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Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Field naturalists support nature's helpers

Regional wild animal rescue centre gets new washing machine from Island club

by Tom Sasvari

MANITOULIN—Thanks the efforts of the Manitoulin Nature Club (MNC), generous donations by local residents, including some affiliated with MNC and a generous local business, Turtle Pond Wildlife Centre has received a much-needed

"The washing machine for Turtle Pond Wildlife Centre started with a post on Facebook from Gloria Morissette at Turtle Pond advising that their washing machine had surrendered to time and overwork, and asking if anyone had one that still worked that they didn't need," explained Kathryn Ritzie of MNC. "I remembered seeing a very similar post from her a couple of years ago and wanted to help." Ms. Ritzie said originally, she posted a request on Manitou-

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Phyllis Cacciotti of the Manitoulin Nature Club, right, presents a cheque to Adam Smith of Jakes' Home Centre toward the purchase of a washer that has been donated to the Turtle Pond Wildlife Centre in Val Caron.

MFR sets \$100K target for Christmas hamper campaign

by Tom Sasvari

MANITOULIN—Manitoulin Family Resources (MFR) raised close to \$100,000 in 2024, thanks to the generosity of the Manitoulin community, which was put towards the cost of generating 600 baskets and gifts for families and individuals through its Christmas Basket campaign in 2024, and it is expected there will be even more of a need on Manitoulin this year.

"We provided 600 food bas-

kets and gifts for families and individuals last year, and we expect the need to be at least that, or even greater this year," stated Colleen Hill, executive director of MFR, last week. "That is why it is so important that the Island community continues to be so supportive. It would be incredibly difficult to help these families/individuals if not for the tremendous generosity of the Island community.'

"Our letters (to community

UCCMM Tribal Council, Burpee-Mills oppose prov. park allowance additions

by Tom Sasvari

EVANSVILLE—The reeve of on municipal property," said Burpee and Mills Township Reeve Noland. "These protecchair of the United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising (UCCMM) made clear their position to a proposal by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) lands regulated under the Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act. 2006. The proposal includes Misery Bay and Mac's Bay in Burpee and Mills Township, as well as Cockburn Island.

"They (MECP) tried to do this same thing over a year ago, and we as a municipality indicated we were dead set against this. So now they are trying again with another angle," stated Ken Noland, reeve of Burpee and Mills Township.

"What they are proposing for Mac's Bay and Misery Bay is trying to put in protective measures that are on municipal property; on shoreline road allowances and municipal road allowances," explained Reeve Noland. "Our township council is

against them doing any of this tive measures would be in place on property that does not belong to the province." He said Burpee and Mills has notified the United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising noting that, "all this is part of the 1990 land

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members, businesses and organizations) are usually sent out earlier," said Ms. Hill. "We are late this year getting them out due to the postal strike.

"Christmas is around the corner once again and MFR Emergency Food Assistance Program has started the preparations for the 2025 Christmas Basket campaign," Ms. Hill states in the letter. "The Food Bank and Thrift Store have been providing emergency and seasonal food supports to the residents of Manitoulin district for over 26 years. Last year, thanks to the generosity of community members, businesses, and organizations, our expectations were surpassed. Close to \$100,000 was raised and was put toward the cost of generating 600 baskets and gifts for families and individuals."

"We hope to raise a minimum of \$100,000 during this year's Christmas campaign to meet increasing demands, as well as

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Weak spot on Line 5 sub-Mackinac Straits will be reinforced by **US Army Engineers**

Meanwhile, project to enclose pipeline in tunnel through rock under Straits moving slowly

by Tom Sasvari

ONTARIO-MICHIGAN—Representatives of Restore Our Water International (ROWI) in Michigan and Ontario are incredulous that the United States Army Corps of Engineers (US-ACE) has approved the Canadian-owned company Enbridge's plans to encase a portion of an aging oil pipeline beneath a Great Lakes channel.

"I don't understand how (US-ACE) has approved it without Canada agreeing. It originates in Canada and delivers oil to Sarnia," said Mary Muter, vicechair of ROWI. "What can I say, it is a disaster in the making if the line cracks, and it would take a long time before anyone would know of the oil spill, to float to the water surface. Humans have not had a lot of success with supposed 'fail safe' proposals like this.'

She noted, "With a strong west wind, this oil would end up on Lake Huron and would reach Manitoulin Island."

Enbridge has been using the Line 5 pipeline to transport crude oil and natural gas liquids between Superior, Wisconsin and Sarnia, Ontario since 1953. Roughly four miles (six kilometres) of the pipeline runs along the bottom of the Straits of the Mackinac, a channel linking Lake Michigan and Lake

Roger Gauthier, chair of ROWI told The Expositor last week. "I live in Michigan on the straits of Mackinac and across the horizon, Manitoulin Island is just 40-50 miles away. One of the big problems I've had with Line 5 is that Canadian shore property owners on Georgian Bay, including Manitoulin Is-

... continued on page 11

Canada Budget 2025

Mixed reviews from Island stakeholders

by Michael Erskine

OTTAWA—The long-awaited first budget of Mark Carney's Liberal government has landed and received a less than enthusiastic greeting from the opposition benches and stakeholders—with the Conservatives decrying it for doing too much and others lamenting it doesn't do enough.

"Budget 2025 is about building Canada strong: investing in our people, our ideas and our industries," said Prime Minister Mark Carney in a release

outlining the budget. "We're ushering in a new economic strategy to supercharge growth and give businesses the confidence to invest. We will enable \$1 trillion in total investments in five years—to give ourselves more than any country could ever take away."

"This budget is about creating opportunity-giving Canadians and businesses the tools they need to be more productive, more competitive, and more successful," said Minister of Finance and National Revenue François-Philippe Champagne. "Canada already has the best tax environment for new investment in the G7 and now we're going to take full advantage of it. Budget 2025 will enable \$1 trillion in investment over the next five years and unlock Canada's full potential for growth, innovation and pros-

Budget 2025 commits \$141.4 billion in new spending over the next five years.

Those are big numbers, even by government standards, and Conservative Official Opposition Leader Pierre Poilievre did not mince words in his response

Get your orange on!Island's gun hunt starts on Monday

MANITOULIN—With a good string of winters the last few years on the Manitoulin Island area in terms of temperatures and snowfall, the trend has continued upwards for the deer population on the Island, which should be good news for the thousands of hunters who are expected to converge on the Island for next week's annual deer gun hunt. It is due to all these factors that antlerless validation tags have increased in one wildlife management unit (WMU) on Manitoulin.

"I was just looking at the tag numbers, and in 2024 they were at 400 for WMU 43A and 5,500

antlerless tags for WMU 43 in 2024. While the antlerless validation tag numbers will remain the same, 400 in 43A, for WMU 43B, the tags have been increased to 6,100," explained Denis Gendron, management biologist with the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) Sudbury District.

Mr. Gendron pointed out through the annual deer management meeting (held earlier this spring) it was reported the number of deer varies, depending on the location. "It also depends on the winter conditions, and we have been fortunate to

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The Manitoulin West Recorder



The father/daughter duo of Ben and Katelyn Lentir were both honoured by the Northern Ontario Country Music Association (NŎCMA) this past weekend in Sault Ste. Marie. Mr. Lentir was inducted into the NOCMA Hall of Fame, while his daughter was recognized with the 2025 Country Under 30 Award. In photo from left is Crystal, Katelyn and Ben Lentir, seated is the Country Critter.

Father/daughter duo is honoured by N. Ontario Country Music Association

by Tom Sasvari

SAULT STE. MARIE—The father/daughter duo of Ben and Katelyn Lentir were both honoured by the Northern Ontario Country Music Association (NOCMA) this past weekend in Sault Ste. Marie.

"It is incredible. All weekend you are in a wow state. All these years of playing music and entertainment for such wonderful people. It is awesome and humbling. It is quite an honour and humbling to be recognized like this," stated Ben Lentir on Sunday evening

Ben Lentir was inducted into the NOCMA Hall of Fame, while daughter Katelyn Lentir was recognized with the 2025 Country Under 30 Award this past weekend. Mr. Lentir joined NOCMA in 2010 and was himself inducted into the NOCMA Great Northern Opry in 2012.

Mr. Lentir was joined in the NOCMA Hall of Fame induction this year by Kevin Russel out of

only entertaining at hundreds of dances and oth-

er events, but also by service as the Manitoulin representative and taking on the organization of

the Sudbury District. Mr. Lentir has been an important fixture on the Island country music scene for many years, not Bluegrass in the Country when the late Brother John Featherstone retired to move out west.

His daughter Katelyn, 20, has been playing music for over 10 years ever since she was 10 years old, a characteristic she shares with her father, who also began his musical journey at a young age. Ms. Lentir began playing the bass guitar, moving on to piano, guitar and mandolin.

My Lentir and his wife Crystal, "presented the 2025 Country Under 30 Award to Katelyn," he said. And as part of her being recognized for her award, Katelyn entertained the large audience performing and dedicating the song, 'Daddy's Little Girl' (written by The Shires) to her father.

"There wasn't a dry eye in the place," stated Mr. Lentir. "When we had arrived for the awards presentation our whole bus crew that had travelled from Manitoulin for the weekend were wondering why there were tissues at our table. When Katelyn started singing, everyone was asking for

Mr. Lentir had been presented with his honour by Jack Bringleson, on the executive of NOC-

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Five nominated for chief in Sheguiandah

of candidates for the December dicate whether they would be band elections in Snegulandah First Nation has been released by the electoral officer One Feather.

In the October 27 nomination meeting, five candidates were proposed for the position of chief and all remain on the

SHEGUIANDAH—The final list 1 deadline for nominees to inwilling to stand. The man mst of those nominated for chief are Aaron Bowerman, Larry Russell Lemarr, Elvis Mishibinijima, Ruby Thompson and Pearl Waindubence.

> Of the original 18 nominated for the four band councillor

Don't forget to enter into Tom's Big Buck Roundup

MANITOULIN—Just a reminder to all deer hunters who are embarking on Manitoulin Island next week for the annual Manitoulin deer gun hunt: we want your pictures of deer as Tom's Big Buck Roundup is being held again this year.

With numerous inquiries last week, not only are we taking photo entries of hunters deer harvested during the deer gun hunt, but we are also taking photo entries from the bow hunt," said Expositor editor Tom Sasvari.

"We had a total of 16 entries last year, and we are hoping to at

least double that this year," said Mr. Sasvari.

If you harvest a buck, your first deer or have an unusual picture to share during the annual Manitoulin hunt, then we encourage you to send them in.

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ballot following the November positions, 16 remain standing. They include Andrew Aguonie, Valerie Aguonie, Michelle Bond, Josephine Fox. Larry Russell Lamarr, Zoë Roy Peltier, Donna Rainey, Sunset Sagutch, Nathan Shawanda, Ruby Thompson, Eric Vautour, Carrie Waindubence, Matthew Waindubence, Nevada Waindubence, Pearl Waindubence and Sarah Williams.

The Expositor will be reaching out to each of the candidates for chief about their platforms.

OneFeather advises that, due to the ongoing postal disruptions, it is the elector's responsibility to ensure their completed mail-in ballot is received by the electoral officer before the close of polls on election day. Polls will be open from 9 am to 8 pm on December 9. Mail-in ballots can be brought to the polling station either in person or through a trusted individual.

The electoral officer for the election is OneFeather and can be reached at nominations@ onefeather.ca or toll free by telephone at 1-855-923-3006.

Gordon Barrie Island urges MTO to explore causeway safety options

GORDON/BARRIE ISLAND— After a recent meeting with members of the community, including Amish residents who drive horse and buggy and the farming community that operate slow moving vehicles, Gordon/ Barrie Island township council passed a motion that should help alleviate safety concerns.

At a regular meeting last week council passed a motion to make a request to the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) to allow for a driveway entrance permit on property adjacent to Highway 540 prior to the Ice Lake Causeway for those travelling by horse and buggy. The MTO was also requested to post 'slow moving, horse drawn vehicle' signs on the highway.

About 25 members of the community took part in a meeting at the Gordon Hall recently. Lee Hayden, reeve of Gordon/Barrie Island, Ken Noland, reeve of Burpee and Mills, along with Bill Orford and Ian Noakes, members of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, chaired the meeting.

"We would like to welcome everyone here tonight to talk about what can be done to provide more safety for those people who drive slow moving vehicles, tractors and horse/buggy," said Carrie Lewis, CAO of Gordon/ Barrie Island. She explained that several people in the township have raised concerns with the safety of those operating all slow-moving vehicles as there have already been several close

As was reported previously, Gordon/Barrie Island township council had directed staff to make it known to Emcon and the MTO of its serious concerns that 'slow moving, horse drawn vehicle' signs need to be posted on Highway 540 at the Ice Lake Causeway. He had explained there is a family that recently moved into the house at the corner of the Ice Lake Causeway that use the road to get to and leave their property. There are no shoulders on the causeway road and this poses a high-risk with vehicles travelling along both sides of the road.

This is a very important issue for our municipality," stated Reeve Hayden. "We love having our Amish friends and neighbours living in our township,

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Dr. Stephen Cooper retires from Manitoulin Health Centre

LITTLE CURRENT—Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) proudly recognizes the upcoming retirement of Dr. Stephen Cooper from his medical practice, marking the conclusion of more than 30 years of exemplary service to the people of Manitoulin Island. Dr. Cooper has been an integral part of the region's healthcare system since 1992, providing compassionate, high-quality care and leadership that have shaped local medicine for decades.

'Dr. Cooper's leadership and compassion have made an enduring impact on healthcare across Manitoulin and beyond," said Paula Fields, president and chief executive officer (CEO) of Manitoulin Health Centre. "His dedication to innovation, quality improvement, and mentorship has strengthened our hospital and inspired countless healthcare professionals. We are deeply grateful for his service and wish him every happiness in his well-deserved retirement.'

"I love my job," stated Dr. Cooper, when contacted by The Expositor. "I cannot believe 33 years have gone by. I haven't done half of what I want to do. But as time goes by you realize it is time to do something else."

While Dr. Cooper will be retiring from running his practice/ clinics as of January 1 will still remain in health care for now. "For the next year-and-a-half to two years, I will continue to work with the nursing home in Wiikwemkoong and the (Manitoulin Centennial) Manor in Little Current as well as do some emergency shifts at the Little Current Hospital.

"I will also be retiring from a number of regional/provincial lead positions (in health care)," said Dr. Cooper. He explained over the next three months some of his patients will be transferred to colleagues. The rest will be placed on a list and will get a new physician/NP when there is capacity at the clinic. "I will continue to be attached to the clinic and



Dr. Stephen Cooper

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NEMI council cuts 2026 budget levy to 2.3 percent

by Alicia McCutcheon

TOWN-As NORTHEAST council for the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands had a second look at its 2026 draft budget last week, staff presented them with some good news. Thanks to an increase in the province's Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF), the 2026 levy can be cut in half, from 4.33 to 2.34 percent.

CAO Dave Williamson explained that the municipality learned that its 2026 OMPF allocation had risen by \$290,000.

The municipality is also allowing for an 11 percent increase to its Ontario Provincial Police costs—the worst case scenario for an increase-and budgeting for a 3.3 percent increase to its Manitoulin-Sud-

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"who dares not offend cannot be honest"

One Manitowaning Road opinion

<u>editorial</u>

It's time for partisanship to take a back seat

This past week must have been a bit of a nightmare for the leader of the Official Opposition, as one Conservative MP defected to the Liberals and another announced his intention to resign his seat come this spring.

The defection and resignation announcements came perfectly timed to distract the media from the opposition's assault on the new federal budget. It is easy to imagine that the last thing you need as a political leader facing such a consequential moment in time as budget deliberations, during a minority government no less, is distraction from your message.

There is plenty of grist in the new federal budget for the opposition to grind in the parliamentary mill—after years of decrying what the Conservatives characterized as over the top Liberal largesse and proliferate spending, this budget makes that dip into the taxpayers' pocketbooks look almost miserly.

There are some significant differences, however. This budget is aimed primarily at two different streams, both connected to dealing with the challenge presented by the current US president.

The first is defence. After years of living in denial about the rising threats presented by the increasing belligerence of Russia and China, as well as largely ignoring security in our nation's far North, the federal government has earmarked huge increases to our military budget. Albeit some of that increase is actually semantic (ie, putting guns on Coast Guard vessels to have that spending included in "defence" calculations) the jump is substantial. This newspaper has long advocated at least meeting our NATO commitment to spend two percent of GDP on our military. This budget will meet that bar, and by all accounts plans are to leapfrog on to meet the new 3.5 percent bar being advocated by NATO.

High time.

The second is infrastructure spending (while reining in increases in operational spending).

With a host of new US tariffs making waves in our too-long placid economy, the new budget aims squarely at offsetting that turbulence by boosting infrastructure spending. That is, in our opinion, also a very good thing.

One of the key elements in deciding whether something has hit the right balance in our nation's politics is whether both the right and the left are unhappy. This budget nails it. The right say we are spending too much; the left (and some regional interests) say it doesn't go far enough.

That being said, it is hard to believe that the governing Liberals cannot find wiggle room in their budget to win over at least two sitting MPs to ensure we do not have to trudge through sleet and snow to cast a winter election ballot.

Pity poor Pierre Poilievre, even though his Conservative Party is well within shot of winning an election according to recent polls, the numbers are nowhere near comfortable enough to point to a majority. Worse yet, those same polls indicate that a significant plurality of the Canadian electorate prefer Prime Minister Mark Carney at the helm during these rocky times. Not the kind of environment in which you want to toss the dice.

Add to that those same polls have indicated that individual line items and program spending in the budget find significant public support on their own and you have a very challenging milieu in which to convince the country to change horses.

It would be in everyone's best interest, for all parties, as well as the poor benighted Canadian electorate, for the competing parties to come together to find at least some common ground.

For Mr. Poilievre, that would provide time to shore up his own fortunes in a coming leadership vote, not that he is in any real danger in the Conservative camp despite grumblings and the odd defection, as well as following the old adage of "give them enough rope." There will be plenty of opportunities for Liberal missteps over the coming year. Unfortunately, that is unlikely to be a path the bellicose leader will take, given his past performance.

As tempting as it might be for the Liberals to stand their ground and hold fast to every line item and to use brinkmanship to force the issue—our way or the hustings, as it were—politics is neither fair nor secure. Just ask former NDP leader Tom Mulcair who was ascendant in the polls and seemed headed comfortably toward the first NDP federal government, dare we say even majority, before the Liberals crowned Justin Trudeau and sent the whole NDP applecart careening into the ditch.

As for everyone else, the other opposition party coffers are in no shape to take on another election this soon in the cycle.

There are times to roll the dice and times to stay your hand.

These are times that call for a national unity approach to governance, not partisan posturing from any side of the aisle. Patience and compromise need to be bywords for every flavour of political actor.

RDSB takes trades education on the road with 'Think Trades'

SUDBURY-Lopes Limited and Coniston Industrial Park Ltd. have leased a new truck and purchased a new trailer for the Rainbow District School Board (RDSB) to take trades education on the road. The Think Trades trailer was launched at Alexander Public School in Sudbury on November 6 and will be making its way to three Manitoulin Island elementary schools next spring.

"The Think Trades Trailer stopped at Assiginack Public School (Manitowaning) at the end of September, where Grade 8 students worked on a multitrade toolbox." Nicole Charette, senior advisor, corporate



The Think Trades Trailer stopped at Assiginack Public School at the end of September. Grade 8 students worked on a multi-trade toolbox

School (Gore Bay) using a variety of tools during guided lessons as they explore the trades."



Bryson Corbett of Assiginack Public School works on a drill press to make holes for the handle of his toolbox.

communications and strategic planning (RDSB) told The Expositor last Friday, "The mobile classroom will be back on Manitoulin Island in the spring with students from Little Current Public School, Central Manitoulin Public School (Mindemoya) and Charles C. McLean Public

The Think Trades initiative targets students in Grade 8. opening pathways to exciting careers by inspiring students to consider the trades in secondary school and beyond.

When the colourful trailer stops at schools in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin Island, students have access to high-quality tools and materials to participate in hands-on projects. During guided lessons, students learn tool safety, woodworking, metal tooling, simple electrical and plumbing tasks, graphic design and 3D printing.

"We piloted this concept over the past two school years, and it was very well received,' said RDSB director of education Bruce Bourget. "When our partners in the industrial sector generously offered to support the initiative, we knew it would benefit our students and the communities that we serve. We are grateful to Lopes Limited and Coniston Industrial Park Ltd. for providing the truck and trailer as well as tools and materials for our educators to deliver on site training at our elementary schools. It's a dynamic experiential learning opportunity for Grade 8 students.

"Working in the industrial sector, we see first-hand the growing demand for skilled trades," said Felix Lopes Sr. "Supporting programs like Think Trades is one way we can invest in the next generation of tradespeople who will shape our communities and industries."

Students have access to safety equipment as well as battery-operated tools and hand tools, including a cordless drill, a cordless impact driver, measuring tapes, speed squares, screwdrivers, hand saws, palm sanders and an aluminum break. The tools are being used to build a multi-trade toolbox made with pine, aluminum, pex pipe and fittings, vinyl decals, and plastic feet (which have been 3D printed). Students also engage in plumbing, electrical and measuring activities with different types of tools.

"Trades education opens doors to meaningful careers, and we're proud to help bring that opportunity directly to students," said Ryan Forigo, construction manager for Coniston industrial Park Ltd. "The Think Trades trailer is more than a mobile classroom, it's a launchpad for future builders, makers, and innovators."

"We thank Lopes Limited and Coniston Industrial Park Ltd. for partnering with us to introduce the trades to more students in more schools before they transition to Grade 9," said RDSB chair David Farrow. 'Skilled trades are essential to a vibrant economy locally and globally. The skilled trades also offer rewarding career options."

Director Bourget thanked the two companies for their generous contribution and ongoing support. "The trailer aligns with the Ministry of Education's focus to build capacity for careers in the trades. This is another example of the great things that can happen when we work together to support student success.'

Honora Bay Stable owner's Albanian excursion the trip of a lifetime

by Michael Erskine

HONORA BAY—For Honora Bay Riding Stable's Kyla Jansen, a horse riding trip in Albania was the trip of a lifetime.

"The opportunity to take this trip was scattered with many decisions and bumps in the road," said Ms. Jansen. "I am so very thankful that I persevered and made the opportunity of a lifetime happen. The trip was a blend of current rural Albanian life and the ancientness that exists there."

There was plenty of both to be had.

"Our guide Kristina pointed out a particular point in our path where an ancient roadway built by the Romans was still intact," said Ms. Jansen. "Everyone was quiet as we made our way over the road listening to 15 horses' footsteps and imaging what it was like to be a Roman so many years ago."

"We visited ancient churches with stone roofs, iron doors and wood carved moulding where the interior walls were covered in fresco murals, some old and faded and others in various stages of restoration."

The trip members stayed with local families in very small hamlets, she added. "Their gardens were lush with grapes and kiwis and pomegranates. Meals were



Honora Bay Riding Stable's Kyla Jansen took the trip of a lifetime to Albania where she enjoyed great food, amazing history and some incredible views.

and pointegranates. Wears were

Steep ravines and valley provided a riot of colour.



Mist filled valleys inspired awe.

plentiful and fresh. Every meal included red wine and Raki. "Raki is a national drink of Albania made from fermented fruit" she explains. "Every home has a slightly different variation because its preparation is often a centuries-old family tradition."

Ms. Jansen explained that etiquette requires a guest to accept Raki. "So, this made our evenings full of high spirits and fun," she said.

"Albania is a country in transition," said Ms. Jansen, "but the pride of the Albanian people is palpable. Our guides and our hosts were so eager to share stories, historical facts, traditional dancing, music and food."

The protection and restoration of some of the ancient buildings has been difficult, she notes, as the government lacks a well-developed cultural sector, at least so far.

"So, the local residents and private tour guides like Kristina from Caravan Horse Tours do their best to protect and to document how they utilize these sites to augment the tourism industry of colour.
in hopes that formal historical protections can be implemented

in the future," said Ms. Jansen.

"This ride was certainly not for the faint of heart as we did a great deal of galloping across varied terrain, traversing ancient, arched stone bridges with no side rails, climbing near vertical stone slopes on our horses and letting our horses go so we were able to walk/slide down steep slopes of marble-like stones."

"The horses were small, sinewy, strong and confident and we really had to just trust them," she said, despite the fact that she is a very experienced rider.

"The first day was like a dream," she said. "The mountains run laterally to one another and the valley where the town of Gjirokaster is located in between. The valley was full of clouds right up level with the plateau we were on. We galloped for well over a kilometre, as if galloping right on the clouds! The ridge, off to the left above the clouds, was kilometres away and shining with the morning sun reflecting on it."

"I've spent a lifetime on the back of a horse and this trip proved to me that it seems I've hardly spent any time there at all." said Ms. Jansen. "I learned how little we tend to trust our own horses, how much we tend to micromanage them and how much pleasure it is to relax and enjoy as we climbed up rock faces and mountains. The visual beauty cannot be explained. Nor could it be photographed as photos truly could not do the Albanian landscape justice." She did, however, supply a number of photos from her trip.

"We travelled medieval Za-

goria caravan pathways into a land of myths, tales and ballads," continued Ms. Jansen. "Starting in Gjiroksater, the circular equestrian mountainous route passes through ancient



The horses were tough and wirey.

ruins of the Illyrian civilization (early Greek), medieval villages and many remote churches and monasteries. The history behind so many of these churches in monasteries was amazing to me, realizing how old Albanian culture is often pointed out between the 1200s and 1300s in comparison to Canada."

"We travelled daily on the horse, anywhere between three-and-a-half to seven hours of riding, travelling between 21 to 34 kilometres a day," said Ms. Jansen. "Part of a ride brought us to a village where we stayed with the host family, which was of minority Greek extraction, living right on the border of the Greek and Albanian lands. We swam in freezing cold turquoise water, had wild horses join our gallop across the mountains, and met friends that will last a lifetime."

"I will try to explain a little bit of our ride although this will be short of saying the most amazing experience I've ever had," she laughed.

"Our first day we basically got to know the horses had some mad gallops across open fields and began our ascent up into the mountainous areas as we had had to be assigned our horses and begin our journey," relayed Ms. Jansen. "This was one of our shorter days at three-and-a-half hours of riding. Riding through some open areas, the smell of cocoa surrounded us as there were wild cocoa plants on the mountains from which the local pop-

a mixture of Arabian and tarpan and they carried us upwards and through some of the worst sharpest vines," she said. "While we struggled, they did not. Suddenly we were in the open and galloping along the edge of a mountain with the fog still around our horses' feet and then looking off

ulation gather beans to use for

"It made us hungry riding along," she said.

Albania is a place of natural

beautiful water springs. "Even

high in the mountains it is nev-

er lacking water for the animals

The group began their ascent

"Our sure-footed horses were

on the second day under a cover

and the locals to use."

of fog as they climbed.

Ms. Jansen explained that

croissants."

stream."

"The horses carried us with an agility that to this day will forever impress me as they never faltered, although one did al-

swim. While we were still all giggling about his rather damp

appearance our guide Kristina

informed us it was time to stay

out of our horses' way and ride

looking around. I wasn't able to

see the trail anywhere and that's

because there was none! We began to climb straight up the

1,500-foot face of the mountain,

trusting our horse here had to be

the most important part because

the rocks were moving and roll-

ing and they just continued to

climb ducking under low trees

with us looking over our shoul-

ders and eventually seeing the

river below us as just a tiny little



Most of the trails the riders travelled were rocky and rough.

to the left was this magnificence

of realizing that you were gallop-

ing across the top of the moun-

tain above the clouds that were

beside you. Breathtaking is all I

many mixtures of climbing

plateaus and visiting so many

churches in monasteries filled

with such history in the moun-

tains and small communities

some in areas had only 10 people

"Our third day of riding was

our most difficult day, as our as-

cent up into the mountain put us

into some very rugged forest,"

she said. "We had to get off our

horses tie their reins to their

saddles and let them go as they

followed the whistle of the main

trail guide down the mountain,

picking their way, jumping off

mini cliffs as they went down.

After the herd had made their

way down to a level plateau, we

riders did our best to scramble,

slide and pick our way down a

mountainside where the horses

"Our fourth day, my favour-

ite most exhilarating day of the

trail, began with tempestuous

rains absolutely pouring rain,

however, we all donned our

rain gear and began our ride,"

said Ms. Jansen. "Luckily for

us, the rain did not last terribly

long and we began to slowly dry

out a little. We crossed a major

river between two mountains

where one of our riders ended

up going for an impromptu bath

as his horse decided to go for a

seemingly had no issues.

"Our days continued with

can say."

living there.'

most slip off the mountain," said Ms. Jansen. "That rider was my friend Ricarda from Germany (if anybody has ridden here at my farm in the last seven years, they will have met her guiding trails). Thankfully, it pulled itself back up and carried on and most of us never even knew what had happened. The horses climbed and climbed steadily without pressure and when we reached the top none of them were even winded. So, we took off at a gallop through the most incredible red ferns I've ever seen."

"Our meals at each stop con-



The horses were shod with steel shoes to better deal with the rough terrain.

sisted of fresh fruit and vegetables, including figs," she said. "When we did have a meal that had meat in it, it was either lamb or chicken."

"To me this ride was incredibly exhilarating, refreshing and I plan to practice more understanding of horses in the continuation of my riding," said Ms. Jansen. "I book ended my journey to Albania beginning in Paris and Corfu, Greece finally ending with Switzerland and Germany to visit each of the young ladies who have spent time volunteering here at my stable and seeing and learning so much of the European culture," concluded Ms. Jansen. "I am so lucky to have had this opportunity.

Ms. Jansen said that she posted photos on her Facebook page to enable folks to learn more about her journey, "so that my family and friends could follow along as I was travelling."

Wikwemikong Tribal Police recover stolen

all-terrain vehicles

The Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service (WTPS) has successfully recovered two stolen Honda Rancher 500 all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) following a break, enter and theft reported in October.

On October 5, the Wiikwemkoong lands and resources department reported the theft of two ATVs. After weeks of investigation, officers made significant progress in the case.

On October 27, while responding to an unrelated call on South Bay Road, officers located one of the stolen ATVs. A 43-year-old male from Wiikwemkooong was arrested and charged with possession of property obtained by crime.

Two days later, on October 29, officers recovered the second stolen ATV at a residence on Henry Street. The investigation remains active, and further arrests are anticipated.



"This recovery is a testament to the dedication and vigilance of our officers," said Ron Gignac, WTPS chief of police. "We remain committed to protecting our community and ensuring that those who commit crimes are held accountable. We encourage anyone with information to come forward and assist in bringing this investigation to a close."

Anyone with information related to this incident is urged to contact the WTPS at 705-370-3141 or submit a report through the Online Reporting page at wtps.ca. Anonymous tips can also be provided through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.sudbury crimest oppers. com.

WTPS requests public assistance

WTPS is investigating a break and enter that occurred at a business on Kaboni Road overnight on Oc-

Officers responded after staff discovered that a quantity of cannabis products had been stolen. A surveillance photo of a suspect has been released on the WTPS website to help identify the individual involved. If you recognize the person or have any information related to this incident, please come forward.

Contact WTPS at 705-370-3141, or submit a tip anonymously via Sudbury Rainbow Crime Stoppers 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), www.sudburycrimestoppers.com

Protecting our most vulnerable online

Incidents of online child exploitation continue to steadily increase. The need for protection to ensure predators do not exploit children's vulnerability has ...continued on page 20

Friends and Neighbours

Providence Bay Alexia Hannigan

lexia here with your friendly pop-Apy and parades fly! Like any good athlete and titan champion you have to learn to adapt, pivot and push through pain. This time of year is no exception. Tis officially the silly season - a time where you reach the pinnacle of all things that can push you past the limit. Time to take a deep breath, stay focused and find your emotional and time-management level, expert guru centre and step up to the plate, when all the bases are loaded. You have to pick and choose your battles wisely now, showcase your best-in-show, announce and implement vour budgets, boundaries and whip together your big, bold and beautiful reinvention of the cheese wheel, parade wagon/float and wave your magic wand! I saw something the other day that said November is the month where you have to learn to say NO i.e. NOvember! So, to all of you over-exhausted, event-planners, parents, coaches, teachers, kids, mentors and mayhem mitigators, I'm here to remind you that it's ok if you don't have your game face on all the time and it's also ok to say no. Just do your best, try to show up and make-face even if it's your best impression of grumpy cat or the Grinch. We know you'll get your groove back at some point or another. As we go forward to honour and remember the fallen heroes and heroines of vesteryear, remember to honour yourself and your own journey as well. Remember a little bit about how far you've come to get to where you are right now. You made it kid! Well done! Give yourself a pat on the back, keep your chin up, your sticks down, keep calm and carry, skate, smile and parade on. You are awesome!

Here's what's happening:

Puck Drop: Ice ice baby! Here we go! Providence Bay War Memorial Community Arena, 5143 Hwy 551 in Providence Bay. Phone number is 705-377-4090.

Providence Bay Hall: Manitoulin recreational events calendar with class schedules for Providence Bay Hall visit centralmanitoulin.ca or contact Alison Sloss at asloss@centralmanitoulin.ca 705 377-5726.

Exercise classes continue Monday and Friday mornings at the Providence Bay Hall through until Monday, December

Annual Fowl Supper and Turkey Take-out (Turkey Tuesday),

Tuesday, November 18 at the Providence Bay Hall from 4:30 to 7 pm.

Providence Bay Community of Christ Church: Joys and community updates are Sundays at 10:30 am: Service is Sundays at 11 am. Check the Providence Bay Community of Christ Facebook page for announcements and updates!

Providence Bay Curling Club: Everyone is welcome at the Providence Bay Curling Club! Junior Curling is back Saturdays starting November 8 until the end of March. Ages SK to Grade 8 welcome. Equipment is provided, \$25 per curler. For more info visit: provcurling.

Learn to curl free workshop is Sunday, November 9 from 1 to 3 pm, come throw some rocks at houses! All you need are clean running shoes and warm comfy clothing. We will provide the rest!

Friday, November 28 to Sunday, November 30 join in the fun at the first bonspiel of the Manitoulin curling season! This is an open bonspiel - teams can consist of any gender combination. Three games guaranteed. And of course, there are cash prizes! Don't miss out on the fun! Contact David at providencebaycurling@gmail.com or 705-377-4668 to register your team!

The Lions Club: The Lions bottle drive continues next to the Arena - this program is open to the public and we encourage everyone to drop off their used bottles and cans -your empties help fund great local initiatives. Are you interested in becoming a Lions Club Member? Contact the Providence Bay/Spring Bay Lions club Facebook page for details on how you too can give back to your community!

The Heavens: Manitoulin Island is a dark sky reserve so find a dark sky spot, bring your telescope and enjoy the wonders of the cosmos. Whether you're a seasoned skywatcher or just love watching shooting stars and auroras.

November 12 is the Taurid Meteor Shower; November 18 is the Leonid Meteor Shower; November 21 is the Alpha-Monocerotid Meteor Shower; December 5 is the Full Supermoon (Cold Moon/Oak Moon, Little Spirit Moon).

The Countdown to Christmas!

"Remembering the heroes who gave their lives for freedom. May their memory inspire us to live with gratitude and cherish the peace they made possible."

We remember with sincere love and thanks.

Kagawong Team Fergmeijer

ike many out there, Team Fergmei-⊿jer can find this time of year a bit of a drag. We have some friends who are endlessly optimistic and often tell us we should 'seize the day!' We, however, believe you should not seize the day. It may startle the day and cause it to become aggressive and give you a nasty bite. Instead, we prefer to approach the day calmly, without making eye contact, pet it gently and slowly enfold it in a careful embrace. If the day shows any signs of resistance to being engaged with, it is likely to turn on you. Best to back off and return to bed.

It's the official start to the festive season in Billings with Christmas in Kagawong this weekend! Check out the Christmas Market at the Park Centre and then head down to St. John's Church for their annual baked goods table, craft table and gift baskets PLUS homemade lasagna, as well as beef and turkey pot pies (9 am to 2 pm). On second thought, if you want some of the meat pies, you should hit the church up first. Those pies go fast!

In addition, the library's annual silent auction kicks off with bidding starting tomorrow (Thursday) at 9 am and closing Sunday at 6 pm. Visit FB.com/ groups/libraryauction to bid!

The KGB (Kagawong Gobble Brigade) have been making their presence known in the village proper lately. It's unclear if the turkeys are on a protection detail for local businesses or casing the joint while planning some fowl play.

Part-time Kagawongian Dave T and former Kagawongian Rachel M are both celebrating 29 fantastic years on the Earth. We hope your birthday is as fun and ridiculous as our jokes!

The Manitoulin Community Choir will be performing in Kagawong on Friday, November 28 at the Park Centre. Save the date! This is always a great concert with a lovely variety of music. You might even spy a Kagawongian or two in the chorus! The concert starts at 7:30 pm and tickets are \$15.

Thank you to the Kagawong Cenotaph Board for organizing and sponsoring the Remembrance Day service at the Park Centre on Tuesday. Remembrance Day may have passed, but you can still check out the banners around Kagawong honouring local veterans. Lest we forget.

Catch up on old times with the complete archive of Team Fergmeijer columns, all the way back to 2015! Check out http://teamfergmeijer.blogspot.com to get your fill of puns and haiku.

Do people who run marathons know they don't have to? Have a great week!

Barrie Island Enid Runnalls

t's a cool, grey day here on Barrie Island. We've had some rain this week. The farmers report that as winter temperatures approach, they're feeding hay on most pastures and starting to get some cattle in.

Congratulations to Edith and Elwood Beange on the birth of their first great-grandchild! Details pending.

A bit of history pertinent to November 11 - a set of banners commemorating the heroes of WW1 and WW2 have been installed on the lamp posts in Gore Bay. Among them is a banner for Private Percy L. Runnalls who was a gunner in WW1, as told by son Richard Runnalls and granddaughter Judy Runnalls, "he fought in France, pulling the big guns with horses all the way to Koln, Germany when the war had ended. Following that he was tasked with bringing the horses to farmers in Belgium. He then returned to Barrie Island to carry on the family farm.'

There were two big birthdays celebrated here on November 3. Lil Greenman turned 80 and Cameron Runnalls turned 30. Lil's family held a Come and Go party for her at the Barrie Island Hall on Saturday afternoon. Family and friends enjoyed a visit and lunch at the hall which was festooned with beautiful fresh flowers in an array of purples and violets. Lil enjoyed every minute of the party and generously sent home flowers to her friends who were unable to attend.

Cameron Runnalls' big 3-0 was celebrated at a private gathering at the Gore Bay Airport. After cutting into a large pink birthday cake, the gang tuned into the World Series. Of course, we all know how that ended - but the Blue Jays played their best game ever and should be back to it for Cameron's 31st birthday in 2026.

Oliver, Scott and Enid made a trip to Sudbury last week and ran into Garth Baker and sister Lonnie Baker. They had lunch with Carolyn Lane-Rock.

Arie and Isaiah Miller have joined the Gore Bay Bruins Hockey and have started the season with enthusiasm. Isaiah scored at his first game and big brother Arie enjoyed teamwork success with the

Newlyweds Jeff and Casey Rock were on the Island to visit with their mother/ mother-in-law Carolyn Lane-Rock. They stopped in to have breakfast with Enid and Scott Runnalls and said it was the best restaurant on Barrie Island!

Jim and Sandy Miller are back on the Island this week and went out to St. Joseph's Lodge to attend the Manitoulin Swing Band concert which was entertaining to the residents. Barbara Runnalls really enjoyed the music and sat with Sandy and Jim. Also, Edna Wright and daughter Dianne Robbins Stachon were there.

Yesterday afternoon, Terry Land spoke eloquently at the Gordon Community Centre on the topic of 'How to Bring Birds to Your Backyard.' He told the history of the Gore Bay Christmas Bird Count, explained its local strictly set geographic diameter of 24 km and its purpose in providing bird population information ultimately to the Audubon Society. He went on to give a slide show of his own bird photography of some of the species that may be seen during the Gore Bay Christmas Bird Count. Terry also recommended black oil sunflower seed (which can be purchased at the Northland AgroMart) for your bird feeders and explained where and how to mount your bird feeders to discourage deer and squirrels. Also on hand was Wayne Aelick with an array of his hand-built bird feeders for sale.

Silver Water Karen Noble

n Friday, October 31 there was a Hallowe'en party at the Silver Water Hall. Euchre in Meldrum Bay had been cancelled. A lot of people stayed home to watch the Blue Jays, game six.

Saturday night I watched game seven of the World Series to the very end. Better luck next year.

Sunday morning, I made a lot of sandwiches and baked chocolate chip cookies to take to Tehkummah. The West End players had volunteered to make the lunch after the tournament.

My brother Shawn and I were partners for the day. We ended up with 80 points and the top prize. Lucky for me he was getting the cards. There were 11 tables of players.

Monday morning, I went to town to work for the day. I came home in time to get some supper and have a nap be fore leaving for euchre. I took Shawn, Myra Duncanson, Ken Duncanson and Heather Wilson with me. There were 11 tables of players. I had some good rounds and ended up with 96 points. I split the money jar with Roy Vessair who had 84 points. Thank you to everyone who helped our scores.

Tuesday there was yoga at the community hall in the afternoon. It is moving to Wednesdays.

Tuesday night was fire practice at the fire hall.

Wednesday Albert Meijer and I processed half of the celery out of our garden. There was a lot of it. The other half we gave away to the neighbours. It was a fantastic year for the garden.

Thursday afternoon was the UCW meeting at St. Andrew's United Church in Silver Water. There were lots of ladies in attendance. A number of donations were approved.

Thursday evening there was euchre in Silver Water with six tables of players. Congratulations to Linda Rumley who won the money jar.

...Gordon Barrie Island urges MTO to explore causeway safety options

...continued from page 3

and we are concerned that they and our farming community members must be safe there and throughout the township.

Reeve Noland said a similar safety concern came up in Burpee and Mills township a few years ago. "We worked with community members and the OPP (Ontario Provincial Police) for options, and it was recommended that LED yellow flashing ambers lights be installed on the horse drawn buggies, along with slow moving vehicles being posted in key areas to make members of the community aware of the changes. We worked with our Amish residents to have the lights installed on their buggies. These lights are phenomenal at night," he said.

"Farm equipment is not getting smaller," said Mr. Orford. He explained a car travelling 80 kilometres per hour coming up on a tractor travelling between 20-40 kph from 100 metres back takes six seconds to catch up to. And a horse and buggy doesn't travel 20 kph, so it is a considerably shorter time length.

"All it takes is when someone is coming up behind a horse and buggy or slow-moving vehicle in their car/ truck is to answer their cell phone or grab for their coffee, and they are right behind the vehicle in front of them," stated Mr. Noakes. "This is a major issue," he said.

"We, as a township, are almost to the point that we will put up a sign," said Reeve Hayden. "There is going to be a serious accident on the Ice Lake causeway."

A member of the meeting asked whether there has been any discussion of using the old private concession road prior to the causeway (travelling from Gore Bay) that could be used as a road for the residents who have recently moved in at the corner. This, they suggested, would allow them to avoid the causeway and get to their property safely.

"My suggestion is for a small bridge be installed that only a horse and buggy could travel on," said Mr. Orford.

"The majority of the drivers that come up on us in our horse/buggy are good. But I've come pretty close in the summer to being hit by an oncoming vehicle, in broad daylight," said one resident.

"All of these safety measures could be expedited by contacting our MPP," said one resident.

Mr. Noakes said on some Island roads the shoulder is not more than 1.5 feet in width. "If you are driving a heavy equipment vehicle on the side of the road and a vehicle comes up behind you and doesn't want to slow down and the driver of a large vehicle tries to move over, you can lose your vehicle. Drivers need to slow down when they come up on large agricultural vehicles.

Heather Jefkins said, "I have personally had close calls on Highway 540 between here and Kagawong on our tractor. Some people just don't slow down when they come up on agriculture vehicles, and they will pass them on corners and hills. It makes me uncomfortable for you guys that are on the road all the time with your (slow moving) vehicles."

"Some people have no respect for farmers. You can't

fix stupid," said one resident.

"Some drivers will see a tractor, say, 100 metres down the road and won't slow down and will continue and pull over to pass without knowing what is coming at them in the other lane," said Mr. Noakes.

It is the same with other farm equipment and people passing school buses, said Mr. Orford.

"We appreciate all of your concerns as horse and buggy users and the agricultural community," stated one



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...Father/daughter duo honoured by NOCMA

...continued from page 3

MA (the latter which selects from nominees who will receive the NOCMA awards in a year). He also received congratulation plaques from the city of Sault Ste. Marie and the Canadian Country Music Association and a beaumusic under her belt, but she is an excellent musician and the song she performed was flawless.'

"We can't thank the NOCMA enough for everything," said Mr. Lentir. "Especially Jennifer Patterson, president of NOCMA who has kept her mom's and dad's organi-

"Everyone had a wonderful time this weekend." kids, they had so much music playing all the way to the Sault on Friday and

said Mr. Lentir. "I call that bus crew my senior fun all weekend. From the time we all got on the bus on Manitoulin there was again on Sunday on re-

For the first time since 2019, "The Gospel show took place on Sunday morning," said Mr. Lentir. He was the lead singer and played guitar. "Everything went great." "It was a great week-

end," stated Mr. Lentir. "Everyone is already looking forward to next year's awards weekend."

driver, with A.J. Bus

Lines providing the trans-

portation in a brand new

coach," said Mr. Lentir.

The 2025 Great Northern Opry inductees include Arlene Neveu Bill (Sudbury), Vrebosch (Nipissing/Parry Sound), Shawn Kettner (Nipissing/Parry Sound), August Rouse (Algoma West), Pauline Parent and Rosanne Smith the Harmony Singers (Algoma West), Marc St. Jean (Cochrane/Temiskaming), Tony Last (Cochrane/ Temiskaming), Malcom Moffatt (Algoma East) and Marcel Jacques (Algoma East).

The awards were held at the Quattro Hotel in Sault Ste. Marie November 7-9.

A musical bus! While several Manitoulin musicians played the music, Manitoulin residents who packed a bus that travelled to the Northern Ontario Country Music Association awards in Sault Ste. Marie this past weekend sang along to the songs.

tiful portrait of himself from NOCMA.

For the song he performed, Mr. Lentir performed 'Made of Gold' by Derek Ryan, a song he dedicated to his wife Crystal.

Katelyn really enjoyed the whole weekend, and in her speech she was very appreciative, thanking everyone who has had a part in all of this," said Mr. Lentir. "She hasn't had many years of playing

zation going strong. She is doing a fantastic job. All the inductees can't thank her and the NOC-MA enough.'

About 54 Island and area residents were on the bus ride to and from the weekend celebration. drove themselves to the Sault for the weekend, about 60-65 Island residents attended the week-

turning to the Island. The musicians included Robbie Shawana, George Williamson, Maurice Labelle, Carol Gilmore, Roy Robertson on the accordion, and Bruce Gibson on the harmonica. You don't really experience the whole With other people that NOCMA awards weekend until you take the bus to and from the Sault. The music and stories that are shared is wonderful."

"We had a great bus

...NEMI cuts budget levy to 2.3 percent

...continued from page 3

bury District Services Board budget (the DSB runs Manitoulin's emergency services and social housing).

The provincial largesse will also give the municipality the opportunity to contribute \$112,000 to its working capital reserve, which otherwise stood to take a significant hit in 2026. While it won't see it overflowing, it will get the reserve "out of the hole," the CAO said.

Then remaining \$107,000 in OMPF monies will then be used to offset the

"Would it be prudent to put more into reserves?" Councillor Laurie Cook asked.

An enthusiastic Mr. Williamson responded, "I absolutely agree, but that is up to council."

"It certainly looks like you've budgeted for worst case scenarios," said Councillor Al Boyd, noting that he also likes Councillor Cook's suggestion. "If there's savings to be had, can the difference go to savings?" he queried.

Mr. Williamson explained that when line items that see a surplus they end up in the total year-end surplus, then council would decide what to do with it at that time.

A public meeting for the 2026 budget has been set for December 2 at the municipal council chambers.





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RESTAURANT HOURS: MONDAY - SUNDAY: 9 AM TO 8 PM

NEW HOURS

BAR HOURS: SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY: CLOSED WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY: 4 PM - 9 PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 4 PM - 10 PM

Dr. Stephen Cooper retires from Manitoulin Health Centre

...continued from page 3

will review results, write prescriptions and order tests for my patients until they are picked up by new clinicians. We continue to advertise for my position and remain hopeful that it will be filled."

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Dr. Cooper's leadership journey began at the Little Current clinic, where he introduced innovative projects that improved access to care, including early interprofessional initiatives such as delegating Pap-testing to nursing staff and establishing a prenatal clinic in Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory. His vision and collaboration led to the creation of the Northeastern Manitoulin Family Health Team, now recognized provincially as a model for integrated primary care.

Within the hospital, Dr. Cooper reintroduced Interprofessional Grand Rounds, fostering collaboration and continuous learning among clinical teams. In 2000, he became president of the professional staff, helping to establish Manitoulin Island as a teaching community through its involvement with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM).

In 2007, Dr. Cooper was appointed chief of staff, serving alongside then-CEO Derek Graham. Over 16 years in this role, he was instrumental in advancing patient-centred, and integrated care across Manitoulin and Northeastern Ontario. Under his leadership, MHC partnered with Health Sciences North to launch initiatives such as Virtual Critical Care, Life or Limb Protocol, Visiting Specialist Program, the Diabetic Education Clinic, Cardiac Rehabilitation and NEJAC.

Dr. Cooper's tenure also oversaw numerous hospital advancements, including the relocation of obstetrics to a more family-centred environment, the refocus of the operating room suite on endoscopy, and the development of both hospice services and MAID programs. He played a key role in implementing MediTech Expanse and championed quality improvement initiatives alongside registered nurse Mary Lynn strengthening Wright, board engagement in clinical excellence.

Beyond MHC, Dr. Cooper's leadership reached across Northern Ontario. He has served as Ontario Medical Association Chair of the Section of Rural Practice, District 9 Chair, and Primary Care Regional Lead for Ontario Health Northeast, advocating tirelessly for rural and northern healthcare. His work with NOSM Continuing Education and Professional Development program further supported the growth and leadership of physicians throughout the

Throughout his career. Dr. Cooper has been recognized for his professionalism, collaboration, and commitment to equitable, patient-centred care. Though retiring from fulltime practice, he will continue contributing locally through emergency room shifts and as Director of the Wikwemikong Nursing Home, also providing care at the Manitoulin Centennial Manor.

"I will have the opportunity to do new things," Dr. Cooper told The Expositor. 'We will do some travelling, and we have a goodsized lot so I want to do some gardening, and need more fitness and have other things in mind for my life

of the MHC board of directors, said, "On behalf of the board, we extend our sincere thanks to Dr. Cooper for his decades of leadership and commitment. His steady presence and forward-thinking approach have helped shape the strength and stability of Manitoulin Health Centre today.'

"MHC extends its heart-felt thanks to Dr. Stephen Cooper for his decades of service, leadership, and unwavering dedication to improving rural health-care. His legacy of care, innovation and collaboration will continue to shape the future of healthcare on Manitoulin Island for generations to come.'

...Tom's Big Buck Roundup

...continued from page 3

Email photos of you with your deer by the deadline of 5 pm on Sunday, November 23. Along with your name and address, where you harvested the deer and the season in which it was harvested, how big the deer is, including its weight and the number of points.

By entering the contest, you could be eligible for \$100 gift certificate from Up Top Sports Shop in Mindemoya, with second prize being a \$50 gift certificate, again from Up Top Sports Shop.

Send photos tom@manitoulin.com and

information



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EVENTS • IN CASE YOU MISSED IT • WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON • WEEKEND WEATHER



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Manitoulin realtor raises funds for the Cambodian Challenge for Shelter

MINDEMOYA—Leanne Lewis completed the Cambodia Challenge for Shelter that provided her a true-life lesson.

The country is very humble," Ms. Lewis told The Expositor. "It is a third world country, but the people are very happy. The people are so friendly, nice and welcoming. When we were walking through, kids would wave and say hello with big smiles on their faces. We all need to look at what we really need, we can all live with less. People in Cambodia certainly do. The average wage for those working in the country is \$6 per

"I completed the challenge." stated Ms. Lewis, who noted the



With generous support area residents Lewis businesses, Leanne raised over \$23,000 through her participation in the Cambodia Challenge for Shelter.

challenge was approximately 100 kilometres in length over five days. "Overall, I feel good, and physically I'm fine, my feet blistered (on the trek), but that is normal."

Ms. Lewis took part in a similar challenge in Ecuador in 2023. She was one of 120 Royal Lepage



Leanne Lewis of Manitoulin Island, (shown fifth from right in second row of photo) completed the Cambodia Challenge for Shelter.

agents across Canada taking part in this year's challenge, applying in the fall of 2024 and finding out she was one of the people chosen for this challenge in support of the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation.

Ms. Lewis said the hot conditions made the challenge difficult. "There was one day it was 37° Celsius, but every day the humidity was always at 90°

"I didn't really like the food," said Ms. Lewis. "We were served rice for every meal," she said noting, "I didn't try the mock fish," she said. Fortunately, she had brought lots of snack foods on the trip.

"For three of the four nights we spent the night at different monasteries," said Ms. Lewis, noting bucket showers were the norm, and the toilet facilities were less than admirable.

On the five-day challenge walkers saw a lot of wildlife including tarantulas, dead snakes water buffalo and many more.

'We would walk nine kilometres through rice paddies and then come up to a home," said

Ms. Lewis. She noted at every home you could find chickens and cows.

On day one of the challenge, "I started my journey at Chao Srei Vibol Temple, trekking 20 kllometres through rice paddies, local villages and sacred pagodas, finishing the day camping at the serene Wat Preah Bat Bunthan."

On day two, "We woke at sunrise alongside local monks, then travelled 19.5 kilometres across lush paddy fields with incredible views of Mount Kulen, ending the day exploring the mysterious Beng Mealea Temple ruins. This was my toughest dav." stated Ms. Lewis. "It was extremely hot with no shelter or shade and absolutely no breeze. I've never been so hot in my life!"

On day three, "Today I tackled a 22 kilometre climb up the sacred Mount Kulen, gaining 250 metres in elevation and taking in breathtaking views over forests and fields for the plateau. After lunch in the small, stilted village of Anlong Thom,

I ended the day camping riverside, sleeping under the stars. This was my favourite day!"

'Although it was probably the most challenging physically as we climbed up the mountain, the shade was welcoming and there was a bit of a breeze now and then," said Ms. Lewis. "This was an emotionally tough day as one of our trekkers had to be taken down the mountain on a rustic tractor and wagon with a possible heart issue. Thankfully, he was okay and joined us again on the last day.'

Day four was a 23.5 kilometre walk. "I kicked off day four with a breathtaking hike to the mountaintop Big Buddha, followed by visits to the Kulen Mountain Waterfall and the River of 1000 Lingas, where ancient Hindu carvings decorate the riverbed. The day wrapped up with a scenic trek through local villages, schools and pagodas before reaching our campsite."

Day five of the challenge meant "the grand finale of my incredible trek," said Ms. Lewis. "Today kicked off with a scenic hike up Phnom Bok, followed by a fun tuk tuk ride straight to the stunning Angkor Wat. I climbed the iconic central spire for jaw-dropping views, then spent the afternoon exploring the magical jungle ruins of Ta Prohm, yep, the one from Tomb Raider!'

Ms. Lewis noted every morning the challenge trekkers would wake up at 5:30 am with breakfast at 6 am and off on our trek by 7 am. "I received incredible support from Manitoulin and Sudbury business as well as the general public." A celebratory dinner and music show was held at the end of the trek for the participants. The walkers were welcomed at the finish line by traditional music and dancers.

Ms. Lewis noted she had received sponsorship on all five days of the challenge trek, including Wahl's Water on day one, \$500; DR Signs on day two for \$500; Poulson Law. \$1,000 on day three; day four, The Island Animal Hospital for \$500; and Swing Bridge Property Management, \$500 on her final day.

"I've done really well with fundraising for the walk," said Ms. Lewis. "Thus far (as of last week) I have raised \$23,742 dollars (far surpassing her goal of \$10,000) thanks to tremendous support from so many people and businesses. It has been crazy the support I have received." She now stands 13th in all of Canada for fundraising.'

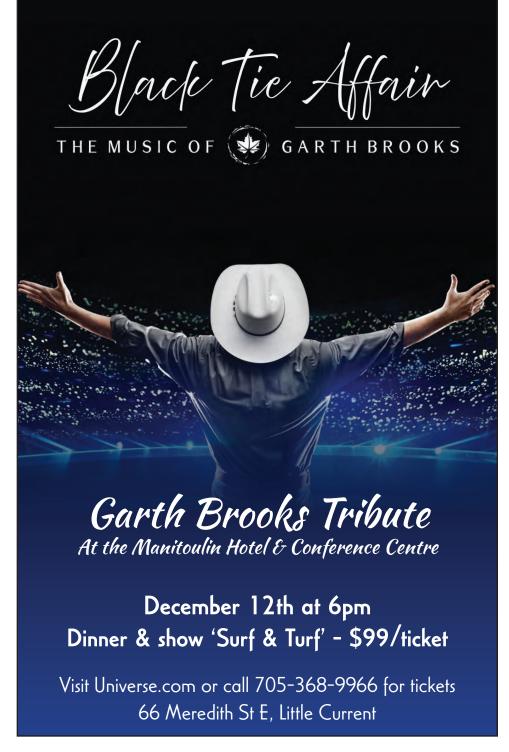
"It was a very successful event," continued Ms. Lewis. "The local community is always great," she said, noting 80 percent of the funds she raised is going to the Manitoulin Family Resources women's shelter, and 20 percent toward education." She paid for her trip and travel expenses to and from Cambodia, as well as being required to raise at least \$10,000 for the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation.

Ms. Lewis will be fundraising until the end of December.



A makeshift delivery trailer brings





TICKETS \$35

PER PERSON

EMAIL SUSAN TO RESERVE YOUR TICKET

...Canada Budget 2025: Mixed reviews from Island stakeholders ...continued from page 1 instead of to doctors and "This Liberal budget does mentions the Ring of Fire. a press release. "Canada like their non-Indigenous

in Parliament.

costly budget 'This Canadians forces spend more on debt interest than on healthcare transfers, more than the government collects in GST," he said in his response to the unveiling of the budget. "That means every dollar that Canadians pay in GST will go to bankers and bondholders

nurses. All while he raises the industrial carbon tax on farm equipment and fertilizer and, therefore, on food; on steel, concrete and other industrial projects needed to build homes—a big tax increase on homes and food."

His sentiments Sudbury reflected by East-Manitoulin-Nickel Belt MP Jim Belanger. "This Liberal budget does nothing to address the concerns I heard from people on the doorstep while I was campaigning," he said. "Life became less and less affordable, food, housing and energy will beat the ability of the average working-class people.'

MP Belanger went on to say that people understand Liberal policies are part of the cost of living going up. He pointed to the \$321 billion of planned spending over the next five years that will be added to \$1.35 billion deficit already facing the nation. "I don't know how we are going to pay it back. I am thinking about my fourgrandchildren vear-old who will have a \$30,000 debt to the government already for 2025-2026.'

He went on to note that the federal budget barely

"There is a vast wealth sitting right under our feet," he said, adding that the budget doubles the deficit of the Trudeau government and said that will drive up the cost of everything. "Statistics Canada predicts prices will surge higher and higher," said Belanger. "People are being pushed to food banks. We offered amendments that would bring in an affordable budget, but the Liberals voted it down."

Since the government is in a minority position, voting the Conservative amendment down would have required the support of other opposition par-

The 2025 federal budget marks a departure from previous budget that included a specific Indigenous section.

In a statement released by the Anishinabek Nation, the organization representing the interests of Manitoulin's First Nations said it acknowledges the release of the 'Canada Strong' budget and "is committed to engaging with government officials to ensure that the needs and priorities of Anishinabek member First Nations are fully addressed, as it clearly overlooks First Nations across the country.'

"Simply put, you don't cut from the most marginalized people in this country," said Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige in a press release. "Canada has a fiduciary obligation to our First Nations. Our fear is what these cutbacks may mean for existing issues such as gaps in infrastructure and housing, lack of attention to First Nations policing and community safety, healthcare and the ongoing boil water advisories. We are supposed to be a firstworld, developed country, which means basic needs and standards of living are met, yet our people continue to go without them, with fewer financial resources allocated to obtain them, as seen in the federal budget."

While the budget includes investments aimed at economic development, healthcare and infrastructure, the Anishinabek Nation said there needs to be an emphasis on "the importance of ensuring that First Nations and other Indigenous groups receive equitable funding and support."

"We will be further reviewing the details of the budget to identify opportunities to advance our goals of self-determination, sustainable development, and improved quality of life for our citizens," adds Grand Council Chief Debassige. 'We remain dedicated to working collaboratively with federal and provincial partners to ensure that the voices of the Anishinabek are heard and that our communities benefit fully from national investments equitably, like their non-Indigenous counterparts."

To that end, the Anishinabek Nation is calling on the government to "prioritize Indigenous-led initiatives, uphold commitments to reconciliation and provide transparent, long-term support that respects Anishinabek sovereignty."

"We look forward to ongoing dialogue and partnerships to build a brighter future for all our citizens," concluded Grand Council Chief Debassige.

The federal budget impacts Canadian households by setting tax rates, funding public services like health care and education (largely through transfers to the provinces) and introducing measures to address affordability. Taxes make up a significant portion of household expensesover 45 percent of average income.

Therefore, the federal budget is far from being something that doesn't impact folks at the ground level. Budget changes can influence take-home pay, cost of living and access to government programs.

There is a lot on the federal government's plate. Major federal government expenditures include health care, elderly benefits (such as Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement), social protection, defence, public debt interest and

...continued on page 11

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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

NEMI Rec Centre Activities

Talk and Tea Series Nov 18th — Pros and Cons of Reverse Mortgages Nov 25th — **Downsizing and Decluttering** At 1:00 pm upstairs at the NEMI Rec Centre

All workshops in this series are free and include refreshments. Email Ihallaert@townofnemi.on.ca to register

Workshops **Cedar Wreath from Scratch**

November 30th at 2:00 pm at NEMI Rec Centre—Cost \$35 Register by emailing debwhatlingart@gmail.com

Christmas Candy Cane with Paulie Nodecker

November 18th at 6:30 pm at NEMI Rec Centre—Cost \$50 Register by emailing lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca

Winter Parking Reminder

Please be reminded that, as per our Traffic Control By-law, parking on all municipal roadways is prohibited effective November 1st of each year until March 31st of the following year between the hours of 2:00 am and 7:00 am. PARKING TICKETS WILL BE ISSUED

NEMI RECREATION CENTRE

The ice is in and we are ready for your ice rentals. Please contact the arena at rtaylor@townofnemi.on.ca to book your time.



Annual Christmas Market at the Centennial Museum of Sheguiandah Friday, November 28th from 4:00 to 9:00 pm

and Saturday, November 29th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Santa will be arriving at 11:00 am until noon on Saturday. Over 20 vendors to shop from. Email: lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca

Christmas Tree Lighting

At the Cenotaph downtown Little Current Thursday, November 27th from 6:00 to 7:00 pm Christmas Carols, Christmas Photo Booth, Elf Scavenger Hunt with prizes



Santa Claus is coming to Town

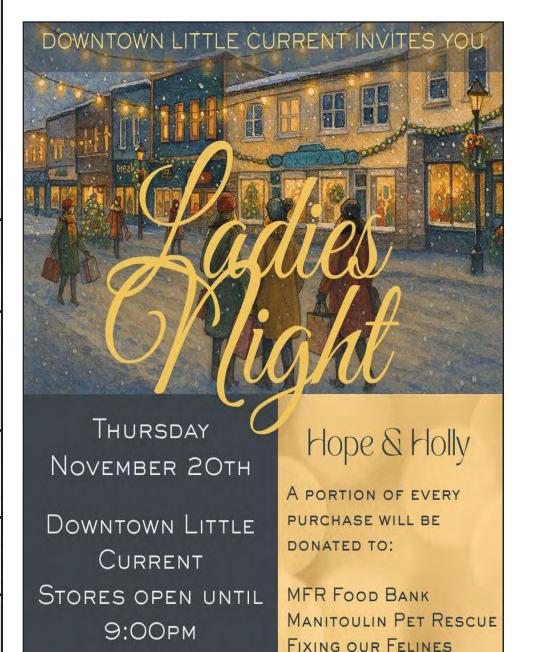
NEMI Annual Christmas Parade will be December 6th starting at 6:00 pm.

Don't forget to enter your float!

Watch the paper and website for the parade route.

Mayor and Council wish everyone a very safe and successful deer hunt.

Please do not Drink and Drive.



FOOD FUN SALES

DRAWS PRIZES

...Weak spot on Line 5 sub-Mackinac Straits will be reinforced

...continued from page 1

land have been left out of the entire dialogue since 2011-

"The USACE permit to approve (encase a portion of an aging oil pipeline beneath a Great Lakes channel) is the latest step in the dialogue," said Mr. Gauthier. He retired in 2002 as a senior hydrologist for USACE.

"My difficulty with the tunnel discussion is that this is and always has been a red herring," stated Mr. Gauthier. "It was agreed by Michigan governor Rick Snyder and Enbridge in 2016-2017 to continue pumping oil on a now 73-year-old pipeline and transformed pipeline. It is likely erosion still continues, and they aren't monitoring the rate of erosion. And while the current discussion has been going on, nothing has been done to replace the current pipeline on the bottom of the straits."

The approval by USACE is just another step in the process, said Mr. Gauthier. He said the proposed work to encase a segment of the line would take 5-6 years to complete. "Meanwhile, there is a pipeline that is over 70 years old; it was never designed to last more than 50 years," said Mr. Gauthier.

"The whole thing turned into a red herring, and continues to be," said Mr. Gauthier. "We don't believe the engineers' allegations that the line is fit for service. There is no ongoing active, independent evaluation of the integrity of the pipeline and to provide the answers as to whether the line is still stable and fit for service. We want to see this independent evaluation take place."

"A spill of oil from the pipeline would pose an extreme danger for Georgian Bay, St. Clair River and all connecting water links including areas like Manitoulin Island," said Mr. Gauthier. "Enbridge needs to at least do an independent evaluation on the risk of failure of

...Canada Budget 2025

...continued from page 10

economic affairs. In recent years, health and elderly benefits have been the largest spending areas, followed by social programs and infrastructure investments.

Key challenges facing the current government include rising deficits, higher debt-to-GDP ratios, global economic uncertainty (largely in the form of the current US president's penchant for tariffs) and increased spending needs for defence (largely to meet NATO commitments, but also to protect Canadian sovereignty, especially in the far North), housing and innovation.

In its preamble to the budget, the federal government

...continued on page 14



A diver inspects the Line 5 pipeline running under the Straits of Mackinac on its lakebed.

the existing pipeline."

"The pipeline met standards when it was constructed in 1952-1953 but it was never designed to be supported by 240 supports on the bottom of the channel," continued Mr. Gauthier. "No one really even knew about the pipeline until the National Wildlife Service raised concerns in 2013-2014." He said it is unclear if Enbridge even has the funds to have a portion of the line encased. "Enbridge has now approved a plan and initially said they set aside funds to build a tunnel, but this has never been confirmed."

"The line on the bottom of the channel has never gone through an independent assessment as to whether is if fit for service. So, there is a risk of failure that has never been evaluated or monitored, and we have an aging structure whose risk is increasing year to year," continued Mr. Gauthier.

The Associated Press reported in part on October 29 that USACE approved the energy company Enbridge's plans to encase a segment of an aging oil pipeline that runs beneath a Great Lakes channel, pushing past its own findings that construction could ruin the environmentally sensitive area.

USACE issued Enbridge a permit, saying that the application complied with all applicable federal laws and regulations, AP reported. Enbridge did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Enbridge now needs only a permit from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy to begin the \$500 million-plus project. Environmentalists have been pressuring the state to deny the application. A boat anchor damaged the line in 2018, further stoking fears.

Conservationists and a number of Native American

tribes have balked at the proposal, calling it too risky and demanding Enbridge simply shut down the pipeline, AP reports.

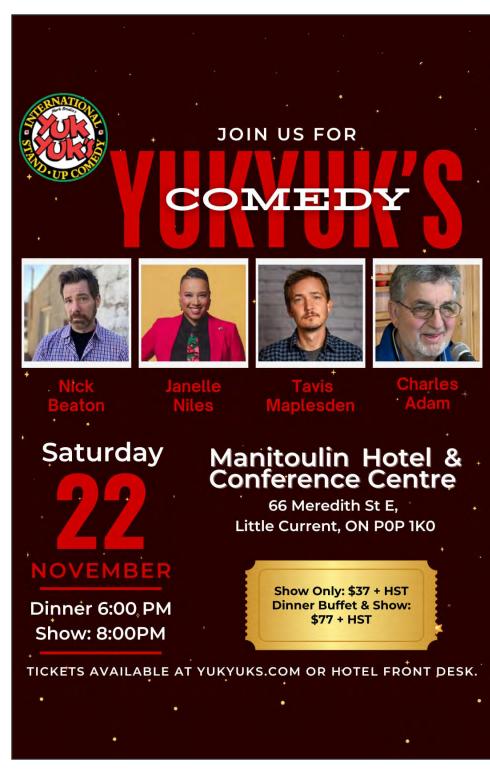
Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel, sued in 2019 seeking to void the easement that allows Enbridge to operate the pipeline in the straits. The US Supreme Court is currently weighing whether the case belongs in federal or state court, AP reports.

Governor Gretchen Whitmer ordered her regulators in 2020 to evoke the easement allowing the segment to operate in the straits. Enbridge filed a federal lawsuit that same year seeking to invalidate the order.

The Michigan Public Service Commission issued permits, promoting another lawsuit from environmental groups and tribes. A Michigan appeals court upheld the permits this past February.

"I live on a shoreline. My retirement home would be worthless if this pipeline erupts," stated Mr. Gauthier. "It would affect properties and values in areas around the Georgian Bay and Manitoulin Island. Shoreline owners in all areas that would be affected should be as concerned as anyone."







Manitoulin Island's whitetail gun hunt starts on Monday

...continued from page 1

have a string of good winters the past few years.'

In terms of hunter safety, MNR is advising hunters again this year that they have to handle firearms with care and attention at all times. Hunters should never shoot unless they are absolutely sure of their target and what lies beyond it. It is illegal to shoot from, down or across a public road while hunting, no exceptions.

Providence Bay Community Centre Board Invites you to the annual... Tuesday, November 18 4:30 - 7:00 pm Providence Bay Community Centre Adults: still only \$20 Children: (6-12) \$10 Ages 5 and under: Free Proceeds support the work of the Providence Bay Community Centre Board

Order Turkey Take Out!

on Nov 18th call: **705-377-4503**

After 12 Noon

Austin Glover and his impressive buck harvested during last

"Hunters need to ensure that firearms are unloaded prior to placing them in a vehicle, like an all-terrain vehicle, side by side or truck," said Iain McGale, S/Sergeant with the MNR Sudbury Enforcement Unit.

All hunters must wear solid hunter orange clothing (a minimum of 400 square inches or 2,580 square centimetres above the waste) and a hunter orange head cover during gun seasons for deer, moose and elk. This also applies to bear hunters who are not hunting from

For regulations hunters need to follow as well as some do's and don'ts the MNR indicated it is up to hunters to know the rules and regulations. S/Sergeant McGale suggested that hunters check out the 2025-2026 Hunting Regulations Summary available electronically for downloading at ontario.ca/hunting before heading out. Paper copies are available at Service Ontario offices.

Make sure you have your outdoors card, licence summary, any required tags or validation certifications for the species you are hunting and proof of firearms accreditation if you are hunting with a firearm.

Contact your local MNR enforcement office if you have any questions pertaining to the regulations. Hunting rules vary across Canada and within the province of Ontario.

S/Sergeant McGale suggested that hunters let someone know where you will be hunting and when you

plan on returning. Be prepared for all weather conditions while in the field, plan for and have all navigation aids with you while in the field to avoid getting lost.

In WMU 43A, 43B and 44 landowners written permission is required.

Carrying a loaded firearm in a vehicle is a violation. Generally, in Ontario you must transport your gun unloaded while it is in a vehicle, motorboat or aircraft. Vehicles include all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles.

You must unload and encase firearms in your possession during the period from half an hour after sunset to half an hour before sunrise.

Night hunting is illegal. In Ontario, you can generally only hunt for half an hour before sunrise to half an hour after sunset. It is a good idea to check when sunrise and sunset will be prior to heading out so you can plan accordingly.

Hunters must wear hunter orange when required. Other preventable violations include illegal harvesting of an animal. Always ensure you are following the proper season for hunting based on the Ontario Hunting Regulations and ensure you are hunting only permitted species along with any age, sex or type restriction on the species being hunted.

Always remember when you are hunting you cannot carry another person's tag.

The MNR explained that you must also have on your person any applicable validation certificate and tags. If hunting with a gun, you must also carry proof of having the credentials to hunt with a gun.

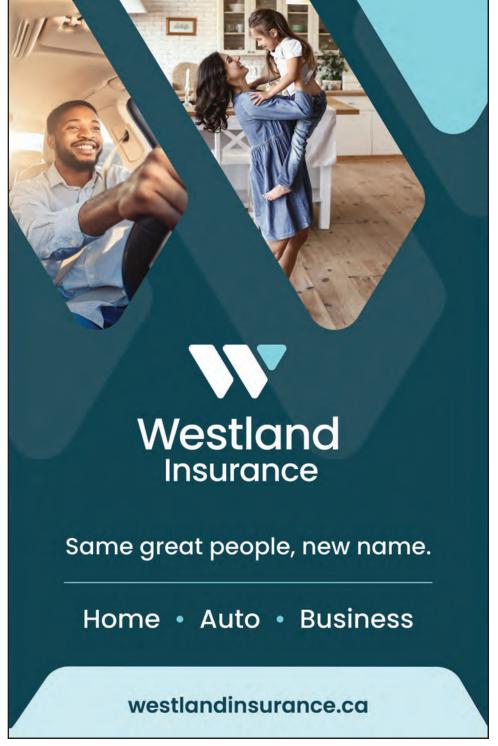
Failing to properly tag a harvested animal, for example, not notching the tag, or not attaching the tag properly when it is required to be attached is a violation. Each tag has detailed instructions on its use. Follow the instructions.

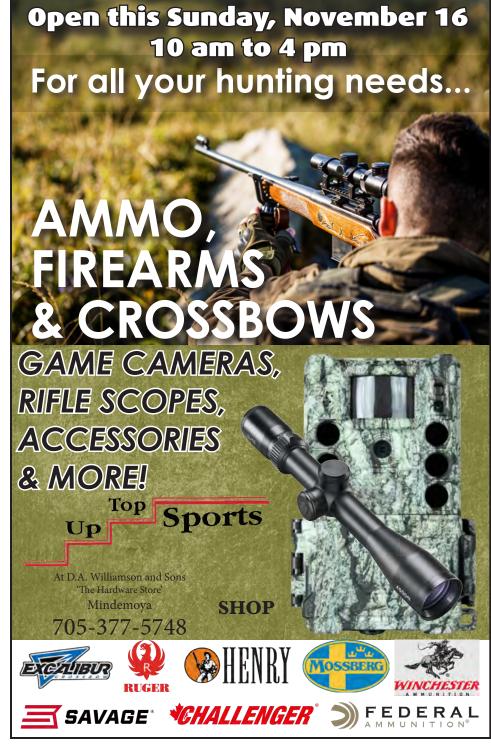
Trespassing is another area of concern for the MNR. Generally, you must have permission to hunt on privately owned lands. If you have wounded an animal and it runs onto private property, you usually must secure permission prior to following the animal on to private property.

You cannot hunt where you are not allowed to. One example of trespassing is when your tag is valid in one wildlife management unit, but you hunt in another WMU; this is illegal.

If you witness a hunting violation, call 1-877-TIPS-MN-RF (847-7667) or call Crimestoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

"We have very good success in terms of violations being reported through Crimestoppers," added S/Sergeant McGale.





...\$100K target for Christmas campaign

...continued from page 1

the increased cost of food and transportation. All surplus funds from the campaign will be used to meet the food security needs in our community through the year," said Ms. Hill.

"This support to families and individuals would be incredibly difficult if not for the generosity of the Island community, and the volunteers who help the food bank through the year and through the Christmas basket campaign," continued Ms. Hill.

Each Christmas basket is tailored to the size of the family and includes a turkey or ham, a generous supply of seasonal food and other food products, explained Ms. Hill. "In past years, baskets have also included gifts for all children and teens, as well as some winter apparel (boots and mittens) for adults and children."

If you would like to contribute to the Christmas Food Basket Campaign, monetary donations are greatly appreciated and can be mailed to the MFR office P.O. Box 181, Mindemoya, Ontario POP 1S0, said Ms. Hill. "Please make cheques payable to "Manitoulin Family Resources" and indicate on the memo line "Christmas Basket Campaign 2025."

If you prefer an online option, you can e-transfer your contribution to finance@mfresources. net or donate via CanadaHelps.org by visiting www.mfresources.net and clicking on the 'Do-

nate Now' at the top right of the page to link you to the MFR donation site. Please follow the instructions, making sure you select 'Christmas Food Hamper Drive' in the drop-down window under 'Apply your donation to a specific fund set up by this charity.' Tax receipts will be issued for financial donations over \$20 dollars.

In the case of non-monetary/food donations, please call the food security program supervisor at 705-368-3400, ext. 242, to arrange for donation drop-offs. Christmas baskets will be prepared and distributed within communities December 8-19.

"On behalf of the board, volunteers and staff please accept our sincere thanks," added Ms. Hill.

...Field naturalists support nature's helpers

...continued from page 1

lin Facebook sites and very quickly got a response from Gore Bay Fire Chief Mike Addison about an available machine at no cost. "Unfortunately, due to the amount of laundry they do, Turtle Pond specifically needed a machine with an agitator, and this one did not have that." In the meantime, a washer was donated, "but I thought it must be stressful for Turtle Pond to find it necessary to look for another used washer every couple of years, so I decided to try to get them a new one."

Very quickly a bench was donated to MNC and auctioned off with \$170 being raised in an auction, said Ms. Ritzie.

"My next stop was Jakes' Home Centre in Mindemoya and the response from Adam Smith was typical Manitoulin, 'Of course we'll help. We can give you a substantial discount,' continued Ms. Ritzie. Jakes provided a new washing machine at cost (just under \$500). From there it was an appeal to MNC, and again Manitoulin answered generously. Ted Smith donated his honorarium (as October MNC meeting presenter) of \$100."



TURTLE POND

WILDLIFE CENTRE • VAL CARON, ONTARIO

MNC members voted to donate \$200. Proceeds of the groups 'Clearing the Natural Debt' (of donated items up for sale at every meeting) at the October 30 meeting was donated to Turtle Pond (\$80).

Phyllis Cacciotti, of MNC, presented the cheque to Mr. Smith at Jake's Home Centre last Wednesday to purchase the new washing machine.

"A volunteer, Stuart, who lives in Sheguiandah, offered to pick up the machine and deliver it to the Turtle Pond," added Ms Ritzio

...Burpee-Mills, UCCMM Tribal Council oppose provincial park allowance additions

...continued from page 1

claim that has not been settled."

Patsy Corbiere, chair of UCCMM and chief of Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation stated the provincial ministry, "can't do that. These areas are part of the 1990 land claim agreement that has still not been settled."

"I sent this to the lands department of the UCCMM to look into it," said Chief Corbiere. "We will get a legal opinion on it. We have been fighting this issue since 1990 with the government. Technically they think they can sell these lands and make them into sanctuaries where no development takes place."

"Under the 1990 land claim agreement, shoreline allowances are not to be sold—this was in the agreement," said Chief Corbiere. "So why is the province doing this now? The government looks at giv-

ing say a 100-acre property to groups that don't want anything done on the lands, but for people to look at it. We will not be supporting this. It's called using common sense."

The Expanding Protected Areas in Ontario proposal was posted on the environmental registry of Ontario regulation notice on October 10 and is open to comments from the public until November 24.

"Ontario is proposing to expand provincial parks and conservation reserves under the Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act, 2006. Ontario is expanding green spaces throughout the province to provide Ontarians with new outdoor recreation opportunities, such as hiking, camping and fishing, while providing communities with critical support related to tourism, job creation

and economic development. At the same time, Ontario is conserving and safeguarding the province's unique ecosystems, habitats and wildlife for the benefit of Ontarians today and future generations," the EBR notice reads in part.

As part of this initiative, "Ontario is seeking to accelerate the expansion of the protected areas system by proposing to regulate new areas under the Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act, 2006. This includes sites that the province has earmarked for protection under past planning exercises such as Ontario's Living Legacy (OLL) Land Use Strategy) as well as lands previously acquired by the Crown from third parties."

"In July 2024, Ontario consulted through the (EBR) on proposed additions to provincial parks and conservation reserves under the Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act (PPCRA), 2006. This list included 27 sites, totaling 10,324 hectares (25,511 acres). We are now proposing protections for another 43 sites, totaling approximately 12,600 hectares over 31,100 acres to continue to expand Ontario's protected areas system," the proposal reads.

In Northeast Zone, proposed sites include Cockburn Island (an additional 193 hectares), 55 hectares added on Misery Bay Provincial Park and an additional 101 hectares being added to Mac's Bay Conservation being protected.

A representative of Ontario Parks-Northeast zone office, "we have talked to Burpee and Mills Township and the First Nations on this proposal. It is a proposal, that is all this is, and is open to any comment from members of the public."



Elizabeth Fry Society calls for care, not crackdowns, in Sudbury

by Jacqueline St.Pierre Local Journalism

Initiative Reporter SUDBURY—Āmy Collins knows Northern Ontario's front lines well. Before stepping into her new role as executive director of the Elizabeth Fry Society of Northeastern Ontario, she served as Director of Manitoulin-North Victim Services, where she worked closely with survivors of trauma and violence across Manitoulin Island and the North Shore. That experience, she says, shaped her understanding of how deeply poverty, addiction, and criminalization intertwine.

Now, as police prepare to launch a month-long crackdown on open drug use and panhandling in Sudbury, Ms. Collins isn't mincing words. "Criminalizing people for their addictions is not helpful," she said. "It's more counterproductive. Our correctional facilities are already overcrowded and overburdened, as well as our court system. Arresting people won't change anything."

Sudbury Police Chief Sara Cunningham told the city's Police Services Board that officers will take a "support first, enforcement last" approach, but confirmed they could

arrest repeat offenders. The 30-day enforcement initiative, set for November, will see officers redirect people using drugs in public to Energy Court an industrial stretch near the city's downtown where tents and makeshift shelters already mark the growing homelessness crisis. City officials say more social services are planned for the area, though advocates question whether the supports will meet the need.

"The answer isn't in punishment," said Ms. Collins. "It's in access—to trauma-informed, longterm care that people can enter when they're ready, not six months or a year later."

The Elizabeth Fry Society supports women and gender-diverse individuals navigating the criminal justice system, operating a shelter and transitional housing in to tion program region. Ms. those services stretched thin the strain features.

Sudbury while providing court and reintegration programs across the region. Ms. Collins said those services are already stretched thin, mirroring the strain felt in overcrowded jails and backlogged courts.

She understands the anxiety of downtown business owners near Energy Court, who describe fires, break-ins and fear. "I don't dismiss their concerns," she said. "But

...continued on page 16

...Canada Budget 2025: Mixed reviews

...continued from page 11

notes Canada has many things going for it, despite the turmoil and constant doomsaying of the mainstream media.

Among the G7 group of nations Canada still enjoys the lowest government (including all levels) debt to GDP ratio at 13.3, far better than its brethren: Germany 48.7, the United Kingdom 94.6, US 99.6, France 108.2, Italy 126.9 and Japan 130.1. Canada's credit rating remains at AAA, a distinction it shares only with Germany among the G7 and a factor that keeps the nation's borrowing costs low.

While this budget is largely aimed at dealing with the fallout of US tariffs, and the media's frenzy over each and every tidbit of new information threatens to keep Canadians up at night, Canada enjoys the best deal of any US trading partner. The global rate stands at 17 percent, while our nation enjoys a 5.4 overall rate, while 85 percent of Canada-US trade remains tariff-free.

The budget also alleges that Canada is one of the most tax competitive jurisdictions among the G7, with a marginal effective tax rate of 15.6—beating out even the US at 17.6 and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development average (excluding Canada) at 17.7. Our nation's deficit-to-GDP ration stands at 2.2 percent, only outdone among the G7 by Japan at 2.2 percent.

Furthermore, notes the federal government, Canada enjoys the world's most educated workforce, is number two for foreign investment confidence, is one of the top five producers of 10 critical minerals and is ranked by the Econo-

mist Intelligence Unit as number two in the G20 for doing business over the next five years.

The latest federal budget plans reductions in public servant ranks by 40,000, a factor that does not receive an enthusiastic reception from public service unions but is a response to the unprecedented growth in the public service population over the past decade. The reductions, say the government, will bring the numbers more in line with the Canadian population.

The budget also reins in the annual compound growth rate for program expenses which saw an 8.1 percent run from 2015 to 2025, projecting a mere 0.5 percent from 2026-2030.

Spending in the four main envelops over the next five years include \$25 billion for housing, \$30 billion for defence, \$115 billion for infrastructure (\$19 billion earmarked for Indigenous communities and municipalities) and \$110 billion for productivity and competitiveness.

The budget has so far survived two of the three confidence votes, the last and most important one is to come sometime in mid-November.

There is a lot riding on the coming vote. If the budget fails to garner enough support to pass (the Liberals currently hold 170 seats thanks to a recent defection of a Conservative MP to the Liberals, although one of those is the Speaker who only votes in the case of a tie, just two votes shy of a majority), then the nation will be plunged into the second election in two years—and taking place in the depths of winter.





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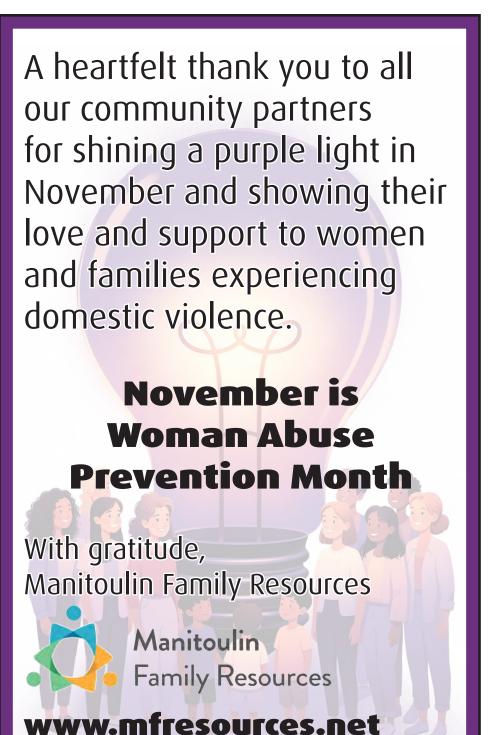
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Newly renovated Buck Horn Motel is so much more than the sum of its parts

by Margery Frisch

SOUTH BAYMOUTH— When one purchases a new home, one is often unaware of what and who came before them. Sometimes the history is a complete mystery to the new homeowner. But, when one purchases a motel, everyone wants to share their memories, their impressions, their anecdotes, everything the motel holds for them. It keeps the current owner busy.

Lorraine Spiess, owner of the Buck Horn Motel in South Baymouth, has heard them all. The couple who stopped to tell her they spent their honeymoon at the Buck Horn 40-some years ago. The couple, who just celebrated their 35th anniversary, stopped to tell her the bride dressed for her wedding day in one of the rooms at the Buck Horn. Then there was the time a car pulled up in December a few years ago. Snow was threatening and Ms. Spiess was trying to get some perennial bulbs in the ground before it came. Darren Baxter got out of the car, his aging mother remained where she was. "My grandfather built the Buck Horn Motel back in 1962," Mr. Baxter said.

Ms. Spiess went to greet his mother and she said, "I want to know three things: Is the stone fireplace still here?" Ms. Baxter, as a young girl, had collected the stones for that fire-"What about the





Lorraine Spiess with her beloved Dahlias at the back of the

cedar paneling? And what about the furniture?"

Ms. Spiess was happy to relate that all three of the woman's concerns were very much a part of the Buck Horn. The stone fireplace still dominates the living room, and with much patience and love and refinishing, the cedar panels still line each of the rooms, and the old elmwood furniture, also refinished, stands stately in the office. Mr. Baxter's mother went away content and happy.

Ms. Spiess and her husband, Smail Benlkorchi, bought the Buck Horn in 2015, the fifth owners of the motel. "We ran it for a few years, then we had a freak horizontal storm and we decided that we either had to do it right or just let it go." And do it right they did. The renovations took time. The COVID shutdown drew the process out even longer. "I felt that if we didn't do this right then every tourist getting off the ferry would be seeing this eyesore and that would not be good for this Island. Now the tourists see something

...continued on page 16



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Influenza confirmed in Public Health Sudbury and Districts service area

SUDBURY—The first locally-acquired flu case of the 2025-2026 influenza (flu) season has been reported within Public Health Sudbury and Districts' (PHSD) service area. Residents are reminded to protect themselves and others from getting sick with respiratory infections.

"As flu season begins, getting your flu shot is free, and an easy and ef-

fective way to protect yourself, your loved ones, co-workers, and community," said Christina Baier, a manager in the PHSD protection division. "The COVID-19 and influenza vaccines are available at many locations throughout the community, including health care provider offices, walk-in clinics, and participating local pharmacies."

contagious infection and can cause fever, cough, muscle aches and fatigue. Children may also get stomach upset. In some people, like young children, older adults, and with underlying those medical conditions, influenza can cause severe illness, like pneumonia.

...care, not

crackdowns ...continued from page 14

nobody wants to live like this. Nobody wants to wake up suffering. People make choices that help them survive anoth-

er day. To Ms. Collins, the police crackdown reflects a familiar cycle—one where enforcement replaces empathy and visibility is mistaken for safety. "We can't arrest our way out of a public health crisis," she said. "We can only care our way through it."



Sadly, thousands of Canadians die of influenza each year-both influenza and COVID-19 are among the top 10 causes of death for Canadians.

The PHSD provided precautions to protect yourself and others from infection: stay up to date with your vaccinations. Receive your COVID-19, influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccines as soon as you are gardless of the cause of the

eligible; improve the ventilation in indoor spaces by keeping windows open, when possible, and having heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems set to "on" rather than "auto" and consider wearing a well-fitted mask, especially in crowded or poorly-ventilated public settings.

Many viruses cause respiratory infections. Re-

infection, if you are sick PHSD recommends: stay home until symptoms are improving for 24 hours (or 48 hours if you had nausea, vomiting or diarrhea) and no fever is present. In addition, wear a mask for a total of 10 days after symptom onset; avoid non-essential visits to higher risk settings such as hospital and long-term

...Buck Horn Motel so much more

...continued from page 15

pretty attractive. The guests are happy and I'm very lucky to have people working here who are happy to help me out," Ms. Spiess explained. Her neighbours, Lorie and Sean Leeson, former owners of the Buck Horn themselves—third owners in fact—are her helpers and lifesavers as Ms. Spiess' husband died two years ago. "I could never have done this alone," she

Driving along Highway 6 near South Baymouth, one's eye is immediately drawn to the bright red roof, the red trim and the immaculate grounds. In addition to her keen eye for the aesthetic in the motel rooms, Ms. Spiess is an avid gardener. From early spring till late in the fall, her gardens have continual blooms of one kind or another, in all colours, and the overall effect is stunning. Vegetables too, grow in abundance, in raised beds and she offers her produce to her guests. The back of the motel is an oasis, with a gazebo in which her guests can barbecue. They can lounge on the back deck or wander down to the water at the back of the

"I get thank you cards in the mail," Ms. Spiess said, "actual hand-written cards."

Sometimes her guests have booked a room because the Buck Horn is close to the ferry, and it's convenient. They are flabbergasted at the beauty, and the attention to detail both inside and outside the motel and regret they can't stay longer. In Google reviews, one happy patron wrote: "My husband and I stayed here late August. This motel is where motels should be obliged to go to learn how to motel!" And another guest said: "Beautiful, extremely clean and a home away from home vibe! Everyone from the owner, manager to the cleaning staff are just simply awesome. They are very professional, informative, and just made our first time visit to Manitoulin Island so much more pleasurable." Because of these wonderful reviews, the Buck Horn is solidly booked. "But we are open in the winter too," Ms. Spiess said. "The rooms are fully insulated and heated, there's just a short period in the winter when we are closed.

There's a joy that comes with seeing delight in her guests' eyes, their surprise at what they have found. "I get hugs almost daily from my guests. I just couldn't do this if it didn't bring me joy. I just love making people happy," Ms. Spiess said.

buckhornmotel.com





The extensive motel remodel features amenities and beautiful linens and a kitchenette in the bedrooms. The cedar paneling helps the Buck Horn maintain that rustic Manitoulin







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'Tis the season for markets on Manitoulin



Islandview Farms offered sticky, tasty treats to those attending the M'Chigeeng Christmas market held last Saturday.

photos by Jan McQuay



While Christmas cake might not be everyone's cup of tea, this newspaper can attest that the Carlisles make a mean one. Delicious!



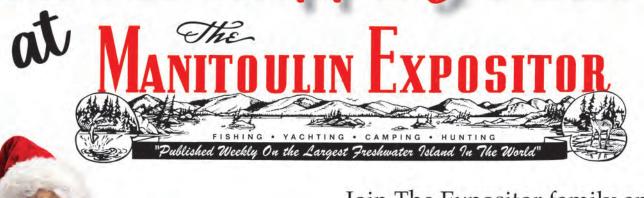


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Colin Pick, Bernard Andrews reflect on the Act of Remembrance

by Michael Erskine

MANITOULIN—The rituals of Remembrance Day remind us each year of the sacrifices made in defence of our nation by so many young men and women far from our shores. With lapels bearing the iconic red poppy, the playing of 'The Last Post, the reading of 'In Flanders Fields' the poem by Canadian First World War army physician John McCrae

the "war to end all wars." Mr. Pick cites the Boar War, largely forgotten by Canadians having been overshadowed by the horrific butcher's bills of the two world wars, as evidence of what can happen as memories are dulled by the passage of time. "When I first came to Canada, I came to realize that people don't

know that the South

African War was the

first time that Canadi-

battles such World War One's Vimy Ridge and the storming of JUNO Beach during World War Two's Normandy invasion still resonate in our collective consciousness, but it seems to do so with lessoning attention with each passing year.

"There are times when I am the only one standing in the rain, the only one laying a wreath," he said, shaking his head sadly.

suddenly called away. "They never returned," he said. It was wartime, and unlike the

24/7 coverage of modern conflicts, news did not travel fast, if at all. "My grandparents only learned what happened to those young men when the 'red hats' showed up to collect their belongings."

After a soldier's death, military organizations carefully

of the uniformed military services, he has created a rope wreath commemorating the loss of the Edmund Fitzgerald which he lays at the foot of the maritime memorial on November 10, the anniversary the sinking of that ship in Lake Superior in 1975 with the loss of 29 men.

The former British Royal Lifeboat Service member feels a particular connection with maritime losses.

tends beyond the ranks

Mr. Andrews said he laments the slow loss of commemoration ceremonies for such, although he lauds the laying of the wreath in the waters of the North Channel by the Manitoulin Sea Cadets each year to mark the Battle of the Atlantic.

'We have such a beautiful community cenotaph (at Memorial Gardens in Spring Bay) but it is hardly used anymore. other than Decoration Day," he said.

Like Mr. Pick, Mr. Andrews said he believes there should be more attention paid to the anniversary of major events and conflicts in which our nation's warriors have participated.

"I will continue to lay wreaths until the day I die," he said.

As the number of those whose families that have been personally impacted by wars dwindle (both Mr. Andrews and Mr. Pick are well into their senior years), the pain inflicted by our nation's losses may fade from collective consciousness, but for these two aged warriors the passion for Remembrance will never abate.

Lest we forget.



Colin Pick

and the solemn laying of

wreaths beneath ceno-

taphs bearing the names

of our country's fall-

en, the reverence with

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ber them" and "lest we

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The Royal Canadi-

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tral role in organizing

Remembrance Day

ceremonies, undertakes

the logistics of distrib-

uting poppy boxes and.

moreover, stands senti-

nel to the needs of Can-

ada's veterans each and

number of individu-

als whose passion for

Remembrance rises to heights that extend be-

yond that of most of those wearing a poppy on their lapels. We spoke to

two of those individuals

this year to learn more about what drives their

Colin Pick is one such

individual. While he

now makes his home just North of Sudbury in the

Valley, Mr. Pick was for

many years a familiar

sight at cenotaphs and

meetings here on Man-

itoulin Island. He has

also been a major pillar

of support for those suf-

fering from the trauma

of post-traumatic stress

disorder for both service

and law enforcement per-

in World War One and of

the six sons in our fami-

ly, five were in different

aspects of the military,"

he said. "In my life, the

personal.

"My grandfather was

But there are also a

which

one day.

every day.

passion.

communities'

volunteered to serve alongside the British Army between 1899 and 1902, including 12 nursing sisters, and resulted in 89 Canadian soldiers being killed in action and 135 who died from

other causes—pri-

for Remembrance until the very day I die," he said.

Bernard Andrews is a man with strong opinions and with few, if any, compunctions sharing them. His outspokenness has won him few friends among the rank and file of veteran organizations down through the years and has sometimes placed him at full on loggerheads with those around him. But he is also often a solitary figure standing, wreath in hand, beneath cenotaphs and memorials on the anniversaries of seminal battles that slowly are

military played a central role." For Mr. Pick, falling from Remembrance is highly our collective But the roots of his pasmemories. sion lie even earlier than Certainly,

ans fought overseas," he said.

Some 7,300 Canadians

marily diseases. Canadians served in various units, including infantry, mounted rifles and artillery and participated in major battles, such as the Battle of Paardeberg, a significant victory for the British forces and one in which the nascent Canadian military prowess was first lauded.

"I think we do a good job here in Canada with Remembrance Day every year, wearing the poppies and such," Mr. Pick said, "but for the families left behind (by those who have fallen), they remember each and every

"I will have a passion

about



Mr. Andrews recalled his first memory of stories of Canadian Forces personnel during the Second World War.

"There were a group of young men, many of them not even 20 years old, who were helping my grandparents put a new roof on their home," he said, a Scottish brogue still evident in his words. "That was just before Dieppe."

grandparents His spoke of how their young Canadian friends were collected and processed personal effects to send home to their next of kin, following established procedures. This was done to prevent items from being stolen and to ensure valuables like cash were properly accounted for. For many families billeting soldiers from abroad in Britain, the arrival of the collection team was the first indication of their boarders' fates.

Mr. Andrews' passion for Remembrance ex-



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MPP, FONOM welcome Northern commitments in Ontario's fall economic statement

goma-Manitoulin MPP Bill Rosenberg and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) are praising the news presented by Ontario Finance Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy in the 2025 Ontario 2025 Fall **Economic Statement last** week, Liberal and NDP party members and the Chiefs of Ontario (COO) did raise concerns.

"I'm thinking pretty positive that the province is heading in the right stated MPP direction,'

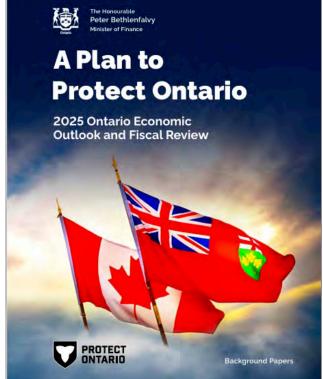
Rosenberg of the economic statement outlined Thursday. "After last the budget was released last spring, the financial statement points the province being where we wanted to be, we are on track, growing the economy and reducing the deficit. The numbers are actually a little better than we had expected," he said, noting the GDP is projected to increase from \$800 million to \$1.2

"All the projected numbers are positive and that reflects back on reducing the deficit," said Mr. Rosenberg. "We're also getting many more foreign investors in the province as we try to get away from Mr. Trump and tariffs, and positive things like health—bringing in doctors to Ontario from the US and Quebec."

Mr. Rosenberg also noted the fall economic statement includes \$9 million toward the first stage of the Little Current Swing Bridge. "This is in black and white print as it was in the budget."

Ontario's real GDP is projected to rise 0.8 percent in 2025 and 0.9 percent in 2026, in line with the 2025 budget outlook, Bethlenfalvy Minister released. As for Ontario's 2025-2026 budgeted deficit, it is projected to be \$13.5 billion, an improvement of \$1.1 billion from the outlook published in the 2025 budget. Over the medium term, the government is forecasting a deficit of \$7.8 billion in 2026-2027 and a surplus of \$0.2 billion in 2027-2028.

"FONOM acknowledges the Ontario government's Fall 2025Economic Statement, which highlights several important investments and initiatives that will directly benefit Northern communities," a release notes. "FONOM is encouraged by the province's commitment to balance its books by 2027-2028, while continuing to invest in key infrastructure and affordability



measures. The government's decision to match the federal cut to the HST on new home purchases for first-time buyers, up to \$1 million, will provide meaningful support to Ontarians seeking affordable housing."

"For Northern Ontario, several initiatives stand out," stated FONOM, "including the pilot project to bring ride-sharing services to communities along the Northlander corridor, the commitment to source GO Transit bi-level rail coaches in Thunder Bay and, as previously mentioned, the investments in road infrastructure such as the Greenstone corridor toward the Ring of Fire."

FONOM also, "welcomes the increased Connecting Links program funding to \$45 million, the rise of the Ontario Community infrastructure Program (OCIP) minimum to \$125,000, and the \$50 million increase to the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF), now totalling \$600 million. These measures will provide municipalities with greater capacity to maintain and improve local infrastructure and essential services."

The government's ongoing investment in clean water systems, now totalling \$4 billion, including \$1.6 billion for upgrades, represents a significant step toward long-term sustainability for many Northern communities. read the FONOM release.

"The increase to the OMPF and the higher minimum under the OCIP are positive signs for our member communities," said Dave Plourde, president of FONOM. "We'll continue to advocate on issues that impact Northern municipalities, including the effects of tariffs on local economies. As this is a Fall Economic Statement, FONOM looks forward to continuing our work with the province to ensure Northern communities can address their current challenges and are prepared to contribute to Ontario's overall success."

Canadian Press reported that since the provincial budget was tabled less than six months ago, in mid-May, the government's job creation projects have been revised down from 73,000 to 70,000. Next year, the province is expected to see 35,000 new jobs created up from 33,000 in the previous projection.

Over the next four years, the government has revised job creation down by a total of 1,000, with 3,000 fewer this year and 8,000 fewer than expected in 2027. The numbers for 2026 and 2028 have been updated upwards, CP reported.

The unemployment rate has been revised to worsen from 7.6 to 7.8 percent and is predicted to remain higher than the 2025 budget forecast through to 2028.

"Employment growth is projected to ease further in 2026 to 0.4 percent as economic growth continues to be impacted by the ongoing trade conflicts and the effect of the associated uncertainty on investment and hiring," the document reads. It added that young workers have been particularly affected.

According to the government website, more than 700,000 people are unemployed in Ontario.

The province's worsjobs record is ening opposition something critics have increasingly focused on, with Ontario NDP leader Marit Stiles referring to Premier Doug Ford as a "jobs disaster," CP noted.

CP reported that Liberal finance critic Stephanie Bowman said the fiscal update fails to meet the moment due to a lack of new spending to protect jobs and the economic challenges are at least in part the government's own making.

Chiefs of Ontario (COO) said in a press release that support for economdevelopment, along with expanded loan guarantees, has the potential to advance prosperity and greater opportunity for First Nations commu-

"While some of these developments represent progress, the COO emphasize that underlying, urgent challenges persist across the province. The housing crisis remains

...continued on page 24

Law & Order ...continued from page 6

never been greater.

Between September 22-26, 2025, 14 agencies from the Provincial Strategy to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation on the Internet (Provincial Strategy) focused on reports of children self-exploiting online. Police spoke with 282 impacted families and observed that the average age of children generating the material was between five and nine years old.

The Provincial Strategy coordinates law enforcement partners across the province to combat child sexual abuse on the internet. Strategy partners share information, resources and investigative techniques and coordinate on investigations.

"I commend the outstanding efforts of our provincial strategy members," said OPP Deputy Commissioner Marty Kearns, Investigations and Organized Crime

Provincial strategy members urge all parents to remain vigilant and to intensify their involvement to further strengthen the collective effort to protect children from victimization. Members of the public are invited to learn more about how to keep children safe at Canadian Centre for Child Protection or cybertip.ca.

Anyone with information regarding instances of child exploitation is asked to contact their local police. Report and instances of online child abuse to police or cybertip.ca. If a child is being harmed, call 9-1-1.





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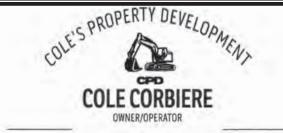
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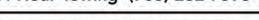
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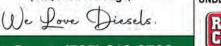
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SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, November 20 is the annual LADIES' NIGHT in downtown Little Current

This year's theme: "Hope & Holly" and merchants will donate funds from their Ladies' Night receipts to Island charities



Christmas Decoration Sale at Little Current United Church on Saturday, November 15 from 9 am to 2 pm. Also a bake and craft

Coming

Events

22-26p

Christmas in Kagawong at St. John's Church on Saturday, November 15 from 9 am to 2 pm. There will be baking, a craft table, gift baskets plus homemade meat pies and lasagna.

24-26p

Time to get ready for Christmas! Drop by the Lyons Memorial United Church, Gore Bay for their annual Christmas rummage sale. Come find that special something for your home as well as lots of other sale items on Friday, November 14 from 9 am to 1 pm and Saturday, November 15 from 9 am to 12 noon. Come out for some fun and support a good cause. Donations accepted the sale week, Monday to Wednesday from 9 am to 12 noon. Proceeds support United Church Community Outreach Programs. Please bring your own bags.

25-26p

Turkey dinner at the Tehkummah Hall on Saturday, November 15. First setting at 4:30 pm; second setting at 6 pm. Admission: adults, \$27; children 5 to 12 years, \$15; under 5 is free. Take-out available from 4:45 pm. Please call Friday, November 14 to order. Sponsored by the Congregation of the St.Andrews by the Sea United Church, South Baymouth.

25-26p

Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 6 from 9 to 11 am at Little Current United Church. Serving pancakes, sausages, juice, fruit and coffee, \$5 per person.

26-29p

Come join George Williamson and friends for an evening of great music, fun and dancing at Little Current United Church on Friday, November 28 and Friday, December 12 from 7 to 9 pm. Non-perishable food/monetary donation for the food bank are greatly appreciated. See you there!

26-28p

Manitoulin Centennial Manor Auxiliary Bake Sale is Thursday, November 20 and Friday, November 21 beginning at 10 am at Turner's Store, downtown Little Current.

26-27p



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 Services: Haven House Shelter, Outreach Counseling Crisis Line 705-377-5160; Toll Free Crisis Line 800-465-6788; Children's Services: Early ON Child and Family Centre, Little Current Child Care, Mindemoya Child Care 705-368-3400; Help Centre: Thrift Shop & Food Bank 705-368-3400; Administration 705-368-3400.

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

Tfn

Counselling: Christian 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.

Are you concerned about someone's drinking? Al-Anon has one purpose: Welcoming, giving hope and comfort to help family and friends of alcoholics. Changed attitudes can aid recovery. Stepping Stones Al-Alon Group: Espanola Al-Anon, Tuesdays at 7 pm, Anglican Church, 213 Tudhope Street, Espanola, 705-869-6595. For more information call 1-888-4Al-Anon (1-888-425-2666, M-F, 8 am - 6 pm ET) http://www.alanon.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

Tfn

tfn

Narcotics Anonymous 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-



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



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 (MCSG) may provide you with resources and opportunities to share experiences as well as give/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. The schedule is as follows: Sunday, November 16, Gore Bay Legion 2 to 4 pm; Wednesday, December Mindemoya Chambers from 2 to 4 pm. For more information please contact: Terry Mackenzi, 705-507-0433 or tandjmackenzie@hotmail.com; Bonnie Young, 705-377-4998; Ann Cranston, 705-282-7531 or bnannc@gmail.com.

tfn



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



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 welcome.

Tfn

Knox United Church Rummage Sale in Manitowaning is open Wednesdays to Saturdays from 10 am. to 3 pm.

23-26p



Merwyn Sheppard and family are very thankful to our extended family, friends and neighbours for all the assistance while he battled and beat cancer. The rides, the assistance with chores, the meals, the phone calls and supportive words are all appreciated. Your kindness made a difficult time easier.



editor@manitoulin.com 705-368-2744





PUBLISHER'S NOTE—The following paid advertisement contains statements some readers may find offensive. The contents do not necessarily reflect the views of this publication.

"As the father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If you keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my father's commandments, and abide in His love," JOHN

Jesus not only commands His followers to abide in Him, JOHN 15:4+5, but He also commands them to abide in His love, and He explains that the way to abide in His love is by obeying His commandments. Now we need to understand that the commandments that Jesus gives are in no way different than the commandments that the Father has given. For if they do, Jesus will be a false prophet, DEUT. 13:1-5. PS. 89:34 says: "My covenant I will not break, nor alter (change) the thing that is gone out of My lips (what I have said)."

DEUT. 4:13 says: "And He declared to you His covenant which He commanded you to perform, even Ten Commandments, and He wrote them on two tables of stone." The decalogue in EX. 20:1 starts with: "And God spoke all these words."

The first thing that everybody needs to know is that God does not change, God's word does not change. And the decalogue, which God Himself spoke and wrote on two stone tablets does not change. If God changed the day of rest from the 7th day (the Sabbath) to the first day (Sunday), God would be a liar. The liar who changed it is Satan and everybody who accepts Satan's lies becomes a servant of Satan, ROM. 6:16. There is no subject where the N.T. spends more space on than on warning against Satan and his lies, false doctrines. There is nothing in the N.T. that even suggests that the day of rest was changed from Sabbath (7th day) to Sunday.

The 1977 edition of the converts catechism of (Roman) Catholic doctrine, page 50, contains this series of questions and answers. Q. "Which is the Sabbath Day?" A. "Saturday is the Sabbath Day." Q. "Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?" A. "We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday." Now my question is: "Why do most Protestant Churches who believe that the Roman Catholic Church is the whore of Babylon, follow this perverted substitute of the Roman

MATT 6:33: "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness---." To seek first means to make it your priority and everything else becomes secondary or less important. One of the keys (conditions) for entering the Kingdom of God is obedience to the decalogue including the sanctifying of the Sabbath from Friday sunset till Saturday sunset. I explain the conditions for entering God's Kingdom in more detail in my book "The Keys to the Kingdom," which is available on Amazon or by writing me. I am also available for counselling from a biblical perspective.

Hank Reckman Prophet of Manitoulin Search for Truth Biblical Ministries Box 8004 M'Chigeeng, ON P0P 1G0 226-808-1594



...Ontario's fall economic statement

...continued from page 20

acute in claiming lives and destabilizing communities. These issues require sustained, targeted action in tandem with economic and infrastructure investment.'

"I acknowledge Ontario's investments in cominfrastructure munity and create new economic opportunities for our people," stated Ontario Regional Chief Abram Benedict. "However, it is imperative that investments in housing, child welfare, and mental health services, especially those addressing the opioid crisis, receive the same level of ongoing attention to ensure safe, healthy, and thriving communities.'

'While the cost of living pressures impact all Ontarians, First Nations are experiencing these challenges to a far greater extent. Housing, groceries, and transportation remain unaffordable in many First Nations, especially those in remote or northern regions," said Chief Benedict.

Minister Bethlenfalvy outlined delivering on its plan to protect Ontario workers, businesses and communities from the impacts of US tariffs, through the development of Ontario's tax action plan. This work will focus on updating Ontario's personal and corporate income taxes to encourage and attract more business investment, help improve Ontario's competitiveness in the G7 and lower costs or provide relief for individuals and families in the years and decades to come. An update on the Tax Action Plan will be provided in the 2026 Ontario budget.

The government is investing an additional \$100 million in the Ontario Together Trade Fund to further help smaller and medium-sized enterprises diversify into new market and strengthen trade resiliency.

To help Ontario manufacturers and processors lower their costs, innovate, and become more competitive the province is introducing legislation to enhance and expand the Ontario Made manufacturing investment tax credit, a 15 percent non-refundable benefit to corporations that are Canadian-controlled private corporations.

The province is investing \$1.1 billion over three years to extend home care services and the Hospital to Home program, supporting sectors affected by US tariffs through the \$5 billion Protecting Ontario Account. The province is continuing to invest in the provinces most ambitious capital plan, with planned investments totalling more than \$201 billion over 10 years, including over \$33 billion in 2025-2026. This plan will help keep workers on the job in the face of economic uncertainly caused by tariffs.





MHC Matters



"A leader in rural healthcare excellence"

Death Notices

MICHAEL BARRY BISSON Niigaanii

Sunrise May 8, 1958 - Sunset November 2, 2025



It is with heavy hearts that we Lannounce the passing of my beloved soulmate and best friend, father and grandfather, Mike Bisson at the age of 67. He was a Fourth Degree Midewin - a very highly respected spiritual advisor. Loving husband of Evelyn Niganobe; caring father of Jordan Bisson and Cheyenne Bisson; proud Shooshoo of

Wabano Ghizhago Kwe. Son of the late Theresa Bisson (nee Manitowabi) of Wiikwemkoong and late Roy Bisson of M'Chigeeng. Dear brother of Debra Wemigwans (Martin), Alex Bisson, Brian Bisson (Cindy), Christopher Bisson (Lisa), Mary Lou Fitzgerald, John Timothy Lion and predeceased by siblings Clarence Manitowabi (Debbie), Dominic (Peak) Manitowabi, Randy Migwans, Theresa Lynn (Gwagano) Bisson and Patricia Bisson. Brother-in-law of Roland Niganobe, Clifford Niganobe, Esstin Niganobe, Linda Niganobe, Laurie Jacques and Sheila Niganobe and predeceased by Anita Desbiens and Rita Wilson. Mike will be missed by his buddies Keith Boissoneau, Bruce McGregor, Wayne Southwind and Leroy Bennett. He will also be fondly remembered by many nieces, nephews and friends from Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory and Mississagi First Nation. Mike was very loving and had such a caring heart. He was a knowledge keeper and shared many stories and teachings. He loved his baby girl Wabano and everyone knew it. An avid Toronto Maple Leafs and Blue Jays fan, Mike loved sports. He will be remembered for his great sense of humour and teasing. Mike had made many friends from many places and influenced people's lives to make positive change in his home territory along the North Shore First Nations and other Nations, all in Ontario. Mike was a strong advocate for child well-being. Family and friends were invited to gather at the Mississauga First Nation Sports Complex on Wednesday, November 5, 2025 from 12 noon until the time of the ceremony which was Friday, November 7, 2025 at 11 am. Cremation followed. Arrangements entrusted to Menard Funeral Home.

SUZANNE GARBUTT née Leblanc 1951 - 2025



ith deep sorrow the family Suzanne announces her peaceful passing in Little Current on November 3, 2025, at the age of 74 years. Sue will be fondly remembered as a beloved mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. Her love for fishing and hunting reflected her adventurous spirit and love for nature. The family invites you

to a Celebration of Sue's Life Saturday, November 15, 2025 from 1 to 4 pm at the Sheguiandah Seniors' Hall. In honour of Sue's love of fishing and hunting, memorial donations to the Little Current Fish and Game Club can be made at the Celebration of Life or mailed to Bill Strain at 187 Townline Road, Sheguiandah, Ontario P0P 1W0. Cremation services provided by Simple Wishes of the North, Sudbury and Crystal Crematorium.

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 1H0 and the Manitoulin Centennial Manor Fundraising or Manor Auxiliary, Postal Bag 460, 70 Robinson Street, Little Current, Ontario, POP 1KO. Donations can also be made to the Manitoulin District Cenotaph Fund, Box 656, Little Current, Ontario POP 1K0 or Pet Save Manitoulin, Box 393, Gore Bay, Ontario POP 1HO.

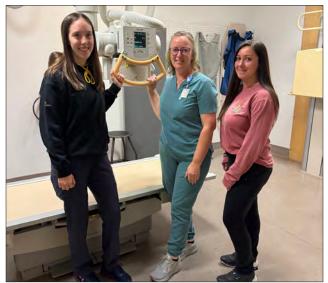
by Paula Fields, RN, BScN, MHM President and Chief Executive Officer, **Manitoulin Health Centre**

anitoulin Health Centre has had an exciting and productive few months, marked by community support, major achievements, and continued dedication to rural healthcare excellence.

Smart Infusion, Smarter Care Campaign

Reaches Goal

We are proud to share that MHC has successfully reached its \$350,000 fundraising goal for the Smart Infusion, Smarter Care campaign. This milestone was achieved through the incredible generosity of our community, donors, and partner organizations. These funds will allow MHC to implement new smart infusion pumps at both hospital sites, improving medication accuracy, patient safety, and clinical efficiency. Staff training is underway, and implementation will begin this December. On behalf of the entire organization, I extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to this success.



Pictured is Georgia Roy with MHC staff members Julie Byers

Supporting Future Healthcare Professionals

This fall, MHC welcomed Georgia Roy, a Manitoulin Secondary School co-op student, who is gaining handson experience across several hospital departments. Initiatives like this reflect our commitment to encouraging youth learning and inspiring the next generation of healthcare professionals right here on Manitoulin

New Strategic Plan: Strengthening Rural Healthcare

Our newly launched 2025–2028 Strategic Plan sets a clear path for the next three years, focusing on patient experience, health equity, staff well-being, and system sustainability. Developed with input from staff, Indigenous partners, and community members, the plan reinforces MHC's vision of accessible, high-quality care close to home. Learn more at mhc.on.ca/strategic-plan.

Leadership Transitions

This quarter, MHC recognized the retirement of Dr. Stephen Cooper, whose more than 30 years of service have left a lasting legacy of compassion and innovation. His leadership helped advance integrated

- 41. NT - 4.º Death Notices

JOSEPH BRANTON 1957 - 2025



With great sorrow the family of Joseph Branton announces his passing in Mindemoya on Sunday, November 2, 2025 at the age of 68 years. Son of Carl Branton (predeceased) and Marjorie Branton (née Yorke). Loving husband of Renee Branton (née Cairns). Dear father of Jodie.

He will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by his grandchildren Zoey, Elizabeth and Avery. Survived by his brother Robert "Bobby" and his sister Sherry. Joseph's memory will live on in the hearts of his family and all who knew him. A Celebration of his Life will be announced at a later date. Cremation services provided by Simple Wishes of the North, Sudbury and Crystal Crematorium.

care and virtual health programs across our region. We are also pleased to welcome Dr. Steven Daniel as our new Chief of Staff, effective September 2025. Dr. Daniel brings a wealth of clinical expertise and leadership experience and will be instrumental in guiding our continued focus on collaboration, quality, and patient-centered care.

Community Support and Auxiliary Efforts

The Little Current and Mindemoya Hospital Auxiliaries continue to demonstrate remarkable dedication. Their fundraising efforts — from muffin breakfasts to market booths — have raised thousands of dollars in support of hospital equipment and programs, including generous contributions to the infusion pump campaign. Both Auxiliaries are already planning their popular Cookie Walk and other festive events for the coming holiday season.

Patient Care & Operations Update

MHC continues to make progress in key areas of patient care and operations:

Laboratory Services achieved successful re-accredi-

The Pharmacy Department received commendation for ongoing work in medication safety.

Physiotherapy, Food Services, and Nursing welcomed new and returning staff members, strengthening our teams.

Over the past quarter, MHC supported 6,600 emergency visits, 3,600 lab visits, and 385 visiting specialist appointments — ensuring patients can continue to access essential care locally.

Split the Pot Lottery

MHC is proud to participate in the Split the Pot Lottery, where proceeds directly support patient care at the local level. Participants can enter weekly draws and support our hospital by selecting Manitoulin Health Centre at checkout at on.splitthepot.ca.

Commitment in Challenging Times

As we face challenging times ahead with limited funding across the hospital sector, I want to assure our community that our commitment remains unwavering. We will continue to advocate for care close to home and for the essential role that rural hospitals play in the health of our region. We are incredibly proud of our dedicated team and deeply grateful for the ongoing support of our community — both are at the heart of what sustains us. Guided by our values of Respect, Passion, and Truth, our Board and Executive Team remain committed to navigating these pressures responsibly while continuing to provide the high-quality, compassionate care our community deserves.

Board of Directors Update

Did you know that MHC is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, composed of community members from across Manitoulin Island who bring a wide range of experience in healthcare, business, education, and community service? The Board also includes First Nations representation, ensuring the diverse perspectives and voices from across the Island are reflected in decision-making and in shaping the future of local healthcare. The Board works collaboratively with hospital leadership to set strategic direction, ensure fiscal accountability, and uphold MHC's mission of providing accessible, high-quality care close to home. Dennis McGregor, Chair of the MHC Board of Directors, leads this dedicated group as they continue to guide our organization through both opportunities and challenges with wisdom and a shared commitment to the well-being of our patients and communities.

As we look ahead to the winter season, I want to thank our staff, physicians, volunteers, and community partners for their dedication and resilience. Every achievement shared here reflects teamwork, community spirit, and our shared commitment to the health and well-being of the people of Manitoulin Island. Together, we continue to build a stronger, more connected healthcare system — one that truly reflects the heart of this community.



MACKELVIE—In loving memory of Owen Mackelvie.

It's been five years without you

And you are missed every single minute.

We remember you with love and

laughter. Love you forever, your family



Students raise an impressive amount for Halloween for Hunger

M'CHIGEENG—Thanks to the generosity of the Manitoulin Island community, the Manitoulin Secondary School (MSS) 'Halloween for Hunger' event was again a huge success!

"A total of 789 non-perishable food items and \$723 in cash donations were collected by students," said MSS teacher Yana Bauer. "The Manitoulin Island community has always been very supportive of this program with donations." She pointed out there was also a good, friendly competition among students in their home rooms to collect the most items.

MSS students began collecting non-perishable food items on October 24, said Ms. Bauer. "On Halloween night, students visiting communities around Manitoulin Island went door to door collecting non-perishable food items and donations."

Ms. Bauer explained, "grocery stores around the Island all offered to let our students borrow shopping carts in the evening for the students to collect items, which is very nice, and a huge help. They have always been very good to allow our students to use the shopping carts. And the



The Manitoulin Secondary School (MSS) 'Halloween for Hunger' event was a huge success again this year, thanks to the generosity of the Manitoulin Island community. In photo students and teachers display the 789 non-perishable food items students throughout the school collected.

LOCAL FOOD
MANITOULIN

Notice of Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Local Food Manitoulin

will be held on Saturday, November 29, 2025 at 11:00am in the

Church of the Immaculate Conception Parish Hall 28 Hwy 551, M'Chigeeng, On P0P 1G0

for the purposes of:

- · Receiving financial reports.
- · Nominating and electing Directors.

The meeting will be followed by a pot-luck Feast for Peace and a community consultation to review the strategic plan and discuss the path forward.

Everyone concerned with food security and food accessibility in the Manitoulin District is invited and encouraged to attend.

Contact <u>info@localfoodmanitoulin.com</u> or 705-968-0073 for more information.

Membership in the Corporation is available to persons interested in furthering the Corporation's purposes, and who apply for and are accepted into membership in the Corporation by resolution of the Board. Each member shall be entitled to one vote at the meeting.

Manitoulin community has always been very supportive of this program."

"MSS has been participating in this program for many years," said Ms. Bauer. She noted food items collected will go to

the Manitoulin Family Resources (MFR) Food Bank in Mindemoya and the Living Well Locker at MSS. Monetary donations will go to the MFR Food Bank.

"During the week

The Annual General Meeting of the **Manitowaning Agricultural Society** is scheduled to be held

on **Tuesday, November 25, 2025** at the **Assiginack Public Library in Manitowaning** at **7 p.m**.

The meeting will review the financial position and to elect a board of directors and officers for the 2026 fiscal year.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

students in their home rooms took part in a challenge, to see which home room collected the most food items and donations," continued Ms. Bauer.

On November 3 students took part in a count of how many items were donated and donations made and then arranged to deliver items to the Manitoulin Food Bank.

The MSS home room class that collected the most items had a pizza party, said Ms. Bauer. Students who took part in the event will also be credited with volunteer hours toward their graduation.



NOTICE OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES FOR SALE

The following equipment has been declared as surplus by the Municipality of Central Manitoulin Council and is listed for sale. Sealed bids will be accepted until 2 pm on Wednesday, November 26, 2025. Bid documents with instructions on how to submit a bid are posted for each item at: centralmanitoulin.ca/our-government/bids-and-tenders/

SURPLUS 2025-02: 2016 Dodge Grand Caravan Van One 2016 Dodge Grand Caravan Van

SURPLUS 2025-03: 2016 Dodge Ram 1500 TruckOne 2016 Dodge Ram 1500 Truck

SURPLUS 2025-04: 2003 American Trailer 25 ft long 20-ton Equipment Float

One 2003 American Trailer 25 ft long 20-ton Equipment Float
For more information contact the Municipal Office at: 705-377-5726
or go to: centralmanitoulin.ca/our-government/bids-and-tenders

Deadline to submit sealed bids: Wednesday, November 26, 2025 at 2 pm.

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395 North Channel Dr, Little Current \$499,900 MLS# 2125154



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Hi there! I'm Saramarie, your student journalist for this year. I'll be keeping you in the loop on everything that is happening at MSS. I will be covering everything from championships and clubs to the spirit days. Can you believe it? It is now mid-term - we are officially half way through semester 1. School started two months ago, and MSS students are truly showing what it means to be champions.

Not to show off (on behalf of MSS) but we had two stellar runners who made it to OF-SAA for cross country. Wyatt Wilson-Wright and David Joyce crossed the finish line with incredible determination and insane perseverance. Wyatt placed 145 out of 278 senior boys runners. David placed 189th out of 265 novice boys runners. Also, at OFSAA, Emery Watson & Ava Corbiere are competing in girls doubles tennis. They are ranked #2 in this provincial tournament based on previous OFSAA experience for both of them

If you walked past the gym this past week you would have heard cheering, whistles blowing, and a whole lot of school spirit. Our girls' basketball team has shown great sportsM.S.S. M Kids in the Halls



Saramarie Wassegijig

manship, spirit, and the Mustangs pride as they finished off their season. The girls' basketball team really showed how to come together as one.

The junior and senior boys' volleyball teams finished their season with the NSSSA finals. The junior boys played hard and gave it their all. They demonstrated lots of improvement and should be proud. The team was led by captain Seam Zembal. Also, the senior boys' volleyball team finished the regular season with a record of 7 - 4 - 1. They played in the NSSSA playoffs at Espanola High School last Wednesday, where they took the win in the semi-finals against the Elliot Lake Secondary School Atoms before taking on the hosting Espanola High School Spartans. The Spartans took the first two sets in close wins, before the Mustangs battled back

> the third. In the 4th set both teams w e r e evenly matched but EHS closed the out set and thus the match, winning

3 - 1. So our Mustangs Sr. boys' volleyball team finished in second place in NSSSA. This qualified them to head to E.S.C. Algonquin in North Bay next week to compete at 'A' NOSSA against some of the best teams in Northern Ontario.

If you are into basketball, there are boys' senior and junior tryouts happening next week, as well as girls' senior and junior volleyball tryouts. Let's go Mustangs!!

Taking a short break from sports, this week wasn't all about points and finish lines; it was about learning too. The first week of November is Treaty Week, which gives an awesome chance to learn about some Canadian history. Students made wampum belts out of Lego, while others in their classes talked about the importance and history of treaties. In honour of Treaty Week and Indigenous Veteran's Day, MSS had a whole school potluck feast at lunch on Thursday, November 6th. The mac and cheese was deli-

Students in Grade 10 and some in grades 11 and 12 are getting ready for the Literacy Test on Wednesday and Thursday this week. They have been working on preparing and practicing steadily for the last few weeks.

The Manitoulin Metal ro-

botics team came back from the STEMley Cup competition in Hamilton fired up and ready to learn. Mr. Gray, the electrical mentor on the team and Bazi Mara, the electrical lead, worked with the build team on learning about soldering, crimping, and tinning in preparation for the coming robotics build season, while the media team created You-Tube shorts and posts about the STEMley event and the robot. The 3 elementary robotics teams mentored by Manitoulin Metal are busy getting their models, code, and presentations ready for the December 6th showcase.

Our school had a couple of fundraisers for October and here is the scoop. SHARE / Go Green organized the annual Halloween for Hunger food drive to support families and students struggling with food security. The winners of the homeroom challenge were Mr. Zegil's period 1 class Grade 9 Science class collecting 74 non-perishable food items and over \$200 in monetary donations. They will celebrate with a pizza party next week. In second place was Ms. Becks' period 1 Grade 9 Science class with \$198.50 in donations. In third place was Ms. Ferguson's Grade 9 Geography class with 201 cans and \$74 collected. On Halloween night, students went out trick-or-treating for food drive donations and collected hundreds more non-perishable food items. The organization team will be delivering the items to the Living Well Locker at MSS and MFR food.

Socktober was a fundraiser selling student designed socks for a good cause. The fundraiser raised \$300 for people in need to have thermal socks for the upcoming winter seasons all together.

Headstrong is an MSS run program which is built to inspire students to become leaders, defeat stigma around mental health, and help promote mental health awareness. This week Headstrong had a pop-up for bracelet making, which is great for de-stressing after or before classes.

The cast list for the MSS Musical came out and everyone is excited about rehearsals starting next week. The musical is Freaky Friday for anyone who missed it. Freaky Friday follows an overworked mother and her teenage daughter, who magically switch bodies. They have only one day to transform back to their old selves. The musical cast needs another dancer or two, and open auditions for grade 7 & 8 students interested in being a part of the show will take place at MSS on Saturday, Nov 15th. bauery@rainbow-Contact schools.ca to book an audition time.

Tonight (Wednesday, Nov. 12 from 7-8:30), MSS will host an event called "Next Stop: Grade 9" for families and students of grade 8 to prepare for the grade eights upcoming high school year.

See you next week! Ciao!



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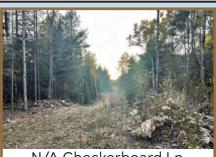
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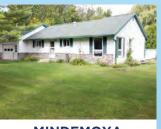
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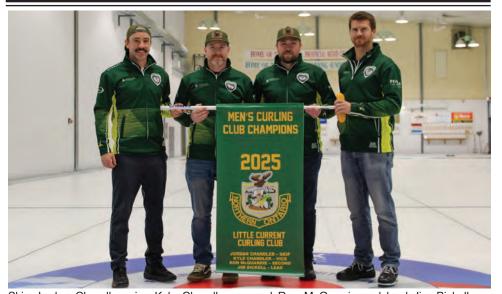


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Manitoulin Expositor Styles **Careers · Sports · Manitoulin People**

Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, November 12, 2025



Skip Jordan Chandler, vice Kyle Chandler, second Ron McQuarrie and lead Jim Bickell are heading to the National Championships. They are seen here holding the Little Current Curling

Jordan Chandler's Curling Team heads to the Nationals in Winnipeg Manitoba

by Margery Frisch

LITTLE CURRENT—On Friday night, November 7, a group of curling enthusiasts gathered at the Little Current Curling Club to party, fundraise and give Jordan Chandler and his team a great send off. As winners of the Northern Ontario Championships, the Chandler rink will be heading to the Granite Curling Club in Winnipeg, where, their website boasts, "The nation's finest club curlers are sliding into town!'

"No one from Little Current has ever won the Northern Ontario Championships before," Mr. Chandler said. Clearly, he, as skip, is excited to be heading to the Nationals, as are the members of his team, which includes his brother, vice Kyle Chandler, second Ron McQuarrie and lead Jim Bickell.

Winnipeg's Granite Curling Club will play host to the 2025 Canadian Curling Club Championships. It's an iconic curling facility with more than 110 years of history and popularly known as the Mother Club for curling in Winnipeg.



The Little Current Curling Club was packed with well-wishers for the Chandler rink.

Little Current's curling club was packed with well-wishers on Friday night. There was a charge at the door and there were raffles and all money raised goes to the team to defray their costs as they head to the championships. Tables were laden with prizes - all donated for the cause, an indication of the pride the community has in the Jordan Chandler rink. All of Manitoulin wishes them well, November 19 to the 22.



Team Aelick steps up for the birds!

Wayne Aelick of Kagawong, sold his handmade bird houses and feeders to benefit the Move for Liver charity at the 'Bringing Birds to Your Backyard,' hosted by avid birder Terry Land.

photo by Isobel Henry

Manitoulin Sporting Life



Panther Points

The Manitoulin Lady Panthers spent the weekend winning in North Bay at the Junior Lakers 27th Skate By The Lake Tournament. The action started on Friday morning with the Ladies meeting the home team. Panther Clytie Mishibinijima opened up the scoring with an assist from Charmaine Webkamigad in the first period. North Bay answered with a goal of their own in the second, but **Emery Watson** got the go-ahead goal, assisted by Brinley Watson to take the 2-1 win.

Game 2 on Friday afternoon was against the Smith Falls Cubs. Ava Corbiere netted the first goal of the game, assisted by Brinley Watson. The Cubs returned with a goal of their own in the second, and the game remained tied at

The Lady Panthers saw two more teams on Saturday. Kapuskasing battled hard to keep the Panthers at bay until the 3rd period when Emery Watson scored two goals assisted by Ava Corbiere and Jordyn Corbiere, and Kara Atchitawens scored to take a 3-0 win. In the quarter final game against the Nipigon Elks, Charmaine Webkamigad took a pass from Gnaajwe Migwans and sealed a 1-0 win.

Sunday's semi final was a rematch against the Kapuskasing Jaguars. Charmaine Webkamigad assisted Megan Roszell to tie the game at 1-1 in the first period, while Carlynn Simon and Ava Corbiere set Emery Watson up for a beauty goal to advance to the finals.

The Championship game was played on the big ice at Memorial Gardens against the Smith Falls Cubs. Ava Corbiere opened up the scoring in the second period but the Cubs were quick to even up the score. In the third period, Ava took a pass from **Charmaine Web**kamigad to pull into the lead, and one more goal from Emery Watson, assisted by Gnaajwe Migwans and Amara Wilson-Zegil, clinched the win and the banner for the Manitoulin Lady Panthers.

Local shines in Trappers win! Kudos to Easton Assinewai after he nd his North Bay AAA II-15 Tranners

fought through injuries and overtimes to come away with the top title of the Kitchener Blueline U-15 tourney! Individually, Easton, their assistant captain, scored an overtime goal and won the whole tournament MVP! This weekend, Easton is in the Sault Ste. Marie Showcase Tournament, the closest he will be to Manitoulin in while.

International Cross Country Congratulations to Maren Kasunich on her run this past weekend at the 2025 U SPORTS Championships that took place at Notre Dame Indiana at the Burke Memorial Golf Course. Maren runs for the University of Windsor Lancers who are ranked fifth in Canada and placed ninth in the event that attracted the best teams from Canada and the United States.

KO Show earns Star!

Kohyn Eshkawkogan earned a game star in the most dramatic way on Friday night in Niagara against the Ice Dogs. Kohyn and his Ottawa 67's fought hard to tie the game with only 45 seconds left in the game. Then, Kohyn thwarted an attack in his zone and then initiated a break-out, passing it to a teammate and then streaked to open ice to receive a pass back and nobody could catch him as he fired the winning goal! Kohyn is tied with four other defencemen for 7th place in the whole of the OHL with 15 points and leads the 67's with a +12. All of this and I had incorrectly aged the youngster last week who is still 16 until next week! Keep up the hard work, Kohyn.

First OCAA basket!

Hats off to Jaron Panamick who places for the Canadore College Panthers basketball team for draining his first basket against Humber College last week. Here's to many more, Jaron!

Cadet Snipes!

348 Manitoulin Sea Cadets' Petty Officer 1st Class Liam McLean, who achieved two 1.2 cm groupings and two 1.4 cm groupings in his recent rifle, team practice. What an exceptional demonstration of precision and consistency!

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



Birding is a passion!

Retired after 40 years as a lawyer in Gore Bay, Terry Land is now a fulltime birder-it says so on his business card. Last Thursday, Mr. Land presented 'Bringing Birds to Your Backyard' to a crowd in Gordon Hall, where he offered tips from his many years as a passionate bird watcher locally and in North and South America and the Caribbean, along with his vivid photos.

photo by Isobel Henry

Hands-on learning and Anishinabek knowledge centre stage during minister's visit to Kenjgewin Teg

M'CHIGEENG—Kenjgewin Teg was honoured to welcome the honourable Nolan Quinn, minister of colleges, universities, excellence and security, on September 24, for a tour

highlighting the insti-tution's innovative programs and student experiences. Minister Quinn was joined by Algoma-Manitoulin MPP Bill Rosenberg on the visit, which in-

cluded cultural teachings, interactive learning experiences, and student-led demonstrations.

The visit began with an introduction to Kenjgewin Teg's guiding philos-



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The Teacher Assistant will support classroom teachers in delivering educational programming, supervising students and maintaining a safe and respectful learning environment. This role is ideal for individuals who are flexible, reliable and passionate about working with children.

- Assist classroom teachers with instructional activities and classroom management
- Support students with academic tasks, including reading, writing and numeracy
- Supervise students during recess, lunch and transitions
- Help prepare learning materials and classroom resources Foster a positive and inclusive atmosphere aligned with Anishnabek teachings
- Maintain confidentiality and professionalism at all times
- Follow school policies and safety procedures

- High school diploma or equivalent (post-secondary education in Early Childhood Education, Child and Youth Work or related field is an asset)
- Experience working with children in an educational or childcare setting
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Ability to work collaboratively with staff and students
- Knowledge of Anishnabek culture and values is considered an asset
- Current Vulnerable Sector Check (or willingness to obtain)
- First Aid/CPR certification preferred

Please submit your resume and a brief cover letter outlining your interest and availability to: Heather Wilson, Education and Lifelong Learning Director Email: heather@sheshegwaning.org

Phone: 705.283.3292, ext 109

Preference will be given to qualified members of Sheshegwaning First Nation. We thank all applicants for their interest.
Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Little Current Place Non-Profit Housing and Elderly Citizens' Centre Corporation and Agent for Property Management of Manitoulin Non-Profit Homes Inc. is seeking a Property Manager

Scope of Job

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- Experience in non-profit housing administration an asset

Please note: this is a one year contract, part-time position of 25 hours per week with possibility of full-time or renewal.

Submit resumes by November 21

Please mail copy of resume to: Chair of the Board Box 851, Little Current, ON POP 1K0



Nolan Quinn, minister of Colleges, Universities, Experience and Security, third from left in photo with MPP Bill Rosenberg to his left, toured Kenjgewin Teg on September 24 to view their innovative programs and student experiences.

ophies, rooted in Anishinaabe teachings, aligned with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Calls to Action. Elder-in-residence Josh Eshkawkogan led the session, emphasizing the importance of Indigenous worldviews in education.

The tour continued through the Anishinabek Skills, Innovation and Research Centre (ASIRC), where Minister Quinn and MPP Rosenberg engaged in hands-on activities alongside students in the welding shop. The minister and MPP were guided through basic welding techniques by faculty member Dave Barnes and students before creating personalized nameplate keepsakes. Students also shared their experiences in skilled trades training and the opportunities available through Kenjgewin Teg's programs.

Reflecting on the sig-



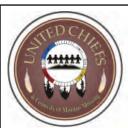
Nolan Quinn, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Experience and Security, in photo second from right, with MPP Bill Rosenberg, on his left, had a tour of Kenjgewin Teg to get a first-hand view of the institution's innovative programs and student experiences.

nificance of the day, Kenjgewin Teg President Beverley Roy shared, "Kenjgewin Teg is making a positive impact in the labour market for indigenous and non-indigenous learners through programs and skills development at our Anishinabek Skilled Trades Centre; and today, we were pleased to host Minister Quinn and MPP Rosenberg to showcase this critical work through the voices of our

students. Growing our Northern Ontario economy with northerners and by northerners is an opportunity we have before us, by expanding and scaling our success.

Minister Quinn also shared his perspective on the visit and the opportunities he witnessed for learners across the region. "Our government is proud to support the nine Indigenous Institutes across On-

...continued on page 4A



UNITED CHIEFS and COUNCILS

OF MNIDOO MNISING

INDIGENOUS YOUTH PREVENTION/ **INTERVENTION PROGRAM**

The United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising Justice Program is an Anishinaabe Community Justice Program. We are seeking an IYPIP worker who 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 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, strength-building experiences that are rooted in one's relationship to family and the land. The Program will provide services to youth 8 -18

For a complete list of responsibilities and qualifications, please visit www.uccmm.ca.

> **Remuneration**: \$50,000.00 + benefits Closing Date: November 20, 2025 at 12 pm

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

- Cover letter
- Resume
- Copy of valid Ontario driver's licence
- Three work-related letters of reference including at least one from a supervisor/manager.

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 POP 1G0

FONOM elects Kapuskasing mayor Dan Plourde as new president

Federation of Northern Municipalities Ontario (FONOM) has a new president. Kapuskasing Mayor Dave Plourde was elected at a FONOM board of directors meeting on Friday, October 3, where the organization elected its new executive.

Mr. Plourde, of Kapuskasing, was acclaimed as president of FONOM, succeeding Danny Whalen, who was recognized for his 15 years of service on the board, including the past eight years as president. During his presidency, he steered FONOM through the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, supported SpaceX in securing Canadian BETA Test approval from the CRTC, leveraged FONOM's political capital to host the second and third Northern Leaders' debates, giving Northern Ontario a stronger voice in provincial discussions, championed the GoNorth Project, which has reached over one million unique viewers, showcasing the opportunities of Northern Ontario, spearheaded advocacy on bail reform, ensuring community safety remained a top priority, worked with Minister Sylvia Jones, as Solicitor General, to secure financial compensation for volunteer fire services when called to respond within unincorporated areas, worked collaboratively with all political leaders, respecting diverse viewpoints while always advocating for the needs of FONOM's members.

"Danny has left a remarkable mark on FONOM and on Northern Ontario," said incoming President Plourde. "His leadership, vision, and tireless advocacy have strengthened our voice and advanced the priorities of our communities.



Kapuskasing Mayor Dan Plourde has been elected the new president of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities.

On behalf of the board, I thank him for his years of service."

In addition to the election, the FONOM board received a presentation from its auditor, Baker Tilly, on the 2024-2025 audit, confirming a clean audit and discussed municipal concerns regarding speed camera resolutions.

FONOM looks forward to building on this momentum under its new leadership team as it continues to advocate for municipalities across Northeastern Ontario.

Part-time custodial position for general cleaning and light maintenance (second notice)

- Must have a valid driver's licence
- Vehicle with trailer hitch an asset
- 15 hours per week, day shift

Competitive wages

Applications must be in by 4 pm on November 7, 2025.

Send applications/resumes to: Manager, Little Current Place. PO Box 375, Little Current, ON POP 1K0.

Alternatively, you may leave your resume anytime between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm, Monday to Friday at our office,

48 Meredith St W, Little Current



Inspiring Possibilities

Community Living Manitoulin is looking for dedicated staff with a passion for working with adult individuals with developmental disabilities.

Do you want to play a vital role in inspiring possibilities and creating an environment that fosters meaningful living for all supported individuals?

There are part-time and casual employment opportunities available within one of our many programs:

One (1) Permanent Part-time position Two (2) Temporary Part-time positions Two (2) Casual positions

These unionized part-time positions are guaranteed at a minimum of 30 hours bi-weekly and can be scheduled a maximum of 32 hours weekly with a starting wage of \$29.89.

You are qualified if you have:

M'Chigeeng First Nation

Are You Ready To Join Our Team

M'CHIGEENG FIRST NATION IS DEDICATED TO ENHANCING THE WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN,

YOUTH, AND FAMILIES THROUGH CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND

COORDINATED SERVICES THAT PROMOTE HEALTHY LIFESTYLES AND CONTRIBUTE TO A SAFE,

CARING, AND HEALTHY COMMUNITY.

POST MAJORITY SUPPORT SERVICES NAVIGATOR

- Post-secondary diploma for Developmental Service Worker or equivalent in the Human Services Field (preferred)
- Personal Support Worker certificate or equivalent First Year Developmental Service Worker students may
- also qualify A valid Ontario driver's licence (Class G)

Vulnerable Sector Criminal Reference Check

Interested candidates should send a cover letter and resume to the attention of Mrs. Megan Wickett; Operations Manager by regular mail to:

Community Living Manitoulin
PO Box 152
Mindemoya, Ontario P0P 150
Or by email to mwickett@clmanitoulin.com

Community Living Manitoulin welcomes and encourages applications from people with disabilities. Accommodations are available upon request for applicants taking part in all aspects of the selection process.

For more information regarding Community Living Manitoulin please visit our web site at www.clmanitoulin.com.



Join the Township of Tehkummah Municipal Team as their Manager of Municipal Services

Salary: \$85,000 - \$93,000 (based on experience) **Benefits**: Comprehensive benefits package + RRSP pension program **Future Enrolment**: OMERS enrolment planned for 2026

The Township of Tehkummah is seeking a thoughtful, service-oriented leader with a strong understanding of small-town communities. As our full-time Manager of Municpal Services (MMS), you will work closely with council, staff and residents to plan, oversee and deliver essential municipal services, including roads, facilities, public spaces

This new role is ideal for someone who values collaboration, problem solving and the unique character of small-town life.

How to Apply:

To register and receive the application package and detailed job profile, email jdeforge@tehkummah.ca

with "MMS Application Package Request" in the subject line.

Please note: Resumes are not required or accepted at this stage.

Registration Deadline:

Friday, November 21, 2025 at 2:00 pm.



Child & Family

Coordinator

Join Our Team

M'Chigeeng Binoojinh Gamgoonhs

We Are Hiring:



Early Childhood Support Program **Educator Assistant**

- Cultural Programs Supports Learning Programing

Implements Quality

- Engages caregivers in
- Wage from \$23.28-
- child development

- Fosters Child Development
- with classroom lessons
- Supervises children
- Wage from \$21.84-\$25.20

ECE (Registered or Unregistered)

- Provides a quality learning experience
- Prepares and assists
 Builds collaborative relationships
 - Plans & organizes
 - classroom activities
 - · Utilizes best practices Wage from \$26-\$32

Why Join Us?



Professional growth opportunities



up to 7.9%)



Comprehensive benefits & pension (Employer matched Send your Resume and Cover letter to:

employment@mchigeeng.ca

Apply Now





JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE CASE MANAGER

COMMUNITY CONNECTORS

CHILD & YOUTH WORKER

BAND REPRESENTATIVE

https://mchigeeng.ca/employment/

FULL JOB DESCRIPTIONS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE



...Kenj minister visit

...continued from page 2A tario that are preparing students for success and commustrengthening nities," he said. "It was a pleasure visiting Kenjgewin Teg to see firsthand how they are equipping students with the handson skills they need for rewarding careers in our key sectors in Northern Ontario."

"It was a privilege to be with you at Kenjgewin Teg; a place that is truly more than just an educational institution," stated MPP Bill Rosenberg, highlighting the unique role of Kenjgewin Teg in Northern Ontario. "Here, knowledge, culture, lan-guage and identity are lived, honoured and integrated into every aspect of learning. I want to congratulate Kenjgewin Teg for its journey and the partnerships you've built, showing what can be achieved when institutions, communities, and government work together. In my role as parliamentary assistant to the minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, and to the president of the treasury, I look forward to exploring how resources and policy can support rural and indigenous communities, including those on Manitoulin Island, in ways that respect local priorities and ways of knowing. To all staff, elders, knowledge keepers, leadership: thank you for your dedication, vision and care to make Kenjgewin Teg what it is.'

The tour concluded with a campus walkthrough and a showcase of Kenjgewin Teg's nursing lab facilities, further demonstrating the variety of programs available to learners.

Kenjgewin Teg extends gratitude to Minister Quinn, MPP Rosenberg, and all participants who joined the visit, reaffirming its commitment to creating pathways that blend Anishinabek knowledge with educational excellence to strengthen communities across Northern Ontario.



Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY **Facility Maintenance Worker** 6 month contract

Interested parties are invited to submit their resume for the position of **Facility Maintenance Worker**. This position will be a full-time position, 40 hours per week including shift work and weekends reporting to the Manager of Community Services.

Application Deadline: November 14, 2025 at 12:00 pm (NOON)

Forward Application to: Pam Myers, Clerk

pmyers@townofnemi.on.ca

Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands

Box 608 LITTLE CURRENT, ON

POP 1KO

Dated: November 3, 2025







OF ASSIGINACK

Township of Assiginack Custodial Maintenance and Operations Services Contractor

The Township of Assiginack is seeking a qualified individual or contractor to provide Maintenance and Operation Services for the Assiginack Municipal Offices (156 Arthur Street) and the Assiginack Public Library (25 Spragge Street).

The Contractor will be responsible for housekeeping, cleaning and routine maintenance of the designated municipal buildings and grounds. Services must meet health, safety and regulatory standards as outlined by the Township. Preference will be given to applicants bidding on both buildings.

Applicants must provide:

- Proof of WSIB and \$2,000,000 liability coverage
- A valid Police Criminal Record Check

The contract term is January 5, 2026 – January 4, 2027, with the possibility of extension.

Application Deadline: November 14, 2025 Submit applications to: Alton Hobbs, CAO

Email: ahobbs@assiginack.ca

For a detailed copy of the contract agreement, please go to our website at

https://www.assiginack.ca/administration/requestproposals-tender-opportunities/custodial-maintenanceand-operations-services



KINA Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services

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

We are currently inviting applications for the following employment opportunities:

Manitoulin Island:

Child Well-Being Worker (Open until filled)

Sudbury:

- Legal Counsel (Open until filled)
- Child and Youth Worker (Closes November 14, 2025)

Sudbury/Manitoulin Island:

- Volunteer Driver: Open Recruitment
- Team Assistant (Closes November 14, 2025)
- 1 year Contract: Cultural Enaadmaaget (Closes November 21, 2025)

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

At KGCFS, we are steadfast in our dedication to fostering a work environment that is accessible to all, in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the Ontario Human Rights Code. Should you require any accommodations during the recruitment process, please do not hesitate to request them. We sincerely appreciate your interest in joining the team; however, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. As a condition of employment, the successful candidate will be required to provide the following documents: a Satisfactory Criminal Reference Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check (dated within three months of the application date), Driver's Abstract and Proof of Liability Insurance.

Thank you for considering a career opportunity with us.



BYLAW-EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS OFFICER

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

Position Summary

The United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising is seeking a Bylaw-Emergency Preparedness Officer who will be responsible for enforcing First Nation Bylaws, conducting investigations, promoting voluntary compliance and educating the public on community standards. The role also supports the development, maintenance and implementation of emergency management plans, training and response activities. This position contributes to the safety, wellbeing and resilience of the UČCMM communities.

Key Responsibilities

- Report to the Manager of Community Safety and Bylaw Operations and carry out duties in alignment with departmental policies, procedures and strategic priorities.
- Bylaw enforcement and compliance.
- Respond to complaints and inquiries related to First Nation bylaws.
- Conduct proactive and complaint-driven patrols.
- Interview complainants, witnesses, property owners and respondents.
- Gather, secure and document evidence including photographs, statements and records.
- Promote voluntary compliance through education, engagement and professional communication.
- Conduct thorough investigations using recognized investigative practices. Prepare accurate and detailed reports, case files and correspondence.
- Maintain detailed records of enforcement activity and file documentation in compliance with policy and legislation.
- Apply strong report-writing and documentation skills to produce court-ready files.
- Assist in the development, maintenance and updating of the UCCMM Communities
- Emergency Response Plans and supporting documents. Participate in training exercises, drills and emergency operations planning.
- Support the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) during activations. Work collaboratively with police, fire, EMS, public works, provincial agencies and partner
- organizations. Provide public education related to emergency preparedness, disaster readiness and
- community safety. Public Interaction & Community Relations.
- Engage with the public in a professional, respectful and community-focused manner.
- Attend council, committee and community meetings as assigned.

Qualifications

- Diploma or Degree in Law Enforcement, Criminology, Public Administration, Emergency Management or a related field.
- Completion of Bylaw Enforcement/Municipal Law Enforcement Officer Training (Level I/II) or equivalent.
- years' experience in law enforcement, policing, regulatory enforcement, military or
- security operations, emergency management or related field. Demonstrated experience conducting interviews, investigations and evidence collection.
- Strong knowledge of First Nation Bylaws, regulatory enforcement methods and applicable provincial / federal legislation.
- Ability to safely wear, carry and utilize issued officer safety and enforcement equipment.
- Demonstrated use of force and officer safety training.
- Skilled in de-escalation and conflict resolution.
- Ability to work independently with sound judgement. Proficiency with computers and office software.
- Valid Ontario driver's licence Class G with no regulatory restrictions.

Remuneration: Based on Qualifications + benefits

Closing Date: Friday, November 21st, 2025 at 12:00 pm

To Apply: Please submit a letter of application, resume and three (3) written employment references, one from current/most recent employer and current Criminal Reference Check. Incomplete or late packages will not be accepted.

Mark "Confidential - Bylaw-Emergency Preparedness Officer" to:

Jordan Atchison Manager - By-law Operations/Community Safety/ Emergency Preparedness United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising

Box 275 M'Chigeeng, ON P0P 1G0

OR by email: jatchison@uccmm.ca

Thank you for applying, but only those candidates who are selected for an interview will be contacted.