

# Christmas is coming!

Christmas Wish List, Pages 16 and 17

Gore Bay Harbour Centre Christmas, Page 14

Donate to Manitoulin Family Resources, get hot chocolate at Orr's Valu-Mart! Page 12



# The MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR



FISHING • YACHTING • CAMPING • HUNTING

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Wednesday, December 7, 2022



**GINGERBREAD EXPRESS**—The Kelly and Greg Chaytor gingerbread house float took the first place prize at the 20th annual Gore Bay Santa Claus parade last Saturday evening. Prior to the parade the tree lighting ceremony included the Gore Bay mayor and several youngsters. The beautiful tree is located in front of the town community hall. During the evening the Gore Bay Rotary Club served up delicious hot chocolate to the many people in attendance.

## Assiginack gives six months notice for Norisle Steamship Society to produce plan for the ship

### Society optimistic about refurbishing ship for service

by Tom Sasvari  
MANITOWANING—Council for the municipality of Assiginack has agreed that, by April 28, 2023, it is seeking a final proposal from the S.S. Norisle Steamship Society and will be investigating all other options for removal of the Norisle before making a final

decision on what to do with the ship. This comes as news that major progress has been made by the Steamship Society.

John Coulter, director of restoration for the society told The Expositor, "We have made some progress. The Heddle Shipyard Marine in Hamilton has

quoted on engineering and steelwork that they would do at cost, and also to help assist us in fundraising."

As has been previously reported, the S.S. Norisle Steamship Society proposal is for complete restoration of the ship, to a four-star Great Lakes Cruising Ship. The Norisle would be the one, if not the only, Canadian cruise ship that would venture throughout all of the Great Lakes, under steam pressure.

"The expansive independent study that was previously carried out on the ship makes it clear that the proposal to turn it into a four-star Great Lakes cruise ship is viable," said Mr. Coulter.

At a special meeting of Assiginack council last week, council passed a motion to "inform the Steamship Society that we will require their final proposal to remove the Norisle for council's consideration by April 28, 2023. And that we inform them that we

## Charges up in 2022 rifle hunt

by Tom Sasvari  
MANITOULIN—While it appears the overall deer harvested on Manitoulin Island during this year's annual deer gun hunt is comparable in number to previous years, the number of charges laid by conservation officers (COs) with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) has increased.

"The number of charges laid

during the hunt on Manitoulin Island this year was 42," Andrew Chambers, strategic development and issues management coordinator of the enforcement branch with the ministry told The Expositor. In 2021, COs laid 30 charges during the annual deer gun hunt on Manitoulin. In 2020, a total of 16 charges were laid, down from 25 charges laid during the 2019 hunt. During the 2020 hunt, 26 warnings were issued, with 31 warnings issued in 2019.

"Every year, our priority is hunter safety," said Mr. Cham-

...continued on page 11

...continued on page 10

## Tehkummah fire razes family home

by Michael Erskine  
TEHKUMMAH—An afternoon fire broke out in the Tehkummah home of Carol Windover on Tuesday, November 22, totally destroying the building and leaving Ms. Windover scrambling to find a new place to live.

Luckily, Ms. Windover has been able to secure a place to stay and her son Kyle, who lives in Toronto, has set up a GoFundMe account to help her deal with the challenges of losing one's home.

"I brought a load of wood over to the house she is living in on the weekend," said Mr. Windover, who

...continued on page 11

## Sudbury-Manitoulin opioid deaths three times overall Ontario rate

### Sudbury, Manitoulin districts second highest

by Lori Thompson,  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
MANITOULIN—The rate of opioid deaths in the Sudbury and Manitoulin districts decreased significantly in the first half of 2022 compared to the same period of 2021, but that rate is still three times that of the overall Ontario rate. Six of the seven health units at the top of the opioid poisoning death rate are all in Northern Ontario, with Public Health Sudbury and District (PHSD) taking the number two spot.

There is still an opioid crisis in Northern Ontario.

The rate of opioid deaths in Ontario decreased by more than 10 percent in the first two quarters of 2022 compared to the year before, according to data released by the Office of Chief Coroner of Ontario. In 2021, the mortality rate for opioid toxicity in Ontario was 19.7 per 100,000 population,

more than double the rate in 2017. In 2022 (to end of June), the mortality rate decreased by 13 percent compared to 2021 (preliminary data) but remains 55 percent higher than the mortality rate in 2019, pre-pandemic.

For Sudbury and district, the rate of opioid deaths per 100,000 population was 67.6 for January to March 2022, an increase of 5.2 over the same period in 2021. The rate was 40.6 for April to June 2022, a decrease from 42.9 over the same period in 2021.

In comparison, the rate for Ontario from January to March 2022 was 17.4 and from April to June was 16.5.

Age groups 30 to 59 continue to be most impacted, accounting for 72 percent of deaths in Ontario in the second quarter of 2022. Deaths decreased by 13 percent for 20

...continued on page 10

## Gore Bay council, Aboriginal Housing disagree on need for new low rental housing

### Council would prefer seniors' housing to be built in town

by Tom Sasvari  
GORE BAY—Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services (OAHS) is hosting a community engagement meeting in Gore Bay to discuss plans for a 20-unit affordable housing development in the town.

The size of the proposed development has been reduced, Cathy Connor, director of housing development for OAHS told The Expositor: "Based on the topography reports and the storm water management reports, conservation reports alongside our current wait list, we decided to reduce the number of units and added in more one-bedroom units."

"The Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board (DSB) was made aware of our reduction and unit mix variation, and they have

agreed to allow the development with reduced unit count and unit mix," said Ms. Connor. "We now have two three-bedroom units, four two-bedroom units and 14 one-bedroom units."

...continued on page 13

## Jordan Chandler recruits Brad Jacobs to skip his rink in Brier hunt

by Tom Sasvari  
MANITOULIN—Past world champion curler Brad Jacobs has joined local curler Jordan Chandler's rink to compete in the provincial championship.

"Yes it is true, Brad (Jacobs) has joined our rink," Mr. Chandler confirmed on Monday. "He is a past Olympic, provincial and Brier champion."

"I played on Brad's team last year when we won the provincial northern Ontario championship and went on to the Brier," said Mr. Chandler.

"We are gearing up as a rink just for the provincials, which will take place January 24-29 in Kenora," continued Mr. Chandler. "Hopefully, we will get through the provincials to the Brier which takes place in London in March."

Mr. Chandler said that Brad Jacobs will be skip of the rink, while he will be vice. Kyle Chandler will be second and Jamie Broad, a Sault Ste. Marie curler, will play lead.

## Little Current mother seeks new kidney donation

### Young woman's first transplant is failing

by Michael Erskine  
LITTLE CURRENT—Seven years ago, Kinga Casson of Little Current caught something of a Hail Mary pass when her mother Anne proved to be a match for a desperately needed kidney donation. Three years later, that kidney also started to wane, and Ms. Casson was again put on the list for a donor in both Ontario and



Kinga Casson and son Jack. Ms. Casson is in desperate need of a kidney donation.

nationally where she has languished for four years.

Ms. Casson has been dealing with chronic kidney issues since she was 16, but it was after she turned 20, following a high-risk pregnancy, that her condition spiraled dramatically.

"My beautiful son Jack was born premature when I was 20

...continued on page 13



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 AND GIFTS  
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# The Manitoulin *West* Recorder



**GORE BAY BOARDWALK WORK PROGRESSING**—The next step into the repairs of the Gore Bay boardwalk was taken last week with the installation of two new bridges on the boardwalk. In late 2020 Gore Bay council had agreed with a helical pile (screw pile) option for the boardwalk spanning the entire portion of the boardwalk to be repaired. The repairs of the boardwalk span the west side of Water Street to the east side of Water Street.

## Christmas food hampers will likely top 1,200 this year *Clients using Manitoulin Food Bank continue to rise this fall*

by Tom Sasvari

MANITOULIN—The trends provincially that show a significant increase in the number of people that have accessed emergency food support in Ontario last year—nearly 600,000 people—is something that Manitoulin Family Resources (MFR) Food Bank is also seeing.

“There has been an increased demand all fall, and we expect this to continue up to Christmas and beyond,” Marnie Hall, executive director of MFR, told The Expositor last week. “We have seen an increase in the fall from seeing about 330 clients per month to between 425-450 per month. And we are seeing with Christmas hamper numbers with referrals coming in for the food baskets we had planned for 1,000 but now we are already over 900 right now. We are preparing and expecting 1,200.”

“This is always a guess with referrals coming in, but based on past history the number will increase,” said Ms. Hall.

Feed Ontario released its 2022 Hunger Report on November 28,

revealing that nearly 600,000 people accessed emergency food support last year, visiting more than 4.3 million times. This is an increase of 15 percent and 42 percent respectively over pre-pandemic numbers from 2019, and the sixth consecutive year that food bank use has increased. The report recognizes the impact that high inflation has had on food bank use in Ontario but points to decades of insufficient investments in quality jobs, the provincial social safety net, and affordable housing as the primary drivers of this growth.

“In looking at longstanding income security trends, data shows that it is harder for someone to break the cycle of poverty today than it was 30 or more years ago,” said Carolyn Stewart, executive director, Feed Ontario. “Ontario’s once-strong employment sector and social safety net have been weakened by decades of cost saving measures that have put low-income families in increasingly more precarious

...continued on page 25

## Critics say sweeping changes brought by Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster, are ‘egregious’ at best

by Lori Thompson, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

TORONTO—Rallies erupted across the province this past weekend as Ontario residents continued to protest Bill 23, the More Homes Built Faster Act. More than 60 protests have occurred across the province since the bill was tabled on October 25. Bill 23, which the government says will fast track development in the midst of a housing crisis, received Royal Assent on November 28.

Critics say the omnibus bill contains sweeping changes that will remove or weaken environmental protections, lead to higher property taxes, undermines democracy, and won’t actually address the affordable housing crisis.

“More Homes Built Faster helps fulfill our government’s promise to help more Ontarians find a home that meets their needs and budget,” said Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Steve Clark.

The Act ‘removes unnecessary costs and cuts through red tape and other bottlenecks that stand in the way of new homes being built,’ the Minister said in a statement. The provincial government has set a goal of 1.5 million homes built over the next 10 years.

While the bill does remove duplicate plan approval requirements and adds measures to increase urban density and a mix of housing options, it also weakens or eliminates many housing development regulations that protect the natural environment and

...continued on page 26

## Tourism Summit paints positive future for industry in the North

by Michael Erskine

THUNDER BAY—Hundreds of tourism stakeholders gathered in Thunder Bay recently for the first in-person Northern Ontario Tourism Summit since the start of the pandemic. The Northern Ontario Tourism Summit (NOTS) is a partnership event between Nature and Outdoor Tourism Ontario (NOTO) and Destination Northern Ontario (DNO). The collaboration seeks to bring together tourism businesses, organizations and suppliers as well as all levels of government at a single event to find solutions to challenges facing the industry.

The unique event hosts training workshops, information sessions and problem-solving workshops that venture outside of the box, as well as keynote speakers, networking opportunities and a trade show aimed at the tourism industry.

“NOTS is critical to tourism operators to gain current insights and important tourism knowledge,” said Indigenous Tourism Ontario CEO Kevin Eshkawkogan. “For example, participants

learned that with over 100 First Nations in Northern Ontario, it is in an amazing position to not only rebound from the pandemic but thrive and lead the world on the tourism front.”

“Access to pristine wilderness and Indigenous tourism experiences are two offerings the domestic and international consumers are demanding,” said Mr. Eshkawkogan. “Northern

...continued on page 9

## Batman’s, Stanley Park recognized by Camping in Ontario with awards

by Tom Sasvari

SHEGUIANDAH—Two Manitoulin Island business have been recognized with awards from Camping in Ontario.

Batman’s Cottages and Campground in Sheguiandah has been recognized with the 2022 Campers Choice Award-Best Rental Accommodation, while Stanley Park Campgrounds in Spring Bay is a 2022 camper’s choice award winner for best beach. For the latter, this is the second year in a row they have won this award.

“It was awesome to be selected for this award,” stated Lisa Deschamps, who owns Batman’s with her husband Andre and their two daughters, Chantal and Lisa. “People had the opportunity to put their vote in for the season on their favourite rental accommodation, and it is through their voting that we were chosen the best in the province for rental accommodations. They sent us an email indicating we had won the award.”

In an email to Batman’s from Jenn Bheemsingh, events and

marketing coordinator for Camping in Ontario she wrote, “Congratulations! We are happy to announce that you have won a 2022 Camper’s Choice Award for Best Rental Accommodation! Campers have voted and spoken

you’re the best!”

“The award will be presented in the spring,” said Ms. Deschamps.

Ms. Deschamps said, “we are a private campground, not owned by the government, and anyone

...continued on page 9

## Split Rail Brewing wins bronze medal at Ontario Brewing Awards competition

by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY—Split Rail Brewing won a bronze medal at the 2022 Ontario Brewing Awards competition.

“We’re very pleased,” stated Andrea Smith, general manager of Split Rail located in Gore Bay. “We received a bronze medal award for our Loon Song Oat Stout in the Dark British Beer category, (at the 2022 Ontario Brewing Awards).”

Ms. Smith explained the Loon Song Oat Stout “is a very smooth, luscious velvety beer because of the oats. It has hints of coffee and molasses in it. It is very drinkable



Split Rail Brewing brewer Rob Lanktree accepts the bronze medal award for the company at the 2022 Ontario Brewing Awards.

and enjoyable,” she explained, noting, “with this beer, some customers will say they don’t usually like heavy dark beer, but they like this one.”

“My mother is not a beer lover, and my sister loathes stout beer, but they both like this one,” stated Ms. Smith.

Barret Campbell, head brewer said, “We are proud to have received the bronze award for our Loon Song Oat Stout. It is all thanks to the great efforts of our Split Rail family and

...continued on page 9

## Manitoulin Health Centre Auxiliary donates \$10,000 for ECG machine

LITTLE CURRENT—On November 15, the Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) Auxiliary donated \$10,000 to kickstart the fundraising initiative for a new echocardiogram (ECG) machine at MHC in Little Current.

Dawn Orr, president of the MHC Auxiliary said “The Auxiliary members felt the new ECG machine is a vital piece of equipment that would help all the patients. This is just the start of our fundraising on behalf of MHC and the ECG machine. We will also be featuring live Christmas music, silent auction and desserts at the United Church in Little Current on Saturday, December 10 from 2 to 4 pm. We hope to see everyone out to enjoy a little Christmas spirit and support the MHC. And stay tuned for more details on a fundraiser in February of 2023.”

Ms. Orr went on to say a special thank you to all the Auxiliary members, particularly Debbie Heise and Carole LaBelle, the convenors of these fundraising initiatives.

...continued on page 10

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# One Manitowaning Road

opinion

"who dares not offend, cannot be honest"

## editorial

### Online giant service issues provide a cautionary tale

It's Christmas shopping spree time and, thanks to the isolation most shoppers have gone through over the pandemic years, more and more of that shopping frenzy takes place online.

But now that the pandemic panic has abated somewhat (even if the contagious virus itself remains a reality) the rapid expansion of many online businesses is now experiencing a slowdown in growth and, in some cases, outright contraction. Amazon, the multi-billion-dollar megolith of the online mercantile world, has recently announced plans to shrink its global workforce by as many as 10,000 workers.

Numerous stories, one might even say horror stories, are surfacing in recent days relaying instances of reluctance on the part of one of the largest of online merchandisers to provide refunds or exchanges for incorrect, incomplete or outright fraudulent products. This will come as a bit of a shock to customers who have become used to the somewhat liberal exchange and refund policies that were the hallmark of the online mercantile class in the heady days of rapid expansion.

Now, with margins being squeezed and reductions in employee levels allegedly rippling into the customer service realm, large online merchandisers are apparently experiencing serious lapses in that area as they seek to stem the considerable leakage in profits that comes with providing the "no questions asked" refund and exchange regimes that have been the hallmark of online and/or big box stores.

Some might recall Canadian retail giant Eaton's mantra in bygone days "goods satisfactory or money cheerfully refunded." Wither the Eatons empire now?

This is a great time to consider dropping by a local "bricks and mor-

tar" establishment and making at least part of your holiday shopping list local.

The Christmas shopping season has always been the winter equivalent of the summer tourist boost for local businesses, often rivaling, if not exceeding, the fabled Haweater Weekend bonanza.

Shopping local, whether it be for artisan items to be found at the many Christmas bazaars, vendors' markets and church bake sales, or more formal businesses you will quickly find we still have many merchants on Manitoulin Island, friends and neighbours, who look forward to seeing you at this time of the year.

No need to buy more than you need or pay for a special service in order to qualify for free shipping. No fretting over when or if the package will arrive in time to take its place under the Christmas tree. If the item is at hand in the store, you put it in your shopping cart and trundle it on home for the wrapping. It's a win-win for everyone.

And should the product require return or adjustment, well the chances are you know the seller personally.

Island businesses may not have the product that you need, but chances are pretty good that if you don't assume they don't and do a bit of shopping around, you will be surprised at what you can discover locally. As any veteran Christmas shopper knows, you often set out to find a gift for that special someone only to discover the perfect gift right here close to home.

So this Christmas season, before you set out across that bridge to the crowded markets of the big city, stop by the less stressful local shop or business and help make local businesses and their staffs' season a little more merry.

## letters

### Writer recalls terror of Cuban Missile Crisis

#### *A comparison of the reactions of JFK and Putin*

#### To the Expositor:

I recently read a fairly accurate article regarding the Cuban missile crisis in The Expositor. The version that I was subjected to is slightly different.

As a teenager, living much farther south than Little Current, next to the quonset naval base in Providence, Rhode Island, the terror was off the chart. Living next to a military target drove the fear to the top level. The school children were driven under their desks, as absurd as that sounds, in order to avoid an imminent nuclear attack.

Kennedy's courage and fortitude in the face of the evil Russian threat and his final success at averting total destruction propelled him to mythic reverence. The thankful Americans looked at him as if he was a god who delivered us from these evil perpetrators. How dare they set

up weapons of mass destruction only 90 miles from Miami and the US mainland? Our leader stared down the threat. He was proclaimed a hero by the civilized world.

This aggression had no chance against us "brave and noble" Americans. Now, 60 years later, as we see history repeat, as she so often does, we do not see the bravery and courage of the Russian leader who, like JFK, does not appreciate biological labs and nuclear missiles delivered by NATO and the US, to his border in the Ukraine. Like JFK he retaliates by invading the land mass that houses this terrible threat to his country. The question, begging to be asked, why is JFK a hero and Vlad Putin a demon?

Tommy Lough  
Tehkummah

### Intimate Partner Violence Disclosure Act needed in Ontario

#### *So many lives could be saved*

#### To the Expositor:

On the heels of the eye-opening article, 'Flags raised across Manitoulin to end gender-based violence' (November 30, Page 4) in The Expositor, I wish to bring something to light that no one seems to talk about. It is Bill 274, The Intimate Partner Violence Disclosure Act, 2021 that appears to be stalled in Parliament at the moment. The Act is based on Clare's Law, a law passed in the UK in 2014. Clare Wood was a woman who was murdered in England by a former domestic partner who police knew to be dangerous. That law gives individuals the ability to apply for information on their partners to find out if they have a history of domestic violence.

Apparently in Canada it is only in effect in the provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Newfoundland and Labrador. I was shocked that every province hasn't adopted this! This act would allow individuals to apply for information regarding whether their intimate partner has a history of committing intimate partner violence.

I think so many lives could be saved if this act was passed in Ontario. I don't know why this Bill seems to have stalled but I would love some input from our local MPP, Michael Mantha with regards to this law getting passed.

Robin Omnet  
Little Current

### Government puts people in poorhouse while corporations prosper

#### *Rural communities are among the hardest hit*

#### To the Expositor:

The government is sure putting a lot of people in the poorhouse while the big corporations and high-tech industries are making in the millions of dollars with the government support.

I keep hearing more people are becoming dependent on food banks to put food on their table. I do believe we have these problems too in rural areas where there is not too much media to report it.

It is harder on people who do not have transportation here and are living in rural areas. Sometimes it's hard to find a taxi because, myself, I have to get a taxi to go someplace sometimes it's hard to find a taxi. It

is a good thing that I am not a shopper; I only buy what I need. I do not have to run around trying to find happiness.

I'm happy just the way I am.

I'm very in touch with my soul. Then Christmas is coming and a lot of people are so anxious about it. But I'm not; it will be just another day for me because happiness does not last once they start getting those bills next year. Depression maybe?

Ronald Osawabine  
Wiikwemkoong

### Assignack tenders for design of arts and entertainment centre

#### by Tom Sasvari

MANITOWANING—With government funding having been approved, Assignack council is putting out a tender for design and estimated costs for an Assignack Arts and Entertainment Centre.

Mayor Brenda Reid told The Expositor after a special council meeting held November 28, "when the former council was in a lame duck position with the election, it had a committee look at the possibility of an addition being put on the Manitowaning arena."

Mayor Reid explained that the former coun-

cil had applied for money for architectural work design and estimated costs for the arts and entertainment centre and was approved for funding during the previous council's lame duck situation. Alton Hobbs, township CAO and deputy clerk signed the papers on behalf of the municipality accepting the funding on behalf of the municipality. The funding of \$168,000 was approved with the municipality's share of the costs for design being \$46,000.

"Council agreed that we put out a tender for an architect to prepare the design and estimated costs for the building," said Mayor Reid. "It

is always good to have projects like this being shovel ready."

The committee looked at an extension being constructed on the end of the Manitowaning arena for the arts and entertainment centre. "Therefore, we would not need washroom construction because they are already located in the arena," said Mayor Reid.

"There are a lot of groups and individuals involved in the committee and we are looking for input from the groups and users of the arena on what they would like to see in the new centre," said Mayor Reid.

# Manitoulin Island communities parade their Christmas spirit



Bright lights and plenty of jolly elves made for a great parade in Little Current.



Harbor Vue Marina got its nautical on for the parade.



Little Current Lions are back and out in force for the parade.



More jingle bells with the Mindemoya Santa Claus parade horses.



Royal Canadian Sea Cadets 348 Manitoulin lead the Mindemoya Santa Claus parade.



Santa Claus rides through the streets of Mindemoya.



Nutcrackers galore hang in the RD and Sons float in Gore Bay.



Here comes Santa Claus in the Gore Bay parade.



Jack Frost had trouble nipping on these well-covered folks' noses.



The Grinch stopped in for the Sheshegwaning parade.



Joseph Laford puts the final preparations on his float entered in the Sheshegwaning Health Centre annual Santa Claus Parade.



Children were delighted being part of the Sheshegwaning parade.



Happy grins were plentiful during the Whitefish River First Nation parade.



It's Marti the road reporting road guard giving a salute.



The gold ticket winner from the Barney's gift boxes had not yet been announced at press time Monday, so check those boxes folks!

# Island First Nation policing receives crime fighting tech funds

ONTARIO—Both the United Chiefs and Councils of Manitoulin Anishinaabe Police Service (UCCM APS) and the Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service (WTPS) are among those First Nations policing services to receive funding from the provincial government for crime-fighting technology.

The Ontario government is providing more than \$6 million to help First Nation's police services better protect their communities. The investment is part of the province's First Nations Policing Modernization Initiative, and will be used to purchase new technology, including mobile workstations, body cameras and automated license plate readers.

UCCM APS is to receive \$223,011 in funding with the

WTPS receiving a total of \$194,000.

Scott Cooper, acting chief of police for Wikwemikong Tribal Police Services told The Expositor the funding, "is a good step moving forward as it is a commitment to us of four to five years funding to implement this technology. And it is a government response to recognize First Nations policing as an essential service."

"There are still ongoing negotiations (with the government) and this is a small part of the policing services that we provide and allows us to evolve and become more engaged in the community," said Chief of Police Cooper.

"First Nations police services need modern equipment to keep their communities safe," said

Solicitor General Michael Kerzner. "This (funding) initiative will provide police officers and personnel with the tools they need to fight crime effectively and efficiently while in the field and connected to a local command network."

The funding will be used to undertake modernization work, including mobile workstations-an information technology suite of equipment embedded within a police vehicle for mobile/remote access to records management system databases, the Canadian Police Information Centre, and police services internal servers; infrared technologies-thermal imaging cameras are an investigative tool to assist in suspect apprehension, evidence gathering and search and rescue opera-

tions by detecting heat radiation of persons or objects; live scan machines, which support the process of capturing fingerprints electronically and can be shared immediately with police services across the country, including the Royal Canadian Mounted Police; body-worn cameras-devices that record interactions between community members (e.g., the public, suspects, and victims) and law enforcement officers; in-car cameras-capable of recording all interactions between police and the public, including traffic stops and rear seat prisoner transportation; automated licence plate readers, a system of cameras and supporting software that captures licence plate information and immediately compares plate num-

bers to a Ministry of Transportation database with vehicle and vehicle owner information.

Staff Sergeant Cooper noted, "it allows us to procure this technology equipment to assist with the services we are providing. This includes two streams, such as having computers in cars, and body worn cameras, and automated licence plate readers. This technology can also be used in other ways to help educate members of the public."

"But there is also the element of transportative policing to follow the rules that need to be followed in balance with the values of the community," continued Chief of Police Cooper. "It is an important step towards providing essential police services. It's also

part of the goal of having the government deeming First Nations policing services as an essential service and providing some of the tools that reach toward that."

"As we look to modernize law enforcement across the province, it is critical that we support First Nations police services," said Greg Rickford, minister of Indigenous Affairs. "These targeted investments will enhance efficiency and give officers the tools they need to serve their communities and remain safe on the job."

A total of nine First Nations police services and 18 First Nation communities who have policing administered by the Ontario Provincial Police under the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program will receive the funding.

# Brazen thieves steal greenhouse from community garden

by Michael Erskine

LITTLE CURRENT—Heartwood Mushroom owner and long-time local food advocate Shane O'Donnell was shocked when he gazed outside the door of the Cockburn Street mushroom facility toward the community garden.

The greenhouse, custom-designed by engineer Mark Hamalainen formerly of Little Current and the centre-piece of a Little Current community garden, was gone. Closer examination revealed that not only had the greenhouse been stolen, ruthlessly ripped from its plumbing and styrocrete foundations, so was the associated tool shed and boards from the raised beds.

"They even took the boards from the raised gardens," said Mr. O'Donnell. While the theft of the raised bed boards might seem even stranger, they were rough-cut cedar and in great shape, he noted.

Mr. O'Donnell estimated loss and damage to the facil-

ity is estimated in the \$20,000 to \$25,000 range.

There were plans to move the greenhouse and tools to a new facility in Gore Bay as the Little Current community garden had "lost traction." But that was to happen in the spring.

"We have no idea what transpired," said Northeast Town CAO Dave Williamson, who had been contacted by Northern Ontario Permaculture Institute, the community garden custodians about the missing greenhouse. "That work was going to be done in the spring," confirmed Mr. Williamson, who admitted he found the heist to be "strange." But he confirmed the town had no hand in the disappearance of the greenhouse or materials.

Mr. O'Donnell said the community garden had "lost traction" during the pandemic. "It was pretty hard when people couldn't enter the gardens during COVID," he said. "It was pretty nascent and just

couldn't sustain any momentum given the pandemic restrictions."

Still, the greenhouse was destined to a second life as a support for another community's garden efforts. "It's really unfortunate that someone would do this," said Mr. O'Donnell.

A Heartwood Mushroom worker did notice the dismantling work taking place on Friday afternoon but given that the individuals involved were dressed in "construction type" gear, they assumed the operation was legit.

"They did this in broad daylight, just down from the OPP station," noted Mr. O'Donnell. "That's a pretty brazen theft."

A police report has been filed on the incident and officers are investigating the matter. "Anyone with any information is requested to call the OPP non-emergency line," said OPP Community Safety Officer Constable John Hill. "No detail is too small."



All that remains of the Little Current community garden after thieves removed the greenhouse, tool shed and boards from the raised bed gardens. This daylight robbery took place just down the road from the Little Current detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police.

photo by Michael Erskine

## Friends and Neighbours

### Kagawong Team Fergmeijer

If there's one place Team Fergmeijer just can't stand, it's at the ice rink. Last year, we tried to organize a skating party out on the lake, but it fell through. The new cover on the rink looks axel-ent, and we can't wait to go down and have lutz of fun when the ice is ready. We've been thinking it should have a name and are taking suggestions on what to call it. One suggestion was the Kagawong Kanopy; another is the Lutz Lounge. What are your thoughts? Drop us a line with your suggestions at fergmeijer@gmail.com.

We would like to wish a belated happy birthday to Team Fergmeijer superfan Laurie Z. Like us, she likes to maintain a low profile and has asked us to keep her identity a secret. We would never let this west end icon down by revealing who she is. Former principals can be pretty scary when you cross them, and we definitely intend to stay on her good side, so our lips are zipped. Also celebrating are Rob B and Katherine T. All are turning the big 2-9! We truly feel that laughter is the best gift we can give to the world, so don't be expecting any packages from us for your big day.

The Billings Fire Department has a fantastic crew of volunteers who train hard and work together to help keep all of us safe. The Fire Department works with the strengths of each volunteer to allow each individual to contribute to their best ability. If you are interested in joining the Fire Department, contact the township office for more information!

Reminder that the access to bulk water from the fire hall is completely off-limits while work is being done on the structural integrity of the building. Please utilize the water at the public works garage at 34 Carter Crescent. There are two hoses available: one between the two truck bays, and the other next to the main door. Please be mindful of the bay doors, and do not leave your vehicle unattended.

A friend lost some weight by wearing bread on her head. It's a new loaf hat diet she's been trying.

Please note that the municipal office will be closed December 26th through to January 2nd, and will re-open Tuesday, January 3, 2023. Likewise, the municipal landfill will be closed December 24th and 25th as well as January 1st, and the Library will be closed December 24th and 31st.

We recently took up archery and really enjoy it! The only drawback is when you have to yank hard on the string before you release the arrow. Have a good week!

### Silver Water Karen Noble

Tuesday, I had my last visit with Dad, Jim Noble, when he was awake and chatting at the Mindemoya Hospital. Early Friday morning, Dad had some trouble and spent the rest of the day asleep. He died in the early evening. Our family thanks all the doctors, nurses, PSWs, and other staff who have helped Dad out over the last year at the Mindemoya Hospital, Manitoulin Health Centre in Little Current and Health Sciences North. Thank you to all the friends and neighbours who visited Dad and who supported our family in many ways.

Thursday the UCW had their Christmas party at the Silver Water Community Hall. The ladies did a great job of organizing it and decorating the hall. There were 31 attendees. Somewhere there are pictures of me winning one game and you have to see it to believe it.

There were four tables of euchre players out in Silver Water on Thursday night and four tables on Friday night in Meldrum Bay.

There was a community turkey dinner held at the Silver Water Community Hall on Saturday night. Thank you to the many people who helped cook the food, decorate the hall, serve the 60 or more people and clean up afterwards. Thanks to everyone who made a donation.

The Local Services Board of Robinson Township held their budget meeting on Sunday afternoon. The fire hall needs a new roof and other repairs in 2023 and several other expenses are increasing the user fees by \$65 each. The LSB is applying for possible grants to cover the roof but the costs had to be included in case one cannot be obtained.

The LSB wants to remind everyone there is a website [robinsontownshiplsb.ca](http://robinsontownshiplsb.ca) that will be updated in the near future. Please email [robinsonlsb@gmail.com](mailto:robinsonlsb@gmail.com) if you have any thoughts, ideas, questions.

Happy 90th birthday to my aunt, Audrey (Noble) McCulloch this week.

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# Manitoulin Sporting Life

## Ice Chips to Canoe Quips

by Larry and André Leblanc



### Volleyball Championships

It is great to see **Deana Debassige-Wood** back teaching at her Alma Mater, Lakeview School. She has had an immediate effect on her athletic squads. She deserves a big shout-out to her Lakeview School girls' volleyball team who went undefeated in the Island elementary schools' volleyball tournament last Wednesday. Bringing home the championship title with only six players!

Congratulations to **Nyala O'Connor, Damara Wassegijig, Lourdes Taukei, Aurora Panamick, Maria Ense-Cheechoo, Rowyn Kasunich** and coaches **Mrs. Deana Debassige-Wood** and **Ms. Georgia Debassige**.

The team would also like to thank the Lakeview staff, who were often corralled into playing some exciting games against these surprisingly skilled players to prep the team for their tournament! As per tradition, their hard work and dedication paid off!

Amazing as that was, how about the boys side? With only four, divisional teams in attendance the Central Manitoulin Public School Eagles did not miss a step and also were undefeated. Hats off to Coach **Casey Boisvert** and her team: **Jack Bridgeman, Matthew Redmond, Jonathon Cooper, Chase Taylor, Anders Watson, Jonah Balfe, Jack Balfe, Josh Daniso, Josiah Wilton** and **Ethan McKenzie**.

All of the teams are excited and getting ready for the upcoming Island Elementary Co-Ed volleyball tournament. Plans for the event indicate that Monday, December 12 at the Four Directions complex in Aundek Omni Kaning for the showdown!

### Off their Rock hockey!

Captain **Delaney Bridgeman** and her second ranked Sudbury Lady Wolves "A" teammates were down in Toronto for a trio of league games this past weekend. The girls opened Saturday morning with a decisive and well deserved 4-0 win over the North York Storm at York University.

After the win they headed up to Barrie for a tilt with the number four ranked, Barrie Sharks. Despite outplaying the Sharks handily, the girls found themselves down 10 after the first. The physicality of the Barrie team began to wear the girls down, and it seemed every one of the few chances Barrie got ended up in the back of the net.

The S.L.W. girls, visibly sagged at 4-0, and despite outshooting their opponent, they dropped their first league game of the season 5-0. On Sunday, they had a chance to bounce back against the other Barrie Sharks squad. However, the weekend seemed to have sapped the energy of the girls and they struggled to play to the level they have established thus far this season, yet despite playing what may have been their worst game so far this year, they managed a 3-1 victory for a winning two wins, one loss road trip.

### Hunting season, helpers' celebration?!

It has been a long-standing tradition that during 'rifle week' that the MMHA schedule has had to work around with super-depleted teams. Traditionally, Manitoulin hunt camps encourage youngsters to jealously gravitate to the hunt camp. However, there are kids that still want to improve their hockey/skating skills, and often there is a core that still want their on-ice time.

With that being said it is always amazing to see all-female bench-staffs stepping up. For instance, the Manitowaning Wolves organization has had ultra-volunteers **Becky Stewart, Laura Hagman** and **Dawn Roque** keeping their keeners, keen.

**Kennedy Lanktree**, over in Mindemoya, is a force with the U18 team as well. She has only been coaching for a few years but again, so impressive!

### Canada's Curling entry?!

Gold medal winning skip **Brad Jacobs** is returning to the four-person game for the Northern Ontario Brier Playdowns! He has been selected by a couple of Island players to help them on their quest. Congratulations and best of luck to skip Brad, vice **Jordan Chandler**, second **Kyle Chandler** and lead **Jamie Broad**. Good luck, guys!

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



The Lakeview elementary school girls' team won their division at the Island elementary school volleyball championship.  
 photo by Tom Sasvari

# AOK hockey phenom named to Canada East World Junior A Challenge hockey selection camp

**LITTLE CURRENT**—Hockey Canada, in conjunction with the Canadian Junior Hockey League has announced that Greater Sudbury Cubs forward Samuel Assinewai of Aundek Omni Kaning (AOK) has been named to take part in the Team Canada East Selection Camp, to vie for a roster spot in the upcoming World Junior A Challenge in Cornwall.

"It's going to be a big week coming up," stated Mr. Assinewai. "I'm looking forward to it."

The 18-year-old AOK product will be among 32 Canada East hopefuls competing in the three-day camp, which runs December 5-7 in Cornwall.

Playing at an over a point-per-game clip for the Sudbury Cubs in Northern Ontario Junior Hockey League action so far this season, Mr. Assinewai has produced 15 to date with Greater Sudbury, with five goals and ten assists in 11 outings. Two of his goals tallies have been game-winners.

Samuel is also riding an eight-game point streak in NOJHL play after notching a goal and two assists in the Cubs home game December 1 versus the Kirkland Lake Gold Miners.



Samuel Assinewai of the Greater Sudbury Cubs of the Northern Ontario Junior Hockey League, has been selected to take part in the Team Canada East Selection Camp. He will be one of the 32 hockey players vying for a roster spot in the upcoming World Junior A Challenge in Cornwall.

photo provided by Northern Lights Photography

Samuel, who started the season (his second) with the Flint Firebirds of the Ontario Hockey League had been disappointed he had not been getting much ice time. He noted that, "I'm playing a lot for the Cubs."

"Team Canada only takes 22

players for the World Junior A Challenge," said Samuel.

Once the squad is selected, Canada East will take part in the WJAC, December 11-18 in Cornwall, against Team Canada West, the United States, Sweden and Latvia.

# Frosty Cup returns to Gore Bay arena December 16-18

by Tom Sasvari

**GORE BAY**—Organizers are pleased and grateful with the community response to the return of the annual Frosty Cup Benefit Hockey Tournament as they gear up and look forward to this year's event.

"It is wonderful that our three groups are getting together again to make this tournament a success and the community support is wonderful," stated Joellen Sloss, a member of the Gore Bay Rotary Club, which along with Royal Canadian Legion Branch (RCL) 514 Gore Bay and the Frosty Cup committee, have worked together to organize this year's tournament.

The first Frosty Cup benefit hockey tournament was held in 2014 and has been running ever since, except 2020 and 2021, during the pandemic. "This will be the seventh annual Frosty Cup tournament," said Ms. Sloss.

The tournament will include 16 teams, and once organizers put out notice they were hoping to host the tournament again this year, it took less than a week for the three divisions, eight teams in the men's open division, four in the ladies' division, and four in the old-timers division to be filled, said Ms. Sloss.

Ms. Sloss pointed out the Rotary Club will be manning the bar for the weekend tournament,

which takes place December 16-18 at the Gore Bay arena. "I've been getting a lot of calls from volunteers in the community who are willing to take shifts at the bar at the arena during the weekend. We still have a few openings if people want to help at the bar. The community support is definitely there. I think everyone has been itching to get back to hosting this tournament. The community support has been wonderful."

The Royal Canadian Legion will be hosting a Frosty Cup dance on the evening of Saturday, December 17 said Ms. Sloss.

"People have been very generous in donating funds toward the ice time at the arena. I understand the sponsorship has been double what it was the last time the tournament was held," said Ms. Sloss.

Not only will there be great hockey during the weekend, the

proceeds from the tournament and bar at the arena, as well as from the Legion dance are donated to an individual or family in need of some assistance. Ms. Sloss pointed out for this year four individuals will share in the proceeds from the weekend.

As an example of the fantastic community support the Frosty Cup tournament has received, "there was a person who received help a few years ago through the tournament, and their family wanted to give back and are volunteering to help work the bar during the weekend. They want to give back, which is wonderful," added Ms. Sloss.

The Little Current Lions Club has also announced the return of its fundraising hockey tournament, Winterfest, to be held in Little Current February 3-5.



### Raking in the trophy

The annual Jim Lanktree Memorial pool tournament was held at the Gore Bay Seniors Centre on October 29. In photo left, Sally Lanktree presents the championship trophy to Bill Baker.

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 FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 4 PM - 1 AM

# Lakeview, CMPS crowned elementary volleyball champions

**by Tom Sasvari**  
 MANITOULIN—The Island elementary school volleyball school champions were crowned last week.

The Lakeview School team won the girls' division title with the Central Manitoulin Public School (CMPS) team winning the boys' championship.

In the girls' division, Lakeview went undefeated in the six teams in total round-robin tournament, winning all five of its games.

Lakeview team members included Lourdes Taukei, Damara Wassegijig, Aurora Panamick, Nyala O'Connor, Maria Ense-Cheechoo and Rowyn Kasunich. Team coaches were Deanna Debassige-Wood and Georgia Debassige.

In the boys' division a round-robin tournament took place with the four teams playing off, with CMPS defeating Charles C. McLean in the semi-finals and Little Current Public School in the finals.

The CMPS team included players Anders Watson, Chase Taylor, Jonah Balfe, Jack Bridgeman, Josh Daniso, Ethan McKenzie, Jonathan Cooper and Josiah Wilson. The team was coached by Casey Boisvert while the manager was Thomas Redman.

The Island elementary school volleyball champions were held November 30 at the Four Directions Complex in Aundeck Omni Kaning.



The Lakeview elementary school girls' volleyball team won the Island elementary school volleyball championships held last week.



The Central Manitoulin Public School boys' won the elementary school championship.

photos by Tom Sasvari

## Jeff Graham challenge tops fundraising goal

*Manitoulin Pet Rescue receives \$2,161*

**by Tom Sasvari**  
 LITTLE CURRENT—He is a little sore but certainly very happy. Jeff Graham is happy because, with the help and support of the Island community he was able to far surpass his



burpee challenge. Mr. Graham was pleasantly surprised by how much he was able to raise with the ORT x Bousquet Burpee Challenge.

November long fundraising challenge that will benefit island pets.

"We raised \$2,161," stated Mr. Graham of On the Rock Fitness Centre (OTR) in Little Current. He had hosted the ORT x Bousquet Burpee Challenge as a GoFundMe fundraising challenge to raise funds for Manitoulin Pet Rescue. Mr. Graham, who along with wife Denise owns OTR in Little Current, is a fitness coach, realtor and firefighter and completed one burpee exercise for every dollar donated.

"I didn't expect to raise \$1,000 so I certainly wasn't expecting to reach the \$2,000 mark," said Mr. Graham.

Mr. Graham annually does something in Novem-

ber for the Movember campaign, but he decided this year he would do something to support the local community directly.

So, for November every dollar donated he would do that many burpee exercises. A fundraising goal of \$1,000 was set for the month.

For the uninitiated, a burpee is an exercise where

a person standing straight drops down to the floor and does a push-up then returns to the standing position and jumps in the air.

After doing 2,161 burpees in the month Mr. Graham said, "I'm a little sore in the shoulders," but is very happy to help raise that amount of money for Manitoulin Pet Rescue.

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## THANKS FOR STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE!

We, at Friends of the Mindemoya Old School, were **overwhelmed** with the response from our members and other supporters during our FALL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN.

Because of **your** generosity, and a wonderful \$50,000 donation from the **Smith Family Foundation**, we were able to exceed the amount necessary by \$10,000, to reach the **first** funding milestone required in our lease.

The old saying "It takes a village" certainly applies here. We are very grateful for your support as the journey to revitalize the school continues.

*THANKS AGAIN from your FOMOS team.*



## Announcement

On behalf of Council and myself, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Denise Deforge as the new CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/CLERK for the Municipality of Central Manitoulin, effective 1 January, 2023.

Denise has been part of the municipal team since 2003 and involved in many of our projects and activities. In the later years we have depended on Denise to handle our financial needs as our Municipal Treasurer. We all look forward to continuing to work with Denise as she assumes her duties as our new Chief Administrator.

I also would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Ruth Frawley, who after over 41 years of faithful and dedicated service to our municipality, has decided to take a well-deserved retirement, effective 31 December, 2022. We wish you the very best Ruth.

Richard Stephens  
 Mayor



## ...Batman's, Stanley Park recognized with awards

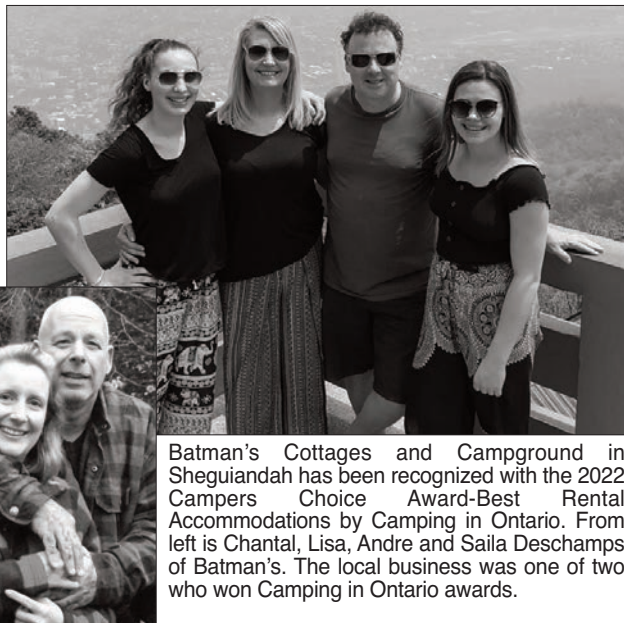
...continued from page 3  
can visit our campground.”

“We want to thank our valued members (customers),” said Ms. Deschamps. “We are going into our 16th season next spring. We are fortunate that we only had a hiccup in staff, we have had exceptional staff over the past several years that allowed us to achieve our goals.”

Tina Tolsma, who owns and operates Stanley Park Campgrounds with her husband Randy said, “we are very proud to win the Camping Ontario prize for the best beach for the second year in a row. It is our customers that go on the Camping Ontario website to vote.” Ms. Tolsma said, “our beach is a natural beautiful sandy beach. People like to walk the sandy beach shoreline out into the lake which is not terribly deep.”

Both Manitoulin businesses will be officially receiving their awards in March.

**RIGHT:** Stanley Park Campgrounds in Spring Bay is a 2022 camper's choice award winner for best beach, from Camping in Ontario. In photo left is Tina and Randy Tolsma.



Batman's Cottages and Campground in Sheguiandah has been recognized with the 2022 Campers Choice Award-Best Rental Accommodations by Camping in Ontario. From left is Chantal, Lisa, Andre and Salla Deschamps of Batman's. The local business was one of two who won Camping in Ontario awards.

## ...Tourism Summit paints positive future for industry in North

...continued from page 3  
Ontario has both and is perfectly positioned to maximize this economic opportunity.”

“The last time we met in person was 2019 in Timmins,” said DNO Executive Director David McLaughlin. “During the pandemic we did offer training sessions online, but we are very glad to be back in Thunder Bay where the next session was supposed to be.”

Mr. McLaughlin pointed out that NOTS provides subject matter that is tailored to Northern Ontario. “So, it is a great opportunity for people to get together, to learn and to network.” The sharing of best practices provides a tide that helps to raise all boats.

The summit also allows for taking the temperature of the tourism industry in Northern Ontario.

Although the numbers attending NOTS were not up to pre-pandemic standards, it was still a good turnout that allowed for a reasonably accurate read.

“I think, overall, the industry in Northern Ontario is very upbeat and positive,” said Mr. McLaughlin. He noted that in many cases, especially the road-accessible resorts and accommodations operations, Northern Ontario actually did better than many in the south, although many fly-in camps in the Northwest did have a rough ride through the pandemic.

“With the last of the border restrictions being lifted that should make a difference,” he said. “A number of operations are booking from their previous clientele and 50 percent of 2019 bookings are expecting to



The Indigenous Tourism Ontario team poses for picture at the Northern Ontario Tourism Summit in Thunder Bay.

be coming back.”

Product development in Northern Ontario, a perennial challenge, is also on a positive trend with many new investments being made in tourism operations.

As for the future of the industry, Mr. McLaughlin said that many in the industry are looking toward new product offerings and experiential tourism that meets the demands of a new type of traveller. “Where before they were dependant on the traditional fishing and hunting market, many have upgraded their operations to appeal to a more family-oriented experience,” he said. He noted his own operation north of Wawa is seeing more and more customers bringing their whole family. “People might just want to go for a canoe ride or some other ‘softer’ product.”

The cruise ship industry has also advanced dramatically. “With large operators like Viking Cruise Lines coming into the Great Lakes it adds a lot of credibility to the region,” said Mr. McLaughlin. “That makes other companies sit up and take notice.”

Recreational vehicle or

RV touring is another facet that is growing with a great deal of potential.

“I just returned from Europe where we met with 50 tourism operators,” he said. “There is a lot of interest, especially in Germany.”

Mr. McLaughlin noted that innovations such as e-bikes and other outside-the-box approaches are also providing a boost to tourism opportunities.

“It was such a pleasure to attend the many educational sessions and workshops at the summit,” said newly-appointed DNO board member Shannon McMullan of Perivale Gallery in Spring Bay. Among the “enlightening sessions” noted by Ms. McMullan were those focussed on digital trends in tourism; an interactive workshop which showcased the latest trends and identified what works and what doesn't in social media; welcome back the post pandemic traveller; what to expect short term and long term from the domestic and international travel markets; exploring the impact of demand, labour, supply chain and how that relates to pricing and booking trends; the shift in needs and expectations of

today's traveler and how that impacts your tourism business; and attracting and retaining talent in the new world of work; and how to attract engage and retain employees.

Ms. McMullan noted NOTS also focused on “attracting tourists and talent how to build a 2SLGBT+ friendly workplace, community and website, how integrating small and thoughtful changes in approach to digital outreach can dramatically expand a businesses' viability to underrepresented communities, and how authentically reflecting LGBT+ communities on your website and in your marketing can signal safe spaces to visit and enjoy.”

A critical focus was also placed on the challenges of attracting and retaining staff in peak season while navigating a competitive talent market.

Ms. McMullan also cited ‘Science North in and for all of Northern Ontario’ and its northwest expansion project. “Over the next five years Science North will build new visitor attractions in Thunder Bay, Lake of the Woods and Kenora to expand its outreach across the north,” she said.

The final analysis from NOTS this year according to Mr. McLaughlin is that there is a lot of optimism in the tourism industry and 2023 may well prove to be the best year for tourism in Northern Ontario yet.

## ...Split Rail Brewing wins bronze medal

...continued from page 3  
the continued support of our community. We look forward to continuing to make great beer on Manitoulin, and to further honing our craft.”

“LoonSong Oat Stout is dark and delicious, well-balanced, and smooth. Even non-beer drinkers tend to love it,” stated Jason Quinlan, operations manager.

Ms. Smith explained, “Sadly, we are almost out of our Loon Song oats supply. Loon Song Farms, some of your readers might remember, moved from Little Current to southern Ontario in 2017. They are still making stellar local flours from their new location but going into 2023, they are no longer producing oats. We will miss this connection with Loon Song Farms and our search is beginning for a new local supplier of oats for this product. Supporting the

local economy and local producers is foundational to Split Rail's values.”

Accepting the award for Split Rail was Rob Lanktree. “Rob is one of our brewers (along with Barret Campbell), who lived in Toronto for a couple of years, and is a former teacher and a former paramedic,” said Ms. Smith. She added the award was presented the last weekend in November in Toronto. Mr. Lanktree and his two children were in attendance and he accepted the award on behalf of Split Rail.

Split Rail will be holding its second annual ‘Cask Opening Party’ on Saturday, December 10. This ticketed special evening features the launch of a limited run cask-conditions ale. Guests will be treated to the official ‘tapping of the keg’ with charcuterie from New Grain Kitchen and dessert from Finnia Chocolate and Cacao.

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## ...Sudbury, Manitoulin opioid deaths three times overall Ontario rate

...continued from page 1

29 year olds during the second quarter of 2022 but increased significantly (44 percent) in those 60 years and over.

Since the start of the pandemic, three out of four deaths have been among males. Fentanyl contributes to the majority of opioid toxicity deaths, at 85 percent. Stimulants are involved in three in five opioid toxicity deaths.

"This is a significant and ongoing problem resulting in so much tragic loss, particularly so in the North where the issue is even more pronounced," Chief Coroner Dirk Huyer told The Expositor. "Any decline is a good thing, but while there has been some decline the number of deaths still far exceeds that seen in past years."

The Office of the Chief Coroner/Ontario Forensic Pathology Service(OCC/OFPS) undertakes investigations into sudden and unexpected deaths as well as into those that potentially occur from any cause other than disease; for example, acute substance related toxicity, in Ontario. "Deaths from acute effects (toxicity) of substances are investigated by the OCC/OFPS," Mr. Huyer said. "As part of the investigation we determine the circumstances of the individual tragic death and during the investigative process we collect data/information in a consistent manner across the province. We regularly analyze the aggregate data from all substance related mortality deaths and share this publicly and in response to requests. As our expertise is death investigation and we do not have expertise or skill set in intervention or treatment, we do not determine what should be developed in response to the data but we share the data to inform those who are best positioned to inform intervention, response and/or prevention."

Mr. Huyer visited Manitoulin last week to share data spe-

cific to First Nations on the Island with community leaders and service providers. The coroner's report provides data that can be analysed within the structure of your own community, said Aundeck Omni Kaning Chief Patsy Corbiere. "It gives you a picture of your community. How many people died? What did they die from? How many males versus females? We'll sit down and analyze the data and see how can we apply the data so we fix the problem?"

It's a very complex problem, said Sherry Price, manager of mental health and addictions, Health Promotions Division with PHSD. "Certainly one part of the problem is the toxicity of the drugs," she said. "We may be looking at a different supply than is in Southern Ontario."

People in the North are generally less healthy than people in the south. People in Northern Ontario may be using drugs differently than people do in the south. There is a higher percentage of Indigenous people in Northern Ontario and the ongoing trauma of colonialism has been known to lead to increased use of substances, Ms. Price said.

"It's not just colonialism," she added. "Anybody can experience trauma. We know that living in the North we have lower income, we have a lot of homelessness, we have food insecurity, we have lack of resources and that's not just in healthcare, it's also in things like early childhood development. Those types of issues all can lead to drug use. It's not just lack of services. There are so many factors that play into this and I'm not really certain that we fully understand yet why they're so much higher than the rest of the province."

We don't need numbers to know there's a problem but certainly the numbers alert us and indicate the trends, which continue to be upwards. The pandemic has made the situation worse. "It's created inflation. It's created trauma.

It's created homelessness for some," said Ms. Price. "We're hoping as we inch out of the pandemic things will improve slightly. We're working towards solutions."

PHSD has distributed over 700 Naloxone kits on Manitoulin so far this year. The actual number is likely higher, as some PHSD partners distribute kits that are not counted in PHSD tallies. "Naloxone temporarily reverses an overdose and Naloxone saves lives. We're working with partners and we're constantly revisiting who we're partnering with on the Island and other areas to make sure that Naloxone is available to everyone. That's helpful," Ms. Price said.

Through its Community Drug Strategy, PHSD is looking to partner with organizations on the Island to see where they can offer support. "We can't do this alone," she said. "What can we do? We know that the problem is a toxicity of the drug supply so what can we do to mitigate that? That's what we're working towards."

A big part of the problem is stigma. People who use substances are stigmatized. Ms. Price wants people to be able to reach out. "We want people to get help when they need help. We don't want someone to die alone. People who die from overdose, from our toxic drug supply, often die alone because they're stigmatized, because they're afraid of what people think. That is not a helpful response."

We need to destigmatize drug use so that people are willing to use in the presence of others, she said. That way, their lives can be saved with Naloxone in the case of a toxic response.

"Every life lost is a life of someone who had friends and family and coworkers," said Ms. Price. "I don't like to get lost in numbers. What I like to do is think about each of these people as individuals. What could we have done differently to support them through their lives? That's where we're going to start to make a difference. Yes, we have to work on the toxic drug supply, but what we really need to do and what we can do today is destigmatize drug use, let people know that they're valued and cared for. That's going to make the difference."

## ...six months notice for Norisle Society to produce plan

...continued from page 1

will be investigating all other options for removal of the vessel as well."

"I am not asking for council to make a final decision on what is going to be done with the Norisle," said Mayor Brenda Reid, at the meeting. "I am just asking council to consider giving the Steamship Society a timeline for a final proposal in six months. At that time, we can bring this back before we vote. Then a decision can be made after that time." Salvage companies would also be contacted as well.

"I would like to have a representative of the Steamship Society come here to talk to council, to provide an understanding of where the project sits," said Councillor Rob Maguire. "There has been some progress made and I think it behooves council to invite their representatives come here to make a presentation to council."

"I would agree to that," stated Mayor Reid. "Would that presentation be their final proposal?"

"I would not want to put words in their mouth," said Councillor Maguire.

Councillor Jennifer Hooper added, "let's work with them on this."

"They have a plan/proposal that they could share with council," said Councillor Maguire. "My preference would be to invite them to a council meeting."

Council agreed they

would invite the Steamship Society representatives to meet with council to provide an update on the project and progress report.

"I didn't ask council to make a decision on what we are going to do with the Norisle, but I asked council to consider a motion to set a deadline from six months from now, April 28, 2023, to look at all options, including the steamship company and salvage companies, and anyone else who has possible proposals for us to consider," Mayor Brenda Reid told The Expositor after the special council meeting last week.

After April 28, 2023, "then council can make a final decision on what they want to do with the ship," said Mayor Reid.

"To me, it is very exciting to see that Eastern Canada's largest shipyard, Heddle Marine wants to get involved with reviving this historic ship," said Councillor Maguire. "Representatives of Heddle had been here in the summer inspecting the ship. This could be a significant Canadian attraction on the Great Lakes." If the steamship proposal is carried out, "not only would it take the liability to our municipality off the books, it would mean the first passenger steamship built in Canada after World War II would be active again."

"The market study car-



The Norisle Steamship Society has been given six months notice by council to shape up or ship out.

ried out by the Steamship Society shows that their proposal would be viable," continued Councillor Maguire. "To me, my first responsibility as a councillor is to the township and make sure we are saved of maintaining the risk and liability with the ship."

"But to me the best option is the proposal made by the Steamship Society," continued Councillor Maguire. "I have faith and trust in the Society, Wayne Fisher and John Coulter. They were instrumental in saving the RMS Segwun Steamship (in Muskoka and others. If anyone can save the Norisle, they can."

"From an economic development point of view (and this was part of the feasibility study), the ship could come here to Manitowaning once a week. I think the Steamship Society Plan is the best plan and, from a ratepayer's perspective, the most viable plan is to support the association. I am hopeful they will succeed."

"That's why I said to the

new council that we need to talk to the steamship reps, as well as looking at contingency plans," said Councillor Maguire.

"I would have preferred council not set a timeline date," continued Councillor Maguire. "But it does allow us to meet with them (Steamship Society) and to get all the ducks in a row. Council wants ratepayers to know that we want to be free of liability regarding the ship and I trust the process is the most logical one and the one with the most potential economic benefits. The Norisle is a piece of Canadian Heritage."

## ...Auxiliary donates \$10,000 for ECG machine

...continued from page 3

"Thank you so much to the MHC Auxiliary for their continued support of our various fundraising needs at the hospital in Little Current," said Paula Fields, president and CEO of MHC. "This dedicated group of volunteers continue to work tirelessly to ensure the hospital is the recipient of a variety of items to benefit our patients, including the new ECG machine."



From left is Dawn Orr, Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) Auxiliary President, Paula Fields, president and CEO of MHC and Marilee Hore, MHC Auxiliary Treasurer.

**LITTLE CURRENT**

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Come and walk safely indoors and out of the winter elements!

*Community Reminder*  
Effective November 1 to March 31  
Parking on all town streets is Prohibited  
Tickets will be issued.

**Sweet Treats for the Holidays Workshop with Pam Roy**  
December 14th at 6:30pm  
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Cost \$20 per person.  
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# ...Charges up in 2022 Manitoulin Island rifle hunt: 42 tickets issued by MNRF

...continued from page 10  
bers. “We are in the field to ensure everyone, from hunters, to dog walkers and property owners are safe in their surroundings. This year, the most frequent charge laid was for failing to properly attach deer tag. This charge was issued eight times during the rifle hunt on Manitoulin Island.”

Mr. Chambers explained,

“17 Part 1 ticket offences were issued for safety related issues during the hunt, such as fail to wear proper helmet, having a loaded firearm in a conveyance, possessing a firearm at night, and using a firearm carelessly to hunt.”

“Many charges were found to come from hunters not carrying their proper licences or tags,” said Mr. Chambers. “All hunters

using a firearm to hunt must carry their licence summary which shows their valid deer licence, their tags, their landowner consent form as well as their possession acquisition licence at all times.”

COs handed out 27 warnings to hunters during the rifle hunt. “Some examples were for hunting with a gun without the required accreditation, hunting without having licence on your person, failing to carry outdoors card on your person, and a few for failing to invalidate tag and for failing to properly attach invalidated tag. Many of our warnings were not related to safety, but instead related to the administration portion of the hunt.”

“COs made 566 contacts with members of the public throughout the week of the hunt,” said Mr. Chambers “These numbers do not only represent active hunters that our conservation officers checked in the field, but it also includes property owners that hosted hunters on their property and landowners that called in a tip on our tips lines 1-877 TIPS-MNR (847-7667) about trespassing or other hunting safety related offences happening on or near their property.”

During the hunt, COs seized three firearms, with two firearms having since been returned and one is still pending, said Mr. Chambers.

“Four deer were seized during the week of the hunt,” said Mr. Chambers. “All four deer were seized in part for not having a tag attached and for it not being invalidated. In all four instances, the deer that were seized were donated to Gwekwaadziwin Miikan, which is a treatment centre based out of Aundeck Omni Kaning.”

Mr. Chambers said, “overall, the hunt went well. We were able to speak to many hunters on the Island and answer many questions. Hunting numbers did not seem to change that much this year than in previous years, but the deer harvest was dependent on location. As we checked hunters in the field and leaving the Island, it seemed that some locations were reporting seeing lots of deer, and some locations having seen not a single deer in their entire week at camp.”

“The successful hunt really has a few factors to it, such as the tags that people had, for example if they only had antlered deer tags, but they saw only antlerless deer, then they wouldn’t be successful. However, it doesn’t mean that there isn’t a large number of deer in those areas,” continued Mr. Chambers.

Mr. Chambers noted that “as in past years, we had a four-hour check station with our policing partners

the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) at the swing bridge on Saturday. The OPP conducted a RIDE check while we checked hunters leaving the Island to ensure all firearms were safety stored, and all deer were properly tagged with tags notched. On Sunday we had a few officers check hunters leaving the Island again to ensure compliance.”

Mr. Chambers explained 16 conservation officers worked the Manitoulin deer

hunt throughout the week, including patrolling the waters in and around Manitoulin Island where other islands are located within wildlife management units 43A or 43B but are not connected to the mainland of Manitoulin.

“Thankfully, no injuries were reported to the conservation officers for hunting related accidents,” added Mr. Chambers.

## ...Tehkummah fire razes home

...continued from page 1

has since had to return to Toronto. “At least she has a place to get out of the cold for the winter.”

Before retiring, Ms. Windover worked at Manitowaning Mill, helping Islanders and cottagers build or renovate their own homes and cottages while at the same time, designing and building her own home—a small, off-grid 800 sq. ft. bungalow where she did much of the work herself.

The GoFundMe account can be found by searching for Carol Windover. As of writing, \$1,380 of the \$200,000 goal had been raised.



All that remains of Carol Windover’s off-the-grid Tehkummah home following a devastating November 22 fire.

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*O SON OF MAN! Should prosperity befall thee, rejoice not, and should abasement come upon thee, grieve not, for both shall pass away and be no more.*

—Bahá'u'lláh

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## THE WEEKLY WORD SEARCH

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**2020 GMC TERRAIN DENALI**  
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**2017 BUICK ENCLAVE**  
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3.6L 6CYL, RED, AWD, AUTOMATIC

## BATH SAFETY WORD SEARCH

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H E E Z L A I S U C I K B W R R E D F P  
H O C I B N O T I K T I F E H K E V V T  
Y H A N G S A N M C R T F L E I U W A T  
T R D I A R L S K I C S M S P A G E E U  
E I U E E T J I A T N E M E V O R P M I  
F R U P S S S O P A M I P M P T A B G Y  
A O M E B I N I R P Y A M G N I L L A F  
S E J S M R A T S V E O S I G P K I U T  
T H H O K H H R C S S R Y Z Z B C M C I  
M O D I F Y K S D D A K Y L I E N V W S  
T Z M W U T G G W P S W V S C A L D K M  
G K M P I L S N O N N O I T U A C E R P  
G S E I H K V S L S M E E D P V G A P R  
A P S E N M I K N P H R V S H O W E R N G  
E J E B S T E P I N C A S R E S I R U D  
D I A N H D V I D I A P B P D I H L E I  
O O T G R P E M O O R H T A B B E P U B  
S E Y N D S A G B H T A S K S D J R J R

### WORDS

- ADJUSTABLE
- AGING
- ASSISTANCE
- BARS
- BATHROOM
- COMMODE
- FALLING
- IMPROVEMENT
- MINIMIZE
- MODIFY
- NONSLIP
- PRECAUTION
- RAILS
- RAISED
- RISERS
- SAFETY
- SCALD
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- TEMPERATURE
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THE RAIN BARREL



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



# ...Little Current mother seeks new kidney donation, first transplant is failing

...continued from page 1  
years old," she recalled. "He was just three pounds, six ounces."

Mother and child spent a month in a natal critical care unit in Toronto. Six weeks later Ms. Casson began exhibiting signs of kidney failure and she was placed on the list for kidney dialysis at Manitoulin Health Centre.

"While I waited for a spot to open in Little Current and cared for my newborn child my mother drove me back and forth to Sudbury twice a week for treatment." Once a spot opened in Little Current, the young mother would spend three hours a day, twice a week, hooked to a machine that cleared her body of lethal toxins. "During this time, we investigated every option for a kidney transplant through the Toronto General Hospital, which has one of the best transplant programs in the world. Eventually, we learned that my adopted mother was, however unlikely, a match."

Ms. Casson received a kidney from her mother on March 4, 2014, but her ordeals were far from over. "After some complications, including needing three blood transfusions, and 10 days in the hospital, I spent two months in Toronto seeing doctors, tests, levelling medications and just being monitored closely," she recalled. "Eventually, after the two months in Toronto, I was able to head home to Manitoulin and start my life."

## ...disagree on need for low rental housing

...continued from page 1

"The purpose of our community engagement meeting is to bring in samples of exterior and interior finishes and colours and to let the community members know what our plans are," said Ms. Connor. "We want them to weigh in and help us to ensure that aesthetically our building design compliments the community. We will bring in samples of our current development renderings to have the community provide feedback on building styles they like."

Ms. Casson set about charting the course for her life, going back to college to study business administration, graduating with honours, settled into a good job

trip I'll never forget. I was able to live my life again and be the best mom I could be."

But in October 2018 Ms. Casson began to feel ill. "I

blood pressure issues (both high and low), cardiac issues and more." The process and kidney failure itself places huge strains on the heart.

"It's been just over four

years since I started dialysis for the second time," said Ms. Casson. "This time around I am doing dialysis three days a week and each run is four hours. I'm very fortunate to live very close

to the unit on Manitoulin Island but being hooked to a machine for 12 hours a week is just not a healthy or great way to live, and I see how hard all of this is on

...continued on page 29



Being tied to a dialysis machine is now a regular part of life for Kinga Casson.

and was even able to do a bit of travelling when things were stable. "I did a two-week trip with my sister through Rome, Venice, Florence and Budapest," she said. "It was an incredible

got sick and quickly realized I was in kidney failure again," she said. "Less than a week later I was admitted to Health Sciences North in Sudbury until I was able to get my urgent central line catheter placed."

The catheter in place, the hospital performed a short dialysis run. "While dialysis is a treatment, it is not a cure," said Ms. Casson. "Dialysis comes with very serious risks and complications. Some of the main risks and complications are sepsis/infection, bone disease, anemia,

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# Wiikwemkoong High School teams fare very well at robotics competition

by Tom Sasvari  
**WIKWEMKOONG**—  
 Three Wiikwemkoong High School (WHS) teams did very well in their very first robotics competition this past weekend.  
 “Our three teams had a really good showing,” stated Chris Mara, lead mentor for Wiikwemkoong High School Robotics. “They are all rookies and this was the first tournament for all of them. No one had been at a robotics competition before.”  
 Lo-Ellen Park Secondary

School hosted POWERPLAY, A First Tech-Challenge qualifier on December 3.  
 The full-day tournament-style competition, presented by Raytheon Technologies, brought together 20 teams from across the province including seven from Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School, two from Lively District Secondary School, as well as teams from North Bay, Wiikwemkoong, Bruce County and the Greater Toronto Area.

Students, staff, alumni, community partners, and members of FIRST Robotics Canada, including President Dave Ellis, was in attendance.  
 Mr. Mara explained, “Team 22845 only had one member, Grace Pitawanakwat, who won the judges’ award. “And their first match of the day allowed for an alliance between two Wiky teams, Team 22845, Grace Pitawanakwat and Team 19552, Shawna Shawanda, Stella Flamand and Mer-

cedes Aibens. This team won their first match.”  
 The third Wikwemkoong entry, team 19555, included Tryce Francis, Aidan Leedham and Zander Shawongonabe.  
 Through FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) competitions, deemed by participants as the ‘hardest fun you’ll ever have,’ students engaged in innovation and idea sharing in the areas of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). Students also honed important life skills such as cooperation, communication, self-confidence, teamwork and leadership.  
 For POWERPLAY, teams are tasked to design, build, program and operate robots in head-to-head challenges. Each team consists of two driver operators, a human player, a coach and robot.  
 To earn points, robots must place coloured cones on various-sized junctions throughout a 12-foot square playing field. Points are allotted, based on the number of cones properly positioned and the size of the junction. Teams can also earn extra points with special tasks.  
 Judges interview teams and present awards in various categories.  
 “The FIRST Robotics Challenge is a great opportunity for students to showcase the tremendous skills they are develop-

ing,” said Rainbow District School Board director of education Bruce Bourget. “We are very grateful

to the staff, organizers, mentors and sponsors and we extend best wishes to all teams.”

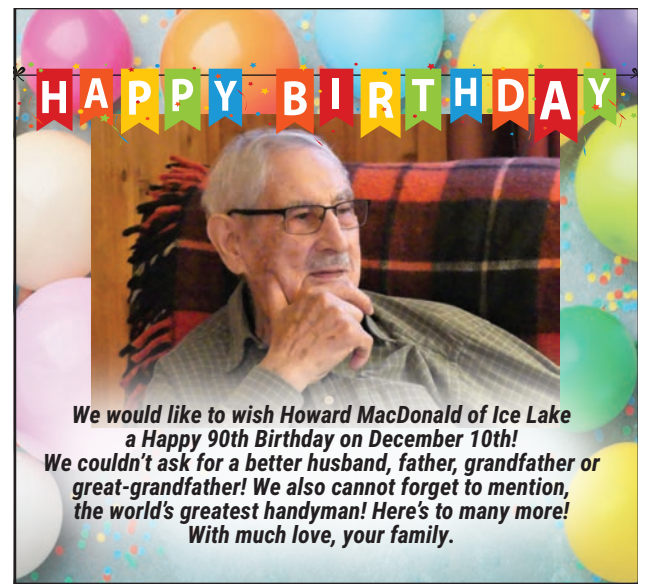


The all-Wiikwemkoong Alliance team won their first match at the FIRST Robotics competition last weekend. The team included from left, Stella Flamand, Shawna Shawanda, Mercedes Aibens and Grace Pitawanakwat. Grace, the lone member of the Wiikwemkoong High School team 22845, won the judges’ award.



### Works begins on Kagawong Light

Soil remediation work is currently underway at the Kagawong lighthouse. Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is removing metal impacted soil, believed to have been caused by lead paint used by DFO in the past. Billings Township CAO Emily Dance said the work is part of the final stages of environmental remediation work at the lighthouse that was initiated by DFO several years ago. Vegetation clearing, excavation and backfilling work is expected to be completed this week and re-establishment of grass and vegetation will be done in the spring. Lane reductions may occur during the work.



We would like to wish Howard MacDonald of Ice Lake a Happy 90th Birthday on December 10th! We couldn't ask for a better husband, father, grandfather or great-grandfather! We also cannot forget to mention, the world's greatest handyman! Here's to many more! With much love, your family.

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**All lit up for Christmas**

Central Manitoulin Mayor Richard Stephens surprised CAO Ruth Frawley with a key to the municipality for 40 years of service at the annual lighting of the community tree event at Island Home Outfitters Saturday night. The tree lighting ceremony has become a community favourite, brought back by Ashleigh and Jen Moffatt of Island Home Outfitters in recent times after a long hiatus. With a sprinkle of snow, the tree looks resplendent in white lights.



**Tinseltown Tehkummah**

The Tehkummah Seniors Triangle Club was hopping Saturday as it hosted its annual Christmas market with plenty of homemade wares in the offering.

photo by Debbie Bailey

**Brrrr!**  
**It's getting cold out!**



People need warm clothing: socks mittens and toques.



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**WHAT WE DO?**

The program includes a team of mental health & addictions service providers, trained social workers, a registered nurse and nurse practitioner who deliver a wide range of services including intake & brief services, referrals to existing services, psychiatric support & follow-up. Providers are based out of Noojmowin Teg Health Centre.



**SERVICE PROVIDERS**

Mental health & addiction service providers, a trained social worker, registered nurse and nurse practitioner are available for all people to access, at no cost.



**SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT**

Mobile Wellness is not a mobile crisis clinic, appointments can be booked by calling the Mobile Wellness Navigator at (705) 968-0816 or Noojmowin Teg Health Centre at (705) 368-0083 Monday - Friday between 8:30am-4:00pm.

**CALL US FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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**A very Gordon Christmas**

Jackie Stack was one of the many vendors on hand displaying her wares at the annual Christmas market, held at the Gordon Hall, last Saturday.



**Zhiibaahaasing all lit up for Christmas**

This beautiful Christmas display welcomes visitors at the entrance to Zhiibaahaasing First Nation.

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# Group asks for community support to initiate ‘Democracy Beyond the Ballot Box’

by Petra Wall

SPRING BAY—On Monday evening, November 26, a group of 13 Islanders came together at the Spring Bay Community Centre to brainstorm big ‘pie in the sky’ and small ideas that could serve the whole Island community well. Although started in Central Manitoulin, the impetus will be consulting and engaging the rest of the Island about services they feel are important too.

Maja Mielonen opened with, “Welcome to tonight’s evening of getting to hear from one another and a start to figuring out where our communal energy, strength and willpower will propel us. With endurance, time, and hearing from one another we will be able to work together on Island-wide projects. Let us truly think Island-wide, let us identify projects that will benefit us all we want to explore your ideas and see where the energy will take us.”

“When I was going door to door prior to the recent

election, I was chatting with young professionals as well as elders,” Ms. Mielonen continued. “I realized that all people want to be heard and contribute to the political landscape that will spend our tax dollars. When people are heard, and they see change, they will add to the energy that will move political agendas.”

The participants, sitting in a semi-circle, were eager to share ideas. They were asked to offer their big dreams for the Island. Gertha Griffiths duly recorded these ideas. Four concepts were offered for consideration and suggestions were provided by the community members present.

The four concepts were: **missing infrastructure**, waste management, bylaw enforcement of environmental issues, sharing of infrastructure assets, and better delineation among municipalities; **social equalizers**, food security, education in voter rights, childcare, affordable housing, Island-wide communi-

cation, elder support, palliative care, bringing trades to the Island; **happiness; dreams:** one Island council, preserving Island identity, performing arts centre, YMCA, Island-wide hiking trails, engaging the young, and Island-wide ‘ratepayers’ association’; and **environmental issues**—watersheds for spring runoff, effluent leaching into lakes, waste management, bees and herbicide, pesticide use and mobile glass-crushers.

The participants offered ‘pie in the sky’ ideas as well as smaller suggestions. A sampling of the most popular suggestions made for each of these four categories are as follows: waste management, child care, assisted living, sharing of infrastructure assets on the whole Island, community gardens, education about these topics, clean water (in reference to chemicals and sewage winding up in our drinking water sources) including Manitoulin Streams, responsibility for one’s

own waste, bylaws allowing chickens, getting glass crushers, herbicide and pesticide use in relation to bees, a recreational pool, elder support, performing arts centre, one Island

council and Island-wide ‘tree-top’ connected hiking trails.

The group plans to meet again early in January to begin prioritizing these suggestions as well as look-

ing at timelines and communication ideas to include all of Manitoulin Island. The meeting closed at 9:30 pm.



Participants share their ‘big’ ideas while Gertha Griffiths, right, records their thoughts.

photos by Petra Wall

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French legal advice regarding social assistance, housing, EI and CPP issues.  
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 1-877 POUR AVIS (1-877-687-2847)

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**CLEAR NORTH CONSULTING**

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Dale also sharpens knives, scissors, chain saws, ice augers, lawn mower blades, chisels, axes etc. NOTE: We do not do circular saws, handsaws or planer blades.

62 Water St. E., Little Current bladesandthings@gmail.com  
 705-210-9210 bladesandthings.ca

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 King James Bible Church  
 Manitoulin 705-885-8951  
[cc.manitoulin@gmail.com](mailto:cc.manitoulin@gmail.com)

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.

**services**

**Is alcohol a problem?** AA may be able to help. Meetings 7 days a week - visit [www.area84aa.org](http://www.area84aa.org) or call 705-210-2135 for more info.

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

**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-Anon Group: Thursdays at 7 pm in the library room at the Missionary Church, 51 Young Street, Mindemoya. Espanola Al-Anon, Tuesdays at 7 pm, Anglican Church, 213 Tudhope Street, Espanola, 705-869-6595. For more information call 1-888-4Al-Anon (1-888-425-2666, M-F, 8 am - 6 pm ET) <http://www.al-anon.org>. For meetings including electronic in Northern Ontario go to OntarioNorthAl-Anon.com. Please note the only Alateen meetings available in Northern Ontario are on a mobile app. Look for the app under Al-Anon Family Groups.

**Are you a cancer survivor** and need someone to talk to on Manitoulin? Meetings are not yet in person due to the pandemic but can support over the phone. Please feel free to reach out to anyone listed for support. Cancer Support group contacts: Mary Buie, RN, 705-210-0733 or [mary@buie.ca](mailto:mary@buie.ca); Bonnie Young, 705-377-4998; Terry MacKenzie, RN (oncology nurse), 705-507-0433 or [tandjmackenzie@hotmail.com](mailto:tandjmackenzie@hotmail.com). Ask us your questions, tell us your concerns.

tfn

**for sale**

**Heavy duty poly-plastic** Muskoka chairs (10 colours), buy now, beat the spring price increase. Quilts and more, over a dozen quilts to choose from. Three-piece brand new 20' Cannonball Track, hangers, trollies and latches available. Closed Sundays. 10375 Hwy 542, west of Spring Bay. Questions, voicemail only 249-497-4000 ext. 125.

27-29p

**Brand new GE Electric** Unitized Spacemaker Washer/Dryer Combo. 4.4 Cu. Ft. (IEC) Washer / 5.9 Cu. Ft. Dryer, White (Model No. GE GUD27ESMMWW). Still in original packaging, \$950. Call 416-648-1177.

29c

**livestock**

**For sale, seven cows.** For more information call Manuel, 249-497-4000 ext. 166.

28-31c

**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

**pets**

**Standard poodle puppies** for sale, blacks, reds and blondies. Ready to go. Best offer. Call 705-859-1202.

29-30c

**rentals**

**Gorgeous waterfront studio** apartment in Little Current, available until May 1. Fully furnished, premium satellite TV, Starlink internet. All inclusive. \$1,300 per month, negotiable. 705-368-6240. Short and long-term available.

18tfn

**Two-bedroom downtown** Little Current apartment for rent. New stainless-steel fridge and stove. All inclusive \$1,500. Available January 1st. Call 705-368-1145.

28-29c

**Rental available,** Little Current. Large upstairs furnished room with private half bath in quiet homey environment with kitchen and yard privileges. Walk to downtown, hospital, library, Post Office, etc. Hydro/washing machine/Wi-Fi included. No smoking or pets. \$800 per month. Call 705-368-1944 or leave clear voice message. Available January 2023.

29c

**notice**

**Gore Bay United Church** Food Cupboard is open every Thursday from 12 noon to 3 pm. Come to the church side door (facing McQuarrie Motors). You will be invited into the Food Cupboard to choose your food items. If you don't have a bag, there are some available. Please wear a mask. If you have questions, please call 705-282-2011. Messages are checked daily. Everyone is welcome.

Tfn

**Private classified word ads,** like this, are \$8 for up to 25 words and 10 cents for every additional word, per week, plus HST. Pre-payment (VISA, MasterCard, cheque or cash) is required. Private sales only. Call 705-368-2744 to book your ad.

**Passport photos** are taken Monday to Friday from 9 am to 4:30 pm at the Expositor Office. \$20.50 including tax. **No appointment necessary.** 705-368-2744.

**rental wanted**

**Exceptional Tenant seeking Excellent Landlord**  
Professional male interested in long-term rental of a one bedroom apartment on Manitoulin island. Please text/email to discuss. Solid references available and happy to care for dogs and/or horses.  
**Please call 705-282-5869 or email [mike@abelcoaches.com](mailto:mike@abelcoaches.com)**  
**Thank you.**

**Legion Events**

**Royal Canadian Legion** meetings will be held the third Thursday monthly at 6:30 pm at the Legion Hall. Executive meeting to be followed by membership meeting. All members are encouraged to attend. Thank you for your continued support of the Legion so we are able to support veterans and their families.  
Sue Morin, President  
Royal Canadian Legion Branch #177

20tfn

**The Christmas Cards** for our Troops Campaign. Royal Canadian Legion Branch 177 in Little Current will be taking part in this contest. Address is: Any Canadian Armed Forces Member, P.O. Box 5004 Station Forces, Bellville, Ontario, K8N 5W6. Cards can be mailed two ways: Drop off at your local post office or mail directly, postage is free. Contest runs until December 9th. We invite everyone to take part in this contest. Remember being away from family at Christmas is difficult; so if we can put a smile on someone's face, we have completed our mission. Should you wish to assist Branch 177 with this contest, please let Linda Bowerman know how many cards you or your group will be sending, 705-368-2465. Let us see how many smiles we can share.

27-29p

**Murder Mystery Dinner** Theatre at the Little Current Legion. Murder by Candlelight presented by the Espanola Little Theatre. Two showings, February 10th and 11th. Doors open at 6 pm, \$60 per person. For tickets, please call the Legion, 705-368-2661. Will make a great Christmas gift.

29-36p

**Little Current Legion,** Branch 177 general membership meeting, Thursday December 15th at 7 pm at the Legion. All new members are asked to attend for your membership initiation. Please RSVP to Judy Miller by calling 705-968-0091.

29-30p

**Deadline** for text ads, like this, as well as boxed ads is Friday at 4 pm.

**The Expositor Office** can meet your various printing needs: wedding invitations, invoices, letterhead, business cards, rubber stamps, envelopes. Call 705-368-2744, ask for Dave.

**rental wanted**

**Little Current Manitoulin Health Centre Auxiliary** Christmas Café and Silent Auction. Come enjoy the music of Doug Hore and Maurice Labelle on December 10th from 2 to 4 pm at the Little Current United Church. \$10 entry. Fundraiser for a new ECG machine.

28-29p

**Don't spend Christmas alone!** The Christmas Elves are doing Christmas dinner free on Sunday, December 25th at the United Church, Little Current at 1:30 pm. Call the Expositor Office to sign up at 705-368-2744 and if you need a ride. No take-outs available. Free will offerings gratefully accepted. Please sign up before Friday, December 23rd.

27-31p

**Madeleine Becks** invites her friends to join her on December 11 for a come-and-go reception at the Trinity United Church Manitoulin in Mindemoya, in the lower level, from 12 noon to 1 pm. Birthday wishes are welcome, but please, no gifts.

28-29c

**Christmas Candlelight Concert,** Saturday, December 17 at Holy Cross Mission Church, Wikkwemikoong. Featuring Crystal Shawanda, Mason Animikwan and our local youths. Doors open at 6 pm, show starts at 7 pm. Tickets \$20 each, can be purchased from Buzwah Toys & Variety or contact Trinity Jacko at 1-249-878-2872.

**coming events**

**50 percent off** everything December 9th and 10th at The Little Shoppe Around the Corner at Knox Church in Manitowaning; Open from 10 am to 3 pm. Closing for the season on December 10th.

28-29p

**O Come All Ye Faithful:** Christmas Lessons and Carols - beloved Christmas carols and cherished Nativity readings. Sunday, December 18 at 11 am at St. Francis Anglican Church, Mindemoya. Sonya Mulder, violin and Dorothy Anstice, organ. The Christmas Eve Service will be Saturday, December 24 at 3 pm.

29-30p

**Ladies! Christmas card** making workshop, Wednesday, December 7th and 14th from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Refreshments and all materials supplied at no cost! All are welcome! Grace Bible Church, 10 Draper Street East, Little Current.

29p

**help wanted**

**MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL MANITOULIN**

Is seeking a person from the Municipality of Central Manitoulin to be appointed to the **Central Manitoulin Library Board**

Please submit a letter of interest to the address below no later than:

**12:00 PM Wednesday, December 21, 2022**

CAO/Clerk  
P.O. Box 187  
Mindemoya, ON POP 1S0  
Or fax: 705-377-5585  
Or email: [centralm@amtelecom.net](mailto:centralm@amtelecom.net)

**coming events**

**Ladies!** You are invited to morning coffee/tea and conversation each Wednesday morning from 9:30 to 11:30 am at Grace Bible Church, 10 Draper Street East, Little Current.

23tfn

**Prayer Group,** third week of every month beginning January 25, 2023 at Our Lady of Canada Church, Mindemoya. For more information, please email [keithleegree@gmail.com](mailto:keithleegree@gmail.com) or call at 705-968-0822. God Bless

26-35p

**Manitoulin Community Choir** - we plan to sing together masked, beginning in mid-January, and we are aiming for an outdoor concert at the beginning of May. We rehearse Tuesday evenings at C. C. McLean Public School in Gore Bay from 7:15 to 9:15 pm. Since we need to plan, early registration is necessary by the beginning of December. Cost is \$35 for the season. For more details email Jane Best, [bestpaul@hotmail.com](mailto:bestpaul@hotmail.com).

27-29c

**help wanted**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**  
The Town of Gore Bay

**Seasonal Transfer Station Position**

**Applications are being accepted until 4:00 p.m Friday, January 6, 2023**  
at PO Box 590, 15 Water Street, Gore Bay, ON POP 1H0

For further information contact:  
Stasia Carr, CAO/Clerk  
Gore Bay Municipal Office  
705-282-2420 x1  
Email: [scarr@gorebay.ca](mailto:scarr@gorebay.ca)

All applicants are thanked for their interest. Only the candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. Information collected will be used in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for the purpose of candidate selection.

The Town of Gore Bay is committed to an inclusive, barrier-free environment. Accommodation will be provided in all steps of the hiring process. Please advise the Town of Gore Bay if you require any accommodations to ensure that you can participate fully and equally during the recruitment and selection process.



## Mnaamodzawin Health Services Inc. Employment Opportunity Personal Support Worker - Casual

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 community care program with the provision of Meals on Wheels program, Adult Day programming and may assist/provide Generic Transportation services for 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. Charting in EMR and submission of required reporting 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. 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. Clear Criminal Reference Check (CPIC/VSS).
5. Valid 'G' driver's licence and an insured vehicle.

Salary range based on qualifications and approved salary grid.

Submit a cover letter, resume, and three work-related references marked 'Confidential' by email, fax, or in-person to:

Human Resources  
Mnaamodzawin Health Services Inc.  
Postal Bag 2003, 48A Hillside Road  
Little Current, ON POP 1K0  
705-368-2182 ext.271  
hr@mnaamodzawin.com  
Fax: 705-368-2229

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2022 @ 12:00pm**

**Only those applicants considered for an interview will be notified and CPIC/VSS requested.**

 **help wanted**

 **help wanted**

 **help wanted**



## WHITEFISH RIVER FIRST NATION EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY BAND REPRESENTATIVE CLERK Salary: \$37,595 - \$45,847 annually

**What we offer:** Pension matching up to 8%, Benefits including dental, vision and extended health care, Flexible work schedules, Training opportunities.

The Band Representative Clerk reports to the Case Manager of Whitefish River First Nation. The Band Rep Clerk is responsible for providing support to the WRFN Band Representatives and Case Manager.

### DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide administrative support to WRFN Band Reps and Case Manager in child welfare matters
- Provide administrative support for WRFN Band Reps and Case Manager with case planning and response to child welfare matters
- Provide administrative support to WRFN Band Reps and Case Manager with plans of care and service plans on child welfare matters
- Maintain a secured filing system of all WRFN child welfare matters
- Have full knowledge of the Child and Family Services Act
- Provide administrative support to WRFN Band Reps in preparing BCRs on child welfare matters
- Attend training, workshops relevant to WRFN membership program as required
- Maintain the highest degree of confidentiality
- Answering phones, taking and responding to messages
- Ordering supplies
- Taking meeting minutes
- Other duties as required.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Office Administration/Social Work Diploma or related training/work experience
- Experience working with First Nation people & Child Welfare
- Experience in office administration
- Good sense of community and area resources;
- Strong organizational and communication skills;
- Cultural connection to Anishinabek ways of knowing and Anishinabek community;
- Knowledge of Anishinaabemowin is an asset;
- Strong interpersonal skills;
- Dependability, reliability, flexibility and adaptability to changing circumstances;
- Valid driver's licence and a satisfactory criminal records check.

Applications will be accepted via email, fax and mail, or in person to the attention of:

### CONFIDENTIAL:

Tricia Podlatis, Human Resources Manager  
Whitefish River First Nation, 17-A Rainbow Ridge Road, P.O. Box 188, Birch Island, ON POP 1A0  
Email: applications@whitefishriver.ca Fax: (705)285-4532

Applications must be submitted by December 19, 2022 by 4:30 p.m.  
And must include the following: cover letter, current resume, and two work-related reference names (with contact information).

We thank all who apply, however, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.



## LAKEVIEW SCHOOL CALL-OUT FOR OCCASSIONAL TEACHERS

Lakeview School is seeking supply teachers for occasional teaching from SK - Grade 8.

Lakeview School offers a caring small group learning environment for direct instruction as well as whole group experiential, project-based learning that is driven by student interests. Our low student-teacher ratio allows us to differentiate and individualise programs for each student. We prioritise the use of kindness and compassion in all our interactions with students, other teachers and parents, and pride ourselves on the meaningful relationships and constant communication we have with our families.

If you are interested in becoming part of this dynamic team and our amazing community, please send your resume along!

Those with specialised interests or skills (Art, Drama, Music, Math, etc...) are welcomed but this is not a requirement. Miigwetch for your interest!

- Must possess a Valid Ontario College of Teachers Certification
- Bachelor's Degree in Education
- Must submit a current Police Vulnerable Sector Screening Check

Interested candidates must include their letter of interest, resume and a copy of the Ontario College of Teachers Certificate of Qualification. Or recent graduates should include transcripts addressed to:

OCCASIONAL TEACHERS  
c/o Human Resources  
M'Chigeeng First Nation  
P.O. Box 333, M'Chigeeng, ON POP 1G0  
Or send to: employment@mchigeeng.ca

## Looking for employment in a fun, dynamic and interesting workspace?



is seeking a

## Graphic Designer

to join its award-winning production team.

### Applicants should:

- have a knowledge of Adobe Suite
- be skilled in graphic design
- be familiar with Apple operating systems

### The Expositor is seeking an individual who:

- can operate quickly and efficiently under deadlines
- can multi-task
- can manage a large workflow
- works well in a team environment
- can help manage Manitoulin's busiest website and accompanying social media
- has good command of the English language (grammar, spelling, punctuation)
- is creative!

If you meet these qualifications and want to join our award-winning team, please send resumes and references to:

**Brea Addison, Production Manager**  
expositor@manitoulin.com

*We thank all applicants, however, only those considered for this position will be contacted.*



# ...Island Christmas food hampers will likely top 1,200 this year

...continued from page 3 positions.”

The 2022 Hunger Report details data that shows that a child born to the poorest Canadians in the 1980s is 22 percent more likely to remain in poverty as an adult than a child born in the same conditions in the 1960s. While there are several complex considerations that contribute to this outcome, the report identifies a steady growth in low-wage and precarious jobs, cuts to the provincial and federal social safety nets, and a disinvestment in affordable housing that put thousands of Ontario families in financially precarious positions, even before the COVID-19 pandemic hit, the report explains.

“Food banks are designed to provide emergency support,” said Ms. Stewart. “Today, however, the demands on food banks are not limited to emergency response. We are seeing food banks become increasingly relied upon to help fill gaps in the social safety net and subsidize government policy changes, budget cuts, and inadequate social support programs.”

As detailed in the report, despite Ontario’s low unemployment rate, workers still

struggle to make ends meet as the labour market has shifted from well paying, stable, unionized jobs to those that tend to be part-time, temporary, and low paying. While manufacturing jobs were once the bedrock of Ontario’s labour market, gig work is on the rise with nearly one in 10 workers in jobs that are considered independent contractors and operate outside the protection of the Employment Standards Act. The impact that low-quality jobs are having on Ontarians is reflected in provincial food bank data, which shows a 47 percent increase in people with employment accessing food banks since 2018.

“Everything costs more,” stated Ms. Hall. “We have seen people who are employed and even if there is dual incomes in their household needing food bank support, and if you are single and do not have the supports either they are affected as well. It costs \$4.29 for a loaf of bread. And it is not the fault of local businesses, as it costs them more to get the product to their stores; and if people opt to go off-Island the cost of gas makes it cost prohibitive as well. And the Island is certainly not

exempt.”

Ms. Hall explained the MFR Food Bank Christmas hampers program will start on December 12, with all items at the Food Bank to be moved to Freshwater Community Church in Mindemoya. “We are moving all our food items from the food bank to the church, and baskets will start going out to agencies starting December 13.”

“We also rely on a lot of agencies to deliver the Christmas food baskets, and we coordinate this with the Rainbow District School Board (RDSB) as well, to have those get out first,” continued Ms. Hall. “We work hand in hand with our partners,” she said, noting the program will end on December 22 when all the Christmas hampers will have been delivered.

In addition to the rise in precarious employment, the report points to the erosion of essential workers support benefits and an inadequate social safety net as longstanding contributors to food bank use in the province. As detailed in the report, employment insurance is not easily accessible to most unemployed Ontarians, with only 27 percent

receiving benefits, and social assistance rates continue to fall far below poverty line, with two out of three people who access food banks being program recipients.

To address escalating food bank use, Feed Ontario is calling on the province to take immediate action by providing gig workers with

the same employment protections as other sectors; increasing social assistance rates to a basic standard of living; making housing affordable by investing in new and renovated affordable housing initiatives, and including people with lived experience in the design and development of programs and policies.

“What is most concerning about this moment in time is the deepening cracks in our economic foundations that make it more difficult than ever for the lowest income households to weather a new storm,” said Ms. Stewart. “Food banks were designed to respond in emergencies.

...continued on page 26



## KINA Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services (KGCSF) is a designated Child Welfare Service delivering Child Protection Services within seven member First Nations in the Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin. KGCSF honours and supports our families’ and community’s inherent authority to care for their children based on unity, traditions, values, beliefs and customs. **Preference will be given to Anishinaabe Candidates (please self-identify) in your application.**

We are now accepting applications for the following FULL-TIME positions which include pension and benefits:

**Manitoulin:**

(2) Case Aides: Closes: December 19, 2022 at 4pm

**CONTRACT positions:  
Located in Sudbury**

After Hours Youth Outreach Worker: Closes December 19, 2022 at 4pm  
Youth Outreach Worker: Closes December 19, 2022

Casual Receptionist: Open Posting

Apply to: Human Resources at [hr@kgcfs.org](mailto:hr@kgcfs.org) and quote the position title in the subject line.

To view the postings and detailed job descriptions, visit our website at: <https://www.kgcfs.org/employment-opportunities>

At KGCSF we are committed to providing a barrier-free work environment following the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the Ontario Human Rights Code. Accommodations are available upon request for candidates taking part in the recruitment process. KGCSF services are based on a highly specialized approach to the delivery of child welfare in our area.



## WHITEFISH RIVER FIRST NATION EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY WATER PLANT AND DISTRIBUTION TRAINEE

Salary: \$20/hour

**What we offer:** Pension matching up to 8%, Benefits including dental, vision and extended health care, Flexible work schedules, Training opportunities.

The Water Plant and Distribution Trainee reports to the Infrastructure and Emergency Services Manager of Whitefish River First Nation. The Water Plant and Distribution Trainee will carry out and maintain a water sampling program utilizing the community’s microbiologic testing system. This position will also focus time on reviewing the maintenance manuals for water testing and monitoring and assisting with the maintenance management system for Whitefish River’s water plan and distribution system.

**DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Collect and analyze the communal, recreation and cultural water samples on a regular basis.
- Monitor water quality testing for all potable private water systems not connected to the communal system.
- Review and implement environmental technical standards, guidelines, policies and formal regulations that meet all appropriate requirements.
- Be familiar of codes and regulations as they apply to Water Plant Operations.
- Perform laboratory testing and calibrations as required.
- Assist with the asset forms and maintenance management system geared to the current water plant operation and distribution system.
- Assist with the performing preventative maintenance diagnostics and monitoring equipment to ensure operation within manufacturers parameters.
- Assist with maintaining equipment including cleaning, lubricating, adjusting and repairing as required; and according to manufactured recommendations and described maintenance systems.
- Minor service and repairs to mechanical equipment such as replacement of belts.
- Assist with the required building and yard maintenance work.
- Other duties as required.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Grade 12 Diploma or equivalent (GED).
- Must have Valid Class “G” Drivers licence.
- Knowledge and understanding of the Ontario Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002, Federal (including Health Canada) water regulation and guidelines and associated regulations and amendments, and the industry best management practices.
- Knowledge of operation and maintenance of water treatment plants Class II.
- General knowledge of health and safety protocols as it pertains to water treatment plants and distribution systems.
- Experience with water testing equipment and procedures.
- Must have excellent communication and math skills.
- Willing to take additional training and upgrading.
- Knowledge of office and computers skills.
- Available to work evenings and weekends in emergency situations.

Applications will be accepted via email, fax and mail, or in person to the attention of:

**CONFIDENTIAL:**

Tricia Podlatis, Human Resources Manager  
Whitefish River First Nation, 17-A Rainbow Ridge Road  
P.O. Box 188, Birch Island, ON POP 1A0  
Email: [applications@whitefishriver.ca](mailto:applications@whitefishriver.ca) Fax: (705)285-4532

Applications must be submitted by December 19, 2022 by 4:30 p.m.  
And must include the following: cover letter, current resume, and two work-related reference names (with contact information).

We thank all who apply, however, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.



## WHITEFISH RIVER FIRST NATION EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY MEMBERSHIP, ESTATES AND LANDS CLERK

Salary: \$40,864 - \$49,834 annually

**What we offer:** Pension matching up to 8%, Benefits including dental, vision and extended health care, Flexible work schedules, Training opportunities.

The Membership, Estates and Lands Clerk reports to the Lands Manager of Whitefish River First Nation. The MELC is responsible for providing support to the WRFN Lands Manager.

**DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Assist Lands Manager with all aspects of lands administration, including permits, agreements, lease amendments, renewals, land allotment posting, lands notices, preparation of land transfers, historical lands research, etc.
- Maintain accurate filing system including maintaining the WRFN Citizenship Register, Probationary Citizenship Register, and the WRFN Voter’s List for Election purposes.
- Obtain and carefully examine supporting documents to Register Life Events for band members (births, deaths, marriages, divorce, name change, band transfer, etc.) which affect the Indian Register.
- Issuance of Certificate of Indian Status Cards, upon successful completion of the Indian Registration Administrator’s Training.
- Submit reports to Indigenous Services Canada.
- Distribute & receive Citizenship applications, prepare family trees.
- Prepare meeting packages for Citizenship Advisory Committee.
- Attend Citizenship Advisory Committee Meetings as a resource person and in a non-voting capacity, prepare meeting minutes.
- Submit Citizenship Advisory Committee recommendations to Chief and Council for approval.
- Prepare band change report as required and post for thirty (30) days.
- Attend nomination meetings, elections, referendums.
- Attend lands department meetings as required, record and distribute minutes of meetings.
- Provide support for lands department, including preparation of correspondence, Band Council resolutions and reports relating the land matters.
- Assist with preparing estate forms for submission to ISC estate office.
- Other duties as required.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Office Administration or related training/work experience.
- Experience working with First Nation people.
- Experience in office administration.
- Good sense of community and area resources.
- Strong organizational and communication skills.
- Knowledge of Anishinaabemowin is an asset.
- Strong interpersonal skills.
- Dependability, reliability, flexibility and adaptability to changing circumstances.
- Valid driver’s licence and a satisfactory criminal records check.

Applications will be accepted via email, fax and mail, or in person to the attention of:

**CONFIDENTIAL:**

Tricia Podlatis, Human Resources Manager  
Whitefish River First Nation, 17-A Rainbow Ridge Road  
P.O. Box 188, Birch Island, ON POP 1A0  
Email: [applications@whitefishriver.ca](mailto:applications@whitefishriver.ca) Fax: (705)285-4532

Applications must be submitted by December 19, 2022 by 4:30 p.m.  
And must include the following: cover letter, current resume, and two work-related reference names (with contact information).

We thank all who apply, however, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

# ...Critics say sweeping changes brought by Bill 23 are 'egregious' at best

...continued from page 3  
communities from poorly built developments.

A number of leading planners, designers and architects stated the legislation will not achieve its stated intent and will limit how communities are planned and built. The bill removes the requirement for public meetings for planning of subdivision and gives the Minister the power to amend municipal official

plans without public consultation. It encourages urban sprawl and severely limits the role of Conservation Authorities, removing environmental protection and conservation from their oversight.

The bill freezes, reduces or exempts developer fees which are generally used to pay for new development services such as public parks, road and sewer infrastructure, and community

centres.

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) was not given the opportunity to present to the Legislature's Standing Committee on Heritage and Culture during its review of Bill 23. The AMO says the changes could mean a shortfall of \$5 billion to Ontario municipalities, leaving property taxpayers footing the bill through higher taxes or service cuts.

In a virtual submission to 'interested members of the Legislature' the AMO stated, "Provisions of the bill that advance and modernize Ontario's land use planning framework are supported. Those that turn back the clock on planning, access to affordable housing, environmental protection, green building practices, and sustainable infrastructure financing are not supported and should be removed from the Bill or deferred pending focused consultation."

"Current residents and

businesses, the next generation of homeowners and renters and the hundreds of thousands of newcomers who make Ontario home will demand livable and safe communities with adequate amenities and a healthy and sustainable environment in which to thrive and prosper. That is not the future that Bill 23 will provide."

Bill 23 needs to be repealed in its entirety, said Algoma-Manitoulin MPP Michael Mantha. He agreed that Ontario needs more affordable housing for fami-

lies but Bill 23 removes 7,400 acres of land from the Greenbelt, which has been protected since 2005, including 4,500 acres of prime farmland.

The Greenbelt Act was created in 2005 to permanently protect agriculture and environmentally sensitive lands in the Greater Golden Horseshoe area (around Lake Ontario) from development.

Ontario recognized the critical role of Greenbelt lands in keeping drinking

...continued on page 27

# ...food hampers will likely top 1,200

...continued from page 25


Without immediate actions, food banks may be unable to meet the demand in the province should the current pressures on the system continue."

In the report it notes food bank use remains at an all-time high with this year marking the sixth consecutive year of food bank use increases. Almost five hundred and ninety-thousand adults and children accessed a food bank in Ontario between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022, an increase of 15 percent over the last three years. Ontario's food banks were visited more than 4,353,000 times throughout the year, an increase of 42 percent over the last three years. People with employment accessing food banks has increased by 47 percent since 2018.

Additional food bank data shows that between January 2022 and September 2022, the number of people accessing a food bank increased by 24 percent over the previous year alone. First time visitors have

increased by 64 percent over pre-pandemic levels, with one in three visitors being those who had never turned to a food bank for assistance before. Ontario's food banks were visited an average of 403,000 times per month, a 20 percent increase over the previous year and a 56 percent increase over the monthly average leading up to the pandemic.

In addition to unprecedented inflation rates and the rise in cost of living, there are several longstanding income insecurity issues and poor public policies that have contributed to the rise in food bank use: precarious employment, in the two years leading up to the pandemic, the number of people with employment turning to food banks for assistance increased by 27 percent, and an additional 16 percent between 2020-2022. In fact, one in 10 employed Ontarians are gig workers. Other factors noted in the report include inaccessible unemployment supports, and inadequate disability supports.




## Request for Proposals TOWN OF GORE BAY & MUNICIPALITY OF GORDON/BARRIE ISLAND

**We are now accepting Request for Proposals for the following:**

Snowplowing / Removal & Sanding  
at the Transfer Station for the 2022-2025 Winter Season  
Request for Proposal Information is available at the  
Gore Bay Municipal Office and will be accepted by the undersigned until 2:00 p.m. on  
December 16, 2022.

**For further information  
call 705-282-2420 or  
email scarr@gorebay.ca  
Stasia Carr, CAO/Clerk  
Town of Gore Bay  
PO Box 590, 15 Water Street  
Gore Bay, ON POP 1H0**



### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY BAND REPRESENTATIVE

**SALARY RANGE: \$62,113 - \$75,748/ YEAR (BASED ON QUALIFICATIONS)**

The role of the Band Representative is critical in serving the children and families of Whitefish River First Nation. Under the Family Well-Being Department, the Band Representative will work in partnership with other team members. The Band Representatives will provide support to families with legal and court matters, linking services with external child welfare agencies, and providing support and information to prevention team members of the Family Well-Being Program. The Band Representative will report to the Case Manager.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Provide knowledge, awareness, and promotion of WRFN's interests to courts and external child welfare agencies; Link families to support services;
- Represent the interests of WRFN First Nation regarding child welfare matters in court;
- Liaise between the WRFN and external child welfare agencies;
- Represent the WRFN whenever our children who have been apprehended, are being adopted, or are in care;
- Assist with the protocols with external child welfare agencies;
- Participate in case conferences, plans of care, and other matters relating to keeping children with their families;
- Assist in establishing and strengthening family support systems;
- Conduct home visits to support families keeping children in the home or when a family is transitioning to returning a child to the home;
- Assist families in accessing resources and collaborate with other supports for prevention activities;
- Work towards the repatriation of children residing in care in other jurisdictions;
- Be on-call for emergency response services regarding child welfare;
- Collect data on the number of children in care and the services provided to families;
- Help link children to their home community;
- Ensure that Whitefish River First Nation band members are educated about their rights ;
- Compile all relevant case-related information and documentation;
- Liaise with other First Nation Band Representatives;
- Accompany other Child Welfare agencies during investigations; and
- Gather evidence, prepare arguments, produce and prepare witnesses and prepare draft orders.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Accredited Social Work Diploma or Degree or equivalent;
- A minimum of two years' Social Services work experience within an Indigenous organization;
- Able to interpret legislation and legal documents;
- Knowledge of Case Management techniques and Alternative Dispute Mechanisms (i.e. Sharing circles);
- Excellent communication skills, including written and verbal in order to be effective in negotiation, advocacy, facilitation, and collection and dissemination of information;
- Must be able to work flexible hours and travel with minimal notice;
- Able to speak and understand the Ojibway language or a willingness to learn;
- Ability to exercise discretion in handling high confidential subject matters; and
- Must have advanced computer skills: Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, Access, Outlook, Internet, and Adobe Acrobat Pro.

**OTHER REQUIREMENTS:**

- Must provide an up-to-date and clear Vulnerable Sector Screening Check upon hire;
- Must have a Valid Driver's Licence and access to a reliable vehicle; and
- Valid First Aid and CPR Certification.

Interested and qualified candidates should submit their cover letter, resume, three current work-related reference letters to the attention of:

**CONFIDENTIAL: BAND REPRESENTATIVE**  
Whitefish River First Nation, 17-A Rainbow Ridge Road, P.O. Box 188, Birch Island, ON POP 1A0  
Email: applications@whitefishriver.ca; Fax: (705)285-4532  
**Applications must be submitted by December 16, 2022 by 4:30 p.m.**

*We thank all who apply, however, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.*

### SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER

*MUNICIPAL ACT, 2001  
ONTARIO REGULATION 181/03  
MUNICIPAL TAX SALES RULES*

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BILLINGS**

TAKE NOTICE THAT tenders are invited for the purchase of the land(s) described below and will be received until 4:00 p.m. local time on Monday, December 19, 2022 at the Township of Billings, 15 Old Mill Road, P.O. Box 34, Kagawong, Ontario POP 1J0.

The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day at 7:30 p.m. at Township of Billings Municipal Office at 15 Old Mill Road, Kagawong.

**DESCRIPTION OF LAND(S):**

PIN 47117-0169 (LT); Part Lot 10, Con 7, Billings being Part 5, Plan 31R-498; Township of Billings; District of Manitoulin  
Roll No. 5121 000 002 01315 000; File No. B-19-03  
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is: \$7,600  
**Minimum Tender Amount: \$4,197.00**

PIN 47119-0414 (LT); Part Lot 28, Con 15, Billings as in T15127; Lying Southerly of Forced Road; Township of Billings; District of Manitoulin  
Roll No. 5121 000 007 00800 0000; File No. B-19-08  
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is: \$12,400  
**Minimum Tender Amount: \$29,263.89**

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit of at least 20 percent of the tender amount, which deposit shall be made by way of a certified cheque/bank draft/money order payable to the municipality.

**Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to, availability of road access, or any other matters relating to the land to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers. The assessed value, according to the last returned assessment roll, may or may not be representative of the current market value of the property.**

Transfers of properties that contain at least one and not more than six single family residences and are transferred to non-residents of Canada or foreign entities, are subject to the Province's Non-Resident Speculation Tax (NRST).

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and any taxes that may be applicable, such as a land transfer tax and HST.

The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser. The land does not include mobile homes situate on the land.

A copy of the prescribed form of tender is available on the website of the Government of Ontario Central Forms Repository under the listing for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

For further information regarding this sale and a copy of the prescribed form of tender contact:

**Cheryl McCulligh, Treasurer**  
15 Old Mill Road  
P.O. Box 34  
Kagawong, Ontario POP 1J0  
(705) 282-2611 ext 222

# ...Critics say sweeping changes brought by Bill 23 are 'egregious' at best

...continued from page 26

water clean and safe, mitigating damages caused by flooding, providing habitats for wildlife and for endangered species, and in preventing urban sprawl," MPP Mantha said.

"Bill 23 is important to Northerners," he told The Expositor. The reduction or loss of the Greenbelt will impact us in the North, he said. If the government can take land there without public consultation, they can take it in Northern Ontario. He also pointed to the removal of municipal planning powers and an increase in food insecurity.

"Ontario loses more than 300 acres of farmland every day to development," said MPP Mantha.

In a letter to Ontario Auditor General Bonnie Lysyk, NDP MPP/leadership candidate Marit Stiles wrote, "The removal of Greenbelt lands also has several significant long-term environmental consequences, including threatening the integrity of interconnected natural and agricultural systems. Environmental experts warn that removing pieces of the Greenbelt threatens all of it."

MPP Stiles asked the auditor general to "conduct a value-for-money audit" investigating how much wealth would be increased for landowners when the property is unprotected. The NDP also asked Ms. Lysyk to investigate the economic and environmental impacts on agricultural and natural systems and "to consider Sections 2 and 3 of the Members Integrity Act, which deal with MPP conflicts of



A Bill 23 protest outside Minister of Education Stephen Lecce's office in King City on December 4.

photo by Mary Muter

interest and the sharing of insider information."

The Ontario Green Party also condemned the legislation for its lack of consultation, with leader Mike Schreiner citing a lack of approval from anti-poverty activists, municipal representatives, healthcare workers and Indigenous people.

Ontario Regional Chief Glen Hare said the government's passing of the bill without consulting First Nations violates the province's duty to consult. "The Government of Ontario's tabling of Bill 23 is a blatant violation of First Nations' inherent, domestic and international rights over their ancestral and traditional territories," he said. "Bill 23 will inevitably harm Ontario's environmental heritage and weaken land and water protection."

First Nations were not consulted prior to the tabling or passing of Bill 23 even though it makes significant changes to Ontario's legislative and policy landscapes. The bill will have detrimental impacts on nine different development and environment-related acts under the guise of addressing Ontario's housing crisis, Ontario Regional Chief Hare said.

"It is deeply concerning to the Chiefs of Ontario that the mandate of the Indigenous Affairs Ontario office, which is to ensure collaboration among ministries, engaging and consulting with First Nations on policy and legislative changes, continues to be unfulfilled."

Premier Ford should have put this plan out as part of his election platform, said Mary Muter, chair of the Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation (GBGLF). "What he is doing is probably the most egregious thing I've ever know to happen in Ontario and Canada. It's undemocratic."

Sections of Bill 23 allow the destruction, alteration,

redesignation or changes in the boundaries of wetlands, said Ms. Muter. "This will allow destruction of the most important element of aquatic ecosystems. Wetlands provide essential protected aquatic and terrestrial habitat and filter the water" and provide important flood absorption during extreme storm events.

"Bill 23 makes no sense in the face of climate change since wetlands provide critical climate resiliency," Ms. Muter said. "I wish I could communicate with Premier Ford and tell him that the City of Houston is now spending \$30 billion, tearing down new homes, excavating, removing and opening up ravines and re-establishing wetlands so that city can tolerate extreme storm events."

Ontario has been lucky so far but it's only a matter of time before we are hit with that kind of extreme weather event, she said.

The large houses that will be built on the now unprotected farmland will not alleviate the need for low income housing and will drive the need for more cars and highways, increasing Ontario's greenhouse gas emissions. The transportation sector contributes the highest amount of greenhouse gas emissions in Ontario currently, followed by housing.

"It's just absolute craziness, denying what needs to be done in terms of climate change, and denying what needs to be done to get more affordable housing built," Ms. Muter said.



Cookie lovers unite!

The Cookie Walk returned due to popular demand at the All Saints Anglican Church in Gore Bay last Saturday. Just in time for the holidays customers could fill a box of homemade Christmas cookies to enjoy over the holidays.

**GRANTEE/ASSIGNEE NOTICE OF UPDATE OF LAND GRANT/PATENT**  
 LAND GRANT/PATENT NUMBER RM83818  
 DATED: September 16, 2014  
 SWORN / NOTARIZED & TRANSMITTED TO LRO GORE BAY  
 28 November 2022

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:  
 NOTICE is hereby given that I Grantee/Assignee :peter-eric: Rankis. does hereby certify and declare that I hold, in Fee Simple/Allodium, the below described land and I willingly bring forward and update the above named/numbered Land Grant/Patent into my lawful name. This is formal Notice that the Grant/Patent has been acknowledged, delivered, accepted, and I and my Heirs and/or Assigns have taken possession lawfully, by Right of Possession of Land Grant/ Patent, and do occupy the land.

**LAND DESCRIPTION**  
 Lot 20 Part 1 Concession 8 Robinson Township  
 Plan 31R-4156 - Registered Plan 26  
 District of Manitoulin Province of Ontario Canada

MUNICIPALITY  OF ASSIGINACK

**TENDER TO PROVIDE FOR THE SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER**

**By-law #2022-24**

Sealed tenders clearly marked with the Tender Name will be received by the undersigned until the closing date:  
**Friday, December 30th, 2022 @ 4pm**

The tender form can be located at <https://www.assiginack.ca/rfp-tenders>

All tenders to be presented on forms contained in this document to:  
**TOWNSHIP OF ASSIGINACK**  
**C/O ALTON HOBBS, CAO**  
 BOX 238, 156 ARTHUR STREET  
 MANITOWANING, ON P0P 1N0  
 (705) 859-3196 - MUNICIPAL OFFICE

**Important to Note that:**  
 \*Highest, non-conforming or incomplete tenders not necessarily accepted  
 \*Also, that FAXED or EMAILED Tenders will not be accepted

MUNICIPALITY  OF ASSIGINACK

**TENDERS TO PROVIDE RFP 2022-11**  
**MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS SERVICES**

Sealed tenders clearly marked with Tender Name  
 Will be received by the undersigned until the closing date:  
**Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 4pm**

Awarding of tender will be made by Council  
 At the regularly scheduled meeting:  
**Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 5pm.**

The tender form can be located at <https://www.assiginack.ca/rfp-tenders>

All tenders to be presented on forms contained in this document to:  
**TOWNSHIP OF ASSIGINACK**  
**c/o ALTON HOBBS CAO/DEPUTY CLERK**  
 BOX 238, 156 ARTHUR STREET  
 MANITOWANING, ON., P0P 1N0  
 (705) 859-3196 – MUNICIPAL OFFICE  
 (705) 859-3780 – MUNICIPAL GARAGE

**IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT:**  
 \*LOWEST, INCOMPLETE or ANY Tender NOT necessarily accepted  
 \*Also that FAXED or EMAILED Tenders are NOT acceptable

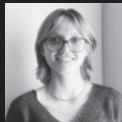
Happy December, Mustangs! There is only seven days left until schools out for Christmas Break and students and teachers alike are rushing to finish projects and assignments. On top of that, the school is a whirlwind of festivities to get everyone excited for the holidays.

Although we don't have consistent snow yet it is starting to feel like a winter wonderland at MSS. Last Wednesday, November 30 some student council members stayed after school to deck the halls of MSS with Christmas decorations. There are nutcrackers guarding the front entrance, inflatable snowmen outside the gym, and an impressive star hanging in the cafeteria. Thank you to the volunteers who helped out!

Manitoulin Metal has already turned in a submission for a safety animation award this season. This is the first ever animation submitted by the team. The animation was created by Nevaeh Harper, a build and business team member. Good work!

On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me...hot chocolate in the cafeteria? The 12 Days of Christmas at MSS has started! December 1 the student council

## M.S.S. Kids in the Halls



Alexandra  
Wilson-  
Zegil

handed out hot chocolate with all the fixings (whipped cream, sprinkles) in the cafeteria free of charge. The annual door decorating contest began as well. Classes can opt to adorn their doors with wrapping paper, bows, and ugly Christmas sweaters to try and win a class-wide prize.

On the second day of Christmas the Athletics Association hosted a jersey day. We saw the MSS girls' hockey team all wear their team jerseys as well as many other students and teachers with a variety of sports teams. Along with this there was a floor hockey tournament hosted in the gym to match.

Monday, December 5 was ugly Christmas sweater day. SHARE/Go Green turned down the heat on Monday in an effort to help the environment and reduce the school's carbon emissions. They also had a penny table filled with sweets for students to enter draws on. All the money raised

goes to a good cause through the club.

On Tuesday, December 6, as part of the 12 Days of Christmas, there was a talent show. Tickets were sold the following week for students. The talent show was put on through fourth period. Brave students went up to perform and exhibit their talents for the school. A round of applause for everyone who participated!

On Wednesday, December 7 the school hosted a Christmas Kahoot in the cafeteria over lunch and the winners got a prize to celebrate their victory. Good job on answering some difficult Christmas questions!

Keep an eye out for more fun Christmas activities!

On Friday, December 2 a couple of SHARE/Go Green members went to Sudbury and bought toys for families in need this holiday season. They used the money they raised from the silent auction held at the Craft Fair in AOK on November 19. They raised nearly a thousand dollars to buy these toys.

That is all for this week! This author hopes for more snow and a great Christmas season for all of you. Until next time, go Mustangs, go!

## Death Notices

### LYMAN CORBIERE

December 8, 1945 - November 28, 2022



In loving memory of Lyman Corbiere who passed away peacefully at home while his loving wife was preparing his last lunch on Monday, November 28, 2022 in his 77th year. Beloved husband of Fay Corbiere (nee Williams). Loving father of Richard (Natalie) Bendell, Mark (Denise) Corbiere, David (Jennifer) Corbiere, April Corbiere and Tammy (Scott) Madahbee and stepdaughter Nicole Aube (predeceased.) He will be forever missed by his furbaby Foxy Girl. Grandfather of Raymond, Emily, River, Aurora, Aidan, Madison, Joe, Andrew, Cole (Alayna), Jessica (Marlon), Cody (Rachel), BreAnn, Madison (Jasmine) and Dawson. Fur grandpa of Crush and Princess. Great-grandfather of Colten, Trytan, Vayda, Alayna, Benson, Mia, TJ and Braxton. Predeceased by Phillip and Dorothy Corbiere (nee Kewakundo). Predeceased by siblings Helen Jane, Mary Ann, Cathy, Jim, Linda, Doreen, Ronald, Francis, Robert and survived by brother Douglas. Family and friends will gather at the M'Chigeeng Community Complex on Wednesday, November 30, 2022 from 1 pm. Funeral Service will take place at the Complex on Thursday, December 1, 2022 at 12 noon with Reverend Jamie Greenwood officiating. Burial to follow in the M'Chigeeng Whispering Pines Cemetery.

*As I Sit In Heaven*

*As I sit in Heaven and watch you every day,  
I try and let you know with signs, I never went away.  
I hear you when you're laughing, and I watch you as you sleep.*

*I even place my arms around you to calm you as you weep.*

*I see you wish the days away, begging to have me home.  
So I try and send you signs, so you know you're not alone.  
Don't feel guilty that you have life, life that was denied to me.*

*Heaven is truly beautiful, just you wait and see.*

*So live your life, laugh again,*

*Enjoy yourself, be free.*

*Than I'll know with each breath you take,*

*You'll be taking one for me.*

*When I get there, on the other side,*

*I will be waiting for you there:*

*That will be me waving on the other side*

*With all of that grey hair.*

*A place where there will be no pain anymore, where we*

*Live forevermore,*

*An be with family that have left before.*

*An then we'll all be together, forever more,*

*So when we get there on the other side we'll all be*

*Hugging each other on the other side*

*An what a glorious day, that will be*

*An for all us, to see.*

*That we're all together again, as happy as can be,*

*An where there's a place, with no more pain*

*An where we will have everything to gain*

*When we all get to that place called*

*Heaven, Earth may pass away.*

*But there will always be a Heaven*

*But in Heaven forever we will stay*

*Hugging each other on the other side when we all get there on the other side.*

*Poem By Lyman Corbiere*

*Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8th, 2022*

### EVELYN MARION TOWNS

May 23, 1934 - November 28, 2022



In loving memory of Evelyn Marion Towns, who passed away peacefully at the Manitoulin Centennial Manor at the age of 88, or as son-in-law Al liked to point out, "you're in your 89th year Mom!" Predeceased by her husband of over 64 years, Ronald Towns. Dear mother of April (Alan) Bois, Bob (Ann), Greg (Janyn) and Ken (Terry). Cherished granny of Jorgen, Kara, Laura, Kristen, Myles, Quinn and Jesse and great-grandchildren Mya, Gabby, Lucas, Peter and Ginny. Predeceased by her parents Pete and Jenny (Muenster) Osterkruger; siblings Karen, Edith, Armand, Archie, Gus and Mysel. Evelyn is survived by her sister Molly (Barkley) Hawkins and youngest of the family, her brother Joe. Remembered fondly by Anne Warnholtz and her family. Born in Gore Bay and raised in Gordon Township, Mom found the love of her life when she married Ron (Ronnie) Towns. Together they would have four children while at the same time opening their home to several foster children or those who needed a place to stay. Relocating around Ontario, she and Dad moved whenever the opportunity presented itself with Dad's job at Ontario Hydro, eventually settling back to Manitoulin in 1982. Mom spent her life in service to others after a stroke at age 34 which almost took her life. She raised her family - not an easy job with three boys! She was a member of Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Royal Canadian Legion, Eastern Star, and a card-carrying member of the Red Hats. She devoted time to spend at Manitoulin Health Centre on the tuck cart as well as visiting those in the Little Current Centennial Manor. She took great joy in seeing and helping the many visitors who would stop by the Little Current Information Booth or who were passengers on the many bus tours she led. As the number of grandkids and great-grandchildren started to grow, she found a new focus, enjoying each and every one of them. Memories of Haweater Weekend get-togethers with friends and family, fishing on the North Channel, family dinners and never getting the first bite of the birthday cake before Mom! We will miss her but know she is in a better place. Cremation has taken place. Visitation was at 10 am on Saturday, December 3rd, 2022 at Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Little Current, funeral followed at 11 am. A light lunch was served at the Church following the service. Memorial donations to Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Shriners or the Eastern Star as expressions of sympathy would be appreciated.

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.

### JIM NOBLE

August 1, 1937 - December 2, 2022



Jim died peacefully at the Mindemoya Hospital on December 2, 2022, at the age of 85, surrounded by family. Jim was predeceased by his wife Margaret (Peggy) (O'Neil) Noble and survived by children Karen Noble (Albert Meijer), Aileen Noble, Shawn Noble, Lara (Chad) Chevrette, and grandchildren Meghan, Larissa, Tamara, Colton, Jackson and Ronan. He was born on August 1, 1937 to parents George Jasper Noble (predeceased) and Emma (Ruggles/Scott) Noble (predeceased). He was predeceased by his sister Erma and survived by his sister Audrey McCulloch (Garth-predeceased). His loss is also grieved by sister-in-law Joyce (Don) Hilton, sister-in-law Retta (Jim-predeceased) Kritz, and brother-in-law Jim (Shirley Flick) O'Neil, as well as numerous nieces and nephews on the Noble and O'Neil sides of the family. Jim was born and raised in Silver Water in the house on his family farm, which he always referred to as the "Home Farm". He went to the Silver Water School until Grade eight and then worked on the family farm. As a young man, he cooked on the logging boats with his parents and worked at Simpson Sears. Then Jim went to Sudbury, worked at INCO, and met Peggy, where they married on August 20, 1966. Not long after, Jim bought his parents' farm (the "Home Farm") to allow his parents to move to Missouri. Then he bought the "Morrell Farm" in 1970, as well as the farm from Arthur and Jean Addison where Jim lived until he passed away. He spent his life farming and being close to nature. He also used the "Home Farm" for making maple syrup the old-fashioned way. In later years, he passed on the love of nature and trees to the younger family members, through sharing his maple syrup making process. He continued to farm, make maple syrup, and cut wood for heat until he was into his 80s (using four-wheelers and snowmobiles to help in the later years). Visitation was held at the Simpson Funeral Home (3 McQuarrie Blvd., Gore Bay) on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 from 6 to 8 pm and on Wednesday, December 7, 2022 from 10 to 11 am, where the funeral service will be held at 11 am, followed by a luncheon. Burial will be held at the Silver Water Cemetery at a later date. Memorial donations may be made in Jim Noble's name to one of the following organizations: Mindemoya Hospital Auxiliary ([canadahelps.org/en/charities/mindemoya-hospital-auxiliary-inc/](http://canadahelps.org/en/charities/mindemoya-hospital-auxiliary-inc/)), The Angel Bus ([canadahelps.org/en/charities/The\\_Angel\\_Bus](http://canadahelps.org/en/charities/The_Angel_Bus)) or Forests Ontario at [forestsontario.ca/en/product/prod\\_IETOfFY-oXbEyl5](http://forestsontario.ca/en/product/prod_IETOfFY-oXbEyl5)).

# ...Little Current mother seeks new kidney donation, first transplant is failing

...continued from page 13 my son."

"This is Jack's normal," explains Ms. Casson. "He doesn't know anything different because I've always been sick." But as her son grows older and gains greater understanding of his mother's condition her condition is taking a toll on him as well. "It breaks my heart all over again," she said. "He fears death so much and worries often. He knows he is my world and the reason I fight as I do." Those concerns are not at all irrational, although 2022 started out on a stable note, things took a turn for the worse in early February.

"My potassium levels spiked to levels that should have given me a heart attack," she said. "This was the tipping point that sent me into months of tests, treatments, procedures, late night ambulance rides and emergency room visits." Just a couple of her many symptoms were muscle weakness and paralysis.

"In early March I had a parathyroidectomy due to the high levels being caused from dialysis," she said. A parathyroidectomy involves removal of parts of her thyroid gland. "After all of this and a bout with COVID that meant I was isolated in Sudbury for 10 days—we hoped we could get back to our version of a somewhat normal life."

But three weeks later those hopes were dashed as her health once again began to deteriorate. Ms. Casson began experiencing seizures and periods of being unresponsive. She is working with a neurologist to discover the source of these latest symptoms. Her health appeared to stabilize, and she once again set about "normalizing" her life as best she could.

"This summer I was able to have a couple of months where I was doing well," she said. "I was enjoying summer, working out a lot and enjoying time with my son."

But by the end of August her health once more took a turn for the worse.

"I started to get a lot of swelling in my face, pressure on the right side of my face and ear and developed superior vena cava stenosis," she said. "This means that the central line they had used for my dialysis,



Kinga Casson and her son Jack. "I love him with my whole heart," she tells The Expositor.

my lifeline, had caused my SVC (the superior vena cava, a major vein in her upper body that carries blood from the head, neck, upper chest and arms to the heart) to reduce its ability to move blood through to my heart."

Then came an angioplasty, a procedure to open narrowed or blocked blood vessels that supply blood to the heart. Hope was soon to be dashed, however.

"Three weeks after my first procedure my symptoms returned and were much worse," she said. "It was then decided that they needed to go back and try multiple locations in my neck, groin and central line area for better success and they were able to open the blockage the best they could." But around five weeks later the same situation occurred again. "I had to repeat the angioplasty procedure for a third time," she said. "Now, just over six weeks since the last one we are now having to go back in for a fourth time this Friday."

"We will do another

angioplasty and there is a high risk of the chest catheter not working anymore," she said. "If it does not work my only option will be a femoral catheter in my groin." That will involve more movement restrictions and she is already heavily restricted due to her many surgeries.

"I am on week five of recovering from the surgery for my new dialysis line," she said. "No lifting over 10 pounds, no strenuous activity and constant care of the site. Eventually, once it's healed, I will have to do a week in Sudbury of training and learn how to use my new dialysis machine. I will have it set up in my bedroom to be able to put the machine beside my bed, though I will also need to use my spare room as my storage room for all the boxes of fluid, supplies and more." The supplies involved are significant.

In the meantime, the high percentage of antibodies in Ms. Casson's body complicate finding a suitable donor—already a

challenging situation. The national and provincial donor lists are for kidneys from donors who have died, but the best option for Ms. Casson would be to find a living donor and/or do a paired match exchange. "What most people don't know is that you do not need to be a match to donate a kidney," said Ms. Casson. "Kidney paired donation, or KPD, also called kidney exchange, gives that transplant candidate another option. In KPD, living donor kidneys are swapped so each recipient receives a compatible transplant, cascading along a line of recipients until a close enough match is made."

For now, without a living donor, my only option is to keep doing treatment while waiting for a deceased donor match. This could take anywhere from five to 10 years."

"While I and so many others wait for transplants we are slowly dying and it is not an easy thing to go through, for us or for our loved ones," she said. "Something that has hit me hard lately is that while I hope to receive a kidney, the reality is that a kidney transplant and dialysis are not cures, they are merely treatments. Each step towards a slightly longer life also means so much recovery and so many potential risks. I should be out living a life, not sick, I should be making memories, exploring the world, not feeling like a burden to everyone around me." The

toll on her mental health is immense.

"My reality is that when I was 24 I was writing my will, making sure that everything was in place if anything should ever happen to me," she said. "Over the years, surgeries and procedures weren't easy, but after the last year, I have developed a deep fear now that I have never had before. Whether it is that something will go wrong on the table, or a complication that could happen after, the potential of my high potassium coming back, or having a heart attack at home in my bed where my son could find me, I'm terrified. These are the realities of what I think about daily. These are the things that make it hard to go to bed at night."

Ms. Casson shares that she fears she is "running out of time and options" but vows to fight on.

"I will keep fighting for my life and for a chance to watch my son grow up" she said. "He means everything to me. I love him with my

whole heart."

The young mother would like to encourage everyone to sign a donor card and consider giving someone the gift of life. "Each donor can save as many as nine lives," she said.

Being a living donor is a major undertaking for both the giver and the recipient, but it can truly make a world of difference for the recipient's entire orbit.

Ms. Casson has set up a Facebook page 'Kidney for Kinga' where she is sharing her journey and will be providing updates and will answer questions when she is able.

"I appreciate everyone who shares or has shared my story, applied to be a living donor, considered being a part of the transplant and has applied for organ donation," she said. "To everyone who's messaged me, my friends, family, even strangers, thank you so much."

In the meantime, Ms. Casson, her son Jack, and their entire family remain hopeful for a Christmas miracle.

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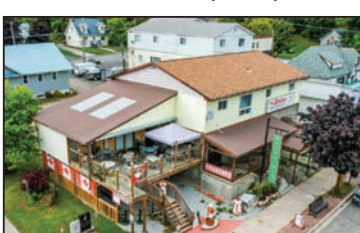
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