exposure to volunteerism began at an early age. Her father was on town council for many years and her mother helped out her neighbours regularly with any needs they might have had. In her youth, Ms. Hughson took part in 4-H and her mother was also a volunteer leader of that group.

"I wouldn't take her classes because she was really hard on you if you were her kid," said Ms. Hughson with a laugh.

She has kept her leader papers current and has stepped in to fill vacancies for 4-H events in recent years, though those days are starting to draw to a close.



Norma Hughson, right, doles out barbecued vittles at the Sheguiandah Fall Fair where she spends many volunteer hours.

Ms. Hughson's career was a busy one—she worked as a registered practical nurse and a physiotherapy assistant in locations including the Wikwemikong Nursing Home, Manitoulin Health Centre and the Manitoulin Centennial Manor. With those busy work demands, in addition to raising a family of her own, giving back to the community was yet another component of an already full schedule.

"I had a lot of support at home for things like housework," said Ms. Hughson, again fulfilling her philosophy of giving credit to the many people behind the scenes who contribute to making any community efforts successful.

While working at the hospital, Ms. Hughson got involved with supporting seniors.

"We'd make arrangements to take them on things like picnics and rally

organize featuring a special guest couple.

"Getting Charlie Farquharson (the popular character portrayed by Don Hannon) and his wife Catherine McKinnon here was so much fun. The town worked with us for the arena rental and we had volunteers helping to drive people from the Manor to as far as Gore Bay," says Ms. Hughson.

Readers may recognize Ms. Hughson's name deep in the credits of events put on in the Northeast Town, especially those involving the Sheguiandah Centennial Museum. This is not her first foray into museum volunteerism—she has worked closely with Pat Costigan at the Mindemoya museum and was a member of its board. She has also been involved with the museum in South Baymouth.

Despite the years of volunteering, Ms. Hughson has never been involved formally with any service clubs, though her husband Lynn is a member of the Southeast Manitoulin Lions Club. Her own children have taken up the volunteering torch in their own way, helping out with political organizing and activities for their own children.

These days, Ms. Hughson

gives most of her volunteer hours to the Manitoulin Genealogy Club which has hosted interactive workshops and compiled resources in recent years, such as the Manitoulin Roots webpage that helps to chronicle family history on Manitoulin Island.

She has of late been sewing a few masks to help out with the COVID-19 effort, regularly works to rally the Sheguiandah community for initiatives such as Harvest Glory Days and decorating the fish stand, and can often be found as one of the silent forces helping to get events off the ground.

"I'm always cruising around the back. A lot of times, people don't realize I'm a part of things because I usually work way back in the background, and I'm quite happy there," says Ms. Hughson.

As for those people who might be considering helping out their communities through volunteering their time, Ms. Hughson's advice was simple: just do it.

"If you've got an idea, run with it. You just have to find somebody that's willing to work with you on it and away you go. Challenges might come up but you'll find ways to come through them," she said.

### Expositor file photo

the troops to get a crew who was willing to help out with it. We took chronic patients on tours like scenic boat cruises, and I'd volunteer to drive the Manor bus and take people where they wanted to go," says Ms. Hughson.

One particular memorable event she helped to host while working at the hospital was a Valentine's Day party at the Northeast Town's arena, an event dozens of people helped to

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**Volunteer Week**

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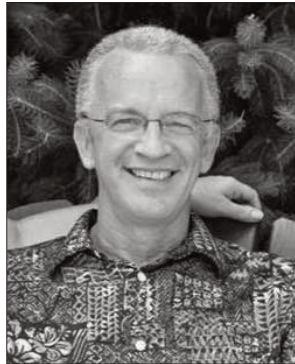
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# Volunteer Appreciation Week 2020

## Community page is a volunteer labour of love for Bill Concannon

by Michael Erskine  
 BILLINGS—Bill Concannon and his wife hated it when they spotted photos in The Expositor of past events that they had missed the past week—so the long-time DJ and sometime helmsman of the North Channel Cruise Line vessel Le Heron decided it was time to do something about it. Thus, the highly successful Facebook page ‘What’s Doin’ On Manitoulin’ was born.



**Bill Concannon**

With the arrival of the pandemic crisis and the heightened level of fear in the community some unforeseen challenges became apparent.

“My passion for the Island has been around ever since I was a wee child,” he said. “When we finally moved up here, we would see things in The Manitoulin Expositor we would have liked to have gone to—we just kept missing stuff.”

“There was also the question of letting people from off-Island know that there is plenty to do here,” he said. “There are things doin’ on Manitoulin that might draw those folks here to check the Island out. I know right now we don’t want people moving around unnecessarily, but when I set it up I thought about how important tourism is to the Island economy and it will be important again when this current crisis finally ends.”

When he first set up the Facebook page he would be excited each time his phone would ping that someone had posted something new. Then came the day that the number of members surpassed 100.

“I thought ‘oh my God, this is so amazing,’” he said. “Now the page numbers have more than 6,800 members. I have had to turn the ping sound off on my phone.” The posts are now coming in a flurry.

“It didn’t get there on its own,” he noted. To assist with the organic growth, he started posting links to the page on various buy and sell forums and other Island-related websites and social media outlets.

One of the key elements that has helped overcome some of the skepticism that first greeted the site is the effort that Mr. Concannon puts into moderating the comments and posts on ‘What’s Doin’ On Manitoulin.’

But he has had to put down some firm rules and sometimes had to be direct with people about what they are posting—especially the trolls, people who post items simply to cause trouble or get a rise out of people.

“I used to give people more of a benefit of the doubt,” he said. “I still try

to, but when someone is being an obvious troll they get banned now pretty quickly. I don’t want to be the cyber police, but it could get out of hand pretty quick if it isn’t laid out firmly. Now it’s more likely to be delete and block, especially of it is someone new to the site.”

Mr. Concannon has also banned anything being posted that isn’t specifically related to Manitoulin. “Some folks are upset that I don’t include Birch Island,” he said, “but where does it end once I start expanding the area?”

The moderator has also banned most posts about COVID-19, unless they are related to changing business hours or services, such as the changing of dump hours do to the pandemic response. “There are a lot of sites out there that are doing that,” he said. “Let’s just keep things about What’s Doin’ On Manitoulin. If you don’t like a group or its policies, why don’t you just start a group of your own? There’s nothing the matter with that.”

Each day, Mr. Concannon sits down with his morning coffee and starts sifting through the posts, ensuring that things are being kept on a polite and even keel. He said that it takes him something like an hour and a half a day to stay on top of the posts.

At first he found it difficult to deal with the negativity. “I would get a sick feeling in my stomach,” he admitted. But he has since learned to take most things in stride—except the physical threats. “Yeah, I got one of those. I have blocked that individual from my personal and my group pages.”

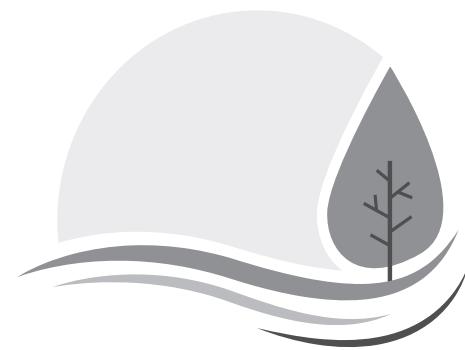
But he gets a lot of positive response.

Mr. Concannon shared one letter he received from a person whose family was established here in 1890s. “It just about brought me to tears,” he said. The writer, who like many Haweaters has been forced economically to become an expat, spoke about how they made a point of shopping on Manitoulin when they came to their Island home in the summer. Now, the writer said, they have been the subject of very nasty vitriol from those who live

on Manitoulin year-round. “She said that they were considering making sure they had the supplies they need so they wouldn’t have to go out to shop on the Island due to the nasty things people are saying,” said Mr. Concannon. “I think local business owners especially may want to dial it back a bit when they are posting things online, it may come back to bite them in the butt when things get back to something more normal. We need the summer people to make it possible for businesses and services we depend on to be here year after year. Maybe just staying quiet would be the best policy when you see something posted online that makes you upset.”

Mr. Concannon is an international member of the Lions Club and has done volunteer DJing for numerous charities including Community Living London and veterans groups. Now that he lives on Manitoulin, Mr. Concannon also focuses of pet rescues. “When people insist on giving me money for things I do, I donate that money to Bleu Fisher in Little Current,” he said.

As for motivation, Mr. Concannon said it is simple. “I love it,” he said. “The old saying is that it is better to give than to receive and it is true.”



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# Volunteer Appreciation Week 2020

## Bill Baker encourages new Islanders to get involved in their community

**by Alicia McCutcheon**  
ICE LAKE—Bill Baker moved back to his Manitoulin home in the early 1980s after spending 14 years in Sudbury and immediately began to volunteer his time with the community that raised him.

“When we came back, I was involved very heavily with the Strawberry Point Christian Camp,” Mr. Baker explained of his volunteer efforts. “I was a great contributor to that effort for many years, and was instrumental

in the procurement of that property.” Prior to the land purchase, the camp rented the property on Ice Lake.

More recently, Mr. Baker is perhaps best known for his active involvement as a volunteer with Manitoulin Lodge, especially as chief organizer for the monthly men’s breakfasts.

“Slim Field recruited me to help out at the Lodge,” Mr. Baker explained. When Mr. Field left Manitoulin, Mr. Baker was asked to pick up where he left off.

“I organize the other vol-

unteers for the men’s breakfast,” he said, noting the “seven or eight good guys” who come each month to help with the cooking and serving.

Mr. Baker has been assisting with these breakfasts for two decades or more.

The Ice Lake volunteer also helps with the men’s golf mornings at Golf Manitoulin (formerly the Manitoulin Island Country Club), as well as the Western Manitoulin Seniors Drop-In Centre where he serves as treasurer and has

acted as president.

Mr. Baker finds himself heading the popular drop-in centre pool tournaments and has even started a winter shuffleboard bowling league.

Mr. Baker said he enjoys volunteering because it offers the opportunity to give of himself.

“The years I was working real estate, I was working 24/7,” he explained. “Once I had more free time it was something to fill the time and give back.”

Mr. Baker perhaps most enjoys his time at the Lodge. “It makes a few old men feel happy once a month. It’s a lot of fun.”

Mr. Baker said because of his years in real estate,

he would see people move to Manitoulin because they fell in love with the place but would fail to get involved in the community. Five years later they would move again.

He encourages those new to Manitoulin to make the most of their surroundings. “Get out, get involved, meet people.” Volunteering offers “a chance to meet new people, especially if

you’re new to the Island. Ask questions about where to volunteer and where to help,” Mr. Baker added, noting that a municipal office is a good place to ask.



**Bill Baker**



**Manitoulin  
Family Resources**

### Manitoulin Family Resources

The Board and Staff of MFR would like to sincerely and deeply thank our food bank and thrift store volunteers and our volunteer drivers for their hard work and exceptional dedication.

*We miss you, stay safe, and we hope to see all of you again soon.*

\* \* \*

#### MFR Mission Statement

To enhance the quality of life of individuals and families by providing resources, advocacy, support and education through the agency’s three program areas of Children’s Services; Violence Against Women Prevention; and Emergency Food Assistance.

*national*  
**Volunteer  
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**Aundeck Omni Kaning wishes to recognize  
the contribution of our community’s volunteers.  
Thank you for all your hard work and dedication.**

*From the Aundeck Omni Kaning Chief  
and Band Council.*



**THANK YOU!**  
*We are truly grateful.*

## Volunteer Appreciation Week

### Lisa Hallaert wears many volunteer hats for her Manitowaning home

by Alicia McCutcheon  
 MANITOWANING—This time of year, Lisa Hallaert would be busy organizing the Northeast Town's Volunteer Week appreciation wine and cheese event in her role as events co-ordinator for the municipality, but this year she'll be forced to take a break and instead reflect on her own good deeds in her Assiginack community.



Lisa Hallaert

Ms. Hallaert moved back to her childhood Manitowaning home seven years ago after raising a young family in Thunder Bay. While she admits to not being a volunteer in the city, perhaps it's because she was the busy mother of two young boys, she said she got the volunteer itch as soon as she moved home.

Volunteerism runs in Lisa's family. Her father Bill Moggy was a charter member of the Southeast Manitoulin Lions Club and uncle Hugh Moggy has been a volunteer extraordinaire for decades in Manitowaning.

Ms. Hallaert is currently the president of the Southeast Manitoulin Lions, vice president of the Assiginack Horticultural Society and a director with the Manitowaning Agricultural Society. When she's not busy with these groups, the Hallaert family is known for organizing other com-

munity events, like the Manitowaning cleanup where residents are encouraged to get outside and clean up the streets of the town, as well as the parade of lights held each December and which just marked its seventh anniversary.

With club activities and meetings on hold for the time-being, Ms. Hallaert is now busy helping elderly family members run errands.

Ms. Hallaert's rise to president of the Lions Club is a whirlwind story. She joined the club during a time of great uncertainty and declining membership and, within a year, found herself treasurer, then treasurer and president at the same time, then president, where she remains to this day.

"I like the fact that we're able to help the community," Lion President Lisa said of the Lions Club. "It makes you feel good, and I try to tell my kids that all the time."

When it comes to the Horticultural Society, Ms. Hallaert said her Uncle Hugh told her that the society was looking for new members. She acknowledged that the society's average age is quite a bit older than she is, but she has always had a love of gardening and decided to give it a shot, and she's glad she did.

"They are an amazing group," she said of the Assiginack Horticultural Society. "They're full of energy, ideas and knowledge and a joy to be around."

Wearing her Manitowaning Agricultural Society hat, "I saw the numbers dwindling and thought, 'why not?' I've always loved the fall fair as a kid." Ms. Hallaert said she's proud to be a part of something with such a storied history, noting that it's almost the same age as Manitowaning itself, which marks its 150th anniversary next year (and yes, she's on the planning committee for that too).

Ms. Hallaert encourages would-be volunteers to try out a meeting for a local service club or organization to get a taste of what they're missing and see what it's like.

"There are lots of groups that need volunteers so help out when you can—it gives you a good feeling."



Council wishes to express our sincere gratitude to the members of our community who take time out of their busy schedules to volunteer for the betterment of our municipality.

The services that are provided to our community as a direct result of volunteer efforts do not go unnoticed and are truly appreciated.

We appreciate this opportunity to say ...



### THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ASSIGINACK

is proud to acknowledge its many volunteers who help to make Assiginack a vibrant and caring community.

*We acknowledge that without these efforts, our community would not be the dynamic and spirited one that it is.*

We appreciate this opportunity to say

*Thank You!*



Conseil des Services du District de  
**Manitoulin-Sudbury**  
 District Services Board

*The Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board staff would like to take this opportunity to thank the volunteers in our communities ~*

*~ for all your efforts this week, and throughout the year,*

**WE THANK YOU!**



# Volunteer Appreciation Week 2020

## Over 30 volunteers make the Manitoulin Ice Showdown a success

by **Giselle Aiabens**  
**MANITOULIN**—Many great community events require a lot of volunteer power to carry out their goals and mandate successfully and efficiently. This is even more so for large events organized by non-profit organizations and the Manitoulin Ice Showdown is no exception. This year, the Manitoulin Ice Showdown had 34 incredible volunteers carrying out tasks ranging from pre-derby week set-up and behind-the-scenes administration to welcoming derby participants at registration and weighing fish brought into any of the six check-in stations and, most importantly, helping to create a memorable experience for derby participants.

Derby participants were often heard remarking about how professional, helpful and friendly the volunteers were and this National Volunteer Week the Manitoulin Ice Showdown volunteers deserve to once again be acknowledged as wonderful community ambassadors. Showdown volunteers bring their heart, skills and talents while giving much of their time so that the derby can successfully host Manitoulin Island's premier winter event, bringing local anglers together with visit-



**Adolphus Trudeau**

ing anglers from across the region, the province and the country.

When speaking with volunteers about why they volunteer for the Manitoulin Ice Showdown many of them spoke about the importance of giving back to their community which so often supports them and recognize that, as volunteers, they play an important role in the success of the derby and they all want to see it succeed and grow year over year. Some veteran volunteers, who have been a part of the derby for several years, including Galen Trudeau, Christiana Jones and Stacey Jackson cite the derby as a fun event that makes winter a little more bearable. In fact, Ms. Jackson, who now looks forward to being involved in the derby every year says "my experience with the derby has been amazing and I recommend other community members

get involved. Derby participants make the event more enjoyable with all their fishing tips and sharing their experiences as well as where they came from while visiting" at the check in stations. Galen Trudeau agrees and adds that helping "feels good and it's also good to have volunteer experience on your resume."



**Shawl Eshkibok**

When asked if she would volunteer again, first-time volunteer Bionka Eshkawkogan Maiangowi said "I would most definitely volunteer again next year!" Other first-time volunteers, including Rachel Lewis, Cathy Mishibinjima and Brittany Trudeau all agreed, expressing gratitude for the experience and say they look forward to being involved in future derbies given the fun they had volunteering this year.

Rachel Lewis, who volunteered this year because she enjoys helping out and being a part of something outside of her usual routine

said that she would volunteer again because "it was such a great event and I especially loved seeing some of the younger participants enjoying the event."

The derby has a group of dedicated volunteers that return each year because the experience is so enjoyable. One such repeat volunteer is Ian Dokum who first volunteered for the Manitoulin Ice Showdown in 2019 because he wanted to get some volunteer hours for school and knew this opportunity would help him—and because it's an annual event, he knew if he didn't get enough hours in his first year he could volunteer again the next year.



**Rachel Lewis**

The Wikwemikong High School student was able to complete all his volunteer hours this year however he says that he will continue to volunteer because "it was an amazing experience." As

a return volunteer, he was able to take on greater responsibilities this year including weighing in fish that came in. He says, "I enjoyed my experience at the derby as I got to enjoy my weekend outside getting some fresh air and meet people and have conversations with them. I also got to spend time with a family member who I never get a chance to spend time with."



**Bionka Eshkawkogan Maiangowi**

Another volunteer who, according to his sister Cindy Ominika "always looked forward to volunteering for the derby each year," was the late Warren 'Chocolate' Manitowabi whom Wikwemikong Tourism gratefully acknowledges for his many years of dedication in volunteering for the Wikwemikong Ice Fishing Derby, the predecessor to the Manitoulin Ice Showdown.

Luke Wassegijig, Wikwemikong Tourism Manager, fondly recalls the many years Warren-baa volunteered describing his dedication and sense of levity as a key asset to the success of the annual derby. Indeed, it is the dedication and willingness of volunteers to share their talents, their humour and their time with the Manitoulin Ice Showdown that contributes greatly to its success!

The 2020 Manitoulin Ice Showdown Volunteers were: Stacey Aiabens, Robin Anderson, Ashley Assinewe, Sydney Barnsdale, Jocelyn Bepamikawe, Ann Cummings, Ian Dokum, Derek Drysdale, Kevin Dunlop, Kendra Edwards, Bonita Eshkawkogan, Bionka Eshkawkogan Maiangowi, Shawl Eshkibok, Stacey Jackson, Christianna Jones, Ben Lewis, Dante Lewis, Rachel Lewis, Darren Machimity, Sierrah Manitowabi, Jasmyn Manitowabi-Pangowish, Cathy Mishibinjima, Dallas Mishibinjima, Evanson Peltier, Belynn Pitawanakwat, Owen Pitawanakwat, Hunter Roy, Amanda Roy, Evan Roy, Adolphus Trudeau, Brittany Trudeau, Galen Trudeau and Kendra Wasengesgo.

### COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TEHKUMMAH

Acknowledges that

## Volunteering

is a Tehkummah Tradition

*We lack the space to thank every organization, let alone every volunteer in the community who has contributed in some way to making our community a better place to live and work.*

Council wishes to thank everyone in the community who has given of their time, experience and efforts to bettering some part of Tehkummah, for the benefit of us all.

*We acknowledge the efforts of those who make a difference for so many.*



## THANK YOU

**The Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board would like to thank all essential workers.**

**Your dedication and commitment to our communities in this time of uncertainty is appreciated.**



Conseil des Services du District de  
**Manitoulin-Sudbury**  
 District Services Board

## Volunteer Appreciation Week

### Andrew Corbiere volunteers for the love of his M'Chigeeng First Nation home

by Alicia McCutcheon  
**M'CHIGEENG—** Andrew 'Snooze' Corbiere is a volunteer force in his community. A volunteer firefighter since the age of 18, volunteerism is a large part of this energetic young man's life who has most recently turned his attention to helping to run the M'Chigeeng COVID-19 checkpoint.



**Andrew Corbiere**

The Expositor caught up with Mr. Corbiere during a volunteer stint at the Highway 540 checkpoint last Thursday where he was working a 12-hour shift on the highway following up on an 18 hour stretch the day before.

"I'm in charge of scheduling, recruiting and basically keeping it going," Mr. Corbiere shared.

Mr. Corbiere said he was keen to volunteer in this role because he believes it's incredibly important for the entire Manitoulin community. "It's not a blockade, but a place to gather important statistics that can be used to show the different levels of government what is going on," he said, adding that if there were an Island outbreak, the data might also prove useful to help track the virus's spread.

Mr. Corbiere believes in this cause so much that he's

willing to risk his own health. "We keep our distance and have proper PPE (personal protective equipment) and I know there's a chance (of contracting COVID-19), but that's a risk I'm willing to take."

Mr. Corbiere said that the checkpoint volunteer crews have been getting a lot of support from most people and that there were only a small handful of "bad apples, which is to be expected."

This past year, Mr. Corbiere could be found behind the bench of the M'Chigeeng bantam team, leading them to a near victory in the house league championships. "It was a tough playoff, but the kids had fun." He's also served as president for the

M'Chigeeng Minor Hockey Association.

Mr. Corbiere's favourite volunteer pastime is his role on the M'Chigeeng Fire Department. He even boasts the most calls responded to for the past seven years. "Well, I do live next door to the hall," he laughed.

Being able to help save a life, or even the life of a beloved pet, means a lot to this volunteer.

"As soon as I hear the pager I run from my house to the hall and get the trucks ready." Mr. Corbiere said he utilizes a lot of his firefighter training for his work at the checkpoint too.

"I try to help out as much as possible in the community," Mr. Corbiere said. "Peo-

...continued on page 30


Manitoulin Lodge values our many volunteers. We know it has been very difficult during this challenging time. You are still our valued volunteer and we know you are thinking positive thoughts.

*Your name is Volunteer.*  
*Your name is love. We feel your love and compassion.*  
*Your name is patience. Shown as we wait out this storm.*  
*Your name is kindness, as you find ways to help others ease their pain*  
*Your name is volunteer, you are love, patience, kindness and so, so much more.*

**The Residents, Management, and Staff appreciate the time, energy, dedication and care that so many of our community members have devoted to our home. You do make a difference in our lives.**

**We honour you more than you know. We miss you. Our wish is for all to stay safe until we see each other again.**

**Together we will be strong and succeed. You do make a difference!**



## Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services


We recognize and appreciate volunteers who continue to make meaningful and positive influences in the lives of children on a daily basis. As a Volunteer, each of your tireless efforts do make a difference in the life of a child and their families. Your contribution assure children stay connected with their roots, culture and language and to help them experience healthy, happy and safe lives.

We wish to express our gratitude to our many volunteers who serve in a variety of capacities:


- Drivers:** Volunteers who transport children to school, family visits, therapy, medical appointments and attend community events.
- Special Events:** Volunteers who assist in the coordination and delivery of agency initiatives and special events.
- Special Friend to a Parent or Child:** Volunteers who serve as a 'Special Friend' to provide support, act as a positive role model, encourage or provide guidance and support to a parent or a child by spending valuable time with them.
- Mentor:** Volunteers who act as a mentor in supporting either a parent or a youth in care in developing areas of independence and life skills.
- Elders Advisory Council:** Volunteers who serve as cultural resources and provide direction on how to strengthen the agency, children, families and community relationships from a cultural perspective.
- Board of Directors:** For individually volunteering at least 85 hours per year providing guidance and direction to assure the agency achieves its vision and mission, approve policies, strategies plan and monitor and evaluate agency systems.

**Kchi Miigwetch Gwandak Kina Gaa Bewiidaakaasijik!**

*Big Thank You to All of You for Volunteering!*



## MANITOULIN HEALTH CENTRE



# Thank You

## TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS!

*Manitoulin Health Centre gratefully acknowledges the important efforts of the volunteer members of our two hospital auxiliaries and Board of Directors.*

*These wonderful people show a level of dedication which is truly remarkable.*

**We are truly blessed!**

*So, from all of us at MHC, a BIG Heartfelt Thank You!!!!*

# ...manufacturer acts quickly to produce Island-innovated snorkel adaptation

...continued from page 15

The mask and the filter housings are made of UV-safe plastic and can be sterilized using medical-grade ultraviolet germicidal irradiation treatments, making the whole system quickly reusable. The masks can be immersed in warm sterilization solutions, though the hottest-temperature steam treatments can melt the plastic so UV sterilization is likely to be the best way to sanitize the units.

Mr. Hannan and Mr. Follest said their companies are working well together particularly because they're both Canadian manufacturers working to address the needs of the Canadian population. All the modified parts are 3D-printed and assembled in Canada, such as the filter-holder assemblies used in testing that came from Agile Manufacturing.

Although he was jokingly introduced to the group at the field hospital as the human model for the product, Jake was an integral part of the development of CanCOV's emergency mask. The 14-year-old is adept at computer-aided design (CAD) and web development. Mr. Follest estimated that Jake was responsible for 40 percent of the CAD work on the mask attachments and he also built CanCOV's website which launched the night before the delivery.

"Back when I was in Grade 3 or 4 my dad brought in a 3D printer to my class," Jake said. "We've done four weeks of 16-hour days to put the whole project together from the concept to the design."

It helps to grow up with parents who are "the only people in North America who have a CMM lab at our house," said Mr. Follest. For Jake, who has high-functioning autism, it has jump-started his career and he has already been receiv-

ing high-paid job offers. Not bad for someone who's barely at the threshold of high school.

CanCOV said it was looking to turn its creation into the new standard for health care protection, since the fully sealed design addresses shortcomings of other products such as partial-covering face shield visors and respirator masks that need to be individually fitted and disposed of after use.

Orders have been steadily coming into the company. Mr. Hannan said he would likely fulfill 2,000 in the coming weeks but said he was working to increase production capacity to meet the intense demand.

More information about this new product that was created in partnership with Manitoulin Islanders can be found at CanCOVMedical.ca.

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**Phoenix Audiology**  
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---

**Phoenix Audiology with Sam Bruser** will be coming to Little Current once a week starting in May.

We will help you out with minor hearing aid repairs and batteries in a safe and healthy manner.

**Call toll free 1 844 935 1480 to arrange an appointment.**

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62 Water St. E. PO Box 437  
Little Current, ON POP 1K0  
[northchannelmarinesurveys@gmail.com](mailto:northchannelmarinesurveys@gmail.com)  
**705-210-9210**

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[carterexcavation@outlook.com](mailto:carterexcavation@outlook.com) • 1-705-348-1696

**Are you concerned about someone's drinking?** Al-Anon has one purpose: Welcoming, giving hope and comfort to help family and friends of alcoholics. Changed attitudes can aid recovery. Stepping Stones Al-Alon Group: Thursdays at 7 pm in the library room at the Missionary Church, 51 Young Street, Mindemoya, 705-377-4892/705-377-5138. Espanola Al-Anon, Tuesdays at 7 pm, Anglican Church, 213 Tudhope Street, Espanola, 705-869-6595.

Tfn

**Questions or concerns about diabetes?** We can help. Please contact the MHC Diabetes Training and Care Centre. Individual and group appointments available with a registered nurse or dietitian certified in diabetes education. Clinics in Little Current, Mindemoya, Silver Water, Gore Bay and Manitowaning. Please call 705-368-2300 ext. 2415 for more information. Self-referrals accepted.

Tfn

**Gateway To Life Church** service schedule, Sunday Morning Gateway Kids ages 4 to 12, 9 am to 10 am; Sunday Worship, 10:30 am; Tuesday Bible Study, 7 pm; Wednesday The Gate Youth, 7pm. Affiliated with P.A.O.C., 22 Vankoughnet street east, P.O. Box 681, Little Current, Ontario POP 1K0. Pastor Philip Hovi 705-368-0245, email: [office@gatewaytolifechurch.com](mailto:office@gatewaytolifechurch.com)

tfn

**Manitoulin Family Resources** offers programs to support and promote positive family relationships on Manitoulin and the North Shore. Violence against Women Prevention Services: Haven House Shelter, Outreach Counseling Crisis Line 705-377-5160; Toll Free Crisis Line 800-465-6788; Children's Services: Early ON Child and Family Centre, Little Current Child Care, Mindemoya Child Care 705-368-3400; Help Centre: Thrift Shop & Food Bank 705-368-3400; Administration 705-368-3400.

Tfn

**Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.** To receive adult or youth/parent information on Myalgic Encephalomyelitis, more commonly known as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, or to volunteer with our Association, please contact: The Myalgic Encephalomyelitis Association of Ontario. Tel: 416-222-8820 or 1-877-632-6682 (outside GTA) or write to: Ste. 402, 170 Donway West, Toronto, ON M3C 2G3. Please visit our web site at: [www.meao.ca](http://www.meao.ca).

tfn

**Parkinson's Disease Support Group.** For those affected by the disease and their caregivers, meetings will be the third Thursday of every month, 1:30 - 3:30 pm. Mindemoya Public Library (at the Municipal office building), Mindemoya. Call Marilyn at 705-368-0756, Ext 238 if there are any questions. All welcome.

tfn

**for sale**

**Mixed soft wood**, cut and split, \$50 per cord. Also, cedar rails for decorative purposes. Call 705-859-3782.

49-52c

**wanted**

**Donate your old car** or truck or farm tractor, etc., or even an old metal boat to our church. We can send a truck right to you to pick these up, and in return you will receive an income tax receipt for the scrap value of your donation to St. Bernard's Church, Little Current. Please, no smaller items such as fridges, stoves, hot water tanks, etc. Contact Tony Ferro at 705-368-3066 or Jim Griffin at 705-859-2289.

17tfn

**Sea Cadet Events**

**Manitoulin Sea Cadets** Corps weekly parade is temporarily suspended due to COVID-19. For enquiries, please contact 705-805-0350.

tfn

**welcome to**



**PRINCE DONALD JAHVI HORE**

Donald Hore and Auzza Kay are thrilled to announce the birth of their new son Prince Donald Jahvi Hore. He was born prematurely on December 15, 2019, Aunt Amanda's birthday. He weighed only 670g and was 32cm long. He now weighs 3.63kgs and is 49cm long. We are home in M'Chigeeng now after being in Toronto for the last four months when Prince was in Mount Sinai Hospital growing strong enough to come home. Proud grandparents are Melody and Murray Hore, Levi Stewart, Debbie Kay and step-grandfather Dan Lockerby and many proud aunts and uncles.

**lost & found**

**Lost:** Keys for a Chev truck, about 10 keys on the ring. Please call 705-368-3959 and leave a message. Thank you!

49-50p

**rentals**

**Apartment for rent.** Quiet affordable two-bedroom duplex apartment. \$825 plus utilities. First and last required, non-smoker. Leave a message, 705-368-1859.

47-49c

**rental wanted**

**Woman looking for one/two-bedroom apartment** or small house in a village in the Island. Quiet and responsible tenant, non-smoker, no pets. Call/text 705-936-7106.

49c

THE EXPOSITOR IS LEAVING THESE NOTES FOR HELPING ORGANIZATIONS IN PLACE FOR ALTHOUGH THE MEETINGS ARE SUSPENDED FOR THE TIME BEING THE CONTACT INFORMATION MIGHT PROVE TO BE VALUABLE.

**Codependents Anonymous** 12-Step Meeting for healthy relationships. Every Tuesday, 7 pm to 8:15 pm at the Elders' Centre, Sheguiandah, 11108A Hwy 6. For more info visit [coda.org](http://coda.org), email [codamanitoulin@gmail.com](mailto:codamanitoulin@gmail.com). Facebook @codamanitoulin.

tfn





**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – MANITOULIN LEGAL CLINIC  
OFFICE SUPPORT STAFF/BOOKKEEPER**

*The Manitoulin Legal Clinic provides free legal services to low income residents of the Manitoulin District. The Clinic is funded by Legal Aid Ontario and governed by a community-based Board of Directors. We are seeking a full-time Office Support Staff/Bookkeeper for a 12-month contract with possibility of renewal, reporting to the Executive Director.*

The successful candidate will provide intake services, such as greeting clients, answering the telephone, assess client needs and financial eligibility, make appropriate referrals, prepare and review letters and documents, maintain records and perform other duties as required. Excellent computer and interpersonal skills are required.

Additional duties include the management of the clinic's books of account, preparation of budgets and funding applications and regular financial reporting. Advanced experience in bookkeeping, proficiency in Microsoft Office and New Views accounting software are essential. Practical experience in Legal Aid Ontario's Client Information Management System (CIMS) would be considered a strong asset.

In particular, the successful candidate must also have sound organizational and administrative skills, with the ability to prioritize tasks and the ability to work under pressure and effectively deal with low income individuals and vulnerable clients and the ability to provide services in a culturally respectful manner.


Experience in a community legal clinic or law office setting is beneficial. The successful candidate must have reliable transportation and access to a vehicle.

Compensation will be based on experience.  
**Interested candidates must apply by April 30, 2020 at 4:00 PM.**

Applications including three (3) unrelated personal references and a valid CPIC including VSS should be submitted by mail to: 12 A Hillside Rd, Little Current, ON POP 1K0 or by email to: shainm@lao.on.ca to the attention of the MLC Hiring Committee.

**For a complete copy of the job description, please email: shainm@lao.on.ca**

We thank all applicants for their submissions, however, only those selected for an interview will be acknowledged.

 **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY  
NOOJMOWIN TEG HEALTH CENTRE  
PRIMARY CARE MANAGER (1 FTE)**

Noojmwon Teg Health Centre is seeking a full-time Primary Care Manager. The Manager will direct and supervise medical services and allied health team members, ensuring that the team works in consultation and collaboration with area First Nations, and other relevant health and social service organizations and providers. The incumbent will be responsible for all primary care specific projects and quality improvement initiatives. The successful candidate will demonstrate an alignment with Noojmwon Teg's mission, vision and guiding principles.

Noojmwon Teg Health Centre is committed to ongoing outreach, working in a circle of care approach, providing services in a culturally safe and relevant manner, working within a team based and supported environment, and to delivering services within the seven First Nation health clinics, off-reserve and in the Espanola area. The manager will report to the Executive Director.

The successful applicant will receive a competitive and attractive employment package. For more information on the organization and services provided, please check out: [www.noojmwon-teg.ca](http://www.noojmwon-teg.ca).

NTHC is an inclusive employer. Accommodation is available in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.

*Given the traditional practices of the Anishinabek, from time to time, exposure to wood smoke and the burning of sacred medicines, including tobacco, sweet grass, sage or cedar, may occur within the work setting.*

**Duties:**

- Manage all medical, allied health and support staff and services;
- Oversee and ensure the effectiveness and optimization of services including referral processes; appropriate charting, appropriate consultation and follow up, scheduling, program safety and delivery, etc;
- Ensure effective and comprehensive use of the organization's electronic medical record system;
- Ensure all team members maintain a high level of professional knowledge and skills through participation in necessary professional education and training, including a priority on cultural safety;
- Ensure compliance of health professionals with regulatory standards;
- Participate as a leader in organizational and partnered quality improvement initiatives;
- Manage general program responsibilities including budgets, funding report submissions etc.;
- Ensure that Anishnaabemowin and cultural safety practices of the organization be carried.

**Qualifications:**

- Minimum of a degree specific to a Registered Nurse and/or relevant Allied Health discipline;
- Current registration and in good standing with appropriate regulatory body;
- Five year's work experience in a management capacity and specific to community based primary health care - First Nation or indigenous setting preferred;
- Demonstrated knowledge and skills in budget management, staff supervision, privacy, incident investigations, occupational health and safety, funding reports and resource allocation;
- Demonstrated experience in successful project management ie, new initiatives, research, etc;
- Demonstrated ability to work within a team environment, internally and externally;
- Experience in blending western and traditional health practices, preferred;
- Knowledge of Anishnaabemowin and the Anishinabek culture, traditions and local communities, an asset;
- Excellent interpersonal, and written communication skills within an electronic environment, mandatory;
- Ability to travel, reliable vehicle, a valid class G Driver's Licence and clear driver's abstract;
- Clear vulnerable sector criminal record check, required.

**Submission Pre-requisites:**  
Please submit a covering letter, resume, three (3) work-related letters of reference, copy of registration, a current criminal records check, a copy of valid driver's licence and driver's abstract. Please mark correspondence as "Confidential". Submissions will be accepted by mail, facsimile or email. Please do not send your application via Facebook.

**Application Deadline: Friday, May 15, 2020 at 12 pm**

Attn: Human Resources  
Noojmwon Teg Health Centre  
Postal Bag 2002, Hwy. 540  
Little Current, ON POP 1K0  
T: (705) 368-2182 ext. 235  
F: (705) 368-2229  
E: [info@noojmwon-teg.ca](mailto:info@noojmwon-teg.ca)  
W: [www.noojmwon-teg.ca](http://www.noojmwon-teg.ca)

We thank all applicants for their interest; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

 **Manitoulin-Sudbury  
District Services Board**

210 boul Mead Blvd  
Espanola, ON P5E 1R9  
Telephone/Téléphone: (705) 862-7850  
Fax/Télécopieur: (705) 862-7805  
<http://www.msdsb.net>

The Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board is a municipal service management organization created by the provincial government to oversee the local planning, coordination and delivery of a range of services and programs divested to the municipal order of government. The specific programs our DSB is responsible for are: Ontario Works, Social Housing, Paramedic Services (Land Ambulance), and Early Learning and Child Care services.

The following Employment Opportunity is now available to anyone interested in joining our highly dedicated workforce.

**Field Superintendent – Espanola  
Permanent Full-Time  
Competition #2020-03-AD  
Closing date: April 30, 2020**

For position details, visit Job Opportunities on our website at  
[www.msdsb.net/index.php/careers](http://www.msdsb.net/index.php/careers)

While all responses are appreciated, only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

 **KINA Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services  
Posted 17APR20  
Employment Opportunity – Manitoulin Location**

Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services (KGCFs) is a designated Child Welfare Service delivering Child Protection Services within seven member First Nations in the Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin. KGCFs honours and supports our families' and community's inherent authority to care for their children based on unity, traditions, values, beliefs and customs.

**QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER  
(1) CONTRACT Position – up to 18 months  
Location: MANITOULIN  
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

**OVERVIEW:**  
The Quality Assurance Manager is responsible under the supervision of the Executive Director. The QA Manager is responsible for managing and facilitating improvement initiatives including program development, system improvement, outcome evaluation, funding submissions, service audits, training and achievement of agency vision, mission, service principles, strategic planning and agency operational plan.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

**Education and Experience**

- University Degree in social services, business/commerce or equivalent.
- Minimum of three (3) years of service and management experience preferably in the child welfare or non-profit sector.
- Experience in the delivery of First Nation Child and Family Services is an asset.

**Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**

- Good understanding of the agency's values, service philosophy and objectives.
- Applied knowledge in business analysis, statistics, research design, program implementation, and evaluation.
- Knowledge of quality assurance and quality improvement.
- Knowledge of auditing principles/practices and proposal writing.
- Ability to coach or mentor staff and provide critical feedback regarding work performance.
- Ability to perform under pressure with demonstrated time management skills.
- Demonstrated ability to provide training to various internal and external groups and facilitate the transfer of learning.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively both independently and within a team.
- Demonstrated critical thinking, analytical, decision making, problem solving, planning and priority-setting skills.
- Demonstrated interpersonal and collaboration skills to coordinate effectively with a broad variety of agency departments, staff members, management and community collaterals.
- Ability to maintain the appropriate safeguards for the confidentiality of Agency and client information.
- Knowledge and proficient competence of computer software e.g. Microsoft office, Frontline.
- Good understanding and awareness of community services and resources.
- Ability to exercise mature and professional judgment in conflict and stressful situations.
- Possess knowledge, respect and sensitivity to Anishinabe culture and be committed to helping First Nation families strengthen and achieve a healthy level of well-being.
- The ability to speak Anishinaabemowin is an asset.
- Must demonstrate excellent communication-written and oral skills.
- Must be able to work flexible hours as required.
- Must have a valid driver's licence and possess own vehicle.
- Must be willing to authorize a "Criminal Record Search with Vulnerable Sector Screening" and sign a "Declaration of Confidentiality"

**PLEASE REVIEW THE FULL JOB DESCRIPTION AND QUALIFICATIONS ON OUR WEBSITE  
[www.kgcf.org/employment](http://www.kgcf.org/employment)**

**DEADLINE: THIS POSITION IS OPEN UNTIL FILLED**

Applicants are encouraged to visit our website at [www.kgcf.org/employment](http://www.kgcf.org/employment) to review the full job description.

Please submit your application marked "Confidential: Quality Assurance Manager." Application must include a cover letter, resume, and (3) three reference letters - two (2) employment related from recent employers. Please also detail in your application: education, employment experience, cultural participation and volunteerism. Applications are accepted by the deadline date via regular mail, in person or email at:

Human Resources  
Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services  
Main Office - 98 Pottawatomi Avenue,  
Wikwemikong, Ontario POP 2J0  
Email: [hr@kgcf.org](mailto:hr@kgcf.org)

KGCFs services is based on a highly specialized approach to the delivery of child welfare in our area. Preference will be given to Anishinaabe candidates (please self-identify). Miigwech for your application, however, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. As a condition of employment, the successful candidates will be required to submit the following: satisfactory Criminal Reference Check (within 3 months of deadline date), Vulnerable Sector Check and Driver's Abstract.



### Noojmowin Teg Health Centre Board Vacancy Off-Reserve Representative

The Noojmowin Teg Health Centre Board of Directors seeks applications to fill one Board vacancy specific to First Nation/Indigenous members living off-reserve. Noojmowin Teg is comprised of a multi-disciplinary team of health professionals who provide community-based, integrated, and on-site and off-site services including: primary care; allied health; mental health; traditional; and health promotion; to the seven First Nation and off-reserve Anishinabek populations living within the Manitoulin Island District. The Board oversees the direction and accountability of the organization.

The successful candidate will have: health related work and/or volunteer experience, an understanding of the protocols and traditional ways of the Anishinabek; live off-reserve within the Manitoulin Island District; a clear criminal records check; and a commitment to the mission and values of the Organization. Previous familiarity with funding and reporting requirements and experience in reviewing budgets, an asset. Applicants of First Nation and/or aboriginal ancestry will be prioritized.

The length of each term is four (4) years. The successful applicant must commit to attending monthly regularly scheduled board meetings, and other special meetings (annual general meeting, strategic planning, etc.) throughout the year, participating in up to 15-16 meetings per year.

The successful board candidate will be provided with an orientation and ongoing professional development to ensure his/her success as a full informed and participating member of the Board.

For more information about the organization, please see our web-site at: [www.noojmowin-teg.ca](http://www.noojmowin-teg.ca).

#### Pre-requisites:

- Cover Letter (outlining reasons for your interest, and what strengths you bring to the board)
- Resume or description of experiences relevant to the position
- Three (3) relevant references with contact information
- Current and clear Criminal Reference Check

#### Send "Confidential" to:

Attn: Ryan Corbiere, Board Chair  
c/o Noojmowin Teg Health Centre  
Hwy 540, 48 Hillside Rd., Postal Bag 2002,  
Little Current, ON POP1K0  
Ph.: 705-368-2182 ext. 204 Fax: 705-368-2229  
Or email: [p.williamson@noojmowin-teg.ca](mailto:p.williamson@noojmowin-teg.ca)

**Deadline: Posting is open until filled**

**Miigwetch/Thank you to those who express interest and submit an application.  
Only those under consideration will be contacted.**



### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

#### Personal Support Worker FULL-TIME PERMANENT



The Personal Support Worker is responsible for providing care that contributes to the quality of life of individuals who live at home by promoting their independence; dignity; social; emotional and physical well-being; mobility; personal appearance; comfort and safety so that they may remain and participate within their community.

**The successful applicant must be willing to work flexible hours (possible evenings and/or weekends) and may provide services to all five First Nation communities.  
(Aundeck Omni Kaning, Sheguiandah, Sheshegwaning, Whitefish River and Zhiibaahaasing)**

#### OBJECTIVES

1. Provide personal support services based on the client personal care or home management needs.
2. Provide assistance to the Long-Term Care Program with the provision of regular Dinners' Club and Meals On Wheels program, Adult Day programming and may assist/provide generic transportation services for own client caseload; friendly visits and social safety.
3. Provide respite services working flexible hours.
4. Works collaboratively with health care providers in providing holistic care that focuses on achieving and maintaining optimal health.
5. Submission of timely required documentation based on scheduled basis to immediate supervisor.
6. May assume additional duties as assigned by immediate supervisor.

#### QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Knowledgeable and respectful of Anishinaabe customs, culture and language
2. A Personal Support Worker Certificate from a recognized college with a minimum of (2) years community work experience.
3. Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
4. Current and Clear CPIC
5. Valid 'G' driver's licence and a vehicle.
6. Anishinaabemowin is a strong asset.

Salary range based on qualifications and approved salary grid.

A cover letter, resume, two work related reference letters and a criminal reference check (dated within 90 days) marked 'Confidential' must be submitted via fax, email or in person to:

Human Resources  
Mnaamodzawin Health Services  
[hr@mnaamodzawin.com](mailto:hr@mnaamodzawin.com)  
Fax: 705-368-2229

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, May 1, 2020 at 12:00pm**  
Only those applicants considered for an interview will be notified.

*Email  
your Ad!*

**You can send  
an attached  
Word  
Document,  
or type the  
ad copy right  
into your  
message!**

**Send to:  
sales@  
manitoulin.ca**



### HIRING FARM CREW

**Three Forks Farms** is seeking crew members to work on their certified organic farm near Ice Lake. Working alongside the owners, the farm staff are engaged in all activities on the farm from planting, weeding, harvesting, processing and maintenance. All staff have a combination of physical labour both indoors and outdoors in all weather conditions. A great opportunity to learn all aspects of a diversified organic farming operation.

**Full position details at  
[threeforksfarms.com/employment](http://threeforksfarms.com/employment)  
or call 705-931-6074**



### KINA Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services Employment Opportunity - Manitoulin Location

Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services (KGCFs) is a designated Child Welfare Service delivering Child Protection Services within seven member First Nations in the Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin. KGCFs honours and supports our families' and community's inherent authority to care for their children based on unity, traditions, values, beliefs and customs.

#### EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT (1) CONTRACT POSITION - UP TO 18 MONTHS LOCATION: MANITOULIN

#### OVERVIEW:

The Executive Assistant provides administration support exclusive to the Executive Director, Board of Directors and the Senior Management Team including Corporate Management responsibilities.

#### QUALIFICATIONS:

##### Education and Experience

- Executive Assistant diploma or related diploma or degree.
- Minimum of three (3) years experience in a similar position in a First Nations social service agency

##### Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Knowledge of Governance operations including administrative responsibilities required of a Non-Profit Corporation.
- Possess knowledge, respect and sensitivity to Anishinaabe culture and be committed to helping First Nation families strengthen and achieve a healthy level of well-being.
- The ability to speak Anishinaabemowin.
- Knowledge of First Nation family structures and culture.
- Demonstrated and significant front-line experience in working with First Nation communities.
- Ability to develop and provide leadership, guidance, motivation and vision to the management and staff of the Agency to ensure a professional standard of services to the First Nation communities, families and children.
- Must be able to work independently with little or no supervision.
- Must have the ability to interact with staff (at all levels) in a fast-paced environment, remain flexible, proactive, resourceful and efficient to work under pressure.
- Must have a high level of professionalism to ensure confidentiality.
- Must possess strong organization, evaluation, problem solving skills, decision making ability and attention to detail are all equally important.
- Must be able to communicate effectively in writing and verbally.
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office Programs.
- Must be able to work flexible hours.
- Must have a valid driver's licence and possess own vehicle.
- Must be willing to authorize a "Criminal Record Search" and sign an "Oath of Confidentiality."

**PLEASE REVIEW THE FULL JOB DESCRIPTION AND QUALIFICATIONS ON OUR WEBSITE  
[www.kgcf.org/employment](http://www.kgcf.org/employment)**

**DEADLINE: Open recruitment until position filled**

Applicants are encouraged to visit our website at [www.kgcf.org/employment](http://www.kgcf.org/employment) to review the full job description. Please submit your application marked "Confidential: Executive Assistant." Application must include a cover letter, resume, and (3) three reference letters - two (2) employment related from recent employers. Please also detail in your application: education, employment experience, cultural participation and volunteerism.

Applications are accepted on an on-going basis until position is filled via regular mail, in person or email at:

**Human Resources**  
Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services  
Main Office - 98 Pottawatomi Avenue,  
Wikwemikong, Ontario POP 2J0

Email: [hr@kgcf.org](mailto:hr@kgcf.org)

*KGCFs services is based on a highly specialized approach to the delivery of child welfare in our area. Preference will be given to Anishinaabe candidates (please self-identify). Miigwetch for your application, however, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. As a condition of employment, the successful candidates will be required to submit the following: satisfactory Criminal Reference Check (within 3 months of deadline date), Vulnerable Sector Check and Driver's Abstract.*

# Tehkummah Talk and Times

Day 29: I guess there is better trapping in the winter? All winter nothing in the trap line, but sometimes in the evening, I would hear this chur-churring sound from my TV bookshelf area and Ginger seemed very curious. I didn't want to investigate not knowing how large or what! But all of a sudden the trap lines got very active. I probably flushed eight or so times, I thought of skinning and tanning hides, but? Too time consuming, but now I've got all this time. It's kind of like the gas situation. Now we can afford it but are isolated and there's no place to go! Murphy's Law at its finest! Going back to start, it's strange too how I tell a story. Do you think I had a weasel living in?

"God specializes in giving people a fresh start."  
—Rick Warren.

Trying to get stuff faxed out this morning had me in a conundrum, being I am not computer savvy. I called Lorna and she somehow got it transferred and online, so I appreciate it very much. Tara drove my notes down for me. It has really cooled down quickly outside. Norma Thomas gave me a call this morning.

I've gone from church, bingo, cribbage and euchre to identifying days with American Idol, The Voice, The Masked Singer. We obviously need more music shows? Though I have always watched the Gaithers on Friday nights. Are we living in limbo? It feels so strange.

An emotional time or an emotional me? This old box has been sitting on the table and I've been looking past it. It had "to Jean from Jack Johnson" written on the top of the chocolate box. I can remember mother saying this box was from her first boyfriend? But I burst into tears, inside were these darling silky blue booties from Frederick Peter, my oldest brother who died of heart issues. They called them blue babies back then. A small photo, a sheer scarf or ribbon of organza and a memorial card from 1931 from Aunt Gladys' first lit-

tle girl. I think I was shocked for I had no memory of bringing the box here or even being aware that it was sitting right in front of me! This keeps happening to me?

Day 30: Tuesday, April 14. Excitement today, an order of seeds from T and T in Winnipeg. Some sharing of those (delivered to my door). I walked for the mail, not too bad a day, even though a mixed bag weatherwise. Two lovely homemade (late) Easter cards, but I'm still delivering eggs? Calls from Lynda and Susan. I made a small potato salad, had to crack my coloured eggs for it! Some I didn't get delivered, some got left behind.

I don't think I should have watched the news tonight. I find I'm going around singing "I'm just a ghost in this house." It's a whole new way of getting by, that's for sure! I have been thinking of hummingbirds! Is it almost time? Sent lots of mail again.

Day 31: 51 years ago today dad died. It's as real as yesterday. So many of the sayings stay with us too!

Phone calls from Pauline and Laura Scott.

The cardinal seems to be in the yard a lot lately. A few new birds too.

I made homemade asparagus soup today, not bad. I made a gratitude list (for today). I was not grateful that the darling deer ate my crocus and tulip tops.

Well, I'm happy doing nothing, I got the take it easy blues.

Have another batch of hot cross buns going in today and it's snowing outside heavy again. I think its Thursday, Day 32?

It's starting to feel like it's going to be a dry summer. No April showers worth mentioning yet? A long chat with Sherry on the phone, the buns are out of the oven and iced. I coloured more eggs for the folks I'd missed. Easter Bunnies can be late! Sandra Pope called. Cal told me the news that Cliff Mitchell died. Sympathy to family and friends.

Tara came through the door with a plate in her

hand, delicious. I ate every bite of Indian taco. Skylar brought a gift. Go to the store to pick up my already bagged groceries or getting up and down to let the cat out or in. A short walk in the yard, my exercise.

I just came to one of the positives of social distancing. I don't have to worry so much about people admiring my chin whiskers! In Skylar's gift package was the cutest hand-knitted bunny.

Day 34: Friday. Three brothers rented a room together. It cost \$30, so each paid \$10 (sharing). The owner of the establishment thought because they were family he would give them \$5 back. He gave it to the bell hop to return to the brothers. He thought, 'they didn't leave me a tip,' so he took \$2, gave each of the brothers \$1 each back. Now costing them \$9 each. Now, if you like puzzles?

I think of the darndest things. This morning it was Toni, remember when we put frizz into each other's hair. If you didn't get the solution on evenly, some would be straight? Talk about hit and miss. But I was good at doing another person's hair, cutting. Probably because I kept my hair long too, most of my life. All in the name of beauty? And those skinny curlers and curling paper. The younger generation won't know what I'm talking about. But, do you think well, go back to Toni's and I can oil up my barber shears again.

A phone call from Eileen Leeson. She always sounds so cheery! She's doing well, she says.

Two cards in the mail today, one from Pat Falter to tell me Hermann's birthday

was Good Friday. So happy belated, you've almost caught up to me. A little note from Bobcaygeon. Thank you, Margaret Van Camp, for making my day. I thank you so very much for appreciating my poems and column. As most folks know, I have a runaway pen, lots of times, in a poem. I may only have to change one word when I rewrite. I wrote the best one the other night but without a pen in hand. But I had lost it by morning. Strange but I can't recite one afterward (runaway pen again!). When you come to the "end" of one trail do you go right, left or turn around and go back? After this is all over with, we may have no choice.

Day 35: I think? It's a beautiful Saturday. We, Sherry, Tara and I sat on three benches (10 feet) apart in the patio area and had a little visit. Sherry had picked up some groceries for me. I puttered lightly outside then made an egg salad sandwich for Tara and I. She's putting in a small frog/fish/flower pond beside the larger goldfish pond.

A phone call from Borden and Joan telling me Joan had an angina attack, but she sounded good. Some campgrounds were open to the regular semi-permanent.

Sad news that Ralph Batman had passed away. He was such a kind and caring man. Sympathy to his family and friends. In this time of social distancing it must be so hard for families that are mourning or have anyone ailing and in hospital. Thinking of you.

A huge corona around the sun today, must be some

kind of weather change. It was pretty, not all the rainbow colours though.

I gave Helen Oswald a call this evening. She seemed great, always her cheery self. She says they are taking good care of them all at the Wiiky Nursing Home.

Hey, I see they have reactivated the participation

...continued on page 29

## notice

**Food Cupboard**--The Gore Bay United Church is continuing this service during the Covid-19 outbreak with some changes. They will be open noon to 3 pm on Thursdays. Come to the side door (facing McQuarrie Motors) and knock. Food will be packed and passed outside to you. If you have questions, call 705-282-2011. Messages are checked daily.

Tfn

## thank you

We would like to thank our families and friends for helping us through this long, exciting and frightening time with Prince and since coming home from Toronto. Special thanks to the doctors and nursing staff at Mount Sinai Hospital for their excellent care and patience with Prince. Thank you for the baby clothes and items/furniture for Prince. Thank you all again,  
Donald, Auzza and Prince  
49c

**CALL FOR PPE and SUPPLIES**— The Northern Ontario School of Medicine and Ontario Medical Association are looking for donations of personal protective equipment and sanitization supplies as part of an effort to help protect our local frontline healthcare workers. If you are able to donate any supplies to our frontline workers or have any questions, please contact one of our volunteers for the Manitoulin region at: manitoulinppe@gmail.com.  
47-49c

## notice

## notice

### THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TEHKUMMAH



#### NOTIFICATION OF REQUEST FOR TENDER TENDER 2020-01

Supply Tailgate Spread of 2000 cubic metres of 3/4 Granular A Gravel

**CLOSING DATE: May 4, 2020 at 3:00 pm local time**

Documents can be obtained on the Township's website [www.tehkummah.ca](http://www.tehkummah.ca) or by calling 705-859-3293 or sending email to: [twptehek@amtelecom.net](mailto:twptehek@amtelecom.net)

**LOWEST OR ANY TENDER NOT NECESSARILY ACCEPTED.**

## notice

## notice

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FOR COVID-19 UPDATES VISIT  
[WWW.CENTRALMANITOULIN.CA/NEWS](http://WWW.CENTRALMANITOULIN.CA/NEWS)

### Manitoulin Centennial Manor FUEL OIL TENDER

The Manitoulin Centennial Manor invites tenders for the supply of heating fuel oil to 70 Robinson Street, Little Current, commencing June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021. Fuel consumption is approximately 100,000 litres.

All bidding companies must complete a Contract Bid Form which can be picked up at the Administration office. Tenders must be received at the Administration office by **May 15th, 2020** before 1600 hours and must be in a sealed envelope marked "Fuel Tender".

Forward tenders to:  
Manitoulin Centennial Manor  
Attn: Board of Management  
Postal Bag 460  
Little Current, ON  
POP 1K0

For further information contact:  
Tamara Beam at (705) 368-2710 Ext. 312

## notice

## notice

TOWNSHIP OF ASSIGINACK



### The Corporation of the Township of Assiginack

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Assiginack will be considering the adoption of the 2020 Operating and Capital Budget at its Virtual Meeting scheduled for May 5th at 3:30 pm.

The Meeting will be streamed on Zoom.

The telephone number to call to listen in will be made available that day on our social media accounts.

A copy of the draft budget is also available for review on the website.

Deb MacDonald, Treasurer

## Death Notices

### RALPH STANLEY MCNEIL BATMAN December 21, 1929 - April 18, 2020



Ralph Stanley McNeil Batman passed away peacefully at the Manitoulin Centennial Manor on Saturday, April 18, 2020 at the age of 90. Predeceased by his wife Frances Batman (nee Ferguson). Loving father of Dennis of Sudbury, Paul (predeceased) (Jackie) of Little Current and William (Cheryl) of Sault Ste. Marie. Grandfather of Rebekkah (Brian), Matthew, Phillip (Erica), Kyle (Leeann) and Cory (Rhonda). Great-grandfather of Andrew, Ashton, Brandon, Bryce, Griffin, Evie and Maible. Predeceased by his siblings Ruth (Harold) and Gerald and siblings-in-law Doug Ferguson, Patricia (Harold) Clark, Ruth (Roy) Dunlop and Wilhelmine Batman. Ralph Batman was a lifetimeresident of Sheguiandah and thoroughly enjoyed a long and happy life on Manitoulin Island. Ralph worked a number of jobs as a young man driving the mail truck, trucks at the quarry, a labourer at Manitoulin Gardens, a tinsmith assistant and other scarce jobs in the 40s. In 1950 he trained under Ruddy Jolly and soon opened Batman's Plumbing and Electrical. He was an excellent tradesman who developed a wealth of skills through the years. Later in life he started Batman's Trailer Park and worked tirelessly to expand the business each year and achieve a huge success. When retiring at 69 he thought he'd like to do it all over again and even better. Ralph was an extremely social man who thoroughly enjoyed running a business that exposed him to so many people from near and far. Ralph and Frances (Ferguson) were married at 21 years of age and built a small home on the Batman Homestead in 1950. Raising three sons was their number one priority and they made an outstanding parenting team. Ralph could never do enough for his sons right up to the very end. Hard work and a positive attitude allowed him to meet success in all of the goals and challenges he faced in life. Ralph always had a well thought out plan ahead of time whether it involved marriage, family, work, the unexpected or pleasure. In his retirement years he spent hours socializing with the people of Manitoulin, especially at many auctions. In recent years he and Deanna attended as many church and community dinners and events as possible. We often wondered where he got all of his energy and enthusiasm. His family was fortunate to spend his 90th birthday with him in November when he was still in good health and could enjoy their company to the fullest. Ralph was blessed with a long and rewarding life because of his social skills, good health, positive attitude and dedication to hard work. So many people have recently commented on what a gentleman he has always been. We shall miss him dearly and remember him well. A private visitation was held at Island Funeral Home on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 followed by a private family interment. A memorial service will be arranged at a later date. Donations may be made in Ralph's honour to Daffodil Terrace in Sudbury, Canadian Cancer Society or Manitoulin Centennial Manor Auxiliary. Arrangements entrusted with Island Funeral Home.

### MARILYN (LYN) JANE COMEAU (NEE PELLOW)



Marilyn (Lyn) Jane Comeau (nee Pellow), age 71, passed away peacefully on April 12, 2020 with her loving husband by her side. She was born April 4, 1949 in Chappleau, Ontario to Patricia (nee Good) and Elmer Pellow. Lyn is survived by her husband Al Comeau (Prince George); her children Krista Third (Jessica) of Toronto and David Third (Jody) of Sudbury; sister Janet Purdy (Bob) of Manitowaning; and brother Dave Pellow (Kirsty) of Smithers. She is also survived by her grandchildren Molly Gladstone, Sydney Third and Tyler Third; many cousins, nieces, nephews; Al's children Michele (Jan) of Whistler and Scott (Marieve) Comeau and children Elia and Alexandre of North Vancouver; Al's siblings Marian, Carol and Michael (Coleen) and families; and many friends. Lyn was predeceased by her mother and stepfather, Patricia and Frank Sejtka; her father Elmer Pellow; and her daughter, Lisa Gladstone. Lyn lived a full life helping and protecting children in her career as a social worker. She was a lifelong learner and was committed to enhancing her knowledge through education as she completed her Masters in Social Work in 1996. As a loving wife and mother of three, Lyn was happiest when surrounded by her family and friends. She also enjoyed gardening, cooking and spending time with their beloved dog, Maggie. A Celebration of Life will be planned for a future date. Donations in lieu of flowers to Children's Aid Foundation of Canada.

### EVAN LEONARD MORRELL March 10, 1942 - April 14, 2020



"Life at best if very brief..."

Evan Leonard Morrell died at Manitoulin Health Centre early Tuesday morning, April 14, 2020, at the age of 78. He leaves behind his wife of 58 years, Gertrude (nee Haner). Loved by his children Bill (Cindy), Pat (Don Ryan), Bob (predeceased) (Faye) and Gloria Dickson. Proud "Grand" dad of Kara (Kristopher Lassman), Rick (Stacy), Calvin (Stephanie), Brad Ryan (Rebecca), Jocelyn (Ryan Bax), Michelle (Jamie Hardy), Heidi, Tony (Miranda), Rachele, Darla, Clay, Jill, Carl and Cord Dickson. Cherished great-grandfather of Chase, Chance and Charity Lassman, Grace, Ashton, Madeline, Mack and Levi, Connor, Breah, Olivia and Ava, Emma, Tommy, Maiah and Brett Ryan, Harper and Sawyer Bax, Tayla, Tucker and Hunter Hardy and Holly. Survived by sister Ellen Bell (Morris predeceased). Predeceased by all his other siblings and spouses Ruth and Carl Robinson, Arnold and Audrey, Norris and Verna, Lloyd and Betty, Eddy (wife Deborah surviving). Raised in Silver Water, Dad went to work not completing Grade 8. He didn't enjoy writing but always had a notepad in his front shirt pocket to mark down parts and phone numbers and everything else he was figuring out. His math skills were exceptional, knowing in his head exactly what his bank balance was and what expenses were coming due. His reading was a memory maker for all the grands, sitting on his knee while he put lots of fun into making story books come alive. After the many multiple times reading the same book he would change things just to get a rise out of the listening kid. Three Little Pigs and Bambi were recent favourites. Dad worked at both Inco and Denison Mines but his true love was logging, buying the logging licence in the mid-80s. In the early 90s dad got Guillain Barré Syndrome, which tested his grit, determination and perseverance. At this time he came to the conclusion that he enjoyed working more than fishing and other typical pleasurable pursuits. Dad's pleasures were scheming, family potlucks, vacations and new vehicles. Dad enjoyed his family and made it evident that we all were special to him. Mom worked alongside Dad on the farm, driving log truck, and every other task he tackled. Dad's strongest example was his relationship with God. There was never a question as to where we would be or what we would be doing on Wednesday evening or Sunday morning. Dad would be found in the morning before going to work and before going to bed, reading his bible, and privately on his knees in the secret place before God. Dad had his humour to the end. He would quirk a grin and chuckle even after he couldn't talk. He loved bratty wit and giving each other a hard time. We will have a gathering to share our memories and honour the life of Dad at a later date, but for now we will lay him to rest beside Bob in Massey Grandview Cemetery. A private funeral was held at Island Funeral Home on Friday. "Sweet is the rest that comes with close of day, when life departs, the spirit flies away..." Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at [www.islandfuneralhome.ca](http://www.islandfuneralhome.ca).

### CLIFTON ANDREW MITCHELL May 30, 1925 - April 14, 2020



The family is saddened to announce the passing of Cliff at the Centennial Manor on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at the age of 94. Predeceased by parents Mary and Alexander Mitchell. Beloved husband of Muriel Jean "Pat" Mitchell (predeceased). Loving father of Judy Hales Mitchell. Caring Grandpa of Janice (Ed) Foster. Great-grandfather of Cole and Joshua Foster. Special brother of Shirley (predeceased), Phyllis (predeceased) and Janet of Sudbury. He will also be missed by many nieces and nephews. Cliff was a "man of the land." He was born on the family farm and had a love of farming which included the "cream runs" with his Dad. Cliff's fondness for farming included the family dog, there was always one nearby. Cliff had several over the years and each was special to him. He was a devoted bus driver for many years and had a special bond with the children he was entrusted with on a daily basis. He made sure they arrived to and from school safely with kindness and devotion. There was not a person Cliff met that he did not like. He did like you more if you drove a Ford! He was a Mason in the Little Current Branch for many years and had an avid interest in curling. Cliff never stayed idle for long. At the age of 93 he still enjoyed moving the snow with his tractor in the winter and grading his driveway in the summer. Cliff had the smoothest driveway in Manitowaning! A private family service will be held.

### ERWIN DALE DEBASSIGE June 15, 1975 - April 16, 2020



In loving memory of Erwin Dale Debassige. After a battle with cancer, Erwin began his journey to the Spirit World at the age of 44, surrounded by family in the comfort of his loving home. Erwin was a caring and kind man with a great sense of humour, which he shared right up until his final day. Erwin's love was his wife Sonya and their three children Tyran, Ethan, and Ruben. He treasured his family as they created many memories together. Erwin loved the outdoors (fishing, hunting, camping), watching wrestling (which a lot of laughs were shared with his boys), and he loved to play hockey (which he proudly watched his two sons Tyran and Ethan enjoy this game). Erwin's most recent work was at M'Chigeeng Freshmart where he was proud to be serving his community and Freshmart customers. He will fondly remember his co-workers and valued customers. He will be sadly missed by his wife Sonya and his three sons Tyran, Ethan, and Ruben. The immediate family had a private gathering at Erwin's home with a private burial on Monday, April 20, 2020 at 11am. A Celebration of Life will be held on April 20, 2021. A Sacred Fire has been burning in his yard (39 Spring Bay Road) where extended family and friends can go to offer their prayers and farewell messages. Dearly loved son of Earl Debassige (wife Debbie) and Pearl Debassige. Beloved brother of Marcella Debassige, Deana Debassige-Wood, and Deidre Debassige. Dearly loved son-in-law of Richard and Nancy Armstrong. Special brother-in-law to Tonya and Amber Armstrong. Erwin will be sadly missed by his nephews, nieces, friends and co-workers. A Trust Fund will be created for Erwin's three sons and his wife, Sonya. Any donations can be directed "In Trust to Debbie Debassige" through online banking at [debidebassige@gmail.com](mailto:debidebassige@gmail.com). Miigwech to M'Chigeeng Health Centre Nursing Staff and M'Chigeeng First Nation for their support during this difficult time. *Remember me for my laughter and my love for my family.*

### WILLIAM GEORGE HURD



Mr. William (Bill) Hurd, 89 years, of Nipigon, Ontario, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at his residence at the Nipigon District Memorial Hospital. Bill was born in Toronto, Ontario to Elizabeth (nee Goodfellow) and Percival Hurd, the first of five children. As an infant, he moved to Little Current on Manitoulin Island. He married the love of his life Iris (nee Kuorikoski) on July 18, 1953 and they enjoyed 57 years together raising one daughter and eight sons. Predeceased by his parents; wife Iris; brothers Jack, George and David Hurd and granddaughter Michelle Bryce. He is survived by his daughter Karen (Peter) Gobeil of Thunder Bay, Ontario; sons Terrance Hurd (Diane Helmus) of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Kevin Hurd (Joyce Tinsley), Alan Hurd (Liz Tenniscoe), both of Nipigon, Robert (Jana) Hurd of Thunder Bay, William Jr. (Bill), David Hurd (Donna Smith), both of Nipigon, Daniel (Julie) Hurd of Pass Lake, Ontario and Michael Hurd (Dayna Smith) of Thunder Bay; nine grandchildren, Trevor and Andrew Gobeil, Jason Bryce, Barry Fawcett-Hurd, Misty Fawcett-Hurd, Dustin and Jordan Hurd, Rhyis Hurd and Ava Alison Barry; sister Marion Nordquist of Penticton, British Columbia; sisters-in-law Irene (Mike) Dryherb of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and Irene (Eero) Warpula of Thunder Bay; brother-in-law Leonard (Carol) Kuorikoski of Stratton, Ontario; cousins Fred Ashley, William (Joyce) Hurd, Ray (Gail) Hurd, Sharon Hurd and Shirley Ward; niece Sally Hurd of Thunder Bay. Also survived by numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives, spread all across the country. Cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Arrangements are in the care of Elliott Funeral Home Ltd., Nipigon.

Memorial donations are gratefully appreciated and can be made at the admitting office to the auxiliaries of the Manitoulin Health Centre and the Renovation Fund in both Mindemoya and Little Current and the Gore Bay Manitoulin Lodge Auxiliary Incorporated, 3 Main Street, Gore Bay, Ontario, P0P 1H0 and the Manitoulin Centennial Manor Fundraising or Manor Auxiliary, Postal Bag 460, 10 Robinson Street, Little Current, Ontario, P0P 1K0. Donations can also be made to the Manitoulin District Cenotaph Fund, Box 656, Little Current, Ontario P0P 1K0 or Pet Save Manitoulin, Box 393, Gore Bay, Ontario P0P 1H0.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Dr. Janice Mitchell is a veterinarian with Island Animal Hospital and Little Current Veterinary Services.

# POWS FOR THOUGHT

**"Ants" in our pants: antigen vs antibody tests**

by Dr. Janice Mitchell

With everyone's minds focused these days, there has been much discussion about laboratory tests with regards to one virus in particular. It can be very confusing. Immunology is one complex subject and thus it takes some education and thought to figure out how to use and interpret diagnostic tests. I thought a quick, simple description of antigen vs antibody is in order, and will demonstrate some examples of the common tests that veterinarians use today.

Let's begin with some boring definitions.

An antigen is any substance that causes your immune system to produce antibodies against it. An antigen may be a substance from the environment, such as chemicals, bacteria, viruses or pollen. An antibody is an immunoglobulin, a specialized immune protein, produced because of the introduction of an antigen into the body, and which possesses the remarkable ability to combine with the very antigen that triggered its production.

The antigen tests that are commonly selected in veterinary medicine include

heartworm, feline leukemia, blastomyces and parvovirus tests. The first two involve testing the patient's blood. Blastomyces is detected using the patient's urine and parvovirus is detected using the patient's faeces.

Heartworm is a fairly large worm that, in adulthood, lives in the heart and pulmonary arteries of an infected dog. Dogs acquire this infection through mosquito bites. Using genetic engineering, it has become possible to create extremely sensitive tests capable of detecting tiny pieces of adult female heartworm skin circulating in the blood. Although this is the most commonly performed screening test for our canines in most of Ontario, fortunately for Manitoulin, it is not a concern as of the moment.

Feline leukemia is a common virus for our kitty friends that can cause debilitating disease. It is a social disease and can be contracted from an infected individual through grooming or fighting. It can be diagnosed through a sensitive blood test, which detects a piece of the virus' protein.

Blastomycosis is a disease that we are unfortunately acquainted with—it is caused by the fungus

Blastomyces that lurks in the decaying vegetation here on Manitoulin Island. Dogs are particularly sensitive to acquiring this disease as a result of their sniffing, curious noses low to the ground. Thankfully, we veterinarians have a very sensitive test that will detect low levels of this fungus's antigen in a dog's urine. Unfortunately, there is only one lab in North America that performs this test, in Indiana. Interestingly, there is an antibody test available but it is not as sensitive as the antigen test so it is rarely used.

Finally, the last of our antigen examples—parvovirus. Parvovirus is a disease of primarily puppies and adolescent dogs. It causes dehydrating vomiting and diarrhea. To differentiate between other causes of vomiting and diarrhea, a test kit will detect the parvovirus antigen in the dog's stool.

Now, how about those antibody tests? The results of some antibody tests can be 'diagnostic' for particular illnesses. This means that if a pet tests positive for a particular antibody it has a certain condition now. However, it can also mean that your pet might have had this illness in the past. The two common

ones that come to mind are the Feline Immunodeficiency Virus and tick (lyme in particular) tests.

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) is a virus that causes AIDS in cats. With FIV, there is little circulating virus so we have to look for the infection indirectly by looking for antibody. Because infected cats never recover from this disease, the presence of antibody is confirmatory evidence of infection. Why don't we use an antibody test for the earlier listed feline leukemia? The reason is that with feline leukemia, there is usually a bucket of virus circulating so an antigen test is very accurate.

Lyme disease is another Manitoulin present disease that we are familiar with. It is transmitted to dogs (and less likely cats) through a deer tick. Dogs with symptoms ideally should have a test to confirm or rule out Lyme disease. Since it is almost impossible to culture the Lyme spirochete, efforts have centered on detection of antibodies against the spirochete's

outer surface protein. Is there also an antigen test for Lyme? There is, but veterinarians will often use the less expensive antibody screening test instead in light of the patient's clinical signs.

With these antigen and antibody tests available, clinical judgement is needed. When considering testing, key questions veterinarians ask themselves, "Can this test give clear results?" "Will the results of the test change anything?" and "Is this a test in a sick pet or a healthy pet, and if healthy, why am I running it?" And should you have questions, never hesitate to ask.

Positive thoughts and health to you all, both two-legged and four-legged!

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## real estate

## real estate

## ...Tehkummah Talk and Times

...continued from page 27

ads on TV. I was just outside and tied a plastic bag on one of the bird feeder hooks. Maybe it will keep the deer from eating the sunflowers in the night. The wind is howling in the tops of the trees!

Pauline's birthday is coming up on the 26th. Happy birthday, Sis.

"Sometimes good things fall apart, so better things can fall together." —Marilyn Monroe

I lost a day somewhere last week but it really doesn't matter does it?

Mollie called, she had written another good poem.

Hello Lance, thinking of you. Hello Jean McLennan! Hello to all my friends in the nursing homes too. I do try to keep my columns small, but it just doesn't work. Thanks to Expositor transcribers and my faxers and readers. Sorry!

Sunshiny morning. I'm out early and

scratched a few leaves and winter residue from one flower bed. Ray comes out to help, he moves a foot (patio stone), sets a four square, moves a big one from one garden to where the foot used to be, moves a plant, dumps a pot, gathers the garbage residue and the raindrops start. I just saw huge snowflakes falling. The garbage bag worked for one night anyway (re: deer)! Janet and Glenn Knetchel dropped off delicious donuts at my door and at Ron and Justeen's too. Justeen calls too (we all tried one the minute that they left), good. Justeen told me Tom Vanhorn passed away last evening (heart attack), sympathy to Janice and all the family.

I missed a call from Derek while I was outside, so I called, they got their anniversary card yesterday. I mailed it on February 20. He did say the envelope was opened? Their anniversary date, February 28.

## real estate

## real estate

## real estate

## real estate

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## real estate



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PLEASE STAY SAFE, MANITOU LIN.

# Volunteer Appreciation Week

## Pet rescue is Bleu Fisher's volunteer passion

by Michael Erskine  
LITTLE CURRENT—From strays to feral cats, puppies, kittens and the odd injured creature of the wild, all have a place in Bleu Fisher's heart. Since founding Rainbow Rescue Manitoulin seven years ago, Ms. Fisher has been focussed on rescuing and providing a safe-haven for literally thousands of animals.



**Bleu Fisher**

seemed to have a set of teats.

"It has been getting bigger and bigger," said Ms. Fisher, who recalled the day she first became aware of the need for a service such as hers. "Sam and I adopted a male dog in Massey," she said. "The fellow who had him was crying and said that if we needed anything we could get in touch with him and he would get back to us right away."

Oddly, though, the dog

"The teats just kept getting bigger and bigger," she said. "We called the guy but he never returned our calls. Lo and behold there were puppies, 10 of them." Turns out she was a he.

The puppies were eventually adopted out, with a payment of \$50 to help defray costs, but that soon proved inadequate. "We eventually brought back six of them," recalled Ms. Fisher. "That's when we

started to get into rescue."

Ms. Fisher currently has 22 animals under her care, but most of those won't likely be headed for a forever home. "There are about 14 who are old, sick, have feline AIDs; they just are not adoptable," she said. But over the course of a year as many as 200 cats, dogs, kittens and puppies find their way through her service.

"As of the first of January there were 36 adult cats, strays and kittens," she said. Nearly all have found homes through the network that Ms. Fisher has established, and they come to her largely in the same way. She also works through the Facebook page Manitoulin Pets Reunited, which assists greatly in putting strays back with their families.

Ms. Fisher works closely with other pet rescue organizations across Manitoulin. "When they are full I help them out and they do the same for me," she said. She has had a lot of experience in training feral cats to domesticated pets, but it isn't always possible.

Ms. Fisher has built a relationship with the Northeast Town wherein she shares the cost of neutering or spaying feral cats so they do not reproduce. "The town supplies me with \$1,500 and I match that," she said. Thankfully there are donations that come in.

"I can't say enough about Barney's," she said. "They have really helped me out with food and litter. I don't know what I would do without them. They are a real godsend."

Rescuing helpless animals is a true labour of love for Ms. Fisher and one she has thrown her heart and soul into. It is a passion she shares with many Islanders and has proven to be bond that crosses many lines.

Those wishing to assist in her efforts can contact Ms. Fisher through her Facebook page.

## ...Andrew Corbiere volunteers for the love of home

...continued from page 21

ple helped me out when I was growing up and now I'm paying it forward."

The volunteer said he's received a lot of personal support from the community, which gives him a great deal of motivation.

"No one has ever experienced these times, not in 100 years, so I'm trying to set a good example for future youths."

Mr. Corbiere thanked his mom, dad, grandparents, family and friends "for raising me to be a caring and loving person and

to the M'Chigeeng First Nation for giving me the opportunity to help make a difference in our community."

"I try to be a good person, and I hope it encourages others, too," Mr. Corbiere continued. "The more I help others and see how happy they are, seeing their smiles and appreciation, well I thrive off that, and others can too."

"If you see a volunteer opportunity, take it—you'll see the reward and how it pays off."



**PETER FLANAGAN**  
Real Estate Brokerage  
Peter Flanagan, **MLS**  
Broker of Record (705) 282-3135  
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**GORE BAY BUILDING LOT**

Large estate sized lot over 2 acres in area, westerly section of Gore Bay, mixed tree cover, hydro at rear of lot line, year round paved road access off Armstrong Road, quality residential homes in area, asking \$29,900 MLS#2077548



**100 ACRES GORDON TWP**

Excellent deer hunting location, only a short drive south of Gore Bay off Poplar Road, mixed softwoods, driveable legal access, beaver pond, asking \$89,500 MLS#2081936



**250 ACRE FARM - \$340,000**

Year round paved road, mixture of work land, pasture and bush, gravel pit for private usage, totally interior upgraded farm house, natural wood walls and ceilings, 4 bedrooms, two washrooms, drilled well that can supply both home and barn, livestock barn in very good condition concrete bottom area, perfect for the farmer or outdoor enthusiast. MLS#2084478

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**TIME TO BUY**  
WATERFRONT RECREATIONAL HOME  
MLS 2077601 \$296,000

**KAGAWONG WATERFRONT**  
MLS 2084078 \$429,000

**NEW!**  
SECLUDED 4-SEASON COTTAGE  
MLS# 2084837 \$145,000

**EXECUTIVE HOME ON PRIVATE LAKE**  
MLS# 2084469 \$534,500

**EVANSVILLE FAMILY HOME**  
MLS# 2084136 \$249,900

**WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE**  
PRIME FAMILY HOME  
MLS: 2080430 \$269,000

**VACANT LAND WITH VIEWS**  
MLS 2079073 \$150,000

**LAKE HURON OASIS**  
MLS# 2084099 \$469,000

**WELCOME TO 181 MAPLE LANE**

Proudly presenting this one of a kind custom built home that offers elegance, comfort, and outstanding outdoor living all nestled on 2 acres of Lake Manitou waterfront on Manitoulin Island. Pride in ownership and attention to detail resonate throughout this 4,000 sq. foot home, and 1,000 sq. foot private guest cottage. Designed for family and entertaining, this home boasts an open concept living area centred around a grand stone wood-burning fireplace, a custom-built kitchen features soft cream lacquered finished cabinetry with glass doors and back-lit shelves, and a well-designed butler's bay. The main floor features 2 bedrooms, 1 ensuite, and an additional bathroom. Downstairs you will discover a designers touch in this fully finished area with in-floor radiant heating, a large family and entertainment area with a custom bar, pool table an additional bedroom, office/crafts room and even work out space. Three sets of french doors throughout the home lead out to the maintenance-free wrap-around deck with stunning views. A huge flagstone waterfront patio with sunken fire pit and outdoor kitchen with stone built-in Napoleon BBQ complemented with a 10-foot wood harvest table is perfect for family evenings. This home is complete with a private detached over-height four-car garage and workshop area with a stunning two-bedroom apartment, perfect for family or guests! No detail was overlooked, this sought-after home has it all!

**MLS#: 2084067, Price: \$1,099,500.00**

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**Cell Hugh McLaughlin, Broker of Record, 705 282 7705 & Cell Ron Lane, Broker, 705 282 7241**

**MELDRUM BAY** cottage camp on Hill Street a very short walk to the marina. Cottage 875 sq. ft. & camp 750 sq. ft. each w/hydro, drilled wells & steel roofs. Cottage is served by septic system. With some work, several possibilities \$89,500 (1462)

**VACANT WATERFRONT LOTS & ACREAGES**  
COOK'S BAY via Cook's Dock Rd. 980.46 ft. 5.87 ac. \$99,000 (MLS 2081814); LAKE HURON via Cedar Tree Tr. 150 ft. 5.3 ac. \$45,000 (MLS 2083984); ICE LAKE via Ice Lake Dr. 192 ft. 13.21 ac. \$39,000 (MLS 2079212); LAKE KAGAWONG via Zullich Dr. 163 ft. 1.0 ac. \$99,500 (MLS 2084337); LAKE KAGAWONG 291 ft. 4.1 ac. via Mud Creek Rd. \$79,000 (MLS 2060462); LAKE MINDEMOYA 150 ft. 1.0 ac. via Monument Rd. \$99,000 (MLS 2083784); NORTH CHANNEL west of Maple Point 225 ft. & 2.66 ac. w/year round road, driveway & hydro to the cleared building site. \$97,000 plus HST (MLS 2084973)

**COUNTRY PROPERTIES**  
DAWSON TOWNSHIP surveyed 1.0 ac. w/camp from portable classroom, operating hydro on site \$49,000 (MLS 2077148); MILLS TOWNSHIP via Union Rd. 100 ac. w/off grid chalet cottage or home, sauna, drilled well & more. \$209,000 (MLS 2075613).

**VACANT TOWN LOTS & ACREAGES**  
GORE BAY residential via Doc Strain Dr. 3.21 ac. & services \$42,000 (MLS 2083985); GORE BAY rural & residential via Fraser St. 3.0 ac. & services \$43,500 (MLS 2062357); GORE BAY residential via Hall St. 66 x 164 ft. & services \$25,000 (MLS 2093356).

**WATERFRONT PROPERTIES**  
LOON LAKE CAMP via Hwy540 391 ft. 23 ac. site cleared, 2 small cabins, privy, treated lake water, services at lot line \$97,000 (MLS 2083649); ICE LAKE COTTAGE via Ice Lake Dr. 200 ft & services, 2.67 ac., bed, bunkie, part bath \$119,000 (MLS 2084155); LAKE KAGAWONG via Mud Creek Rd. 347 ft. 2.45 ac. 200 sq. ft. off grid, think private tiny camp \$172,000 (MLS 2084570) LAKE MANITOU COTTAGE via Rockville Rd. 60 ft. & services, 754 sq. ft. 2 beds, bath \$149,000 (MLS 2084039).

**VACANT COUNTRY LOTS & ACREAGES**  
BURPEE TOWNSHIP via 1.4 km east of Misery Bay Rd. 25 ac, \$17,900 (MLS 2077146); GORDON TOWNSHIP via Fourth Line 2.0 ac. 120 x 725 ft. \$10,900 (MLS 2084638); ALLAN TOWNSHIP via Scotland Rd. 200 ac. \$149,500 (Exclusive)

**TOWN PROPERTIES**  
MELDRUM BAY 2 cottages, could be homes on same lot, w/875 sq. ft. & w/750 sq. ft. septic, drilled well, services \$89,500 (MLS 2077147); GORE BAY via Meredith St. income building 4320 sq. ft. over 2 floors w/garage, retail space, 2 apartments on Blacksmith Corner \$119,000 (MLS 2084336).

**Stay Safe!**

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**Mindemoya**  
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**LOG CABIN ON LAKE MANITOU!** - On secluded exceptional lot with 197 ft frontage on lake & approx. 1 acre land, mature cedar trees. Great view of Cup and Saucer, gentle slope to water. Clean shoreline. Recent approval for septic and fieldbed. Renovated log cabin, plus older log barn for storage. Private maintained year round road. Reduced to \$210,000. Call Al Frank Sales Person @ 705-859-3297 for more info. MLS#2081904



**SOUTH BAY MOUTH** - For Sale Huron Motor Lodge - turn-key operation. Family owned business since 1932. Located directly across from Chi Cheemaun ferry dock. 21 rooms, large in-ground pool, coffee shop, plus specialty gift shop. Also included in sale is a home for new owner's residence. All buildings are well maintained, great financial statements. Best location on Manitoulin Island for accommodation, gift and coffee shop. Asking \$1,400,000. Call Sales Person Al Frank @ 705-859-3297. MLS#2075494



**SOUTH BAYMOUTH** - Beautiful 2300 sqft home plus chalet & separate 30x40 heated building on almost 10 acres of land for sale. 1 km to Marina for access to Lake Huron for boating & salmon fishing (or other fish). Great potential for B&B or other business. Home has large sunroom with hot tub facing backyard with small pond, trees & gazebo. All buildings are in excellent condition & shows owner's pride. Very reasonably priced at \$374,000. Please call Sales Person Al Frank @ 705-859-3297. MLS#2074279



**INCREDIBLE VISTA** - One of a kind building lot on municipal water overlooking Strawberry Channel. 426.51 ft frontage with south east exposure on a year round road. 8 km from Little Current. Call for details. MLS#2077530



**'SANDY COVE' COTTAGE** - with year round road access on Maple Point, Manitoulin Island. The three bedroom, one full and one-half bath cottage has an open concept kitchen, dining, & living room that includes a wood stove. Enjoy wonderful North Channel views from the cottage & private level water front lot that has 260 ft frontage, & just over 2.5 acres of well treed mixed bush made up of mostly cedar & poplar. The beautiful sandy shallow beach is ideal for children swimming in a calm protected cove. Minutes from Bridal Veil Falls & the village of Kagawong, this 925 sq ft recreational cottage with separate laundry room & 24 x 32 ft garage is ideal for 3 seasons. Mudge Bay offers good fishing & boating. Call today to view. MLS#2084487



**YEAR ROUND VICEROY WATERFRONT HOME ON LAKE MANITOU** - Built in 1994, this \$2000 home features an open concept main floor with numerous windows allowing for an abundance of natural light, and a wonderful view of the lake. Home has a large deck along two sides, as well as access from the Master Bedroom. In addition, the home has a partially finished basement that provides the extra space needed when family and friends visit, an insulated 24 x 28 detached garage, a concrete dock, and a boat launch at the waterfront. Lake Manitou offers great fishing all year round. Call Now! Asking \$349,000. MLS#2075885



**WHITE'S POINT!** - Waterfront building lot in desirable prime residential waterfront community within minutes of Little Current & all of its amenities. Driveway access started at roadway - telephone & hydro service available. White's Point Road is on a year round road, & on the school bus route. Lake Huron's Strawberry Channel, & the North Channel boast great fishing, boating & sailing. Wonderful location to build your dream home! Asking \$88,000. Call Now! MLS#2074129



**LOWER SLASH** - A wonderful 3.06 acre building and/or recreational lot that is close to the water in South Baymouth. This well treed lot with a small cleared section is on the Lower Slash Road, and also has access via Indian Point Road. This lot is only 20 minutes to the golf courses and grocery store in Manitowaning. Call Now! Asking \$24,900. MLS#2083576



**Jennifer Hooper**  
Sales Person  
Cell: 705-862-1002



**Melissa Nicholson**  
Sales Person  
Cell: 705-282-7738

**LAKE MANITOU**  
**WATERFRONT**  
**COTTAGE OR HOME**

Located on Maple Lane close to the Town of Mindemoya and featuring mature hardwood forest on one of the finest lots in the area. Spacious 2 bdrm dwelling with relatively low maintenance, detached garage, sauna & small harbor area make this a perfect spot on the lake. Exceptional landscaping & mainly level lot for enjoying fine Manitoulin summer days. New Price! Please call for complete details. MLS#2084161



**25 ACRE PROPERTY WITH YEAR ROUND ROAD ACCESS & 2 BDRM COTTAGE!!** - Located on Union Road only 30 mins from the amenities of Mindemoya & only 15 mins from the Town of Gore Bay. The cottage comes with most contents included & is also adorned with a brand new roof, a drilled well & new water pump, hydro with a 100 amp breaker system, a storage shed, a wood-fired sauna & a new Bunkie. This lovely property has over 300 ft of road frontage, a kilometer of nicely maintained ATV trails & over 2 kilometers of walking trails & of course traversed by plenty of deer. Asking \$119,000!! MLS#2079009

**EXCEPTIONAL WATERFRONT ACREAGE** - 62 acres with 1,931 ft frontage on Manitowaning Bay at High Falls. This exceptional property features include mature hardwood forest, great beach area, hydro, access road to site & a tremendous setting for waterfront development. Only \$390,000. MLS#2084827

**BUILDING LOT** - 2 level building lots in Little Current. Great location on quiet street. 71 x 150. Call for details. Asking \$26,000. MLS#2079124

**TEHKUMMAH AGRICULTURAL ACREAGE** - Spectacular 104 acre agricultural site located in one of Manitoulin Islands best agricultural areas includes year round access and Black Creek frontage. Excellent combination of mixed lands with majority being crop lands but also including mature hardwood forest, some escarpment ridge, hydro available at road and very well fenced in lands. Ideal location for residential, recreational and/or farming uses! Call for details! MLS#2084126

**MILLS ROAD ACREAGE** - 200 acre site with mature forest and heavy tree cover. Good road access, excellent location and a great spot to get away from it all. Great price at only \$119,900. Please call for full details. MLS#2084127

**HARDWOOD ACREAGE** - Very well treed 100 acre property with open concession road access, attractive hardwood forest that includes some mixed forest areas with White Pine, mainly level but includes some escarpment outcroppings at one corner plus excellent access along two sides of the property. Very attractive location off New England Side Road in Assinack Township. Only \$89,000. MLS#2083900

**STUNNING NORTH CHANNEL WATERFRONT ACREAGE** - Large, heavily treed waterfront acreage situated on a very protected bay on the North Channel of Lake Huron. Extremely appealing location on Hotham Island located immediately north of the famous Benjamin Islands. Sheltered boat access from McBean Harbour, great location for boat docking and ideal for cottage construction surrounded by mature White Pine and Red Oak forest plus outstanding views to enjoy. 20 acres with 1,300 feet frontage! ONLY \$127,900!! MLS#2084416

**READY TO BUILD LOT IN SUNSITE ESTATES ON MANITOU LIN ISLAND** - Lot has a new 60 ft driveway & the \$5200 water levy has been paid in full. Lot backs onto a park area & is only steps to the water. View the beauty of this lot now. Asking \$23,900. MLS#2066908

**BIRD LOVER'S PARADISE** - 3.93 acre view lot with municipal water available. Uniquely different lot, well treed with mature hardwood setting & exceptional lake view. Stream running through lot. Very private property with lots of possibilities, close to Little Current. Priced to sell at \$69,000. MLS#2084048



**SOUTH BAY WATERFRONT LOT** - located in the Slash. East facing with beautiful view and sunrise, this is a great location for a summer getaway or a permanent home. It is located on a private road but very close to a year round road with hydro at the edge of the lot. The property is fully treed with a mixture of deciduous and evergreens. MLS#2075664



**SUNSITE ESTATES** - Build your dream home or cottage. Building lot in sought after prime residential and recreational community on Manitoulin Island. Lot has a 75 foot driveway, the water levy has not been paid in full, and telephone and hydro service is available. Lot is only steps to the water on beautiful Lake Huron. Great location. Call Now! MLS#2067191



**BUILDING LOT** - Level building lot in Little Current. Great location on quiet street. 35.66 x 150. Asking \$13,000. MLS#2079126



**HUNTING ACREAGE IN SPRING BAY AREA** - 100 acres. Prime land in Central Manitoulin with seasonal road access off extended Evergreen Drive in Cambell Township, and about 25 minutes from Gore Bay. Listed at \$79,000. Call now and be ready for fall. MLS#2062725



**AFFORDABLE LAKE FRONT LIVING** - 4 season brick home, nestled amongst mature trees on almost two acres. Offering 5 bdrms, & 2 full baths, this home has all the room you'll need. Vaulted ceilings with skylights & plenty of windows throughout bathes the home in natural light. Large kitchen features plenty of cabinets, with peninsula for casual breakfasts. Living room & family room boast unparalleled lake views. Go kayaking right off your own private dock. Great fishing, including bass & pike. Call for a viewing today. MLS#2083920



**NORTH CHANNEL WATERFRONT COTTAGE** - Outstanding recreational retreat with spacious cottage on over 200 feet of great shoreline in a spectacular location that offers exceptional lake, mountain and sunset views. Situated close to amenities in Little Current with potential to convert to a home. Additional features include several outbuildings, all appliances, air light wood stove and full west, north and east views to take your breath away. Very attractive, mainly level lot and very low maintenance with this exceptional offering! MLS#2084711



**COUNTRY CHARMER!** - This 4 bedroom home with lots of unique touches, has plenty of room for the growing family or even a B&B! Detached double garage provides lots of storage. Beautiful fenced yard. Roof 2018; Furnace 2017. Priced to sell quickly at \$133,900. MLS#2083519



**WHITE'S POINT WATERFRONT HOME** - Very well laid out, architecturally designed home with spacious room sizes, large deck, attached garage, gas fireplace and several outbuildings. Features exceptional location and views, close proximity to schools & shopping plus a great area for swimming and fishing opportunities. Also features 2.5 baths, a lovely landscaped property and great year-round location. Please call for complete details. MLS#2084076



**MANHATTAN STYLE WITH PARK LIKE SETTING** - Located on quite cul de sac and backing onto municipal park lands, this show piece home offers unparalleled privacy within walking distance to Cambrian Collage, Lassalle Secondary School, Norcat and Timberwolf golf. Professionally re-done interior, interlock drive, attached garage, central air, finished basement and large trex deck leading to a heated pool cover all the extras one might desire. Attractively priced and ready for new owners! MLS#2084874



**SOUTH FACING 2 BDRM FOUR SEASON WATERFRONT COTTAGE OR HOME ON SOUTH BAY ONLY 15 MINS FROM THE FERRY!!** - This cottage/home has deep water, bald rock frontage & comes adorned with beautiful white stone walls & a 32ft x 29ft metal sided & roof, fully insulated garage. The cottage comes turn-key with all furnishings & appliances. The Bay is great fishing for all fresh water species & amenities such as shopping, medical center & golfing are less than 30 mins away. Asking \$299,000!!! MLS#2077447



**ELEVATED SUNRISE VIEW OVER BEAUTIFUL LAKE MINDEMOYA!!** - Large 2 1/2 acre lot with almost 150 ft of shoreline, a dock & a (grandfathered-in) boathouse. A quick flight of stairs brings you from the dock & fantastic deep water shoreline to the top of the flat bluff where you find a 3 bdrm cottage with an eye catching view! The golf course, hospital, restaurants, shopping are only 15 mins away and this pristine lake is legendary for its great walleye, bass, perch & whitefish. Only \$195,000!!! MLS#2074433



**LARGE WATERFRONT ACREAGE!!** - Approximately 133 Acres of mixed frontage with some small meadows & about a half mile of shoreline along the Mississagi Strait of Lake Huron located at the west end of Manitoulin close to the town of Meldrum Bay. The property is accessible by truck & the beautiful shoreline has many great building sites. There are ATV trails on the property with lots of mature trees as well as many deer & small game. The lake itself has great fishing for most fresh water species, especially salmon, rainbow, lake trout, & musky. Asking \$199,000. MLS#2083525



**EXCEPTIONAL APPEAL ON LAKE MINDEMOYA** - Stunning west facing lakefront property offers some of the best qualities available on Manitoulin Island. Central location within several minute drive to Mindemoya, incredible shoreline and outstanding views, mature tree cover, very private location and existing small cottage as added bonus. Great location at Hares Lane and Lakeshore Road for summer vacation and ideal for quality home construction. Asking \$189,900. MLS#2084956



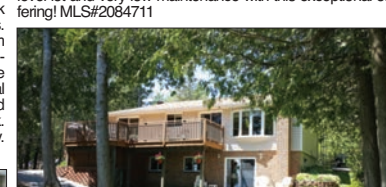
**EXTREMELY HIGH QUALITY 3 BDRM HOME WITH NICE VIEW OVER LAKE MINDEMOYA!!** - This beautiful home with its hardwood floors & vaulted ceilings comes with a magnificent kitchen with cherry stained maple cabinets, 3 baths including the en-suite in the huge 600 sq ft master bdrm found at the top of a spectacular oak stair case. The manicured lot comes adorned with a variety of mature trees which nicely outline the property, amazing concrete driveway & huge sidewalks leading to 2 large decks of which one is a covered verandah. Also on the lot is a 10 X 12 storage shed & a heated completely finished & insulated double size garage. Asking \$370,000. MLS#2074309



**DOUBLE WATERFRONT LOT** - across from Spider Bay Marina on Water Street West in Little Current. This residential building lot has 134.64' of frontage, municipal water/sewer, and is ready for you to build your new or recreational home! Asking \$164,500. You may want a single lot at 67.32' frontage - Asking \$85,000. MLS#2083639



**HIDDEN GEM ON MANITOU LIN ISLAND** - This Lake-shore Log Home has almost 2 acres of total privacy, & 620 ft of frontage on Lake Huron!! Spend Romantic evenings curled up in front of the huge stone fireplace. Sand beach perfect for swimming. You also have your own harbour for your boat or plane! There is a 1200 sq ft Guest house with 2 bdrms, full kitchen, bathroom & large screened in porch. There is also a 1300 sq ft workshop, and a large carport for storing lots of toys. Stunning panoramic views, including view of Scotch Mtn. The possibilities are endless with this unique property. Don't wait...Your Island retreat is calling you!! MLS#2083416



**EAST MANITOU LIN WATERFRONT HOME** - Well laid out three-bedroom home with spacious room sizes, large deck, detached double garage, propane fireplace, exceptional landscaping, all appliances and most furnishings. Features exceptional location and views, close proximity to shopping and great swimming and fishing opportunities. Also features 2 bath, great privacy, lovely landscaped property and great year-round location. Please call for complete details. MLS#2084540



**SUCCESSFUL AUTO REPAIR & BODY SHOP BUSINESS IN DOWNTOWN GORE BAY!!** - Known as Jewell's Collision, the large 7200 sq ft building is newly renovated & maintenance free. The building is currently housing an auto repair shop in the back half of the building & an auto body shop in the front half. The business has grown every year for the 19 years it has existed & continues to grow with plenty of opportunity to expand & grow especially with spin-off type business such as used car sales/rentals, small motor repairs, car detailing & the list goes on and on. The seller is willing to undergo an environmental audit & had a clean bill of health on one that was done when the seller took over the building. The building could be converted into other uses as well, also rent to own may be a possibility. Asking just \$489,000. MLS#2080433



**EXCEPTIONAL PRICE - WATERFRONT COTTAGE** - Spacious waterfront cottage with over 1,400 sq ft of liveable area & a lovely location with expansive views to the east & south. Flat limestone & whitewashed cobblestone shoreline adds to appeal. Built in 2000 and nicely upgraded with vinyl siding and metal roofing in 2018. Full concrete foundation on solid bedrock. Great Price @ only \$149,900. MLS#2084872



**Tim Fenerty,**  
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Evenings 705-377-7216



**Bob Watson,**  
Sales Person  
Evenings 705-859-3375



**Steve Rolston, B.A.**  
Broker of Record  
Evenings: 705-348-2381



**Al Rolston,**  
Sales Person  
Evenings 705-368-2381



**Al Frank,**  
Sales Person  
Evenings: 705-859-3297



**Alan Mihelchic**  
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# Why Choosing Local Matters

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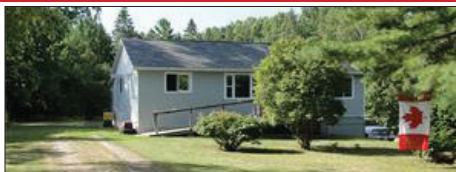
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**2+1 BDRM COUNTRY HOME** - With Large Double Garage On 3.7 Acres Of Land In The Quaint Town Of Silver Water. This beautiful home located close to Silver Lake which is good fishing for Walleye & Bass has many upgrades including hardwood flooring, propane furnace and new windows. The 3.77 acre lot comes with two driveways and a 31 X 24 foot garage with storage loft. Many other great fishing lakes are close by and the amenities of the Town of Gore Bay are just 30 minutes away. Asking \$169,000. MLS#2079265

### 4 BEDROOM HOME WITH SAND BOTTOM WATER FRONT!!

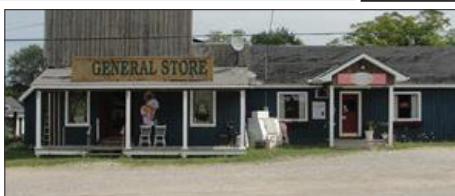
This beautiful 1400 sq. ft home is located in a park setting on the north shore of Lake Mindemoya on leased land. A new lease is to be negotiated with land owner. This home is used year round and has plenty of sand beach shoreline along the waterfront. Lake Mindemoya has great year round fishing for walleye, perch, whitefish and pike. Amenities such as hospital, golf course, grocery stores and restaurants are close by. Rent is much cheaper than taxes. Asking \$219,000 !!!  
MLS#2084865



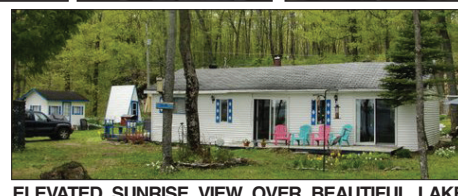
**LACLOCHE MOUNTAIN RESORT ON CHARLTON LAKE IN WHITEFISH FALLS!!** - Settled in the Majestic Mountain Range of white quartz of Willisville where they filmed the series Rainbow Country, these spectacular mountains and waterways were made famous in paintings by the group of seven. This resort known as Bearskin Lodge and Outfitters comes turnkey with 9 rustic two and three bedroom log cabins as well as an owners' residence and another cabin they allow friends and workers to stay. The housekeeping cottages each have their own hydro panels and each have their own bathrooms and appliances that are relatively new with upgraded wiring. Charlton Lake is really one of many lakes accessible in the area and is renowned for its great walleye and bass fishing. Asking \$975,000. MLS#2077603



**SUCCESSFUL AUTO REPAIR AND BODY SHOP BUSINESS IN DOWNTOWN GORE BAY!!** - Known as Jewell's Collision, the large 7200 square foot building is newly renovated and maintenance free. The building is currently housing an auto repair shop in the back half of the building and an auto body shop in the front half. The business has grown every year for the 19 years it has existed and continues to grow with plenty of opportunity to expand and grow especially with spin-off type business such as used car sales/rentals, small motor repairs, car detailing and the list goes on and on. The seller is willing to undergo an environmental audit and had a clean bill of health on one that was done when the seller took over the building. The building could be converted into other uses as well, also rent to own may be a possibility. Asking just \$489,000. MLS#2080433



**FANTASTIC BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY!!** - Known as Sandfield General Store, this very large commercial building is currently a gift shop, a restaurant & a corner store. It has plenty of parking, storage areas & land. Along with this business is a 2 storey, 5 bdrm, 2 bath home that would make a great little bed & breakfast. Lake Manitou is a stone's throw away & this location is quite central & very much needed as the competition is mainly 20 mins or more away in every direction. There is a resort trailer park directly behind this great commercial business & its huge untapped potential. Reduced to \$300,000  
MLS#2062704



**ELEVATED SUNRISE VIEW OVER BEAUTIFUL LAKE MINDEMOYA!!** - Large 2 1/2 acre lot with almost 150 ft of shoreline, a dock & a (grandfathered-in) boathouse. A quick flight of stairs brings you from the dock & fantastic deep water shoreline to the top of the flat bluff where you find a 3 bdrm cottage with an eye catching view! The golf course, hospital, restaurants, shopping are only 15 mins away. Only \$195,000!!!  
MLS#2074433



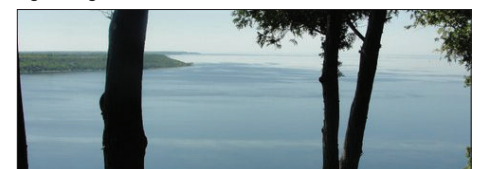
**25 ACRE PROPERTY WITH YEAR ROUND ROAD ACCESS & 2 BDRM COTTAGE!!** - Located on Union Road only 30 mins from the amenities of Mindemoya & only 15 mins from the Town of Gore Bay. The cottage comes with most contents included and is also adorned with a brand new roof, a drilled well & new water pump, hydro with a 100 amp breaker system, a storage shed, a wood-fired sauna & a new Bunkie. This lovely property has over 300 ft of road frontage, a kilometer of nicely maintained ATV trails & over 2 kilometers of walking trails & of course traversed by plenty of deer. Asking \$119,000!!  
MLS#2079009



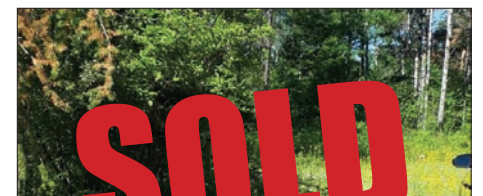
**2.77 ACRE VACANT LOT ON LAKE MINDEMOYA!!** - This estate size waterfront lot comes with a beautiful sand beach, great for swimming on a lake that has very good fishing for walleye, bass, perch and whitefish. The lot is located only 10 minutes from the Town of Mindemoya which consists of such amenities as Manitoulin's largest grocery store, a hospital, hardware stores, etc. asking \$123,000!!  
MLS#2060675



**SOUTH FACING 2 BDRM FOUR SEASON WATERFRONT COTTAGE OR HOME ON SOUTH BAY ONLY 15 MINS FROM THE FERRY!!** - This cottage/house has deep water, bald rock frontage and comes adorned with beautiful white stone walls and a 32ft X 29ft metal sided and roof, fully insulated garage. The cottage comes turn-key with all furnishings and appliances. The Bay is great fishing for all fresh water species and amenities such as shopping, medical center and golfing are less than 30 minutes away. Asking \$299,000!!!  
MLS#2077447



**VISTA WITH A WOW!!** - Reminiscent of a fjord in Norway or the rugged British Columbia coast line, this property sits 450 ft above the town of Gore Bay; overlooking the town & harbour from the top of the East Bluff at the mouth of the bay & facing directly west for beautiful Caribbean style sunsets & the famous La Cloche Mountains in the distance across Lake Huron's North Channel. This one acre property is located on a site that has one of Ontario's prettiest cliff views. This nicely manicured acre of property comes with a magnificent 4 bdrm executive-style manufactured log home accented with a centerpiece stone fireplace, granite counter tops with matching table, in-floor heating, highest of quality built-in appliances, great flooring & a 5 piece ensuite with a Jacuzzi and a large steam-bath/shower. The double garage which is fed with 200 amps of hydro & comes with an attached ATV garage & an exercise room with a bathroom & sauna & the floors in this building are also heated. This property has a layout which would be very conducive to a high-end bed & breakfast. A steal of a deal at \$799,000!  
MLS#2077446



**LARGE VACANT LOT ON A YEAR ROUND ROAD!!** - This property is 1.3 acres on the outskirts of Espanola and comes with a driveway and cleared building site. Asking \$28,000!!!  
MLS#2063820

**SOLD**