



# The MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR



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**INNER BEAUTY REVEALED**—The Manitoulin Secondary School production of the Disney version of 'Beauty and the Beast' is an outstanding hit. In the final scene of the production The Beast (Zack Hill) is revealed to Belle (Cameron Meawasige) (centre couple) as a handsome prince now that his inner self has learned to love. There is still time to catch this professional-level production this weekend. **SEE STORY ON PAGE 3.**

photo by Michael Erskine

## Some concerns by neighbours as Gore Bay's proposed new nursing home zoning reviewed

by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY—Concerns raised by local residents on the proposed new nursing home in Gore Bay—including drainage, the access road to the property/building, traffic and other issues—will all be addressed as part of a site plan agreement between the Town of Gore Bay and the owners of the property, Manitoulin Transport. Concerned residents at a meeting last week were assured that prior to a zoning bylaw amendment to rezone the property, the amendment has been put on hold until the site plan agreement is in place to address their concerns.

"I should state that any amendments would also include a site plan agreement between the town and the proponent (owner of the property) with drainage being one of the issues addressed along with the roads and the best access point to the property and the other issues raised," said Gore Bay Mayor Ron Lane at a meeting last week.

Kevin Jarus, of Tulloch Engineering (representing Manitoulin Transport) told the group at the meeting that as far as drainage off the property, a drainage slope stability report will be carried out as part of the site plan agreement.

At the meeting town council was considering two amendments received from Mr. Jarus and Venessa Smith of Manitoulin Transport Inc. to amend the Official Plan (OP) to redesignate from future development area to residential area, and amend zoning bylaw 2022-24 for the town to rezone the property from future development zone to institutional

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## Five Island First Nations' membership to vote 'yea or nay' on Manitoulin Project by March 2

by Michael Erskine

MANITOULIN—The recent signing of a nearly half-billion-dollar settlement agreement in principle between the members of the United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising (UCCMM) known as the Manitoulin Project will now go before the respective communities for ratification.

Details of the settlement were

being held close until community members were apprised of the agreement.

Under the agreement, should it be approved by the communities, would see \$447,900,000 transferred to the First Nation parties who filed the claims as "full and final settlement" of the claims related to roads, mismanagement of Indigenous land claim

funds and water lot claims (IMLF)."

In order to complete the settlement, the First Nations have agreed not to seek and pursue any future legal action against Canada, and further, the First

Nations agree that Canada can ask to be indemnified should a third party bring a future claim for the same roads and other items in the agreement—an important consideration as both

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## Jordan's Principle supports Sheg FN Little NHL request

by Tom Sasvari

SHEGUIANDAH—Sheguiandah First Nation (SFN) has received funding from Jordan's Principle to allow its youth to participate in the 50th annual Little Native Hockey League (LNHL) tournament taking place in Toronto in March.

"SFN's administration is excited to announce that (SFN) was successful in their Jordan's Principle application for group funding for the

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### SHTA-TAH-HA!

Matthew Roy and daughter Ashtanti get ready to head down the hill in the cardboard toboggan race as part of Sheguiandah First Nation Shta-tah-ha Days held over the weekend. **See more Shta-tah-ha fun on page 14.**

photo by Xoë Roy

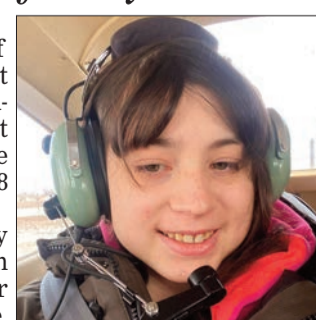
## Hope Air helps people, but operates on donations

Edeana Merrylees' family has used service for 18 years

by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY—A record number of Northern Ontario families have sought support from Hope Air to reach medical care far from home, including at least one Gore Bay family who have been able to use these services for 18 years.

Hope Air, Canada's national charity providing travel support to patients in financial need who must travel far from home to access vital medical care, has announced an all-time annual



Hope Merrylees-Cooper aboard a Hope Air flight.

record high in travel arrangement support for residents of Ontario. This milestone of 3,367 travel arrangements in Ontario includes over 1,736 airline flights for families, individuals and children travelling from diverse communities across the province including Thunder Bay, Timmins, North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, Hearst, Sudbury, Gore Bay, Kenora and Windsor, among many others. Jodi Lumsden, director of marketing and communications for Hope

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# MANITOULIN CHRYSLER



## PRE-OWNED VEHICLES

<p><b>2013 HYUNDAI ELANTRA COUPE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2-Door, 5-Seats</li> <li>• CD Player</li> <li>• Heated F/Seats</li> <li>• Power Sunroof</li> <li>• 127,000 KMs</li> </ul>  <p>STK# 22-316A <b>\$8,999*</b></p>	<p><b>2015 GMC SIERRA 1500</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4.3L V6, Single Cab</li> <li>• Bench Seat</li> <li>• Bluetooth</li> <li>• Tonneau Cover</li> <li>• 153,000 KMs</li> </ul>  <p>STK# 29285 <b>\$20,999*</b></p>	<p><b>2016 JEEP WRANGLER SAHARA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6-Speed Manual</li> <li>• Heated F/Seats</li> <li>• Bluetooth</li> <li>• Aftermarket Rims</li> <li>• 124,000 KMs</li> </ul>  <p>STK# 23-1342A <b>\$29,999*</b></p>	<p><b>2016 JEEP CHEROKEE NORTH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keyless Entry</li> <li>• Smart Device Integration</li> <li>• Heated Steering Wheel</li> <li>• Power Liftgate</li> <li>• 156,000 KMs</li> </ul>  <p>STK# 22-549A <b>\$19,999*</b></p>
<p><b>2017 RAM 1500 TRADESMAN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.7L HEMI V8, Quad Cab</li> <li>• Aftermarket Grille</li> <li>• 5.0" LCD Touchscreen</li> <li>• Bluetooth</li> <li>• 118,000 KMs</li> </ul>  <p>STK# 22-224A <b>\$20,999*</b></p>	<p><b>2017 RAM 1500 LARAMIE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.7L HEMI V8, Crew Cab</li> <li>• Heated &amp; Vented/F Seats</li> <li>• RAMBOX Cargo System</li> <li>• Tonneau Cover</li> <li>• ONLY 99,000 KMs</li> </ul>  <p>STK# 23-1364A <b>\$33,999*</b></p>	<p><b>2018 HONDA CIVIC LX</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auto Climate Control</li> <li>• Heated F/Seats</li> <li>• 5.0" LCD Screen</li> <li>• Multi-Angle Back-Up Cam</li> <li>• 102,000 KMs</li> </ul>  <p>STK# R21-043A <b>\$21,900*</b></p>	<p><b>2018 RAM 1500 ST</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.7L V8, Crew Cab</li> <li>• Bluetooth</li> <li>• 3x USB Ports</li> <li>• Aftermarket Rims</li> <li>• 170,000 KMs</li> </ul>  <p>STK# 23-1215A <b>\$25,999*</b></p>
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<p><b>2021 JEEP COMPASS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leather Upholstery</li> <li>• Heated Steering Wheel</li> <li>• Alpine Audio System</li> <li>• Dual-Pane Sunroof</li> <li>• ONLY 40,000 KMs</li> </ul>  <p>STK# 24-1031A <b>\$32,900*</b></p>	<p><b>2021 RAM 1500 CLASSIC SLT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.7L HEMI V8, Crew Cab</li> <li>• Dual-Zone A/C</li> <li>• An 8.4" LCD Display</li> <li>• Tonneau Cover</li> <li>• ONLY 68,000 KMs</li> </ul>  <p>STK# 23-1306A <b>\$46,999</b></p>	<p><b>2021 RAM 1500 CLASSIC SLT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.7L HEMI V8, Crew Cab</li> <li>• 8.4" LCD Display</li> <li>• Remote Start</li> <li>• Park Assist</li> <li>• 110,000 KMs</li> </ul>  <p>STK# A22-285A <b>\$37,999*</b></p>	<p><b>2022 WAGONEER SERIES III</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.7 V8, 7-Passenger</li> <li>• Adaptive Cruise Control</li> <li>• Nappa Leather Interior</li> <li>• Air Suspension</li> <li>• ONLY 60,000 KMs</li> </ul>  <p>STK# P0879 <b>\$69,999*</b></p>

## NEW VEHICLE FEATURES

<p><b>2023 RAM 1500 WARLOCK</b></p> <p><b>EMPLOYEE PRICING</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.7L HEMI V8, Crew Cab</li> <li>• Harvest Sunrise Ext. Paint</li> <li>• 8.4" LCD Display</li> <li>• Heated Steering Wheel</li> <li>• Tonneau Cover</li> </ul> <p>STK# 23-1356</p>	<p><b>2023 RAM 1500 BIG HORN</b></p> <p><b>EMPLOYEE PRICING</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.6L V6, Crew Cab</li> <li>• Remote Start</li> <li>• Heated Steering Wheel</li> <li>• Alpine Speaker System</li> <li>• Park Assist</li> </ul> <p>STK# 23-1083</p>	<p><b>2023 RAM 1500 CLASSIC NIGHT EDITION</b></p> <p><b>EMPLOYEE PRICING</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.6L V6, Crew Cab</li> <li>• 8.4" LCD Display</li> <li>• Heated Steering Wheel</li> <li>• Running Boards</li> <li>• All Black Badging</li> </ul> <p>STK# 23-1122</p>	<p><b>2023 RAM 1500 SPORT</b></p> <p><b>EMPLOYEE PRICING</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.7L HEMI V8, Crew Cab</li> <li>• Heated F&amp;B Seats</li> <li>• Wireless Charging Pad</li> <li>• Dual-Pane Sunroof</li> <li>• Adaptive Cruise Control</li> </ul> <p>STK# 23-1231</p>
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**MANITOULIN CHRYSLER**

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# The Manitoulin *West* Recorder



Nimkii and the Niniis are, from right to left, Animiise Stevens, Josh Musgrave, Nimkii Osawamick, Meeg Snake and Kyle Bigcanoe. Mr. Osawamick hails from Wiikwemkoong.

## Crystal Shawanda wins inaugural Indigenous Artist of the Year award

by Tom Sasvari

TORONTO—Manitoulin's superstar singer Crystal Shawanda received the inaugural Indigenous Artist/Group of the Year Award at the 27th annual Maple Blues Awards held at the Phoenix Concert Theatre in Toronto on February 12.

"It is an honour to be the first recipient of this new award," Ms. Shawanda told The Expositor a day after receiving the recognition. "And it was exciting to see this new category; hopefully it will be the stepping stone in recognizing other talented Aboriginal blues artists."

Ms. Shawanda (who is from Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory) explained, "originally there were hundreds of submissions for nominations for this award (and other awards presented during the event), then 40 Indigenous musicians were short-listed."

Ms. Shawanda was with her family and on her way back home from Toronto to Nashville, Tennessee when The Expositor reached her. "We closed out the show, which was quite amazing." Her husband Dewayne Strobel on guitar and daughter Zhaawande



Wiikwemkoong's superstar singer Crystal Shawanda received the inaugural Indigenous artist/group of the year award at the 27th annual Maple Blues Awards, held in Toronto on February 12. In photo Ms. Shawanda and her husband DeWayne Strobel flank their daughter Zhaawande as they display the award last week.

was on background and danced along to the music. This was the six-year-old's debut at the Maple Blues Awards. "After a while she started to sing and asked everyone in the audience to join in, and they did. It was amazing. She said to me after the show, 'I'm doing the closing song with you at every show.'"

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## Wiikwemkoong man nominated for JUNO

by Michael Erskine

TORONTO—When Canada's premier celebration of homegrown music, the JUNO Awards, takes place starting at 9 pm on Sunday, March 24 a new group with connections to Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory will be among the nominees. Nimkii and The Niniis are an Indigenous musical collaborative headed up by Wiikwemkoong band member Nimkii Osawamick who have been nominated in the new category of Traditional Indigenous Artist or Group of the Year.

"We have been mainly recording powwow songs in the language," said group founder Mr. Osawamick in conversation with The Expositor. By "the language" he is referring to the Odawa dialect of Anishinaabemwin that predominates in his home community of Wiikwemkoong.

The artist embarked on the project that eventually became Nimkii and The Niniis' album 'LFS5' as he and his bandmates realized that there wasn't much out there recorded in his mother tongue. "You just don't hear too much of our songs or stories," he said.

Mr. Osawamick was effusive in his praise for the members of his group, including Animiise Stevens, Josh Musgrave, Nimkii Osawamick, Meeg Snake and Kyle Bigcanoe, each of whom added important elements to the success of 'LFS5.'

Mr. Osawamick credited his aunt, elder Shirley Williams of Wiikwemkoong, as a mentor and source for many of the stories that underpin the songs the group performs. He also paid special attention to the contribution of his partner, Serene Fox, who helped with the recordings.

The project has involved a lot of hard work and represents considerable responsibility, noted Mr. Osawamick, something he is no stranger to, and it shows, as this is his second JUNO nomination.

"The first one was in 2021," he confirmed. But he decided to step back for a year and since his latest work was not entered in 2023, it qualified for entry this year. The group's debut EP 'Nang Giizhi-goong' was a Juno Award nominee for Traditional

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## Wiikwemkoong's Edna Manitowabi named 2024 Indspire Award recipient

by Tom Sasvari

WIKWEMKOONG—Wiikwemkoong elder Edna Manitowabi says her life and work has been one long journey, but one that she is still continuing and enjoys very much. It is this journey that has led to her being recently recognized as one of 12 recipients with a 2024 Indspire Award for Culture, Heritage and Spirituality.

The Indspire Awards recognize Indigenous professionals and youth who demonstrate outstanding career achievement, promote self-esteem and pride for Indigenous communities and provide inspirational role models for future generations.

"It is so thrilling and awesome to be nominated for this award by your peers and colleagues," stated Ms. Manitowabi.

"I have been on a lifelong journey, starting when I was very young. It was when I was in my twenties when I first began searching for our own ways, culture, traditions, songs and seeking researchers and knowledge keepers to provide some direction and answers," said Ms. Mani-



Wiikwemkoong elder Edna Manitowabi is one of 12 people who have been selected as recipients of the 2024 Indspire Award for Culture, Heritage and Spirituality.

towabi. "There has been some resistance along the way and quite challenging at times. When I was young my father would say, 'just leave the Indian stuff alone.'"

"But when we find something

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## Rising cost of living taking toll on Canadians' mental health: Mental Health Commission

by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
OTTAWA—The Mental Health Commission of Canada has released a policy brief on the impacts of the post-pandemic economic crisis and rising living costs on Canadians' mental health and well-being. The 49-page report addresses unaffordable housing, food insecurity, mental health-related disabilities, access to mental health services and the intersection of health considerations for vulnerable populations.

The skyrocketing cost of living in Canada has led many formerly middle-class households into increased financial insecurity while worsening the pressure on families and individuals who were already living below the poverty line. Income inequality and constraints on food and housing affordability are all significantly impacting citizens' mental health and well-being. The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) released staggering statistics showing that 75 percent of children with mental health disorders do not have access to specialized treatment.

The new policy brief synthesizes new evidence and shines a

light on important mental health policy considerations focused on the elevated impact on equity-deserving populations. The repercussions of the high cost of living on mental health and access to services are amplifying existing inequity for already oppressed populations such as Indigenous and other racialized populations, those suffering from historic men-

tal health disorders, children and women, and children already living in poverty. While the improved Canada Disability Benefit, announced on January 22, holds some promise, the Mental Health Commission is advocating for a more panoptic approach to Canada's rising mental health crisis.

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## Manitoulin Secondary School's Beauty and the Beast a professional production

by Michael Erskine

M'CHIGEENG—High school productions are usually a few notches above their elementary school counterparts, but Manitoulin Secondary School's production of the Disney version of 'Beauty and the Beast' could stand with confidence alongside most professional company's offerings. In a simple word, the Friday evening performance attended by The Expositor was outstanding.

It can be expected of parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and friends who tend to make up the bulk of an opening night performance to offer up enthusiastic applause whenever their family member completes their turn onstage. But to anyone listening to the response of the audience to each of

the solo and choreographed number, one would be hard put to discern who amongst the roaring crowd were among that personal coterie—could the cast possibly have that many relatives? The audience response was not only enthusiastic, but it was also clearly authentic and well-deserved by the performers.

There is no mistaking the hard work and commitment that these young thespians must have put into this production—raw talent can only carry things so far. While there was plenty of talent evident during the Friday night performance, there was no mistaking the polish that shined above the footlights.

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## Split Rail Brewing gets second place for Brewery of the Year

by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY—Split Rail Brewing of Gore Bay received second place (honourable mention) for Brewery of the Year in the 2023 Canadian Brewers Choice Awards earlier this month.

"It is special because it is a national award," Andrea Smith, co-owner of Split Rail told The Expositor.

"We're thrilled to share that we were honoured with second place in the Canada-wide 'Brewery of the Year Award' at the Brewers Journal Canada Awards last Wednesday (at Niagara on the Lake)," a Facebook post from Ms. Smith states. "Sincere congratulations to the amazing Blindman Brewing in Alberta for winning first place," she added, also acknowledging the other breweries who had been nominated for

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# Part II of a series

## 50 years of the Little NHL

### Symbols of Indigenous identity pave the way at Little Native Hockey League

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This year marks 50 editions of the culturally important Little NHL (Native Hockey League) tournament and, over the weeks leading up to the Markham event, Expositor reporter Gina Gasongi Simon will trace the evolution of the tournament from its origins as a two-day local event in 1971 at the old Little Current arena to the massive undertaking it is today with nearly 250 teams participating from all corners of the province. This week's installment, the second, examined its cultural significance.

by Gina Gasongi Simon

Hockey in 'Indian country' has deep cultural significance, impacting identity and community pride. The origins of the game and strategy have been said to go back centuries, parallel with the Roman ages. On one side of the world, it was man against beast, on this side, it was men against men. In Indian country, games were played strategically, one group against another.

The origins of hockey can be traced back when our Native ancestors played games involving sticks and balls. Over time the game evolved to the modern game of ice hockey.

A style of 'shinny' on the ice was first documented by British soldiers in 1895. The modern day of hockey and lacrosse, and if you debate these games origins with any



Memories still burn a fire in the hearts of these men, once upon a time the Pee Wee Champs in the 72-73 LNHL. Coached by Myles Webkamigad, Scotty Fisher baa, Paul Fox baa (back row) included players like the famous MC Chris Pheasant baa (second row, far left) all part of a rag-tag team that managed to bring a championship trophy home to Wikwemikong. Other players not in order, include: Tim Ominika, Gerard Peltier, Ephrem Webkamigad baa, Duffy Pitawanakwat, Theodore Recollet, Billy Recollet, Stephen Fisher, Aambre Webkamigad, Gerard Peltier, Hugh Pitawanakwat and Mike Peltier.

spective," he continues.

His younger son Noah, who plays in the regular island house leagues has challenged his father with some tough questions as the opening date of the tournament nears. "Why can't my friends play in the LHNHL?"

Its difficult to explain, admits Mr. Enosse, "how something like a hockey tournament is unique, created specially for Native kids to play somewhere different, somewhere far away from home, where you will meet other Anishnaabek from all over the province."

Additionally, the hockey tournament has the power to unite people from different communities and different life experiences to a share love of the game hockey.

"My older Davin now understands what playing in the LNHL means as a team, representing our First Nation community, our pride and the opportunity to showcase his skills and have fun," Mr. Enosse adds.

The atmosphere in the arenas makes it that much more exciting and many folks like Josephine Pelletier from Wiikwemkoong, who is consider by some to be a superfan. For her, it's a family tradition. Hang with her, a true hockey fan and you will know the reason why hockey is the most exciting sport.

Ms. Pelletier remembers in the early days when money was scarce, "players would



Darryl Enosse from Wikwemikong, now living in M'Chigeeng, played in the 1980's and into the early 90s LNHL tournaments. Besides playing in the tournament and coaching he says has its benefits. "To have acknowledgement from an adult is great, but from a child, that acknowledgement is special and sacred." Enosse credits his former coach Robert Shawana father of Robbie Shawana, for all his encouragement over the years and remembers Robert as "one kind, unselfish man who had the time and patience for every child on his team. He made us all feel happy and confident in ourselves and the game."



was good, our kids were good, but rarely did they get ice time," says Mr. Mahdahbee.

As noted by the founding members, "that is why the LNHL was founded on the principle of equity of play" says Mr. Madahbee.

Darryl Enosse a former LNHL participant and now coach reminisced about playing in the regular leagues compared to playing in the LNHL. "When you're a kid that kinda of treatment, you feel it, its hard to describe but its double the impact when you're a kid. To be left out, other kids notice, but we're all just kids. That is why the job of coaching is so important to be fair, and that's what I liked about the LNHL, every kid gets to play," explained Mr. Enosse

All games require rules and according to rules posted on the Little NHL tournament website, players must have a valid Indian status card from an Ontario First Nation or have at least one biological parent with an Indian status card from an Ontario First Nation. Over the years, upholding the rules has not been easy. There has been controversy and challenges to the framework.

According to Mr. Madahbee, a long-time member of the LNHL executive, even he was not permitted to play in the very first LNHL tournament. "I was told I could not play because I was three months past the Midget age. I wanted to play so badly, but rules are rules. To appease some of us ineligible boys, George Francis came up with an idea. He offered us jobs to referee. Our pay, a hotdog and hot chocolate after every game. We refereed the entire tournament" he laughs. "Just to be a part of it."

Connections. There is no denying the impact the annual LNHL has had on the collective identity and sense of pride. "Whether you're on the ice or in the stands, watching the history of the LNHL flash across the big screen, you realize this tournament has become a vital part of what it means to play hockey for your community," says Mr. Enosse.

The annual tournament is paramount in bringing communities together and foster-



Trophies and banners are a positive mark of accomplishment for young players.

Indian, they will tell you, 'hockey is deeply rooted in Canadian soil' and evolved from sticks and balls to an ice sport.

The Little Native Hockey League (LNHL) is a completely different type of hockey. When it comes to eligibility, it has stood its ground for 50 years. Today, it still reflects the original intent of the tournament founders and "it is sanctioned by the Chiefs of Ontario, and it has remained at arm's length from any hockey body or association," explained longtime LNHL executive Pat Madahbee.

Otherwise, they play by all the rules. It's nonstop action, minus the whistles and period buzzers. When that final buzzer rings, the teams exit the ice, and another two teams enter the arena.

Throughout its history, the LNHL has been a platform for social change. "The segregation was there, we felt it as Native kids. It was subtle. Our kids joined the leagues but most of the time, they sat on the bench. We witnessed this firsthand. Our money

ing a sense of belonging. This sense of belonging and tribalism is not limited. It flows from the fans chanting from the bleachers, 'Go team Go!' to the players motivated by the cheers, down to the coaches as well.'

To watch a hockey player take the puck and stickhandle down the ice, avoiding the sticks and checks, you have to marvel at the skill it takes, using their feet, hands, legs and about a dozen other body parts at full speed. Its exhilarating for fans and players.

Mr. Enosse described the hype. "We're all fired up. Our insides are tingling. The moment the puck drops, the heartbeat changes, gone are the nerves and our skates take over. We know what to do and how we must do it," he says.

"Yes, we build a strong sense of camaraderie, bonding over our shared love of the game and a common goal of winning, but as a coach you have to move beyond that per-

sleep on gymnasium floors and community centers. I used to fit a whole line, five players in my green daaban (car), along with equipment and drive to the tournaments." Along with her sons, Steven and Earl, her grandsons played in the tournaments. Pronouncing the Anishnaabe names was always a tough one for the announcers.

She recalls when her grandson Sean Hill baa played for M'Chigeeng A division against Six Nations. "The announcer hesitated each time he had to call his name out for a play. We had a good laugh over that," she laughs.

Her intense loyalty to her hockey team and years of faithfully attending the tournament is a testament to the power of the sport to build strong bonds and create shared experiences.

# New police service boards legislation will be in place by April 1

by Tom Sasvari  
MANITOULIN—A date for the legislation to be proclaimed for the new police service boards in the province to replace the current community police advisory committees will come down in the next few weeks.

“This information was just shared with me that the new legislation will be in place on April 1,” said Al Boyd, chair of the Manitoulin Community Police Advisory Committee (CPAC). “But there has been talk of a transition period to allow the new boards to get into place.”

In a letter to Mr. Boyd

dated January 30, Phil Whitton, superintendent municipal policing bureau commander with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) reads, “April 1, 2024, has been proclaimed as the official date on which the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 (CSPA) will come into force. At that time, it will repeal and replace the current Police Services Act, 1990 (PSA).”

Superintendent Whitton also explained, “We wish to confirm that the OPP 2024 annual billing statements remain in effect after April 1, 2024, and municipalities will continue to be billed in accor-

dance with costs in the statements.”

Mr. Boyd said the province had approved the request for Manitoulin to have a separate police service board in 2023. He pointed out originally a proposal had been made to have every Island municipality represented on the new board, including Cockburn Island, First Nations representation through the Wikwemikong Tribal Police Services and UCCM Police Services, as well as Cockburn Island, two selected community members and two volunteer members. But that was deemed too many and

a new proposal was requested.

Members of the new police services board will have to undergo training. “It will be a totally different concept than is in place now,” said Mr. Boyd. “Now the representatives will have to go through training, fill out reports and put together strategic and safety planning. And for example, if a complaint is made against a police officer, it will come to the police board before it goes up the line of command for recommendations.”

Manitoulin OPP Inspector Detachment Commander Robert Walsh explained

in an email, “The primary focus thus far has been the switch from traditional police service boards to the detachment boards, however, the act extends beyond that. Once I have received clarification on some specifics, I will reach out to discuss.”

In August of 2023, The Expositor reported that the Manitoulin Municipal Association (MMA) had received confirmation of approval from the province to have its own police service board.

Sarah Caldwell, assistant deputy minister,

strategic policy division of the Ministry of the Solicitor General, indicated the following board composition has been approved for posting:

Assiginack, Billings, Burpee and Mills, Central Manitoulin, Cockburn Island, Gordon/Barrie Island, Town of Gore Bay, Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands and Tehkummah. The new board will be made up of six council seats, two community representative seats and two provincial appointments. The municipalities will, in some cases, share a representative.

## Greater Sudbury Police Services officer charged with assaulting a 12-year-old hockey player in Espanola

by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre,  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

ESPANOLA—A Greater Sudbury Police Service (GSPS) officer was arrested and charged with assaulting a 12-year-old at a hockey game in Espanola. The officer has been suspended with pay.

According to a news release from the Ontario Provincial Police, Melisa Rancourt, 50, who was serving as a coach during the game, allegedly threatened and assaulted a 12-year-old player from the opposing team. Fortunately, no injuries were reported.

Ms. Rancourt is facing charges of assault, uttering threats and causing a disturbance.

On September 26, 2021, Ms. Rancourt refused to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination at a hockey game in Espanola when recreational facilities were required to ask for vaccination status.

On October 27, 2022, Ms. Rancourt pleaded guilty to two charges of discreditable conduct and was demoted from first-class to fourth-class constable. She also had to do mandatory volunteer work at the Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Centre for Holocaust Studies.

Witnesses reported that police were summoned to intervene when Ms. Rancourt entered the arena, refusing to provide proof of vaccination and causing a disturbance.

During the subsequent disciplinary hearing, a witness testified that Ms. Rancourt shouted, “I hope you’re proud

of yourself for calling the Nazis,” in a loud and angry manner after being handcuffed. As a result, she was charged with resisting a peace officer and two counts of entering a premises when entry has been prohibited, contravening the Trespass to Property Act.

In a news release, GSPS Chief Paul Pedersen stated, “While these allegations have yet to be proven in a court of law, the actions of one individual do not represent our members or reflect the values of our organization.” He continued, “It is always disturbing to hear of an officer who breaks the law and brings disrepute to the policing profession. This is in no way a reflection of our members who serve this community with pride and professionalism. We are confident that the matter will be investigated thoroughly and have confidence in our judicial system and the systems of accountability through the Police Services Act.”

The GSPS clarified in a separate news release that under current legislation in Ontario, it is not possible to suspend a police officer without pay. According to Section 89(1) of the Police Services Act of Ontario, “If a police officer, other than a chief of police or deputy chief of police, is suspected of or charged with an offence under a law of Canada or of a province or territory or is suspected of misconduct as defined in Section 80, the chief of police may suspend him or her from duty with pay.”

## LAMBAC funding will cover almost 1,400 acres of farmland with tile drainage

by Tom Sasvari

SUDBURY—Lacloche-Manitoulin Business Assistance Corporation (LAMBAC) has received a significant funding boost that will benefit 24 producers in the area with tile drainage projects.

“We put in a request every couple of years for government funding for tile drainage project requests on a kind of ongoing basis,” Carolyn Campbell, general manager of LAMBAC told The Expositor. She said the funding of \$828,000 for LAMBAC to administer funding is benefitting a consortium of 24 producers involving over 1,380 acres of land.

“This is the largest amount of funding we have received for this type of project,” said Ms. Campbell.

The announcement was made by Northern Development Minister Greg Rickford, who was in attendance in Sudbury for the Northern Ontario Ag Conference last week. He announced \$3 million in funding for six agri-production projects in Northern Ontario, with the majority of the projects including those in Northeastern Ontario. He also announced Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) funding for the six projects including the one for LAMBAC.

“I have a deep appreciation for the work that our farmers do, but more importantly, for the potential and the opportunity for agriculture economic activity in our region, and indeed, across Northern Ontario, some 800,000 square kilometres large,” Minister Rickford said at the funding announcement press conference.

## Friends and Neighbours

### Kagawong Team Fergmeijer

Team Fergmeijer is always up for learning new things (which is why the fact that some people can't distinguish between etymology and entomology bugs us in ways we can't put into words), and we thought we would share one of our newfound bits of knowledge with you! Did you know that William Durant co-founded General Motors and Chevrolet. Most importantly, he also founded Frigidaire which made him the very first refrigerator magnate.

At time of writing, the community rink is open again due to the cold weather but follow the township Facebook page for the most up-to-date information.

The Park Centre in Kagawong was a-buzzin' for the Winter Market on Saturday, February 10. Thanks to all the vendors and visitors for making the day so successful!

Thanks also to everyone involved in the Kagawong Winterfest, especially the volunteers with the Parks, Recreation and Wellness committee who organized it all! It was nice to see everyone out and about, enjoying themselves.

Happy belated birthday wishes go out to Valentine's babies Neil L and Chase C and Valentine's-adjacent baby Heather S. Celebrating this week are Ruth F, Suedy H and Maddy M. Remember, age is just a number. A big, really annoying number that keeps getting bigger every year, but still.

This week's submission for short poems for a short month is an ode to one of our favourite majestic birds.

*In fields where the tall grasses sway,  
Sandhill cranes greet the break of day,  
With coos loud and clear,  
They migrate each year,  
In formations that dance and sway.*

Given the unseasonably warm winter, it is possible we might see the iconic Sandhill Cranes arriving early this year. Will you be the first to hear the majestic coo of the cranes? Email any sightings to fergmeijer@gmail.com to participate in our annual Sandhill Crane challenge!

Did you miss Beauty and the Beast last week at the high school? There are still two more chances for you to be our

guest! Performances run Friday, February 23 at 7 pm and Saturday, February 24 at 2 pm. Tickets are \$20; \$15 for youth under 12 and can be purchased at the door, online at bit.ly/MSSmusical or at participating pharmacies across Manitoulin.

Baha'i children's programming is throwing a party this Sunday! Children 8 to 10 years old, as well as their friends and family, are invited to join in on the fun from 1 to 3 pm at the Park Centre. There will be skits, games, music and crafts. Organizers also provide a healthy snack! Contact Ina Swain (705-282-3498) for more information.

We decided that if we ever built our own house, we would add a waterway around it with a bridge that we can raise and lower with the push of a button. We will insist on having a remote control! Have a great week!

### Meldrum Bay Elaine Bradley

Cards on Friday night was very successful for two people who won and shared the money jar with 83 points each as high lady and high man; they were Lois Wismer and Lisa Townsend. Congratulations to both of them. Ladies' lone hands went to Donna K with four; men's lone hands went to Bob Benedict with four; most euchres went to Brenda Carter with 11; the juice was taken home by Lois Wismer; the 50/50 draw was won by Donna K McDonald.

Condolences to the Clark and Van Every families on the death of Mary Lou Clark, the wife of Johnny Clark.

Jamie and Norma Nelder, my brother and sister-in-law, are proud grandparents of a new grandson, Orion Meyer Nsengiumva Ntwari, who was born the morning of February 15, 2024 at 9 pounds. His parents are Jessica and Fred Ntwari.

We celebrated Valentine's Day with Jamie and Norma and it was really nice.

This Sunday is the Fun Day here in Meldrum. Everyone is working on stew or chili and preparing desserts. It should be a really nice get-together. Rick and I are looking forward to it.

Rick is snowblowing the driveway. We sure got a lot of snow. But the bay has frozen over again and everything looks beautiful blanketed in white snow. Have a great week, everyone.

### Barrie Island Lillian Greenman

Best Wishes to George and Carolyn Calback on their birthdays, Carolyn on February 19 and George will be 90 on February 23.

### Silver Water Karen Noble

On Friday, February 9 we went to Meldrum Bay to play euchre.

Saturday, Albert Meijer and I went to M'Chigeeng to Manitoulin Secondary School. The robotics team was having an open house. There were a lot of students and their teachers and mentors working on various parts of the robot they are building. They start their competitions in March and go to Houston in April.

Saturday night, there was a dinner and dance at the Silver Water Community Hall.

Sunday, we had a partridge walking around in the backyard. Gladys Duncanson and I had a walk in the afternoon.

Monday morning, we had Mitch Strain in to fix a plumbing issue. In the afternoon, the recycle bins were open. After the recycling was done, I went for a walk with Gladys. It was our first walk this year while snow was falling. Monday evening, I took four others to Burpee for euchre. There were 34 people out to play. We had a fox cross the road in Elizabeth Bay.

Tuesday, there was an exercise class at the Silver Water Community Hall.

Paul and Dianne McCallum are at their cottage.

Tuesday, Albert and I went to the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper at the Anglican Church in Gore Bay. It was well attended and the food was wonderful.

Congratulations to Mya Clarke and Duncan Porter on the birth of their daughter, Iris, on February 12.

Hope everyone had a happy Family Day weekend.

## ...wins inaugural Indigenous Artist of the Year award

...continued from page 3

"It was definitely the best part of the night," stated Ms. Shawanda.

On her Facebook page early Tuesday morning Ms. Shawanda wrote, "Thank you so much to the @torontobluesociety for my first Maple Blues Award as the first recipient of the Indigenous award and for inviting my family and I to close out the show! I share this award with my family, because we are dreaming this dream together. We make the sacrifices together, the time that's spent on the road, and when I'm unsure of myself they take that all away with their love!"

"Thank you to the amazing musicians in the house band who jammed out with us, including Dwayne Strobel on guitar, Zhaawande on backgrounds and tambourine (or

tangerine as she calls it), and Al Baby Webster on drums!" continued Ms. Shawanda. "We saw so many wonderful friends, made some new ones but missed seeing a lot of folks as we had to stay backstage with our little underage attendee lol! Who, by the way, danced up a storm and absolutely stole the show, I was so proud of her!"

"This morning we're in the studio and then back home to Nashville," said Ms. Shawanda.

Ms. Shawanda said she is working on a new album in her studio in Nashville. "We are aiming for a June release of the new album. We're quite excited about it." She is also writing songs with Logan Staats, a resident of Six Nations. "He will be coming to Nashville, and we will be writing songs with him and working with several other talented musicians as well over the next few months."

## ...Wiikwemkoong man nominated for JUNO award

...continued from page 3

Indigenous Artist of the Year at the Juno Awards in 2022.

All of the profits from his work, performances and stipends from the powwow trail have been poured into the effort in the form of new equipment and infrastructure to continue recording the songs and stories that form the core of that work. Mr. Osawamick said that he has considered adapting some of that work to contemporary music, but that road currently lies in the future.

The album Nimkii and The Niniis are nominated for is called 'LFS5' as a nod to the challenges the group faced

while trying to get everything recorded in time, explained Mr. Osawamick. "It stands for Live From Shed Five," he laughed. In the struggle to get into the recording studio, the group were finally relegated to "Shed 5" for their sessions. The whirlwind experience resulted in an authentic rendition of the songs they had chosen for the EP.

Nimkii and The Niniis will be going up against some stiff competition, including Joel Wood (Sing. Pray Love.), The Bearhead Sisters (Mitôodebi—For My Relative), The Red River Ramblers (Reverie) and Young Scouts (Drum Nation).

## ...Edna Manitowabi named 2024 Indspire Award recipient

...continued from page 3

that speaks to your soul, you want to find out more," said Ms. Manitowabi. "Coming from my residential school background I sought out Elders and knowledge keepers for knowledge, and I used many of our own Anishinabek ways for healing and helping our people."

"Even though there has been some discouragement along the way, there are a number of people that I have met that truly influenced me, provided affirmation and encouragement to not stop," continued Ms. Manitowabi. "I really attribute all my learning along the way to these people I've met along the way. I'm in my 80s now, and it was people like Dr. Newberry of the University of Sudbury back then who encouraged me to become involved in the Native Studies Department program that had been started in the early 1970s at the school."

Ms. Manitowabi became a teacher in the Indigenous knowledge/language program, "and eventually I ended up teaching a Woman Studies course and Indigenous Knowledge course at Trent University. One of my teacher colleagues had gone on a sabbatical and I was filling in for her. I ended up staying for many years, retiring when I was 66. I had dabbled in theatre and when Drew Hayden Taylor with Debajehmujig Theatre did a story about the '60s Scoop of our people being taken away from their homes, I got involved in acting. I loved the acting and helping students find their own voice. And it was important to use our language in theatre, passing it on and teaching it to others."

"I'm a storyteller," said Ms. Manitowabi. "I retired from teaching (at Trent University) when I was 66. "In the meantime, my summers were taken up harvesting and learning about plants. I started doing this about 20 years ago. I have a colleague, Kathy Bird, who started a medicine camp in Manitoba for people to learn about our ways and learning about plants. I worked with her for a number of years until I developed problems moving around in the bush and gathering plants. So, I came back to the Island about nine years ago. I had been away for a long time, but felt it was time to find my way back home. This can be trying at times. Basically, I started working with plants again; it was always my dream to bring my families traditional medicines back in terms of plants and making medicines."

"My great aunt was a big influence on me," Ms. Manitowabi continued. "I had it in my mind that I wanted to learn about plants being used for medicines, and that was my coming home project. I finished doing that in the fall in getting ready for ceremonies in the spring. We host ceremonies and teaching in a lodge at the powwow grounds four times a year to recover and reclaim our ways as Anishinaabe people."

"I am 83 now and have to keep moving and being active," stated Ms. Manitowabi. "I enjoy life and enjoy the work I do; it gives me energy."

The Indspire Awards will be presented April 18 in Ottawa.

## ...Split Rail Brewing gets second place for Brewery of the Year

...continued from page 3

Richard (Richie) Piotrowski, publisher of Brewers Journal Canada had written in a letter to Ms. Smith, "I hope this message finds you well and thriving in the world of brewing excellence. It is with immense pleasure that I extend our warmest congratulations to you for making the shortlist in the 'Brewery of the Year' category for the prestigious Canadian Brewers Choice Awards."

"Your brewery's unwavering dedication, imaginative creativity, community involvement and steadfast commitment to creating exceptional brews have truly set you apart, and we are thrilled to have you as a contender for this esteemed recognition," wrote Mr. Piotrowski. "The competition was fierce, and your presence on the short list is a testament to the outstanding quality of your work."

The Journal reported, "The annual Canadian Brewers Choice awards (CBCAs) brought down the house with a spectacular conclusion at the dazzling awards presentation dinner event held on January 31. Pouring in from ever corner of the Great White



Split Rail Brewing received second place honours in the Brewery of the Year category in the 2023 Canadian Brewers Choice Awards. In photo from left is Split Rail book-keeper Debbie Moore and company co-owner Andrea Smith at the awards presentation.

North, over 140 brewing professionals raised their glasses in a cheer-worthy salute to their colleagues in the brewing industry. It was truly a coast-to-coast celebration and we can't forget our friends south of the

border." "Designed as the pinnacle platform to showcase the 'best of the best' in Canadian brewing, the CBCAs once again illuminated the outstanding accomplishments of indus-

try trailblazers," the Journal reported. "The awards ceremony served as a beacon, spotlighting the exceptional talents and contribution of those who have set new standards in brewing excellence."

A total of 10 awards were presented, with the nomination process requiring beer industry peers to submit nominations, justifying what particular brewery or individual deserves as a special award. There were more than 450 entries. "Every individual and brewery who was shortlisted and emerged victorious should take immense pride in their achievement," wrote the Journal. "Split Rail is a community driven success because of the support from the community," added Ms. Smith.

LITTLE CURRENT

# CATCH the ACE

**WEEKLY WINNER!**  
Congratulations to Jaimie Hughson!  
The "draw" prize winner of \$416.00  
Thank you to Hillside Variety in Wiikwemkoong for sponsoring the 25<sup>th</sup> Progressive Raffle Lottery!

**DRAW DATE THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2024 AT 8:00 PM**  
**PROGRESSIVE PRIZE STARTING AT \$5,197.00!**  
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TO PURCHASE TICKETS VISIT LITTLE CURRENT  
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## Manitoulin Pet Rescue

**Kanga, Roo and Chester**

**Kanga and Roo are ginger tabby male twins.**  
These 12-week-olds can be adopted together or separately.

**Tuxedo tabby Chester is 1-year-old. He loves other cats and dogs.**

**To adopt one (or all!), please text or call Kathy at 705-282-4169. Adoption fees cover spay or neuter, deworming and vaccines.**

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## Bahá'í Writings

*Happy is the faithful one who is attired with the vesture of high endeavour and hath arisen to serve this Cause.*

—Bahá'u'lláh

To find out about local activities or call or text 705-210-0529  
www.bahai.ca www.bahai.org

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**BAR HOURS:**  
SUNDAY - TUESDAY: CLOSED  
WEDNESDAY: 4 PM - 9 PM  
THURSDAY: 4 PM - WHEN TRIVIA ENDS  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 4 PM - 1 AM

# ...Manitoulin Secondary School's 'Beauty and the Beast' a professional production

...continued from page 3

Cameron Meawasige as Belle brought both innocence and charm to the role of the lead character, but it was her vocals during each of her songs that truly captivated her listeners. The same can be said for Zack Hill as The Beast/princeling whose counterpart to Belle was nigh on perfect.

You just have to love a great villain and Taylor Goodfellow's portrayal of Belle's unwelcome suitor Gaston brought both comedic flair during interactions with sidekick Lefou and a portrayal of narcissistic indulgence perfect to the role.

Belle's hapless inventor father Maurice, played by Alex Leblanc, brought the bumbling genius to hilarious life.

Speaking of coming to life, the lovable castle accoutrements, Lumiere (Connor O'Leary), Cogsworth (Garrette Charbonneau), Mrs. Potts (Grace Tuerk), Madame de la Grande Bouche (Idella Tasse), Babette (Pheobe Aeschlimann), Chip (Zayne Raynes) and Monsieur D'Arque (Hannah McDonald) hit their marks perfectly as the servants who were terrified they would never return to being human again.

The chorus, consisting of Evalena Mainprize, Tyrel Sagle, Destiny Peltier, Alston Lentir, Divine Commanda, Carson Stew-



Zack Hill (the Beast) listens intently to Belle's (Cameron Meawasige) reading of King Arthur.

art, Abby Bush and Sara-marie Wassegijig, filled a host of roles throughout the production and it was clear from their confidence, as they went through their various dance routines, that many hours of effort had gone into a flawless performance.

The band behind the music included Mat Fowler on bass, Alex Baran on piano, Michael McCormick on keyboard-synth, Arik Theijsmeijer on keyboard, Bill Elgie on percussion and Chris Theijsmeijer on keyboard/conductor. Although there were no students in the pit this performance, there are a number waiting in the Grade 9 wings who will

doubtless be in future productions. The volunteer musicians' underpinning of the musical numbers was of top calibre.

The production crew included: Heather Theijsmeijer as technical director and MSS musical theatre alumni Courtney Oswald and Katelyn Lentir as assistant technical directors; Courtney Oswald also took on the stage manager role with Katelyn as assistant; lighting design was by alumni Logan Murphy; head of lights was Tanner Hooper-Leblanc; followspot operator was Hailey Ferguson; head of sound was Samuel Pennings, and head of props was Courtney Oswald.

The stage crew consisted of Daphne Carr, Emma Ense, Jordan Goddard, George Michael Lentir, Lily Mack, Amara Wilson-Zegil and alumni Karlee Lentir.

Assistant producers were Jill Ferguson and Connie Freeman. Seamstress was Carol Gilmore, hair and makeup by Val O'Leary and the visual effects team was Caroline Black and Madison Latva-Aro. Set design was by Mike Zegil, scenic design by Madonna Andress, construction by Paul Becks, construction team leads were Corbin Best and Liam Lariviere, while the set construction team included Rylan Carrick, Jack Carter, Jackson Chevrette,



Taylor Goodfellow (the antagonist Gaston) explains to Belle (Cameron Meawasige) how desirable he is.

Xavier Coleman, Ava Corbiere, Addy Gray, Hailee Harasym, Hailey Hawke, Isabella Hughson, Rylan Lock, Ellie Maxwell, Rylan McGauley, Dustin Meade, Kyle Nodecker, Tieren Noble-Stone, Connor O'Leary, Greyson Orford, Georgia Roy, Josh Selent, Jaymes Simon, Amy Smith and Ethan Witty.

Set painter leads were Madonna Andress and Ruth Hill, while the set painting crew consisted of Pheobe Aeschlimann, Emma Ense and Zack Hill.

They also serve who stand ready to step into a role should the cast member be unable to perform.

The understudies included Tyrel Sagle for The Beast, Zack Hill for Gaston, Phoebe Aeschlimann for Lumiere, Dylan Kuntsi for Cogsworth, Zayne Raynes for Maurice, Divine Commanda for Madame de la Grande Bouche, Cameron Meawasige for Babette Pheobe, Connor O'Leary for Lefou and Carson Stewart for Monsieur D'Arque.

There are two performances of 'Beauty and the Beast' remaining, a 7 pm show on Friday, February 23 and a 2 pm matinee on Saturday, February 24. Both shows deserve to be sold out.

NOOJMOWIN TEG HEALTH CENTRE

## ADDICTIONS SUPPORT SERVICES

**Addictions Support Workers** provide services in a safe community setting to all individuals in the District of Manitoulin 16 years of age and over.

How we can help:

- **Case Management** - Ongoing monitoring and support along with planning and advocating for services
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 Mobile: (705) 348-0344

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## ASSIGINACK'S WINTER WONDERS

### MARCH 2, 2024

**COME AND ENJOY A WINTER CARNIVAL IN MANITOWANING AT THE FAIRGROUNDS.**

**ALL EVENTS ARE FREE.**

**11 AM TO 1 PM - WINTER WANDER. GRAB YOUR FRIENDS/FAMILY AND HOP IN A CAR AND GO ON AN ADVENTURE TO FIVE UNIQUE LOCATIONS IN ASSIGINACK. COLLECT POINTS AND SEE IF YOU WON A CASH PRIZE! EVENT STARTS AT THE ARENA.**

**1-2 PM - COSTUME SKATE WITH PRIZES!**

**1-2 PM - CUPCAKE DECORATING, CRAFTS AND COLOURING AT THE ARENA.**

**2-3 PM - SPONGE PUCK.**

**3-4 PM - SLIDING CONTEST WITH PRIZES. WEATHER PERMITTING.**

**2-4 PM - SNOWSHOEING AROUND THE TRACK. WEATHER PERMITTING.**

**MUNICIPALITY OF ASSIGINACK**  
**MANITOWANING**



# ...Some concerns by neighbours as proposed new nursing home zoning reviewed

...continued from page 1  
zone to permit a nursing home/long term care facility.

Bev and Bert Woestenenk brought forward their concerns with drainage if the development takes place. Ms. Woestenenk explained, "we wish to make the following comments with respect to the proposed zoning amendment for construction of the proposed new nursing home facility. Our self-storage unit buildings are located under the escarpment, not bordering, but touching the new building site above us. On our property, coming over the bluff is a large ravine that has been honed out by the spring rain off water and in heavy rain periods. The water collects between our lot line and the property neighbouring us that the Gore Bay water plant sits on. The runoff water, at times, does not empty into the lake fast enough and flooding exists."

"On construction above us, the concerns exist that the current ravine will not hold any more water and will flood us and our neighbouring property out," said Ms. Woestenenk. "We would appreciate a written response to our concerns with respect to further water run off that the proposed construction will cause and how the developer plans to divert water flowing down the ravine."

Another resident, Meghan Woods, of Fraser Street stated in a letter read to the meeting, "I am strongly opposed to the amendments to extending Fraser Street in Gore Bay. I have two children, who I am raising on this street and their safety is at stake if you extend Fraser Street for the nursing home's use."

"I am in no way opposed to the nursing home going



A new 64 bed long-term care nursing home in Gore Bay was unveiled in November of last year in partnership with the Town of Gore Bay and St. Joseph's Health Centre.

in at the end of our street," said Ms. Woods. "In fact, I think it's a lovely idea for the seniors to have a beautiful view of the bay in their final time. I am, however, concerned for my children, and the neighbouring children as they are the future of this town, and this extension will be hazardous to their safety and all the other town children that may attend our residences in the years to come."

Ms. Woods indicated increased traffic on the street will be a danger to her children as the drivers are "strangers driving up here and won't know, nor understand, that we have young children out playing between the yards at any given time; the quiet cul-de-sac will now be a noisy through street being disrupted at all hours of the day/night; heavy trucks breaking up the tar and chip street, ambulances, visitors, delivery truck snow plows, and nursing home staff going through constantly." She also indicated the street is not wide enough now. "As pedestri-

ans, we have to stop and line up single file for any passing vehicle, especially in the winter months. If street traffic is busy, the children cannot run and play at large any longer."

Another resident on Fraser Street also voiced the same concerns, noting they didn't want more traffic on the street.

"Will there be sidewalks installed so there is enough room for vehicles to travel on and people to walk on the sidewalks?" asked Kyle Noble.

Cory Croft told the meeting having property on a dead-end street increases the value of the property by about 20 percent. He also raised concerns with the current water pressure on the property and with more users on the line this would decrease even further.

"There has obviously been a lot of concerns raised about Fraser Street," said Mayor Lane.

Mr. Jarus said with Tulloch doing all the engineering work and planning he said all the concerns will be looked at and be part of the

site plan agreement.

Town clerk Stasia Carr read a letter from Gordon/Barrie Island township that explained as Armstrong Road is half owned by their municipality, its council is calling for Armstrong Road to be managed during construction to address safety concerns and damage and shall be brought back to the preconstruction condition or better.

Currently, there are no municipal water services to the lot and the Town of Gore Bay has advised that an option for service to the new nursing home site could mean extending the existing services located at the north end of Fraser Street across the property to the building site, which would require some upgrades to the current services and to bring the services up from Water Street to the east over the escarpment to the building site.

It was pointed out in the provincial policy statement (PPS) it is considered that the institutional use of the nursing home would conform to the PPS.

"The town and developer prior to any construction taking place could get this rezoned to institutional and if a holding zone was put in place this would not take place until a site plan agreement is in place," said Mayor Lane.

"All these issues would be considered in the site plan agreement," said Mr. Jarus. He said as far as access to the property, "we will have to find the appropriate location for the building itself

and drainage and sidewalks for instance would be part of the plan. As for water pressure he said it would be premature to say if there would be any effects on water pressure. "All of these issues will be looked at by professional engineers working with the developer (Tulloch) and the town."

Ms. Woestenenk questioned when the site plan agreement is completed if local residents will be able to see these plans before the next step is taken. "Will there be another meeting as this is being settled and the plans are being considered to go ahead?"

Mayor Lane said when the site plan agreement comes back to council it will be a public meeting and the document will be available for local residents to express any concerns they have at that time.

Theresa Carlisle, secretary-treasurer of the Manitoulin Planning Board (MPB) said there will be reports provided and when these reports are done and submitted to the town, the public can review those reports and if their concerns are not addressed they can again address concerns to the town or MPB.

As for the concerns with water pressure raised by Mr. Croft, Mayor Lane said, "you will get different pressure in different parts of the town. We know the water pressure on top of the hill is not good. The only way this can be increased is by putting a pumping station up there, which is something that council has been looking into for consideration, especially if other lots are developed in

the area in the future."

"I personally see no reason why we would have to open up Fraser Street (for access), in my opinion," said Mayor Lane. He said no decisions have been made and the planners will come back with recommendations.

Council passed a motion to accept the official plan amendment to redesignate the development property from future development area to residential area to permit for a nursing home and long-term care facility.

Council then decided to establish a holding zone on the proposed zoning bylaw amendment to allow time for a site plan agreement to be completed and registered on title. Once the agreement is registered on title and/or has been signed and/or the conditions of that agreement are fulfilled, satisfactory to the town, an application could then be made by the landowner to request the removal of the holding system and then the development could proceed.

"We're really excited about a new nursing home being constructed, and we hope that we can make this happen," said Mayor Lane. "We are fortunate that we have good partners in the project with Jarlette Health Services and St. Joseph's Health Centre and we are all working closely together."

Ms. Woestenenk told the meeting, "I really appreciate the time and effort council has put into this, this is a large project, and it is a need here on the west end of the Island. Kudos to all of you."

Expositor file photo



Shiny new plow

Members of the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands council, from left, Councillor Michael Erskine, Mayor Al MacNevin, Councillors Patti Aelick and Bruce Woods stand with public works manager Wayne Williamson as they welcome a brand new 2023 Western Star DD24 Detroit diesel to the fleet. The new truck came with a \$426,000 price tag (covered by the working capital reserve in the 2023 budget) and took over a year for delivery.

**60 Years of Love**  
On February 22, 1964,  
Lillian "Carol" Nixon wed David Chester Hill.

We're so grateful for having you two  
show us how it's done.

We love you more than forever,  
Todd, Diana, Colleen,  
Stefanie, Patrick,  
Ben, Tara, Jacqueline,  
Jimmy, Tess  
and great grandson Fox

**Manitoulin Fine Arts Association**

**28th Annual MANITOULIN ART TOUR 2024**  
July 19, 20 & 21  
Call for ARTISTS/HOST SITES!

Registration Forms and Contact Info available online at [www.manitoulinart.com](http://www.manitoulinart.com)  
or contact Judy Boyd - Volunteer Art Tour Chair 2024  
[judyboyd@vianet.ca](mailto:judyboyd@vianet.ca) · 705-368-2779

Visual artists, craft artists, host sites (galleries, art centres) of Manitoulin Island are invited to register and participate in a weekend where visitors are invited to follow a guide map to art studios, workspaces, shops and other related stops of interest on Manitoulin.

Artists and Hosts will be added to our online map and website as they register.

**Register Early! DEADLINE April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to be on the map**  
[www.manitoulinart.com](http://www.manitoulinart.com)  
[www.facebook.com/ManitoulinArtTour](https://www.facebook.com/ManitoulinArtTour)

**THE TAX GUY**

**Personal Income Tax Preparation**  
705-348-1982

**MINDEMOYA - 6155 Hwy 542 (until May 15th)**  
Mon & Wed 9-6 Thurs/Fri 9-8 Saturday by appointment  
also:

**LITTLE CURRENT - Tuesdays (March & April)**  
(10am - 1pm) Little Current Recreation Centre Hwy 6  
[abaran@thetaxguy.tax](mailto:abaran@thetaxguy.tax) [www.thetaxguy.tax](http://www.thetaxguy.tax)

# ...Rising cost of living taking toll on Canadians' mental health

...continued from page 3

According to research found in the National Library of Medicine: "the relationship between poverty, social stress and mental

health problems is not a new phenomenon and was reported by social psychiatrists half a century ago in Langner and Michael's 1963 New York study and consistently since then. Poverty is

both a cause of mental health problems and a consequence. Poverty in childhood and among adults can cause poor mental health through social stresses, stigma and trauma. Equal-

ly, mental health problems can lead to impoverishment through loss of employment or, underemployment, or fragmentation of social relationships. This vicious cycle is in reality even more complex, as many people with mental health problems move in and out of poverty, living precarious lives."

A public health approach to social movements is necessary, advocates say. From early medical doctors examining the links between cholera and poisoned water, the HIV crisis in the '80s to our more recent global pandemic emergency, the data is clear, the social determinants of health in descending order are: economic stability, food security, neighbourhood (crime, violence, environment), access to education and access to care, according to a paper released by the Harvard Medical Journal in 2022.

The new policy brief has been reviewed by seven experts in academia, research and policy analysis. It highlights that while policy reforms are being scaled back, mental health crises are worsening. The COVID-19 pandemic laid bare gaps and systemic inadequacies across the social security system in Canada and while the federal government addressed the economic pressures with stop gap measures such as CERB and other relief benefits, according to the CRA bill tabled in the House of Commons, over 260,000 Canadians are still on the hook to repay \$1.2B in relief funds while more than 885,000 small businesses and not-for-profit who took out Canadian Emergency Business Account loans, totaling more than \$48 billion are approaching the deadline for repayment. Almost \$700 billion has been gifted to corporations, which means that the working class received only 15 percent of the pandemic funds, widening the gap between the rich and the poor. An estimated 3.4 million jobs were lost across Canada between January and May 2020.

"Long-term, comprehensive, and sustained

changes are needed that target poverty, the high cost of living, and the associated impacts on mental health," according to the report. While some measures have been taken to alleviate the financial burden on low-income households, such as eliminating interest on federal student loans, expanding early learning and child-care funding, and providing financial support for renters, dental benefits, and GST/HST rebates, these programs do comprehensively confront the social and health (including mental health) impacts of the high cost of living.

According to data from Statistics Canada, there was a significant increase in the proportion of individuals reporting low incomes and disabilities in 2021, including those without disabilities. Over the past two decades, the percentage of workers earning minimum wage has nearly doubled, rising from 5.2 percent in 1998 to 10.4 percent in 2018. Additionally, precarious employment, which encompasses 22 percent of the labor market, has also seen a notable increase. Many workers in precarious and minimum wage positions lack access to essential benefits beyond what public systems provide, such as mental health support, pensions, and sick pay.

The escalating cost of living is exacerbating the issue of homelessness, particularly impacting the physical and mental well-being of individuals already vulnerable to mental health and substance abuse challenges. Estimating the exact number of unhoused individuals is challenging. Still, according to the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH), in 2023, 79 percent of 14 communities sur-

veyed witnessed increases in chronic homelessness since 2020, with an average overall rise of 34 percent. This rise in homelessness surpasses the capacity of available shelters. Additionally, clearing encampments, especially in the absence of permanent housing alternatives, poses significant harm to the unhoused population.

The policy recommends potential actions such as "re-evaluating income supports to bring them up to date with inflation, increasing the minimum wage to reflect the living wage, and exploring universal basic income and portable benefits," strengthening the full range of income and benefit supports for people living in Canada and monitoring the impacts on mental health, provide a new National Housing Strategy funding linked to permanent housing for people with mental health concerns, investing in an adequate supply of more affordable, high quality and nutritious foods for Canadians with low incomes, collaborating with people with mental health related disabilities to implement a plan for the Canada Disability Benefit in 2024-2025, reducing barriers to access services related to mental health and substance use, co-create distinct policy responses to address the mental health impacts of the high cost of living with groups most affected by inequities, expand the collection, availability, and use of demographic-based data to monitor the equity impacts of relevant policy reforms and ensuring that funding and resources are equitably distributed across Canada through funding models that are flexible, predictable and inclusive.

## Tender for Gore Bay downtown revitalization project awarded

by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY—Tenders for the design service and tender assistance for the Gore Bay downtown revitalization project have been approved by council.

"We had a total of four tenders, and the recommendation had been made

by the public works and properties committee to council to award the tender to Exp," said Gore Bay Mayor Ron Lane at a council meeting last week.

At a recent public works committee meeting, the committee recommended awarding the design service and tender assistance for the downtown revitalization project to Exp for a total of \$72,960. Further, the project management phase is to be negotiated with Exp subject to the project moving forward with construction. The project would include redoing the sidewalks, curbs, pavement and other infrastructure in the area from the Gore Bay Medical Centre to Al's Corner Garage (Meredith Street).

Council was told the town has made an application for funding to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) for second phase funding, and if the application is successful council will be able to discuss going forward with the project.

## Human Trafficking Awareness Day February 22 at 8:00 PM

Human Trafficking Awareness Day, a virtual presentation hosted by Manitoulin Northshore Victim Services will be available through Zoom. This presentation will be focused on sex trafficking, with an overview of what is it, how to identify it, where to get assistance and what the public can do to help. A recording will be available following the event at request.

Please contact [victimservices@vianet.ca](mailto:victimservices@vianet.ca) or by phone 705-370-3378 for more information.





## NOTICE BOARD

14 Water Street East (Post Office Building)  
Town of NEMI P.O. Box 608 Little Current, ON POP 1K0

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**Public Notice**

We have noticed a large number of tax bills being returned to our office for INCORRECT ADDRESSES.

If you have received a notice from Canada Post regarding updating your address to meet their requirements please ensure you reach out to us to have it corrected.

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Please be advised the Council for the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands will be reviewing the Water and Wastewater Budget at the Council meeting of March 5th at 7:00 in the Council Chambers located at 14 Water Street.

At this meeting Council will accept verbal and written input prior to making their decision.

The proposed rates for the users of the Little Current and Sheguiandah water systems are as follows:

<b>Little Current: Water quarterly</b>	<b>\$138.13</b>
<b>Sewer quarterly</b>	<b>\$138.13</b>
<b>Sheguiandah: Water quarterly</b>	<b>\$408.91</b>

**Written submission can be sent to:**  
Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands  
Box 608  
Little Current, ON  
POP 1K0  
or  
Dropped off at 14 Water Street.

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**Summer Students Needed**

If you are an energetic student and 16 or older, submit your resume and we will teach you some new skills. We have positions available in the following areas:

**Marina  
Museum  
Tourist Information Centre**

Apply early.

---

Join us at the Recreation Centre for some of our upcoming sessions...

Contact: [lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca](mailto:lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca) for more information

**Let's get moving at the NEMI Rec Centre!**

**NEMI Rec Centre Weekly Activities**  
Sundays 9:00-10:00am (beginner skating)  
10:00-11:00am (public skating)  
Tuesdays "NEW" 1:00-2:30pm (adult skating)  
3:30-5:00pm (public skating)

**Sit Fit will resume on February 20th at 1:00 pm and February 22nd at 11:30am**

**Evening Pickleball for experienced players is moved to Thursdays 6:00-8:00pm**

**Indoor Yard Sale**  
Come out to the NEMI Rec Centre on February 24!  
Over 20 tables of treasures to look through.  
Doors open at 10am until 2pm.  
Upstairs in the Main Hall.  
Free admission.

**Workshops at the NEMI Rec Centre**  
February 28th at 6:30pm Wonton Soup and Egg Roll with Pam Roy. Cost \$15  
March 6th at 6:30pm Scone Dogs and Taco with Pam Roy. Cost \$15  
March 5th at 1pm Felt Flower Wreath. Cost \$10  
March 12th at 1pm Decoupage Planter. Cost \$10

To register, email: [lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca](mailto:lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca)

**March Break Activities will include:**  
Laser tag, skating, cake decorating, pizza making and a craft.  
Watch next week's paper for details!

**Please remember PRE-REGISTRATION is a must.**

# MANITOULIN PROJECT SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT VOTE

Open to members of Aundeck Omni Kaning,  
M'Chigeeng, Sheguiandah, Sheshegwaning &  
Zhiibaahaasing First Nations

## VOTE ONLINE

February 18th to March 2nd, 2024 at  
<https://members.onefeather.ca>

OR

## VOTE IN PERSON

March 2nd, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

# YOUR VOTE MATTERS!

First  
Peoples  
Law LLP

to learn more visit  
[www.manitoulinproject.ca](http://www.manitoulinproject.ca)



# ...membership to vote 'yea or nay' on Manitoulin Project by March 2

...continued from page 1  
Wiikwemkoong and other First Nations have competing claims over the same territory.

Under the terms agreed, settlement funds would be transferred to a trust or account designated by the First Nations involved. From there, funds will be distributed according to direction of the UCCMM chiefs.

Under the agreement, a ratification vote must take place that will require at least 25 percent-plus-one of the members of each First Nation to vote, with

the majority of those voting choosing to accept the settlement terms.

The Manitoulin Project is an alternative to litigation, which can literally take generations to resolve and cost prohibitive amounts of money. Through this more collaborative approach to the negotiations, the project has followed a more traditional Anishinaabe path to resolution.

The Manitoulin Project claim alleged that the Crown sold lots of land at below market value (thus reducing the trust deposits for First Nations), an alle-



Billboards on M'Chigeeng First Nation urge members of the five First Nations that are part of the Manitoulin Project to cast their vote by March 2.

gation easily supported by the Crown's own advertisements aimed at attracting settlers to the region. Further, the claim alleges that First Nations Trust money went into building roads for the benefit of other parties and that the First Nations Trust Funds obtained through land sales were diverted to purposes unrelated to the First Nations (the aforementioned ILMF).

The negotiations began in 2016 and continued on into 2023, with the federal government footing the bill for the process, a process that included

numerous independent expert reports to determine the historical financial loss to the First Nations.

Under the agreement, Canada has also agreed to provide equitable compensation in line with trending case law for the historical mismanagement and to offer up an apology, as well as funding the ratification process.

Parties to the Manitoulin Project include Aundeck Omni Kaning, Sheguiandah, Shesheganing and Zhiibaahaasing.

# Owen Sound Transportation Company announces plans for Chi-Cheemaun's 50th

by Tom Sasvari

OWEN SOUND—Passengers of the M.S. Chi-Cheemaun will have the opportunity to sail through time with a chance to view history of the iconic ship while aboard in 2024.

"2024 signifies the 50th anniversary of the Chi-Cheemaun, one of the most recognizable ferries in Canada," said Nahleena Tye, planning and communications specialist with the Owen Sound Trans-

portation Company (OSTC), last week. "Passengers will be able to join us on board this sailing season for a historic exhibit featuring artifacts, posters, photographs and much more of the Chi-Cheemaun and its predecessors." The exhibit is free to all passengers during their set sailing time.

Ms. Tye explained the exhibit will include authentic artifacts and reproductions generously on loan from the Community Waterfront Heritage Centre in Owen Sound, Collingwood Museum and Grey Roots Museum and Archives.

"To commemorate the 50th anniversary celebration milestone of the Chi-Cheemaun exciting activities have been planned onboard the Chi-Cheemaun this sailing season, includ-



ing guest speakers and live entertainment. Times and schedules for events will vary," said Ms. Tye.

"Our annual spring repositioning cruise will take place on Thursday, May 2," said Ms. Tye. "Departing from the Owen Sound Harbour, this annual tradition signifies the start of the sailing season for the Chi-Cheemaun and sells out fast." She pointed out this popular four-and-a half hour voyage is a passenger only venue. Bus transportation will be arranged at Tobermory to bring everyone back to Owen Sound.

Watch for a ticket sales announcement.

The annual Light Up the Night with the Chi-Cheemaun Festival Cruise events is hosted in partnership with Tobermory's Chi-Cheemaun Festival, which takes place on the weekend of June 14-16. "You can catch the festival fireworks for the best seats in the house, aboard the Chi-Cheemaun on Saturday, June 15." Those interested should watch for an announcement when tickets go on sale.

"After a brief pause, The Scenic City Order of Good

Cheer is back and hosting their renowned 24th sunset cruise aboard the Chi-Cheemaun on Saturday, April 27. "With live entertainment, dinner, a silent-auction and much more, this exciting four-hour scenic cruise to the outer islands of Owen Sound Bay sells out," said Ms. Tye. "All proceeds go to community projects."

"Whether you're a visitor or a resident of Tobermory or South Baymouth the Chi-Cheemaun is open for walk-on passengers to cruise on any one of our daily trips to and from the Island," said Ms. Tye. She said the trip will allow passengers to leave their stress and vehicle behind, enjoy a meal, sit in the ship's fully licenced lounge and drop by the gift shop for commemorative merchandise.

# ...Jordan's Principle supports Sheg FN

...continued from page 1

Little NHL this year," a notice on the Sheguiandah Facebook page read last week.

Crystal Madahbee, Ontario Works administrator for SFN told The Expositor, "SFN received approval on an application for Jordan's Principle funding in the amount of \$184,808, which will cover 20 participants and their families." She noted another employee in SFN administration had completed and forwarded the application for consideration.

"These funds will assist the kids that are playing at the LNHL tournament and their guardian to help with the rising costs of equipment, travel and accommodations," said Ms. Madahbee.

SFN residents who would like to request an application for funding can do so by contacting Ms. Madahbee at OntarioWorks@sheguiandahfn.ca



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**GET YOUR HOME WINTER READY**



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**WOOD PELLETS STILL AVAILABLE.**

CUBEX HARDWOOD PELLETS AND SOME SOFTWOOD PELLETS ALSO AVAILABLE.

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**Manitowaning Mill**



**Home building centre**

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Phone: 705-859-3105 Fax: 705-859-2006  
Email: sales.manmil@eastlink.ca

Monday to Friday 8 am to 5 pm • Saturday 8:30 am to 2 pm • Closed Sunday

# ...Hope Air helps people, including Islanders, but operates on donations

...continued from page 1  
Air said the service has benefitted several families from around Manitoulin who it provides medical air service for.

Hope Air's free medical travel programs assist patients living in numerous small, remote or rural communities across Ontario, providing airline, hotel, meals and ground transportation programs. Hope Air (which is based in Toronto) supports patients who cannot afford the significant expenses associated with travelling for diagnostic testing, treatment and follow-up care for a variety of health conditions including cancer, cardiovascular, diabetes, respiratory, orthopedic, mental health, autism and pediatric among many others. Hope Air programs support the policies of government that are committed to reducing poverty and improving access to health care.

Ms. Merrylees, a single mother raising three children, found herself needing the support of her family and friends on their drive because her daughter Hope needed special care as they travelled. With their nearest hospital 45 minutes away, and without specialty care, they have had to travel for the last 18 years to receive medical care for her daughter Hope Merrylees-Cooper.

"There would be no possible way I could have possi-



Edeana Merrylees, right, and daughter Hope aboard Hope Air.

bly been able to travel back and forth repeatedly, sometimes multiple times in a month without Hope Air's assistance," stated Edeana Merrylees. "I was depending on my family to help with my other children, having to take time off work for the travel. Hope Air became a huge part of our lives. I have no clue what I would do without them."

Hope was born in 2005 with an uncontrolled seizure disorder and was immediately taken by air ambulance to the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) in Ottawa. Ms. Merrylees would drive almost 700 kilometres from Gore Bay to Ottawa to receive treatment for Hope's condition. Normally the drive could have only taken eight hours, however,

Hope was on an apnea monitor to check her breathing, which made the trip longer. "With a small child, it took 11 to 12 hours because the monitor rang frequently and required us to pull over to check on her. It was really challenging," said Ms. Merrylees.

It wasn't until 2010 when a nurse at CHEO told Ms. Merrylees about Hope Air. Since then, the flights arranged by Hope Air have made a world of difference to Hope and her mother. "Instead of having to put her in a car and drive for 12 hours, we have a one hour flight," Ms. Merrylees says. "This takes the stress out of going."

"It has made a huge difference in Hope's life and in our family's life because we are both able to be home more," said Ms. Merrylees.

"The flights also mean that Hope can make all the appointments that she needs to, which lets the neurologists at CHEO monitor her more closely. "It makes it so much easier to get her proper care."

Since that pivotal flight in 2010, Hope Air has been woven into the fabric of their family. Today, Hope has flown 34 missions with Hope Air and continues to use their services. Her extremely slow digestive system and neurological issues have caused absorption issues which causes her to have a lot less energy and require a lot more sleep and rest than a normal 18-year-old. But anyone who knows Hope knows that doesn't stop her "larger-than-life attitude" from putting a smile on everyone's faces.

"Where you live should not determine if you live," said Mark Rubinstein, chief hope officer with Hope Air, in a release "With soaring demand from families and children in need who turn to Hope Air, we must continue to answer their call. As demand grows exponentially, exceeding our available resources, we must come together, government, health care sector, private sector, donors and volunteers to support the unique role that Hope Air plays in Ontario. Equitable access to health care, despite distance or financial means is a fundamental right."

Funding for Hope Air programs is provided through the generous support of corporate, foundation and individual donors. However, as demand will exceed available resources, Hope Air is advocating for a funding partnership with the Government of Ontario. Low-income families in rural and remote communities are twice as likely to have multiple chronic conditions as compared to others.

The expenses paid by a patient to travel long distance for medical care can exceed \$2,000 per trip.

## School boards reschedule professional activity day due to April solar eclipse

SUDBURY—The Rainbow District School Board, the Conseil scolaire catholique Nouvelon, Sudbury Catholic District School Board and Conseil scolaire du Grand Nord have rescheduled the April 19 professional activity (PA) day to Monday, April 8.

"The change will ensure there is no school for students on Monday, April 8, the day of the solar eclipse, which is expected to occur at or near dismissal times and result in temporary darkness," the school boards explained in a joint release.

"There is also a concern that students who are taking the bus or walking home without adult supervision may try to watch the eclipse and risk damaging their eyesight," the release continues. "The school boards are erring on the side of caution, with safety first and foremost."

The Canadian Association of Optometrists has issued a set of guidelines for safe viewing of the eclipse. Parents/guardians are invited to consult their website to better understand the risks that influenced the decision to change the PA day.

"The school boards thank parents/guardians for their explain that Friday, April 19 will be a regular school day.

### THE WEEKLY WORD SEARCH

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2024 GMC SIERRA 2500HD AT4X CREW CAB 4X4, 6.6L 8CYL, BLACK \$136,029\*



Stock #23165E

2023 GMC SIERRA 1500 DENALI 4X4 5.3L 8CYL, RED \$88,838\*



Mileage: 25,478kms

Stock #22520

2023 CHEVROLET COLORADO ZR2 4X4 CREW CAB 5 FT. BOX, 2.7L 4CYL, BLACK \$64,538\*

Prices may be subject to other fees not included in this advertisement

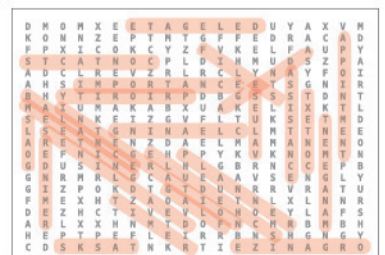
### MANAGE TIME WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

### WORDS

- AGENDA
- APPOINTMENT
- ASSISTANCE
- BALANCE
- CLEANING
- CONTACTS
- CONTEXT
- DEADLINES
- DELEGATE
- FILES
- FLAG
- GOALS
- IMPORTANCE
- INTEGRATION
- MANAGEMENT
- MEETING
- ORGANIZE
- PLANNER
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# Sheguiandah First Nation Shta-tah-ha Days!



Matthew Roy's KFC-inspired entry in the cardboard toboggan race got many a laugh.



Kiarah Shawanda takes a quick break from her birdhouse creation for a photo.



Taylor (T.J) Waindubence gives Jackie Bowerman a big thumbs up after completing the woodpiling challenge at Shta-tah-ha Days on Saturday.



On your marks, get set, go! Competitors in the cardboard toboggan race get ready to compete.



Xoë Roy, left, was off to a great start in the snowshoe race but lost to Joshua Assinewai.



Monica Shawanda raises her arm high to show she's finished her bottle in the baby bottle challenge.

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# Debajehmujig Storytellers honour volunteers during third annual appreciation dinner

by Michael Erskine  
**MANITOWANING**—The third annual Debajehmujig Storytellers Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and performances celebrating the important work of volunteers took place earlier this month and followed a magical/mystical theme—with magic defined as the power to influence the course of events and mystical as “obtaining Unity” or absorption.

“Magic and mystic are the unknown, the unseen and balance our holistic being of knowing and seeing,” noted Debajehmujig Executive Director Lynda Trudeau. “Debajehmujig would not be possible without the wonderful gift of people and the use of hand, heads, spirits, and hearts. G’chi miigwech.”

“This evening is about you,” Ms. Trudeau admonished the attendees. “Look around and witness who



Veronica Johnny provides musical entertainment for the diners.

are the people in the room. Faces are familiar, some look like they’re staff of Debajehmujig, but they too volunteer! Some look like politicians, but even that takes time, and some look young, or mature. However, faces you see in our communities are the unsung heroes of action and change—familiar faces, friends!”

“Debajehmujig is in the midst of change,” continued Ms. Trudeau, “maturing and developing, innovating, and delivering. Our mission is dedicated to sharing and educating about Anishinaabe language, culture, and heritage through original creative expression with Anishinaabe and non-Anishinaabe people.”

Ms. Trudeau noted that such commitment takes many forms at Debajehmujig, including community outreach and education, the creation of new works, professional training, produc-

tion, exhibition and annual pillar events.

“It about connecting through ancestral knowledge, traditional stories, and storytelling—traditional teachings, ceremony, and protocol builds bridges of understanding, acceptance, and connection across cultures and generations. At Debajehmujig, we create original work based on an Anishinaabe worldview, and build bridges, between cultures, generations, and territories. We support the development of Anishinaabe artists in remote, rural areas as well as cities.”

The evening included a musical performance by Veronica Johnny, a meal prepared by Prepped Manitoulin, and special gifts for the volunteers of the year—mitts made by Winnifred Peltier, as well as volunteer gifts of a Daphne Odjig blanket.

Hovering over the heads of the diners was a large green dragon, an original creation designed by Ashley Manitowabi and constructed by the Debaj team of students. Attendees were advised to start their journey at the buffet under the tail of the dragon—elders were served by staff members.

Multi-disciplinary artist Veronica Johnny, an Indig-Queer, Cree/Dene, two-spirit woman, arts educator, producer and female entrepreneur and a member of the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation who presently lives in Ontario provided a high-energy performance rock and roll group The Johnnys are known for—cheeky lyrics, anthemic choruses focussed on fun, environment, social and political change.

Following dinner, Ms. Trudeau noted “the reason we are here is to acknowledge the contribution of volunteers. We have arranged for gifts through Oscardo for blankets of Daphne Odjig’s ‘Some Watched the Sunset.’”

“The Volunteer Appreciation planning team chose a blanket so that you can always find warmth, comfort and protection,” she noted, adding, “an accumulation of 2 years of volunteerism is in the house.”

Ms. Trudeau observed that each of the gifts presented included a note featuring ‘The Preservation of Humanity,’ “which we have adopted as our logo. With



A huge dragon hovers above the head of Duke Peltier as he delivers opening remarks at the Debaj volunteer appreciation evening. The theme of the dinner and awards night was “magical/mystical.”

the preservation of Humanity, we note the teaching of taking care of each other, just like you and many other volunteers over the year, have helped take care of Debajehmujig. There is also a reminder of care taking from everything within the earth to the sky. Additionally, we see the colours of purple, indigo, blue, green, black and white, which represent compassion, patience, truth and trust, as well as acknowledge our collective ancestors and the future. We are also reminded by the colours—blue signifies truth, green signifies respect, and brown signifies creation—so tonight, “we respectfully honour the truth of creation.”

Long serving board member Marjorie Trudeau presented Robert Pheasant with the prestigious Marjorie Trudeau award for his efforts as a long-serving volunteer, for his storytelling and knowledge keeping, as well as being a language resource. Mr. Pheasant shared his own deeply personal story which inspired the Debaj production ‘Seven Stones’ and ‘A Pipe Carrier’s Journey.’ As a knowledge keeper, Mr. Pheasant has also been generous in sharing in teachings at the Odawa Midewin fasting grounds with Friday Creations for land-based teachings.

Cassandra Odjig presented Dawn Jacko with the Cassandra Odjig award for her volunteer work in productions such as a Table Lamp Concert and the tribute to the Rolling Stones

which featured Elijah Manitowabi and the Backburners, as well as a table lamp concert with Chuck Copenance.

The list of volunteers honoured at the event is impressive, they include: Amanda Eshkibok (6 Foot Festival), Bonita George (board of directors), Bruce Naokwegijig (staff), Cassandra Odjig Usher (performance), Chantal Flion (6 Foot Festival and Table Lamp Concert), Charity Shigwadja (staff), Cheryl Peltier (board of directors), Courtnee Osawabine (Indigenous Market and 2022/2023 Exhibition), Crystal Flamand (Table Lamp Concert), Daniel Mejaki (staff), David Osawabine (staff), Dawn Jacko (6 Foot Festival and Table Lamp Concert), Dawn Wemigwans (flyer distribution), Delmer Fields (Good Food Box), Dolly Peltier (Indigenous Market), Donna Debassige (for her wise council), Doris Peltier (cultural administration), Dustin Trudeau (student), Frances Mandamin (community leadership—WUT/LAC), Gail Assiniwe (Indigenous Market), Gertie Manitowabi, (board of directors), Gladys Wakegijig (community leadership—WUT/LAC), Irvin Oshkabewisens (community leadership WUT/LAC), Isadore Trudeau (staff), Janice Jacko (Table Lamp Concert), Jeannette Corbiere Laval (board of directors), Joahna Berti (staff), John Osawabine (cedar harvest for art installation), Jonas Pheasant (6 Foot Fes-

tival), Joseph Wabegijig (community leadership WUT/LAC), June Manitowabi (arts/culture/language leadership), Karen Shawanda (board of directors), Kaylee Furstenau (6 Foot Festival), Keir Tabachak (ceremonial grounds), Kelsey Dowdall (Indigenous Market), Kerry Assiniwe (2023 Volunteer Appreciation Event), Kimberly Swindt (6 Foot Festival), Lanell Pheasant (Table Lamp Concert), Laurent Satok (Landmarks Exhibition installation), Leslie Fields (Good Food Box), Liam Campell (cultural teachings and land-based knowledge), Linda Teague (6 Foot Festival), Lorraine Fox (community leadership WUT/LAC), Lyle Peltier (community leadership WUT/LAC), Lynda Trudeau (staff), Manitoulin Expositor (reporting), Marcia Trudeau Bomberry (community leadership WUT/LAC), Marilyn Jacko (board of directors), Marjorie Trudeau (board of directors, wise council and Indigneous Market), Mary Ann Corbiere (language translation), Mary Pheasant (art work Volunteer Appreciation Event 2023), Matthew Pheasant (board of directors), Michelle Roy

Richard Ashley Manitowabi (staff), Rick Krasowski (Table Lamp Concert), Richard Mauti (technical), Robert Pheasant (ceremonial, storytelling and reciprocal Land-based teachings, Art Streams and Medicinal Walk, Tree Planting), Samuel Fustenuau (6 Foot Festival), Shane Cooper (community leadership WUT/LAC), Sheena Wassegijig (student graduation), Sonya Jacko Cywink (2023 Volunteer Appreciation Event), Spencer Rice (Art Streams and Medicinal Walk, Tree Planting), Stephen McPhail (6 Foot Festival and storytelling), Tabitha Peltier (drumming and singing), Tara Dowdall (Indigenous Market), Terrence Jacko Table (Lamp Concert and Six Foot Festival) Terri Recollet (6 Foot Festival), Tim Ominika (community leadership WUT/LAC), Trinity Jacko (Table Lamp Concert and 6 Foot Festival) Tyler Pangowish (student), Vickie Enosse (board of directors) and Virginia Peltier (Indigenous Market).

Dancer, artist, filmmaker and storyteller Christine Friday provided a storytelling-through-dance performance following dinner



Dancer Christine Friday interprets story through dance.

(staff), Natalie Neganigijig (Art, Culture and Language committee), Ogimaa Rachael Manitowabi (community leadership WUT/LAC), Olivia Wemigwans (Art, Culture and Language Committee), Patricia Abitong (board of directors), Patrick Fox (board of directors), Peggy Osawanimiki (Table Lamp Concert), Phyllis Williams (Art, Culture and Language Committee), Quinten Kaboni (student), Ralph Gonawabi (community leadership WUT/LAC),

and was provided with a gift of a talking stick and textile art by Robert Pheasant that drew enthusiastic applause from all present.

Ms. Trudeau also provided an acknowledgement of Mr. Pheasant for the artistry of his petroglyph carvings that can be seen at the Creation Centre doorways.

As part of her closing remarks, Ms. Trudeau assured that “Debajehmujig is always open for volunteers, friends, and supporters.”

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**Application for CONSENT**

**Under Section 53 of the Planning Act**  
**To be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**File No.:** Con 2024-01  
**Applicant:** Albert, Stephen and Paul Rolston  
**Legal Description:** Howland, Concession 11 and 12, Lots 3-4 and 3-5  
**Official Plan:** Rural and Hazard  
**Zoning:** Rural

**PURPOSE OF THE APPLICATION**

Purpose of this application is to provide motor vehicle access to Part 1, 31R4190

**CONSENT IS REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

Access to Part 1 31R4190 is by water only, the request is to have vehicle access via Trotters Sideroad and across Concession 11 & 12 Lots 3-4 and 3-5 by way of easement.

**ANYONE INTERESTED IN THESE MATTERS MAY ATTEND** the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands public meeting concerning this application. If you have specific comments regarding this application, you may submit a letter to the Secretary-Treasurer of the planning authority prior to or at the meeting.

**IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND** this Hearing, it may proceed in your absence and, except as otherwise provided in the Planning Act, you will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceeding.

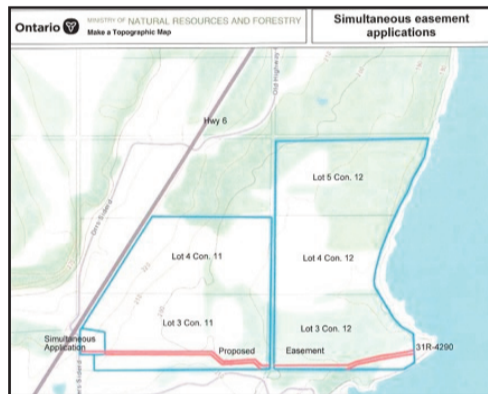
**IF YOU WISH TO BE NOTIFIED** of the Decision of the Planning Authority in respect of the proposed Consent, you must make a written request to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Planning Authority at the address shown below.

**IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY THAT FILES AN APPEAL** against a decision of the Approval Authority in respect of the proposed consent has not made a written submission to the Approval Authority before it gives or refuses to give a provisional consent, the Ontario Land Tribunal may dismiss the appeal.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** regarding this application is available to the public for viewing at the Municipal office between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday; or you may contact Ms. Pam Myers, Clerk and Secretary-Treasurer of the Planning Authority at (705) 368-3500 ext. 228.

Dated: February 21, 2024

Town of Northeastern Manitoulin & the Islands  
 14 Water St. E.; P.O. Box 608  
 Little Current, ON POP 1K0



**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF NORTHEASTERN MANITOULIN AND THE ISLANDS**

**NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION AND PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING A PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT**

**136B MacDougall Street, Sheguiandah**  
**Concession 12, Lot 1, 31R4118 Part 1**  
**TOWN OF NORTHEASTERN MANITOULIN AND THE ISLANDS**

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands will hold a public meeting on **March 19, 2024 at 7:00 pm** at the Municipal Office, 14 Water Street East, Little Current. The purpose of this public meeting is to consider a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment under Section 34 of the Planning Act for the property located on **Concession 12, Lot 1, 31R4118 Part 1, 136 B MACDOUGALL STREET** Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands. The attached key map shows the affected property.

The effect of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment special exception SR-32 is to allow for an oversized garage to a maximum size of 40'x50' by site specific zoning amendment, with the following exceptions:

- This garage will only be used for personal use, no commercial activity will be permitted.

ANY PERSON may attend the public meeting and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of, or in opposition to, the proposed By-law Amendment.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands before the proposed By-law Amendment is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Council of the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin & the Islands to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands before the proposed By-law Amendment is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

An explanation of the purpose and effect of the proposed By-law Amendment, describing the affected property, a Key Map showing the location of the affected property to which the proposed By-law Amendment applies and a copy of the complete proposed By-law Amendment is available for inspection during regular office hours at the Municipal Office, 14 Water Street East, Little Current.

DATED at the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin & the Islands on **2024-02-21**.

Ms. Pam Myers Clerk  
 Town of Northeastern Manitoulin & the Islands  
 14 Water Street East; P.O. Box 608  
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 Ph.: (705)368-3500



**Application for CONSENT**

**Under Section 53 of the Planning Act**  
**To be held on Tuesday, March 19th, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**File No. :** Con 2024-03  
**Applicant:** Mark Anderson and Candice Hall  
**Legal Description:** Sheguiandah Concession 13, Lot 11  
**Civic Address:** 11340 Hwy 6  
**Official Plan:** Rural and Shoreline Residential  
**Zoning:** Rural & Shoreline Residential

**PURPOSE OF THE APPLICATION**

Purpose of this application is for the creation of 4 new lots being accessed via Right of Way from N'Gokan Miikan

**CONSENT IS REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

Consent is required due to the owners wishing to create 4 waterfront building lots. These lots will be accessed via a registered easement that will be created along with this application. Water and Sewer supply will be the responsibility of the owners of each lot by private services. The remnants of the water frontage will be added to PIN 47135-0680 as a lot addition.

**ANYONE INTERESTED IN THESE MATTERS MAY ATTEND** the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands public meeting concerning this application. If you have specific comments regarding this application, you may submit a letter to the Secretary-Treasurer of the planning authority prior to or at the meeting.

**IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND** this Hearing, it may proceed in your absence and, except as otherwise provided in the Planning Act, you will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceeding.

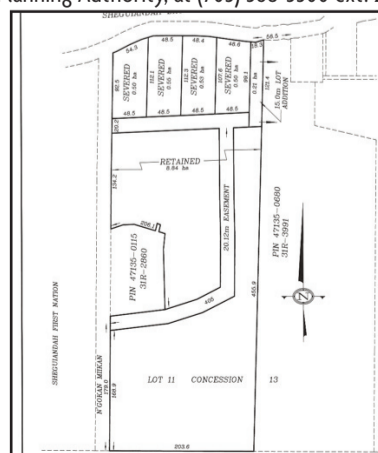
**IF YOU WISH TO BE NOTIFIED** of the Decision of the Planning Authority in respect of the proposed Consent, you must make a written request to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Planning Authority at the address shown below.

**IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY THAT FILES AN APPEAL** against a decision of the Approval Authority in respect of the proposed consent has not made a written submission to the Approval Authority before it gives or refuses to give a provisional consent, the Ontario Land Tribunal may dismiss the appeal.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** regarding this application is available to the public for viewing at the Municipal office between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday; or you may contact Ms. Pam Myers, Clerk and Secretary-Treasurer of the Planning Authority, at (705) 368-3500 ext. 228.

Dated: February 21, 2024

Town of Northeastern Manitoulin & the Islands  
 14 Water St. E.; P.O. Box 608  
 Little Current, ON POP 1K0



**Application for CONSENT**

**Under Section 53 of the Planning Act**  
**To be held on Tuesday, March 19th, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**File No. :** Con 2024-02  
**Applicant:** Susan McGrath  
**Legal Description:** Howland, Concession 11 Lot 3, 31R-159 and 31R1905 Part 1-2 and 1  
**Official Plan:** Rural  
**Zoning:** Rural

**PURPOSE OF THE APPLICATION:**

Purpose of this application is to provide motor vehicle access to Part 1, 31R4190

**CONSENT IS REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

Access to Part 1 31R4190 is by water only, the request is to have vehicle access via Trotters Sideroad and across Concession 11 lot 3 31R159 and 31R-1905 Part 1-2 and 1 by way of easement.

**ANYONE INTERESTED IN THESE MATTERS MAY ATTEND** the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands public meeting concerning this application. If you have specific comments regarding this application, you may submit a letter to the Secretary-Treasurer of the planning authority prior to or at the meeting.

**IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND** this Hearing, it may proceed in your absence and, except as otherwise provided in the Planning Act, you will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceeding.

**IF YOU WISH TO BE NOTIFIED** of the Decision of the Planning Authority in respect of the proposed Consent, you must make a written request to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Planning Authority at the address shown below.

**IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY THAT FILES AN APPEAL** against a decision of the Approval Authority in respect of the proposed consent has not made a written submission to the Approval Authority before it gives or refuses to give a provisional consent, the Ontario Land Tribunal may dismiss the appeal.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** regarding this application is available to the public for viewing at the Municipal office between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday; or you may contact Ms. Pam Myers, Clerk and Secretary-Treasurer of the Planning Authority, at (705) 368-3500 ext. 228.

Dated: February 21, 2024

Town of Northeastern Manitoulin & the Islands  
 14 Water St. E.; P.O. Box 608  
 Little Current, ON POP 1K0





**Pancake Tuesday**

Murray Duncanson, left in photo and Peter Lawr were two of the servers at the Shrove Tuesday event held at All Saints Anglican Church in Gore Bay on February 13. Hungry patrons were served pancakes and sausages. Proceeds from the event will be donated to the Gore Bay/Gordon Fire Department for fire suits and the Strawberry Summer Camp.

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR ABSOLUTE TITLE**  
(Subsection 46(2) of the Act)

RE: Part of PIN 47146-0433(LT)

TAKE NOTICE THAT **1927402 Ontario Inc.** intends to apply to be registered as the owner with an absolute title to the land described as follows:

Part of PIN 47146-0433 (LT) being part of Lots 24 and 25 Concession 6 Barrie Island, part of the Road Allowance between Lots 25 and 26 Concession 6 and 7, Lot 27 and part of Lot 26 Concession 7 Barrie Island, part of the Road Allowance between Concession 7 and 8, part of Lots 24, 25 and 26 Concession 8 Barrie Island and part of the Road Allowance between Lots 25 and 26 Concession 8 designated as Parts 1 and 2 on a draft plan of reference completed by Robert D. Halliday (OLS), dated February 5, 2024; subject to an easement in favour of part of Lot 25 Concession 7 Barrie Island designated as Part 3, Plan 31R4064 being PIN 47146-0421 (LT) over part of Lot 24 Concession 6 Barrie Island designated as Part 2 on the said draft plan as in MD14347; subject to an easement in favour of part of Lot 24 Concession 7 Barrie Island designated as Parts 4 & 5, Plan 31R4064 being PIN 47146-0422 (LT) over part of Lot 24 Concession 6 Barrie Island designated as Part 2 on the said draft plan as in MD14348.

AND TAKE NOTICE THAT any person claiming to have any title to or interest in the said land or any part of it (other than an interest protected by registration) is required on or before the 22nd day of March, 2024 to file a statement of an objection setting out the grounds for such objection, together with all evidence, documents or legal provisions and precedents relied upon in support of the objection, directed to the Land Registrar at the address of the solicitor at the following address:

Spadafora Johnson Lepore LLP, Attention: Kathryn Willet or Carlo Spadafora  
747 Queen Street East, Suite 202, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 2A8

If no such statement of objection is filed by March 22, 2024, we will proceed with the application and any interest you may claim in the subject property will be thereby extinguished and you will not be entitled to receive any further notice with respect to the proceedings. The said Plan is available for inspection at Spadafora Johnson Lepore LLP, Barristers and Solicitors, and at the Manitoulin Registry Office (No. 31) located at 27 Phipps Street, PO Box 619, Gore Bay, ON POP 1H0 registered as Instrument No. MD28997

Dated at Sault Ste. Marie this 14th day of February, 2024  
Kathryn Willet, Spadafora Johnson Lepore LLP  
Solicitors for  
**1927402 Ontario Inc.**

**Notice of Medical Practice Closure – Dr. Ken Barss**

With mixed emotions, I wish to announce that I will be retiring and closing my medical practice on Manitoulin effective **May 1, 2024**. Unfortunately, a replacement physician has not been found.

For further care:

- As always, for urgent or emergency medical issues, please call 911 or attend your closest emergency room.
- For non-urgent issues, if you cannot access a care provider, you can contact the North East Virtual Care Clinic to see a nurse practitioner virtually. Website: <https://www.nevirtualcare.ca/> Phone: 1-888-684-1999
- You can also access care through Ontario Health811 by calling 811 or visiting them online.
- There are other online providers for virtual care in Ontario, but some of these are not covered by the provincial insurance plan (OHIP) and there may be a fee.
- If you are Indigenous, you can access care providers through Noojmowin Teg Health Centre at (705) 368-0083.

If you need to transfer your health records to another provider, please visit the Northeastern Manitoulin Family Health Team to sign a release for them. I wish to thank my patients for allowing me to take part in their healthcare for the past 25 years. I have truly enjoyed working here. My thanks also to the people of Manitoulin for warmly welcoming my family to the Island. Manitoulin is truly a special place and we are lucky to live here.

**BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME OR COTTAGE:**

*Bay Estates Lots (2)*  
Asking \$60,000. MLS# 2110826  
*Little Current Double Building Lot.* Asking \$89,000. MLS#2099765  
*Exclusive Waterfront stings* - Manitowaning Bay Waterfront Lots. Asking \$219,000

**SANDY POINT**

*Mindemoya Building Lot.* Asking \$119,000. MLS#2113218  
*Gore Bay Building Lot,* Asking \$65,000. MLS#2114727  
*White's Point Rd. Development Acreage* Asking \$650,000 MLS#2114547

For a complete list of properties, please visit [theislandbrokerage.ca](http://theislandbrokerage.ca)

<p><b>LAKE MINDEMOYA HOME</b> 3 Bedroom, 2 bath 1.2 Acres of land MLS#2113477 ASKING \$529,000</p>	<p><b>HONORA WATERFRONT</b> Amazing Sunsets!! MLS#2114257 ASKING \$835,000</p>
<p><b>POOLE LAKE HUNT CAMP</b> Ready for the hunt! 198 Acres of land MLS#2115183 ASKING \$349,000</p>	<p><b>BIG LAKE HOME</b> New Build 5BR, 3Bth MLS#2114787 ASKING \$799,000</p>
<p><b>MCGREGOR BAY</b> 3 Bedroom, 1 bath 6 Acre Island MLS#2112625 ASKING \$739,000</p>	<p><b>BAY ESTATES HOME</b> 3 Bedroom, 1 bath North Channel Waterfront MLS#2114449 ASKING \$549,999</p>
<p><b>LITTLE CURRENT HOME</b> 4 Bedroom, 2 bath Move-in ready!! MLS#2115025 ASKING \$499,000</p>	<p><b>LAKE MINDEMOYA</b> 2.5 Bedroom, 1 Bath MLS#2114681 ASKING \$469,000</p>

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## Central passes budget with 5% increase in mill rate

by Michael Erskine  
CENTRAL MANITOULIN—Council of the Municipality of Central Manitoulin passed its 2024 budget at its February 8 meeting with a five percent increase to its mill rate. The mill rate is that rate at which properties are taxed for each \$1,000 of assessed value and reflects that property owner's share of the overall levy.

"I was bidding for a four percent increase," said Central Manitoulin Mayor Richard Stephens, "the staff request was for six percent—we met in the middle."

Given the challenges being faced by municipalities across the province in the wake of increased construction and material costs, Mayor Stephens said bringing the tax increases down required some tough decisions.

Unfortunately, noted the mayor, to get to that point required considerable pencil sharpening and the postponement of a significant portion of the municipal wish list. "We had to do some deferrals of capital costs," he admitted.

With the costs associated with dealing with the closure of the community's landfill, "there was not a lot of room," said Mayor Stephens. Those difficult choices included repurposing nearly \$700,000 earmarked for a future recreation complex

and community centre into the working capital reserves.

Each percentage point increase in the mill rate equates roughly to \$55,000 in increased levy costs,

meaning that this year's overall tax levy is coming in around \$275,000 higher than last year, despite the considerable reallocation of reserves.

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- includes air conditioning, water/sewer
- each tenant pays own hydro and gas (est. \$150/m)
- includes groundskeeping (snow/grass)
- each unit includes 1 full bath
- Parking spaces: 2 each main and 1 each lower
- Main Floor Units include large deck and rear yard

**473B-1 Main floor (2 bed with garage): \$2,650 LEASED**  
**473B-2 Lower level (2 bed): \$2,200**  
**473C-1 Main floor (3 bed): \$2,450**  
**473C-2 Lower level (2 bed): \$2,200**

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**EMAIL: rentals@olivadel.com**  
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### MCGREGOR BAY:

Quality constructed and impeccably upkept 3 bedroom insulated cottage situated on 2.2 acres 500 feet waterfront on Hiawatha Island. Insulated with potential for all season use.

Hydro One serviced and turn-key furnished. Several boats included. Also on the property is a shoreline guest cabin complete with a 3 piece bath. Access is just 4 miles by boat in sheltered waters. Bordering Crown land for your hiking pleasure.

**\$695,000 - MLS # 2113593**



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MLS #2114949, \$515,000



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150 Thorne Street, Mindemoya  
MLS #2115096, \$442,000



149 Yonge Street, Kagawong  
Riverfront Century Home  
MLS #2112936, \$429,000



322 Cosby Subdivision, Lake Manitou  
Lakeside Luxury Living  
MLS #2114294, \$1,795,000



**Excitement is building as we get closer to the Mindemoya office opening!**

**Stay tuned for updates!**



2128 Highway 542, Lake Manitou  
MLS #2112825, \$999,666



N/A South Bay Drive, Manitowaning  
MLS #2112756, \$99,000



191A Monkhouses Road, Manitowaning  
2 Bedroom Ranch Style Home on 141 Acres.  
MLS #2113976, \$510,000



**Jennifer Hooper, REALTOR®**  
705-862-1002



**Melissa Nicholson, REALTOR®**  
705-282-7738



**VACANT LAND**

Lot 11 Pleasant View Terrace  
MLS®#: 2111777,  
\$69,900

N/A Con 6 West, Tehkummah  
MLS®#: 2112911,  
\$279,000

LOT 23, 2nd Con., Tehkummah  
MLS®#: 2112823,  
\$235,000

13476 Hwy 542, Gore Bay  
MLS®#: 2112862,  
\$205,000

12 Cockburn St., Little Current  
MLS®#: 2112049,  
\$48,000

N/A Cranston Rd, Mindemoya  
MLS®#: 2113256  
\$85,000

PT1 Hwy 540 Gore Bay  
MLS®#: 2113047  
\$90,000

PT2 Hwy 540 Gore Bay  
MLS®#: 2113046  
\$90,000

LOT 28, Con 10, Hwy 540,  
Little Current  
MLS®#: 2114168,  
\$59,000



**NEW LISTING**  
13951 Highway 542, Gore Bay  
MLS®#: 2115229, \$355,000



130 Thorne Street, Mindemoya  
MLS®#: 2114944, \$697,500



129 Thorne Street, Mindemoya  
MLS®#: 2114887, \$697,500



1030 Ice Lake Road, Gore Bay  
MLS®#: 2114895, \$575,000



**NEW LISTING**  
317 Main Street, Kagawong  
MLS®#: 2115228, \$369,000



454 Morden Noakes Road, Evansville  
MLS®#: 2113498,  
\$259,500



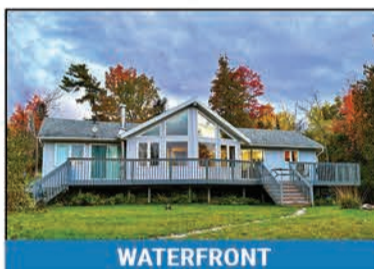
**WATERFRONT**  
507 Lakeshore Road, Mindemoya  
MLS®#: 2115157, \$689,000



**PRICE REDUCTION FARM**  
8711 Highway 542, Spring Bay  
MLS®#: 2114169 & 2114170,  
\$995,000



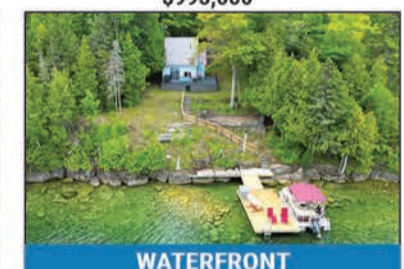
195 Limberlost Lane,  
Mindemoya  
MLS®#: 2113337, \$649,500



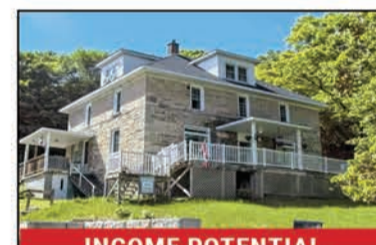
**WATERFRONT**  
10 McQuarrie Road, Kagawong  
MLS®#: 2113832, \$725,000



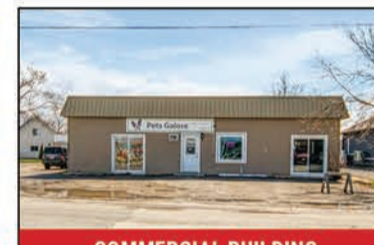
2983 White Church Road,  
Spring Bay  
MLS®#: 2113525,  
\$345,000



**WATERFRONT**  
720B Perivale Road West,  
Spring Bay  
MLS®#: 2113142, \$339,000



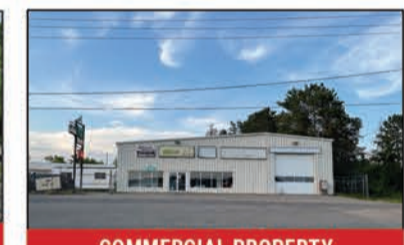
**INCOME POTENTIAL**  
29 Phipps Street,  
Gore Bay  
MLS®#: 2113496,  
\$595,900



**COMMERCIAL BUILDING**  
33 Vankoughnet Street,  
Little Current  
MLS®#: 2110672, \$489,000



**COMMERCIAL BUILDING & BUSINESS**  
35 Meredith Street,  
Manitowaning  
MLS®#: 2114689, \$3,000,000



**COMMERCIAL PROPERTY**  
760 & 770 Centre Street, Espanola  
MLS®#: 2112574, \$799,900

**COMMERCIAL VACANT LAND**

N/A Highway 540B, Gore Bay  
MLS®#: 2113351  
\$130,00

**WATERFRONT/VACANT**

Lot 20 Steven St., Gore Bay  
MLS®#: 2109184,  
\$350,000

14970 Highway 540, Evansville  
MLS®#: 2114076,  
\$179,000



20489 Highway 540, Silver Water  
MLS®#: 2114389,  
\$182,500



71 Corbiere Road, Spring Bay  
MLS®#: 2113707,  
\$295,000



**PRICE REDUCTION**  
33 Bay Street,  
Mindemoya  
MLS®#: 2112654, \$700,000



3960 Highway 542 E, Mindemoya  
MLS®#: 2114618, \$279,000



2242 Monument Road, Mindemoya  
MLS®#: 2114800, \$467,500



141 Maple Lane, Mindemoya  
MLS®#: 2114791, \$425,000



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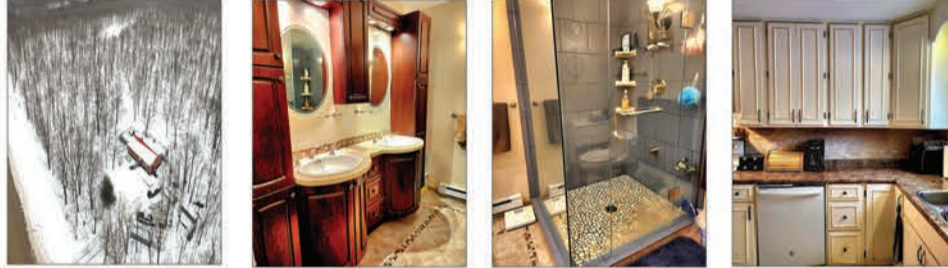
MLS #2114959 **\$265,000**



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MLS #2113815 **\$329,000**



**LARGE GROUND FLOOR SPACE THAT IS A BLANK CANVAS FOR YOUR NEXT BUSINESS**  
MLS#2108753 - Little Current, \$155,000



**THRIVING BREW-YOUR-OWN WINE AND BEVERAGE BUSINESS**  
MLS#2113108 - Little Current, \$98,500



**90+ ACRES WITH RENOVATED 3 BED, 3 BATH HOME WITH STUDIO APARTMENT & WALKING DISTANCE TO DOWNTOWN**  
MLS#2113910 - Mindemoya, \$699,000



**88 ACRES WITH STUNNING 4800 SQ.FT. ESTATE HOME AND 6 GARAGE BAYS**  
MLS#2114222 - Manitowaning, \$1,785,000



**415 FT. OF WATERFRONT ON LAKE MINDEMOYA, PRISTINE COTTAGE WITH 3 LARGE BEDROOMS, SEPARATE GARAGE WITH SPACE ABOVE**  
MLS#2111109 - Mindemoya, \$550,000



**RESIDENTIAL BUILDING LOTS ON COCKBURN STREET, LEVEL AND READY TO BUILD ON**  
MLS #2113839 - Little Current, \$49,000



**CUSTOM BUILD ON 9.3 ACRES WITH SEPARATE GARAGE IN TEHKUMMAH**  
MLS#2114258 - Tehkummah, \$499,900



**WATER ACCESS LOT ON YEAR ROUND ROAD**  
MLS#2113802 - Manitowaning, \$79,900



**SHOP & COMPARE! 100 ACRES WITH HUNT CAMP IN CENTRAL MANITOULIN**  
MLS#2110511 - Central Manitoulin, \$239,900



**SPRAWLING 5 BED, 2 BATH RAISED RANCH WITH 3-CAR GARAGE & 566 FEET OF NORTH CHANNEL WATERFRONT**  
MLS#2111420 - Little Current, \$600,000

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Alan Mihelchic  
Agent  
Cell: 705-282-4602



Lori Edwards  
Office Manager  
705-368-2381

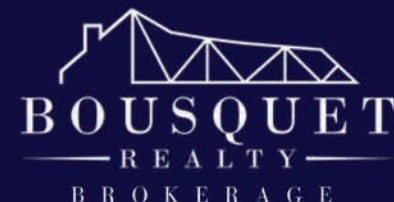


Meredith Morris  
Marketing & Rentals Manager  
705-368-2381



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Real Estate



# Brokerage Listings



**45 Bay St, NEMI**  
MLS 2114520 | \$625,500



**S O L D**  
**35 Bay St, Manitowaning**  
MLS 2114553 | Waterfront



**2989 540 Hwy, Honora Bay**  
MLS 2114967 | \$60,00



**63 Rainbow Trail, Mindemoya**  
MLS 2113393 | \$659,000



**COMMERCIAL**  
**4 Eleanor St, Gore Bay**  
MLS 2112816 | \$549,000



**PT LT 16 CON 3 PERCH LAKE**  
MLS 2114428 | \$48,000



**15786 Hwy 6, Manitowaning**  
MLS 2114937 | \$399,000



**0 HWY 551 Providence Bay**  
MLS 2110436 | \$67,500



**88 Moggy Pkwy, Assiginack**  
MLS 2114179 | \$89,000



**20 Third Ave, Manitowaning**  
MLS 2114785 | \$449,900



**89 Leason Bay Trail, Assiginack**  
MLS 2110928 | \$239,900



**CONDITIONAL PENDING**  
**12 New St, Gore Bay**  
MLS 2115006 | \$240,000

## FEATURE LISTING

1013 Hopkins Hill, Espanola



MLS 2114754 | \$549,000



Detached Garage



3 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms



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**Abbie Drolet**  
Broker  
705-348-0067



**Jack Bould**  
Salesperson  
705-282-8441



**Mathieu Page**  
Broker  
705-207-1282





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Little Current, Manitoulin Island

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

## Randy Thibault name added to the annual Porter-Clark-Purvis Memorial tournament

by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY—In recognition of his over 40 years of tremendous contribution to minor hockey in Gore Bay and throughout Manitoulin, including his efforts toward the annual Porter-Clark-Purvis Memorial annual hockey tournament, the organizers of the latter will be adding the late Randy Thibault's name to the tournament name.

"Randy Thibault's name will be added to the name



Island hockey legend Randy Thibault passed away in 2019. He may be gone, but he is definitely not forgotten.

of the tournament so it will be known (as of this year's tournament in March) the Porter-Clark-Purvis-Thibault Memorial Hockey Tournament," said Nick Lane, president of the Western Manitoulin Minor

Hockey Association (GBMHA).

"Randy's name will be added to the tournament name to recognize all his efforts in minor hockey over 40 years," said Mr. Lane. He said the GBMHA members "thought it was right to include his name on the tournament. When it was first raised it was very well received."

The Manitoulin Minor Hockey Association (MMHA) presents an award on an annual basis, the Randy Thibault Memorial Award. "The award is presented to someone other than a player that has made an outstanding contribution to hockey on Manitoulin Island. This person has gone above and beyond the call of duty to promote and represent hockey on our island."

"Randy Thibault was a long-standing member of Manitoulin Minor and Western Manitoulin Minor Hockey Associations," the MMHA site states. "Randy was a coach, a mentor, an executive member and most importantly had a true passion for hockey. Randy's knowledge and commitment to the game of hockey on our island was

and still is second to none. Randy's calm, cool nature made him easy to be around and very easy to approach regarding any hockey issue. Randy's ultimate goal was to see kids play and enjoy hockey on Manitoulin Island just like he did."

"We wanted to do him proud, Randy was a long-time organizer of the tournament," said Mr. Lane. "After the tournament last year, we were wondering how to include Randy in the tournament for all his contributions over 40 years. This idea came up and it was a no-brainer to go ahead with it."

Mr. Lane said as part of the tournament, "we have a Godfrey Porter Sportsman's A division trophy, the Hiram Clark Sportsman B trophy, the Platt Purvis over 40 A division trophy and now a Randy Thibault plaque will be presented to the over 40 B division winners."

"This year marks the 40th anniversary of the tournament," said Mr. Lane. He pointed out "actually, it was 42 years ago the tournament was started but we missed two years due to the pandemic."

## Ice Chips and Canoe Quips

### Manitoulin Sporting Life

#### Ice Chips to Canoe Quips

by Larry and André Leblanc



#### Stocks rise for George ahead of NHL Draft

The future of goaltender **Carter George** continues to escalate as he quietly excels in net minder metrics. Carter is currently the OHL's leader in save percentage, saves and is tied for the most shut-outs and all this playing behind the mediocre, Owen Sound Attack. The Attack have generally been keeping their head above .500 hockey and are currently 12th in the 20 team league.

Carter has been recently featured in several OHL accolades. With his fourth, road shutout Carter ties an OHL record for a single season with games in hand! He was tagged with a couple of the OHL's 'Save of the Night' including a penalty killing triple save. The league's YouTube feed highlights George's 50 save shut-out versus the Barrie Colts.

With the average NHL goalie height listed around 6'2 many columns over the years had focused on the fact that Carter was on the shorter side amongst his OHL draftee peers who were largely over 6'. Already a veteran-sounding media persona, Carter skillfully focused the narrative towards things he could actually control! As he worked on his game, lo and behold he grew! He is currently listed at 6'1 so hopefully the future focus will be just on his game play!

NHL draft projections are often quite fickle but Carter has been climbing the ranks on many lists. A Hockey News column 'Draft Goaltending Battle' has Carter in first or second among North American back-stoppers. Based on Carter's previous interviews it is quite likely the youngster is wisely not stuck on the myriad of speculations from us armchair general managers. Best of luck staying above the noise, Carter!

#### WHS B-Ball win!

Congratulations to the Wiikwemkoong High School boys' basketball team who won the NSSSA "B" division and will be on their way to Mattawa this Friday the 23rd for the NOSSA championship. Their roster is to follow next week. Good luck, guys!

#### Mustang minute

Congratulations to the Manitoulin Secondary senior volleyball team on their recent NSSSA title win and will move on to NOSSA! Congratulations to coaches **Tina Pennie-Balfe**, **Neil Debassige**, assistant coach and their efficient team featuring: **Aspen Debassige**, **Mya Balfe**, **Saraya Eshkawkogan**, **Morgan Green**, **Maren Kasunich**, **Harmony Panamick**, **Mackenzie Green** and **Emery Watson**.

#### Panther Points

The U-18 Manitoulin Lady Panthers'

Coach **Scot Hughson** has sent a MLP update as their season gets more interesting. They have not had any game action since their last road trip to Warren but the players continue to work hard at practice keeping their skills game ready for a very busy schedule coming up. He was pleased to see a lot of their team participating in the Wiikwemkoong hockey tournament over the past weekend. Scot would like to give a shout out to Ashley Manitowabi and team for some amazing live streaming of the games.

"Our highly anticipated Provincial play down series kicks off Friday February 23 at 8:00 pm in the NEMI Rec Centre versus the North Bay Jr. Lakers. This will be a very tight game as all games in our season series have been very close with the Lakers taking one game and the other two ending in a draw. Come out and cheer our Lady Panthers on as we begin our quest to reach the OWSA Provincial Championships. This game could quite possibly be the last opportunity to catch the Lady Panthers in action on home ice this season."

We will travel to Sault Ste. Marie on Saturday to visit the Jr. Greyhound A team for an exhibition double header. We have yet to play against these northern rivals and it should be some great hockey. Puck drop for game 1 is 12:30 and game 2 kicks off at 5:30. Wifi permitting, both games will be streamed live via the Jenny Panther Facebook page thanks to **Ashley Manitowabi**.

Our league playoffs will be in Hearst starting March 1st where we will play against Thunder Bay, Temiskaming Shores, Kapuskasing and the host team, the Hearst Ice Cats. It will be a busy weekend with a ton of windshield time so hopefully this extremely mild winter continues.

Amongst this already busy schedule we will have to fit in the remainder of the games against North Bay too. This stretch of the season is what we have been working for all season and the team is looking forward to some great hockey. Go Lady Panthers Go!"

#### LNHL Giveaways!

The annual Little Native Hockey League will turn 50 next month and many local associations are trying to make sure that aqll their players are able to make it to the milestone event. In M'Chigeeng, tireless volunteer **Debbie Debassige** is part of the committee to ensure that happens. If you would like a chance to win as well as support MFN LNHL players you can send an e-transfer to [mfn.lnhl@outlook.com](mailto:mfn.lnhl@outlook.com) and Debbie will send you pics of your tickets. The \$20 ticket enters you for their 31 days of cash giveaways!

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



#### The Little Current Legion has it covered

Little Current Royal Canadian Legion Branch 177 celebrated the completion of a new covered accessibility ramp last week. Thanks to the generous donations of Legion supporters, the new ramp is now a reality—an important consideration as the old ramp was fast deteriorating to a dangerous and unusable point. Legion rep Duane Deschamp, left, is joined by Devon Mizon and Luke Walsh of Cosy Cove Contracting near the entrance to the new ramp.

photo by Michael Erskine

# Gore Bay community spirit event scheduled for February 29

by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY—The idea for a community spirit and events meeting is to bring together local residents—both long-time and newcomers—to the Town of Gore Bay to bring forward ideas and input on organizing and hosting community events.

“There are so many new people in town who don’t necessarily know all the events and activities we have here and they and other residents have great ideas and want to help organize events in the community,” said Kelly Chaytor, a Gore Bay councillor. She explained all members of the public are invited to attend a community spirit and events meeting taking place next week. A poster advertising the meeting states, ‘Do you have great ideas? Do you want to create more excitement in your community? Come out and join us and see what we’re all about.’

“The meeting is open to all members of the public, and we are holding it on behalf of the town,” said Councillor Chaytor. “We would like to get more people involved and hopefully come up with good ideas and volunteers to help organize more events and activities. The first meeting will take place February 29.

Ms. Chaytor said “a small group of us have organized the Family Day celebrations (this past Monday) including the fireworks that are being put on by the Gore Bay Fire Department. Both Mike Addison and Duncan Sinclair (firefighters) were totally in support of this. We always seem to be in a fire ban during the summer but if we were ever going to have fireworks in the winter, this is the year for it.”

The upcoming meeting has the end goal of a winter carnival in future years, said Councillor Chaytor. She pointed out thus far she

and Aly Niemi and Duncan Sinclair are on board to be members of the committee. “Hopefully a lot of other people will want to start a community spirit and events committee and provide input on what kind of activities could be held that would be great. We will be asking for input from and partner with all the service groups in town in helping to put on events. As long as a person is a ‘doer,’ we definitely want them to be part of the committee.”

At this point Councillor Chaytor said she is already expecting between 10-12 residents who have shown interest will be attending the upcoming public meeting. She stressed, “people need to understand we don’t expect anyone to volunteer for every event this committee comes up with. For instance, I am going to help organize the Easter egg hunt this year and we are trying to get residents, including new people to the

town, and those that don’t know of all the events that are held in town to come forward and provide their input and ideas.”


“I love organizing events, but it takes more than one or two people to put them together and organize an event,” said Ms. Chaytor. “As I mentioned, we are also going to be sending letters to all local service clubs, committees and sports groups organizations to partner together.” And we want to advertise other things that people can enjoy in the community, including things like the Gore Bay Museum.”

The community spirit and events meeting will take place on Thursday, February 29 at 6 pm in the Gore Bay community hall.



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-  Job number 23-00186
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## WIKWEMIKONG TRIBAL POLICE SERVICE

**Position:** Experienced Police Officer Full-Time – Permanent  
**Location:** Wikwemkoong Unceded Territory  
**Responsible to:** Chief of Police, Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service

The Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service is accepting applications from a police officer who has served or is currently serving with a Canadian police agency.

**Summary:** The Police Constable will be responsible to the Chief of Police and will maintain law and order in a community-based setting within and around the Wikwemikong Unceded Territory.

**Key Duties/Responsibilities:**

- Preserve the peace.
- Prevent crimes, other offences, aiding assistance and encouragement to other persons in their prevention.
- Assist victims of crime.
- Apprehend criminals, other offenders and others who may lawfully be taken into custody.
- Lay charges and participate in prosecutions.
- Execute warrants and perform related duties.
- Perform the lawful duties that the Chief of Police assigns.
- Respond to calls for service.
- Successfully complete prescribed training.
- Commitment to Community-Based Policing principles and practices.
- Display cultural competence when interacting with members of the community.
- Participate in community events and cultural gatherings.
- Assist in the development and implementation of projects, acting as a resource to team members and other units.
- Undertake assignments, including traffic point duty and crowd control, as required.

**Basic Requirements:**


- Ontario Police College Certificate or equivalent as recognized by the Ontario Police College.
- Diploma in Police Foundations or Degree in Law and Criminal Justice an asset.
- Must possess a valid class G Ontario driver’s licence.
- Possess current First Aid/CPR Certificates.
- Documentation showing you are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 as approved by the Ministry of Health or have valid exemption pursuant to the Human Rights Code.
- Basic computer skills and knowledge of Microsoft Outlook and Office.
- Must have awareness of First Nation culture and traditions.
- Be physically able to perform the duties of the position.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality a MUST.
- Be prepared to take an Oath/Affirmation of Office and Secrecy.
- Be of good moral character and habits.
- Pass a detailed background check that includes security clearance checks, credit and reference checks.

Employment packages are available for pick up at the WTPS office or can be emailed to those interested. Interested applicants are to forward their completed electronic employment package, letter of interest/cover letter, detailed resume, copies of relevant diploma/certificates and three work-related references to:

**Attn: Richard Flamand, Human Resources Manager**  
**richard.flamand@wtps.ca**  
**Deadline to Apply: Ongoing until filled.**

*Please note:* Applications will be screened. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Interviews will be scheduled and at that time a decision will be made to consider an experienced officer for hire. The qualified candidate(s) will be subject to a comprehensive background investigation. The candidate will be notified before any contact is made with their current police service.

Members of the Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service participate in the Ontario Pension Board (OPB) pension plan. It is compulsory for members to contribute to the plan. Experienced officers who have contributed to another pension plan may contact their current plan administrator to determine if their plan is transferable.



## WIKWEMIKONG TRIBAL POLICE SERVICE

**Position:** Special Constable – Court Officer - Permanent  
**Location:** Wikwemkoong Unceded Territory  
**Responsible to:** Chief of Police, Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service

The Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service is accepting applications for Special Constable – Court Officer. Applicants will be required to successfully complete any additional training deemed necessary as a condition of employment. All new hires are expected to have a valid and completed OACP certificate and medical forms as per attached OACP link [www.oacpcertificate.ca](http://www.oacpcertificate.ca).

**Summary:** The Special Constable – Court Officer program is a great opportunity for members to learn on the job roles and responsibilities. The WTPS will be accepting applications who possess experience in the court system and will be responsible to the Chief of Police.

**Key Duties/Responsibilities:**

- Knowledge of relevant sections of legislation such as the Criminal Code, Young Offenders Act, Youth Criminal Justice Act, Family Law Act, provincial offenses and municipal by-laws to coordinate court proceedings, prepare briefs and other court documents.
- Knowledge of court processes, procedures, operations and scheduling to coordinate and monitor court proceedings.
- Knowledge of processes and procedures for prisoner search to conduct searches of prisoners and persons taken into custody at court proceedings. Knowledge of basic prisoner care as prescribed by policy to attend to and escort persons in custody. Knowledge of relevant sections of WHMIS and workplace safety to take DNA samples and escort prisoners.
- Knowledge of application software programs to prepare, update and maintain court-related records and to register sex offenders. Organizational skills to coordinate and track all arrangements and documentation pertaining to detachment case files being processed in court.
- Problem solving skills to assess documentation and information requirements for Crown prosecutors et al, and follows up with paperwork that has not been included in Crown briefs or has not been prepared, in the process of managing case files.
- Act as a liaison with services with the court and monitor the progress of files through the court system.
- Provide court security services for the detachment, the court and to participate in the escort of offenders.
- Ensure the preparation and proper completion of all related information and documentation by uniform officers.
- Assist WTPS officers with community’s policing and safety concerns.
- Display cultural competence when interacting with members of the community.
- Perform shift work that include weekends and holidays.
- Such other duties, not inconsistent with the above, as the Police Chief should direct.

**Requirements:**

- Must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada of at least 18 years of age.
- Post-Secondary Diploma in Law and Security or related program.
- Copy of OSSD and Post-Secondary Diploma/Certificates.
- Copy of OACP Certificate, include all accompanied documents such as hearing/vision assessment, two-week fitness log and OACP waivers.
- Copy of valid class G Ontario driver’s licence.
- Copy of current First Aid/CPR Level C Certification.
- Basic computer skills and knowledge of Microsoft Office.
- Must have awareness of First Nation cultures and traditions.
- Be physically and mentally able to perform the duties of the position.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality a MUST.
- Be prepared to take an Oath/Affirmation of Office and Secrecy.
- Be of good moral character and habits.
- Pass a detailed background check that includes security clearance checks, credit and reference checks.
- Documentation detailing you are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 as approved by the Ministry of Health or have a valid exemption pursuant to the Human Rights Code.

Employment packages can be emailed to those interested. Please send in your request for an employment package to: **Richard Flamand, Human Resources Manager** at **richard.flamand@wtps.ca**.

Interested applicants are to forward their completed employment package, letter of interest, detailed resume and three work-related reference letters to:

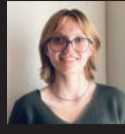
**Attention: Richard Flamand, Human Resources Manager**  
**richard.flamand@wtps.ca**  
**Deadline to apply: Ongoing until filled.**

*Please note:* All applications received will be screened for content and only those selected will be extended a personal interview.

The past week at MSS has been filled with fun and several student accomplishments. From volleyball to a display of Manitoulin Secondary School's musical talents, there was never a dull moment...except for maybe a math class or two.

The MSS archery team had their first practice on Wednesday, February 14—Valentine's Day. Though they might not have been shooting with Cupid's arrows, those new to the sport learned how to hit their targets.

On that same day, MSS proudly hosted the NSSA senior girls' volleyball



Alexandra Wilson-Zegil

finals. The MSS girls' team won first place, successfully keeping their undefeated title. The senior girls' team will be competing at NOS-SA this week. Stay tuned for updates and best of luck to these athletes!

The MSS student body had the chance to make their voices heard when choosing the theme for the upcoming Spring Formal. The options for the dance,

tentatively set in April, included the dazzling "Starry Night," the warm "Golden Hour," and the glamorous "Red Carpet." The voting closed on Friday, February 23, and soon students will find out which enchanting theme will set the stage for a night of music, dance, and celebration.

As February draws to a close, it's time for MSS stu-

dents to start thinking about the future. Course selections for the next school year are due at the end of the month. Students are using this as an opportunity to explore their interests and plan their academic pathway for the upcoming year. For most Grade 11 students, this will be their last time selecting courses and for many, the classes chosen will define

which post-secondary programs they can apply to.

Another highlight from the past week was undoubtedly the premiere of the MSS production of 'Beauty and the Beast.' On February 16, talented MSS actors took the stage, presenting a matinee performance for elementary school students and an evening show that drew a great turnout from the community. The Disney musical came to life with upbeat performances, Manitoulin Secondary School's live pit band, and a magical atmosphere that earned the actors and stage crew a standing ovation. The production has additional

showings this upcoming weekend.

This Thursday, February 22 students will have the opportunity to go skiing at Boogie Mountain for a day of snow-filled fun. Everyone from beginners to pros are able to sign-up for this field trip, supervised by Ms. Cheng.

Students are always busy at MSS with their extracurricular activities, field trips, and sports teams available. With these opportunities, MSS is building a strong and successful school community.

That is all for this week! Until next time, go, Mustangs, go!



**Pasta pastor goodness**

Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie Bishop Thomas Dowd delivers the invocation before diners tucked into a delicious pasta supper fundraiser at St. Bernard's Roman Catholic Church in Little Current. Bishop Dowd is functioning as the interim pastor at the church following the passing of Father George Gardner while he sources a new parish priest for the church.

photo by Michael Erskine

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**WIKWEMIKONG TRIBAL POLICE SERVICE**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – 1 YEAR CONTRACT**

**Position:** Civilian Crisis Responder  
**Location:** Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory  
**Responsible to:** Chief of Police, Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service

The Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service is accepting employment applications for a Civilian Crisis Responder position.

**Summary:** The Crisis Responder will be responsible for helping individuals, families and the community in times of personal crisis as well as for cases of crisis prevention and education. The Crisis Responder will provide counselling and resources to help mitigate the effects of crisis situations including, but not limited to, family violence, police interventions and drug/alcohol related issues. This role will require to create accurate and detailed records and case notes as well as develop and maintain sustainable relationships with other professionals in the community.

The Crisis Responder will work as an integral part of a multi-disciplinary team to provide crisis response services to persons with disabilities. Using a clinical assessment and solution focused therapy methods, the Crisis Responder will provide immediate relief and stabilization to individuals experiencing crisis and trauma. This individual will be responsible for conducting on-site assessment of clients and the administration of individual and situational appropriate treatment. They will also provide recommendation and aid in the coordination of any necessary continued treatment plans.

**Knowledge and Skills:**

- Excellent human relations and interpersonal skills to maintain professionalism to members of the public and external agencies.
- Experience in crisis service considered an asset.
- Ability to multi-task in a fast-paced business environment.
- Knowledge of social, education and healthcare systems that case manage at risk individuals.
- Ability to exercise professional judgement, analyze and solve issues effectively in a variety of situations.
- Excellent assessment, interviewing and counselling skills.
- Interaction with clients in a sensitive, tactful, diplomatic and professional manner always.
- Advanced communication skills required, written and verbal.

**Key Duties/Responsibilities:**

- Provide immediate care to individuals and families experiencing crisis and trauma through mobile crisis outreach.
- Conduct assessment of individuals with the ability to refer to the appropriate community organizations.
- Interview clients to assess situations and determine the types and level of services required.
- Assist in finding opportunities, solutions and resources to address the individual's social and behavioural needs.
- Conduct on-site risk assessment and mental status examinations, determine risk of harm, required level of care and immediate treatment plan.
- De-escalate crisis through provision of immediate solution-focused therapy.
- Manage the transfer of client information to the receiving community organization, as per information sharing agreements.
- Liaise with a range of multi-disciplinary professionals who are involved in a clients' care, ensuring a smooth and coordinated approach, especially when multiple organizations are involved.
- Monitor and evaluate clients, provide follow-up and documentation to all parties.
- Respond to individuals and/or family members by telephone or on a walk-in basis to provide information and support for their needs and situation.
- Other case management duties as assigned.

**Basic Requirements:**

- College diploma in related field or other considered an asset.
- Minimum Grade 12 Ontario Secondary School Diploma or equivalent.
- 3 – 5 years of previous work experience in the social work field considered an asset.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office software applications.
- Must have awareness of First Nation culture and traditions.
- Must possess a valid class G Ontario driver's licence.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality a MUST and be prepared to take an Oath/Affirmation of Office and Secrecy.
- Must be of good moral character, no criminal record and must pass a background check.
- Provide proof of COVID-19 double vaccination record from Ministry of Health.

To apply for this position, interested applicants are to forward their completed employment package, letter of interest, detailed resume, copies of relevant diploma/certificates, and 3 work related reference letters electronically to:

**CONFIDENTIAL – Crisis Responder**  
**Richard Flamand, Human Resources Manager**  
richard.flamand@wtps.ca

**Posting Deadline: Open until the position is filled.**

Employment application packages are available for pick-up at the WTPS detachment or can be emailed at the request of the applicant.

Individuals of Anishinaabe ancestry are encouraged to apply. Please note, applications will be screened. Only those applicants who pass the screening component will be invited for an interview. Interviews will be scheduled and at that time a decision will be made to consider the successful applicant for hire.



**WIKWEMIKONG TRIBAL POLICE SERVICE**

**NEW RECRUIT OFFICER - FULL-TIME – PERMANENT**

**Position:** New Recruit Police Constable  
**Location:** Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory  
**Responsible to:** Chief of Police, Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service

The Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service is accepting applications for a New Recruit Constable. Applicants will be required to successfully complete any additional training deemed necessary by the Ontario Police College as a condition of employment. The new recruit must attend and successfully pass a 13-week basic recruit training course at the Ontario Police College in Aylmer, Ontario, for the March 2024 intake. **All new hires are expected to have a valid and completed OACP certificate and medical forms as per attached OACP link [www.oacpcertificate.ca](http://www.oacpcertificate.ca).**

**Summary:** The New Recruit Police Constable will be responsible to the Chief of Police and will maintain law and order in a community-based setting within/around the Wiikwemkoong Territory.

**Key Duties/Responsibilities:**

- Preserve the peace, prevent crimes, other offences, provide assistance and encouragement to other persons in their prevention.
- Assist victims of crime.
- Apprehend criminals, other offenders and others who may lawfully be taken into custody.
- Lay charges and participate in prosecutions.
- Execute warrants and perform related duties.
- Perform the lawful duties that the Chief of Police assigns.
- Respond to calls for service.
- Successfully complete prescribed training.
- Commitment to Community-Based Policing principles and practices.
- Display cultural competence when interacting with members of the community; perform 12-hour shifts (days and nights) including weekends and holidays.
- Participate in community events and cultural gatherings.
- Assist in the development and implementation of projects, acting as a resource to team members and other units.
- Undertake assignments, including traffic point duty and crowd control, as required.

**Basic Requirements:**

- Diploma in Police Foundations or Degree in Law and Criminal justice an asset.
- Copy of OACP certificate, include all accompanied documents such as hearing/vision assessments, two-week fitness log and OACP waivers.
- Copy of valid class G Ontario driver's licence.
- Copy of current First Aid/CPR Level C Certificates.
- Basic computer skills and knowledge of Microsoft Outlook and Office.
- Must have awareness of First Nation culture and traditions.
- Be physically and mentally able to perform the duties of the position.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality a MUST.
- Be prepared to take an Oath/Affirmation of Office and Secrecy.
- Be of good moral character and habits.
- Pass a detailed background check that includes security clearance checks, credit and reference checks.
- Documentation showing you are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 as approved by the Ministry of Health or have valid exemption pursuant to the Human Rights Code.
- Any relevant certificates related to the position being applied for.
- Candidates with a strong application may be asked to attend the fitness pin test, by invitation only.

Employment packages are available for pick up at the WTPS office or can be emailed to those interested. Interested applicants are to forward their completed electronic employment package, letter of interest, detailed resume, copies of relevant diploma/certificates and three reference letters to:

**Attention: Human Resources Manager, Richard Flamand**  
richard.flamand@wtps.ca  
**Deadline to Apply for March 2024 Intake: Ongoing until filled.**

*Please note:* Applications will be screened and only those selected will be contacted for an interview.

# Wagg's Wood Trail has a nifty new logo designed by James Hoffman

by Tom Sasvari  
MINDEMOYA—Wagg's Wood Trail in Mindemoya has a beautiful new logo, thanks to the creative work of James Hoffman.

"Wagg's Wood Trail has a new beautiful logo," stated Marcus Mohr, a Central Manitoulin municipal staff member on the Wagg's Wood trail committee. "We're doing a new trail

sign in the spring and part of that is branding for the trail signs. Jim Hoffman, who lives in Exeter offered to create our new logo at no charge. He also designed the logo for Misery Bay Park so he is obviously very talented."

A Central Manitoulin release February 2 states, "the logo really embodies the spirit of the trail sys-

tem. Everything from the alvar paths, flowers, fossils, the old growth forest up to the mixed forest on the rising levels of trails on the escarpment. Front and centre is the barred owl, often observed and adored by trail hikers; the trail committee had adopted the bird as the trails mascot. The logo will be proudly displayed as part of the new



The new logo for Wagg's Wood Trail.

trailhead sign at 1 Thorne Street Mindemoya in the spring of 2024."

"The logo will be used on the trail signage and branding for the trailhead sign, which has a map, information about the trails and guidelines," said Mr. Mohr. He explained the new trailhead has been in existence since 2021 and has potential for future projected additions like interpretive signage such as fossils and flowers.

"Wagg's Woods Trail went through an amazing transformation over the past few years and now

boasts three kilometres of hiking on four distinct trails," the Central Manitoulin release explains. "These new trail systems would not have been possible without the municipal investment, the trail committee, volunteers and generous donations from the public. There are still a few projects in the works for the 42-acre park so stay tuned."

The trails which are all open include The Woodland Accessibility Trail, great for those with mobility issues, mobility devices and strollers. Enjoy nature on one of six donated benches.

The Fossil Trail walk allows visitors the opportunities to walk on the floor of an ancient sub-tropical sea that covered the Manitoulin Island area more than 400 million years ago. You can also wander the Alvear Trail and alvar full of rock cracks and glacial erratic rocks deposited during the last ice age. The Escarpment Trail is described as a trail for the adventurer. Follow along the edge of the escarpment and take in views of the park below as you twist turn and climb your way along the trail.

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

### We are currently inviting applications for the following employment opportunities:

#### FULL-TIME position:

#### Manitoulin Island:

Child Well-Being Worker: Closes March 1, 2024

#### CONTRACT positions:

#### Manitoulin Island:

JP Service Coordinator: Closes February 23, 2024

Education Liaison: Closes March 1, 2024

Education Support Worker: Closes March 1, 2024

#### \*All postings close at 4pm EST\*

To apply, kindly send your application to our Human Resources department at [hr@kgcfs.org](mailto:hr@kgcfs.org), ensuring to specify the position title in the subject line. For comprehensive job descriptions and to access the postings, please visit our website at: [www.kgcfs.org/employment-opportunities](http://www.kgcfs.org/employment-opportunities)

*At KGCFs 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. Miigwetch for your application, however, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. As a condition of employment, the successful candidate must submit the following: a Satisfactory Criminal Reference Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check (current and within 3 months of application date), Driver's Abstract and Proof of Liability Insurance.*

**Thank you for considering a career opportunity with us.**

**Noojmowin Teg Health Centre**  
A place of healing

## BOARD VACANCY OFF-RESERVE REPRESENTATIVE

The Noojmowin Teg Health Centre Board of Directors seeks an application to fill a Board vacancy specific to First Nation/Indigenous members living off-reserve.

Noojmowin Teg Health Centre is comprised of a multi-disciplinary team of health professionals who provide community-based, integrated and on and off-site services that include: Traditional Healing and Cultural Support Services, Primary and Clinical Care Services, Mental Health and Addictions Services and Health and Wellness Programs and Services to the seven First Nations and off-reserve Anishinabek populations living within the Manitoulin Island District, Espanola and area.

Noojmowin Teg Health Centre is seeking one (1) board member that is interested in making a difference for Indigenous health; Specifically, applicants must live off-reserve. The off-reserve applicant will have familiarity with board governance, strategic organizational planning, funding and reporting requirements and experience in reviewing budgets is an asset.

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

For more information about the organization, please visit the website at: [www.noojmowin-teg.ca](http://www.noojmowin-teg.ca).

#### Pre-requisites:

Please submit the following:

- Cover letter (outlining reasons for your interest and what strengths you bring to the board)
- Resume or description of experiences relevant to the position
- Three (3) relevant references with contact information
- Current and clear Criminal Reference Check
- Must be able to provide proof of Status or Indigenous ancestry

#### Send "Confidential" to:

**Attn: Board Chair c/o Noojmowin Teg Health Centre**

**Hwy 540, 48 Hillside Rd., Postal Bag 2002**

**Little Current, ON P0P 1K0**

**Ph.: 705-368-0083 ext. 235, Fax: 705-368-3922**

**Or email: [debbie.francis@noojmowin-teg.ca](mailto:debbie.francis@noojmowin-teg.ca)**

**Deadline: Posting is open until filled**

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

## ! help wanted ! help wanted ! help wanted

**FULL AND PART-TIME  
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY  
RN, RPN and PSW  
Manitoulin Centennial Manor**

Manitoulin Centennial Manor has openings for full- and part-time permanent care staff. Come and join our highly skilled caring team providing top quality care to our residents.

#### Responsibilities include:

- Full direct care of residents that ranges from:
- Ensuring care is provided with established nursing standards and principles, physicians' orders and administrative policies to assisting with activities of daily living and providing emotional and social support, depending on position.

#### Qualifications:

- Appropriate current certificate of competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario required.
- Registration or eligible for registration with the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario.
- Completed a PSW program that meets the appropriate standards established by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, the National Association of Career Colleges, or the Ontario Community Support Association and must be a minimum of 600 hours in duration (including class time and practical experience time).

#### Compensation includes:

- Competitive wages, health and benefit package and pension.
- Signing bonus and relocation bonus with free accommodations for up to 6 months.

For more information or to submit your resume, contact:

**Sylvie Clark, RN**

**Director of Care**

**Manitoulin Centennial Manor**

**Address: 70 Robinson Street, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0**

**Phone: 705-368-2710 | Fax: 705-368-2694**

**Email: [SClark@extendicare.com](mailto:SClark@extendicare.com)**

# Workforce Planning Sudbury and Manitoulin release local market plan

by Michael Erskine

SUDBURY—Canada's unemployment rate stood at 5.7 per cent in January according to data, declining slightly in its first drop since December 2022 as the nation added 37,000 new jobs according to a recent report from Statistics Canada. Economists have long cited six per cent as the "full employment" benchmark for the nation. That news is not great for those seeking to hire new employees, or for those banking on a drop in interest rates.

Coming on the heels of the StatsCan release, Workforce Planning Sudbury and Manitoulin (WPSM) has published its Local Labour Market Plan. While the numbers in the plan are comfortably solid for Sudbury, WPSM Executive Director Reggie Caverson said some caution must be taken when looking at the Manitoulin numbers due to the small population density and the way Statistics Canada reports its data.

According to the report, in 2021-2022 there was a net increase of nine firms with employees (compared to a decline of 28 firms in 2020-2021) and a decline of seven firms without employees (compared to 2020-2021's increase of 26 firms).

There was no net change in any industry among firms with 100 or more employees, but among firms with 20-99 employees the biggest change was in the Public Administration sector, which appears to be due to a drop in the number of establishments in Aboriginal Public Administration.

Overall, Ms. Caverson notes that Manitoulin's employment profile is dominated by the self-employed. "There are 62 percent of firms indicating they have no employees other than the owner," she pointed out. "About 400 have one or more employees."

The good news is there was growth in the number of

establishments in agriculture, forestry, fishing and farming, construction and real estate, rental and leasing, either among firms with zero employees or one to 19 employees.

On the down side, there were larger declines among firms with zero employees in retail trade, professional, scientific and technical services and accommodation and food services.

The main story seems to be that there has been some recovery in Manitoulin from the decline experienced in 2020-21.

The number one employment sector in the Manitoulin District is real estate, rental and leasing sector, employing 133 in companies with zero employees, 10 employed in businesses reporting one to four employees, one reporting 10-19 employees and one employing 20-49.

Second on the scale is the agricultural sector, employing 113 with zero employees with the largest other group falling in the one to four employee column (14). Third up is retail trade with 48 having zero employees (25 report one to four employees, 30 reporting five to nine employees), con-

struction came in fourth with 56 reporting zero employees and 34 employed at companies with one to four employees. Fifth was accommodation and food reporting 53 with zero employees and 12 employees at companies with one to four employees—sixth is a catch-all "other services."

Like most other areas of the country, Manitoulin's major stumbling block to new hires has been reported as being securing accommodation for incoming workers.

Ms. Caverson noted that the WPSM Job Board has been quite active in recent months. Their job board aggregates 30 job banks across the Manitoulin and Sudbury Districts to provide a broad reach for employers. Among those being included in the WPSM bank is data from The Expositor's own job board.

The mandate of Workforce Planning for Sudbury & Manitoulin (WPSM) is to identify labour market changes, trends and issues that impact on local economies, workforce development, business growth, training, and employment.

**! help wanted ! help wanted ! help wanted ! help wanted**



**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY  
COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKER**  
DEPARTMENT: HEALTH SERVICES - FAMILY RESOURCES  
Salary Range: CS – 2 (\$45,396 - \$55,484)  
Employment Status: Full Time Regular

**Position Summary:**

Under the supervision of the Family Resources Manager, the Community Support Worker will provide short and long-term prevention and early intervention services and programs for children, parents and families of M'Chigeeng First Nation (MFN).

The CSW will develop, assist and support after-hours programming in the community, which is primarily the objective of this position and may require transport of youth, children and families. The successful CSW will be knowledgeable of M'Chigeeng values and traditions. In addition, positive teamwork and inter-department communication is crucial, as the CSW will be making necessary outside referrals as well as connecting clients to services within the community. Establishing and maintaining cooperative and collaborative working relationships with co-workers and community members is crucial. CSWs promote healthy lifestyles and healthy child parenting, while also recognizing and reporting child abuse or neglect in the community.

**Essential Functions:**

- Delivery of advocacy and referral services to and for M'Chigeeng First Nation Band members.
- Delivery of education programs and services in relation to short and long-term prevention services for band members.
- Delivery of counselling services when required, life skills training and coaching.
- Delivery of proactive workshops and/or training in relation to parenting and children's services.
- Development and implementation of parenting programs for community members.
- Development and implementation of cultural awareness activities.
- Ensure effective and efficient operation of program through monthly reports, staff consultations and meetings, case conferences and community meetings.
- Maintain community linkages as it relates to the delivery of prevention services and programs.
- Ensure high level of confidentiality in all areas of prevention services.
- Understand and be able to implement knowledge of family systems.
- Maintain linkages, internal and external, to the organization to ensure effective and efficient operation of preventive services to community members.
- Work closely with the employees working directly with youth.
- Ability to apply effective programs in relation to Child & Family Services.

**Qualifications & Requirements:**

- Diploma in or related to the field of Social Worker, equivalent education and experience.
- Good understanding of conflict resolution and mediation processes.
- Ability to engage children, relate with youth with understanding and in a strength-based approach and promote strong healthy family values.
- Proficiency with various computer software applications.

**Other:**

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Strong decision making, analytical and problem-solving skills for the unpredictable nature of work.
- Knowledge and experience in involving families, community, community supports and other systems in case planning.
- Have excellent time management skills and ability to multitask and prioritize to meet deadlines.
- Must have knowledge of Anishinaabe culture, traditions, and customs.
- Ability to speak and understand the Ojibwe language would be a strong asset or the willingness to learn.
- Self-motivated, ability to work independently with minimal supervision and is a team player.
- Willing to work flexible hours and weekends and ability to work under stressful situations.
- Must have or be willing to obtain First Aid /CPR, Mental Health First Aid; Applied Suicide Intervention Skills.
- Certification in ASIST and Non-Violent Crisis Intervention (NVCI).
- Must have a valid G License with access to own vehicle.

\*\*The successful candidate must submit a Police VSS prior to the start of the position.

**Closing Date: March 1, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.**

If you are interested in this employment opportunity, applicants must submit cover letter, resume with three current reference contacts (two work related and one character reference) and copies of education qualifications to:

**COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKER**  
c/o Enaagdenjged  
M'Chigeeng First Nation, P.O. Box 333  
M'CHIGEENG, ON P0P 1G0  
Fax 705-377-4980 or email to: [employment@mchigeeng.ca](mailto:employment@mchigeeng.ca)

Miigwetch to all interested applicants, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



**! help wanted ! help wanted**



**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY  
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk**

Reporting to the Mayor and Council, the **Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk** is responsible for the strategic leadership and efficient delivery of all the municipality's administrative and operational services. As the key advisor to Council, you have the vision to develop and implement operational plans and ensure the coordination of services which align to and support our strategic priorities. In addition, the CAO/Clerk will be responsible for the statutory duties of the Clerk. You will recommend policies, plans and programs that benefit our residents by being innovative, accountable and fiscally sound. You will work to enhance the meaningful development of our community that is consistent with our vision and values while ensuring the effective utilization of resources through the priorities as identified by Council.

To explore this opportunity please visit the Township website at <https://billingsstp.ca/employment-opportunities/> and apply via email by March 1st or sooner to: [careers@waterhousesearch.net](mailto:careers@waterhousesearch.net) quoting project TB-CAO.

Should you wish to speak to our Executive Recruiter or to receive a detailed position description please contact Amy Oliveira at: 416-214-9299 x4, [amy@waterhousesearch.net](mailto:amy@waterhousesearch.net) or Jon Stungevicius at 416-214-9299 x1, [jon@waterhousesearch.net](mailto:jon@waterhousesearch.net).

# KENJGEWIN TEG JOB OPPORTUNITIES



## JOIN OUR TEAM!

**We offer:**

- A Flexible Work Environment
- Competitive Benefits Package
- Anishinaabe Aadziwin Environment & Language Learning Opportunities
- Professional Development Opportunities & More!



**Currently Recruiting For:**

- AP/AR Clerk (Finance)
- Finance Manager
- Dean of Pathways

Learn More & View Job Descriptions:  
[kenjgewinteg.ca/careers](http://kenjgewinteg.ca/careers)



### Dean of Pathways

**Classification:** Manager M4 Middle-Manager/Salary Grade Band M  
**Qualified Level Salary Range:** \$86,732 - \$96,368 - \$106,005  
**Underhire Level Salary Range:** \$75,456 - \$83,840 - \$92,224  
**Advanced Qualification Salary Range:** \$98,006 - \$108,895 - \$119,785

#### Position Objective:

The Dean of Pathways will be responsible for providing strategic leadership on academic programs and curricula ensuring students are provided with quality instruction and support services in a welcoming learning environment. This position will act as an academic and student services leader by providing program delivery supervision, coordination, administration and financial budgeting while monitoring and reporting on key achievement and program deliverables including data management. The Dean of Pathways will ensure the integrity of programs and services that are in alignment with Anishinaabe Aadziwin.

#### Qualifications:

- Must possess a minimum of a Bachelor of Education
- Must be a member in good standing with the Ontario College of Teachers
- Applicant must possess Principal's Qualifications is preferred or commit to completing the Principal's Qualification course in an identified timeframe
- Have a thorough understanding of operating a private secondary school in Ontario for Ministry Inspection
- Minimum of five years of demonstrated substantial management experience in a secondary or adult learning environment.

#### Job Knowledge and Skills:

- Must have an appreciation of the Anishinabek culture, principles, values, language, history and customs; and be supportive of Anishinabek practices, language revitalization and protocols
- Ability to write and format moderately complex correspondence, including memos, letters, proposals and reports
- Strong knowledge of general office procedures involving budget management, and reports
- Strong time management skills, multi-tasking skills and the ability to prioritize tasks with minimal supervision
- Intermediate – Advanced knowledge of Microsoft Office (Outlook, TEAMS, Word, Excel, Power Point)
- Familiarity with Brightspace LMS
- Familiarity with SIS
- Strong understanding of PLAR – PPMI32
- Knowledge of Trauma Informed Educational practices
- Ability to maintain filing systems and databases

### Finance Manager

**Classification:** Manager M2 Department Head – Salary Grade Band J  
**Qualified Level:** (\$72,308 - \$80,343 - \$88,377)  
**Underhire Level:** (\$62,908 - \$69,899 - \$76,888)  
**Advanced Level:** (\$81,710 - \$90,788 - \$99,865)

#### Position Objective:

The Finance Manager ensures legal and regulatory compliance of the organization for accounting and financial reporting functions in accordance with GAAP for non-profit organizations. This position is responsible for the establishment and implementation of financial policies, procedures, internal controls and reporting systems. This supervisory position reports to the Director of Operations and is responsible for the overall accuracy of financial transactions within the organization's general accounting, accounts payable, accounts receivable and payroll functions.

#### Qualifications:

- Possess a Bachelor of Commerce Degree (Qualified Level Salary Grid)
- Minimum of three (3) years of financial management and supervision experience with the SAGE financial management system
- Financial management and budgetary experience up to \$10M annually

#### Job Knowledge and Skills:

- Ability to work as a member of a multidisciplinary team
- Effective communication skills to work effectively with individuals in all teams, including external stakeholders (i.e. organizations and government agencies)
- Highly self-motivated and self-directed individual capable of multi-tasking; able to work with minimal supervision
- Detail-oriented and analytical thinker; strong problem identification and problem resolution skills
- Adaptability and flexibility' decision-making and judgement
- High level of proficiency with Microsoft Office suite of software, especially Excel spreadsheets
- Must have an appreciation of the Anishinabek culture, principles, values, language, history and customs; and be supportive of Anishinabek practices, language revitalization and protocols

### Accounts Payable/Accounts Receivable Clerk

**Classification:** O2 Organizational Support and Services – Administrative Support – Salary Grade Band C  
**Qualified Level Salary Broadband Range:** \$37,038 – \$41,152 – \$45,268  
**Underhire Level Salary Broadband Range:** \$31,909 - \$35,455 - \$39,001  
**Advanced Level Salary Broadband Range:** \$41,446 - \$46,051 - \$50,655

#### Position Objective:

The Accounts Payable/Accounts Receivable Clerk reports to the Finance Manager and is responsible for providing financial, administrative and clerical services. This includes processing and monitoring payments and expenditures, processing and monitoring receipts and revenues. This position's primary role and responsibilities is to perform these services in an effective and efficient manner to help ensure that Kenjgewin Teg finances are accurate and up to date, and vendors and suppliers are paid within established time limits and monies are received within appropriate time limits. This position is responsible for the overall accuracy of financial transactions within the organization's general accounting, accounts payable, accounts receivable and payroll functions.

#### Qualifications:

- Possess a two-year Accounting Diploma from an accredited post-secondary institution (Qualified Level Salary Grid)
- Minimum of two (2) years of experience with responsibilities related to financial processes and procedures
- Experience with the SAGE financial management software
- Experience with financial reporting is preferred
- Budgetary experience is considered an asset

#### Job Knowledge and Skills:

- Ability to work as a member of a multidisciplinary team
- Effective communication skills to work effectively with individuals in all teams, including external stakeholders (i.e., organizations and government agencies)
- Highly self-motivated and self-directed individual capable of multi-tasking; able to work with minimal supervision
- Detail-oriented and analytical thinker; strong problem identification and problem resolution skills
- Adaptability and flexibility with decision-making and judgement
- High level of proficiency with Microsoft Office suite of software, especially Excel spreadsheets, Microsoft Outlook and Microsoft Teams
- Must have an appreciation of the Anishinabek culture, principles, values, language, history and customs; and be supportive of Anishinabek practices, language revitalization and protocols

**Interested applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the Human Resources Department for a FULL job description to provide the scope and understanding of the positions responsibilities.**

Please note that the successful candidate must be willing to travel when required, possess a valid Ontario driver's licence and have access to a reliable vehicle. For further information, please contact the Director of Human Resources at [humanresources@kenjgewinteg.ca](mailto:humanresources@kenjgewinteg.ca). Interested individuals can send a complete application package that consists of: Cover letter, a detailed resume, three (3) current (within one year) letters of reference, two of which must be professional on organizational letterhead and authored by direct supervisor and written permission to contact references. Please note that the successful candidate will be required to provide a current Vulnerable Sector Check. Applications can be received marked confidential through email at [humanresources@kenjgewinteg.ca](mailto:humanresources@kenjgewinteg.ca) or by mail to:

Kenjgewin Teg "HR – Job Title"  
 c/o Director of Human Resources  
 374A Hwy. 551, P.O. Box 328, M'Chigeeng, ON POP 1G0

**Please note:** Kenjgewin Teg's Fitness for Duty Program is implemented, which is designed to promote the development and maintenance of the highest possible levels of worker health and safety in an efficient and productive workplace. Kenjgewin Teg has taken steps to ensure that the organization is inclusive within the school community. This includes the shared practice of First Nation tradition of smudging.

Late applications and incomplete application packages will not be considered. While we thank all applicants, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Personal information contained in applications will be used for recruitment purposes and collected as per Freedom Of Information (F.O.I.) And Protection Of Privacy Act, 1987.

# Ontario MP Ford announced a referendum to be held in advance of any new provincial Carbon Tax

by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre,  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

TORONTO—Premier Doug Ford announced that going forward, provincial governments will not be able to introduce a carbon tax without holding a referendum, giving voters the right to have their voices heard, should the new legislation pass.

It will also give constituents a “direct say” over the provincial carbon tax, cap and trade system or any other carbon pricing programs. However, Canada introduced a national policy in 2019 that requires provinces and territories to either adopt the federal carbon tax or to introduce their own system.

“This new law will guarantee that no provincial government can force a costly carbon tax on the people of Ontario without ensuring their voices are heard loud and clear,” Premier Ford said of the Get It Done Act, which will be tabled in the spring session of the legislature later this month.

The federal carbon tax on gasoline stands at 14.31 cents per litre, with projections indicating a rise to 37.43 cents per litre by 2030, as stated by the province.

Premier Ford has long been vocally opposed to the tax. “You’re being gouged by the carbon tax; it’s as simple as that. It’s the worst tax ever,” Premier Ford said. He even went to the extent of mandating gas stations to affix anti-carbon tax stickers on pumps in 2019. However, a year later, a Superior Court judge deemed this requirement unconstitutional.

“With the Bank of Canada’s high interest rates and the cost of living still so high, it’s never been more important to keep costs down for people and businesses,” said Premier Doug Ford. “I’ve always said, the carbon tax is the worst tax. It increases the cost of everything. We need to protect Ontario workers and families from the high cost of a carbon tax and we urge the federal government to do the same.”

In the previous year, the Ontario government declared an extension of its reductions in gas and fuel tax rates until June 30, 2024, aiming to mitigate the impact of pump prices. Premier Ford highlighted that since its inception in

2022, this cut has, on average, saved households \$260. Since the federal carbon tax has been in effect, Ottawa has issued rebates to Canadians where the levy is applied through direct deposits and cheques.

This initiative forms a component of forthcoming legislation set to commence the spring session of the legislature on February 20, 2024. The Get It Done Act will encompass a range of measures aimed at enhancing the government’s existing commitments. These measures, if approved, will focus on expediting approvals for significant infrastructure projects and housing.

Premier Ford also accused former Mississauga mayor and current Ontario Liberal Leader Bonnie Crombie of being “the queen of the carbon tax,” during her time from 2008 to 2011 as Liberal MP and also accusing her of raising taxes every year while she was mayor of Mississauga. In

response, Ms. Crombie accused the premier of having “abandoned Ontario” stating that “Desperate Doug is yet again trying to distract Ontario citizens from his failures, flip flops and scandals” in a written statement. “Let’s be clear: Doug Ford would sooner drag Ontario backwards just to enrich his well-connected insiders, than come up with a climate plan of his own.”

According to a recent poll, if a provincial election were conducted today, Premier Ford’s Progressive Conservatives would hold a lead of only eight points, with 34 percent of the vote, over Ms. Crombie’s Liberals, which stand at 26 percent. The NDP, as indicated by the same poll, would receive only 18 percent of the vote. While the PCs have directed minimal attention towards the NDP and Opposition Leader Marit Stiles, they did release attack ads against Ms. Crombie in the latter months of 2023.

## Federal government extends doctor loan forgiveness

OTTAWA—From downtown Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal to Canmore, Alberta and Truro, Nova Scotia, Canadians deserve access to timely, high-quality health care, where and when they need it.

The cost of education and training for nurses and doctors is high and can discourage many talented Canadians from pursuing their career of choice. The government of Canada is taking the next steps to strengthen the Canadian workforce and reduce costs and expenses for health care workers, a February 13 press release states.

On February 13, the Honourable Randy Boissonnault, minister of employment, workforce development and official languages, announced that the policy to increase loan forgiveness by 50 percent is now in effect for doctors and nurses working in underserved rural and remote com-

munities.

“During the pandemic, we saw firsthand how important our health workforce is, especially in rural and remote communities,” said Minister Boissonnault. “With these regulatory changes, we are improving our support for health workers as well as offering needed quality health care to people living in Canada’s underserved rural and remote communities.”

With these changes, up to \$60,000 will be forgiven for a family physician or family medicine resident, and up to \$30,000 for a nurse or nurse practitioner.

This is a 50 percent increase to the maximum amount of forgivable Canada Student Loans for eligible family physicians, family medicine residents, nurses and nurse practitioners working in under-served rural and

remote communities. Approximately 3,000 doctors and nurses will benefit in the first year of implementation, reaching up to 8,000 per year by 2032-2033.

This 50 percent increase in Canada Student Loan forgiveness is expected to attract nearly 1,200 new doctors and 4,000 new nurses to under-served rural and remote communities across the country over a 10-year period.

Mark Holland, minister of health said, “Health workers are the backbone of Canada’s health care system. Without a sustained and efficient workforce, Canadians cannot access the care they need, when they need it. These regulatory changes will support the recruitment and retention of health workers in rural and remote communities, where there are significant needs right now.”

### ! help wanted ! help wanted



**Children's Community Network**  
Réseau communautaire pour enfants

is currently seeking a

**Child and Youth Worker**  
**Urgent Response Services Program**

for the Sudbury office

Hybrid Work Arrangement

Full-Time permanent, 35 hours/week

(Monday to Friday – varying hours, including evenings)

Salary range: \$23.63 to \$35.11 per hour

The Children's Community Network (CCN) is a non-profit agency who provides services to children, youth and their families. CCN offers a flexible work environment with a positive, caring and supportive culture. CCN offers professional development opportunities for employees to ensure continued growth and skill building in their roles. CCN offers competitive benefits and enrolment in the HOOPP pension plan.

The successful candidate will work directly with children and youth diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and their caregivers to provide therapeutic respite. They will work in partnership with the Urgent Response Coordinator, Behaviour Therapist and Social Worker to implement the strategies identified in the behaviour treatment plan. The candidate will assist in modeling the recommended behavioural approaches to the child/youth's caregiver and will share successes, challenges and observations with the Urgent Response Services team. The candidate will provide safe, stimulating and recreational support in the client's home or in the community. They will provide professional services using a strength-based approach.

The candidate will possess a diploma in Child and Youth Work with a minimum of two years' experience working with children/youth with autism or an equivalent combination of education and experience. The candidate will have knowledge of child development, childhood disorders and syndromes. They will have a thorough knowledge and ability to apply behavioural intervention strategies, the ability to work both independently and as part of a team, possess exceptional interpersonal and conflict resolution skills, organization and time management skills.

The successful candidate must be willing and able to work evenings in order to accommodate client needs. A valid driver's licence, access to a vehicle and current insurance are required as travel throughout the assigned area is required. Bilingualism is considered an asset.

Those interested in this position should send their current resumes in confidence to:

**Mary Katherine Howe, Executive Director**  
**Children's Community Network**  
Tel: (705) 566-3416 ext. 2547  
E-Mail: [mhowe@ccnsudbury.on.ca](mailto:mhowe@ccnsudbury.on.ca)  
Posted: February 12, 2024

Children's Community Network welcomes and encourages applications from people with disabilities. Accommodations are available on request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process. We would like to thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

### ! help wanted ! help wanted



**Children's Community Network**  
Réseau communautaire pour enfants

is currently seeking a

**Social Worker**  
**Urgent Response Program**

for the Sudbury/Manitoulin District

Hybrid work arrangement

Permanent, full-time, 35 hours/week

Salary range: (Bachelor's) \$35.73 - \$42.90

(Master's) \$38.59 - \$46.33

The Children's Community Network (CCN) is non-profit agency providing services to children, youth and their families. CCN offers a flexible work environment with a positive, caring, and supportive culture. CCN offers professional development opportunities for employees to ensure continued growth and skill building in their roles. CCN offers competitive benefits and enrollment in the HOOPP pension plan.

The successful candidate will play a key role in the treatment of individuals diagnosed with Autism who are referred to the Urgent Response Program. They will work with the Urgent Response Coordinator, Behaviour Therapist, and family to support the development of a caregiver mediated treatment plan and provide supportive therapy.

The successful candidate will have a Master's degree in social work and must be registered and in good standing with the college of Social Work. Those candidates with a Bachelor's degree may be considered. The successful candidate must have a minimum 5 years' experience developing and implementing behaviour treatment plans and experience working with children/youth with Autism; experience working in a multidisciplinary team, assessment and intervention skills and experience with data collection and analysis.

The successful candidate will have knowledge of both theory and the application of systemic interventions, child development, childhood disorders and syndromes, family/individual mental health assessments and intervention. The candidate must be self-motivated and able to work independently. Exceptional leadership, inter-personal, problem-solving, written, and organizational skills are further requirements for this position. Bilingualism is considered an asset.

A valid driver's license, access to a vehicle, and current insurance are required as travel throughout the assigned area, although limited, may be expected. The successful candidate must provide a clear vulnerable sector criminal reference check. The potential candidate will be expected to primarily work from home.

Those interested in this position should send their current resumes to:

**Mary-Katherine Howe, Executive Director**  
**Children's Community Network**  
Tel: (705) 566-3416 ext. 2547  
Email: [mhowe@ccnsudbury.on.ca](mailto:mhowe@ccnsudbury.on.ca)  
Posted: February 12, 2024 (until filled)

Children's Community Network welcomes and encourages applications from people with disabilities. Accommodations are available on request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process. We would like to thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

### ! help wanted ! help wanted



**Children's Community Network**  
Réseau communautaire pour enfants

is currently seeking a

**Behaviour Therapist**

for the Sudbury/Manitoulin District

Hybrid Work Arrangement

Full-Time, permanent, 35 hours/week

Salary range: (Bachelor's) \$35.73 - \$42.90

(Master's) \$38.59 - \$46.33

The Children's Community Network (CCN) is a non-profit agency who provides services to children, youth and their families. CCN offers a flexible work environment with a positive, caring, and supportive culture. CCN offers professional development opportunities for employees to ensure continued growth and skill building in their roles. CCN offers competitive benefits and enrolment in the HOOPP pension plan.

The successful candidate will play a key role in the treatment of individuals diagnosed with Autism who are referred to the Intensive Treatment and Support Program. They will provide services to clients with complex needs and their families through the use of Applied Behavioural Analysis and positive behaviour supports.

The successful candidate will have an Honours Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree in Psychology, Disability Studies or another related field. Registration as a Board Certified assistant Behaviour Analyst (BCaBA) or a Registered Behaviour Technician (RBT) is considered an asset. The successful candidate must have a minimum 5 years' experience developing and implementing behaviour treatment plans for children with Autism; experience working in a multidisciplinary team, including with BCBA and other registered clinical practitioners; experience in the development, implementation, data collection and oversight of clinical treatment programming for children and youth with Autism; excellent organizational skills to support planning for client services in a multidisciplinary context, case management, assessment and intervention skills and data collection and analysis.

The successful candidate will have knowledge of both theory and the application of systemic interventions, child development, childhood disorders and syndromes, family/individual mental health assessments and intervention. The candidate must be self-motivated and able to work independently. Exceptional leadership, inter-personal, problem-solving, written and organizational skills are further requirements for this position. Bilingualism is considered an asset.

A valid driver's licence, access to a vehicle, and current insurance are required as travel throughout the assigned area may be expected. The successful candidate must provide a clear vulnerable sector criminal reference check. The potential candidate will be expected to primarily work from home.

Those interested in this position should send their current resumes to:

**Mary-Katherine Howe - Executive Director**  
**Children's Community Network**  
Tel: (705) 566-3416 ext. 2547  
Fax: (705) 521-7376

Email: [mhowe@ccnsudbury.on.ca](mailto:mhowe@ccnsudbury.on.ca)

Posted: February 12, 2024

Children's Community Network welcomes and encourages applications from people with disabilities. Accommodations are available on request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process. We would like to thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

## 2SLGBTQ+ parent/caregiver support group meets monthly

by Margery Frisch  
AUNDECK OMNI KAN-  
ING—Mnaamodzawin  
Health Services Inc. provides a wealth of activities and programs designed to support 2SLGBTQ+ youth and adults, including workshops, drop-in groups, advocacy, arts programming, sports and recreational activities. Their staff provides consultations, referrals, collaboration with other service providers, counseling and discussions on health and hormones, dealing with discrimination, and negotiating relationships, among a host of other topics.

In addition to their ongoing support for the 2SLGBTQ+ community, the Sex and Gender Diversity Program offers a monthly support group for the parents and caregivers of 2SLGBTQ+ youth and young adults. The sessions take place on the last Tuesday of each month, and are open to all communities, Island-wide. The purpose of these sessions is to help parents and caregivers to understand the diverse gender identities, sexual orientations and appropriate language of these communities. They help parents and caregivers to support their children with effective strategies in dealing with gender identity and sexual orientation. The sessions are led by mental health counselors, and they provide parents and caregivers with resources on Manitoulin, and most importantly, they assist families in building healthy relationships with their children.

“Since March 2020, Mnaamodzawin has hosted an annual conference aimed at 2SLGBTQ+ individuals, families and allies, and as a direct result of feedback received at our 2023 conference, this past October, we put together the Support Group for Parents and Caregivers of 2SLGBTQ+ Children/Youth,” Leslie Tipper said. Ms. Tipper is Mnaamodzawin Health Services’ 2SLGBTQ2+ activities coordinator. “It can be challenging to accept, affirm, and support your child/youth’s expression of sexuality or gender identity and you don’t have to do it alone,” Ms. Tipper added. She went on to explain that the Sex and Gender Diversity Program, with its inception in May 2023, became the catalyst for Pride Manitoulin with Mnaamodzawin Health Services as benefactor.

“This year’s Pride Weekend will be held the second weekend in August 2024, with many fun, educational, and exciting events planned. As mentioned, the program also plans an annual 2SLGBTQ+ conference with special guests full of information and inspiration, presenting on a variety of topics. The 2024 2SLGBTQ2+ conference will be held on Saturday, March 23 at the Manitoulin Hotel and Conference Center,” the Activities Coordinator said.

Stay up to date on their activities and events by checking out the Mnaamodzawin Facebook page, or better yet, join the group Manitoulin 2SLGBTQ+

Activities and Events on Facebook. You can contact Leslie Tipper directly at 705-368-2182 ext. 247 or email her at [leslie.tipper@mnaamodzawin.com](mailto:leslie.tipper@mnaamodzawin.com). She will provide you with all the information you need for every member of the family and can even connect you with a Two Spirit Knowledge Keeper.



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### Rainbow Schools

Reaching minds. Touching hearts.

#### Carpenter, Indigenous Support Worker and Psychometrist

At Rainbow District School Board, we are leaders in learning, inspiring success for all students by reaching minds and touching hearts. Together, we prepare students to become lifelong learners, achieving their full potential as confident, caring members of society.

Rainbow District School Board is now accepting applications for a **Carpenter, an Indigenous Support Worker (contract) and a Psychometrist.**

For more information about this employment opportunity, please visit: [www.rainbowschools.ca/join-our-team](http://www.rainbowschools.ca/join-our-team).

Interested candidates should apply by **noon Friday, March 1, 2024** and submit a cover letter, resume and names of three (3) references.

David Farrow  
Board Chair

Bruce Bourget  
Director of Education

[rainbowschools.ca](http://rainbowschools.ca)



#### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY GWEKWAADZIWIN MIIKAN Admissions Assistant (12-Month Contract)

##### Position Description:

A full-time position responsible for supporting the Admissions Coordinator and task work of the admissions team. The admissions team is often the first point of contact for participants, families and referring professionals. This position works to ensure clients have completed all necessary documentation prior to entry and that appropriate file management procedures are followed. The Admissions Assistant is also responsible for communicating across various platforms to disseminate program information and will report to and collaborate with the clinical team for admissions and various administrative tasks.

##### Responsibilities and Duties:

- Reporting to the Clinical Director and receiving direction from the Admissions Coordinator
- Responsible for supporting the intake of program participants
- Working with the clinical team to prepare for incoming participants
- Electronic file and paper file management
- Communicate with participants and their families about the program
- Supporting referrals to external organizations
- Responsible for liaising with community organizations
- Assist in implementation of research and outcome measurement projects
- Various administrative duties as needed

##### Qualifications:

- Minimum requirement is a diploma in social services, office administration, addictions and community service worker or other related human service diploma, with mental health and addictions training
- Preference given to an individual of Anishinaabe ancestry with knowledge and understanding of Anishinabek history, clan systems, protocols, etiquette, culture, traditions and ceremonies
- Proven experience with data management, office administration and electronic medical records
- Experience working in the Mental Health and Addictions field
- Demonstrated interpersonal and communication skills (both written and verbal)
- Ability to prioritize multiple responsibilities and projects
- Mature individual who can work independently with preference given to individuals living a traditional lifestyle and being on a life-long journey in traditional knowledge

##### Requirements:

- Possesses a valid Ontario class 'G' driver's licence in good standing with access to a reliable vehicle, able to obtain an 'F' class driver's licence with a preference given to those who already hold a class 'F' driver's licence
- Ability to work outside normal business hours as required
- Must have a relevant diploma

**Salary:** Commensurate with qualifications.

**Closing Date: February 29, 2024 at 4:30pm**

To Apply: Please complete the application online at [gwek.bamboohr.com/careers](http://gwek.bamboohr.com/careers)

Contact [mmaracle@gwek.ca](mailto:mmaracle@gwek.ca) with any questions.

We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those applicants under consideration will be contacted for an interview.

Manitoulin Secondary School

## PLAYER PROFILE

by Mackenzie Green





*Proud Supporter of our  
MSS Mustangs*

### JORDYN HOLMES

From putting up monster blocks, to tallying kills, to serving up aces, Jordyn can be found making the most of every second she spends on the court! Jordyn brings dedication and a great deal of sportsmanship to each of her athletic endeavours. Whether it be a practice or a tough game, Jordyn can always be found with a smile on her face, encouraging her teammates. In her second year on the MSS Mustangs team, Jordyn has established herself as an fantastic teammate, indicating that she will be just as successful in her second half of high school as her first!

Prior to taking on the black and gold, Jordyn was a student at Assinack Public School in Manitowaning. Throughout her elementary school career, Jordyn could be spotted sporting the green jersey for the All Stars in a variety of sports. On the field, she could be found hitting home runs for the three pitch team, dominating the shot put event in track and field as well as participating in soccer. Jordyn's love for volleyball can be traced back to elementary school. In her public school years, volleyball quickly became her favourite sport as Jordyn recalls that she was constantly learning something new!

Transitioning into Mustang athletics, it was fitting that Jordyn made her high school athletics debut on the volleyball team. As a rookie, Jordyn made the junior girls' volleyball team where she played a variety of different positions, continuously picking up new skills and improving rapidly! She helped her team to achieve an impressive undefeated season of league play, leading her to her first NSSSA. Held at our home gym, Jordyn was a member of the team that brought home the NSSSA Junior Girls' Volleyball Championship banner, punching their ticket to NOSSA in Sudbury. Up against steep competition, Jordyn's team fought their way to the finals, taking a set off of the challenging L'Horizon before taking the silver medals. This year, Jordyn has returned to the junior girls' volleyball team as a veteran. As a middle, Jordyn has helped her team to take the second place slot in the NSSSA league rankings, meaning that Jordyn will compete at NSSSA once again! On February 14th, Jordyn will be found doing what she loves most - playing volleyball in the North Shore Championships!


Without hesitation, Jordyn selects volleyball as her favourite sport of high school. She explains that she is always learning new skills and improving upon them endlessly, which speaks to Jordyn's character as an athlete! Her team spirit shines as she adds that she loves being a part of a team and building new friendships with teammates. Although Jordyn is keen on the sport of passing, setting and swinging, she explains that her love of sports is not limited to the court. Jordyn has a great appreciation for all sports as they keep her active and involved in something greater than herself. She also loves to learn new things and finds that sports help to build confidence.

When the volleyball season ends, Jordyn quickly swaps her court shoes for a fishing rod in the summer as she likes to fish. Jordyn can also be found enjoying the outdoors by hunting and farming. With any extra time, she hangs out with friends and family. In the summer months, Jordyn can be spotted in the community working for Big Mouth Fish and Chips and timekeeping in the winter.

When Jordyn is not on the go, she is likely in the classroom. Among the various courses she has taken over the years, Jordyn favours math. She explains that she loves learning countless different approaches to solving a problem.

With two more years on the Mustangs roster, Jordyn is unsure of what her next adventure will be after MSS. However, Jordyn has expressed an interest in the trades! With Jordyn's dedication and hard work, she is sure to excel, just as she has at MSS!

*Proud Supporter of our  
MSS Mustangs*



**AJ Bus Lines  
& MSS  
A Winning  
Team!**

*Proud Supporter of our  
MSS Mustangs*



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Investing Today  
in Tomorrow's  
Future**