

Wednesday, March 12, 2025 Vol. 145, No. 43 \$1.90 + GST Little Current, Ontario



Northeast Town passes motion to buy Canadian for municipality

TOWN-On Tuesday, March 4, the Mayor and Council for the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands passed the following motion as a direct response to the unwarranted actions of the President of the United States which will result in increased costs and create undeserved hardship for many Canadian residents.

The motion reads as follows: "That Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands supports the federal and provincial call to action "Canadian business first" policy in its procurement of capital and infrastructure programs by purchasing Canadian made goods when possible and restricting its purchases of US goods; and that The Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands promotes the policy of "Buy Canadian" to encourage the purchase of Canadian goods and services by its businesses and residents; and that the Council for Town Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands encourages the other municipalities and levels of government to limit the purchase of goods produced in the United States until such time as the tariffs are removed."

Mayor Al MacNevin supported the motion and made it clear that this motion is a response to an action by Donald Trump and does not reflect negative feelings towards the American people. "We value our long-standing relationships with the American people as our friends and neighbours and trust that

Chief Linda Debassige talks tariffs in Washington



Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige addresses US policy makers on Capitol Hill as a keynote speaker representing the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative. She urged advocates to come together on behalf of the health of the Great Lakes.

Resurgence of lamprey eel concerns commercial fishery

by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY-With job cuts made in the United States Great Lakes invasive species program, a local commercial fishing operator and member of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission (GLFC) says that the fish-...continued on page 13 ery may end being wiped out

by sea lamprey as was the case about 80-90 years ago.

"The fishery in the Great Lakes is worth \$7 billion (in America and Canada)," stated George Purvis. He explained sea lamprey were first sighted

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Part of international Great Lakes delegation speaking against tariffs

WASHINGTON, DC—The Great Lakes, vast and ancient, cradle the lives of millions. They are not just bodies of water but living, breathing entities—repositories of history, sustenance and spirit. Now, as new tariffs imposed by President Trump threaten economic stability and environmental protections across this sacred watershed, Indigenous leaders, municipal officials and policymakers are uniting in an urgent stand to de-

At the heart of this movement is Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige who arrived in Washington, DC as a representative for the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (GLSLCI) with a clear message: "First Nations have never surrendered the Great Lakes, and we must be at the table where decisions about them are made.

GLSLCI is a binational coalition of municipal and Indigenous government leaders working together to protect the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin. It brings together over 244 mayors and local offi-

cials from communities across the United States and Canada to advocate for stronger environmental protections, economic sustainability, and collaborative governance over these vital freshwater systems.

The Initiative integrates environmental, economic, and social policies to preserve and restore the Great Lakes, which provide drinking water to 40 million people and sustains over 4,000 species of plants and wildlife. The coalition collaborates with key organizations, including the International Joint Commission, the Great Lakes Commission, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Environment Canada to advocate for investment in infrastructure, conservation efforts and responsible policy-making.

Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige serves on the board of directors, ensuring that First Nations' voices and treaty rights are central to discussions about the future of these waters.

Her role emphasizes the importance of Indigenous lead-

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Five-year wait for appropriate housing for adult disabled child

by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre,

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

MANITOULIN—On a quiet evening in her home on Manitoulin Island, Kim Robinson sits at her kitchen table, her hands wrapped around a cup of tea, worry etched into her face. Her daughter, Alana Harris, is 30 years old and has special needs, yet she remains on a five-year waitlist for group home services.

worries parent

"What happens if something happens to me?" Ms. Robinson asks, her voice catching. "Where will Alana go? Who will take care of her? Right now, I can manage, but what about five years from now? Ten years? We need a plan, but there's no funding, no housing, no options.'

It's a question that haunts many families on the Island and across Ontario as over 52,000 people with developmental disabilities remain stranded on waitlists for critical support services. The lack of government funding has turned what should be a

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Canada has new Prime Minister Mark Carney will succeed Justin Trudeau

OTTAWA—In the end, it wasn't even close. The former head of the Bank of Canada and the Bank of England, Mark Carney, 59, secured the Liberal Party of Canada leadership with 85.6 percent of the vote on the first ballot—leaving his closest rival for the post, former finance minister and current MP Chrystia Freeland in the dust with a mere eight percent (although that was double the tally of elect Mark Carney the remaining two contenders, Kar-



Prime Minister

ine Gould (3.2 percent) and Frank Baylis coming in just slightly behind.

In a more telling result, Mr. Carney swept all 345 ridings across the country, even taking most of the points available from Ms. Carney's own riding of Toronto Centre-proving he enjoys nationwide support (at least from supporters of the Liberal Party). In the new riding of Sudbury East-Manitoulin-Nickel Belt in

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The Manitoulin West Recorder



Manitoulin Secondary School students Corbin Best and Anders Watson won a gold medal in the carpentry competition at the Rainbow District School Board 18th annual Technological Skills competition, held in February. They have qualified

Manitoulin Secondary students take gold at skills competition, move on to provincials

M'CHIGEENG—Three Manitoulin Secondary School (MSS) students, including one (two person) team which won a gold medal, have qualified for the provincials after Rainbow District School Board (RDSB) students took part in the 18th annual Technological Skills Competition held in February.

'Corbin Best, a Grade 12 student and Anders Watson, a Grade 10 student won the gold medal for finishing first in the carpentry competition (Home and Team Building and Carpentry-team of two) division, which took place at the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners Local 2486 in Azilda, on Thursday, February 27, Steve Robinson, technology teacher at MSS

Mr. Robinson pointed out Mr. Watson had originally been slated to attend a welder's competition, "But when I asked Corbin, who will be competing in the provincials for the third time, who he wanted on his team he chose Anders.

"Corbin and Anders built a work bench designed by the Carpenters Union," said Mr. Robinson. "We arrived at the competition at 8 am, and they started at 9 am and went to 2:30 pm. The competition is a timed event, and each team was provided the lumber and the design plans for the bench they had to build." Judges included staff from RDSB, Cambrian College and members of the Carpenters Union. He pointed out the Carpenters Union kept the benches made by each team to use in their union hall inside the school (Cambrian College).

"We have another student going to the provincials," said Mr. Robinson. "Cody Campbell, a Grade 12 student in secondary level Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC). He is on a co-op program, working with his father, Andy.'

'A Grade 10 welding student at our school (MSS), Avery Barnes, took part in the welding competition. She did very well, finishing fifth, but didn't place to go to the provincials (taking place May 5-6 in Toronto)," said Mr. Robinson.

Some 165 RDSB secondary school level students tested their skills in 2D and 3D character animation, aesthetics, AutoCAD, auto-service technology, baking, cabinet making, carpentry, coding, electrical installations, home and team building, heavy duty equipment, horticulture and land-

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Snow load leads to Mindemoya arena closure

by Michael Erskine

MINDEMOYA—The ongoing saga of the Mindemoya arena took a new turn this past week when the combination of heavy snowfalls, followed by rain, led to a shifting of the arena wall leading to the early closure of the facility.

The municipality had intend-

der to accommodate a Manitoulin Minor Hockey tournament (MMHA), but the shifting of the wall near the players' boxes became a concern.

With the snow levels, we have been monitoring the situation." noted Central Manitoulin CAO Denise Deforge. "The combination of the heavy snow ed to extend the ice-in season by at the end of February and then almost a couple of weeks in or- the rain put a heavy load on the

Jim Belanger named Conservative candidate for riding of Sudbury **East-Manitoulin-Nickel Belt**

AZILDA—The Conservative Party of Canada has selected its candidate for Sudbury East-Manitoulin-Nickel Belt. Jim Belanger will be the Conservative candidate for the federal election, which will take place this year.

Jim Belanger was recently confirmed as the winner of the Conservative nomination winner for the riding. His website explains he is a lifelong resident of Sudbury East-Manitoulin-Nickel Belt, having raised his family in

"Jim attended the University of Ottawa where he pursued a

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Jim Belanger

wall, and it did move."

The municipality brought in an engineer to assess the situation. "The engineer told us we need to close a portion of the facility." That portion included the players' boxes.

When the Manitoulin Minor Hockey Association was informed of the changes, they indicated that the tournament could not proceed without access to the players' boxes.

With no other rentals, we closed the facility down for the season," said Ms. Deforge.

The municipality did offer the Providence Bay arena as an alternative location for the games, but that facility was not acceptable to the MMHA.

As to why the tournament could not simply move to the Providence Bay arena, Manitoulin Minor Hockey Association President TJ McDermid pointed out that it was not necessarily that the arena was not suitable. "It is not that the Prov arena is not suitable," he explained, "but the facility has a much smaller ice surface and common area compared to Mindemoya. It is fine for practices and younger divisions games and we used it for U11 and U13 playoff games. But the smaller

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M'Chigeeng's Martin **Bayer awarded King Charles Coronation medal**

by Tom Sasvari

SUDBURY—For his exceptional service to his community, Martin Bayer, who is originally from Manitoulin Island and who lives and works in Sudbury, has been presented with a King Charles III Coronation medal.

"I like to give back to the community and organizations where I have lived and work," said Mr. Bayer. "This is something I have always believed in."

Mr. Bayer, who was born and raised in M'Chigeeng First Nation and now lives and works as a lawyer in Sudbury with Weaver Simmons, was one of 21 Sudburians who were recipients of the King Charles III Coronation Medals. Sudbury MP Viviane Lapointe presented the recipients with their awards recently.

"It is an immense honour to present the King's Coronation Medal to these remarkable individuals who have dedicated themselves to making our communities a better place," said MP Lapointe in a release. "Their commitment to service, whether through volunteerism, leadership or advocacy, truly embod-



Martin Bayer, who is originally from Manitoulin Island and lives and works in Sudbury, has been presented with a King Charles III Coronation medal for his exceptional community

ies the spirit of our community. They are an inspiration to us all, and this recognition marks our collective appreciation for their important contributions.'

The medal is a commemorative honour awarded to Canadians "who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to their community and service to their country," MP Lapointe said.

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Measles outbreak hits Northern Ontario, public health officials urge immediate action

by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre,

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter NORTHERN ONTARIO measles outbreak is unfolding across Ontario at an alarming rate, with confirmed cases now emerging in Northern Ontario for the first time in decades. Public health officials are on high alert as they scramble to contain the highly contagious virus that has already spread rapidly through southern parts of the province.

First Confirmed Case in North Bay Since 1995

North Bay has confirmed its first case of measles in 30 years, marking a significant milestone in the resurgence of the virus in the province. The North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit made the announcement on Friday, emphasizing the imnortance of vaccination venting further spread.

"Measles is a highly contagious virus that spreads through the air and can linger in a space for up to two hours after an infected person has left." said Shannon Mantha, executive director of clinical services and chief nursing officer at the health unit. "While the immediate local risk remains low, the outbreak in southern Ontario demonstrates how quickly the virus can spread.'

The infected individual, an unvaccinated adult, was exposed to a confirmed case outside the district and is now in self-isolation along with close contacts. Health officials stress that no public exposure sites have been identified at this

Measles Cases Surging Across Ontario

According to the latest data from Public Health Ontario, 168

measles cases (146 confirmed and 22 probable) have been reported in 2025, surpassing the total number of cases recorded in all of 2024. In just the past week, Ontario and Quebec reported 61 new cases combined, signalling a sharp rise in infections. Most cases have been concentrated in southern Ontario, but Northern Ontario health units are now bracing for potential spread.

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Billings passes budget with 6.5 percent increase

by Tom Sasvari

KAGAWONG—With all costs increasing to maintain and operate the township of Billings, local taxpayers will see a 6.5 percent increase in taxes. Originally, township staff had been set to pass a budget increase of eight percent.

'Before our treasurer goes over the budget reports I would like to say a few words," said Mayor Bryan Barker at a council meeting last week. "Following our budget meeting last Thursday, I met with our CAO and asked her to speak with staff and see if the overall budget percentage increase could be reduced. Staff has come back this evening with a 6.5 percent increase recommendation as opposed to the original eight percent. Six-and-a-half percent is the increase as presented, during our deliberations without any reduction."

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"who dares not offend cannot be honest"

One Manitowaning Road opinion

<u>editorial</u>

The American tourist conundrum facing Manitoulin Island

The on-again, off-again imposition of tariffs on Canadian goods and services imposed by The Donald have Canadians' dander up in a way that hasn't been seen since the advent of the Second World War; only this time it isn't a European fascist that has our hockey pads in a kerfuffle but the authoritarian loving leader of our once (and hopefully future) ally.

Canadians, known across the globe as being among the politest people to ever hold a door open for others, have been venting their fury loud and proud at sporting events in the most un-Canadian of ways—booing the US national anthem.

The current situation has Manitoulin residents in a bit of a quandary. Long being a playground for American tourists, many of our summer residents hail from the US. Much like the snowbird migration to Florida and other US destinations (get stuffed De Santis, how many of your Stanley Cup winning Panthers are Canadian?), Americans come North to beat the stifling heat of summer in their more southerly climes.

This begs the question—how are our American neighbours going to be received in the wake of their president's threats?

There are a few important factors we submit should be taken under consideration before breaking out the Yankee Go Home signs and engaging in politic shaming our summer friends and neigh-

First and foremost, like many Canadians, most Americans are more concerned with trying to keep a roof over their heads (yes, they too experiencing a housing crisis much like our own) and the cupboards filled with groceries (the poor folks are reeling from the escalating cost of eggs thanks to the rampant avian flu that has interacted with their much laxer approach to chicken husbandry and the aforementioned climate). Before the November election, they thought they had more important things to worry about.

Second, The Donald did not voice his annexation plans toward Panama and Greenland or his jibs aimed at making our sovereign nation their 51st state during the US election. These events have caught many Americans as off-guard as they did the rest of the globe. The whole concept is patently absurd, after all, our American summer residents could have told him that most of us (even plenty of those Conservatives who voice many of the same grievances as Republicans and until recently were enthusiastic Trump fans) would be staunchly in the Democratic fold if that were to come to pass.

Third, as a tourism destination, a good portion of our Island economic wellbeing has been inextricably tied to the influx of American summer residents for multiple generations.

Fourth, those southern visitors who come to Manitoulin each summer are, by and large, the Americans who know something about our country-even those who vote Republican-and are largely horrified by what is being foisted upon their Northern friends and neighbours.

Many of those Islanders returning from winter sojourns in red state Florida have spoken to The Expositor about the profuse apologies expressed about the current situation by their Florida neigh-

So, what is a poor Manitoulin Islander to do?

We might suggest eschewing the subject of politics as much as possible when interacting. That approach served many of us well during the first iteration of The Donald. It will be harder during Trump 2.0, but let's face it, they have enough of a cross to bear over the next four years. Have some compassion, even if their grief is largely self-inflicted.

American summer residents are our friends and neighbours; many are people we have known for much of our lives and with whom we share countless fond memories, fishing trips, card games on a summer night, campfire songs and smores, maybe even helping them back to their cottage when they forget about how potent our brews are compared to what they are used to back home.

In the end, the answer to the conundrum is to simply be our-

We are Canadian and we should refuse to stoop to the level of The Donald, The Musk or a De Santis.

We know our dander is up, and any American who has summered here for any length of time will be aware of that fact without having their noses rubbed in it.

Remember, most Canadians are also more concerned with navigating the day-to-day challenges of everyday living than in following the weird and whacky nuances of politics, and we are not immune to the kind of gaslighting that has led to the situation south of the border—there but for the grace of God go we. Time will tell.

As our American visitors begin to land in their summer roosts, let's stay true to our Canadian selves, polite and circumspect, but, should the situation be brought up-resolute-Canada is not for

letters

Former pastor and good-natured human defends our paper

Unfortunate the letter writer didn't see the editorial above his letter

My qualifications for responding to Paul Purvis' letter ('Writer recalls the heady days of John Lane', Page 4, March 5, 2025) include teacher, preacher, lover of Manitoulin and usually a good-natured

I appreciate the content of Paul's letter of confidence in the election of the Conservative candidate to represent the riding of Manitoulin/Algoma and to bring to fruition the much-needed new bridge to Manitoulin.

However, as a consequence of my described qualifications, I was disappointed that his satisfaction in the election of Mr. Rosenberg, began with the salvo, "Through no credit to the Expositor ..."

It is unfortunate that he was not able, before sending it, to see the polite tone of the editorial above his letter. Though "possibly" having a different political persuasion than Mr. Purvis, the editorial contained no rancour, but rather congratulated Mr. Rosenberg on his win, and wished him well. There was, admittedly, a tone of "wait and see" regarding the bridge, but I believe that would have been the stance no matter the successful candidate!

Faye Stevens St. Joseph's Island

A rebuttal to farmer's defense of gylphosate

We need to relearn what healthy diets are like and take charge of our bodies

In light of the recent, excellent, well researched article by Jacqueline St. Pierre on the ('Roundup Review, Part I', Page 1, March 5, 2025) I felt compelled to comment on the statement by a Tehkummah local farmer that industrialized farming practices are feeding the world. It is a statement I have heard several times in the past when defending the use of agrochemicals to grow food.

What is food? What is nutrition? Without diving too much into the semantics of these terms, one has to ask, 'is the food I am eating keeping me healthy?' The cash crops (aka the incentivized crops) that are being grown in massive scales in the west, including Ontario and now Manitoulin, are genetically modified, "Roundup Ready" corn, soy and canola. These get mainly converted into animal feed, sweeteners (high fructose corn syrup), and oils (soybean and canola) for human consumption. These sweeteners and oils are often used in processed foods that line our grocery shelves, to make 'cheaper' products that are highly addictive with very little health benefits. In fact, it is becoming well known that seed oils, including soybean and canola, are high in omega 6 fatty acids and these are very inflammatory to our bodies. These seed oils were once touted as the healthier choice over the saturated fats (ie. Becel margarine and its marketing campaign to choose this over butter), but since cardiovascular disease, diabetes and obesity are still rising, many health practitioners are sounding the alarm to stop fuelling our bodies with these damaging oils.

It is an interesting fact that the tobacco companies of the '80s

acquired the major food companies such as Kraft, General Foods and Nabisco. Their same strategies to make cigarettes addictive were applied in similar fashion to hook people on processed foods And just as cigarettes made the consumer ill, these processed foods filled with either corn syrup, corn starch, or seed oils, not to mention residual traces of Roundup are leaving the exact same mark. It's about profit over health. These big corporations fill their pockets, and the consumer walks away with less money and more health concerns. Caveat Emptor..."Buyer Beware."

With an increase of chronic disease rising in the Westernized countries, we need to re-learn what healthy diets are and take charge of our ill bodies. We need to go back to how our ancestors ate simpler and cleaner foods. We need to either grow our own food or support a local farmer who does in a more regenerative way that works with nature and not against it. The answer of feeding the world is not through industrialized, chemical farming. It is through our own individual actions and our consumer buying power that we change this 'unsustainable' agricultural pattern, as the cost to our health and our ecosystem is too high. As I like to quote often, 'learn how to grow your vegetables instead of electing them.' Bring on the growing season and insist on a more colourful, healthier plate that will bring you vitality. That is the real, restorative food.

Janice Mitchell Tehkummah

Coalition Against Domestic Violence hosts Women's Wellness Day in Whitefish River First Nation

by Margery Frisch

BIRCH ISLAND-In recognition of International Women's Day, the Coalition Against Domestic Violence, which includes many partners, provided a full day of speakers, activities and services promoting relaxation and good health for women. The event was held at White Fish River First Nation, and the hall filled quickly with interested participants.

The day began with a beautiful prayer, offered by Marti Pitawanakwat. Centering everyone's thoughts on love and gratitude.

Amy Collins, executive director of Manitoulin Northshore



Constable Nick Beaudry was unable to bring his police dog to the event, so Lola the Chihuahua stood in. Lola is great at sniffing out snacks.

Victim Services, opened the day with a few remarks. "Together with our partners, we aim to do our part in keeping our community safe...We've come a long way, but we still have a long way to go...So, take this moment to reflect and celebrate and share a moment in time with each other," she said. Ms. Collins pointed out the community partners present – Manitoulin Legal Clinic, OPP, Sexual and Domestic Violence Services, Noojmowin Teg, and Manitoulin Family Resources (specifically their Haven House Shelter and 24 hr. Crisis Line).

Leanne Lewis was the first speaker of the day. A strong advocate for women and children, Ms. Lewis shared her experience as a realtor taking part in the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation's 'Challenge for Shelter' trekking series in 2023. She exceeded her goal of \$10,000, raising over \$15,000, with 80 percent of the funds staying in our community - specifically for Manitoulin Family Resources' Haven House. The other 20 percent



These Women's Day event participants are having way too much fun at the photo booth. Left, are Lisa Ense, her sister Francine Degassige and Grace Debassige, Francine's daughter.

goes to national domestic violence prevention and education programs. After much training, one panic attack and the long iourney to Ecuador, Ms. Lewis completed the five-day trek, hiking one of the highest volcanoes in the world, 4,200 metres above sea level, reaching the base of Cotopaxi in five days. It was gruelling, with "physical, mental and emotional challenges, but I had to power through.

Ms. Lewis ended by sharing she's been chosen as one of 120 realtors once again to take part in the 'Challenge for Shelter' 2025, to Cambodia. "Altitude won't be the problem this time, but heat...and snakes," she said. Ms. Lewis is setting her goal at \$10,000 once again.

Breaks in between speakers allowed for time to explore the self-care booths. Nicole Murphy, a Registered Massage Therapist, was offering Reflexology to the participants. Theresa Phiri, of Timeless Beauty Spa in Gore Bay, gave mini hand scrubs and hand massages. Kate Kopylova, of Raindrop Harmony Manitoulin Wellness was giving mini chakra balancing sound therapy demonstrations. Marilee Harasym, of Island Oasis, was doing mini manicures, painting a nail purple to bring awareness to ending gender-based violence. Devarati Sammon – Jewellery by Design - was showing us how to make necklaces – tying the knots being the greatest challenge. And there was a photo booth for friends to squeeze in together, get their pictures taken, and come away with a printout as a reminder of this

Teresa Nahwegahbow spoke of her work, since 2022, with the UCCM Anishnaabe Police

Service as their Community Mobilization Assistant with the innovative project 'Lighting the Fire Within.' "I work directly with the police officers," Ms. Nahwegahbow explained. The goal of the project is to create connections in the community and work to reduce risk factors and address root causes of intimate partner violence. "Daily I'm encouraged as I see how the UCCM Anishnaabe police officers work to understand how trauma affects others and their acknowledgement and recognition of when policing may need to extend beyond the traditional approach and respond accordingly. True strength comes from empathy, compassion, acceptance and connection, and I can attest that the officers who serve your communities understand the impact of always flighting the fire within," she

photos by Margery Frisch

After a Prepped lunch, Constable Nick Beaudry was introduced. The event schedule specified 'Presentation by PC Nick Beaudry and PSD (Police Service Dog) Ben of UCCM Anishnaabe Police.' There was much confusion when Const. Beaudry entered the hall with a Chihuahua on a leash. "I didn't want to disappoint the dog-lov-ers in the room," he said. "This is Lola, she's good at sniffing out snacks." The officer further explained, "Ben is not a pet, but a tool, with a heartbeat. He's well trained, but I couldn't have any mishaps bringing him



Social worker Marissa McCready and Nurse Meghan Strain with Sexual and Domestic Violence Services were on hand with information.

into a crowded room of people who are not suspects." Constable Beaudry's talk consisted mostly of answering questions about his partner. We learned that Ben is a Belgian Malinois, three years old. He and Const. Beaudry graduated from the OPP Academy Canine Training Centre in Orillia, an 18-week



Teresa Nahwegahbow of Lighting the Fire Within delivers a talk during the well attended event.

course, along with an additional five-week course in drug detection. And we learned Ben has no other human contact except that of his trainer and, no, Ben will not get a pension when he retires, as far as Const. Beaudry is aware. "How do suspects react when they learn the dog is coming?" asked one audience member. "They co-operate very fast," was the answer.

Const. Beaudry's presentation was as entertaining as it was informative.

The day ended shortly after Const. Beaudry and Lola left the building, but everyone had much to think about as they travelled home. The talks, the educational resources from the community partners, the selfcare options available - all contributed to a worthy recognition of International Women's Day.



Seed Money

Many of the executive members of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 177 in Little Current attended the recent changeof-command ceremony for 348 Manitoulin Sea Cadets. The Legion presented the new Corps commanding officer Lt. (N) Tina Davidson, centre, with a cheque for \$500 (for Corps use) "to help start your command." The cheque was presented by Branch 177 president Comrade Leslie Burnett, Lt. (N) Davidson's left), retired Corps commanding officer LT. (N) Sylvain Boucher and Manitoulin Navy League president Bob Jewell look on.

photo by Expositor staff

more letters

Some thoughts from the sage of Wiikwemkoong on the tariff war

I love my country, even if I don't agree with what is happening in our system

To the Expositor:

Had to say something about this trade war.

I'm glad Ford won again as premier.

I really like what he said that he is going to fight back like hell because that is what Canadians have to do against this bully who is so abusive. We cannot let

I do still love my country, even though sometimes I $\,$ do not agree with what is happening in our system.

We need somebody like Premier Ford to stand up against Trump, after all Trump is just a bully and peo-

Trump push us around. Besides, he is a convicted crimple should know what happens to bully's, sooner or later (not good).

Maybe by the time you read this letter things may have changed.

> **Ronald Osawabine** Wiikwemkoong

A tongue-in-cheek recommendation for the US co-presidents

Canada is not for sale, but we do have some nice iceberg real estate we can let go cheap

To the Expositor:

Patriotic reflections.

Greetings Donald and co-president Elon.

Just in case you got the memo in French or Spanish; the American English version is the same. "Go away!" "Hopefully Mars." "Insha Allah" Arabic for God will-

We are not for sale: but if the money is right, we'll

give you a long-term lease (99 years) on some beautiful icebergs. Canadian of course. We'll also throw in for free an exclusive franchise for prefabricated igloos on Baffin and Ellesmere Islands.

Not bad for the world's greatest deal maker Eh Donald? But what to do you expect, times are tough, with neighbours like you who needs enemies!

And as Papa Trudeau would have likely said, "You

are both as bright as a one-watt lightbulb." Oh and to the two co-presidents of U.S. of eh "Fudell Duddel.

A "heel hartefipk dank!" (Heartfelt thanks in Dutch." To all Canadian Patriots.

Cambridge

Founder and advocate True North Strong and Free Friends of Old America Patriots Alliance

It is long past time we get rid of provincial trade barriers

Writer agrees with Expositor editorial stance on internal trade issues

To the Expositor:

Surely the chaos caused by that fool Trump should cause our Canadian provincial governments to recognise, once and for all, the need to do away with our

own interprovincial trade barriers. By so doing, I understand that goods would flow more readily across the country and there would be significant financial savings for all concerned. So, provincial premiers, what

are we waiting for? Sincerely,

*Wikwemikong Police make major drug seizures*The Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service made two major drug busts recently.

On March 10, members of Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service (WTPS) with assistance from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) community street crime unit, and UCCM Anishnaabe Police canine unit executed a controlled drugs and substance act warrant at an address on Gasongi Lane in Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory.

As a result of the investigation, police seized a quantity of cocaine and fentanyl with an approximate street value of \$10,000, a quantity of cash and other evidence of drug trafficking. An adult male and adult female from Wiikwemkoong have been charged with numerous criminal and drug trafficking related charges: trafficking in a schedule one drug-cocaine and fentanyl, possession for the purpose of trafficking in a schedule one drug-cocaine and fentanyl, possession of property obtained by crime under \$ and forcible confinement.

Both accused persons are to appear in court on April 22

On February 28, officers from the WTPS attended a weapons call at a Wikwemikong Way address. During the course of the investigation police located a quantity of cocaine and fentanyl with a street value of over \$35,000, a quantity of cash and other evidence of drug trafficking, resulting in the arrest of a 19-year-old male.

Taylen Wedemire of Brampton is subsequently charged with possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking, possession of an opioid for the purpose of trafficking and possession of property obtained by crime under \$5,000. He was subsequently held for a bail hearing.

WTPS would like to remind people to report suspicious activity. Please contact the police at 1-888-310-1122 or through Crime Stoppers.



Driver arrested after collision, located by canine unit
One person has been arrested and is facing charges
after a single vehicle collision after Manitoulin OPP
officers had to pursue the man in a car chase around
Espanola, and having to use the canine unit to track the
man down after he ditched his vehicle in a ditch and
fled on foot.

On February 28 at approximately 2 am, officers with the Manitoulin detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to a report of an unwanted person at a residence in Espanola, who was wanted on an outstanding warrant. When police arrived on scene, they observed a vehicle leaving the address at high speed. The driver of the vehicle then failed to stop for police. Shortly after, police came across a single vehicle collision on Highway 6. The same vehicle was in the ditch, and the driver had fled from the vehicle on foot.

With assistance from the United Chiefs and Councils of Manitoulin Anishinaabe Police Service Commission (UCCM) Canine Unit and the OPP Emergency Response Team (ERT), the driver was located and arrested. The driver was transported to a local hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. Police did not provide details on how he was injured or the nature of the injuries.

As a result, Joseph Best, 38 years old from the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands (NEMI) was charged with operation while impaired, flight from peace officer, dangerous operation, fail to remain, drive motor vehicle-no licence and driver fail to properly wear seatbelt.

The accused appeared before the Ontario Court of

Justice in Sudbury on February 28 and was remanded into custody.

Suspected cocaine seized at ride check

Two people are facing charges after police located suspected cocaine at a reduce impaired driving everywhere (RIDE) check.

On February 25, at approximately 4 am, the Manitoulin detachment of the OPP was conducting a RIDE check on Highway 6 in Espanola. A vehicle came through the RIDE check, and police determined that the driver was wanted on an outstanding warrant. Further investigation resulted in the passenger being arrested.

Additionally, police seized amounts of suspected cocaine with an estimated street value of \$12,000 and suspected psilocybin.

As a result, the driver, Jonathon McComber, 42 years old from Little Current, was charged with operation while impaired, possession of a schedule 1 substance for the purpose of trafficking, possession of a schedule III substance, and two counts of driving while under suspension.

The passenger, Dorothy Vallilee, 41 years old from Sudbury, was charged with possession of a schedule 1 substance for the purpose of trafficking cocaine, possession of a schedule III substance.

The accused driver appeared before the Ontario Court of Justice Bail Court in Sudbury on February 25. The accused passenger is scheduled to appear in court in Espanola on April 7.

*Traffic stop for speeding results in impaired arrest*One person is facing charges after the Manitoulin OPP conducted a traffic stop.

...continued on page 19

Friends and Neighbours

Providence Bay Alexia Hannigan

Alexia here with your friendly slush n slide fly! Well, we survived the blizzards, the ice-storms, the Provincial elections and are in the thick of a heated and hearty trade-war. Despite everything, we Canadians have never been more revved up and raring to go! You see, we come from a long line of people who define pioneering spirit. "I am Canadian" is more than just a concept, ad campaign or collective war cry, it's how we identify. We come from the blood and breast of clans, tribes and trailblazing ancestors and elders who have built nations, communities, cross-country travel and trade networks with no compass, no maps,

We clawed, carved and portaged our way through mountain passes and waterways, laid railways, pipelines, carved brick, mortar and wood monuments, we created founding principles and set precedents and pressed on through seemingly impossible physical and political climates. We forged and founded this great Country with sheer determination and true grit. We have a Prime Minister, not a President, we speak English, French and Ojibwe and many other languages, we pronounce things our own way, we believe in peacekeeping and penalties not policing, diversity not assimilation, Canada is the second largest land mass, the First Nation of hockey and the best place to live. We have four seasons, we have thousands of reasons, we are here for a lifetime. We love you Canada tried and true, and we will fight for you.

Here's what's happening: Providence Bay Arena, learn to skate on Sundays from 12 noon to 1 pm; public skate is on Sundays from 1 to 3 pm; family sponge puck is Sunday from 3 to 5 pm. Sponsored by the Spring Bay/Providence Bay Recreation Committee. March break skate times are Tuesday to Friday, public skate is from 1 to 2 pm; sponsored family skate is from 2 to 3 pm. Sponsored by the Spring Bay/Providence Bay Lions Club. Helmets required.

Providence Bay Curling Club continues to be busy with events and schedules.

Providence Bay Community of Christ Church Sunday service: 10:30 am meetup; 11 am service.

Winter Workouts continue Friday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30 am till March 14 at the Providence Bay Hall.

Tai Chi classes continue Mondays and Thursdays from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Mindemoya Hall (some events have been re-located to the Providence Bay Hall, please check with the municipality

or instructors).

March Knowledge Sharing Sessions

continue.

Gentle Yoga continues with chair yoga and gentle yoga on Tuesdays from 1 to 1:45 pm and 2 to 3 pm at the Providence Bay Hall, till further notice. Gentle yoga continues Wednesdays at 6:15 pm at the Spring Bay Hall.

Traditional Taekwon-do continues this Thursday and next Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday at 6 pm.

The Heavens: March 14 is the total lunar eclipse, (blood moon/worm moon). A mesmerizing blood moon will grace the skies! Wishing you clear skies and bright sights! Happy sky-gazing.

Providence Bay Post Office update: We will have our Post Office and regular mail available for the month of March.

The Friends: Congratulations to you mid-March babies old and new. Hope all your wishes come true.

Happy middle of March Break everyone! Enjoy a safe and happy winter break.

Happy St. Paddy's Day next week! Slainté, "May you have all the happiness and luck that life can hold—and at the end of all your rainbows, may you find a pot of gold."

- Anon. Irish blessing

Kagawong Team Fergmeijer

It was a sad and disappointing day when we found out that our universal remote did not, in fact, control the Universe. Not even remotely.

To make ourselves feel better, we are going bowling. You can come too! Friday, March 14 Noojmowin-Teg is offering transportation from Manitoulin to Venture Lanes in Espanola for a free 2SLGBTQIA+ family and youth bowling day. On Thursday, March 20 there is a 2SLGBTQIA (18+) bowling night. Pizza and drinks provided! Contact nicole. jol@noojmowin-teg.ca for more information or to register.

Manitoulin Streams Youth Rangers are at it again! On Friday, March 14 (from 11 am to 2 pm) kids in grades 1 to 8 are invited to take part in a 'Maple Syrup Event' at the Kagawong Park Centre. Cost is \$10/child, and a pizza lunch is provided. Contact getinvolved.manitolinstreams@gmail.com for more information and to register.

Free seniors' exercise classes continue this month at the Park Centre. New participants are still able to join the remaining classes including tomorrows! Come out at 9:30 am on Thursday, March 13 and Thursday, March 20. No registration necessary.

Planning on going for a skate? With the variable temperatures lately, the rink at the Kagawong River Complex sometimes closes to protect the ice surface. Check the Facebook page for updates, and please do not skate on the ice when the 'CLOSED' sign is posted.

Also due to the warmer weather, the half load restrictions are currently in effect for the Township of Billings. Wild turkey flocks (also known as "rafters") are limited to groups of no more than seven on a road at any given time. We do not have the statistics on allowable numbers of Sandhill Cranes at this time, but we will report back when we have updated information from the township.

Spring dance season is just around the corner! Classes with Candice Irwin of Body Stories Dance Education and Performance are starting up again the week of March 17th. Kagawong classes at the Park Centre Monday evenings include "Creative Movement" (ages 3 to 6), "Contemporary" (ages 6 and up), and "Mindful Movement" (adults and teens). Check out bodystoriesdance.com for more information.

Two Kagawongians are turning 29 this week: happy birthday wishes go out to Kim N. and Mike M. who have both figured out that the only way to worm out of turning older each year is to live in Billings!

If you are looking for a project to keep you busy this spring and summer, the back room at the Aus Hunt Marina is available to rent.

To close out the column, we were going to share a bowling joke, but we will spare you. Have a great week!

Barrie Island Enid Runnalls

It's still early March but we know Spring is coming because the temperatures are dipping up and down and the maple syrup producers are tapping their trees and are ready for that sap to run. It looks like the conditions will be ready by next week.

Congratulations to Micah Runnalls who celebrated his 4th birthday a few times last weekend! Rainbow cakes, balloons, skating and a new tool bench were just a part of his exciting day.

Almaz's Bistro was just humming last Friday morning as local friends gathered for coffee and cake. Almaz and Helen and Lynda were generously pouring the complimentary coffee as people caught up with each other's weekly news.

Renee Zillio is offering Tai Chi lessons on Monday and Wednesday evenings at our Gordon/Barrie Island Community Centre. It's a wonderful activity for those who want to improve their focus, physical strength and stability.

The Anglican All Saints United Church hosted a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Sup-

per on Tuesday, of course! There's nothing quite like a community gathering to bring people together and especially when it involves pancakes, maple syrup, sausages, strawberries and whipped cream! We saw many of our friends and some that we hadn't run into for years.

Last weekend there was an afternoon of dancing at the Water's Edge Restaurant in Gore Bay and there were a few Barrie Island people there sharing the dance floor with the locals and some from as far away as Gordon Township, Meldrum Bay, Lonely Bay and Lake Manitou! The Manitoulin Swing Band is getting ready for a St. Patrick's Day dance and dinner there on Saturday, March 15 at 6 pm. The 'wearin' o' the green" is compulsory on St. Patty's Day but Oliver tells me that if he can't find anything, he's pretty sure Jim and Joanne Smith will have some accessory to help him out.

Silver Water Karen Noble

On Friday, February 28, euchre in Meldrum Bay was cancelled due to the weather.

Brenda Carter and I went to Meldrum Bay to play euchre and cribbage with TJ Murray and Nathan on Saturday evening.

Sunday morning Alfreda Wickett came to our house for a short visit.

On Sunday there were a lot of euchre players from the west end who travelled to Tehkummah for their once-a-month euchre tournament. Congratulations to DonnaKay McDonald and Ken Duncanson who won second prize and to Natasha McVey who won the 50/50 draw.

On Monday evening, we went to play euchre at the Burpee/Mills Complex.

On Tuesday afternoon the exercise class was held at the Silver Water Community Hall.

Wednesday afternoon there was line dancing at the hall.

On Thursday, March 6 the World's Day of Prayer was held at St. Andrew's United Church at 11 am. The group went to Stop 540 for lunch afterwards. At 1:30 pm they were back at the church for the UCW meeting.

On Thursday evening, there was euchre at the hall.

I had lots of visits over the phone this week with Bill Sundercock, Karen Marshall, Aileen Noble and several others.

Happy 90th birthday to Lilly Third. Get well to Clarke Duncanson and Anne Boyd.

Condolences to the family of Doug

... Measles outbreak hits North, public health officials urge immediate action

...continued from page 3

The Algoma District, Sudbury and Temiskaming health authorities are closely monitoring the situation, urging residents to check their vaccination records and receive their measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine if they are not up to date. "The vast majority of people are immunized against measles, but because of how contagious this virus is, we need vaccination rates to be as high as possible," said Dr. John Tuinema, acting medical officer of health for Algoma.

Highly Contagious and Dangerous:

The Threat of Measles

Measles is one of the most infectious viruses known, spreading through airborne droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. A single case can infect up to 90 percent of unvaccinated close contacts. The virus can also survive on surfaces for up to two hours, increasing the risk of transmission in public places.

Symptoms typically appear 7 to 21 days after exposure and include: high fever, runny nose and cough, red, watery eyes and a distinctive rash that begins on the face and spreads to the rest of the body

Severe complications include pneumonia, hearing or vision loss, brain inflammation (encephalitis), and, in rare cases, death. Those at the highest risk include children under five, pregnant individuals, immunocompromised individuals, and those who are unvaccinated.

Vaccination Rates Falling: A Growing Concern While vaccination remains the most effective defense against measles, immunization rates in parts of Ontario have fallen below the 95 percent threshold needed for herd immunity. The ${
m COVID}\mbox{-}19$ pandemic led to delays in routine vaccinations, leaving gaps in immunity across various age groups. In some regions, such as Sudbury, 76.2 percent of seven-year-olds have received both doses of the MMR vaccine, compared to the provincial average of 70.4 percent; both numbers are current and are well below the 95 percent MMR vaccinations required for herd immunity.

Health officials are ramping up vaccination efforts, offering additional clinics and urging residents to verify their immunization status. "If you're unsure of your vaccination history, check with your healthcare provider or public health unit. If your records are unclear, another dose of the vaccine can be administered," Dr. Tuinema said.

Protecting the North: What You Need to Know

With measles cases on the rise, Northern Ontario residents are encouraged to take the following precau-

Ensure vaccinations are up to date: The MMR vaccine is safe, effective and typically administered in two doses, first at 12 months old and again between four and six years old.

Watch for symptoms: If you develop fever, cough, or a rash, contact your healthcare provider immediately and avoid public spaces.

Call ahead before visiting healthcare facilities: If you suspect measles, notify medical staff in advance so they can take precautions to prevent further spread.

Be cautious when travelling: Measles cases have been linked to international travel. If traveling, ensure you are vaccinated at least two weeks before departure.

...Billings passes budget with 6.5 percent increase

...continued from page 3

Mayor Barker explained, "the 6.5 percent takes into account inflation, the rise in the cost to maintain our standard of service and a modest increase for improvements within the municipality. A 6.5 percent increase would equate to a \$22.81 increase per \$100,000 of assessed property value per year."

"With today's announcement of 25 percent tariffs across the board by (US president) Donald Trump and the uncertainty of what's in store for the future, I think it is prudent to keep our increase as low as possible without affecting services," stated Mayor Barker. "With the implementation of these tariffs, we have no idea how long these tariffs will be in place or the impact of the increased costs to the municipality this coming year. There are a lot of unknowns," said Mayor Barker.

...Mindemoya arena closure

...continued from page 3

ice surface for older divisions like U15 and U18 takes away from the game and is viewed as a safety concern. Hockey has evolved; the game is much faster, even at the house league level. When you put 12 players and three officials on an ice surface there is always risk of incidental contact and incidents that result in injury or on-ice altercations. Now put that on the much smaller ice surface especially for U18/U15 games, it becomes a much greater safety concern and risk for the players and officials.'

As to the cost of repairing the Mindemoya facility, Ms. Deforge indicated that information would be coming out of the in-depth assessment being conducted by the engineers.

The Mindemoya arena has been the source of some controversy in recent years as council has contemplated its replacement with a modern multi-use complex and its potential multi-million-dollar cost.



The JH Burt Memorial Arena has been closed due to a wall having shifted four inches due to weight from snow and ice

CAO Harmony Hancock went through the budget numbers with council, and in her report she noted the budget concentrates on maintaining current service levels, asset management, finding areas for efficiencies, leveraging grant and funding opportunities while acknowledging staff capacity and resources available.

The increase in revenue asset management plan recommendations considers new and current project costs, general inflation and a small number of proposed projects, said Ms. Hancock in her report to council. The municipal property tax rate proposed is 2.5 percent over 2024. The increase per \$100,000 of property assessment value at one percent is \$3.51 property assessment value of \$3.51 or a total revenue increase to the township of \$22,635.50.

The budget realizes a budget increase of \$28,000 in its operation budget for building and equipment expense. The overall budget is \$257,550. The new operating expenses include equipment maintenance as staff would like to request the booth at the landfill be replaced and that a sea can or operator shed be purchased for storage. The estimated cost is \$5,000. As well, public works department requires a backhoe filter at a cost of \$15,000.

There is a \$134,469 overall increase in the operating budget for wages, as the township had to hire two new CAOs over the past two years and had to hire a new treasurer.

In the roads budget, those roads being looked at for surface treatment in 2025 include Sextant Point Drive, Jacksonville Road, Maple Point Road south, Labar Road, Hideaway Road and Lilly Road.

There has been an overall increase in the operating budget, public services expenses that the township does not have any control over, of \$71,333, such as policing costs. Contribution expenses includes North Shore Search and Rescue \$2,000; police board \$2,000; Gore Bay Airport \$5,000; Manitoulin Health Centre \$2,000; MADD

...continued on page 9

...gold at skills competition

...continued from page 3

scape design, mechanical CAD, photography, prepared speech, small powered engines, tv/video production, welding, workplace safety and VEX robotics.

"Tech Skills gives students an opportunity to showcase their talents in various sectors, which could lead to potential careers in the trades," said Jennifer Burns, Ontario youth apprenticeship coordinator with RDSB. Students make connections with community partners and engage in innovative learning experiences that foster self-confidence, problem-solving and creativity. Participation also fuels their passion for the trades."

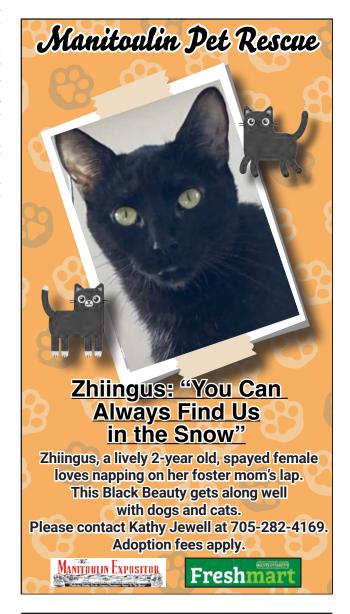
The Road Ahead

As measles continues to spread across Ontario, public health officials remain committed to containing the virus and preventing further outbreaks. The resurgence of measles serves as a stark reminder of the importance of routine vaccinations and the role of community-wide

immunity in stopping infectious diseases.
"We have the tools to prevent measles," said Dr. Sarah Khan, an infectious diseases specialist at McMaster University. "Now, we need to use them. Vaccination is our best defense.'

For the latest updates on measles cases and vaccination clinics in Northern Ontario, residents are encouraged to visit their local health unit websites and stay

As of March 8, Public Health Sudbury District has not reported any cases of measles.





The Bahá'is of Manitoulin believe that all humanity shares a common spiritual heritage, which takes various forms in various times and places, reflecting the diversity of cultures evolving along with human nature. If you would like to explore this common heritage together with others, contact us at: (705) 210-0391 or gnox@gnusystems.ca.

See **www.bahai.org** *for more information*.



Personal Income Tax Preparation 705-348-1982

Locations during March & April

PROVIDENCE BAY - Thurs. & Fri. 12-5pm, Providence Bay Community Hall

LITTLE CURRENT - Tues. 10am-1pm Little Current Recreation Centre, Hwy 6

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BAR HOURS:
SUNDAY - TUESDAY: CLOSED
WEDNESDAY: 4 PM - 9 PM
THURSDAY: 4 PM - WHEN TRIVIA ENDS
FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 4 PM - 10 PM

Self-Defence Workshop Saturday, March 22, 2025 Mnaamodzawin Health Services recognizes that we are experiencing a time where we need to be more vigilant of our surroundings. We are offering a self defense workshop to our communities and public where you can learn a variety of self defense techniques to keep you safe. This workshop is being offered to Youth and Where: Adults and is open to all genders. 4 Directions Complex Aundeck Omni Kaning 1300 Hwy 540 Spartan Krav Maga are Israeli-trained self defense When: instructors who teach street-ADULTS (Ages 18+) wise self defense techniques 9:00 am - 1:00 pm to stay safe in an ever changing environment. **YOUTH (Ages 12-17)** 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm What you will learn: • Understanding personal boundaries Creating/maintaining distance Release from wrist/arm grabs 3rd party protection vs. self defense Defending a loved one and so much more! Register Now! Limited Space Available

Central hosts ice derby this week

MINDEMOYA—For the third time, Central Manitoulin is hosting its annual Youth March Break Fishing Contest.

"I believe the event started in 2022, but we didn't hold it last year due to the poor ice conditions," said Alison Sloss, events coordinator of Central Manitoulin.

The derby, which started Saturday, March 8 and will run to Sunday, March 16, features two age categories and over \$1,200 in donated cash and prizes.

Youth aged 18 and under in Central Manitoulin are invited to participate in the March break fishing contest! Prizes can be won for longest fish in the two categories for perch and lake trout (with three prizes in each age group), said Ms. Sloss. "The contest is split between two age categories, 13-18, and ages 12 and under. Fish can be caught in an inland lake that is within or touches the municipality of Central Manitoulin's border.'

Central Manitoulin youth 18 and under attending Central Manitoulin Public School, Manitoulin Secondary School, or homeschooled are eligible to take part. CMPS students that attend from another community are eligible. For example, Rockville, Tehkummah, Billings and M'Chigeeng students attending CMPS are eligible. As well, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren or dependents tral Manitoulin are eligible. For greater clarity, if, for example, a ratepayer grandparent has a grandchild visiting from another part of Manitoulin Island or anywhere else during March break, the child can participate.

Fish must be caught on an inland lake within or touching the municipality of Central Manitoulin's boundary. For example, if the lake touches Central Manitoulin you can use the whole lake to catch a fish. These include for example, lakes Mindemoya, Kagawong, Manitou and Mud Lake. Lake Huron and rivers are excluded.

Clear photos above the fish with a measuring tape included are to be taken, verified by a parent or guardian per the measuring submission guidelines and emailed to the organizer.

There is a maximum of three submissions per fish species per participant allowed for the tournament.

Sponsors of the derby Include Jakes's Home Centre, Melvin E. Van Horn Insurance, Rylan's Clothing, Kat's Pet Supplies, Up to Sports Shop and Campbell Construction.

For more information and full tournament details go online to centralmanitoulin.ca/marchbreakfishing



Youth curlers serve up pancake delights

The Providence Bay youth curlers held a successful fundraising pancake breakfast during the curling club's men's bonspiel held last weekend. They are Avery Sparling, Sarah Joyce, Charlie Orford, Tommy Joyce, David Joyce, Devon MacKelvie, Joshua Joyce and Shawn

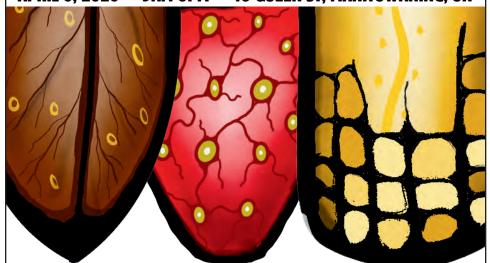
photo by Alexia Hannigan

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FOCUS - Learn through greetings, games, table talk, storytelling, and talking about the traditional roles of men and women.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT CLARICEPANGOWISH@KENJGEWINTEG.CA



...wait for appropriate housing for adult disabled child worries parent

...continued from page 1

safety net into a web of uncertainty, forcing parents like Ms. Robinson to make unimaginable sacrifices.

A System Under Strain

Across the province, families are struggling with a developmental services system that is buckling under decades of neglect. Since 1993, Ontario's core funding to support agencies has increased by less than seven percent, while the cost of living has soared by more than 60 percent. The consequences are devastating: families drained by financial strain, individuals unable to access essential care, and community organizations pushed beyond their limits.

Adrienne Farquhar-Kuula, executive director of Community Living Manitoulin, has witnessed the cri-

...Billings passes budget

...continued from page 7

\$200; Heart and Stroke Foundation \$50; Manitoulin Family Resources \$500; Manitoulin Streams \$3,500; Manitoulin Student Aid Bursary \$400; Gore Bay Fish and Game \$1,000; and, new, is Gore Bay arena from \$2,500 up to \$5,000.

2025 new capital projects include \$12,000 for the museum Mariners Park, with funding being sought through an Experience Ontario Grant (municipality will pay for engineering up to \$12,000); public works generator at a cost of \$18,500 through a Community Emergency Preparedness Grant; Lakeshore and Mud Creek and Lakeshore engineering work of \$97,079; Mud Creek and Lakeshore Road Work reserve \$162,470; hard surfacing of roads \$155,000; water treatment plant (new equipment) \$100,600 per Ontario Clean Water Agency; landfill post-closure cost \$73,500; Old Mill Road bridge guardrail \$6,000; Park Centre parking lot hard surfacing of \$30,000; and accessibility projects \$20,000 (which is an additional cost above a \$100,000 grant).

"When staff became aware of difference in an administrative expense surplus from last year's budget, (about \$300,000-\$320,000) I asked our CAO to speak to staff and identify a couple of projects that they felt were priorities (that the funds could go into, instead of general reserves)," said Mayor Barker. "Two of the priorities were roads and completion of the Small Craft Harbour washrooms (and showers). I would like council to consider moving the entire surplus into the reserve earmarked for the completion of the washrooms. First it would be nice to finally see the project to completion, it's been unfinished for far too long."

"Our (vendor) market attendance has increased substantially and will only continue to increase; we have porta-potties at the Park Centre and at the beach," the mayor continued. "This money, combined with funding, would give the township substantial capital toward project completion. If and when funding becomes available, the project could potentially be completed quickly without going back to the taxpayers. Unfortunately, at this point we don't know exact costs of the project."

"My only concern is if council were to allocate these funds to multiple projects' reserves, then the value of the monies would be diluted, making it ineffective in moving forward with a large capital project," said Mayor Barker. "This may result in not being to apply for or accept potential funding opportunities or having to supplement a project with additional tax dollars or reserves. If the monies were placed into general reserves, the money may get swallowed up, resulting in the washroom project not completed. We have already allocated a substantial amount to roads and bridges in this budget and are moving forward with engineer reports for both roads."

"Council has committed to improving Mud Creek and Lakeshore Roads, however these are not overnight fixes with the scope of work that needs to take place," continued Mayor Barker. "These are long term projects with the hope of improving the roads over time as funding opportunities and seed monies become available."

Councillor Ian Anderson said the washroom project is an issue that has been raised by council since he was first elected. "There is a lot of value in getting that project done." He said with the tariffs coming down from the US and other pressures, "It is unreasonable to think that municipalities will receive the same funding they have received from the federal and provincial governments in the future. And with the increasing popularity of the Kagawong summer market, port-a-potties are not a long-term solution."

"We have made many improvements to our waterfront," said Councillor Anderson. "I agree the lion's share of the funds, if not all of it, should go into this project."

Putting the new washrooms in has been talked about at the committee and council level for several years. "My hope is that the waterfront project be completed. I think this is a great recommendation. It would be nice to have proper washrooms there."

Councillors Vince Grogan and Michael Hunt were both in support of the recommendation as well.

If these funds are put aside in reserve specifically for the washroom project, it would be at least 2026 before the project could be looked to be carried out, council was told.

Council will officially pass a by-law with a 6.5 percent increase at its next meeting.

sis firsthand. "We have 1,500 people in the Northeast region waiting for group home spots and community supports. The need is overwhelming, but the funding just isn't there. We don't even have the housing available—there's nowhere for people to go."

She explains how the housing crisis on Manitoulin worsens the situation. "We don't have rental spots available. We don't have homes under \$500,000. Even if we could buy a home and modify it for group housing, we'd need a sprinkler system, make the building fully accessible, which costs hundreds of thousands of dollars. Where is that money supposed to come from?"

On Manitoulin, where services are already scarce due to the Island's rural nature, the impact is particularly harsh. There is no public transit, no accessible transportation, and a severe lack of rental housing. Even if families wanted to secure independent living spaces for their loved ones, the costs are astronomical.

The Human Cost of Inaction

Alana used to thrive at her day program with Community Living, but when COVID-19 hit, everything changed.

"For a whole year, she had nowhere to go. Then another year passed because there wasn't enough staff. The isolation created so much separation anxiety," Ms. Robinson recalled. "She was getting used to a routine, used to being around others. Then suddenly, she was just home with me, and it was so hard on her. We had to start new medications, get referrals—it was heartbreaking."

Ms. Farquhar-Kuula expands on the impact the pandemic had on services. "All our day programs were shut down. We couldn't gather, and a lot of individuals struggled with masks and distancing. People like Alana were stuck at home, and their families had to take on

full-time caregiving without support. And when we reopened? There weren't enough staff to bring everyone back right away."

The situation echoes across the Island. Without access to proper care, many individuals experience regression in their development. Some end up in hospitals or long-term care homes, places ill-equipped to meet their needs. Others rely entirely on aging parents who are terrified about what will happen when they are no longer able to provide care.

"People shouldn't have to live in crisis just because they have disabilities," Ms. Farquhar-Kuula told The Expositor, "but that's what's happening. We have people living in long-term care homes who don't belong there. We have people in hospitals who shouldn't be there. But we have no other options."

A Broken Promise

The Ontario government launched 'Journey to Belonging: Choice and Inclusion' in 2020, a 10-year initiative aimed at improving autonomy and independence for people with disabilities. However, without proper funding, the initiative remains more aspiration than reality.

Chris Beesley, CEO of Community Living Ontario, sums up the frustration: "You can create a vision, but unless you put resources behind it, it's meaningless."

Ms. Farquhar-Kuula is cautiously optimistic about the program. "The idea is to move away from group homes and into more independent living and it is a great one. But how do we staff nine separate locations when we can barely staff two group homes? How do we pay for rent, utilities, and food for all these people when the funding hasn't changed?"

...continued on page 13



...Martin Bayer awarded King Charles III Coronation medal

...continued from page 3

"They are an inspiration to us all, and this recognition marks our collective appreciation for their important contributions."

The medals, issued in celebration of the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III, continue a long-standing tradition of recognizing individuals who embody the values of service, volunteerism and leadership.

Martin Bayer was one of 21 recipients based in Sudbury who received a medal (for business and industry). "A lawyer and M'Chigeeng band member who practices in the areas of Aboriginal Law, Natural Resources General Litigation, Commercial Law and Alternative Dispute Resolution, business corporation.

"I have no idea who nominated me for the award," said Mr. Bayer. "I was very pleasantly surprised when I was told I had received this award. I was certainly not expecting it."

Mr. Bayer has been a lawyer for 30 years. "I have represented at one time or another just about every First Nation on Manitoulin Island, on all kind of legal matters, such as governance, economic development ventures, land claims, tax laws, settlement land issues and others.'

Organizations and community associations he is a member of includes the Law Society of Ontario, Canadian Bar Association-Ontario-Aboriginal Law Section, Sudbury and District Law Association, Indigenous Bar Association, Canadian Aboriginal Minerals Association, Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada, Idylwylde Golf and Country Club member.

"As a band member I give an annual award out at my former elementary school, Lakeview School in M'Chigeeng," Mr. Bayer said. "When I was young and a student at the school, typically two awards would be handed out at the graduation ceremonies, one for highest academic standing (an award he received several times) and for best athlete."

"I always remember a lot of my classmates didn't win these awards." said Mr. Bayer. "Twenty-four years ago, I set up an award at Lakeview; it comes with a plaque and a cash award and is awarded to a deserving student in the eyes of the Grade 8 teacher." He explained, "this award is presented in memory of three of my classmates at Lakeview who died tragically in different accidents, including Wayne Roy, Mitchell Panamick and Ernest Migwans. When I talked to the mothers of each of the classmates they cried and said they were happy this was being done. It has already been 25 years, this year, that this award has been presented at the school graduation."

Mr. Bayer also presents an annual award to a deserving student at Kenjgewin Teg, something he and Brian Bisson, a former deputy chief and councillor in M'Chigeeng, had set

And, after graduating from university, Mr. Bayer won a Premiers Award and donated the \$10,000 award toward a college scholarship to be given out to a deserving First Nations student in business administration. The school uses the interest built up from that donation to present a student with a scholarship every year.

Mr. Bayer has served on several different advisory boards/groups in Sudbury, such as the Sudbury Hospital board (now Health Sciences North), board of directors for Cambrian College and Laurentian University, and was also a board member of the University of Sudbury.

"During the time I served on the Laurentian we went through the difficult insolvency issue of Laurentian," said Mr. Bay-

Mr. Bayer was also the founding chair and on the board of directors of the Northern Policy Institute. He has also been a member of Waubetek Business Development board and is a member of Sudbury Hospice board.

For his work with First Nations over the years, Mr. Bayer was awarded with an Anishinabek Nation Lifetime Achievement Award a few years

NOTICE BOARD

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

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

The Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands is now offering hybrid meetings. Come and join us in the Council Chambers located at 14 Water Street or join us via Zoom by using the following:

Meeting # 489 313 1974 or call 1-587-328-1099

Our Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday and Thursday of the month. For a full copy of the agenda, please visit our website at: www.townofnemi.on.ca

SAVE THE DATE!

Second Annual Home, Cottage and Culinary Show

May 30th to June 1st At the NEMI Rec Centre Check out our website for more information www.hcc-show.ca Like us on Facebook 'Home, Cottage and Culinary Show'

Are you interested in becoming a Show Sponsor or Vendor? Check out the website or contact Lisa to have all your questions answered at hcc-show@townofnemi.on.ca

Sign up now while spaces are still available

REMINDER

The next tax installment due date is April 30, 2025. Please also be reminded that we do offer automatic monthly payments for both taxes and water. Call 705-368-3500 for more information.

MARCH BREAK ACTIVITIES AT THE NEMI REC CENTRE

Wednesday, March 12th

Come dressed in a costume for Public Skating from 2-3 pm. Win a prize!



Thursday, March 13th

Escape Room from 1-2 pm Public Skating from 2-3 pm

Friday, March 14th

Glow Skating with Noojmowin Teg from 2-4 pm

WINTER WORKSHOPS AT THE NEMI REC CENTRE

Coffee Club at the NEMI Rec Centre

Everyone welcome.

Line Dancing has started up again at the NEMI Rec Centre

Thursdays from 7 to 9 pm 8 weeks of line dancing with Lori Mastelko Cost: \$70 Email lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca to register

Cooking Classes at the NEMI Rec Centre All classes start at 6:30 pm

March 19th: Sushi • April 2nd: Perogies April 16th: Cabbage Rolls Workshops cost \$20 Email lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca to register

Annual Easter Egg Hunt Centennial Museum of Sheguiandah 10862 Highway 6, Sheguiandah Saturday, April 19th at 11 am sharp!



Home, Cottage and Culinary Show

May 30th, 31st and June 1st Looking for food vendors. Please email hcc-show@townofnemi.on.ca or visit www.hcc-show.on.ca

...Conservative Jim Belanger

...continued from page 3

bachelor of Business Administration, which helped him with his entrepreneurial endeavors," his website explained. His work experience, "includes working in the mining industry, logging, agriculture and he is currently self-employed in the fuel sector."

'Work has taken Jim across Northern Ontario and provided a clear picture as to why Sudbury-East-Manitoulin-Nickel Belt is in dire need of strong Conservative representation."

Other confirmed candidates in the new riding include Andreane Chenier of the NDP, as well as Liberal candidate Marc Serre. The Green Party of Canada has not confirmed a candidate for Sudbury East-Manitoulin-Nickel Belt riding.

Application for CONSENT Under Section 53 of the Planning Act To be held on Tuesday, April 8th, 2025 at 7:00 pm

File No.: Con 2025-03

Applicant: Michael and Lynn Hoar Agent: Gowling WLG LLP (David Sunday)

Legal Description: Sheguiandah Township Plot 48, Part 14, Plan 31R3472 Parts 1 and 2, SS Dunlop Street

Civic Address: 70 Mill Street Official Plan: Residential Zoning: Residential

PURPOSE OF THE APPLICATION:

Purpose of this application is for a lot addition to correct boundaries

CONSENT IS REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING:

The consent is required for the correction of boundary issues – the affect of the application will be a 6' slice of property being transferred to 64 Mill Street.

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 at (705) 368-3500 ext. 228.

Dated: March 12, 2025 **Town of Northeastern Manitoulin & the Islands** 14 Water St. E., P.O. Box 608 Little Current, ON P0P 1K0





Leanne Lewis hosting St. Patrick's fundraiser to support Haven House

Chosen to take part in Cambodia Challenge for Shelter this fall

by Tom Sasvari

MINDEMOYA—Leanne Lewis of Mindemoya is ready to embark on another life changing event by taking part in the Cambodia Challenge for Shelter.

"It is a great experience, it is life changing," stated Ms. Lewis, who had taken part in a similar challenge in Ecuador in 2023

"I applied for this year's challenge, the Cambodia Challenge for Shelter," said Ms. Lewis. "I will be one of 120 Royal LePage agents across Canada taking part. I applied in the fall and found out in January that I was one of the people chosen for this."

"In October 2025, I will be heading to the other side of the globe to participate in the Cambodia Challenge for Shelter," said Ms. Lewis. "For five days, I'll be trekking alongside like-minded colleagues from coast-to-coast, all in support of the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation. While my trek towards the picturesque temples of Angkor Wat will be immensely rewarding, it will not be easy!"

"The days will be long, hot and humid and jet lag will be intense. I will be going without the comforts of home, sleeping in a small tent, using rustic bathroom facilities and unplugging completely from cell service and technology." continued Ms. Lewis.

and technology," continued Ms. Lewis.

To be eligible to take part, Ms. Lewis will pay for her own trek and travel expenses and has to raise at least \$10,000 for the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation. "I set a goal of \$10,000 and will be approaching businesses and have a QR code in place for anyone who is interested in donating toward the cause."

Of the funds Ms. Lewis' raises, 80 percent will be directed to Manitoulin Haven House and 20 percent will fund national domestic violence prevention programs, said Ms. Lewis. She is helping to host a St. Patrick's Day event on March 15 at the Mindemoya Curling Club. Live music will be provided by Cole Hughson, and local people are providing baking so there will be a penny table and toonie auction. James and Leanne Ferguson donated a Chilly Moose cooler for the auction. Members of the curling club will run the bar for the evening. The event will take place from 8 pm to 1am.

The Royal LePage Shelter Foundation has raised over \$46 million to date and currently supports 200 local women's shelters and national partners. Since its founding in 1998, the foundation has proudly grown to become the largest public foundation in Canada dedicated exclusively to funding women's shelters and domestic violence prevention.

Royal LePage is the only Canadian real estate company with its own charitable foundation.

One hundred percent of funds raised and donated locally, stay local. Royal LePage Canada proudly pays the administrative expenses of the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation.

"When women and children arrive at their local shelter, they are provided with much more than a bed. The shelters we fund offer an incredible suite of supports and programs that help women heal from their traumas, regain their confidence, and build lives that are filled with hope instead of fear. These services can include: safe and secure emergency shelter, crisis inter-



Leanne Lewis took part in the Ecuador Challenge for Shelter in

vention and safety plans, food, toiletries, clothing and transportation, employment and job training, safe pet programs, therapy and counselling, social and self-care activities, life skills workshops, child and youth centred care, legal assistance, housing assistance, sense of community and friendship, parenting programs, community supports after leaving the shelter.

"I know the adventure ahead will test me both physically and emotionally, but I've raised my hand because I believe that a house is only a home when the people

who live there feel safe," said Ms. Lewis. "As I face this challenge, I will draw strength knowing that every dollar I raise and every kilometre I walk will help make it easier for women and children to find the safety, hope and healing they deserve."





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Resurgence of lamprey eel concerns commercial fishery

...continued from page 1

in the area around 1934. Ten years later, by 1945, lake trout were all gone on the Great Lakes because of sea

"I talked to one fisherman one time, and he was telling me that in 1945 he caught one lake trout, weighing 45 pounds, but that was it," said Mr. Purvis, noting from 1935-1945 the fishery was wiped out. "Canada and the US have stocked about 50 million fish (in recent years). In Lake Huron, at least on the north end we can about walk on them in the water there are so many lake trout, which is good for us and fishing. We catch way more than we can sell."

Purvis Brothers Fisheries, like all commercial fishing operations is on a weekly quota of fish they can take. While everything seems to be good at the current time, "however, now that the job cuts are being made by the US (Trump) government on people who actually

carry out the sea lamprey control program every year, this could all change." He explained over 5,200 lampricide tests were conducted over about 30 years before one was found that works on killing sea lamprey while not harming any other species of fish.

"Now US president Trump and his government have pulled the plug and fired the people who actually apply

the control program," said Mr. Purvis.

The United States federal government recently fired 14 federal workers involved in the sea lamprey control program. CBC News reported February 26 that 12 fired employees of the US Fish and Wildlife Service and two with the US Geological Survey helped control the invasive sea lamprey for the Great Lakes Fishery Commis-

Greg McClinchey, a GLFC spokesperson and director of policy and legislative affairs for the commission told CBC News said it is too early to know the impact of the cuts on the 2025 programs, which is set to roll out in April. "If the commission was to, and I'm not suggesting we're going to do this, just to be clear, but if the fishery commission were to cut its control program by one third, that would mean there would be somewhere in the neighbourhood of about 2.5 million lamprey that would remain alive. Two-point-five million sea lamprey would eat 12 million pounds of fish, and that economic loss potential is about \$264 million.'

Each lamprey eats about 40 pounds of fish over its two- to three-year lifespan, and each female has about 100,000 babies. CBC reports that at their peak, sea lamprey were consuming around 105 million pounds of fish per year and would have decimated the Great Lakes fishery within three to five years, said Mr. McClinchey.

In the 1950s, the commission was tasked with controlling the species, after piece-meal efforts by Canada, the US and individual states and provinces failed. Mr.



This lamprey was attached to a salmon caught in the waters near South Baymouth in recent years

photo by Dave Patterson

McClinchey said the program of treating streams with lampricide, kills about eight or nine million lamprey a year.

A total of about 85 employees of the US Fish and Wildlife Service are involved in the lamprey control program, reports CBC. About a third of them are larval assessment staff, and another two-thirds work with the lampricides, the compounds introduced into streams where the creatures breed and spend their larval years. Mr. McClinchey couldn't say how many of the fired staff are new employees and how many were on probation because they had recently received a promotion. But he estimated the majority were in the latter category.

Mr. McClinchev said the commission has received assurances that Fish and Wildlife will be able to hire the 25 seasonal workers that help with the work. "I think it's become clear that nobody woke up and said, 'Let's hurt the Great Lakes Fishery Commission program," he said.

The US government has not cut the funding for the program itself, the CBC reported. The commission continues to receive approximately \$20 million US annually from Washington and about \$8.5 million (Canadian funds) from Canada, a funding formula based on the share of the lakes in each country's territory.

Mr. McClinchey said the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans is also involved in the lamprey control program, and there is no indication of cuts on the Canadian side.

One Canadian organization said its monitoring the situation in the US.

Colin Cassin of the Invasive Species Centre told CBC it's too early to tell how its US partners would be impacted by the federal cuts, but his organization is concerned. "The challenge, from our perspective, is that invasive species don't respect borders. The fish don't have a passport.

Mr. Purvis said if sea lamprey are not controlled as well as they have been, "in 10 years lake trout could be gone," noting that they attack whitefish and other species of fish as well.

"We had a recent emergency meeting of the (GLFC) on the issue and concerns," said Mr. Purvis. He said a $\,$ recent decision by the state of Illinois to delay an invasive carp barrier in an area of the state to keep carp from moving up the Great Lakes was squashed because the state wanted confirmation that the Trump government will provide funding for the project, is another

very large concern. "It's not a good picture for the fishery," said Mr. Pur-...Canada has a new PM

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...continued from page 1

which the Island lies, Mr. Carney secured 263 of the 302 votes cast, securing 87.09 of the 100 points up for grabs in the riding after winning the unanimous endorsement of the riding executive.

"I am deeply honoured to be our next Liberal leader–and I'm ready to get to work," said Mr. Carney in his address to the Liberal faithful following his victory. "I'm grateful to all my fellow candidates. Each ran with passion, dedication, and a sincere desire to serve Canada. I look forward to working closely with every one of them in the days ahead.

"To everyone who voted in this leadership election, thank you," he said. "You stepped up for your country, and I won't let you down.'

The new Liberal leader, and by extension and timing, Canada's 24th prime minister said that Canada has given him everything. "My family, my education, my val-

ues and now, I'm ready to give everything to Canada."
"I'm not a lifelong politician, I'm a pragmatist," he said. "When I see something that's not working-I change it. Canadians told me loud and clear, you want leadership that stands up for Canada.'

Mr. Carney pledged that, together, Canadians will build the fastest-growing economy in the G7.

"We'll cut taxes that divide us and put money back into your pockets; we'll invest in health care, seniors and affordable childcare; we'll take bold action on climate, and we'll protect Canadian workers from Trump's tariffs.'

Among the specific actions promised by the incoming prime minister were the two stalking horses most played by the Conservative over the past couple of years. "My government will immediately eliminate the

...continued on page 13

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Contact Nick Cywink for more information at 705-987-9297 or 705-583-2033.

Limited spaces available, first in basis.

Wild Horse Art Studio with Nick Cywink

NAANDWECHIGE-GAMIG WIKWEMIKONG HEALTH CENTRE **ROUND DANCE** Friday, March 21, 2025 Manitoulin Hotel and Conference Centre Little Current, ON Pipe ceremony at 5 p.m. Feast to follow Round Dance at 7 p.m. Pipe man Joe Syrette Stick man Carson "Beega" Kiyoshk Invited singers: Dallas Waskahat Fawn Wood Matt Issaac Wayne Moberly Nathan Roy Dion Syrette Joe Syrette John Syrette Logan Syrette Nimkii Wemigwans Registered singers/backups



For more information please call Hali Pitawanakwat or Adam Kaboni at

Absolutely no drugs or alcohol allowed

...wait for appropriate housing for adult disabled child worries parent

...continued from page 9

Families like KMs. Robinson's don't have another 10 years to wait. "We need solutions now," she says. "We need more housing, more staff, more services—because right now, we're just surviving."

...Canada has a new PM

...continued from page 12

divisive consumer carbon tax on families and farmers, and small and medium-sized businesses, and we will stop the hike in the capital gains tax—because we think builders, we think builders should be incentivized for taking risks and rewarded when they succeed. Canada needs more of this type of change."

The election of a new Liberal leader was seen as a plebiscite on who would be the best leader to take on the challenge presented by the new US president, Donald Trump and Mr. Carney's economic credentials as the head of not one, but two central banks proved trump.

Mr. Carney took clear aim at US president in his victory address.

"Donald Trump has put, as the prime minister just said, unjustified tariffs on what we build, on what we sell, on how we make a living," he said. "He's attacking Canadian families, workers and businesses, and we cannot let him succeed."

The incoming prime minister said he was proud of the response of Canadians "who are making their voices heard and their wallets felt. I am grateful for how our provinces are stepping up to the fight, because when we are united, we are Canada strong.'

The new Liberal leader then took a partisan turn. "Pierre Poilievre calls Canada broken," he said. "But

...continued on page 14

...motion to buy Canadian

...continued from page 1

they will understand that our decision was not made in anger but rather as a well thought out response to the actions taken against us," he said.

He went on to say that this is a temporary measure that will be reversed when the Trump tariffs are eliminated "and we reestablish the relationship that we had for years as trusted trade partners."

How the Community Can Help

Despite the challenges, Community Living Manitoulin continues to fight for better support. Fundraising efforts have ramped up, and local businesses are being asked to contribute through donations, discounts, or volunteering services.

"We need people to know who we are and what we do," says Ms. Farquhar-Kuula. "We used to be called Hope Farm, and people didn't even know what we provided. Now that we've rebranded, we're reaching out more. But it's not enough—we need the community to step up."

"One of the best ways is to donate—either money or time. Businesses can offer their services at a discount.

We have two group homes that need new roofs, which will cost over \$100,000. That money isn't in our base funding from the ministry. We need to apply for grants, and even then, we aren't guaranteed to get them.

For now, Ms. Robinson continues to advocate for Alana and for the thousands of others like her. But the weight shouldn't fall on families alone. It's time for Ontario to step up and ensure that people with developmental disabilities aren't left behind.

For those willing to help, Community Living Manitoulin is welcoming donations and support. The Island's most vulnerable citizens are counting on it.





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2019 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN PREMIER 6.2L, 8CYL, 4X4 \$45,998*



Ε В G Ε

2022 GMC SIERRA 1500 ELEVATION 5.3L, 8CYL, 4X4 \$49,998*



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

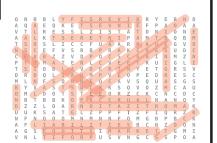
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.Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige talks tariffs in Washington

...continued from page 1

ership in decision-making, particularly in the face of tariffs, deregulation, and climate threats that could further endanger the Great Lakes ecosystem.

By standing together, GLSLCI members reaffirm that water is life and must be protected not only as an economic resource but as a living entity that sustains all

A Sacred Duty: Water is Life

"Our people have always carried the responsibility of protecting the water," Grand Chief Debassige declared. Water is life. It is sacred. And we cannot allow policies driven by profit to continue the cycle of destruction.'

She credits her strength and resolve to the First Nations water protectors and knowledge keepers who have walked before her, particularly Josephine Mandamin-baa, who undertook the first water walks across the Great Lakes to raise awareness of their fragility.

The Grand Chief credits both the late water walker and all those who continue that work: "They are the ones who give me the strength to say what needs to be said," Grand Chief Debassige told The Expositor. "They continue to teach me so that I can continue to teach others.

As she stood before US lawmakers, mayors and fellow advocates, she reminded them of a simple, undeniable truth: "Without water, there is no economy. Without water, there are no people. I'd like to see people try to eat dollar bills and coins. They say you can live for three seconds without air, three days without water and three weeks without food. Creator didn't give us these resources to leverage against one another. It's time to stop fighting in the sandbox and come together on what matters the most to our collective survival."

Tariffs and Deregulation: An Assault on the Great Lakes and First Nations

The 25 percent tariffs recently announced by the Trump administration pose a direct threat to both the economic and ecological stability of the Great Lakes region. The tariffs will disrupt trade, stifle investment in conservation and undermine Indigenous-led environmental stewardship.

'These tariffs will devastate First Nations and Tribal Nations on both sides of the border," said Grand Chief Debassige. "Our First Nations have always been trade nations. We have never given up our right to these wa-

ters—we only agreed to share them.' The Great Lakes economy, valued at \$8 trillion CAD (\$6 trillion USD), is home to 107 million people, 51 million jobs and is the third-largest economy in the world. But Grand Chief Debassige made it clear: economic prosperity cannot come at the cost of environmental sustainability and the wellbeing of the people who rely on these waters.

'Our people are still living off the land," she emphasized. "Algae blooms, invasive species like the Asian carp, the collapse of phytoplankton that our whitefish depend on—these are not just environmental issues. They threaten our very existence."

A United Front: Building Alliances for Water **Protection**

Grand Chief Debassige and her US counterpart from the Tribal Nations delegation led crucial meetings with US Senators and Representatives, pressing for Indigenous leadership in decisions impacting the Great Lakes. She described the experience as both a relationship building mission and a rallying cry.

'We know the turmoil that is on both sides of the border right now," she noted. "The goalposts keep moving, and people are confused, trying to understand what is really going on. But we cannot afford to be distracted. We need clarity. We need action."

Among those who joined the delegation were representatives from the Mississippi River Basin, whom the Grand Chief noted was very important as the Mississippi River is connected to the Great Lakes through its principal tributary, the Illinois River, emphasizing the ways in which water connects us all.

"When we look at the water, we have more in common than we do that divides us," Grand Chief Debassige reminded attendees. "The Mississippi River is fed by the Great Lakes. Water does not recognize borders. It flows, it connects, it sustains.'

First Nations at the Table: A Call for Recognition

Throughout her meetings, Grand Chief Debassige repeatedly invoked the Jay Treaty, particularly Section Three, which guarantees unimpeded access for First Nations across the US-Canada border to engage

"I constantly brought up the Jay Treaty," she told The Expositor. "The US recognizes on their side of the border that First Nations must have the unimpeded ability to trade, as we have done since time immemorial. So, when it comes to tariffs, this is a conversation that our First Nations need to be having at both the federal and provincial levels, here in Canada and abroad. We need our chiefs involved with Canada's governing bodies as this has direct impacts on our people. We should be at that table, and we must be at that table.

During her keynote address at Capitol Hill, she also issued a stark reminder to those focused solely on economic arguments.

Without water, without the gifts that Mother Earth has given us, there is no economy. There is no life. We have forgotten to honour that."

Rejecting the Tariffs, Reaffirming Responsibilities
The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative passed a resolution rejecting all tariffs that harm cross-border cooperation and Indigenous trade rights.

The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative strongly opposes the proposed 25 percent tariffs on Canadian goods entering the United States, recognizing the critical role of the region's cross-border trade, which supports a \$6 trillion USD regional economy. With 50 percent of Canada-U.S. bilateral trade flowing through this region, such tariffs threaten businesses, jobs, and competitiveness, while exacerbating supply chain disruptions and increasing costs for consumers. These measures undermine the principles of free trade and could result in a 1.6 percent GDP decline in the US and 2.6 percent in Canada. The Cities Initiative calls for immediate action from regional states, provinces, and local governments to resist these tariffs, protect jobs, and explore a collaborative strategy, including a potential Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Unity Summit, to safeguard the region's economic future. This resolu-

...continued on page 21

...Canada has a new PM

...continued from page 13

no one who thinks Canada is broken can ever put Canada first. We've got work to do. Poilievre's Conservatives took this year's election for granted, but Canadians love a good comeback. I'm ready for the fight and to work harder than ever before. Together we will stand up for Canadian workers, families and businesses, because Canada is strongest when we are united. It's time to build together. Because we are strong-Canada

In his most scathing indictment of his main electoral opponent, Mr. Carney said "a person who worships at the altar of Donald Trump will kneel before him, not

Mr. Carney was widely considered to be the front runner in the contest to replace Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and that factor may well have contributed to the stunning turnaround for Liberal fortunes in the polls—erasing a 20-point lead enjoyed by the Conservative Party of Canada over the governing Liberals when the party was being led by Mr. Trudeau, with the party's standing in some polls even pulling into the lead without a clear leader.

Following the announcement of the winner, the other contenders quickly closed ranks behind the new leader, including Ms. Freeland, who said she would willingly serve in Mr. Carney's cabinet, should she be asked.

Mr. Carney will be taking over the reins of government in the coming days when he is officially sworn in by Governor General Mary Simon and is widely expected to call an early election soon after—perhaps even before Parliament is recalled on March 24.

Death Notices

Jennie Ethel Elizabeth Beatty (nee McLennan) April 1, 1941 - March 7, 2025



Tt is with heavy hearts that Lwe announce the passing of our mother Jennie Ethel Elizabeth Beatty (nee McLennan), who left us on Friday, March 7, 2025, at the Manitoulin Centennial Manor in Little Current at the age of 83. Jennie was born on Tuesday, April 1, 1941, daughter of the late

Charles McLennan and the late Emma McLennan (nee Moore). Predeceased by her loving husband John Carl Beatty and her siblings George McLennan, Irene Wright, Nora Houle and Glen McLennan. Jennie will be lovingly remembered by her daughter Carol Ann Eng (Bernard) of Espanola and son William Glen Beatty (Tania) of North Bay; and her four grandchildren, Michael Eng, Michelle Broad (Joshua), Catherine Beatty and James Beatty. She will also be remembered by many nieces and nephews. Jennie grew up in the Hilly Grove area near Manitowaning and spent most of her life living in Manitowaning. Jennie had the proverbial "green thumb" and found joy in gardening. Jennie was known especially for having a large number of houseplants, all of which thrived under her care. Jennie also played piano and enjoyed playing for many years at the Tehkummah Pentecostal Church. Through much of her life, Jennie also did crafts like knitting and crocheting extensively. She was also a prolific baker, who made delicious bread, cookies and of course pies. The family would like to sincerely thank the staff at the Manitoulin Centennial Manor and the doctors and staff at the Manitoulin Health Centre who cared for Jennie in her final days. The compassion and care that was shown to Jennie was greatly appreciated. Family and friends will gather for a visitation at the Island Funeral Home, Little Current on Saturday, March 15, 2025 from 6 to 9 pm. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at www.islandfuneralhome.ca.



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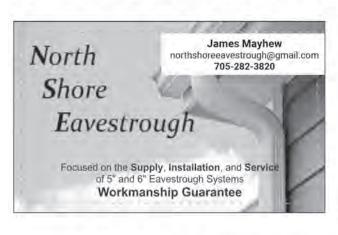












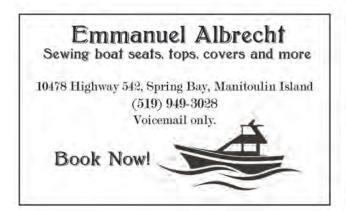


















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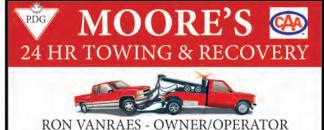


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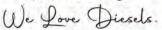
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Looking for a new job or career? Head to the LIFE section!



Little Current Fish and Game Club Annual Spring Roast Beef Dinner and Fundraiser!

Roast beef supplied, prepared and served by Burt Farm. Little Current Legion, Thursday, April 10, 2025. Door Prize, Raffle and Cocktails at 5 pm. Dinner served at 6 pm.

Only 125 tickets printed, \$40 each. Dine-in only.

For more information or tickets, call President Lou Shortt at (705) 368-2446 or Garry Elliott at (705) 368-3055.

Tickets also available at The Manitoulin Expositor.



coming events

Come one, come all to the Little Current United Church Hall on Friday, March 21 from 7 to 9 pm to enjoy George Williamson and colleages for a night of entertainment. Nonperishable donation towards Manitoulin Family Resources Food Bank appreciated.

St. Patrick's Day Potluck Supper, hosted by the Silver Water United Church, is on Monday, March 17 at 5 pm at the Silver Water Hall. Admission is by donation with proceeds to the Angel Bus.

41-43p

Memorial Lyons Church in Gore Bay is hosting a "Cultural Dinner and Silent Art Auction" on Friday, April 4. Come out to enjoy an authentic traditional Filipino dinner catered by a lady from the Philippines. A silent auction of art donated to the church (by people downsizing or redecorating) will take place as well. These will be very affordable with opening bids beginning from \$2 to \$5. Great opportunity to pick up something new for your home, your camp or your kids/grandkids. Come out for a great dinner and a funfilled silent auction. Cost is \$25 per person. Tickets will be sold until March 21 only. Doors open at 5:30 pm with dinner at 6 pm. Auction is optional, just come out for dinner if that suits you better. We hope you can join us!

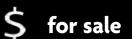


notice

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

Bag Days continue at Knox United Church Rummage Sale in Manitowaning. Fill a large bag for \$5 or a small bag for \$3. Open Wednesdays to Saturdays from 10 am to 3 pm.

43-44p



Dry grain corn for sale. Good bushel, bulk or by tote. Call 519-274-9452, Tehkummah.



New ground floor two-bedroom apartment in downtown Little Current close to water and all amenities. Has three appliances and parking. Asking \$1,700 all inclusive. For information call 705-368-1145.

42-43c



Are you a cancer patient undergoing or recovering from treatment? Are you a cancer survivor, a family caregiver or supporting someone with cancer? The Manitoulin Cancer Support Group may provide you with resources and opportunities to share experiences as well as give or receive support with others who have travelled this similar cancer journey. This group is open to anyone with any type of cancer, is free to join and will be rotated to different parts of the Island. This group will alternate meetings on weekdays and weekends. Sunday, February 23 at the Gore Bay Legion from 2 to 4 pm; Wednesday, March 26 at the Mindemoya Council Chambers from 2 to and Sunday, April at the Manitowaning Family Health Team from 2 to 4 pm. For more information contact: please 705-507-0433. Mackenzie. tandjmackenzie@hotmail. com; Bonnie Young, 705-377-4998; Ann Cranston, 705-282bnannc@gmail.com.

tfn

Christian Counselling: Alcohol, addiction, anxiety, children, depression, drugs, faith, grief, illness, marriage, PTSD, salvation, sin, etc. Free and confidential. King James Bible Church, 705-885-8951, cc.manitoulin@gmail.com.

Narcotics Annonymous will meet every Monday at the Little Current United Church, 5 Robinson Street at 8 pm. For more information please contact Lori at 705-507-6223.

accepted.



Thank you to both Little Current and Mindemoya Manitoulin Health Centre staff for helping me through my difficult time while admitted to both hospitals.

John and Joan Hoekstra



Is alcohol a problem? AA may be able to help. Meetings 7 days a week - visit www. area84aa.org or call 705-210-2135 for more info.

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

Are you concerned about someone's drinking? Al-Anon has one purpose: Welcoming, giving hope and comfort to help family and friends of alcoholics. Changed attitudes can aid Stepping recovery. Group: Espanola Al-Alon Al-Anon. Tuesdays at 7 pm, Anglican Church, 213 Tudhope Street, Espanola, 705-869call 1-888-4Al-Anon (1-888-425-2666, M-F, 8 am - 6 pm ET) http://www.al-anon.org. For meetings including electronic in Northern Ontario go to OntarioNorthAl-Anon.com. Please note the only Alateen meetings available in Northern Ontario are on a mobile app. Look for the app under Al-Anon Family Groups.

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

Tfn

in memoriam

STRAIN-In loving memory of a dear brother and uncle, Harold, who passed away March 1980. He meant so much to us But nothing we can say, Can tell the sadness in our

hearts And we think of him each day. We are always true and tender, He lived his life for those he loved

And those he loved remember. Sadly missed by Garry, Elva, David, Jim and Karen

BROWN-In memorium og Goldwin Brown, July 28, 1934 to March 12, 2010. Dad.

Deep in our hearts you are fondly remembered, Sweet, happy memories cling round your name.

True hearts that loved you with deepest affection Always will love you in death just

the same. Love, Garfield, Nancy, Peggy,

Rob and family



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

17tfn



King James Bible Church, Providence Bay worships every Saturday Sabbath, 10 am to 12 noon. For more information call 705-348-2229

KJV Bible Study, every Monday night, 7 to 9 pm in Providence Bay. For more information, call 705-348-2229 or email kjc.manitoulin@gmail.com. All welcome.

4tfn

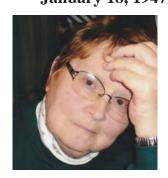
Art Classes Now Available!

Art classes are now available at the Vendors Only Market, 60 Meredith Street East, Little Current (the former McQuarrie Motors building across from the Beer Store) by artist Nick Cywink.

Call (705) 987-9297 to register or inquire.

Death Notices

GLADYS ELAINE MOORE (nee Bryant) January 18, 1947 - March 1, 2025



n loving memory of Gladys Elaine Moore (nee Bryant), who passed away peacefully with her daughter, grandchildren, partner and son-in-law by her side at the Manitoulin Health Centre in Little Current on Saturday, March 1, 2025 at the age of 78 and after a tough battle with

pulmonary fibrosis and interstitial lung disease.. A true Haweater, she was born in Little Current on a Saturday to Neil and Annie Bryant (nee Harper). She was the oldest sister and "Natalie Bum" of Mervyn "Bird" and Lily "Squirt" Bugg (predeceased), she is survived by Mervyn (Joan) Bryant and Dave Bugg. She was an awesome mom to Darlene "Dar" (Paul) Duxbury and reunited with her angels Heather and Chris. She was so proud of her four grandchildren Cassie, Jordan "Jordash" (Micheline), Megan "Meg" (Matt) Oliver and Brianna "Lady Bee". She always said that she wanted to meet her greatgrandchildren and she did get to become a Nan to her "Grandma's Boy", Kyler Oliver. Gladys married Albert "Abby" Moore in February of 1967. He predeceased her suddenly in 1997. Nine years later, after a few visits to a man at the Freshmart, she met "The Old Man" Lorne Gregory. They started going together in January of 2006 and were never separate for long. He was always a few steps behind her after she said "come on you old fart". Gladys was a woman of many talents and careers. She was a waitress at the Schooner, Gary's, Van's and many others. She was a baby sitter, mostly for Dar's kids but for many other kids in the community as well. She never forgot one of the kids she watched over and always kept up with their lives while they were growing up. She took on Ab's Services business after he passed and she had many great days doing the garbage run. Many of her stops included a visit and a cup of coffee or tea with a friend. And, if you were the lucky grandchild to go with her that Friday, a visit to Musky Widow's for some fries and a tea. After her move to Mindemoya she retired, for a few days. She then went back to babysitting whenever needed or whenever the kids wanted to go to her house. She had a passion for cooking. She loved trying new recipes that she found on the Food Network and recently Youtube. She always had a notepad next to her chair to write down a quick recipe. In her spare time she was great at crocheting and knitting, until her hands wouldn't let her anymore. After that she found she loved watching thriller movies and the Nomad's youtube channel as well as playing Solitaire on her new found friend, the I-Pad. She was never a fan of animals especially the rag-a-muffs her daughter brought to the house when she was a kid. But she did have a soft spot for Megan's dog Jiggy who was allowed to go on the couch and also Matt's dog Scooby, both of whom received an occasional pet. Her house was always the safe space and you were never told to leave, whether it was supper time or 2 am. Family and friends gathered for visitation at Island Funeral Home on Friday, March 7, 2025 from 2 to 4 pm and 7 to 9 pm. Funeral Service was at Knox United Church, Manitowaning on Saturdy, March 8, 2025 at 12 noon.. Cremation followed. Donations may be made in Gladys' honour to the Manitoulin Health Centre Smart Infusion Smarter Care campaign at https://www.canadahelps.org/ en/dn/9790 or can be left to a trust for "Grandma's Boy" Kyler's future, send an etransfer to jumphightothesky@ gmail.com marked 'please put in trust for Kyler' in the message. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at www.islandfuneralhome.ca.



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Death Notices

DONALD A SPRAGGETT October 24, 1955 - February 26, 2025



In loving memory of Don Spraggett, who passed away peacefully at Health Sciences North Sudbury on February 26, 2025. Loved and loving husband of Dr. Elizabeth Schneider for 42 years. Predeceased by his parents Ernie and Irene Spraggett and eldest brother Ernie. He is survived

by his siblings Renie, Sara, James, Charlotte, Donna, David, Wally, Wayne and Mary. Special extra son to the late Anita and Remi Demers. Godson of Earl and Maria (predeceased) Teddy and son-in-law of the late Martin and Lucy Schneider. Godfather to Marc-Andre Demers, Norman Savaille, Kim Podaima, Mackenzie Peltier (baa), Morgan Peltier and Brady Peltier. Don will be sadly missed by the Taylor, Patterson, McDonald, Demers and Peltier families in addition to an extensive network of family and friends from coast to coast to coast. Proud 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus. Born in Toronto, he moved to Manitoulin Island at age 12. He had found his happy place and remained an Islander until the end. Don was the first of his family to obtain a high school diploma and was a proud member of many championship sports teams at MSS in the 1970s. He went on to obtain a B.A. (Economics) from Western University, BComm from University of Windsor and BEd from Nipissing University. While his first jobs were in finance and sales, his true love was teaching math. He loved to see the smile on the face of a student, who thought they could never learn math, when they solved a problem. An eternal optimist, he hoped to see his beloved Maple Leafs hoist the Stanley Cup again. Cremation has taken place. Funeral mass will be at St. Bernard's Church, 19 Hayward St., Little Current on Saturday, March 22, 2025 at 11 am. Memories and refreshments to follow in the church hall. Interment of ashes will be in the Heavenly Rest Cemetery, Windsor, Ontario at a later date. Flowers gratefully declined. Memorial donations to support the Smart Infusion Smarter Care Fund at Manitoulin Health Centre can be made at www.mhc.on.ca. Arrangements entrusted to Simple Wishes of the North, Sudbury and Crystal Crematorium.

FRANCES "JEAN" FIELD January 14, 1927 - February 23, 2025



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Jean Field, who was born on January 14, 1927 in Tottenham, Ontario. She entered her heavenly home on February 23, 2025 at the Manitoulin Centennial Manor, Little Current. She was surrounded by family who said their goodbyes.

She was a woman of faith and loved the Lord and walked with Him daily. She was a beloved wife, mother, daughter and sister. She was a talented seamstress, cook, loved to can, bake and garden. She passed on these talents to her children. Her children Perrie (Karl) Horst, Ross (Kathy) Beckon, Anna (Paul) Vincer, Curtis (Carmen) Beckon and Carmen Sloss will miss her dearly but release her into the arms of Jesus. She had seven grandchildren and a dozen great-grandchildren. A graveside service is planned for June 2025 at Gordon Township Cemetery for Jean and Slim Field, her beloved husband. More details to follow. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at www.islandfuneralhome.ca.

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DOROTHY-LYNNE STEWART August 23, 1957 - February 28, 2025



In loving memory of Dorothy-Lynne Stewart, who passed away February 28, 2025 with family by her side. Dorthy is predeceased by her husband Big Ray. Predeceased by her children Amber May and Neil Jr. Dorothy aka Mom/Grandma is loved forever by her surviving children and grandchildren,

Lizzie and family, Ryan and family, Melissa and family. Cremation has taken place, a Celebration of Life will be announced at a later time.

She Is Not Gone

Ease your grief she is not gone,
For in your heart she lingers on.
Her smile, her laugh, her special way,
Will comfort you from day to day.
You'll feel her presence in the breeze,
That dances gently through the trees,
And it's her face that you will see,
When you're in need of company.
At any time, you can recall,
The love you shared...you saved it all.
And in time, more than anything,
You'll find peace in remembering.

BRYCE WILLIAMSON RICHING



Bryce Williamson Riching of Espanola passed away at his home on Monday, March 3, 2025 at the age of 38. Dear son of John Riching and Susan Williamson (David Hansford). Cherished brother of David Riching (Chantelle) of Elliot Lake. Will also be missed by many friends and

relatives. Cremation with a Celebration of Life at a later date. Arrangements by Bourcier Funeral Home, Ltd., Espanola.

FREDRICK GEORGE LENTIR 1950 – 2025



It is with great sadness that the family shares the sudden passing of Fredrick George Lentir on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at the age of 74. Fred was born on August 31, 1950, eldest son of the late George Lentir Jr. and Betty (Russell). Cherished brother of Shirley (Owen) Legge, Lenora

(Mike) Tann, Reg Lentir (predeceased) and Robert (Andrea) Lentir. Beloved uncle of Julie Allen (John), Jackie Legge (Mark), Wayne Legge (Amanda), Andrea Tann (Steve), Brad Tann (Jessica), Lisa Sinclair, Makenna Lentir (Justin) and Avery Lentir. Great-uncle of Jesse, Jarret, Samantha, Jayden, Colton, Addy and Easton, Fred will be missed by his Uncle John Lentir and his family, as well as many friends and relatives and especially his good friends Lyle Dewar and Ross Ward. Fred loved music and could play any instrument. He started out in the band called The Mystics and then later joined The Voyageurs playing at dances for many years. Not a day would go by without picking up an instrument and playing some tunes. He started out working for McDougall Construction after high school and then worked at the family construction, sawmill and farming business for many years. Fred will be fondly remembered for his quick wit one liners and sense of humour, as he always had a little joke to tell you. In honour of Fred, donations may be made to the Mindemoya Hospital Auxiliary or a charity of your choice. Cremation has taken place, and a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Cremation services provided by Simple Wishes of the North, Sudbury and Crystal Crematorium.

DOUGLAS ALFRED BURT May 12, 1946 - February 27, 2025



It is with great sadness to announce the passing of Douglas Alfred Burt of Southampton on Thursday, February 27, 2025 in his 78th year. Much loved father of Rebecca Claire of Parry Sound and James Ryan of Toronto. Beloved brother to Edward, Reta (deceased), Alfreda and

Donald. Uncle to several nieces and nephews. Predeceased by proud parents Clara and Alfred. Born on May 12, 1946 in Gordon Township, Manitoulin Island, Doug farmed as a youth and went on to graduate from Sault College and later Laurentian University in Sudbury. Almost immediately afterward, he gained a job at Ontario Hydro, and worked in the nuclear power industry for the next 30 years. Positioned in Gyeongju, South Korea, Darlington and finally Bruce Nuclear reactors, Doug applied his science studies to his technical supervision roles with professionalism and leadership. An avid outdoorsman with a keen love of nature and history, Doug enjoyed spending time on Manitoulin Island fishing, hunting and building. At home, he enjoyed lectures at the Owen Sound Field Naturalists and gardening. Upon retirement, Doug took to the road and travelled to all points on the globe, including various parts of Africa, the South Pacific, Europe and Latin America. As well, Doug donated much of his time to helping neighbours in Southampton while volunteering to assist the homeless via the Owen Sound United Way. He was known as a great cook, woodworker, explorer, sportsman, or just someone to enjoy a beverage and chat with on the deck. Doug's family wishes to thank his neighbours and staff at the Brightshores Health System, Owen Sound for their help and treatment of him. Further interment details will be forthcoming. Donations on behalf of Doug's memory to the Owen Sound United Way or the Owen Sound Field Naturalists are greatly appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to the T.A. Brown Funeral Home, 510 Mill Street, Port Elgin, 519-832-2222 with memorial online at www.tabrownfuneralhome.com.

GEORGE LESLIE CASE "LES"



George Leslie "Les"
Case of Espanola
passed away at the Espanola
Nursing Home on March 5,
2025 at the age of 85. Cherished son of the late Joseph
and Edna (nee Coe) Case.
Beloved husband of Patricia (nee McLennan) Case.
Loving father of Lee Anne
Dagenais (Alain) of Tim-

mins and Graydon (Kim) Case of Little Current. Grandfather to Davis and Kayla, and great-grandfather to Ayla and Lily. Dear brother to Albert (Margaret) of South Bay. Will also be missed by many friends and relatives. The family would like to thank the staff at the Espanola Nursing Home for their care to Les. Cremation with a Celebration of Life at a later date. Arrangements by Bourcier Funeral Home, Ltd., Espanola.

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

Free food giveaway holds second successful event in Little Current

LITTLE CURRENT—Helping Hands Family Missions of Sudbury has completed the second of what organizer Jamie Fitchett hopes will become a regular monthly free food giveaway event on Manitoulin. The latest giveaway took place, once again, at the NEMI Recreation Centre in Little Current, but Mr. Fitchett plans to move the location to one of two other sites in the municipality.

Council has expressed concerns about traffic congestion on Highway 6 should the event take place in the busier summer months, a concern Mr.



Volunteer Gilbert Gerard and Jamie Fitchett of Helping Hands Family Missions of Sudbury hold some of the food items that were on offer at the latest food giveaway.

Fitchett says he shares. The other locations would not impose the same traffic challenges.

Mr. Fitchett noted that the sponsors of the food giveaways, Second Harvest, were so impressed with the response to the first giveaway, they have committed to funding one transport load a month to Manitoulin.

The foodstuffs ranged from cookies and ice lattes to squash and cucumbers and included canned crushed tomatoes along with a host of other items.

"We had a great turnout earlier in the day," said Mr. Fitchett when The Expositor stopped by in the afternoon.

Traffic was not an issue at that point in the day, but the boxes of food items were well-depleted by that point.

Potential locations being considered for the giveaway include the Country 103 grounds off Harbour View Road owned by Criag and KT Timmermans or the Fort Sheg location off Highway 6 owned by Ryan McNabb.

"My hope is that we will be able to move to one of those other locations sooner, rather than later," said Mr. Fitchett, but he cautioned that nothing has been set in stone at this point.

...continued from page 6

On March 2 at approximately 1 am, the Manitoulin OPP observed a vehicle travelling at a high rate of speed on Highway 6 near Sunshine Alley Road in the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands (NEMI). Police conducted a traffic stop, and further investigation resulted in the driver being arrested for impaired operation.

As a result, the driver, Austin Tabobondung, 25 years old from Parry Sound, was charged with operation while impaired alcohol, operation while impaired-blood alcohol concentration (80 plus), speeding 1-49 kilometres per hour over posted limit, driving motor vehicle with open container of liquor, novice driver and blood alcohol concentration about zero.

The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Gore Bay on April 1.

\$61,600 of drugs seized, four people arrested

The Manitoulin detachment of the OPP received information regarding possible drugs and weapons offences occurring at an address in Sables-Spanish Rivers township. The OPP Community Crime Unit (CSCU) launched an investigation with assistance from the East Algoma, Nipissing West, North Bay and West Parry Sound CS-

On March 5, Manitoulin OPP officers initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle involved in the investigation. As a result, the four occupants of the vehicle were arrested. Police then attended an address in Sables-Spanish Rivers to execute a search warrant.

As a result, police seized amounts of suspected fentanyl with an estimated street value of \$45,000, amounts of suspected cocaine with an estimated street value of \$16,000, amounts of suspected methamphetamine with

Law & Order

an estimated street value of \$600, a prohibited handgun with an extended magazine, and a tactical vest with a

Adam White, 40 years old from Espanola, and Rosalind Bob, 34 years old from Sables-Spanish River were both charged with possession of a firearm knowing serial number has been tampered with, breach of firearms regulation-transport firearm, possession of a weapon for dangerous purpose, unauthorized possession of a prohibited firearm, knowledge of unauthorized possession of firearm, possession of a prohibited device or ammunition, occupant of motor vehicle knowing there was a firearm, possession of a schedule one substance for the purpose of trafficking-opioid, possession of a schedule one substance for the purpose of trafficking cocaine. Mr. White was also charged with operation while impaired.

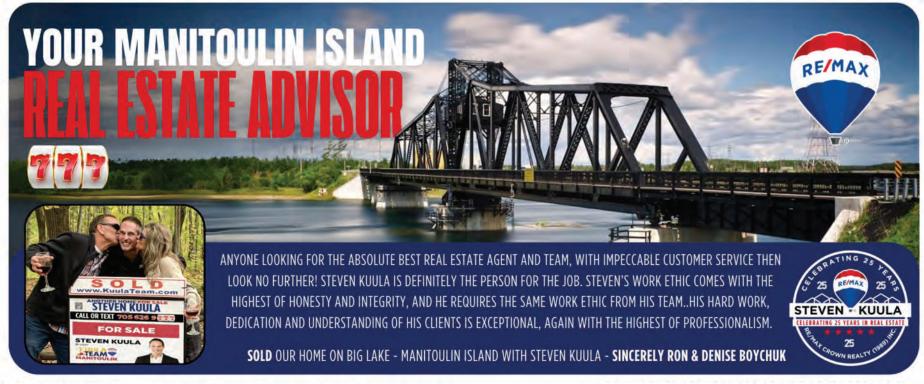
Cameron Cardwell, 40 years old from Sudbury, was charged with possession of a firearm knowing serial number has been tampered with, three counts of possession of firearm or ammunition contrary to prohibition order, fail to comply with probation order, breach of firearms regulation-transport firearm, possession of weapon for dangerous purpose, unauthorized possession of a prohibited firearm, knowledge of unauthorized possession of firearm, possession of a prohibited device or ammunition, occupant of motor vehicle knowing there was a firearm, possession of a schedule one substance for the purpose of trafficking-opioid, possession of a schedule one substance for the purpose of trafficking cocaine.

Damon Lanteigne, 35 years old from Sables-Spanish Rivers township, was charged with possession of a firearm knowing serial number has been tampered with, possession of firearm or ammunition contrary to prohibition order, failure to comply with release order-other than to attend court, possession of property obtained by crime under \$5,000, breach of firearms regulation-transport firearm, possession of weapon for dangerous purpose, unauthorized possession of a prohibited firearm, knowledge of unauthorized possession of a firearm, possession of a prohibited device or ammunition, occupant of motor vehicle knowing there was a firearm, possession of a schedule one substance for the purpose of trafficking opioid, and possession of a schedule one substance for the purpose of trafficking cocaine.

The four accused remain in custody and were scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Sudbury on March 6.



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REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

CLIENT & FAMILY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Are you a current/former client who has accessed Noojmowin Teg Health Centre programs and services?

Are you a family member/caregiver of someone who has accessed Noojmowin Teg Health Centre programs/services?

Would you like the opportunity to provide your feedback to help improve the programs/services offered by Noojmowin Teg Health Centre? Are you able to attend a minimum of four (4) meetings per year?

If you answered Yes to the above questions, the organization encourages you to complete and submit a Client & Family Advisory Committee **Expression of Interest** Application form.

Noojmowin Teg Health Centre is committed to partnering with clients and families to improve our services and care. We are currently recruiting clients and/or caregivers of clients to join our Client & Family Advisory **Committee** to provide diverse insights into our health services delivery, priorities and programs.

Also, as a member of this Committee, you will be able to ensure that Noojmowin Teg Health Centre's work and strategic priorities are guided by lived experiences of Anishnabek peoples.

Individuals will be asked to serve a two-year term and come together a minimum of four (4) times a year to share their advice and insights into what quality health care looks like. Among the many issues the Client & Family Advisory Committee will discuss, its current priorities which include Mental Health and Addictions and Diabetes focused care. An honorarium will be provided for meetings attended.

The Noojmowin Teg Health Centre Client & Family Advisory Committee is currently seeking to fill the following representative roles:

- 1 Women's Representative 1 - Men's Representative
- 1 Elders' Representative (age 55+)

1 - LGTBQ2S+ Representative 2 - Youth Representatives (age 16-29)

For more information or if you have any questions regarding the Expression of Interest process, please contact:

Debbie Francis, Executive Director Noojmowin Teg Health Centre Email: debbie.francis@noojmowin-teg.ca Noojmowin Teg Phone: (705) 368-0083 Ext. 235

Mobile: (705) 348-2182

Health Centre A place of healing

Visit Noojmowin-Teg.ca to obtain a copy of the Client & Family Advisory Committee Expression of Interest form or request one by emailing info@noojmowin-teg.ca.



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 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 within the Manitoulin Island District and Espanola area. 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: <u>www. noojmowin-teg.ca</u>.

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

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

Deadline: Posting is open until filled

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

NOTICE

East Manitoulin Old Order Amish Church has applied for consent to establish an East Manitoulin Old Order Amish Church Cemetery and submitted by-laws to the registrar of the Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002.

Any interested parties may contact Lloyd Albrecht at (519) 801-5653 for information or to review or make copies of the cemetery by-laws.

The application for consent and the cemetery by-laws are subject to the approval of the Registrar, Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002.

Telephone: Bereavement Authority of Ontario (647) 483-2645 or 1-844-493-6356

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO CONDUCT AN **EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES** DELIVERED BY M'CHIGEENG HEALTH SERVICES

Date Issued: February 4, 2025

M'Chigeeng Health Services (MHS) is the health department of M'Chigeeng First Nation. Since 1995, M'Chigeeng First Nation has been managing and delivering health services through contribution agreements with the Indigenous Services Canada. The health services offered are intended to address the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual aspects of health. M'Chigeeng Health Services provides a continuum of community health care that focuses on health promotion, illness prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care.

Purpose of the 2025 Health Services Evaluation

This evaluation is intended to assess the effectiveness of programs and services provided by M'Chigeeng Health Services.

The evaluation will seek to:

- · Identify programming strengths;
- · Identify changes in health status and health outcomes;
- · Make recommendations to improve health information systems; and
- · Identify and make recommendations to address the challenges and barriers to integrated and holistic health services delivery.

This proposed evaluation will consider a five (5) year time period from 2019/2020 to 2024/2025.

Evaluation Questions: Evaluation questions: Primary question: Primary question:

Are the program activities leading to the expected results?

Additional evaluation questions:

- How well are programs, services and projects administered, managed and integrated within M'Chigeeng Health Services and coordinated with external programs/organizations?
- Are programs and services delivered in a culturally safe manner?

Additional questions to be determined by the Evaluation Steering Committee:

M'Chigeeng Health Services is seeking proposals from experienced contractors to conduct an evaluation of its programs and services. The evaluation is to be completed by May 30, 2025. The project budget is not to exceed \$30,000 (including GST).

Proposal Requirements:

The proposal should include the following:

- 1. A cover letter
- 2. Understanding of the project
- 3. Proposed approach to the evaluation
- 4. Proposed methodology
- 5. Proposed work plan that details activities, deliverables and time frame
- 6. Proposed budget with a breakdown of fees and expenses
- 7. Description of the research team that outlines relevant evaluation experience
- 8. Resumes of research team members
- 9. Three references with contact information

The proposal should be submitted as a single electronic document, no longer than 10 pages in length.

Important dates:

Deadline for proposal submissions: March 14, 2025 at 4:00 pm

Start date for project: March 24, 2025 Completion date for project: May 30, 2025

Questions and proposals should be submitted to:

Floyd Ense, Department Manager M'Chigeeng Health Services 705-377-5347 x 2202 or 705-862-1920 Email: floyde@mchigeeng.ca



Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige talks tariffs in Washington

...continued from page 14

tion seeks to unite municipal, Indigenous, and business leaders in a strong, coordinated response to mitigate the impacts of a trade war and support regional prosperity.

"Mother Earth does not need us. We need Mother Earth," Grand Chief Debassige stressed in her keynote address. "And we must show respect, not just in words,

She spoke of the growing solidarity between First Nations, Tribal Nations, and municipal leaders across the region, pointing to a critical shift in awareness.

'There is power in numbers," she said. "And when we focus on the goal—protecting these waters—we can move mountains. We can move policies. We can ensure that the Great Lakes remain alive and thriving for future generations."

A Message for Leaders: Step Out of the Sandbox

As the meetings in Washington unfolded, Grand Chief Debassige made a direct appeal to the political leaders of both Canada and the United States.

"Our prime minister, the president of the US and all other leaders need to stop fighting in the sandbox," she said. "At the end of the day, it is the people who suffer. It is the children who suffer from these political games."

The path forward, she emphasized, is one of collaboration and recognition of Indigenous leadership.

"We cannot be forgotten. Our ancestors helped sustain settler life on Turtle Island. We showed them our highways—the waterways. And now, it is time to acknowledge that we are still here, still protecting, still ensuring that these lands and waters remain for the next seven generations.

A Future Rooted in Responsibility

As Grand Chief Debassige prepared to leave Washington, she carried with her the voices of the ancestors, the strength of the waterwalkers, and the determination of a people who refuse to be left out of decisions that shape their future.

'The Creator gave us the Great Lakes," she reminded everyone. "And we have a shared duty to protect them. Not just for today, not just for ourselves, but for the generations yet to come."

The struggle is far from over, but the movement is growing. With First Nations leading the way, supported by allies who understand the stakes, the fight to protect the Great Lakes has never been stronger.

A Call to Action for the Municipalities of Manitoulin Island

Grand Chief Debassige has urged the municipalities of Manitoulin Island to take a strong stand in defense of the Great Lakes, reinforcing their commitment to environmental protection, cross-border cooperation, and Indigenous partnership by joining the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative.

"I call on the leaders of Manitoulin Island to stand with us," she declared. "Amplify First Nations voices and ensure that local governance reflects our shared duty to these waters. The Great Lakes sustain all of our people, Indigenous and settler alike, our livelihoods, and our future generations. Now is the time to stand together.

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For a private viewing, call David Carlisle, Broker of Record, at: 705-282-1500 www.manitoulinrealestatebrokerage.com, Dave@ManitoulinRealEstateBrokerage.com 25 Meredith Street, Gore Bay, ON

MLS #: 2120584 | PRICE: \$595,000



Come and view 10 Vanhorn St., Gore Bay located in a quite neighborhood on a cul de sac. This home has comfort, style and convenience in close proximity to the downtown area and the marina. Some of the features include a spacious entrance, four bedrooms and two full baths. The main suite has a walk-in closet and dressing area. Also included is a heated four separate parcels of land which can be kept for total privacy or sell three-car garage and finished basement with propane fireplace and a wraparound deck. Some of the amenities are air conditioning, automatic backup generator, central vac, hot water on demand and high efficiency propane furnace. The appliances are higher end with a stainless fridge, Bosch propane stove, newer Bosch dishwasher and microwave, along with a bonus fridge and freezer on the lower level.

MLS #: 2108175 | PRICE: \$899,900



spectacular offering of waterfront and acreage on beautiful Barrie Island on a year-round road. Formerly known as Barrie Island Cottages. this property has over 3,000' of shoreline and over 44 acres. There are a couple of lots to family and friends. Six classic cottages sit on a sand beach with scenic views across the North Channel. Also included is a shower house, storage shed and numerous outbuildings along with 200' of dock. This property is the ultimate in privacy, peace and tranquility with an abundance of wildlife. Call today for your private tour.





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78 ACRES MELDRUM \$159,000. Waterfront. MLS 2120200

RED LODGE ROAD \$89,000

MLS 2120908

MELDRUM BAY LOT \$79.900 MLS 2120800

MINDEMOYA LOT \$79.000 MLS 2120901

SANDY POINT starting at \$219,000 MLS 2116672



SOUTH BAYMOUTH Harbour View Home. 2 BR/1Bth. Move-in readv \$454.000 MLS.2121076



KAGAWONG Completely renovated, bunkie. Must see! MLS.2120806 \$499,000



GORE BAY 3 BR, 2 Bth, Attic Studio. **Great location!!** \$419,000 MLS.2115058



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Lee-Ann Ferguson Sales Representative 705 968 0602



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MLS®#: 2120489 | \$159,000









433 Cross Hill Rd, M'Chigeeng MLS®#: 2118846 | \$85,000



MLS®#: 2120507 | \$669,000

Mindemoya MLS®#: 2120662 | \$679,000



20489 Hwy 540 **Gore Bay** Silver water MLS®#: 2118363 | \$949,000 MLS®#: 2120571 | 180,000









MLS®#: 2119624 | \$549,999



















PT1 Hwy 540, **Gore Bay** \$79,900 MLS #: 2120505

PT2 Hwy 540, **Gore Bay** \$79,900 MLS #: 2120506 12 Cockburn St, **Little Current** \$39,000 MLS #: 2112049 1/2 ACRE

Lot 86 Limberlost Ln, Mindemoya \$79,900 MLS #: 2119535 1/2 ACRE

N/A Monument Rd, **Spring Bay** \$227,500 MLS #: 2119695 4.5 ACRES

New listing coming soon! 452 Goose Gap Crescent, **Barrie Island** \$159,000



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Investment opportunity



Heart of downtown Little Current on Manitoulin, prime commercial property at 15 Water Street boasts a solid income stream. 5 commercial units as well as a 2-bedroom residential apartment on the second floor. The main floor is occupied by a restaurant and a retail tenant, while the second floor houses multiple professional office spaces and an additional residential unit. This well-maintained property has undergone over \$55,000 in recent renovations.

MLS #2121031 | Little Current, \$489,000



Thriving Brew Your Own Wine Business - Successfully making wine for happy customers for decades!!! Located downtown Little Current and offering great financial statements and excellent client list. Huge room for expansion of existing business and ideal for someone who wants to work for themself.

Please call for full details.

MLS #2121065 | Little Current, \$78,500



Two commercial spaces available for rent plus a renovated, modern, spacious 2 bed, 1 full bath apartment. Income property across from famous Bridal Veil Falls, near beaches, restaurants, marina—a tourist hot spot.

marina-a tourist hot spot. MLS #2120813 | Kagawong, \$649,000



Little Current, downtown commercial space for rent in high-traffic area. 1,000 sq. ft. Bright modern finish with wheelchair accessibility, dedicated parking, bathroom, and an office/storage room. Available April 2025.

Affordable Downtown Little Current commercial retail space. Level entry and large windows fronting onto a busy corner location. Owner would be prepared to hold a mortgage with an agreed upon down payment.

MLS#2120110 | Little Current, \$149,000



Amazing oversized site with two buildings on Hwy. 542 includes a charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath home ideal for a short term rental plus a separate 2,200 sq ft building that can be used for retail or a restaurant, includes owner's accommodations.

MLS #2120712-3 | Spring Bay, \$800,000

Vacant Land



Outskirts of Manitowaning, overlooking bay, 3 plus acres. Maintained street with laneway, hydro, good drainage, partially cleared, flat and ready for building. View to the La Cloche Mountains. Assiginack allows licenced trailers.



Year-round road in Assiginack, trailers permitted for a fee. Access to water with sandy beach via short walk. Hydro ready, quiet subdivision, 5 minutes from amenities of Manitowaning. MLS #2113802 | Manitowaning, \$69,000



Located on outskirts of Sandfield on Hwy 542, 0.96 acre vacant property is ready to build on with hydro at the lot line. 2 entrances with culverts installed. Near public boat launch of Lake Manitou for recreation.



Lake and mountain views, hardwood forest, open farmlands, escarpment ridge, interior laneway and an aggregate licence. Year-round access, 10 min drive to Little Current, hydro at Hwy 6. Close

to schools and shopping. MLS #2120791 | Sheguiandah, \$499,000



Near Lake Mindemoya, just under 1 acre, treed lot waiting for your home or cottage. Front portion level. Hydro and laneway. A picturesque rock-cut could provide elevated build site. Year-round road. Boat launch minutes away.

MLS #2118483 | Monument Road, \$125,000



A getaway waiting for your recreational build. A private estate-sized lot of *33 acres* boasting 627 feet of crystal-clear waterfront. Gravel laneway. Flat water access. MLS #2116861 | Mindemoya, \$499,000



Outstanding North Channel views. Minutes from Gore Bay. Year round access, hydro available. Large well treed site, 175 ft frontage, 1.55 acres of land. Exceptional location for your home or cottage. MLS #2121041 | Gore Bay, \$175,000



Build site, 3.53 acres with a mix of forest, pond and open fields. 3 tiers of elevation offering lake views. Year-round access, hydro and municipal water supply. 2 km to beach and boat launch.

Build your dream home here.

MLS #2120652 | Sheguiandah. \$139.000

Tome Sweet it once



Welcome to 15 Bay Street, a raised ranch style home with a split entry that is close to local shops and amenities in the charming town of Mindemoya on Manitoulin Island. Family-friendly recreation space downstairs with custom bar and propane stove. 3 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms including a jetted bath tub. Stainless steel appliances, washer and dryer, fibre internet access, SMART thermostats and Lifebreath residential heat recovery ventilators (HRVs). In addition, the home has a generator plug adapter for power outages, and a large back deck with BBQ hooked up to the propane. The lot is large at 11 ft x 200 ft, just under 0.5 acres, with apple trees.

MIS #1120893 | Mindemova \$400 000



Full-sized home in a popular, quiet rural setting with water access only a short walk through the forest trail to the shores of Manitowaning Bay. Clean, well cared-for family home has ample well-designed spacious rooms, tasteful main entry and open-concept kitchen, dining and living rooms with patio door walk-out to back deck. Principal bedroom has a large walk-in closet plus a 4pc en suite bathroom! The detached 28' x 32' double garage is insulated, wired with 100 amp service (including a 30 amp receptacle for welder/compressor) and even has a wood stove! Property also includes storage buildings!



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



J. Alan Wright Broker Cell: 705-869-7568



Rob Norris H.B.A. Agent Cell: 705-968-0030



Al Frank Agent Evenings: 705-859-3297



Alan Mihelchic Agent Cell: 705-282-4602



Lori Edwards Office Manager 705-368-2381



Meredith Morris Marketing & Rentals Manager 705-368-2381



Find Your Lucky Listing: Must-See Properties this March







WATERFRONT LOT Lot 1 31M-209 Water St, Meldrum Bay MLS 2117093 | \$229,000





159 Main St, Kagawong

502 7th Line, Gore Bay MLS 2119803 | \$289,000











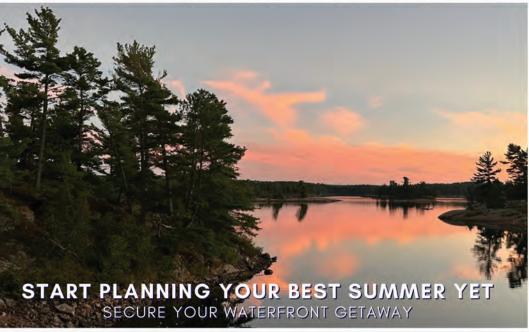
WATERFRONT PROPERTIES







PT LT 16 Con 3 Perch Lake, Sheguiandah MLS 2120359 | \$249,000 MLS 2120524 | \$40,000



C LITTLE CURRENT OFFICE: 705-368-2271 | GORE BAY BRANCH: 705-282-8585

Prices **Bloom** as Spring Approaches





Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Little Native Hockey League 2025 attracts 276 teams to Markham

MARKHAM—The 51st annual Little Native Hockey League (LNHL) tournament will feature a record number of participating teams. This year's tournament, taking place this week, will bring in 276 teams from all over Ontario, including several teams from Manitoulin Island First Nation communities.

Chico Ralf, Little NHL president said "I look forward to another amazing tournament that brings our First Nation teams, players, elders, parents, family and friends from all four directions in Ontario. Whether you are a player, family member or friend, we are all one LNHL family."

Mr. Ralf said it is a great honour to keep up the tradition of the tournament, "an event that is the highlight of the year for many of our young people. It brings together so many of our families, united by our children and love of sport."

The first LNHL tournament had a total of 17 teams and a modest 200 players take part, in Little Current. In 2024 the tournament welcomed over 4,000 players, on 246 teams from U7 to U18 in 550 games. This year's tournament will be held in Markham.

"The Chippewa Tri-Council (CTC) is the host community for the tournament. An official signing ceremony was held on August 24. Leadership from the Chippewas of Georgina Island, Beausoleil and Rama First Nations, the Little NHL executive and delegates from the city of Markham attended the ceremony.

"The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is pleased to announce its participation in a new joint initiative in partnership with the Indigenous Police Chiefs of Ontario (IPCO) and the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) Equity Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) committee to enhance police support for the LNHL, taking place March 9-13 in Markham," a release states.

"As part of this initiative, the OPP has joined



"Proud Supporter of the LNHL" decals are appearing on police vehicles to show the police service support for the tournament and its players.

various municipal and First Nation police services in placing 'Proud Supporter of the LNHL' decals on police vehicles to promote and show support for the LNHL tournament and its participants."

The "LNHL tournament offers a unique opportunity for police services to engage in meaningful community outreach and foster positive relationships with Indigenous youth. Throughout the tournament, OPP members will be attending various participating arenas to cheer on athletes and demonstrate their commitment to building strong, supportive and safe communities."

"We are excited to be a part of this new initiative to promote and support the (LNHL)," said Superintendent Gary Maracle, OPP, Indigenous Policing Bureau. "The OPP had the honour of attending and participating in LNHL 50th anniversary events in 2024, and we are thrilled to amplify our support for First Nation youth athletes in 2025 through this joint initiative with the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) Equity, Diversion and Inclusion committee and the Indigenous Police Chiefs of Ontario. As a former LNHL coach and current parent, I am especially happy to take the lead in increasing our engagement with this fantastic event.'

"Our partnership with the LNHL tournament offers a wonderful opportunity to support and celebrate the achievements of Indigenous youth in sports," said deputy chief Julie Craddock, Anishinabek Police Services and co-chair, OACP Equity, Diversion and Inclusion committee. "This collaboration aligns with the commitment to promoting equity, diversity and inclusion as well as advancing reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. The LNHL is incredibly meaningful to Anishinabek Police Services. Many of our officers played in the tournament during their youth and now either coach or watch their own children play. We hope that this tradition continues and that many of the players we meet this year, become police officers one day too.'

"The tournament is an event like no other, bringing together thousands of participants from First Nations across Ontario to showcase their hockey talents and exemplify our four pillars-education, citizenship, sportsmanship and respect," said Mr. Ralf. "It is wonderful to see Ontario's provincial, municipal and First Nations police services promoting and supporting our LNHL athletes and their families."

Many First Nation communities have hosted the tournament over the 51-year history. They include Aundeck Omni Kaning, Curve Lake, Dokis, Fort William, Garden River, M'Chigeeng, Nipissing, Sagamok, Saugeen, Six Nations, Walpole Island, Wausaksing, Wiikwemkoong, Whitefish Lake and Whitefish River.

The Little Native Hockey League tournament was started by five very special people, Earl Abotossaway, Jim McGregor, James D. Debassige, Reverend Leonard Self and Norman Debassige. Their collective dreams became a reality when they held the first tournament during the Christmas break in 1971.

Manitoulin Sporting Life



Student athlete spotlight!

I always appreciate the efforts of student athletes and how sports affects their experience. It's a delicate balance of academic rigor and athletic commitment, requiring exceptional time management and discipline. Hats off to this trio, this week.

Former Manitoulin Panther, **William McComb** has played in Sudbury for the last four years, traveling for two years before making the move for the last two. This season, he played with the GMHL 's West Nipissing Lynx Jr A squad. He was awarded the "Rookie of the year" for the association and a 1st runner up in the GMHL. He is finishing up secondary school at LaSalle and accepted his offer to Cambrian for powerline technician this fall!

Mindemoya's **Zoe Redmond** is a master of the school – sports' balance and always with a smile! Zoe played with the Canadore College Panthers this year and was noted for her never-stop attitude and positive vibes!

Finally, congrats to **Sidney Koehler** who played volleyball with the Humber Hawks who won the Ontario Women's Volleyball Championship.

Keep up the great work to all those stu-

dent athletes out there!

Little NHL!

The 2025 LNHL is underway, hosted by the Georgina Island F.N. there are 250 teams and 3,400 players overall and Manitoulin is well represented for sure! For example, just Wiikwemkoong has brought 22 teams and 300 plus players to Markam event. Enjoy your week of hockey and community everyone!

March Break activities!

The days are getting longer and it is hard for our old arenas to keep ice in them at this time of year. A quick search however reveals ice-out skating and sponge puck availabilities around the Island to take advantage of. Check them out!

Central Manitoulin is hosting a Youth Ice Fishing Tournament is going until Sunday, March 16th! They have over \$1200 in cash and prizes thanks to local businesses. How about their Snow Sculpture contest? There is a hockey skills development camp for kids on March 11 to 13th at the Providence Bay Arena.

Assiginack always has something going on including a schedule to use up the

A good sport is good for sports chipstoquips@gmail.com



Getting their glow on

It was time for skaters to wear their neon, as the Gore Bay arena was the site of a very successful Glow Skate March 8. There were at least 80 children and family members taking part in the event, sponsored by Noojmowin Health Centre and hosted through the Gore Bay Community and Events committee.

photos by Tom Sasvari



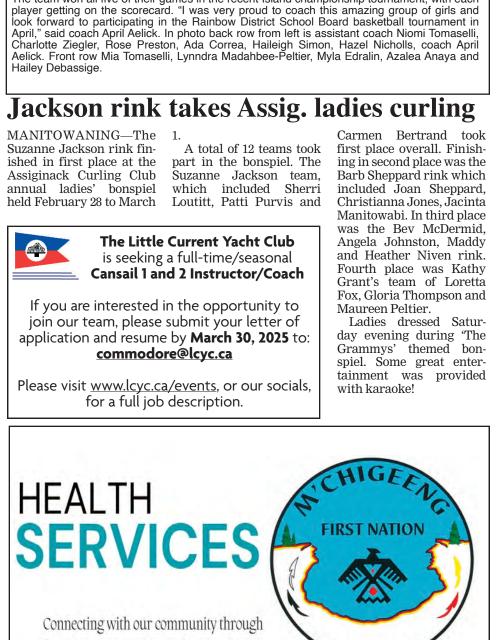


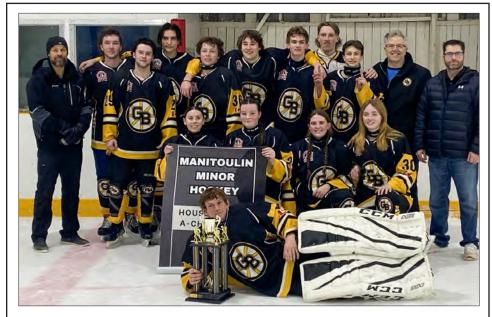




LCPS girls basketball team champs!

The team won all five of their games in the recent Island championship tournament, with each player getting on the scorecard. "I was very proud to coach this amazing group of girls and look forward to participating in the Rainbow District School Board basketball tournament in





Gore Bay U-18 crew 2025 Island champs!

The Gore Bay Bruins Under 18 hockey team were crowned 2025 champions of the Manitoulin Minor Hockey Association. The team included Corbin Best, Cody Campbell, Jackson Chevrette, Hailey Hawke, Kaci Lariviere, Liam Lariviere, Rylan Lock, Ryder Lockyer, Tessa Merrylees, Kyle Nodecker, Greyson Orford, Amy Smith, Alexandra Wilson-Zegil, Amara Wilson-Zegil, Ethan Witty, coach Joel Lock, assistant coach Clayton Best, manager Erin Lariviere, trainer Michael Zegil, dressing room monitor Chantelle Wilson and on-ice volunteer Aiden Case.



Assiginack boys take Island elementary basketball title

The Assiginack Public School boys basketball team won the Manitoulin Island elementary school championship. The team includes Bryson Corbette, Aiden Corbiere, Track Cyr, Walker Hagman, Jaden Huang, Tyler Mandamin, Joshua McComb, Rex Meawasige, King Medwid. Missing from photo is Eli VanVolkingburgh and Gus



HEALTH CENTRE

Child & Youth Mental Health & Additions Counsellor

Admin Support Mental Health & Addictions 🕥

Personal Support Workers 🤡

Community Health Nurse 🧭

Medical Transportation 💞

Mental Health & Addictions Counsellor

FAMILY RESOURCES

Community Support Worker 🚫

Band Representative

Family Support Worker x2 💞

SCAN THE QR CODE TO ACCESS FULL JOB POSTINGS AND APPLY ONLINE

ALSO, CHECK OUT WWW.MCHIGEENG.CA/EMPLOYMENT



Resumes will also be accepted at: Attention: HR 53 HWY 551 M'Chigeeng, ON P0P 1G0

EDUCATION

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Full-Time and On-Call/Casual Opportunities Available

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Scan the QR Code to access full job postings and apply online



Immediate Need for:

- Principal
- Teachers
- Teacher Assistants
- Registered Early Childhood **Educators**
- **Educator Assistants**

Applications can be delivered to: 53 Hwy 551, M'Chigeeng c/o Human Resources

or by email: employment@mchigeeng.ca



February 2025

Manitoulin Community Living hosts five teams at curling tournament

by Michael Erskine

LITTLE CURRENT—Manitoulin Special Olympics athletes have always done the Island proud. This past weekend Manitoulin Community Living hosted a curling tournament that attracted teams from Sault Ste. Marie and North Bay.

The daylong tournament was filled with plenty of laughter, good sportsmanship and quite a bit of skill, as the athletes swept their rocks into the house.

In the second division, both the North Bay and Manitoulin teams scored games and wound up tied for first place.

It was a similar situation in the first

division

"Everyone had a great time," said coach Helen Holroyd. "That's really what this is all about."

The teams played six-end games (with a 1.5-hour limit), breaking for lunch and enjoying a supper after the games were done.

Included in the day's events were several skills competitions that tested individual mettle but was all in good fun.

"Everyone is a winner," asserted Ms.



Curlers from Sault Ste. Marie, North Bay and Manitoulin Island gathered at the Little Current Curling club for a daylong tournament.



MANITOULIN
CENTENNIAL MANOR
is seeking

RNs, RPNs, PSWs

Make a difference in the lives of those that require assistance at this stage in their life.

Come join our dynamic team, working in a supportive, collaborative, caring environment with like-minded professionals providing high quality care to our residents.

Email your resume to:
Sandie Dubreuil
sandie.dubreuil@exeassist.ca



is hiring

Marina and Campground Manager Begin Mid-May until end of September \$22-\$25 per hour

Attendants

Number of attendants dependent on funding \$17.20-\$19.00 per hour

Please send resume to meldrumbayinformation@gmail.com by March 20, 2025



is seeking qualified individuals to fill the following positions:

 Delivery driver (Class DZ licence a must) General labourer (Class G licence preferred)

Estimator

Applicants are encouraged to drop a resume off at the store, 9130 Hwy 6, Little Current, or email aaron@ronalittlecurrent.com

WIKWEMIKONG TRIBAL POLICE SERVICE Wellness Coordinator – Full-Time Position

Position: Wellness Coordinator • **Location:** Wikwemikong Unceded Territory **Salary:** \$92,498 • **Responsible to:** Inspector/Staff Sergeants and Chief of Police

The Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service is currently seeking and accepting applications for the Wellness Coordinator position.

Under the direct supervision of the Inspector or Designate and Chief of Police, the Wellness Coordinator will organize, implement and promote programs and activities to support WTPS employees' mental, physical, emotional and spiritual health. The Wellness Coordinator will be responsible for the health and wellness of the WTPS staff and support the improvement of a holistic wellness strategy enabling team members to thrive in their positions.

Key Duties/Responsibilities

- · Administer wellness programs within the organization.
- Promote wellness and fitness initiatives, as well as collecting feedback from members.
- · Collaborate externally and internally to identify possible wellness programs and initiatives.
- Develop wellness plans and programs to support individualized needs.
- Assist employees with concerns, recommendations and referrals for counselling, crisis intervention, treatment and/or preventative methods for overall wellness.
- Maintain accurate, confidential records and report to track and assess employee participation, program incentives, costs and benefits to the organization.
- Prepare reports and proposals for wellness initiatives and action plans.
- Complete reporting requirement to WSIB.
- · Assist with preparation and implementation of wellness budget, policies and procedures.
- Motivate employees to participate in wellness programs/initiatives.
- Arrange events and workshops including educational presentations with a broad range of topics.
- Assist members who are on leave with re-integration or return to work coordination.
- Initiate and conduct critical incident debriefs with staff members when or as needed.
- Research, coordinate, develop and conduct educational seminars, health fairs and training sessions with police wellness subject matter experts and organizations for service members.
- Provide support to Division Commander with respect to an Attendance Management Program.
- Schedule debriefings with front-line platoons and crime unit detectives.
- Create and train a peer support team of internal staff that will eventually participate with critical incident debriefings that will assist the Wellness Coordinator with trauma support and resiliency.
- Provide/work with a physical fitness program developed for members of the service to have a personal fitness plan.
- Develop external partner relationships with wellness coordinators from other police services such as The Wounded Warriors of Canada and other providers in the realms of first responder and military organizations.
- Develop return to work objectives and goal setting for members in accommodated duty settings and manage return to work coordination with staff members and medical professionals.
 Develop a resiliency program with external partners that focuses upon members, their spouses and children
- participation.

 Develop a program that prepares officers and their families for retirement from the police service and assist with
- that transition.

 Participate and provide support to the Joint Health and Safety Committee.
- Other case management duties as assigned.

Skills/Abilities

- Excellent human relations and interpersonal skills to maintain professionalism to the members of WTPS to ensure the program meets the individual needs and goals.
- Ability to design effective and motivating presentations and programs.
- · Health and wellness knowledge.
- Creative abilities to design new wellness programs.
- Motivational skills to encourage participation of wellness initiatives/programs.
- Event management to aid in the development of wellness initiatives/programs
- Demonstrate and understand the components of teamwork, work independently and with others in a cooperative and collaborative manner to achieve desired results.

Education and Experience

- Diploma or Degree in Health Education, Social Work or another human service-related field.
- Counselling experience, event planning and program development would be an asset.
- 3 5 years of previous work experience in a related 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 detailed background check.

Employment packages are available and will 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 to:

Attention: Richard Flamand, Human Resources Manager richard.flamand@wtps.ca

Applications will be accepted until March 28, 2025 at 2 pm

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.

NOW and Bittersweet Tea Co. Celebrate International Women's Day

by Margery Frisch

M'CHIGEENG—Friday evening, March 7, the Bittersweet Tea Co. was a-buzz with conversation and laughter, which is exactly what Susan Whynott, program director of Northern Ontario Women (NOW), was going for when she proposed the event to Shanna Hare, owner of Bittersweet Tea in M'Chigeeng.

Ms. Whynott greeted every woman who came in the door, had them wear name tags and invited them to have some tea and any delectable item on the menu, NOW was footing the bill.

After a brief introduction, Ms. Whynott explained that the organization has been running since 2019, servicing all of Northern Ontario, from Pickle Lake to Parry Sound, and stationed right here on Manitoulin Island. Their mission being to foster and support women owned and women led businesses in Northern Ontario. "The goal tonight is just to get you out, have a great cup of tea at Shanna's place, great snacks and maybe meet a few people." She then distributed cards to each person. No one was allowed to look at them before our name was called. Each card had a question: What's your favourite vegetable? That was Ms. Whynott's, and her answer was – "Broccoli, because I don't like it very much and I hope others don't either and they won't eat me."

All went around the room with each person answering a question, giving ev-

eryone a glimpse into their personality. Her next activity was Bingo cards that mostly pertained to the Island and encouraged everyone to get off their chairs and go looking for someone who...has more than three tattoos, swam in Lake Mindemoya, rode on the Chi-Cheemaun, etc. Soon, everyone was roaming around and meeting those around them who had more than five grandkids or wore socks to bed. It was a fun and easy icebreaker, and by putting our names on the back of our cards, once this activity was exhausted, participants were eligible for door prizes.

Ms. Whynott gave proper praise to Shanna Hare for planning the event while Ms. Whynott was away. When she returned home, and felt the need to contribute in some way, aside from the Bingo cards, Ms. Whynott reached out to some of the women-owned businesses on the Island for door prizes and was very successful in that endeavour. Wonderful gifts from Netti's Manitoulin Espresso Bar, E's Flowers, Island Home Outfitters and from Bittersweet Tea Co. too.

Before the evening ended, Ms. Hare thanked Ms. Whynott for choosing Bittersweet Tea Co. for her event. "I wanted to do something to acknowledge International Women's Day," Ms. Hare said, "and Susan came up with this idea, which was perfect." Ms. Hare also had little parting gifts for all who came out.

"The goal of tonight was all about cel-

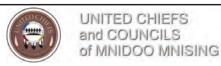


NOW Success was on full display during the International Women's Day event held at Bittersweet Tea in M'Chigeeng. Strangers becaome friends while celebrating women.

photo by Margery Frisch

ebrating women," Ms. Whynott concluded, and she certainly accomplished that goal.

For all interested women entrepreneurs, the NOW website is: www. nowprogram.ca.



INDIGENOUS YOUTH PREVENTION/INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Location: United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising Tribal Council - M'Chigeeng First Nation**Duration**: Full-time Permanent (pending funding)

The United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising Justice Program is an Anishinaabe Community Justice Program. The IYPIP Worker will work in partnership with the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Services to address critical program and service gaps for Indigenous-specific responses to gang activity and gun violence in Ontario. This program will target the root causes of gang involvement by providing culturally-relevant youth educational and physical activities. The educational and physical activities are proportional and physical activities. component will include educational assistance and career/employment mentorship with participation from police officers in the local police service to better establish relationships with the community. Culturally relevant activities will be organized that focus on positive, strengthbuilding experiences that are rooted in one's relationship to family and the land. The Program will provide services to youth 8 -18 years old.

To Apply: Mail or deliver a complete package which must include the following:

- 3) copy of valid Ontario driver's licence
- 4) three work-related letters of reference including at least one from a supervisor/manager

Closing Date: March 21, 2025 at 12 pm

Incomplete, emailed or late packages will not be considered. Thank you for applying, but only those candidates who are selected for an interview will be contacted. Preference will be given to Anishinaabe applicants. Please self-identify in your application.

Mark "Confidential-IYPIP" to:

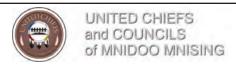
Paula Corbiere, Justice Department Manager United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising Box 275, M'Chigeeng, ON P0P 1G0

**A full job posting with Responsibilities and Qualifications can be found at www.uccmm.ca.



Eastern Star supports Manitoulin Health Centre

Members of the Spanish River Chapter #237, Order of the Eastern Star of Little Current, recently made a donation of \$500 to the Manitoulin Health Centre Smart Infusion, Smarter Care fundraising campaign towards the purchase of new intravenous smart pumps for the two Island hospitals. In photo back row from left is Penny Strain, Mary Lea Buchan, Myrna Aelick, Ursula Paxton, Bruce Gordon. Front row left is Vanessa Jo Woods Worthy Matron, and Jim Woods, Worthy Patron, along with Paula Fields, president and chief executive officer



FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER PROGRAM

Location: United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising Tribal Council – M'Chigeeng First Nation **Duration**: Full-time Permanent (pending funding)

The United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising Justice Program is an Anishinaabe Community Justice Program. The FASD Program Worker will assist, support and advocate for community members who have been diagnosed with or who are suspected of having FASD and are involved in the Canadian justice system. The program worker will increase awareness about FASD and how the Justice System engages with Indigenous people affected by FASD.

To Apply: Mail or deliver a complete package which must include the following:

- 1) cover letter
- 2) resume
- 3) copy of valid Ontario driver's licence
- 4) three work-related letters of reference including at least one from a supervisor/manager

Closing Date: March 21, 2025 at 12 pm

Incomplete, emailed or late packages will not be considered. Thank you for applying, but only those candidates who are selected for an interview will be contacted. Preference will be given to Anishinaabe applicants. Please self-identify in your application.

Mark "Confidential-FASD" to:

Paula Corbiere, Justice Department Manager United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising Box 275, M'Chigeeng, ON POP 1G0

**A full job posting with Responsibilities and Qualifications can be found at www.uccmm.ca.



Employment Opportunity Junior Dental Technician

We're seeking a Junior Dental Technician to join our team. This position requires attention to detail and the ability to prioritize and multi-task in a fast-paced environment.

Responsibilities:

- Operate dental equipment and machines Prepare plaster and stone models
- Sculpting and molding wax
- Processing dentures
- Make dental trays
- Repairs/Relines working with acrylic

Job Type:

Part-time

Part-time hours: 30 hrs per week

Monday to Friday in Little Current Salary: \$18 - \$25 per hour depending on experience

Prior experience can be an asset but willing to train candidate.

Nine month contract with potential to renew.

Interested candidates should apply to manitoulindentureclinic@hotmail.com by March 14, 2025.

New Great Canadian Dollar Store opening in Little Current draws crowds

by Michael Erskine CURRENT-LITTLE Manitoulin has a new, low-cost retail store that promises to be a great asset to the Island community. The Great Canadian Dollar Store, a major Eastern Canada retail chain has opened its second Ontario store in Little Current and quickly began seeing brisk business as customers flocked to see what this new addition to Manitoulin's retail scene has to offer.

The store is located across from the Independent grocery store in the old GG's Foodland loca-

The Expositor dropped in to chat with Trista Garnett, the corporate team lead setting up the store. Ms. Garnett, along with her colleague Sherry Kieth have been busy over



The Great Canadian Dollar Store set-up team lead Trista Garnett and her colleague Sherry Keith join store manager Tammy Bryan-Walsh outside the retail chain's latest location in the former GG's Foodland. The Little Current store is the second established in Ontario by the New Brunswickbased corporation.





Balloons festoon a goodly section of what is on offer at the new store. The retail mix will likely adjust somewhat as the company

lished in Ontario, the first went into Thessalon on the North Shore in July. The target communities for The Great Canadian Dollar Store tend to be in more rural areas, although the company does have some stores in urban areas. So far, the company has 73 corporate locations—with only one location in what would be considered a full-on city.

The timing could hardly be better, with Canadians facing a cost-of-living crisis and the threat of US tariffs looming on the horizon (something of a moving target as US President Trump keeps mov-

The chain is currently working on how they will navigate the tariff threat.

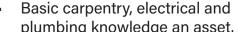
As for the store, it has items, although Ms. Gar-



learns what Islanders desire

Sales Position

Full-Time



Nylons and pantyhose are available in the new store.

only costs a dollar would probably be found in the

candy aisles-of which

From bedding to bal-

loons, birthday cards to kitchen wares, from socks

to pantyhose, the shelves

contain a host of items,

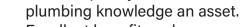
including canned and dry

Ms. Garnett notes the product mix will adjust over time. "We are just

said. "We will see what sells."

there are plenty.

goods.



Excellent benefit package.

Apply to mindemoyahome@eastlink.ca or in person to Mindemoya Home Hardware.

Kitchen wares can be found in abundance at the new Great Canadian Dollar Store.

> Home Mindemoya



Bedding is a welcome sight. The Great Canadian Dollar Store

The cashiers were kept busy on the second day of opening. The store will have a full complement of 11 employees.

the past couple of weeks training the 11 employees and ensuring the shelves are stocked to corporate standards.

has a wonderful selection of same.

The new business will be managed by Tammy Bryan-Walsh of Little Current.

The Great Canadian Dollar Store has been expanding its operations from its East Coast base. The owner lives in New Brunswick and the setup crew themselves hail from Newfoundland.

This is the second corporate store to be estab-



ing the goalposts around).

a wide range of low-cost



nett admits the most like-

ly item to be found that

Active Living Program Coordinator – Finance Part-Time (21 hours per week) **Compensation \$22.00 hourly**

The Township of Billings is seeking a highly motivated individual to fill the new part-time position of Active Living Program Coordinator.

Working under the direction of the CAO/Clerk, the Active Living Coordinator will be responsible for the facilitation, coordination and safe delivery of a creative, innovative and meaningful program including workshops, and social and recreational programming considering the needs of our aging population. The Active Living Program Coordinator will work directly with clients and will also liaise with external referral partners, organizations, volunteers and care partners.

The ideal candidate will have certification, or a post-secondary diploma or degree in administration, and/or a field involving recreation and leisure studies, therapeutic recreation, kinesiology, gerontology or other related field. The successful candidate will require a Current Standard and/or Emergency First Aid and CPR Certification. Previous experience in program planning, and a valid Food Handlers Certificate will be considered assets.

As part of legislative requirements, all successful candidates must meet the provincial police check and tuberculosis screening requirements as applicable.

A more detailed job description is available by visiting the careers page on our website at www.billingstwp.ca or by contacting Véronique Dion, CAO/Clerk (705) 282-2611 cao@billingstwp.ca.

Resumes will be accepted via e-mail or regular mail in confidence to:

Véronique Dion CAO/Clerk Township of Billings 15 Old Mill Road Kagawong, ON P0P 1J0

or cao@billingstwp.ca until 12:00 pm, Friday, March 28th, 2025. Please indicate: Active Living Program Coordinator in the subject line.

Township of Billings thanks all those candidates who submit an application; however, only those individuals identified for an interview will be contacted.

Personal information contained in applications will be used for recruitment purposes and collected as per the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990. The Township of Billings is an equal opportunity employer that is committed to an inclusive, barrier-free recruitment and selection process. If contacted for an employment opportunity, please advise if you require accommodation.



Capital Analyst

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 Capital Analyst.

For more information about this employment opportunity, please visit www.rainbowschools.ca/join-our-team.

Interested candidates should apply by 3 pm Friday, March 21, 2025 and submit a cover letter, resume and names of three (3) references.

David Farrow Board Chair

Bruce Bourget Director of Education rainbowschools.ca

Ultra-processed foods linked to heart disease and stroke in Canada

by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre Local Journalism Initiative

Reporter MANITOULIN—A new Canadian study has found that ultra-processed foods (UPF) are a major contrib-

utor to heart disease and stroke, leading to urgent calls for stronger regulations. The research, led by Dr. Jean-Claude Moubarac from the Université de Montréal, is the first of its kind in Canada to quantify the impact of UPF consumption on cardiovascular health.

The findings are staggering: UPF consumption is linked to 37 percent of new cases of heart disease and stroke and 38 percent of related deaths. This translates to an estimated 96,043 new cardiovascular disease (CVD) cases, 17,417 deaths, and 388,654 years of life lost or affected by disability in 2019 alone.

The cost of convenience: Canada's growing dependence on UPF

Ultra-processed foods, including sugary drinks, packaged snacks, fast food and ready-to-eat meals, now make up nearly half (43.4 percent) of the daily calorie intake of Canadian adults. The study warns that if consumption were to increase by 50 percent, the burden of CVD would rise dramatically, leading to 19,979 additional cases and 3,489 more deaths annually. Conversely, cutting UPF intake by half could prevent 45,000 cases of heart disease and stroke and save more than

8,000 lives per year. "Our results are disheartening," said Dr. "Canadians Moubarac.



Shutterstock

consume a lot of UPF—almost half of their daily energy intake. Considering the substantial burden of heart disease and stroke on society, we urgently need policies to reduce consumption and exposure in food environments.'

Food deserts and the struggle for healthy options in **Northern Ontario** and remote communities

While UPF is a nationwide problem, the report highlights an even greater issue in food-insecure regions, particularly in Northern Ontario and remote communities, where access to fresh, nutritious food is limited. Many of these areas are classified as "food deserts," where grocery stores with fresh produce are scarce, leaving residents reliant on processed foods that are cheaper, more available and have a longer shelf life.

In these regions, food costs are significantly higher due to transportation expenses, making fresh fruits, vegetables and other minimally processed foods inaccessible for many. A head of lettuce in a remote Northern Ontario community, for example, can cost three to four times more than in urban centers. As a result, UPF, which is widely distributed in these areas,

has become a dietary staple, exacerbating health disparities.

The reality is that many communities have no choice but to consume ultra-processed foods because they are the most affordable and accessible option.

Policy recommendation: A path toward healthier food **Environments**

Dr. Moubarac and his team are calling for a multi-pronged policy approach to curb UPF consumption, including:

Restricting marketing to children: Many UPF products are aggressively marketed to children, contributing to lifelong poor dietary habits.

Implementing taxes on sugary drinks: Countries that have introduced sugar taxes, such as Mexico and the UK, have seen declines in soda consumption.

Subsidizing fresh produce: Financial incentives for fruits, vegetables, and whole foods could help offset the affordability gap, particularly in food-insecure regions.

Expanding the National School Food Program: Ensuring that children have access to nutritious, minimally processed meals at school can help shape lifelong healthy eating patterns.

Moving forward: Government action needed

Experts argue that addressing ultra-processed food consumption is not just a matter of personal responsibility but a systemic issue requiring government intervention.

"Policies like front-ofpackage warning labels and Canada's updated Food Guide have been steps in the right direction, but we need more comprehensive action to shift dietary patterns," said Doug Roth, CEO of Heart and Stroke. "We urge the government to make it easier for Canadians to make healthier choices and reduce the burden of heart disease and stroke."

With rising concerns over the impact of pro-

cessed foods and growing health inequities in remote and Indigenous communities, the report underscores the urgent need for policy reforms that prioritize public health over industry interests. Without intervention, the high consumption of UPF will continue to fuel chronic disease rates and widen health disparities across Canada.



FULL-TIME

Salary Range: \$74,120 - \$89,700 /year + Group Benefits and Pension and more! *Depending on education and experience

Whitefish River First Nation is seeking an experienced Education Manager to oversee and manage WRFN's educational programs and services. This pivotal role is instrumental in developing, implementing and evaluating education initiatives to ensure our members' highest level of learning outcomes and success. The ideal candidate will play a crucial part in shaping the educational landscape of our community.

These responsibilities include ensuring that the education system aligns with the cultural values and needs of the band members, implementing educational policies and initiatives, coordinating curriculum development and delivery, managing the budget and resources for education, and collaborating with various stakeholders such as teachers, parents and government agencies. The Education Manager works towards providing quality education and promoting the academic success and well-being of all students within the First Nation community with the support and guidance of the Education Committee.

Strategic Planning & Community Engagement

- Develop and implement strategic \bar{p} lans and educational initiatives in consultation with the Education Committee.
- Engage the community in the development of programs and services, ensuring alignment with cultural values and local needs.

Program Coordination & Support

- Oversee all education programs and services, including early childhood education, elementary, secondary, post-
- Support language revitalization initiatives and immersion programs in partnership with language speakers and community experts.
- Ensure coordination of transportation services for secondary and elementary school students is implemented. Compliance & Financial Management
- Ensure compliance with applicable legislation, funding agreements and regulations.
- Develop, manage and monitor annual budgets, financial projections and reports, ensuring effective financial stewardship
- Identify funding opportunities, write proposals and manage funding agreements and financial reporting. Policy Development & Implementation
- Lead in developing, revising and implementing educational policies and procedures.
- Provide advice and support to the Education Committee on policy matters and educational best practices.
- Coordinate monthly Education Committee meetings and ensure accurate documentation of discussions and

Staff Management & Development

Supervise key education staff.

Coordinate staff meetings, performance reviews and employee training programs.

Community Relations & Student Engagement

- Foster positive relationships and effective communication with parents, guardians, students, teachers, Elders, community leadership and external stakeholders.
- Develop and implement strategies to enhance student engagement, retention and success.

Monitoring & Reporting

- Analyze data on student achievement, attendance, and other educational indicators to identify areas for
- Prepare and submit reports, including annual work plans, briefing notes, monthly updates and quarterly progress

Professional Development & External Collaboration

- Participate in local, regional and national committees and conferences to stay informed on trends and best
- practices in Indigenous education. . Coordinate with external partners to enhance educational opportunities and resources available to community

OUALIFICATIONS

members.

- A bachelor's or master's degree in education, business administration or a related field.
- Proven experience in educational leadership and administration, particularly in Indigenous communities. Knowledge of Anishinabek culture, history and educational issues, focusing on local community needs and
- Familiarity with Canadian education legislation, policies and funding mechanisms, particularly in relation to
- Experience in program development, evaluation and implementation, particularly in First Nations educational
- context.

- Strong interpersonal, communication and facilitation skills, with the ability to engage diverse stakeholders, including community members, teachers and government agencies.
- Exceptional organizational and project management abilities, including budgeting and resource management.
- Proficiency in data analysis, reporting and performance evaluation.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively with a team
- Flexibility to manage multiple priorities and meet deadlines in a dynamic environment.
- Sensitivity to cross-cultural diversity and commitment to fostering an inclusive educational environment. Excellent problem-solving, decision-making and conflict resolution skills.
- Strong written and oral communication skills.
- Ability to work flexible hours and travel as required
- **WLEDGE REQUIREMENTS**

- Knowledge of the Anishinabek Education System and Kinoomaadziwin Education Body.
- Understanding federal and provincial legislation, regulations and programs affecting Indigenous Education and First Nations students Familiarity with Indigenous peoples' history, culture, traditions and socioeconomic conditions and the ability to
- integrate traditional and mainstream practices.
- Experience with Education Service Agreements and working with provincial education authorities to support First Nation students' learning success.
- Understanding of community development principles and strategic planning in an educational context..
- Must provide a clear Police Vulnerable Sector Check upon hire.
- Must possess a valid Ontario driver's licence, access to a dependable vehicle and valid automobile insurance. *For a complete Job Description, please email: hrmanager@whitefishriver.ca

Applications must be submitted by noon on March 14th, 2025.

Interested applicants must submit a current resume, cover letter, two (2) work-related references, one (1) character reference (with contact information) and applicable education diplomas/certifications to:

Confidential: Education Manager Whitefish River First Nation 17-A Rainbow Ridge Road, PO Box 188, Birch Island, ON POP 1A0 Email: jobapplications@whitefishriver.ca • Fax: (705) 285-4532

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

Manitoulin Health Centre Auxiliary News

Our Cookie Walk in early December 2024 was deemed a great success with \$1,730 raised. A big thank you to all who donated their finest Christmas cookies and to all who came and bought them.

The Lions Club has been generous in helping with our fundraising efforts and provided the auxiliary with a substantial donation from the Tim Horton's Smile Cookie Campaign last November.

At our January meeting, it was reported that 18 gifts had been distributed to patients in the hospital on Christmas Eve. An annual tradition taken on by two of our auxiliary members.

2025 marks the 80th anniversary of the Little Current Hospital Auxiliary.

There are plans in the works for various celebratory events, especially in the summer months, so stay-tuned for more information on what's to come.

The Little Current Hospital Auxiliary is holding its 3rd annual Rock-a-thon on Saturday, February 22 at the United Church in Little Current. Members will 'rock,' literally rock, bringing their own rocking chairs to the hall and rocking from 10 am until 3 pm, with 10-minute breaks each hour. So, if you're accosted by an auxiliary member looking for pledges, do not be afraid. Please give what you can, the money raised by the auxiliary goes toward patient services and hospital equipment. Thank you.



The Municipality of Gordon/Barrie Island requires an energetic, self-motivated individual with excellent work ethics

The full-time employee for the Roads Department

must have a valid DZ licence, experience driving snowplow, grader experience would be an asset. Must complete required documentation, perform equipment maintenance. Previous experience with building and roads maintenance would be beneficial. Available Immediately.

Applications will be accepted until

March 17th at 12 noon: The Municipality of Gordon/Barrie Island Carrie Lewis, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer Box 680 Gore Bay, ON POP 1H0 Tel 705-282-2702

Mnaamodzawin Health Services Inc. is seeking a Home Care Aide - Casual/on-call Salary range: \$20.67/hr - \$24.70/hr

The Home Care Aid is responsible for assisting with activities of daily living that contribute to the quality of life of individuals who live at home by promoting their independence, dignity, social, emotional and physical wellbeing. The Home Care Aid will assist the Home Care Program with Meals on Wheels delivery, wellness checks, assembly and installation of home care equipment, generic transportation and light housekeeping duties.

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

OBJECTIVES

- 1. Provide personal support services based on the client care or home management needs.
- Provide assistance to the Home Care Program with the delivery of regular Meals On Wheels program, and may assist/provide generic transportation services, wellness visits and light housekeeping.
- 4. Works collaboratively with health care providers in providing holistic care that focuses on achieving and maintaining optimal health.
- Submission of timely required documentation in EMR and immediate supervisor.
- 6. May assume additional duties as assigned by immediate supervisor.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 1. Knowledgeable and respectful of Anishinaabe customs, culture and language.
- 2. A minimum of (2) years community work experience.
- 3. Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- 4. Current and Clear CPIC.
- 5. Valid 'G' driver's licence and an insurable vehicle.

Closing Date: Friday, March 21, 2025 at 12:00 pm

Submit a cover letter, resume, Vulnerable Sector Screening, along with two work-related references, marked CONFIDENTIAL, to:

Mnaamodzawin Health Services c/o Human Resources Postal Bag 2003

48A Hillside Road, Aundeck Omni Kaning Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

705-368-2182 ext.271 Email: hr@mnaamodzawin.com

*Only those applicants considered for an interview will be notified.

Mnaamodzawin Health Services Inc. is seeking a Program Assistant-Mental Health and Home Care Programs Full-Time: 35 hours per week Salary range: \$39,714 - \$47,462

Overview:

The Program Assistant shall provide administrative and organizational support to the Mental Health Program and Home and Community Care Program. The role is inclusive of scheduling clinics, arranging appointments, chart management, electronic medical record management, social navigation support, data entry and stats collection and the provision of clerical, reception and administrative support.

Responsibilities:

The Program Assistant will be responsible for the following:

- Scheduling clinics for specialized services; chiropodist, psychiatrist, traditional healer
- Arranging appointments and transportation for specialized services
- Coordinating and distributing information about upcoming workshops and community events
- Maintaining client database and assisting management in producing monthly reports
- Providing short term case management and social navigation support
- Data entry and stats collection for reporting to funders
- Performing reception services as required
- Performing other duties as required

Qualifications and Work Experience:

- Knowledgeable and respectful of Anishnaabe customs, culture and language
- Degree/diploma in social work, social service work, or related health field
- Proven team player who demonstrates flexibility, adaptability, problem solving and effective time management skills
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Experience with EMR systems an asset

Closing Date: Friday, March 21, 2025 at 12:00 pm

Submissions:

Please send cover letter, resume, criminal reference check, along with two recent work-related references, marked CONFIDENTIAL, to:

Mnaamodzawin Health Services c/o Human Resources
Postal Bag 2003, Hwy 540

48A Hillside Road, Aundeck Omni Kaning Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

705-368-2182 ext.271 email: hr@mnaamodzawin.com

*Only those applicants considered for an interview will be notified

GARDAVORLD ITING OPPORTUNITY FOR SECURITY GUARDA

LITTLE CURRENT AND MINDEMOYA

GardaWorld is seeking a compassionate and skilled **Security Guard** to join our Hospital Security team. As a first point of contact for patients, families and staff, you will play a vital role in ensuring a safe and welcoming environment. This position is ideal for individuals looking to gain transferable skills for future careers in Law Enforcement, Corrections

or for advancement within the security industry or the Security Professional that wants to build their security career while making a positive impact on their community.

Starting Pay Rate: \$23.75/Hour

Applicants MUST be able to work the full schedule to be selected.

What's in it for you?

- We offer competitive wages & comprehensive health benefits
- Uniforms provided free of charge
- Continuing education through GardaWorld Campus like Use of Force training

What does a Security Guard at Manitoulin Health Centre do?

- Ensure the safety of people and property and keeping the peace
- Enforce safety procedures and standards
- Escort and assist anyone as needed
- Intervene during an emergency or crisis
- Patrol Hospital site and provide Access Control

Qualifications to become a Security Guard Manitoulin Health Centre

- A valid security guard licence and first aid card
- Available to work flexible hours
- Have a clear criminal background
- Be eligible to work in Canada
- Currently Reside within commuting distance of the site
- Ability to pass Use of Force, Non-Violent Crisis Intervention and other certifications as required

Please apply by emailing a resume to: Amandeep.Kaur24@garda.com

Mnaamodzawin Health Services Inc. is seeking a Healthy Families Program Coordinator Full-Time: 35 hours per week Salary range: \$42,766 - \$51,109

The Healthy Families Program Coordinator is to coordinate Mnaamodzawin Health Services' Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) program and Maternal and Child Health program in promoting health and well-being for pregnant women and families with infants and young children. Programming activities will be for our First Nation community members of Aundeck Omni Kaning, Whitefish River, Sheguiandah, Sheshegwaning and Zhiibaahaasing.

Objectives:

- Implement, monitor and evaluate programs and services to meet First Nations needs for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children and Maternal and Child Health programs
- 2. Coordinate ongoing assessment of community needs of related programs and services
- 3. Participate in program and service delivery as required or assigned
- 4. Identify and manage program resources and assist with the preparation of program budgets
- Works in collaboration with Mnaamodzawin Health Services staff, community health staff and related agencies
- Participate in networking partnerships with staff, communities, agencies and community groups

Skills/Qualifications:

- 1. Early Childhood Educator (ECE), or Developmental Services Worker (DSW), or Social Services Worker (SSW) with at least two years of experience in their field, or related experience in the health field
- 2. Knowledge of child development, maternal and pre-natal health, parenting and social services
- 3. Literate in computer programs ie. Word, Excel, Publisher, Outlook, etc.
- 4. Familiar with charting in EMRs an asset
- 5. Ability to work independently and be an excellent team player
- 6. Ability to work with the public and demonstrate excellent communication skills
- 7. Sensitivity to aims and objectives of maternal, child and infant health
- 8. Knowledge of Anishinaabe culture, language and traditions an asset

Closing Date: Friday, March 21, 2025 at 12:00 pm

Submit a cover letter, resume, Vulnerable Sector Screening, along with two work-related references, marked CONFIDENTIAL, to:

Mnaamodzawin Health Services c/o Human Resources Postal Bag 2003 48A Hillside Road, Aundeck Omni Kaning

Little Current, ON P0P 1K0 705-368-2182 ext.271 Email: hr@mnaamodzawin.com

Only those applicants considered for an interview will be notified.

NEED NEW PASSPORT OR OTHER PHOTO I.D.? FAST AND EASY SERVICE!



EXPOSITOR OFFICE IN LITTLE CURRENT

Passports • Visas • Firearms Cards • Age of Majority • Status Cards • Etc.

Monday Through Friday 9:00am - 4:30pm

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

The Expositor Office is located at 1 Manitowaning Road in downtown Little Current. phone (705) 368-2744 • email: expositorsub@manitoulin.ca

PASSPORT SVISA photos



Digital Passport Photos also available.