

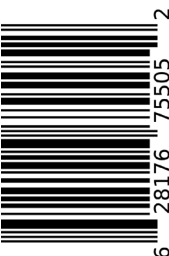
Coming right up!

Gore Bay Airport
grand opening Saturday
...See Page 8

Debajehmujig's 6 Foot
Festival this Friday and
Saturday...On Pages 3 and 9

Fred Eaglesmith
concert in Gore Bay
Saturday
...See Pages
8 and 13

Harvest
Glory Days.
Get decorating!
...On Page 19



The MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR

100%  Canadian content



Vol. 146, No. 19 \$1.90 + GST

Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, September 24, 2025



RED DRESS SPECIAL— Red was definitely the colour of the hour as dancers took part in a Red Dress Special at the Whitefish River First Nation Traditional Powwow. The special was being held to bring awareness to the ongoing issue of MMIWG2S and the need to protect women and girls in the community. **SEE STORY ON PAGE 16.**

photo by Michael Erskine

No reprieve for Island's only Brewer's Retail store

The Beer Store confirms store closing

by Alicia McCutcheon

LITTLE CURRENT—The Beer Store management is unequivocal in its response to Little Current's and Manitoulin Island's backlash over the announcement of its October 19 store closure: "The decision to close the Little Current location is final and not one we will be revisiting as a business," Ozzie Ahmen, vice president of retail for The Beer Store told this newspaper in a September 17 email.

"Where we sell beer and collect empties in Ontario is changing," Mr. Ahmen added. "Unfortunately, this means making the decision to close some retail locations. This is not an easy decision and not one we take lightly. We recognize this is difficult news for customers, our employees and the communities where we operate."

Debbie Lovelace, the Little Current woman who spearheaded the 'Save the Little Current Beer Store' petition on change.

org was disappointed to hear the news. "I guess it is what it is," she told The Expositor. "It was a good try." The petition had amassed over 2,000 signatures and was presented to The Beer Store's top brass. Letters of support for maintaining the Brewer's Retail presence in Little Current were also sent from the Northeast Town council and the Little Current BIA.

Lavish Dhir, owner of Lavish's Your Independent Grocer in Little Current said he has prepared space in his store to offer customers beer and wine soon. "We're just waiting for the order to arrive," he said. There will be eight feet of shelf space for beer and three feet for wine, Mr. Dhir explained.

In Sheguiandah First Nation, the Manitoulin Trading Post on Highway 6 has been approved for the sale of alcohol at its store, said store manager

...continued on page 8

Central Manitoulin idling Sandfield fire hall

by Michael Erskine

CENTRAL MANITOULIN—During a meeting of the Central Manitoulin Safety, Security and Health Committee, attendees learned that the moving of a pumper truck from the Sandfield Firehall did not mean the hall was closed. The meeting was well attended, with 17 members of the public there.

Among the good news delivered to the committee was that two new firefighter applications have been submitted, a third having been pulled due to the applicant being too young. Unfortunately,

that still left the Sandfield area with only one qualified volunteer firefighter.

"I'd like to address the elephant in the room and that is the Big Lake Sandfield Fire Hall," said Councillor Linda Farquhar, "and the fire protection in Ward 3. And that is why a lot of these fine people are here today."

"So, number one question is, why was council never informed that the final piece of firefighting equipment, a pumper, housed in the fire hall at Sandfield, Big

...continued on page 8



Whitefish River First Nation's Jasper Ziegler.



Wiikwemkoong's Mikayla Denis-Servant.

Island youths honoured with Bartleman writing awards

by Michael Erskine

TORONTO—One of the best-loved perks of being Ontario's Lieutenant Governors are the annual Lieutenant Governors' Legacy Awards named in their honour. This year, there were 13 recipients recognized in a gala ceremony at the Art Gallery of Ontario with the Lincoln M. Alexander Award, the

...continued on page 13

Ontario's premier 'Catch the Ace' game is now nine

Little Current Lions' was the prototype

by Alicia McCutcheon

LITTLE CURRENT—This Thursday, September 25 marks exactly nine years since the Little Current Lions Club launched Ontario's first Catch the Ace progressive raffle and, in that time, the club has doled out a whopping half a million dollars in community donations.

Earlier this month, the club gave an impressive \$25,000 to the Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) Auxiliary, which in turn passed it on to MHC for its smart infusion pump campaign.

"It's thanks to the support of Catch the Ace over these nine years that the club is able to make substantial donations like this which are crucial to the well-being of our community," said Lion President Bruce Burnett. "Thank you to everyone who continues to support Catch the Ace. We appreciate you so much."

The Little Current Lions Club was granted the first Catch

the Ace lottery licence in the province of Ontario. In fact, the province viewed the club's new venture a pilot project and kept track of how it all unfolded.

Catch the Ace first caught the nation's attention when the small town of Inverness, Nova Scotia held a 'Chase the Ace' progressive lottery in 2015. Players bought numbered tickets for five dollars each. The person whose ticket was chosen in the weekly draw won a cash prize, plus a chance to pick a card from a deck of cards. If that card turns out to be the ace of spades, they win the accumulated jackpot.

This also captured the imagination of Lions Lori and Dave Draper who were, like thousands of other Canadians, watching the draw eagerly on the news. The Inverness Chase the Ace ran for 48 weeks and in that time, more than 3.5 million tickets were sold, \$2.9 million

...continued on page 11

Claiming 'bread price fixing' rebate made easy

by Ed Prudhomme

CANADA—For years, the price of a loaf of bread crept upward with a stubborn regularity that many shoppers chalked up to inflation or changing food costs. What Canadians did not know was that for more than a decade, some of the country's biggest grocers and bread suppliers were quietly facilitating those increases together.

The scandal began in 2001 and over the next 14 years, investigators say, companies involved in the packaged-bread business raised prices in small, synchro-

nized steps. To the average customer, each bump of 10 or 20 cents a loaf just looked like ordinary retail pricing. But the federal Competition Bureau later found a pattern of coordination among at least seven companies that held back competition and kept bread prices artificially high until at least 2015.

The scandal came fully into the public view in 2017, when Loblaw Companies Limited, being the nation's largest grocer, admitted its part in what would

...continued on page 15

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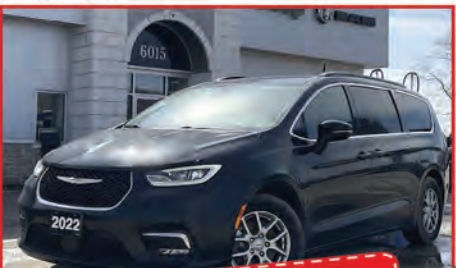



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STAY CONNECTED



The Manitoulin West Recorder



The Mindemoya Hospital Auxiliary made a \$14,000 donation to the Manitoulin Health Centre ‘Smart Infusion, Smarter Care’ fundraising campaign. From back row, left, are Mary Alice Lewis, John Carlisle, Joanne Carlisle, Rhonda McDonald, Kathy Graham, front row, Jan McQuay, Judy McCluskey, Judy Murphy, Manitoulin Health Centre Board Chair Dennis McGregor, Mindemoya Hospital Auxiliary president Margaret Cadieux, Carol Gilmore, Karlene Scott and Shelly Lanktree.

photo by Michael Erskine

Mindemoya Auxiliary donates \$14K to hospital fundraising campaign

by Michael Erskine
CENTRAL MANITOULIN—The September 17 meeting of the Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) Mindemoya Auxiliary was highlighted by a \$14,000 donation from the auxiliary to the MHC Smart Infusion Pump.
“On behalf of the Manitoulin Health Centre, and of course, the board of directors, thank you very much for your generous donation,” said MHC Board Chair Dennis McGregor. “I’ve said it once, and I’ll say it again, I think a lot of people still don’t understand or don’t realize that the hospitals aren’t funded for their capital costs or their equipment costs. It’s saints like your organizing group and the Little Current group, service clubs, and the Legions that we couldn’t do without.”
Chair McGregor noted that he recently sent a letter off to the Minister of Health on the subject, again. “I kind of bite my tongue when I say that because last time I did, that was when we were looking for funding for this ever-ongoing locum doctors’ shortage that we have.”

“It’s not funny, but they mandate so much stuff and then they don’t fund it,” he said. “We had our one hit electronic health files. That costs \$5 million and not a dime came from the province.”
“If the public knew how much, and especially here in the North, how small rural Northern hospitals are more underfunded than the southern ones. The southern ones have got the population and they also have the big corporations and what-not that they can rely on for some of their donations,”
“So, thank God for the work that you people do and all the other organizations that help us,” said Chair McGregor, adding “next time MPP Bill Rosenberg comes up, rattle his chain.” Mr. McGregor said, “We tried at least five or six times since he’s been elected to contact him—by email, phone, left full messages—to come and meet with us to discuss our concerns and our priorities, and we didn’t hear back until, ironically, about three

...continued on page 7

16th Annual Debajehmujig 6-foot Festival celebrates ‘land, art and food’

by Michael Erskine
MANITOWANING—It has been 16 years since the first 6-Foot Festival but the momentum has never waned. This year, the festival is being held Friday, September 26 to Saturday, September 27 at the Debajehmujig Creation Centre at 43 Queen Street in Manitowaning with the theme ‘Aki Noo’ooma’ or ‘The Earth’s Language.’
“This year we have 16 artists taking part in the festival,” said festival artistic director Ashley Manitowabi. He noted that the number of artists coinciding with the festival’s anniversary was just that, coincidental.
“There are going to be a wide variety of artists in the festival this year,” said Mr. Manitowabi. “The theme is to celebrate the land, art and food in unity.”

The form of the festival is centred around a six-foot cube, hence the name of the festival. Each artist is constrained by the limits of the cube, whether they are performing artists, visual artists or musicians, and enjoy an opportunity to think outside the box even as they are limited to the space within.

The result is a festival offering stunning variety of creativity along with some outstanding food and entertainment while learning and expanding horizons of both artist and viewers.
Day one runs from 9 am to 9 pm and includes a fall harvest market in the back lot where you can purchase local food from Manitoulin’s finest food producers; a raw hide dying workshop (9 am to 5 pm) with Dan Maracle; Island baker Gino Cacciotti will be teaching phyllo pastry (10 am to 5 pm) in the art studio kitchen; an artist talk with Waabbizii (4 pm to 4:30 pm) will take place by the front mural; and at 5:15 pm there will be the official opening with speakers Elder Jacob Wemigwans, Ashley Manitowabi (wearing his artist hat), followed by a Harvest Feast courtesy of Jen-

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Weengushk International Film Festival opens Friday, October 3

by Michael Erskine
M’CHIGEENG—Weengushk Film Institute, based in M’Chigeeng, is once again hosting the Weengushk International Film Festival (WIFF). The theme for this year’s festival is ‘The Legacy Makers: Honouring chiefs who paved the path forward.’
“This year’s theme pays tribute to the Indigenous chiefs and leaders who have guided communities toward a vision of strength, resilience, and prosperity,” notes WIFF founder acclaimed filmmaker, actor and playwright Dr. Shirley Cheechoo. “Through this theme, WIFF shines a light on those who have empowered Indigenous people and shaped our future. As we honour these leaders, we invite our audience to reflect on the contributions of our chiefs and celebrate the pathways they have forged for the next generation. Join us in this unique celebration of leadership, courage, and community.”
This year’s opening night starts with student films and a light snack at 4 pm on Friday, October 3 at the Four Directions Com-

Morgen Hare fights dismissal by council as M’Chigeeng chief

by Tom Sasvari
M’CHIGEENG—The federal court application brought forward by Morgen Hare, who was dismissed by M’Chigeeng First Nation band council as gimaa (chief) as of June 30, 2025, to have this decision declared unlawful due to what he says is council’s decision being made contrary to the terms of the M’Chigeeng custom election code, was heard recently.
“My court hearing was to be heard September 15,” Mr. Hare told The Expositor, noting both parties were in attendance for a case management conference.
The application sought a court order to ensure that the council take no steps to interfere with his fulfilling his duties as chief or to replace him through a by-election.
The grounds for the application stated, “Gimaa Hare has not been afforded procedural fairness as it relates to council’s June 30, 2025, decision to remove him from the office of chief. Council has not provided

the justification and explanation required in communicating the reasons for its decision and Gimaa Hare has not been provided with a full opportunity to respond to the allegations again him as set out in council’s June 30, 2025 decision. Prior to taking a medically directed leave beginning March 5, 2025, Gimaa Hare advised the Enaagdenjged (chief administrative officer Shannon Bebamash) and (at the time) deputy chief Ross Armstrong (who has since resigned) that he anticipated he would require such a leave. Upon being directed by his physician to refrain from work, Gimaa Hare sought, obtained and immediately provided written confirmation from his physician of his need to take leave to council and M’Chigeeng First Nations’ administration. Council’s conclusion that Gimaa Hare had no reasonable excuse to miss three consecutive council meetings was unreasonable, as was council’s decision to

...continued on page 7

M’Chigeeng post office gets a new home at Freshmart

by Michael Erskine
M’CHIGEENG—The new post office in M’Chigeeng First Nation was officially opened during a ribbon-cutting ceremony held outside the post office on September 8.
Following an opening prayer by Elder Annie Corbiere and some introductory remarks from M’Chigeeng health services department manager Floyd Ense, the official opening was conducted by longtime vice-chair of the Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation who also served as the general manager for M’Chigeeng First Nation’s HIAH Corp Economic Development Grant Taibossigai.
“Everyone! Welcome! It’s such an honour to stand here today, surrounded by so many familiar faces, community members, as well as leaders to celebrate the official opening of this brand new post office,” said

Mr. Taibossigai. “On behalf of the HIAH Corp Economic Development board staff, chi-miig-wetch. Welcome each and every one of you. Thank you for taking the time to come out on this exciting and special day. This is about opening the doors to opportunity and connections.”
Mr. Taibossigai noted that a post office is “more than just a place to send our mail or pick up packages. It’s where memories and all these journeys are exchanged. This new facility represents our ensuring those connections are not only preserved, but strengthened.”
The new post office, he notes, combines accessibility and expanded services, including “additional boxes to make it easier access to your parcels. This post office is designed to serve the needs of today.”
“It will stand as a place of

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Expositor’s Michael Erskine takes two top finishes at national competition

MANITOULIN—Your community newspaper has done it again! Associate editor Michael Erskine has nabbed two first-place awards at the 2025 Canadian Community Newspapers Association Better Newspapers Competition.
Mr. Erskine won top honours in the best national editorial category for his February 14, 2024 piece ‘Conservative Party’s plan to abolish innocence until proven guilty dangerous.’
The judge writes, “The Manitoulin Expositor takes issue with Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre’s stated position of being hard on crime. The editorial states the issue clearly at the start and quickly attacks the politician’s approach to building his case. The editorial uses strong, direct language that leaves no doubt where the

newspaper stands, and draws from credible sources to back up its position. The editorial no doubt engaged readers on both sides of the issue and likely generated strong conversations within the community. This is an excellent example of opinion writing.”
Overall, the judge writes, “This competition proved that Canadian community newspapers are using their powerful voices to weigh in on issues that matter to their readers, and to the country itself. It was great to see the newspapers that entered this competition taking stands on vital issues, stating their arguments well and backing them up with solid information. The papers that entered this competition are clearly leaders in the

...continued on page 9

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“who dares not offend cannot be honest”

One Manitowaning Road

opinion

editorial

Upper tier governments need to step up on health centre funding

It has been regularly commented on by health administrators that the Manitoulin Health Centre, the hospital that serves Island residents, with emergency room access and a host of other medical service receives little to no funding from the provincial Ministry of Health for capital projects—leaving small rural hospitals and their communities to fend for themselves when it comes to major health investments.

It is unfair to say they provide absolutely no funding for capital, since the province does provide 90 percent of approved construction costs, but when it comes to the costs for equipment, furniture, and fixtures, which can be a substantial financial burden, hospitals are expected to foot 100 percent of the tab. This requirement is often met through hospital fundraising campaigns, municipal contributions and other hospital revenues.

A most recent egregious example is the government’s mandate to move to sharable electronic record systems, something that will have immense benefits to patients and their families. In the case of the Manitoulin Health Centre, that program ran to the millions of dollars in costs, yet, despite being mandated by the province, the hospital was forced to take out a loan to cover the costs.

Those loan costs, interest and principle, must come from the monies that could otherwise be utilized in improving patient care. If you build it they will come, but don’t expect the Ministry of Health to pay for it.

Another egregious shortcoming is the need for locum health professionals, caused primarily by the lack of available seats in medical schools that are controlled by the government. By limiting the number of doctors being produced, governments of all stripes and partisan flavours who have been in power in this province have kept the cost of health services envelop down—but at dire cost to those tens, if not hundreds, of thousands in this province who still do not have a family doctor.

The province’s answer has been to implement temporary fixes that pit hospitals against each other in attempting to attract health

professionals to their fold. What is lacking is a long-term solution that has so far eluded both Liberal and Progressive Conservative governments.

Premier Doug Ford famously promised to end hallway medicine during his first election campaign, but that promise, along with dollar a beer, has yet to be fulfilled, unless one counts the closures of rural hospital emergency rooms. Of course, beer is now available in corner stores and gas stations across the province, although the most successful recycling program in the province may well be a casualty going forward.

But we digress.

It is long past time that provincial governments, of any and all stripes, step up to the plate when it comes to opening up more spaces to train doctors in this province. For too long governments have lauded minute increases in the number of those spaces, sometimes allocating spaces to new intuitions that will not be in full swing for a decade or more, yet spinning the announcements to make it seem more immediate.

A cynic might suggest that the government is taking a long view on the crisis, noting that the current Baby Boom generation who require ever increasing amounts of health care will soon be passing away and taking their pressure off the system. Certainly, limiting access to health care in the interim can help to speed up that particular solution.

The current health care crisis did not happen overnight, and it most definitely did not happen under just one party’s watch so there is a pox on all political houses when it comes to health care in this country.

But it is the current government’s responsibility to start taking a more proactive approach to solving the problems.

It’s well past time to “get ‘er done”— and by that we mean really, no spin, no short populous clips, but real action to provide real solutions.

letters

MP sets the record straight on the Temporary Worker Program

A response to last week’s Expositor editorial

To the Expositor:

Recently, the Manitoulin Expositor published an editorial criticizing the Leader of the Opposition, Pierre Poilievre, for calling to end Canada’s Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) program.

I’d like to take this opportunity to share the facts behind this important decision.

The editorial, authored anonymously, suggested that this proposal is merely a tactic of division. In reality, it’s a question of fairness. Today, over 400,000 Canadians have been searching for work for more than two years, the highest level of long-term unemployment since the pandemic.

One major reason? Large businesses are exploiting the TFW program to access cheap labour instead of offering fair wages to Canadians. Conservatives believe it’s time to close this loophole and give Canadian workers a fair shot at the jobs they deserve.

One of the reasons I put my name forward to be your Member of Parliament was to fight for Canada’s next generation. Right now, youth employment is at its lowest in over 25 years. Why? Because companies in the fast-food industry, once a symbol of opportunity for young Canadians, have dramatically shifted their hiring practices.

Not long ago, entry-level jobs helped young Canadians gain vital skills, earn money for school and build a future. In return, employers benefited from a skilled domestic workforce. But under the Liberal government, that balance has been broken. Today, we hear heartbreaking stories of graduates sending out hundreds of resumes without a single callback. Our children and grandchildren deserve better.

The editorial also touched on the importance of TFWs in Canada’s agricultural sector and warned that eliminating the program could lead to higher grocery prices.

What it failed to mention is that Conservatives would introduce a distinct, standalone program specifically designed to support agricultural employers facing legitimate labour shortages. We recognize the unique needs of this sector and will ensure it continues to thrive.

The Conservative position is simple: Canadian workers cannot afford an immigration system that drives up unemployment and suppresses wages. Even the Prime Minister has acknowledged this reality. It’s time to prioritize Canadian labour, to buy Canadian and hire Canadian by ending the Temporary Foreign Worker Program once and for all.

That’s what I intend to fight for in Ottawa.

MP Jim Belanger
Sudbury East—Manitoulin—Nickel Belt

Reader dismayed by Gore Bay mayor’s assertion

View dismissive of residents’ struggling with affordable housing issues

To the Expositor:

Thanks to Ms. Steele-Giffin for taking Gore Bay Mayor Ron Lane to task for his misguided and short-sighted comment re. social housing (“Reader dismayed. By Gore

Bay mayor’s assertion, Page 4, September 17). There are certainly many folk who are in need of shelter and social housing helps fill that need. Count us as being in full support.

Sincerely,
Eric and Peg Balkind
Gore Bay

Mud Creek Road Access engineering study gets Billings council go ahead

by Tom Sasvari
KAGAWONG—Billings township council has accepted a bid for engineering service to conduct a Mud Creek Road Access study that will outline options to be considered.

“I am happy to see this study is moving ahead. This has been a long-standing issue for many years,” stated Councillor Ian Anderson at a recent council meeting.

In mid-2024, council had approved the concept of exploring

options for accessing the properties on the east side of Lake Kagawong. The research was to include bridge replacement and other work that could be conducted, council was told. Staff developed a request for proposal (RFP) for a Mud Creek Access study, which was issued in July and closed on August 25.

It was pointed out by staff that the process included a mandatory site visit attended by representatives of seven engineering firms, with four firms ultimate-

ly submitting proposals by the deadline. The proposals were reviewed and evaluated by staff using the following evaluation matrix: including project team experience, demonstrated project understanding, cost, as well as value added, innovation, alternatives and overall proposal quality and clarity.

The four bids included those from EXP Services Inc in the amount of \$32,770 with an evaluation score of 70, K Smart and Associates Ltd. with a score of

77 and a cost quote of \$45,991, Shellex Consulting Group with a score of 89 and a quotation of \$26,080.40, and WSP Canada Inc. with a score of 74 and a cost quote of \$77,266.01.

At its meeting, council passed a motion to accept the bid from Shellex Consulting Group.

Billings Municipal Project Manager (MPM) Todd Gordon noted that the intended timeline is for a report to be forwarded to council for its consideration in late November.

Lake Manitou Assoc. member relates Manitoulin 1880s ‘Big Fire’ story

by Tom Sasvari
SANDFIELD—Part of a Lake Manitou and area camp/cottage history project being undertaken by the Lake Manitoulin and Area Association (LMAA) at the group’s annual information night was a story read by Pat Costigan of one of the cottages and a first-person account of “the big fire” on Manitoulin that occurred in the late 1880s.

In providing a brief history of the Edward Cottage on Manitou Lane, Ms. Costigan explained, “the first owner of this camp was Alexander Clark Edward who came to Canada from Edinburgh to investigate an oil discovery in southwestern Ontario. He found it to be quite profitable, so he remained in Canada, married a Canadian girl, Jane (Jennie) Dawson, and they raised a family of six children: one girl and five boys: Mary Lee, M.D., Alexander Clark, Fred Hayne, Charles Kemp, Harry Becher and Thomas Dawson. The family was raised in Petrolia in Lambton County.”

In telling the story of the family Ms. Costigan read, “One of their favourite stories that I would like to share is about the “Big Fire” on the Manitoulin. There have been several theories about what actually caused this fire, but this is what Dr. Edward, daughter of the first owner, wrote in her book ‘Reflections of Dr. Mary Lee Edward.’

“One year, it must have been about 1889 or 1890, while we were small children and some of the family were not yet born, a devastating forest fire raged over the whole Island, not long after we had arrived. It was said to drive away evil spirits. We could get very little information about it.”

“We could see the trees across the lake nearly a mile away going up in flames and crashing to the ground,” read Ms. Costigan. “We had no place to escape to, but the fire appeared to be at a distance. In a short time, however, the smoke seemed to be covering the land over most of the far side of the lake and to be advancing and creeping around the end of the lake. All day long it crackled and burned, and trees fell. The sky was yellow and full of smoke and large tree trunks were smouldering on the ground. It was a terrifying sight!”

“Day was advancing, and we could do nothing but watch the fire,” read Ms.



Pat Costigan (shown in photo), a member of the Lake Manitou and Area Association read a story written by Dr. Mary Lee Edward of the ‘Big Fire’ on Manitoulin Island about 135 years ago.
photo by Tom Sasvari

Costigan. “As the sun got lower, the red glow in the sky was everywhere. Soon, it was all around us except in front of our camp and a little on one side. We three children were in our night clothes—one a baby, one able to walk a little and myself, nearly four years old.”

“Suddenly, we were told to get into the rowboat. Our mother helped us and the maid got into the punt and pushed off out onto the lake. Not long after, we went back in to get blankets and we children were put to bed in the rowboat and the maids slept in the punt,” Ms. Costigan continued reading. “Luckily, it was a windless night and the lake was quiet.” “We watched the fire a long time. As night advanced, the fire seemed to be burning itself out before reaching our tents. There was a small clearing back of the house which stopped the fire and protected the house and tents. It was a desolate scene in the morning.”

“It was said that 100 years would have to pass before the Island would recov-

er its beauty,” read Ms. Costigan. “The devastation was a sad sight with heavy, charred trunks of trees and brush piles forming the landscape for years. Gradually, raspberry bushes grew up in the bush piles between charred trees and green branches appeared here and there.”

“Isn’t that an interesting story?” stated Ms. Costigan.

Ms. Costigan explained, “20 years ago, in 2006, long-time LMAA member John Harvey suggested we develop an historical map of Lake Manitou and area. Two years later, in 2008, this beautiful map was published. All the places on that map were then researched and in 2011 we produced, ‘Lake Manitou Historical Tidbits.’ These two projects have been so popular that we have had them reprinted. One of the features of the book, that I really like, is that all the places are in alphabetical order, so it is very easy to find what you are looking for.”

“It was at that point that we started to

encourage people to write the history of their camps or cottages. Some of these histories have been published in past issues of our newsletter “Windswept,” continued Ms. Costigan.

Ms. Costigan explained that a few years ago Jane Harding, another longtime member of LMAA suggested the group collect the histories of all the camps/cottages around the lake and produce a hard cover book! “So that is now our current exciting project. You would have heard about it in our last newsletters.”

“We hope you will contribute to our book by providing us with the story or history of your camp/cottage. The more camps/cottages included, the more interesting our book will be. To make it easier, we have created a template or format that you can use in writing your history,” said Ms. Costigan. The template includes having the name of the property, camp, cottage including the postal address and location, current owners or residents, the original owners who built the cottage, along with subsequent owners, describing the camp cottage, and camp memories, stories and photos.

Ms. Costigan provided the story of the Edward camp/cottage and on the north shore of Lake Manitou the story of an imposing two-storey structure constructed by local craftsmen for American tourist Robert Wallace in 1907.

“I think one of the most interesting details in your history is to find out what brought you to the Manitoulin and specifically to the Lake Manitou area,” said Ms. Costigan. “Some of us were born on the Manitoulin, so our roots are here, but it will be fascinating to find out why you and your family are here.”

“So far, we have received 12 camp histories/stories. How many of you have started your camp history? How many are going to start it tomorrow?” asked Ms. Costigan. “We encourage you to join us, documenting the history of our camp/cottage to share with our own family and to share with others in the new book LMAA plans to publish,” noting the book could include cottages of the Lake Manitou area, not just Lake Manitou. “Our goal is to have all histories in by June 2026, with the book hopefully published the next year.”

Op-ed

AMO releases road rap to reconciliation: Manitoulin councils face the echo of Bond Head

by Jacqueline M. St.Pierre

In Ottawa last month, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) unveiled a new map for the future—the Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan (IRAP). Shaped through a year of listening and dialogue, it is at once a framework and a promise: that municipalities, long seen as outposts of settler governance, can begin to walk differently on this land.

On Manitoulin Island, such a plan cannot be read as a sterile document. It collides with memory and unsettled history. The Island itself was once promised under the Bond Head Treaty of 1836 to be a permanent refuge for the Anishinaabek, a place where they could live free from the encroachment of settlers. But that promise was undone within a generation.

The 1862 Treaty, pushed through under duress, opened the Island to settlement. Anishinaabe families were displaced, villages emptied and newcomers arrived to stake claims on the land.

Out of that wave of settlement grew a peculiar identity: the “Haweaters,” descendants of those who arrived after 1862, who proudly styled themselves as the true islanders, holders of

local lore and status. Their chosen name came from the hawberries that dot the Island’s autumn hedgerows, but behind the romantic branding lay a quieter truth: that their standing was built upon a dispossession. The First Nations people forcibly relocated to Manitoulin when colonial farming experiments faltered were never invited into the Haweater mythology.

Instead, assimilation policies sought to contain and diminish them, while settler society crowned itself with a folkloric identity that excluded the very first peoples of the land.

Such legacies still haunt the present. In Billings Township, a rumour circulates—quietly, persistently—that the cemetery in Kagawong sits atop an older First Nations burial ground. Archival records lend the rumour weight: early land deeds referenced the need to “reserve” both an Indigenous burial site and a river trail before transferring property to municipal hands.

Over time, the traces were obscured, the village of Gageigawan erased from the landscape, until only memory and brittle documents remained. Today, the Township has attempted gestures of recogni-

tion through initiatives like the “Billings Connections Trail,” which names Kagawong Cedars Cemetery as a site of layered significance. But the whisper of that rumour is itself a form of testimony—an insistence that history lies just below the sod, waiting to be acknowledged.

The IRAP, then, lands on Manitoulin not as a distant policy but as a challenge: can the Island’s municipalities face the shadows in their own backyards? Can councils in Billings, Central Manitoulin, Gore Bay, and beyond embrace the hard work of Reconciliation not as symbolism, but as daily practice?

The plan, crafted by Indigenous-owned Tawi:ne Consulting with guidance from AMO’s Indigenous Advisory Council, makes clear that municipalities cannot shrug off responsibility. Development without consultation, chronic underfunding of Indigenous services, and a lack of cultural awareness remain systemic problems. The plan urges municipalities to listen, to learn and to act.

For Manitoulin, this is not optional. The Island is layered with broken promises—the Bond Head Treaty’s betrayal, the erasures that gave rise to

the Haweater myth, the burial ground in Kagawong rumoured to have been turned into settler cemetery. If reconciliation is to mean anything here, it must mean municipalities moving beyond gestures and embracing the uncomfortable truth that their very existence is built upon treaties and displacements that remain unresolved.

On Manitoulin, history does not sit neatly in archives. It lives in oral tradition, in the quiet insistence of stories passed from generation to generation. Some Odawa people recall that the ground in Kagawong where the settlers’ cemetery now stands was once a burial place for their ancestors. That belief surfaced briefly in the digital sphere too—through a Facebook post that can still be glimpsed in search results but appears to have since vanished, leaving only its ghostly trace. Whether in oral memory or fleeting online fragments, the story refuses to disappear.

And this is the challenge the AMO’s Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan lays bare: reconciliation is not abstract, not rhetorical, not something to be deferred. It requires municipalities—including those here on Manitoulin—to wrestle with the

contested ground they stand on.

It means acknowledging that the Haweater identity, however cherished, was built in a hierarchy that pushed aside the very first peoples of the Island. It means taking seriously the rumours, the archives, the oral traditions, and the unresolved treaties, and understanding them not as inconvenient shadows, but as essential truths demanding attention.

The IRAP offers a roadmap, but maps are only as useful as the will to follow them. For Manitoulin’s municipalities, the question is simple and urgent: will they use this guide to confront the Island’s unfinished history, or will they leave the compass on the shelf, content to walk in circles while the ground beneath them continues to speak?

EDITOR’S NOTE: Jacqueline St. Pierre is The Expositor’s Local Journalism Initiative reporter. This article is not part of the LJI process. Occasionally, Expositor scribes may pen an Op-ed article and this article is published in that spirit.

Three people arrested and over \$14,000 in suspected drugs seized following traffic stop

A traffic stop by officers with the Manitoulin detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) with assistance from the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service (UCCM APS) has led to drug-related charges for three M’Chigeeng First Nation individuals.

On Monday, September 8 at approximately 11 am, officers from the Manitoulin detachment of the OPP were alerted by the automated licence plate recognition (ALPR) system to a wanted person associated with a passing vehicle. The vehicle was stopped on Highway

Law & Order

551 in M’Chigeeng First Nation. An investigation was initiated by the Manitoulin OPP with assistance from the UCCM APS. As a result, three people were arrested.

Additionally, police seized an amount of suspected cocaine with an estimated street value of \$11,400, an amount of suspected crack cocaine with an estimated street value of \$3,200, and approximately \$650 in Canadian currency.

The driver, Joseph Migwans, 28 years old from

M’Chigeeng First Nation, was charged with: two counts of possession of a schedule 1 substance for the purpose of trafficking cocaine, possession of a schedule one substance for the purpose of trafficking other drugs, possession of proceeds obtained by crime under \$5,000, failure to comply with release order.

The accused appeared before the Ontario Justice Bail Court on September 9 and remains in custody.

A passenger, Bonita Taibossigai, 58, from M’Chigeeng was charged with two counts possession of a schedule one substance for the purpose of trafficking

...continued on page 18

Friends and Neighbours

Providence Bay
Alexia Hannigan

Alexia here with your Friendly Fall Fly!

Fall is in full swing here in Providence Bay; 2025 is coming in fast and fastidious to the finish line, as if in sync with the trees. Our beautiful community has already started to show off our brightest and best colours and community spirit in preparation for the big finish and a banner segue way into a big bright and bountiful new year.

As we approach the important milestone of truth and reconciliation, let this milestone mark a time where we all reflect, remember and reconcile. Taking an inventory on our people, our practices, our plans and our past is an important step in our professional and personal evolution. Make peace with the past and make moves toward a successful future. My Grandmother once said “it’s the future that counts” so yes, recognize and remember your path, acknowledge and show up in the present and always look for new opportunities to learn. Level up, step out of your comfort zone and let the new experiences, people and places in. It’s a wonderful world when you let it. So let it! There is a saying that “if you want to make a good omelet you have to break some eggs.” Things happen in life that are often beyond our control; instead of being stressed and pulled down into the unpredictable spiral of the unknown - focus instead on what you have right in front of you, on the things you know you can build on and become better at, as far as the rest of it, have faith and trust the journey. This is my Mantra this year. I am going to follow my own advice a little more. I am going to open my heart and mind, give everything a little more grace and temperance, focus on the strength and merits of unity and community, in learning and in love and allow the wonders of the world in.

Here’s what’s happening:

Providence Bay Arena: The Providence Bay Fall Vendor Market on October 18 and a few more fun fall events to look forward to before the rec night skating and hockey season goes full tilt - stay tuned!

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 or call 705 377-5726.

Exercise Classes resume Fridays beginning Friday, September 26 at 9 am.

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!

Fall clean-up/reuse/recycle: The Providence Bay Transfer station is located at 1077 Government Road in Providence Bay and is open for Fall, Winter and Spring on Thursdays and Saturdays from 1 to 5 pm.

The Providence Bay and Spring Bay Lions progressive “Catch the Ace” lottery continues to benefit the Mindemoya Hospital Auxiliary Inc. Weekly draws are broadcast live on the Providence Bay and Spring Bay Lions Facebook page.

Go easy out there on the roads as there are more kids and critters crossing and commuting at this time of year so eyes up! If you are visiting Manitoulin Island - welcome!

Tuesday, September 30 is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, wear an orange shirt, but more importantly learn about what this means and how we can make changes now to rise above the

pain of the past and honour the ones lost.

Harvest Glory Days contest: Decorate to win either the small community, medium or large community spirit award and sign! You can be your community’s champion by coordinating citizens, business, local governments and public institutions. Start planning to decorate your corner of beautiful Manitoulin in the Harvest Glory Days theme! The more “corners” that are decorated, the more Island pride there is for visitors to see! For any further information, please contact The Expositor Office by email at services@manitoulin.com or call 705-368-2744. This event is organized as a public service by The Manitoulin Expositor. Judging will take place the week before Thanksgiving.

Happy Harvest and Happy Glory Days decorating everyone! Happy Fall fun to all!

September 24 is Bluebird of Happiness Day!

The Fall Blue Jay

The blue jay calls from the oak tree, as the wind swirls fallen red leaves. He jumps and squawks for all to see, as bright feathers shine in the sun. The cardinal spies from his nest, watching his partner join the fun. Singing out her sweet melody, the blue jay joins and sweetly sings. Their chirping choir sounds heavenly!

10/18/2020

Contest: Writing Challenge - Tercets

Sponsor: Constance La France

Tania Kitchin

Kagawong
Team Fergmeijer

School has been back in session for a few weeks now and we thought now was a good time to share some of the deep thoughts about the English language that have been plaguing us lately. You only see ‘glom’ with ‘on to’ and if you see ‘fro’ it’s usually with ‘to’ in front of it. If you are ‘wreaking’ 99% of the time it’s ‘havoc’ and if you want to ‘ebb,’ you will likely ‘flow’ immediately after. You only see ‘lop’ with ‘off’ or ‘sided;’ You only see ‘beck’ with ‘and call.’ There are many ‘wrenches’ but ‘wrenching’ usually involves a ‘gut.’ ‘downpours’ and ‘rain’ are the only things that seem to be ‘torrential’ and most ‘troves’ are ‘treasure’ in nature.

The Old Mill was under construction last week as a new accessible entryway was put in. At the time of writing this column, the work was wrapping up and the Old Mill is back in business.

The Kagawong Seniors Active Living Program is in full swing for the fall and is inviting anyone over the age of 55 to come and take part. Fitness with Kelly runs Thursdays from 9-10am (free), and yoga classes begin on October 7 (also free). On Tuesday, September 30 at 6:30 pm, join Sheila for a painting night, where participants get to paint a hat! There will be different designs to choose from, as well as refreshments. Cost for the painting night is \$60. All activities will be at the Park Centre. Contact Mary for more information, or to reserve your spot at the painting night at 705-348-2285 or seniors@billingstwp.ca!

Are you going through popcorn withdrawal? Don’t worry! There will be a special Fall Market on Saturday, October 4 from 1:30 to 6:30 pm at the Kagawong River Complex. Save the date and be sure to stop by and check out the variety of local and handmade goods!

From the market, mosey on over to the church of St. John’s the Evangelist for an evening of music with Cia and Bill Savage! They’ll be presenting “Come as you are - 2,” an evening of contemporary inspirational music and sing-along at

7pm on October 4. Admission is by donation, with funds going right back to the church. Refreshments will be provided.

This summer, St. Joseph’s took over operations of the Manitoulin Lodge in Gore Bay. With plans for a new facility in the works, the public is invited to meet with Kristal Lafantaisie, Director of Development with St. Joseph’s Foundation to learn about the new facility, how it will benefit the community and how you can help. There will be three chances to participate on Wednesday, October 1 at Gordon/Barrie Island Community Hall (9:30 to 10:30 am), at the Silver Water Community Hall (1 to 2 pm), and at the Mindemoya Community Hall (3 to 4 pm).

Join Manitoulin Streams for their annual guided salmon tours! From October 1 to 31 (excluding Thanksgiving Monday), join a Manitoulin Streams guide along the Kagawong River to learn more about the science and stories behind the salmon run. Contact getinvolved.manitoulinstreams@gmail.com for more information.

The library board is busy gathering a fantastic collection of items for their annual silent auction. This year’s online auction is November 13 to 16. Mark your calendars! And if you or your company would be willing to donate goods or services to the auction, the library would love to hear from you (billingsreads@gmail.com).

Save the date and start working your way onto the “nice” list - the annual Christmas in Kagawong Market is just around the corner on November 14 and November 15!

Team Fergmeijer, in their thespian era, once put on a performance about puns. Really it was just a play on words. Have a great week!

Meldrum Bay
Elaine Bradley

Friday night at cards there were three tables, high lady was Mildred Kelly with 84 points; high score for the men was Guy Bigras with 85 points; Congratulations Millie and Guy for winning the money jar; Ladies’ lone hands went to Myra Duncanson with four and men’s lone hands went to Bob Benedict with five, he also got to take home the juice. Doug Carter won for most euchres with five and Lisa Townsend won the 50/50 draw.

Rose has been delighted to have her grandson Dylan Hildreth and his wife Mariah up for a visit. They brought Rose’s great-grandson Deacon. He is very blond, big blue eyes and very cute. Don would have been very proud.

Dylan and Mariah had taken orders for peaches and brought them up from their farm in southern Ontario. The peaches were sweet and juicy. They had also supplied the corn on the cob for the Meldrum Beef Barbecue held earlier this summer and it was excellent.

I was over at Josie and Dave’s and bought a huge bunch of carrots which are now blanched, sliced and in the freezer. They are very sweet, tender and tasty.

There have been reports of bear footprints and bear scat around town so we’re just being a little more alert. I’d better get my apples picked.

Have a great week everyone.

Barrie Island
Enid Runnalls

Has summer returned to Barrie Island or is autumn about to return any day? We’re not sure but we are mak-

ing the most of it. The manure spreading is almost finished and the bumper crop of tomatoes and apples nearly done. It seems I’ve been reporting that same message for weeks now!

With the kids back in school and the cottagers closing things up, the social hub bub of Barrie Island is returning to its usual quietude. This will change again soon during hunting season.

Richard Runnalls must be stomping on his grapes right about now, as he prepares to make wine.

Sandy and Jim Miller made a quick trip to Ottawa and back.

Carolyn Lane-Rock is attending Cinéfest in Sudbury, and we will soon get her reviews and news of the Gala.

Sylvia Kircher of Heilbronn, Germany is visiting with Scott and Enid Runnalls this week. Sylvia is a cousin of Enid’s and this is their first visit in 32 years, so they have lots of catching up to do.

Please contact me if you have any news to share!

Silver Water
Karen Noble

On Friday, September 12 we went to play euchre in Meldrum Bay.

Saturday morning, there was a vendor market in our yard. There will be no market on October 4 so we can attend the funeral for Ginger Morrison in Meldrum Bay. There will be no market on October 11 as we will be at the Rotary’s fall produce auction in Gore Bay. We will resume on October 18 with the regular market and then the Christmas market will be in our yard on October 25.

On Sunday there was a barbecue lunch at the Silver Water Community Hall. There was a euchre tournament in the afternoon. The winners were Murray Duncanson and Ron Lawson; second place went to Joyce Robinson and DonnaKay McDonald; third prize went to Myra Duncanson and me. There were lots of 50/50 draws resulting in \$161.50 for the hall renovation fund.

On Monday I took my niece Tamara to work at the Valu Mart and I went to work for a few hours.

Monday evening, we went to the Burpee and Mills Complex to play euchre.

On Tuesday Colleen Julseth took us to Meldrum Bay for the Kits and Quilts project. There was a good crowd and we got a lot done. Rose Van Every stopped while out for a walk with her grandson, his wife and their four-month-old son. They pitched in and helped while they visited.

Wednesday Albert went to the firehall to help send all the hoses out for testing and replacing them with new hoses. The team got measured for new uniforms.

On Thursday there was euchre at the Silver Water Hall.

Gladys Duncanson and I had a few swims in the last week.

The fall fashion show will be at the Silver Water Community Hall on Saturday, September 27 at 2 pm.

Congratulations to Doug and Brenda Carter on the arrival of grandson Liam.

Congratulations to Brooke Addison and Cole Chisholm on the arrival of their son, Bennett Brent. The grandparents are Lisa and Lindsay Addison, great-grandparents Lyle and Ann Addison and great-great-grandfather Ron Corbiere.

Condolences to the family of Mary Joss.

...Morgen Hare fights dismissal

...continued from page 3

remove him from the office of chief.”

The legal counsel letter outlining the grounds for application also notes in part, “Gimaa Hare has not accepted any employment with M’Chigeeng First Nation since beginning his term of office and is not aware of any information that has been submitted to council that indicates otherwise. Accordingly, there are no grounds for council to rely on or apply subsection 27(4) of the election code to remove Gimaa Hare from office.”

This comes after Mr. Hare had received a letter from M’Chigeeng Administration office which states, “As determined by M’Chigeeng First Nations council on June 30, 2025. In section 11E of the M’Chigeeng First Nation Custom election code states the position of a council member will be deemed vacant if, during the term of office, the council member fails to attend more than three consecutive council meetings without, what is the opinion of council, reasonable excuse.”

“It has been recognized that Morgen Hare has failed to attend more than three consecutive meetings,” the M’Chigeeng letter continued. “In addition, after reviewing various forms of information, it is also the decision of the council that he did not have a reasonable excuse.”

“In addition to this rationale, it has been brought forward that he is deemed an employee and as per section 27(4) of the election code, “A

council member who accepts employment with the M’Chigeeng First Nation during his or her term of office will be deemed to have resigned from council.”

“Therefore, the 2023-2026 M’Chigeeng First Nation council deems that effective June 30, 2025, the seat of chief for the 2023-2026 term of office is vacant,” the M’Chigeeng letter said.

Mr. Hare’s application notes, “on June 30 Gimaa Hare met with council, during which council asked him various questions and discussed matters that were either unrelated to, or an unsatisfactory explanation for, what would become the grounds for the (council) decision. Gimaa Hare was then asked to leave the council meeting and was advised that councillor Robert Beaudin would call him later that day.” He called at 7:55 pm that day.

“I had been advised council wanted to see me on June 30 before I went back,” Mr. Hare told The Expositor. “And I wanted to make sure council was okay with me coming back. The meeting lasted a couple of hours. I provided the medical data indicating when I could come back and I indicated I could go in a couple of days earlier if the council wanted me to. I left the meeting feeling that everything was moving forward and I was ready to come back.”

“Council had asked me questions, and said that after I left, they would carry on the meeting and that Councillor Beaudin would call me later that day with the results of the meet-

ing,” Mr. Hare told the Expositor. He said council did not pass any motions.

Mr. Hare’s application noted, “Gimaa Hare received a call from Councillor Beaudin at 7:55 on June 30, informing him a of a letter in relation to council’s decision. Gimaa Hare picked up this letter from the M’Chigeeng Band office on July 2. The letter notified Gimaa Hare of council’s decision in which council deemed the office of chief vacant (according to section of the election code) which provides that the council member seat will be deemed vacant if, during the term of office, the council member fails to attend more than three consecutive council meetings without, what is in the opinion of council, reasonable excuse, and that a council member who accepts employment with M’Chigeeng First Nation during their term of office will be deemed to have been resigned from council. By deeming the office of chief vacant, council effectively removed Gimaa Hare from the office of chief.

“Council has subsequently notified M’Chigeeng First Nation and its membership, by notice dated July 4, that a by-election for the office of the chief has been called for October 2025 and posted an invitation to tender from qualified persons to serve as an electoral officer for the by-election.”

Ogimaa Hare’s reaction to those developments are anticipated in next week’s edition of The Expositor.

...M’Chigeeng post office gets a new home

...continued from page 3

trust and service where every customer is welcome with respect and care,” he said. “This is not just the opening of a new post office, it’s a strengthening.”

“I just want to say thank you to Canada Post for recognizing our community,” said Councillor Robert Beaudin, who recalled when the post office bore the name “Excelsior.” His father Charles Beaudin served for 39 years, seven months before he was forced into retirement at age 65, a practice the government can no longer follow.

The new post office is located at 404 Highway 551, Unit 2 in M’Chigeeng, right beside the Freshmart grocery store.



M’Chigeeng Elder Annie Corbiere cuts the ribbon held by Kenjegin Teg board member Robert Beaudin (to her left) and artist Duncan Pheasant (whose art adorns the post office in M’Chigeeng as it does in Little Current).

...Weengushk International Film Festival opens Oct. 3

...continued from page 3

plex in Aundeck Omni Kaning followed by a live performance by Leland Bell. Opening night will also feature the film ‘Free Leonard Peltier,’ chronicling the story of the recently released Indigenous activist Leonard Peltier.

Saturday, October 4 will feature a series of



...Auxiliary donates \$14K to MHC

...continued from page 3

weeks ago. Paula (MHC CEO) and myself were having lunch at the Anchor Inn and who’s sitting at the table a few seats down is Bill Rosenberg and his assistant, so I’m not afraid to speak up.”

Smart infusion pumps are a vital investment in the health of Island patients, noted Mr. McGregor, pointing out the units help reduce medication errors, ensure precise dosing, and allow healthcare professionals to deliver care with even greater confidence. “For a rural community like Manitoulin,” he notes, “this technology is a game-changer—bringing urban-level innovation to the local bedside.”

workshops, including ribbon skirt making, language, producing, beading, traditional cooking, a cinematographic workshop and a music workshop. Check out the details, workshop locations and rsvp at www.weengushkfilmfestival.ca/event-list.

The closing festival gala, complete with red carpet, inspiring speakers, dinner, awards, student graduation and a live performance by Adi-

an Sutherland. Invited guests include a Member of Parliament, the Assembly of First Nations National Chief and some of the leading lights in Indigenous arts.

For more information about the festival, please contact us at 705-377-6011 or via email at: festival@weengushkfilmfestival.ca.

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WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY: 4 PM - 9 PM
FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 4 PM - 10 PM

...Central Manitoulin fire department idling Sandfield fire hall

...continued from page 1

Lake was moved and never returned. No one was informed until I happened to hear about it from a taxpayer," she said. "I know your answer will be that there are not enough volunteer firefighters to man the truck. However, we have been managing with one for a while now and I wonder why this could not

continue?" "Number two, many residents in Ward 3 live beyond the 13-kilometre limits from that active fire hall, thus, their insurance rates will increase," said Councillor Farquhar. "How fair is that to Ward 3 people?" "Number three, I do not think that it is the residents of Ward 3's duty to have to recruit volunteer

firefighters," she continued. "This should be a public relations job for the fire chief, his captains and dedicated long-term volunteers. Let's work on a solution to this problem before there is a serious fire and even a loss of life. "

CAO Denise Deforge interjected that "Phil did come to me right before the last Security and Health meeting. I discussed moving the equipment and I agreed with him. He had discussed it with the captains and it was in agreement that the equipment was better utilized at other halls. I agree with them, and I supported his decision, and I still support his decision. It was meant to be announced that the last Safety, Security and Health meeting, but unfortunately that meeting was cancelled."

CAO Deforge apologized for not sending out a notification to councillors. "This falls on my shoulders," she said. "I should have done more notification."

Committee Chair Rose Diebolt had to caution members of the public that they could not ask questions or make delegations at the meeting. "This isn't a venue for public discussion right now," she said.

"I do stand behind my decision," said Fire Chief Philip Gosse. "I don't take my decision lightly." He noted that he and his captains have 120 years of volunteer service. "I take their recommendation



The Sandfield fire hall is without its pumper truck until more area volunteers can be found. photo courtesy Google maps

with my input." Together, they decided that it was in the best interest of the community and fire coverage to move the pumper. "We feel that it's the best use of our apparatus and the best use of our volunteers," he said, noting that the vehicle has wheels and can be moved back should the number of volunteers in the area increase.

"I do not forget Sandfield," said the fire chief. "I lived in Sandfield, Sandfield has a big heart, a big part of my heart." But he noted that his responsibility is to the entire community.

Committee chair Diebolt noted that she is also a resident of Sandfield, "on Townline Road, which is about as far in Sandfield as you can get," she said. "I knew with the impact of this decision would be on me personally as a ratepayer and I was still supportive of the decision of the fire chief because it maximizes our ability to use our equipment throughout municipality. And not just in the Sandfield ward, but all municipalities as a whole and that's what Phil is doing, looking out for the entire community."

Councillor Diebolt noted that "the firemen are active, they have gone out and tried to advertise for firefighters for the last, I gotta say, three years, at least." She noted that advertisements have even been placed in the local newspaper. "Now, you cannot operate a truck unless you have at least a minimum of two firefight-

ers, correct?"

"I don't allow my guys to start at a fire without an ample secure, which I mean supporting water and guys," agreed the fire chief.

"I'm not blaming anybody for it's just a fact of the times," said Councillor Brian Mitchell, "but if you want an active fire department out there, then everybody's going to have to find volunteers that live out there or at least are willing to take the training because it's mandatory training now. But until then, the truck is sitting out there collecting dust, and it's the worst thing you can do to a big truck is let it sit there idle and not be in use, so the truck is going to get some use, hopefully not much."

Chief Gosse went on to explain the concept behind mutual aid.

"We have seven trunks, 25 guys on a fire department if we utilize all our resources," he said. "Mutual Aid is there when they are maxed out to their resource, then we can bring it about." The agreement is in place for when a department needs more resources than they can bring to bear themselves.

As for volunteer recruitment, the fire chief noted that he has business cards that he hands out himself, "on a religious basis. Not because I'd like to have my name with fire chief underneath it, but I hand it out to people. I put an ad in the newspaper a couple of times. I tell people I meet we need volunteers here. If you know anyone,

right? I'm always on it all the time, 24/7."

"I'm focused on Big Lake/Sandfield," he said. "I know we have a problem."

But until the numbers of volunteers increases in the area, the best use for the equipment is to move it to where the firefighters can easily access it.

Among the challenges that were discussed was why the one firefighter could not get the truck in motion to the fire to meet up with the rest of the team responding.

"I will not allow them to even spread one bit of water yet," noted Fire Chief Gosse. He explained that they would not be allowed to start attacking the fire until there were enough firefighters on the scene for both safety of the personnel and considerations on the water supply.

"We do not start spraying water unless we know we have water because of the worst-case scenario: you're fighting the fire and you run out of the water and no one else is coming," he said. "So, if you know no one's coming, then you need to think before you open up the door, before you start spreading water. The worst case is actually the fire gets out of hand and you're running out of water."

"It's all about the safety, our safety come first," he said. "That's how we work. Every single firefighter understands that we need to make sure you're safe because we all need to be safe. That's how we work it. And whether it's one truck, or with seven trucks, doesn't matter, you need to have the manpower."

"This isn't a closure of the hall," noted the chief. "This is just the machinery isn't there, temporarily, until volunteers can be found and trained. When that happens, the hall and the machinery will move back."

....Beer Store

...continued from page 1

Elvis Mishibinijima. The space is there, and they are ready to start stocking shelves, but they need approval in the form of a band council resolution from chief and council, which he hopes will happen soon.

"It is in the works," Mr. Mishibinijima added.

As for what might become of the Little Current location, The Beer Store is a leased property. Attempts to reach the owner were not successful by press time Monday.

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The April 24, 2024 photo of the historic Anglican church in Sheguiandah First Nation fully ablaze took a first place nationally.

...Michael Erskine takes two top finishes

...continued from page 3

communities and continue to provide strong leadership.”

Mr. Erskine also grabbed a first place in the best spot news photo category for his April 24, 2024 front-page photo of the Sheguiandah First Nation Anglican church arson fire. “Excellent photo! That’s a precise shot!” the judge writes.

Mr. Erskine has been on a roll of late

with his award-winning editorials, winning best local editorial nationally in 2024 and for best national editorial in 2023. On the provincial level, he also won first place for his editorial in 2023.

“A big congratulations to you, Mike,” said Expositor publisher Alicia McCutcheon. “Clearly, you are very good at what you do and we couldn’t be more proud. Way to go!”

...Debajehmujig 6-foot Festival

...continued from page 3

nifer Recollet where various food options will be available. At 6 pm, Lynda Trudeau will be holding a workshop, ‘Collaborative caretaking about the circle of life, the known and the unknown.’ From 7 pm to 10 MC Dustin Trudeau will be hosting an open mic with both a variety of guest artists and an improv performance.

On day two of the festival, from 9 am to 3 pm, there will be an opportunity to meet the artists at their installations; from 10 am to 12 pm Ashley Manitowabi will be holding a board art workshop on ‘Speaking with wood in Studio B;’ from 12 to 1 pm there will be a Harvest Lunch

with Chef Jennifer Recollet; from 12:15 pm to 12:30 a dance performance ‘Moving with the Land’ by Candace Irwin will take place; from 12 to 1 pm Ethan Mejaki will host a workshop where participants can learn how to make scone over an open fire and partake of scone with Debajehmujig maple syrup while listening to legends; and from 1 to 2 pm Cheyanne Pitawanakwat will host a workshop in the back lot on teaching how to tan fish hides.

Mr. Manitowabi offered a heartfelt miigwetch “to our partners and supporters, Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory, Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council and Canadian Heritage, and Ontario Culture Days.”

6 Foot Festival

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2025 Mnidoo Mnising Eagle Staff Gathering comes to M’Chigeeng

by Margery Frisch
M’CHIGEENG—Friday, September 19 marked the beginning of a three-day Eagle Staff gathering in M’Chigeeng. The first day of the gathering was all about the children. “It was decided to have one special day just for children,” said Christine Migwans, one of the volunteer organizers of the weekend gathering.

“We know they can’t sit for hours to just listen, so we put up these booths so they can walk around to each resource centre and learn the history, the stories and the protocols and the aspects of well-

ness,” Ms. Migwans said. “Today is a very casual event. Kids are meeting each other from different schools too; it’s not just one school. We’re giving them time to socialize, meet people from other communities; make some space for that. It’s a little informal today, but at the



The most popular activity with the students during the Eagle Staff gathering was learning to drum.
photo by Margery Frisch

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same time we have specific learning objectives that we want to meet.”

There were 110 students registered for the day. School buses brought children in from Wiikwemkoong and Sudbury, as well as closer communities. The M’Chigeeng Powwow grounds teemed with students checking out the 1836 Treaty Pipe and wampum beads the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation had on display. They listened to the stories and took part in the crafts offered up by other organizations. Mnaamodzawin Health Services, Kenjegin Teg and others were on hand, and the sacred fire burned continually, offering a quiet, prayerful respite.

After an hour of crafts, stories and socializing, the Eagle Staff teachings began with prayer, drum and song. Students from each school came forward with their school’s Eagle Staff, setting them out for all to see. There were teachings from several speakers, “An Eagle Staff is part of our identity, it’s who we are,” said Dan. “The Eagle Staff will guide you, if you feed your spirit, give it nourishment.”

The very first Eagle Staff gathering was held in Sault Ste. Marie in 2001. A teacher who worked at Sault College had a recurring dream about teachers coming to her school, specifically Eagle Staffs coming in. These visions led her to host the very first Eagle Staff gathering at Sault College. She felt it was important to have them brought to the college for everyone to enjoy. From then on, a tradition was established, and Eagle Staff gatherings have

...continued on page 14



NOTICE BOARD

14 Water Street East (Post Office Building)
Town of NEMI P.O. Box 608 Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

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

Badminton Friday Nights

Curling Rink at the NEMI Rec Centre starting October 3rd
5:00-6:00 pm Coaching
6:00-7:00 pm Free play
No Fee

After School Archery with Noojmowin Teg

Wednesdays in October, 4:30-6:00 pm
Register by emailing lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca

Glow Skating at the NEMI Rec Centre

Wear bright colours to GLOW while you skate.
Great music and lots of fun.
Friday, September 26th 1:00-3:00 pm
No Fee

Gentle Fitness in the Main Hall

Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 am
Cost \$10
Register by email lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca

The Witches Walk

Downtown Little Current
October 18th 1:00-2:00 pm
There will be refreshments and lots of laughs.
Bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to the Manitoulin Food Bank.

Centennial Museum of Sheguiandah

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...Ontario’s premier ‘Catch the Ace’ game is now nine

...continued from page 1

was given out in prizes and a total revenue of approximately \$5.89 million was generated and split between two local not-for-profits in the community about the same size as Little Current.

The Lions’—and province’s—first ever Catch the Ace draw was held

Nova Scotia back in 2015. “Catch the Ace is a weekly raffle lottery draw; 20 percent of tickets sales are allotted for the weekly draw prize,” explains Lion Secretary Lori Draper. “The one ticket selected from the ticket drum wins this prize and has a chance at the progressive jackpot. The progressive jackpot builds each week it is not

elimination draw occurs with tickets continuing to be drawn until the ace is found.

Within the past year, the Lions have doled out some hefty donations thanks to Catch the Ace. “All money raised from proceeds MUST be donated,” Lion Lori explains. “Non-profit organizations, groups, clubs and institutions

al substantial donations of late, including \$10,000 to Manitoulin Streams, \$10,000 to Little Current United Church for the installation of a heat pump and \$10,000 to St. Bernard’s Catholic Church for help renovating the manse and the recent \$25,000 to MHC’s smart pump campaign. The Manitoulin Navy League also received \$5,000 to help purchase a boat for the Manitoulin 348 Sea Cadet Corps.

Those who help sell the tickets for the Lions reap the rewards, too. “The

Manitoulin Panthers made an impressive \$10,000 last winter by selling tickets,” Lion Bruce says. Organizations that sell Catch the Ace tickets for the club get to keep \$1.60 of each ticket sold. Currently, the Manitoulin Panthers are selling tickets again, as is the St. Bernard’s Church men’s group. “We are always looking for more organizations to get on board,” Lion Lori adds.

As of April 1, the Lions have doled out \$783,828 in prizes. “Since we had our first draw in September

2016 we have put smiles on so many faces,” Lion Lori says.

Lion Bruce thanked his secretary for her tireless work in helping to start Catch the Ace and keep it going. “It’s so important to the club, and this community,” he says.

The draws are held each Thursday and can be watched live on the Lions Club Facebook page. For a complete list of where to buy tickets, visit the Facebook page or visit LittleCurrentLionsClub.com.



Jeff Graham, third from left, is presented with his cheque for \$8,750 from the Little Current Lions Club’s first ever Catch the Ace lottery in December of 2016. From left are 2016 Catch the Ace committee members Mike Dubreuil, Bruce Burnett, Lori Draper, Linda Bowerman and Rick Thurston.

on September 28, 2016 at Royal Canadian Legion Branch #177 Little Current. Since then, the Lions have held 28 Catch the Ace draws. Thursday’s is the 29th edition.

The rules in Ontario are different from those in

won, with 30 percent of ticket sales added to the prize.” The provincial rules state that the progressive jackpot cannot exceed \$30,000 per draw, so if the Ace of Spades is not found by that time, the prize must be won, so an

that meet the criteria of AGCO (Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario) can all qualify for a donation from us. Little Current Lions Club does not profit from these proceeds.”

There have been sever-

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Friday, October 3, 2025

OPENING NIGHT - Four Directions Complex, Aundeck Omni Kaning

Doors Open at 3:00 PM
Event Begins at 7:00 PM

Saturday, October 4, 2025

Workshops at Weengushk Film Institute

Sunday, October 5, 2025

Awards GALA

Come early, connect with community and be part of an evening of films, culture and inspiration.

Full schedule & tickets:
weengushkfilmfestival.ca

Cambrian OPSEU VP says strike receiving strong community support

SUDBURY—The Ontario Colleges strike by OPSEU support staff continues into its third week, with Cambrian College OPSEU Vice-President Yvan Roy describing the overall atmosphere as calm and supportive, despite frustrations about stalled ne-

gotiations. “Things have generally gone well,” Mr. Roy said in an interview with The Expositor. “There have been a few minor incidents at the various sites, but overall, people understand and there has been good support from the communi-

ty.” That support has been particularly visible in Espanola, where both students and clients of Employment Options have joined members on the picket lines. “There has been a lot of support from the community and from students. People have been bringing food and refreshments, and just generally showing their support,” Mr. Roy said. The camaraderie is perhaps not surprising given the town’s own recent struggles with major layoffs with the Domtar mill closure in 2023. Many of people in the community know all too well of how damaging layoffs can be for people’s livelihoods, and thus the community’s wellbeing in return.

In Little Current, Mr. Roy described the line as “absolutely beautiful.” To avoid disrupting local businesses, strikers have chosen to picket along the sidewalk across from the post office, or along the dock. “Just like in Espanola, the local community has really rallied around the workers showing their support. And just like in Espanola, there are people from the community walking with them. They haven’t had much in the way of issues and it’s been a pretty relaxed atmosphere there,” Mr. Roy continued. “It might be interesting to see what happens if the postal workers also go on strike as both lines may be occupying the same locations.”

At Cambrian’s main Barrydowne campus,



Pickers on the Barrydowne campus.

Mr. Roy said the situation has also been largely calm, though not without challenges. Some people who use the property as a throughway have grown frustrated at having to pass through the picket lines. “College security has been helping to prevent people from running the lines,” he explained. “They have started to lay infractions against students who are doing so, and they have also trespassed people who do not have business on campus if they are causing problems.”

Cambrian College management also stated this message of cooperation. John Hammill, manager of public safety and residence operations, told The Expositor that maintaining safety and respect for all involved has been a priority. “Things have been pretty good so far. We fully support the workers in what they are doing. We have a great working relationship with our employees and this is no different. We’re here with security to ensure that everyone gets the appropriate amount of respect and safety to be able to achieve their purpose,” Mr. Hammill said.

He acknowledged that while “a few incidents” have occurred, including students attempting to run the lines. The college has worked closely with picket captains to address the situation. “Some of these students have had warnings as well as had their academic standing come under scrutiny,” he said. Mr. Hammill added that he and other members of local management have been diligent in visiting the lines, checking in with workers, asking if they need anything, and offering to address any incidents. Often these visits are met with smiles and handshakes and the exchanges of chit chat and

the day’s goings on. The members of the Union know that the issues do not lie within the walls of Cambrian, or with its administrative team, rather they are further up the corporate ladder.

Despite this cooperation, tensions remain. A recent visit from Boreal OPSEU President Dan Brisson, himself a member of the bargaining unit, sparked frustrations among workers. What began as a show of support turned into pointed questions about the state of negotiations. “People are frustrated about the lack of bargaining,” Mr. Roy said. “They agree with the general OPSEU platform of ‘Save Our Colleges,’ but many don’t feel that should have been conflated with our negotiations.”

Much of the anger stems from two stipulations added just before talks broke down: a ban on layoffs during the life of the contract and a ban on campus amalgamations. These additions were never voted on by the membership, and management has called them “non-starters.” Many workers believe the stipulations are what caused management to walk away from the table. And even more believe that these additions at the 11th hour equate to bargaining in bad faith and understand that such demands would handcuff management’s ability to deal with fiscal challenges.


Behind these disagreements lies a larger financial crisis which has been looming for some time. In 2024, the Trudeau Liberal government through Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), put a cap on the number of international students allowed in Ontario. The cap was a two-year measure to stabilize the growth of the International

Student Program. Many Ontario colleges had become heavily dependent on international student tuition to make ends meet. With those numbers drastically reduced, institutions are now facing major shortfalls.

At the same time, Ontario has the lowest per-student funding of any province in Canada and is about half the national average. Premier Doug Ford’s government cut domestic tuition by 10 percent and froze it in 2019, a move that reduced student debt but was followed by more than half a billion dollars in cuts to OSAP. With domestic tuition capped, colleges leaned heavily on international students whose tuition remained unfrozen, and whose tuition in Ontario is now the highest in Canada along with those in British Columbia.

Despite the disappointments and politics, Cambrian’s local organized a college-wide rally which took place at the main campus’ Barrydowne entrance. Nearly 250 support staff workers reported to the main site where they mixed and mingled. There was a great energy in the crowd and many people shared in the camaraderie and food which had been provided by the union. As had been the case prior to this event, cars were slowed as they entered or exited the property, but no incidents had occurred. It did appear as though the long hot week of walking on the picket lines was temporarily forgotten and the atmosphere was one of celebration and collaboration.

As of now, moral remains high and it is suggested that talks are expected to resume later next week, with negotiations possibly beginning on Thursday or Friday if all goes according to plan. Management is anticipated to present an offer to the membership for a vote. Depending on the outcome, the strike could be resolved, negotiations could continue, or the provincial government could mandate workers back to their jobs and send the matter to mediation. But for now, OPSEU members remain on the picket lines.



October

Upcoming Events

1 Oct

Knowledge Sharing Session

Join the OPP at the Providence Bay Hall to learn about fraud prevention.

02, 16 & 30 Oct

Senior Drop-In

Join us for coffee, games and conversation every other Thursday in the Council Chambers.

8 Oct

Knowledge Sharing Session

Join Erin-Blythe at the Mindemoya Hall to learn how to prepare your garden for winter.

7, 14, 21 & 28 Oct

Chair Yoga

Join Brenda on Tuesday afternoons at the Mindemoya Hall for a 45 minute Chair Yoga session.

7, 14, 21 & 28 Oct

Gentle Yoga


Join Brenda on Tuesday afternoons at the Mindemoya Hall for a 1 hour Gentle Yoga session.


22 Oct

Knowledge Sharing Session


Join Jo-Ann at the Mindemoya Hall to learn how to decorate cupcakes.

For more information or to register for any events please email Alison at asloss@centralmanitoulin.ca






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...youths honoured with Bartleman awards

...continued from page 1

James Bartleman Indigenous Youth Creative Writing Award, the David C. Onley Award for Leadership in Accessibility and the Hilary M. Weston Scholarship. These awards honour the legacies of four Lieutenant Governors for their work in anti-racism, the arts, accessibility and mental health research.

“It is a privilege to celebrate these recipients, whose leadership and commitment to our communities are helping build a stronger and united Ontario,” said Graham McGregor, minister of citizenship and multiculturalism. “I am especially pleased to see the introduction of the Elizabeth Dowdeswell Award for Advancing Democracy Through Education—an inspiring tribute to her enduring legacy that will guide future generations.”

This year, two Island youths, Jasper Ziegler of Whitefish River First Nation and Mikayla Denis-Servant of Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory have been recognized for the James Bartleman Indigenous Youth Creative Writing Award.

Those awards are given annually to Indigenous Junior (12 years old and younger) and Senior (13 to 18 years old) students for their creative writing talent in three geographic categories: Fly-In Community, On-Reserve and Off-Reserve. The recipients are chosen by an independent selection committee of members from Indigenous communities. Each recipient of the award receives \$2,500 and a

personalized certificate.

The individual recipients are:

Jasper was awarded in the Junior On-Reserve category. The citation reads “Jasper Ziegler’s storytelling blends wild imagination with sharp humour in John and the Tomato Stem, a fairy tale featuring familiar characters, magic tomatoes and a cow named Young Bess. His playful narrative and unexpected twists showcase a unique creative voice.

Mikayla was awarded in the Senior On-Reserve category. The citation reads Mikayla’s “creative writing piece, ‘My Glow Stick,’ offers a powerful glimpse into her personal mental health journey. Through honest and heartfelt storytelling, Mikayla encourages youth to speak their truth and find strength in vulnerability.”

Other recipients of the James Bartleman Indigenous Youth Creative Writing Award were Grace Paradis, of the Thunder Bay area Metis Nation of Ontario; Mackenzie Buller of Mississauga; Darnell Mekanak of Webequie First Nation.

The ceremony was presided over by the Honourable Edith Dumont, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, and Her Honour was joined by Minister McGregor, Raymond Cho, minister for seniors and accessibility and Paul Calandra, minister of education.

The Expositor is reaching out to Manitoulin’s recipients for their stories and insights into receiving their awards—watch for those stories next week.

Fred Eaglesmith concert this Saturday in Gore Bay

GORE BAY—Fred Eaglesmith will tour three towns in Northern Ontario in September, including Gore Bay for the first time since 2016.

“In just weeks, Fred Eaglesmith and Tif Ginn will be playing a Northern run of three live concerts. You won’t want to miss attending these intimate halls, promising excellent sound,” a press release says.

Mr. Eaglesmith is a Juno Award win-

ning poet of rural Canada. He has spent four decades turning service station stories, country fair romances, broken down old tractors and gravel roads into timeless songs. His devoted fan base, affectionately known as ‘Fred Heads’ and a reputation for delivering shows that are equal parts intimate and electrifying, have established this founder

...continued on page 15

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FALL IS HERE WORD SEARCH

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

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WORDS

- ACORNS
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- AUTUMN
- BONFIRE
- CHILLY
- CIDER
- CINNAMON
- CORNUCOPIA
- CRISP
- FESTIVAL
- FOLIAGE
- GOURDS
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A hand holding an orange marker is coloring a drawing of a feather with a sunburst on a piece of paper. The drawing is on a white sheet of paper placed on a dark surface. The feather has a black outline and is filled with red and pink colors. The sunburst is drawn with black lines and has a yellow center. The hand is holding the marker in a way that suggests it is about to color the drawing.

Arts and crafts played a central role in helping to tell the story of the eagle staff gathering.

...2025 Eagle Staff Gathering

...continued from page 10

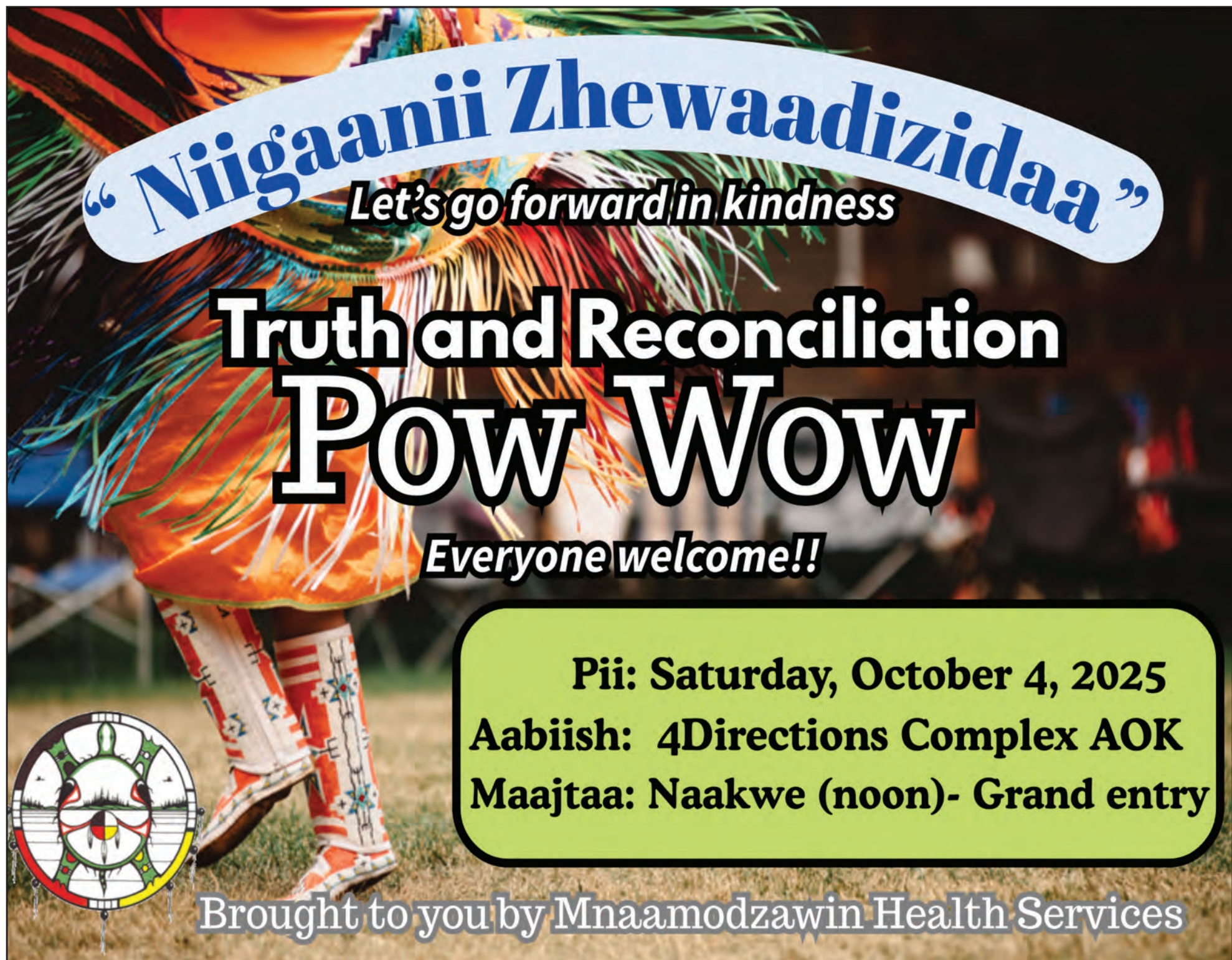
been held each year since. Both Canada and the US take part and take turns hosting. "I won't be surprised if it's an American community that will stop us and say 'we want to host next year'," Ms. Migwans said. She explained there's a process and a protocol in deciding where it will be held next. Once the proposals come in, the committee discusses it and makes the announcement of where it goes next year.

On Saturday, September 20, the adults gathered, families with children too. Eagle Staffs arrived from Wisconsin, Michigan and parts of southern Ontario, over 50 staffs with a grand entry at 9 am. Ceremonies and teachings went on for a full day-and-a-half, and there was feasting. "We have veterans who served in the military and those leaders are here with their staffs, chiefs and councils with their community staffs are joining us. We also have clan families, and they will be represented in the circle and, lastly, we have individual staffs – people who have had an experience and are on their wellness journey, and they found their purpose to be able to support leadership.

So, it's a time for gathering to promote the traditional principals: it's not really about war, it's about love, and how do you love your people. We're looking for the teachings from all the leaders' perspectives, to guide us and give us goals to work on.

"It's an experience. It's not like a class where we write, we listen. The things that strike you are the things you'll take away from here, those that touch your heart." Ms. Migwans said in explaining the event.

Two years ago, the Eagle Staff gathering was held in Sheguiandah First Nation and the elders felt it was important to make space for the children, the future staff carriers. At that time, it was decided that everyone would bring one child to the gathering. This year, an entire day has been given to the children. “There’s a commitment that we have to the youth to find a good journey. We love the children, and we want to guide them in a good way, teach them how to be well in all ways that they can.” Ms. Migwans said. And Friday’s teachings on the powwow grounds in M’Chigeeng did just that.




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Aabiish: 4Directions Complex AOK
Maajtaa: Naakwe (noon)- Grand entry

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...Claiming ‘bread price fixing’ rebate made easy

...continued from page 1

come to be widely known as the “bread conspiracy.” Loblaw’s parent company, George Weston Ltd., and its bakery subsidiary, Weston Foods, was also implicated. To many Canadians the admission felt like a major betrayal: bread represents one of the most basic of family staples, a weekly purchase for almost every household to help feed hungry bellies and make countless work and school lunches.

In 2018 Loblaw tried to do damage control and soothe public anger with a \$25 gift card program. Nearly two million Canadians signed up for these cards. The gesture offered a quick, visible remediation to an otherwise catastrophic PR nightmare, but it also helped set the stage for this later legal action and its ensuing settlement negotiations.

Many have asked how could a scheme such as this persist for so long? The answer lies in the hierarchy of Canada’s grocery market landscape. While the country appears to have more than 11,000 grocery businesses on paper, the real control of what ends up on grocers’ shelves resides in the hands of a small number of national players. Loblaw, Sobeys, Metro, Walmart and Costco — often referred to as the Big Five — dominate national sales and together, hold most the lion’s share of the market sales and suppliers.

That concentration of power changes everything about how the game is played. In many communities, particularly outside major cities such as Manitoulin Island, shoppers have limited options from which to get their food. They can choose between a national chain, perhaps a second chain, and a handful of smaller artisanal specialty shops. True independent grocers are very scarce and often dependent on the same wholesalers that supply the big chains. As such, the costs of logistics, distribution and supplier contracts make it very difficult, if not impossible, for new entrants to challenge the entrenched players who’ve essentially cornered the market. This concentration of power within the hands of a very select and dominant few is what made these parallel moves on pricing possible and much harder to for anyone to detect.

The Competition Bureau’s findings echoed what crit-

...Fred Eaglesmith in Gore Bay

...continued from page 13

of Alt-Country as the benchmark for his contemporaries as well as aspiring artists.

“His songs, filled with wit, heart, and unvarnished truth have been covered by the likes of Alan Jackson, Toby Keith, Miranda Lambert and countless others. Over 120 artists from bluegrass to punk music have recorded his popular tune, “Alcohol and Pills.” His hit, “Trucker’s Speed,” has been named to the 100 Top Americana Songs of all-time, and garnered over 60 million views with over six thousand independent videos having been created on TikTok.

For the last 15 years, Mr. Eaglesmith has been joined by Texas-born, multi-instrumentalists, Tif Ginn, who also happens to be his wife. “Together they have developed a musical symbiosis that only comes from countless miles, shared stages and an undeniable chemistry. With Tif’s harmonies cutting through the mix and the addition of new instrumentation, 30-year-old songs land like fresh revelations and new tunes take shape in real time with one wheel off the track.”

Mr. Eaglesmith will perform in the Gore Bay community hall on Saturday, September 27 at 7:30 pm. Concert tickets are \$50 advance, and \$60 at the door. Advance tickets will be sold online at fredeaglesmith.com and some local outlets. After a touring hiatus, many of his shows have recently sold out, so fans are advised to purchase in advance. All Ages are welcome.

ics of market concentration have long argued: it’s not really about the total number of stores that matters, but rather who controls them and their suppliers. When market power is concentrated, the temptation and ability to coordinate pricing rises and almost always results in consumers paying the price.

The legal consequences unfolded slowly. The class-action lawsuit against Loblaw Companies Limited and George Weston alleged a 14-year, industry-wide conspiracy to fix prices on packaged bread between 2001 and 2015. The plaintiffs argued that the scheme led to an artificial increase in retail prices and harmed virtually every Canadian family that bought packaged bread over that period.

On May 7, Ontario Superior Court Justice Ed Morgan approved a \$500-million settlement with Loblaw and George Weston, describing the money put forward as “an excellent and fair result for all concerned.” The settlement represents one of the largest antitrust settlements in Canadian history, and it capped years of litigation and regulatory scrutiny.

Jay Strosberg, the lead lawyer for the plaintiffs, stressed the scale of the fallout. “We’re talking about almost everyone in the country who is probably impacted by this conspiracy,” he said, noting that the settlement’s

...continued on page 18

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OCTOBER 2, 2025 | 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Annual Maamwi Naadamadaa “Let’s Work Together!”
Come together for a day of connection, culture, and revitalization.
Let’s celebrate our community, language, and traditions—everyone is welcome!

9 AM - 10 AM

Arrival of Students
Booth attendees will be arriving and setting up from 8 AM to 9 AM, and students will be arriving between 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM.

10 AM

Opening Ceremony with Elder Josh Eshkawkogan
Kenjgewin Teg is honoured to start the day in a good way with an opening ceremony and smudge with our Elder-in-Residence and Traditional Knowledge Holder Josh Eshkawkogan.

9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Fish Harvesting and Tipi Raising with UCCM Police
Join the members of UCCM Anishnaabe Police for a hands-on cultural experience featuring traditional fish harvesting and tipi raising. Learn about Anishinaabe practices, teachings and community connection!

Harvest Birch and Deer Hide Pins with Kina Gbezhgomi
Join Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services for a cultural activity creating birch and deer hide pins that they have harvested themselves. Learn more about the traditional materials and teachings while crafting a meaningful take-home piece.

Silver Dollar Pancakes with Gwekwaadziwin Miikan
Stop by for a tasty treat and learn more about the support that is offered through land-based recovery from the Gwekwaadziwin Miikan team!

‘Boots & Ribbons’ Jigging with Kenjgewin Teg Anishinaabe-adiziwin Team
Join us for a fun and fabulous contest celebrating Anishinaabe style and flair! Wear your best ribbon shirt or ribbon skirt paired with cowboy boots or a cowboy hat.

Fried Scone with Chef Pamela Roy
Enjoy delicious, fresh-made fried scones with Chef Pamela Roy! Stop by to taste this traditional favourite and learn about its cultural roots and preparation from a celebrated Indigenous chef.

Science North ‘Animal Extravaganza!’
Learn fun facts, explore habitats, and discover how these incredible creatures play a role in our environment.

Moose Calls with UCCMM Admin/Land Department
Experience the art of traditional moose calling with the UCCMM Administration and Lands Department. Learn the cultural significance and techniques used by Anishinaabe hunters to connect with the land and wildlife.

Nature Bookmarks with UCCMM Youth Reintegration Team
Create your own nature-inspired bookmark using local plants and natural materials! Join UCCMM for this relaxing activity that blends creativity with connection to the land.

Botanical Printing with Sarah Earley and Scott Miller
Explore the beauty of nature through art! Join Sarah Earley and her helper Scott Miller for a hands-on botanical printing activity.

Fish Skin Tanning and Leather Workshop with Courtney Pitawanakwat
Learn how to transform natural materials into beautiful, usable art while exploring the cultural teachings behind the practice.

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Red Dress Special at Birch Island Powwow highlights MMIWG2S

by Michael Erskine
BIRCH ISLAND—The Whitefish River First Nation traditional powwow was held over the past weekend and, on the Saturday evening of the event, a very special gathering took place in the dance arena—the Red Dress Special, hosted by Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Two Spirit advocate Nina Toulouse and the WRFN Anishinabe Aadiziwin Program.

Ms. Toulouse, a WRFN band member, has advocated and spread awareness of MMIWG2S through school and boardroom presentations, community walks and she presented a short talk on that tragic issue that is still ongoing. Ms. Toulouse’s mother, Linda Mae Toulouse, was found murdered in a small room in Sudbury’s Ledo Hotel in 2020. She explained that she was originally going to be putting on a Red Dress Special last February, but circumstances had prevented that taking place. Over the last couple of years, Ms. Toulouse has been holding community walks and other events to bring awareness to the issue.

“We also walk to raise awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, in hopes there is justice for them,” she said. “We also walk for those families who have been impacted by domestic violence, gender-based violence and human trafficking.” “I wanted to bring this forward also to remind my community, even though I haven’t been here for a little bit, I want to let everybody know that I still hold this community in my in my heart, where I come from,” she said.

Ms. Toulouse explained the evening’s agenda. “I have given some semma (tobacco) to my helpers to help the creation of this Red Dress Special,” she said. “I asked a grandmother to come in to speak on behalf as well as



Nina Toulouse speaks to the Red Dress Special held during the Saturday evening of the Whitefish River First Nation Wawaskinaga.

photo by Michael Erskine

a brother and close friend of mine. There’s going to be four songs, because we want to do things in a good way and honour the four directions. So, the first song will be an honour song. I’m going to dance two push-ups, and then we’ll have our red dress dancers come in.”

Ms. Toulouse instructed the dancers, jingle, women’s traditional and fancy shawl, to gather in a circle in the dance arena.

Out of the dancers taking part, four would receive special prizes, first \$1,000, second \$800, third \$600 and fourth \$400. There were also gifts for all of the participants.

Ms. Toulouse said that she wanted to bring the issue to life.

Grandmother Carmen Pitawanakwat told a story of a New Credit First Nation Chief who travelled with his wife and daughter to Toronto. “They were going to meet some officials over there,” she said. “When they went there, they met them, the one that made it back was the chief of that reserve. Those two women never made it back and were never seen again. So, we have a long line of history of this MMIWG2S in Canada for Indigenous women. I, too, have been affected through the loss of the Sonia (Cywink). She and I were friends when we were younger and we spent time together and one of the things I always look forward to with her was her birthday. I was always invited to her party.”

Ms. Pitawanakwat recalled their conversation, the kindness in her heart and the love they had for their people and family.

“When I look at the situations where our young ones

or the women are going missing, it hurts,” she said. “Because when that happens to one, it happens to all of us. So, I’m standing here today and acknowledging and I’m going to encourage the younger women who are doing these things to keep going. Only through awareness are they going to be able to bring light to this situation that continues to happen on a daily basis. They can’t stop, because I’m looking at the little ones here in this circle—we need to make sure that they’re going to feel safe where they’re going to go and the things they’re going to do. This is what we need to do as a community: Make sure our children are safe. Our women are safe. Everybody in the community feels safe. And how that’s going to happen is that kindness in your heart you need to continue sharing. Not just here—take it home with you and share it there. Share it everywhere, everywhere you go. Because we all carry that, that’s the medicine Creator gave us. So, we can continue to stand in these places.”

Richard Tabobondung was then called forward to speak on behalf of the men. He explained that he had been asked by his friend Ms. Toulouse.

“I was kind of hesitant to say yes to my friend, to talk about this,” he said, “because I too didn’t understand it that very much when I was younger. But as I grew older, I understood the roles of men as an Anishnaabe man. What it entails. We talk about protection. We think that’s just the physical, but it is also emotional and spiritual.” “The residential school has really affected our people, both men and women,” he said, “it showed us the weakness that we had inside of ourselves when it came from the drugs and alcohol. And how it affected the men.”

Mr. Tabobondung said that protection of the community is a responsibility. “A responsibility to care for everybody. To protect everybody. In a good way. Using those Seven Grandfather teachings. Holding ourselves accountable for the actions that we do. It might not affect you, it might affect your daughter, your sister, your mother, your grandmother. I’m lucky to have all of them, and I’m lucky to not have had that happen to any of my family.”

He discussed the respect he has for women. “You guys give birth, give life. It’s a true gift,” he said. “It’s our job to make sure that they are protected.” That includes advocating for women when they’re having a hard time, he said. “Mentally, physically, it is our job. The Creator asked of us to do these things. So, I ask all the men here tonight. To reflect on yourselves. What have you done to follow those teachings. And if you haven’t? It’s okay, forgive yourself. Look for those teachings and they will guide you.”

“So, women dance hard,” said Mr. Tabobondung. “Pray for all those women that are missing. Pray they come back.”

Following the words spoken by the presenters, Ms. Toulouse danced her tow push-ups before the rest of the women and girls joined in.

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Wawaskinaga Powwow welcomes new and older dancers home



The Wawaskinaga Powwow princesses are, from left, Dakota Crowe, Haisley Jacko and Kendra Nebenionquit. Whitefish River First Nation Ogimaa Rodney Nahwegahbow, front, poses with the royalty.



Second from left: Head adult dancers Wesley Cleland and Chelsea Recollet share a laugh during an intertribal at the Wawaskinaga Powwow.

Left: Nice bustle! A men's fancy dancer's regalia flutters in the warm autumn breeze during the Wawaskinaga Powwow.



Cathy, Lisa and Andrea McGregor make their way around the arena during a Saturday intertribal.



Camille Baibomcowai (bottom right, with teddy) had her first official dance at the Wawaskinaga Powwow on Saturday. To help mark the special occasion, Camille hosted a tiny tots girls' special with prizes to be won.

photos by
Alicia McCutcheon



Fall Harvest Auction

Saturday, October 11th

A charity auction that supports many community initiatives across Manitoulin Island

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Ontario 

...Claiming ‘bread price fixing’ rebate made easy

...continued from page 15

reach was unusually broad. The settlement breaks down into roughly \$404 million in cash combined from Loblaw and George Weston, plus \$96 million that reflects Loblaw’s earlier gift card program. Legal fees and administrative costs will be deducted from that total, and then

78 percent of the net funds will be directed to shoppers outside Quebec, with the remainder set aside for Quebec residents once that province’s courts decide whether to approve a similar legal action. The result — if you bought packaged bread in Canada between January 1, 2001 and December 31, 2021, you may be eligible to share in the settlement.

The arrangement creates two classes: one covering all Canadian residents outside Quebec and a second covering Quebec residents only. The Ontario and Quebec settlements have since been approved and are going ahead after both regions’ Superior Courts approved the settlement. While allegations in the suit named other major



Shutterstock

definitions are included. To receive compensation, though, people will have to register claims through the official settlement websites. For Ontario and the rest of Canada, the site is www.canadianbreadsettlement.ca. This Expositor reporter registered after it was reported that several people had been having a hard time signing up. However, the process was linear and simple. People wishing to join in on the claim simply have to visit the site, select their respective regions and provide some key information. As was stated previously, no receipts are required, though this reporter did have to give a quick statement about previous bread purchases and where they were acquired. A few quick clicks later and it was done. A claim number is provided, along with a password for the eventual e-transfer which will remit the return.

grocers, including Sobeys, Walmart, Giant Tiger and Metro, only Loblaw and its parent company have agreed to a settlement so far. Canada Bread was separately fined \$50 million in June 2023 after pleading guilty to four counts of price-fixing under the Competition Act, a rare instance of criminal conviction in an industry-wide case. Do consumers have to prove their purchases to qualify for the lawsuit?

The short answer is no. The settlement recognizes the impracticality of expecting people to hold receipts for nearly two decades. As Jay Strosberg explained in earlier interviews, consumers will be required to submit a claim and provide information and documentation “as may be required,” but that will not include receipts for every purchase. Eligibility is automatic in the sense that residents who fall within the class

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Law & Order

...continued from page 6

cocaine, possession of a schedule one substance, cocaine, possession of a schedule one substance for the purpose of trafficking other drugs, possession of proceeds obtained by crime under \$5,000. A second passenger, Maria Hare, 26, from M’Chigeeng, was charged with two counts of possession of a schedule one substance for the purpose of trafficking cocaine, possession of a schedule one substance-cocaine, possession of a schedule one substance for the purpose of trafficking other drugs, possession of proceeds obtained by crime under \$5,000. The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario court of justice in Gore Bay on October 7.

WTPS joins provincial bail compliance dashboard to strengthen community safety

Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service (WTPS) is now part of the OPP Provincial Bail Compliance Dashboard (PBCD), a tool that helps track and share information about individuals released on bail for firearms-related offences. “This tool is an important step forward in our ongoing commitment to community safety,” said Police Chief Ron Gignac of WTPS. “By being part of the (PBCD), our officers gain access to real-time information and can work more closely with other police services. It means we’re better prepared to prevent crime and protect our community.” By joining the dashboard, WTPS is working alongside other police services across Ontario, including the OPP, Guelph Police Service, York Regional Police, Peel Regional Police and Toronto Police Service to improve bail compliance and keep communities safe. The dashboard brings

together data from across jurisdictions, giving officers the ability to monitor high-risk offenders more effectively and ensure bail conditions are being followed. It is part of Ontario’s \$112 million investment to strengthen bail enforcement and reduce violent crime. “The provincial bail compliance dashboard complements and enhances our own offender management program, which was been in place since March 2025,” said Chief Gignac. “Together, these tools give our officers a stronger ability to track offenders, enforce conditions, and safeguard the people of Wiikwemikoong.” The dashboard is one of several initiatives under Ontario’s broader public safety strategy, which also includes the Bail Compliance and Warrant Apprehension Grant, the OPP’s Bail Compliance Unit within the Provincial Repeat Offender Parole Enforcement Squad, and the Serious Violent Crime Bail teams that operate within the court system.

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The Fish Store is located behind the Beer Store in Little Current. The Fish Store carries local catches from the Manitoulin area.

You can find both fresh and frozen fish including perch, pickerel, whitefish and rainbow trout. Please keep in mind that availability varies on stock and season. Looking for something special? The Fish Store often has special offerings such as frozen pickerel cheeks and frozen freshwater smelts.



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For any further information, please contact The Expositor Office by email at services@manitoulin.com or call 705-368-2744. This event is organized as a public service by The Manitoulin Expositor. Judging will take place the week before Thanksgiving. DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: OCTOBER 3, 2025.



YES! I will be decorating our (please check as applicable):

☐ Business or Organization (please give name): _____

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You're invited...

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 177, Little Current, cordially invites you to attend our Honours and Awards Ceremony on Saturday, October 4 at 6 pm in the upstairs hall.

Legion

Indoor boat and RV storage in Providence Bay

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! Notice

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

Tfn

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

18-19p

The Little Shoppe Around the Corner at Knox United Church in Manitowaning is open Fridays and Saturdays from 10 am to 3 pm.

19-24p

i Wanted

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

17tfn

Looking for the Spring 1997 Through the Years. Call 705-949-2512.

18-19c

I would like to thank everyone who donated unused greeting cards in the past. If you have any unwanted and unused greeting cards, please drop them off at the Manor. Also needed are roomy socks, shampoo, conditioner, lotion and bubble bath. Please drop off at the Manor at 70 Robinson Street.

18-19p

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

Branch 177, Little Current

On behalf of The Royal Canadian Legion Little Current, we wish to thank the community for the support of the Poppy Campaign 2024.

The campaign in 2024 was a success. We collected \$12,532.⁶² from the local communities and donated over \$2,500.⁰⁰ to support veterans and local charities.

Anyone wishing to purchase a wreath or lawn sign for Remembrance Day, please leave a message for Kari, Legion Poppy Chair at 705-348-0850.

Thank you for your continued support.

FOODLAND ONTARIO

NEMI Farmers' Market

Every Saturday 9 AM to 1 PM (plus extended hours)

Downtown, Little Current on the Waterfront at the Market Garden Pavilion, 34 Water St. E.

See you Saturday!

Church Services

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

30tfn

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

Rental

Gorgeous Waterfront Walk-out, short term rental until May 1, 2026. Two bedroom, washer/dryer/dishwasher, fully furnished with in floor heating, Starlink internet and cable TV. All inclusive. \$2,100, negotiable. Call 705-368-6240 for details.

19tfn

50 acres (more or less) wood lot for rent for hunting. Make an offer before the end of September by calling 249-497-4000 ext. 172. Mark Streicher, Gore Bay.

16-19p

Hunting season—60 acres of bush, bog and alvar off Bidwell Road available for hunting season. Good road in for on-site camping. \$1,000 for rifle season. Call or text 519-857-7930 or 519-318-9814.

18-21c

Yard Sale

Garage sale at the Little Current United Church, 5 Robinson Street, on Friday, September 26 from 9 am to 4 pm and Saturday, September 27 from 9 am to 12 noon..

16-19p

Coming Events

Scott Woods, Canadian fiddle champion, presents a Christmas Hoedown on Sunday, November 2 at 2 pm at the Little Current Howland Recreation Centre, 9001 Hwy 6. Featuring a multi-talented band, champion fiddler Kendra Norris, guitar virtuoso Steve Piticco, champion stepdancer Leo Stock and special guests Gary and Nadine Boles. A toe-tapping, heartwarming holiday experience with Canadian Fiddle Champion Scott Woods and his incredible band. High energy, two-hour live show bursting with festive cheer, amazing trick fiddling, hilarious comedy and sensational step dancing, plus all your favourite Christmas Classics. Proceeds support the Little Current United Church. To order tickets with a credit card call The Scott Woods Band at 1-855-726-8896 toll free, online at www.scottwoods.ca or by cash only at The Manitoulin Expositor (1 Manitowaning Road, Little Current) or by calling Gail at 705-368-2589.

16-25p

It's time for our Fall Colours Sale at Lyons Memorial United Church in Gore Bay. Sale days are Friday, October 3 from 9 am to 1 pm and Saturday, October 4, from 9 am to 12 noon. This sale will include a large inventory of warm winter items as well as a great variety of household items, books, toys and such. Donations will be gratefully accepted between 9 am and 12 noon from Monday to Wednesday during the week of the sale. Thank you! Proceeds go toward our Community Outreach Programs. We hope you can drop by for a visit. We look forward to seeing you!

17-20p

An evening of Contemporary Inspirational Music and Sing Along -2, led by Cia and Bill Savage on Saturday, October 4 at 7 pm at St. John's Anglican Church, Kagawong. Refreshments provided. Donations appreciated. A fundraiser for church outreach.

18-20p

Ice Lake Fall Harvest Gathering on Saturday, September 27 (rain date the following Sunday) at the Ice Lake Community Picnic Grounds, 274 Pleasant Valley Road. Games for all ages beginning at 3 pm. Beef on a bun provided by donation with potluck sides and desserts beginning at 4:30 pm. Celebrate the beginning of autumn with friends, family and neighbours. Must bring your plate, utensils and a mug to enjoy cider or homemade ice cream! Best Ice Lake Butter Tart Contest! Please email icelakepicnicgrounds@gmail.com for information or to join in on the contest.

18-19c

Farmall 'A' Tractor For Sale



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Coming Events

BINGO at the Tehkummah Seniors' Hall, hosted by the Tehkummah Seniors' Club on Sunday, September 28 at 1:30 pm. \$20 for regular games, \$50 for special with a \$500 jackpot. \$20 entry fee and \$1 per card for the specials. 50/50 is available. Canteen will be open with light lunches.

18-19c

Come out and visit La Cloche Makers Market with over 25 crafters and artisans will be selling their work on Saturday, October 4 and Sunday, October 5 from 10 am to 5 pm at the Whitefish Falls Community Centre. A silent auction will run during the event with winners announced at 4 pm on Sunday, October 5. Dave from Chainsaw Magic will be doing carving demos on Saturday, October 4.

19-20p

The MHC Board of Directors will be holding their regular Board meeting on Thursday, October 2 beginning at 6 pm in the Multi-Purpose/Boardroom at the Little Current site. Regular meetings of the Board are open to the public to attend and observe, with the exception of in-camera issues. Regular protocol will be in place and members of the public will not have the ability to make comments or ask questions during the meeting.

19c

Help Wanted

The Angel Bus is looking to add to our volunteer driver list. As an Angel Bus Driver you are advised of upcoming trips but only accept those that fit into your schedule. No special driving licence is required. If you like helping people and you like to drive, please contact Sandy Cook at 705-348-1432, or email theangelbus@hotmail.com.

18-19p

\$ For Sale

Router metal table 16" x 24", wheeled metal table and cutting bits included. Runs well, rarely used. Value? Make an offer. Arrange viewing by calling 705-377-5783.

19-20c

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19tfn

Drip oil stove with chimney. Great stove, hate to see it go. \$300. Call 705-210-0406.

19tfn

Services

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.

Tfn

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

Tfn

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

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

Tfn

In Memoriam

Lois L. Coultis (nee Bain)



16th of June 1951 to 25th of September 2023
Wife, Mother, Grandmother and friend. When you speak of her, speak not with tears, for thoughts of her should not be sad. Let memories of the times you shared give you comfort, for her life was rich because of you. Loved and remembered by her husband Danny, sons Robert and Ryan, daughter-in-law Candice, grandchildren Makayla and Kobin.

In Memoriam

GIBBS—In loving memory of our father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Jack Gibbs, who passed away September 30, 2019. Your presence we miss, Your memory we treasure, Loving you always, Forgetting you never. Love always, Ken and family

19c

BROWN—In loving memory of Joyce Brown, January 21, 1936 to September 30, 2018. In loving memory. Those we love don't go away, They walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near, Sill loved, still missed and very dear. Love Garfield, Nancy, Peggy, Rob and family

19p

Services

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, September 21, Manitowaning Family Health Team; Wednesday, October 22, Mindemoya Town Chambers 2 to 4 pm; Sunday, November 16, Gore Bay Legion 2 to 4 pm; Wednesday, December 17, Mindemoya Council 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 bnanno@gmail.com.

tfn

Death Notices

ARLENE DONNA CAMPBELL (nee Burnett)

May 24, 1945 - September 17, 2025



It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of our Mom, Arlene Donna Campbell (nee Burnett) on Wednesday September 17, 2025, peacefully at the Manitoulin Centennial Manor. Her family was by her side the day that our Heavenly Father received our precious Mom. Mom was the youngest of six children born to Wallace and Cindy Burnett, both predeceased. Sister Betty Vanhorne, Phronia (Fronnie) Bird, William Burnett, Ronnie Burnett and her twin Marlene Holmes, all predeceased. Mom was born May 24, 1945, was raised and lived in Little Current her whole life. Mom was easy going, fun loving, rarely complained, and made the best out of every situation. She was a social butterfly who enjoyed visiting with friends and strangers. Mom was the happiest when she was surrounded by her friends and family. She loved to cook and bake and always had a dishcloth in her hand and a tea towel over her shoulder (no matter how clean everything was!). Her joyous laughter and contagious smile could light up any room, and she will always be remembered for it. Our Mom loved to dance and sing to any genre of music, especially Alan Jackson, and wasn't shy about showing off her dance moves. She was the mother of Kelly (husband Stan Wyman), Kathy (husband Todd Batman), Cindy (partner Brent Barnes), Robert (predeceased September 1, 1976), Patty (husband James Budge) and her favorite son, Troy (wife Kerri Smith). When Mom spoke of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren she often would say, "My wonderful grandchildren that I am very proud of." Grandchildren: Krista Smith, Shawn Smith, Elisabeth Bertrand, Tyler Howard (partner Savannah), Kaitlyn Howard, Britney Cranston (partner Jade Peltier), Joshua Bois, Dawson Campbell and Kohan Campbell. Great-grandchildren: Maci McDonald, Ainsley Howard, Griffin Howard, Liam Howard and Jacob Peltier who called her "GG." Mom is loved and will be missed immensely by so many friends and family, especially her very dear niece that Mom called "her favorite little niece" Janet Taylor of Whitefish (husband Denis predeceased), brother-in-law Clayton Vanhorne of Little Current, Keith Bird of Calgary, dear brother-in-law Harvey Holmes (predeceased) Aunt Doris Michie (nee Burnett) of Little Current and Marlene's friend Paul LeBlanc of Elliott Lake. Mom also loved JR Clarke and Holly Clarke like they were her own children. As per the wishes of our Mom, there will be no funeral service. Cremation and arrangements are entrusted to the Bourcier Funeral Home in Espanola. A Celebration of Life will follow in the spring of 2026 (date to be announced). In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Manitoulin Centennial Manor. Donations can be sent by etransfer to donationsmcm@extendicare.com. Please specify "In memory of Arlene Campbell" in the message section.

JAMES NORRIS NEVILLS July 9, 1950 - September 3, 2025



It is with great sadness that the family announces the passing of Norris Nevills at the age of 75 years. Beloved husband of Rossanne (55 years). Cherished father of Wayne Nevills (Tammy) and Kendra Pennell (Rob). Proud Poppa of Dylan and Kaylyn. From a very early age Norris followed in his family's footsteps becoming a mechanic working for the local Chrysler dealership. He then started his own garage in Mindemoya and later worked for his good friend Jerry McGillis. After building their new home on Lakeshore Road, Norris opened his second garage, making repairs to all types of farm equipment. Norris will be sadly missed by all who knew him. The family would like to thank the staff of the Manitoulin Lodge and the Manitoulin Health Centre (Mindemoya) for their unwavering care and compassion. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Mindemoya Hospital Auxiliary or the Angel Bus. At Norris' request there was no visitation. A graveside service was held on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 1 pm at the Mindemoya Cemetery. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at www.islandfuneralhome.ca.

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VIRGINIA "GINGER" MORRISON February 4, 1941 - June 24, 2025



In loving memory of Virginia "Ginger" Morrison, who passed away peacefully on Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at the Espanola Hospital with her family by her side. She was predeceased by her mother Verna (nee McDonald), father Clarence Morrison and brother Wayne. Survived by her nephew John Morrison (Kerry), niece Kelly and several other nephews and nieces, numerous cousins and many friends. She leaves behind her cats, who were her greatest companions. A Celebration of Ginger's Life and burial of her ashes will take place at the Meldrum Bay Cemetery on October 4, 2025 at 1 pm. Lunch to follow at the Meldrum Bay Community Hall. As per Ginger's wishes, donations can be made to the Manitoulin Health Centre, Little Current.

Island

FUNERAL HOME LIMITED

CARMELITA CATHERINE EVELYN GENEREUX

(nee Cada)

October 11, 1939 - August 9, 2025



In loving memory of Carmelita Catherine Evelyn Genereux (nee Cada), who passed away peacefully in the early afternoon hours of Saturday, August 9, 2025 surrounded by her family at Health Sciences North at the age of 85. Predeceased by her husband Lawrence, parents Leonard and Sarah (Pitawanakwat). She will be fondly remembered by her children Lawrence (Bonnie), Jacqueline (predeceased), Neal (predeceased), Leonard, Gary, Robert (Karen), Jason (Melanie) and Cory (Bonnie). Loved by her many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Predeceased by siblings Beatrice, Sam, Roger, Caroline, Millie, Linda, Jean, Vivian, Lorda and Eugene. Survived by her sister Diane. Carm worked for the Little Current Hospital for 25 plus years and was an extremely hard worker. She could also be found cleaning homes on the side before or after her shifts at the hospital. She enjoyed social events and for many years she volunteered at the Little Current Auxiliary and could be found with Lawrence selling tickets and watching him work the customers. She was a person who valued family above all else. Her home was a haven for many over the years with their open door policy. Carmelita and her husband Lawrence made all who came to their home feel welcomed. When her children and grandchildren would come home, Carmelita's face would always light up. Nothing moved her more than family. Carmelita was a loving wife to Lawrence for 50 years before he passed away. She was the best mother, mother-in-law and grandmother that anyone could ask for. She was the pillar of the family and will be missed, but never forgotten. Family and friends gathered for visitations at Island Funeral Home on Wednesday, August 13, 2025 from 12 noon to 7 pm and on Thursday, August 14, 2025 from 11am to 7 pm. The funeral service was held on Friday, August 15, 2025 at 11 am at St. Bernard's Catholic Church, Little Current. Cremation followed. Donations can be made to Little Current Hospital Auxiliary. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at www.islandfuneralhome.ca.

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Burial Notice

HEATHER EADIE

Family and friends are invited to the graveside service and burial of Heather Eadie on Saturday, October 11, 2025 at Mountain View Cemetery, Little Current at 11 am.



INVITATION FOR TENDERS SNOW REMOVAL 2025-2026 Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service

Tenders for the year 2025-2026 are now being accepted for snow removal at the Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service. Required services are to include plowing, (sanding, salting and pushback of snowbanks when requested) for the following property areas:

- Roadway
- Front of building (visitor's parking)
- Bay garage doorways
- Staff parking area
- Driveway at Apt B – 26 Edward Street
- Driveway at 87 Henry Street (up to December 31, 2025, unless otherwise stated)

The roadway, front of building (driveway), garage doorways, staff and visitor parking areas must be plowed by 6 am during the tender period.

Please submit your proposal for: Seasonal rate for the period of November 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026. This rate must include all plowing (salt/sand, and snowbank pushback as required). Include the type of equipment to be used.

All tenders must submit legible copies: proof of WSIB coverage and proof of Commercial General Liability Insurance.

All decisions are based on price, quality and service level of supplier. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Closing date is Friday, October 17th, 2025 at 2 pm.

Please submit sealed tender to:
Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service
2074 Wikwemikong Way, PO Box 27
Wikwemikoong, Ontario
POP 2J0
Attention: Snow Removal Tender



Manitoulin Northshore Victim Services Services aux victimes de Manitoulin Northshore

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ANNUELLE

Date: Wednesday, October 8, 2025 @ 5:00 PM

Location: N.E.M.I. Rec Centre – Curling Lounge
9001-ON6, Little Current

Please note: Amendments to the bylaws will be discussed.
For details, call 705-370-3378 or email mnvs@vianet.ca

Date : Le mercredi 8 octobre 2025 @ 17 h

Lieu : Centre récréatif de N.E.M.I. – Salle du club de curling
9001, route 6, Little Current

À noter : Des modifications aux règlements administratifs seront discutées.
Pour tous les détails, appelez nous au 705-370-3378 ou par courriel mnvs@vianet.ca

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Lake Huron Watt's Lake Road
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Kagawong River Lots
Close to Lake Kagawong
MLS #2118130-2118132,
\$199,000 each (1638-1639)

100 acres Campbell Township
1.2 km east of Lanktree SR
MLS #2119304, \$199,000 - (1649)

Lake Huron Drive Waterfront
Year round, 154.5 ft.
driveway installed
MLS #2123348, \$219,000 (1668)

PL24C2 "R" Allan Township
6.6 acres in Checkerboard area
MLS #2123584, \$49,500 (1670)

Over 100 acres south of Silver Water
ATV access 2.3 km to hunt camp
MLS #2123109, \$139,000 (1667)


Waterfront lot, Little Lake Huron
100 feet frontage, level
MLS #2119276, \$49,000 (1561)


Forest Cottage & Hunting
2 BR camp, sauna, shed
MLS #2119847, \$179,000 (1653)

Silver Water lot just west of village
5.15 acres 312.9 ft. highway frontage
MLS #2499742, \$75,000 (1652)

Gore Bay building lot
Water view, one acre
MLS 32122431, \$79,999 (1666)

Family forest cottage
or deluxe hunt camp
100 acres, 1552 sq ft, sauna
MLS #2121729, \$350,000 (1623)





In Loving Memory of
Arlene Campbell
 May 24, 1945
 September 17, 2025
 Age 80

God saw Mom was getting
 tired and needed rest
 He wrapped his arms around her
 and whispered come be my guest.

We love Mom so much and
 wanted her to stay:
 It broke our hearts as we watched
 her fade away.

Every Mom is precious, and we hold
 ours very near to our hearts.
 It seems unimaginable to think there
 is a day that they depart.

God has now fulfilled his plan, and
 brought our loving Mom home;
 After all, she was only on loan.

They say when children are born,
 they are a gift from God.
 We're so glad he chose you for our
 Mom, or did he choose us for you?

No matter what life brought, we
 always made it through
 Together, with God, us and you.

As your time gets closer, we hold
 your heart so dear
 We will always feel your presence
 even though you're not here.
 You were such a fighter, who went
 out with dignity and grace. You left us
 with the picture of a
 smile upon your face.

Thank you for everything that you
 have done for us. We will miss you
 and love you for ETERNITY

From the bottom of our hearts:
Patty, Troy & Cindy

Death Notice



**SHARON
(COULAM)
ROBSON**

We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of our mother, Sharon (Coulam) Robson in her 79th year at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute on September 14, 2025. Survived by her children Chris Robson (wife Carla), Shari Ziegler (husband Carl) and Patricia Marshall (husband Patrick); brothers Gary Coulam (wife Syla) and Loyal Coulam (wife Cindy); grandchildren Cheyenne Ziegler, Kaye Ziegler, Katrina Ziegler, Natasha Robson, Emily Robson, Christopher Marshall and Bailey Marshall. A Celebration of Life and burial of her ashes, as per her wishes, will be determined at a later date.



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MLS®#: 2122047 | \$690,000



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OPEN HOUSE
Sun., Sept. 21, 1-3 pm
103 McNevin St,
Providence Bay
MLS®#: 2123837 | \$525,000



25657 Hwy 540,
Meldrum Bay
MLS®#: 2124615 | \$199,000



75 Holmes Rd,
Spring Bay
MLS®#: 2122327 | \$795,000



SOLD
327 Kookem Tr,
Mindemoya
MLS®#: 2123575 | \$200,000



968 Robertson Rd,
Gore Bay
MLS®#: 2123365 | \$725,000



76B Johnston Rd,
Mindemoya
MLS®#: 2122676 | \$3,250,000



1393 A&B Hwy 551,
Mindemoya
MLS®#: 2122745 | \$699,000



199 Trillium Tr,
Tehkummah
MLS®#: 2122815 | \$3,875,000



128 Dr McLay Dr,
South Baymouth
MLS®#: 2122370 | \$249,000



600 Fire Hall Rd,
Providence Bay
MLS®#: 2123501 | \$499,000



New Price
118 Maple Dr,
Kagawong
MLS®#: 2122669 | \$737,500



80 Paul's Pt Rd,
Mindemoya
MLS®#: 2122178 | \$760,000



14 New St,
Gore Bay
MLS®#: 2121223 | \$219,000



361 Main St,
Kagawong
MLS®#: 2123947 | \$398,500



595 Lakeshore Rd,
Tehkummah
MLS®#: 2121639 | \$838,500



1278 Ice Lake Dr,
Gore Bay
MLS®#: 2119624 | \$525,000



111 McNevin St,
Providence Bay
MLS®#: 2124399 | \$745,000



1317 Lakeshore Rd,
Kagawong
MLS®#: 2123673 | \$348,080



11927 Hwy 540,
Gore Bay
MLS®#: 2122932 | \$629,000



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22 Koughnet St E,
Little Current
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544 Ketchankookem Tr,
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4 Eleanor St,
Gore Bay
MLS®#: 2122374/2 | \$509,000



55 Meredith St
Gore Bay
MLS®#: 2124220 | \$478,000



6070 King St,
Mindemoya
MLS®#: 2123534 | \$398,500



1398 Range A Side Rd,
Kagawong
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| N/A Hwy 551, Providence Bay \$75,000 MLS#: 2122174 | PT2 Hwy 540, Gore Bay \$79,900 MLS #: 2120506 | Lot 37 & 38 Dawson, Meldrum Bay MLS #: 2123006 \$299,000 | 270 Bay Estates, Sheguiandah MLS#: 2122818 \$199,000 | | N/A Hwy 542, Mindemoya MLS#: 2122819 \$70,000 |



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Price Improvements

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Wednesday, September 24, 2025

Trinity United Church bids farewell to Pastor Kim Inglis

by Michael Erskine
MINDEMOYA—The decision to close Trinity United Church in Mindemoya and sell the property has led inevitably to the release from Covenant Service of Pastor Kimberly Inglis. On Sunday, September 21 the congregation gathered in the church to say farewell to the minister who has served their community for the past two-and-a-half years.

The farewell began with a church service in which the official 'Release from Covenant Service' was confirmed and the presentation of gifts from the community were presented. "I am finishing my time here with having made my orange shirt,"



Pastor Kim Inglis displays the Manitoulin blanket she was gifted as one of her going away gifts by the Mindemoya Trinity United Church congregation.

photo by Mary Alice Lewis

vice that was entered into between Pastor Inglis and the congregation of Trinity United Church upon the beginning of her service to the community.

A "Release from Covenant" service, or Decovenanting Service in the United Church of Canada marks the formal end of the ministerial relationship between a minister and a specific pastoral charge, where both parties are released from the promises made during the initial covenanting service. During the service, the minister returns symbolic items of ministry and the congregation acknowledges the ending of the covenant while expressing gratitude for the past ministry and offering a blessing for the future.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving was as follows: "Gracious God, for all that has been, we give thanks, for all that is to come, we place our trust in you. Bless Kim in the journey ahead. Bless this congregation as it seeks new vision and leadership. Keep us united in your love and send us forth in hope. Amen."

Following the service, the congregation decamped to the lower hall for a dinner celebrating Pastor Inglis and fellowship.

The sale of the church building is ongoing, although it was noted that there have as yet been few offers forthcoming.



Pastor Kim Inglis is taken through the Release for Covenant service by Reverend Melody Duncanson Hales, United Church pastoral supervisor.

photo by Michael Erskine

said Paster Inglis following her land acknowledgement. "I want you to continue to remember to do those things as part of right relations here on the Island and the part of reaching out."

"I'm so grateful that Kim came here to this church," said church pianist Shirley Robinson. "I moved up here four years ago to play the piano and be part of the church. Kim was here, and she's been so welcoming and really emphasizing, reminding us about how important it is to recognize First Nations and to be grateful that we live here, and always be kind and help each other."

"Things you say relate to real life, so I can walk out of here and be thinking about things that relate to my life," Ms. Robinson said, addressing Pastor Inglis. "It gives us

a chance as well during the service, whether it's during the silent prayer, to think about ourselves and our feelings. Kind of plan ahead to what we're going to do or ask for forgiveness or think, 'what I can do to help someone else?' I very much enjoyed listening to your sermons. You'll be missed very much."

A number of other commendations were offered to the pastor, as well as several parting gifts, including a broad-rimmed hat adorned with the name of her new parish in New Brunswick. The hat is reflective of the pastor's love of gardening.

Reverend Melody Duncanson Hales, United Church pastoral supervisor, presided over the Release from Covenant Service which she explained was the bookend of the original Covenant of Ser-

Manitoulin Sporting Life

Ice Chips to Canoe Quips

by Larry and André Leblanc



Manitoulin Mustang Mountain Bikers

The Manitoulin Secondary School mountain bike team kicked off their season at Kivi Park on September 18, with nine riders representing the island. In the Novice division, **Nathan Quackenbush** dominated the field to take first place with a commanding lead. Teammates **David Joyce** (15th), **Jonah Moffat** (16th) and **Waylon Hartin** (20th) also turned in solid performances in their debut races. **Bradley Slight** led the team in the Senior division with a fifth-place finish, followed closely by **Isaac Quackenbush** in sixth. **Jacob Swartz** (19th), **Jeff Harper** (21st) and **Cole Laidley** (DNF) rounded out the Manitoulin contingent. The next race will be held September 25 at the Walden trails in Naughton. Students interested in joining the team can speak with Ms. **Caroline Black** for more information.

Keen on Kohyn

"Keep an eye on **Kohyn Eshkawko-gan**," is the subtitle from an Ottawa Sun column on this season's outlook on its OHL's Ottawa 67's. The column goes on to identify Kohyn as a Manitoulin Island product and member of the M'Chigeeng First Nation. It also pointed out that he became the first 67's player to be named to the OHL's First All-Rookie team since current Philadelphia Flyers star **Travis Konecny** 11 years ago.

Kohyn scored four goals along with 16 assists in 52 games, but his coach, **Dave Cameron**, is more concerned with

the youngster's development. In his interview with columnist **Don Brennan**, Cameron stated, "I just want his game to grow" and "He's a little bit bigger, a little bit stronger, but we just need him to not get too far ahead of himself in terms of where he is as a player. Just continue to grow, build a lot of strength and his speed, his ability to see the ice, make a first pass and join the rush."

Cameron has 30-plus years of coaching experience backing up his statement, having been behind the bench in the CHL, AHL, NHL and OHL as well as the National Junior and U-18 programs! Cameron will make sure Kohyn has every opportunity to fulfil his hockey wishes!

Carter George shines in Camp!

Catching up with **Carter George** after his excellent Los Angeles Kings' camp brings more great prognostications. In his only game play of the Kings' camp Carter played in the Rookie Faceoff game against the Anaheim Duck rooks, he was a star of the game, stopping 37 shots in a 4-1 win.

Back in Owen Sound as a now OHL veteran, Carter does not get as much showcase time as an NHL signed goalie but what he did show, proved his worth again. In their pre-season, road-match against the Barrie Colts, Carter was named a star of the game turning aside 39 of 40 shots. In the only other action he saw, Carter played half the game for a Colts' rematch, stopping eight of eight shots, helping the Attack to another win. In all, in his pre-season save-percentage, Carter is 'batting' 0.978!

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

Manitoulin Metal begins Lego League season—Unearthed—with new program for older kids

by Margery Frisch

M'CHIGEENG—Manitoulin Metal has begun weekly Community Robotics programs for two different age categories. The First Lego League Explore teams are for ages 5 to 9, and this year First Lego League Challenge has been added for students ages 9 to 13. The theme focusses on archaeology.

"In First Lego League, teams design, build and program a Lego robot to complete age-appropriate missions on a themed game mat," Yana Bauer explained. Ms. Bauer is the Lead Mentor for Manitoulin Metal. "The children don't need to bring anything and do not require any background knowledge. Manitoulin Metal leaders are mentoring the teams, teaching the children about robotics, problem-solving, teamwork, innovation, programming, design, and career opportunities in a fun, hands-on program,"



The school was a hive of activity during First Lego League Explore. she said.

The programs began on Tuesday, September 16 and will run each Tuesday until December 2. Both

groups meet at Manitoulin Secondary School (MSS), in the cafeteria. The Ex-

...continued on page 4A

The Northern Miner launches a \$1 million dollar treasure hunt

by Michael Erskine
CANADA—There is a \$1 million golden treasure waiting to be found somewhere in Canada. All it takes is some clever sleuthing to decipher the clues hidden within a cryptic poem to uncover where the treasure can be found. As part of the next 12 months, 12 more treasure hunts consisting of \$25,000 in prizes will be up for grabs. The newspaper, ‘The Northern Miner,’ has set up the innovative contest, with the grand prize being a physical box containing a unique code redeemable for 217 one-ounce gold coins and 12 smaller bonus prizes of \$25,000 in gold coins. To discover the treasure’s location, participants must solve a series of poetic riddles released monthly. All of the treasure boxes are located on publicly accessible land



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The Queen's Inn is seeking a meticulous and reliable HOUSEKEEPER (seasonal only), to join our team on a part-time basis. If you have a keen eye for detail, a passion for cleanliness and enjoy contributing to a welcoming guest experience, we encourage you to apply!

As our Housekeeper, you'll be instrumental in maintaining the pristine condition of our guest rooms and common areas, ensuring every guest enjoys a comfortable and spotless stay. Salary to commensurate with experience. Send resume to Queensinn Gorebay@gmail.com

The poem containing the clues

In a land crowned cold and vast
Old riches whisper through the past
A mirror hides what veins once bore
The verdigris behind the lore

Beyond the clouds where glaciers reign
Gold sighs beneath the mountain's strain
Yet peaks mislead with gilded hue
The path lies where the birch trees grew

Salt air once bore a copper song
But brittle roots don't guide for long
The brine remembers, but forgets
The current pulls where moss still wets

Where fire stitched a northern name
And red seams sparked a fleeting flame
No ember now ignites the track
The phoenix flew and won't look back

A giant coin reflects the sun
But circles lead where none begun
Its gleam is but a siren's light
No miner's truth is held in sight

Where chalco fever gripped the past
Where Flinty's claim once never ceased
The water hums an ancient code
But silence marks the current road

The Shield bends low through sleeping trees
Where sunken whispers told of ease

But breaks don't speak nor faults confess
What roots may hold in silent quest

Where iron sings and cedars lean
The northern call remains unseen
A truth not loud, but forged to be
The strong, the silent, and the free
One marker stands, by shore and pine
Its message dulled by passing time
What once declared, now disappears
Beneath the weight of growing years

Where warm the zinc-toned waters fell
And Bathurst rang its deepest bell
The sounds now fade but echo trails
In folds where even memory pales

Where suits and stones have struck accord
And Bay Street crowned the mining hoard
No gilded desk nor numbered share
Will point to where the birches stare

Step not in haste where paths align
But where the trail forgets design
Beyond the mark the tall grass grow
And buried speaks what no one knows

Not marked by gold but core alone
A sliver rests in overgrown
Look past the script, behind the brush
The compass turns, and all is hush

JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: RECREATION/FACILITY MANAGER

Reports To: Band Manager



Job Purpose

The Recreation Manager oversees the operations and activities of recreation facilities, ensuring that programs run smoothly and safely.

The Recreational/Facility Manager is responsible for planning, organizing and managing recreational programs, services and facilities. The role includes supervising staff, overseeing maintenance and ensuring that facilities meet the needs of the community.

Duties and Responsibilities

Program Development

- Develop and implement a variety of recreational programs and services for different age groups and interests.
- Design, implement and evaluate recreational programs and activities.
- Plan and coordinate special events, tournaments and community activities.
- Assess community needs and interests to adjust programs accordingly.
- Oversee day-to-day operations of recreational facilities, including maintenance and safety.
- Coordinate facility bookings, events and public usage schedules.
- Monitor program participation and feedback to ensure quality service delivery.
- Develop promotional materials and outreach strategies to increase program engagement.
- Ensure compliance with organizational policies and provincial safety regulations.
- Liaise with community partners, vendors and stakeholders.
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

Facility Management

- Oversee the maintenance and cleanliness of the recreational facility.
- Ensure compliance with safety regulations and standards.
- Manage logistics, including permits, equipment and staffing for events.

Staff Supervision

- Train and supervise recreational staff and volunteers.
- Schedule staff shifts to ensure weekly and weekend activities.
- Ensure program reports are completed as scheduled.

Budget Maintenance

- Prepare and manage budgets for recreational

- programs and facility maintenance.
- Monitor expenses and revenues.
- Ensure program reports are completed as scheduled.

Qualifications

- 2 years of experience in recreational program or facility management.
- Degree or diploma in Recreation, Leisure Studies or a related field.
- Certification in First Aid/CPR and other relevant safety training.
- Experience supervising staff and managing program budgets.
- Familiarity with scheduling, booking and recreational software systems.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.

Core Competencies

- Strong leadership and team management skills.
- Organized, reliable and detail-oriented.
- Ability to plan and prioritize multiple programs and deadlines.
- Excellent problem-solving and conflict-resolution skills.
- Customer service oriented with a focus on community engagement.

Working Conditions

- 35 hours per week with flexible hours as approved.
- May include evening and weekend shifts depending on programming.
- Often requires working in indoor and outdoor facility environments.
- May require physical activity such as lifting equipment or setting up spaces.
- Overtime may be required during special events or high-volume periods.
- Exposure to noise and environmental conditions depending on the facility.

Submit a covering letter, resume, two (2) work-related references and recent Criminal Record's Check. Please mark correspondence as "Confidential" to:
Cynthia Behm, Band Manager
13 Hill Street, Little Current, ON POP 1K0
Phone: (705) 368-2228 or Fax: (705) 368-3563
Email: behmc@aokfn.com
Application Deadline: Open until filled
Only the successful applicant will be contacted. Thank you for your interest.



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Please forward your questions and
documentation to:
Melanie Sabourin, Recruitment
melanie@zhiibaahaasing.org

Zhiibaahaasing First Nation is a proud and growing
community on the western end of Manitoulin Island,
Ontario, Canada.

and do not require any special equipment or digging.

The Great Canadian Treasure Hunt is a promotional event being sponsored by The Northern Miner that aims to increase membership in the 110-year-old publication. The Northern Miner has over 100 years of experience serving the mining and exploration industry. Reports by The Northern Miner writing staff help inform the decision-making process of thousands of high-performing mining professionals. The Northern Miner prides itself as “the only publication that sends reporters to visit worldwide mining projects and record their findings for our readers. These seasoned journalists specialize in mining and exploration and are able to analyze the merits of any project concisely and accurately.”

But there are other clues that will be published over the next 12 months and subscribers to the newspaper can get a head start on the clues, but even without a subscription, treasure hunters can receive clues by signing up with their email address. Complete rules on how to compete in the contest can be found online at: treasure.northernminer.com.

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Stanley Cup returns to Manitoulin for History Day in Kagawong

by Tom Sasvari
KAGAWONG—The keeper of the Stanley Cup, Phil Pritchard, who presents the cup to the winning team in the National Hockey League (NHL) playoff finals every year will be part of the 2026 History Day in Kagawong celebrations.

“Steve Paikin originally had the idea of focusing on hockey for the History Day in Kagawong,” explained Rick Nelson, curator of the Old Mill Heritage Museum in Kagawong. “I had said to him about two or three years ago that we were looking for ideas for future history day events and Steve said, ‘who not feature hockey?’”

“I told him at the time I would put that idea on hold for a couple of years because we have a number of things planned for the next couple of years,” said Mr. Nelson. “Now that we featured the Old Mill 100th anniversary in 2025, I thought this would be a good time to revisit Mr. Paikin’s suggestion.”

“I approached Mr.



Phil Pritchard, who presents the Stanley Cup to the winning team in the National Hockey League playoff finals every year will be part of the 2026 History Day in Kagawong celebrations, which will focus on hockey.

Pritchard will be bringing with him other trophies such as the Four Nations Cup that Team Canada won this past February.”

“At our most recent (Billings) museum committee meeting we confirmed History Day in Kagawong 2026 will focus on hockey,” said Mr. Nelson. “In order to fill out our hockey display in the museum, we are asking for members of the public who have hockey memorabilia from Manitoulin Island, and the NHL, if we could borrow the items to be displayed next summer in the museum. This could include such items as autographed photographs, autographed player jerseys, pucks, hockey cards, sticks, tickets, programs and the like. We already have someone who is going to provide an autographed team hockey stick from the Toronto Maple Leafs 1967 team, the last time they won the Stanley Cup.”

“At our last meeting, Dianne Fraser, a member of our museum committee brought an autographed Jean Beliveau number 4, Montreal Canadiens jersey. This is the type of item we are looking to have on display in the museum,” said Mr. Nelson.

“We want to start early in getting items in so we can build our hockey exhibit after the museum closes after Thanksgiving, so that it will here on display when we reopen in the spring,” said Mr. Nelson. Anyone with hockey memorabilia they are interested in providing for the museum display can contact Mr. Nelson at the museum at 705-282-1442 or via email at oldmillheritage@billingsstp.ca.



Dianne Fraser, a member of the Old Mill Heritage Centre museum committee, displays an autographed Montreal Canadiens Jean Beliveau number four jersey that will be on display at the museum as part of its hockey display in 2026.

people,” said Mr. Nelson.

Mr. Nelson said he is hopeful that Reggie Leach, who lives on Manitoulin and was a member of the Stanley Cup Champion Philadelphia Flyers in 1975, will be on hand as well. “I’m hoping we can get Reggie here for history day, but he goes to Manitoba every summer to visit family, so he might not be on the Island at the time of our history day event. But I’m meeting with him in October to discuss all of this. We’re hoping he can be part of our event.”

“Rod Schutt, who is a brother-in law of Mike To-pazzini, will be participating on the panel,” said Mr. Nelson. “We will be calling other NHL players, and former NHL players about being on the panel.”

“We have already confirmed Phil Pritchard, the keeper of the (Stanley) Cup from the Hockey Hall of Fame to be on the panel. He will no doubt have a wealth of hockey stories to share,” continued Mr.

Nelson. “He escorts the Stanley Cup to the winning team at the conclusion of the Stanley Cup finals. He will also be trying to bring the Stanley Cup here, if there is no conflict with players from the Cup winning team who each get to take the cup to their hometown during the summer. Regardless, Mr.

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Paikin about co-hosting a panel on hockey for history day and he jumped on the idea of participating and co-hosting it and having multiple people on the panel to interview. This would be the same as the panel agenda we had for this year’s History Day celebrations.”

Since then, Mr. Nelson and Mr. Paikin have met with Randy Carlyle (who has had a cottage on Manitoulin Island for many years), a former NHL hockey player and coach of the Stanley Cup champion Anaheim Ducks in 2007. “Mr. Carlyle has agreed to sit on the panel along with other hockey

Walker’s Electric is looking for a mechanically inclined/handy person who can work with us on the Zhiibaahaasing Water Treatment Plant (This is at the Northwest end of Manitoulin Island). If you are interested, please call **705-529-8144**.

GIIWEDNONG HEALTH LINK

Employment Opportunity
Infomatics Privacy & Training Coordinator

About GHL
Giiwednong Health Link (GHL) is an Indigenous health and information project management office that serves the First Nations health organizations on Manitoulin Island and North Shore. GHL is focused on developing and implementing e-health initiatives to improve health information, decision making and outcomes within the member communities.

About this Opportunity
GHL is seeking applications from progressive and results-oriented individuals who can excel in the role of “Informatics Privacy and Training Coordinator (IPTC).” The IPTC will assist GHL member communities with the implementation of e-health technologies, including electronic medical records (EMR) and related EMR support training. Other areas of responsibility will include developing customized forms, completing informatics/analytics reports, and providing privacy and IT security guidance and training.

Primary Responsibilities
1. Provides EMR training and support to the EMR users of GHL’s member First Nations.
2. Works closely with First Nation stakeholders and e-health vendors to design, develop and implement standard and customized reports.
3. Supports the First Nation Health Informatics and Analytics needs, including data entry and data management support, of member First Nation and partner agency Health Centres.

Summary of Key Qualifications
1. A Bachelor’s Degree in Health Services, Business, Education or related discipline.
2. A minimum of two years of work experience in a related industry sector.
3. Experience in the delivery of training is preferred and experience in Health Privacy is an asset.
4. Ability to instruct individuals and/or groups of varying skill levels over various timelines.

GHL offers a highly competitive salary and benefits compensation package with annual professional development opportunities. **This employment opportunity will be based out of Aundeck Omni Kaning.** Candidates may request the full IPTC job description, which provides the complete qualifications and position responsibilities, by emailing: hr@giiwednonghealth.ca.

The deadline for submission is October 2, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

We thank all those who apply, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Applications, including your confidential cover letter, resume and two references, may be submitted by email to: hr@giiwednonghealth.ca. Qualified applicants identifying Indigenous or First Nations ancestry will be given preference in accordance with s. 16 (f) of the Canadian Human Rights Act.

1300 Highway 540, Unit 3, Aundeck Omni Kaning, ON P0P 1K0

Sheguiandah First Nation

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- Water Treatment Plant Operator

Send your CV & Cover Letter to:
Email: reception@sheguiandahfn.ca

More Information
(705) 368-2781
124 Ogemah Miikan, Sheguiandah, On P0P 1W0
16/09/25

APPLY NOW!

...Manitoulin Metal begins Lego League season—Unearthed—with new program for older kids

...continued from page 1A
plores teams meet from 5:30 to 7 pm and the Challenge team works from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Only 12 spots are available for the Explore

teams and there are eight spots available for the Challenge team. “Payment is by donation,” Ms. Bauer said, “to ensure cost is not a barrier for any family.”

The Manitoulin Metal Robotics team ran a very successful summer camp for kids in Grades 1–5 and Grades 5–8. This was the result of the success

of workshops they’d held in the past. The MSS students had decided workshops were not enough to fully immerse the children into the robotics program,



Creativity meets science as youth explore the parts and pieces.
photo by Yana Bauer.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

PART TIME PERMANENT WASTE TRANSFER STATION WORKER

The Municipality of Central Manitoulin is seeking applicants for the position of Waste Transfer Station Worker.

Wage Range: \$19.82/hr to \$26.34/hr

Further information including a job description is available on our website at www.centralmanitoulin.ca

Resumes will be received until a suitable candidate has been found at the office below.

Denise Deforge, CAO/Clerk
Municipality of Central Manitoulin
6020 Highway 542
P.O. Box 420
Mindemoya, Ontario P0P 1S0
ddeforge@centralmanitoulin.ca
Phone: (705) 377-5726 Fax: (705) 377-5585



210 boul Mead Blvd
Espanola, ON P5E 1R9
Telephone/Téléphone: (705) 862-7850
Fax/Télécopieur: (705) 862-2805
<http://www.msdsb.net>

Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board (DSB) is looking for a self-motivated & energetic individual to join our industry-leading organization which works towards the delivery of high-quality services and programs to the residents of Manitoulin-Sudbury districts. Created by the provincial government, the DSB is responsible for overseeing and managing a range of services divested to the municipal order of government, including Ontario Works, Community Housing, Paramedic Services (Land Ambulance), Non-Urgent Patient Transportation, and Early Learning and Child Care Services.

At Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB, we welcome new and diverse talent! We are currently searching for a **Service Navigator**.

What You Offer

- Post-secondary diploma in the human services field
- Minimum of 3 years of experience in human services with an emphasis on program delivery
- Must possess standard first aid/CPR

What We Offer

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

which is how they came up with the idea for a summer camp. From the positive response of the summer camp, the robotics team decided to run the First Canada Lego Robotics teams from September to December. The MSS student leaders who planned and ran the program, were amazed at the learning capacity of the children, how quickly they learned and how skilled they became during the summer camp.

In the first fall session, the two Explore groups came up with team names: Dig Deep and Dinosaur Diggers. They learned about archaeology, created artifacts and documented their discoveries in their Engineering notebooks. The Challenge team called themselves Bone Builders. “They also learned about their innovation project: to solve a real-world problem faced by archaeologists using the engineering design process, and present their invention at a tournament,” Ms. Bauer said. The season will conclude in early December with a friendly competition showcase, but families can also attend other competitions and festivals throughout the province.

Manitoulin Metal is looking for community business sponsors for the 2025-2026 season. If anyone would like to register, wants to sponsor the teams, or has questions, please contact Yana Bauer, bauery@rainbow-schools.ca.

NEW EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES – MULTIPLE POSTINGS

Gwekwaadziwin Miikan – Seven Grandfathers Program

Gwekwaadziwin Miikan is seeking motivated professionals and natural helpers to join our growing team!

Internal training opportunities and professional development provided to all staff.

Please visit www.gwek.ca or email mmaracle@gwek.ca for details.

Program Description


Gwekwaadziwin Miikan provides a person-centred model of mental health and addiction treatment for individuals 19+. It supports a community of healthy people working towards wellness, education and economic prosperity for First Nations individuals and communities. Gwekwaadziwin Miikan offers four phases of support, including Withdrawal Management, Land-Based Treatment, Live-in Aftercare and Community Aftercare.

| Position Descriptions | |
|--|---|
| Maintenance Assistant (Full-Time) Application deadline: September 19, 2025 at 4:00pm | A full-time position responsible for assisting with the safe and efficient operation of the organization. This role involves assisting with repairs, upkeep and cleaning of facilities, vehicles and outdoor spaces. Duties include general maintenance tasks, groundskeeping, trail and site upkeep, snow removal, maintaining program equipment and facilities, and supporting task management across various phases and projects of the program. This employee will be utilized across the span of Gwekwaadziwin Miikan programming as needed. This position will have a flexible schedule to meet program needs and objectives. |
| Withdrawal Management Support Worker (Casual) Application deadline: Open until filled | A part-time casual position, responsible for the implementation of acute withdrawal support, distribution of harm reduction supplies, safe/flex beds, as part of the Gwekwaadziwin Miikan continuum of services. Must be available to work weekends. |
| Aftercare Support Workers (Casual) Application deadline: Open until filled | A part-time casual position responsible for assisting in the implementation of participant treatment plans, monitoring the facility, facilitating group, and assisting with other facets of the Gwekwaadziwin Miikan programming. There is opportunity to provide casual relief in all areas of programming. |

Please visit gwek.bamboohr.com/careers for more information

Current Vulnerable Sector Check and Drivers Abstract required prior to offer of employment.

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



Scan for more information and to apply!



Seeking Applicants - Elder Representative for UCCM Police Commission Member

Are you interested in providing a community perspective on police governance and community safety issues?

The UCCM Police Services Commission is seeking an Elder Representative to serve on the Police Commission. The Commission's overall responsibility is to govern the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service by generally providing direction, planning and policies.

Eligibility and Qualifications of the Elder Commissioner:

- be a registered member of a Member First Nations;
- be knowledgeable or familiar with the community, culture, and language of the Anishnaabe Nation;
- commit to be bound by the Commission's Oath of Office & Confidentiality and Code of Conduct for Commissioners as per the Commission Policy & Reference Guidelines / Naak nigiwnan Ge-naagdoongin, and all other policies and procedures of the Commission;
- commit to undergo an enhanced police background check, excepting Elders where there has been a declaration signed by the Chief of the Elder's respective First Nation indicating the Elder's fitness for office;
- not be an employee of the Commission or the United Chiefs and Councils of Mniidoo Mnising Anishnaabe;
- not have a criminal conviction that, in the discretion of the Commission and the United Chiefs and Councils of Mniidoo Mnising Anishnaabe, and in all of the circumstances of the conviction, is inconsistent with the proper fulfilment of the role of a Commissioner and the reputation of the Commission;

As a Commission Member, you will:

- Receive an honorarium and mileage expenses
- Ability to attend board training and conferences
- Be provided with an email address and iPad for use during term as Commission member
- Meetings are in the evenings; monthly and special meetings are called as needed
- Opportunity to sit on Committees (ie, Strategic Planning, Policy Development)
- Length of Term: 4 years

Once appointed:

- You will undergo a Criminal Reference Check.
- Once the check is cleared, you will be provided with a welcome and orientation training session by UCCM APS Staff and Commission Chair.
- Be officially sworn in at the first meeting of the Commission after appointment and the necessary paperwork and orientation has been completed.

For more information or to learn more about UCCM Police Services Commission responsibilities call 705-377-7135.

Please send your letter of interest by October 10th 2025 to:

Chairperson, UCCM Police Services Commission
Re: "Elder Representative"
5926 Hwy 540, P.O. Box 332, M'Chigeeng, Ontario P0P 1G0