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**Little Current, Ontario** 

Wednesday, September 3, 2025



MAKING HEADWAY-The Mindemoya Arena Repair Committee made a substantial donation toward much-needed repairs at the J.H. Burt Memorial Arena in Mindemoya, last week. The event took place in front of the arena's west

# Mindemoya Arena Repair Committee donates \$23K to the arena repair cause

by Tom Sasvari

MINDEMOYA—The Mindemoya Arena Repair Committee (MARC) has made a substantial donation toward needed repairs at the J.H. Burt Memorial Arena in Min-

MARC, "marked a major milestone (last) week with the presentation of a \$23,362

cheque to support repairs at the J.H. Burt Memorial Arena." The event took place in front of the arena's west wall, which requires urgent repair, and drew a crowd of community members, donors, youth and municipal leaders.

The funds raised through bottle drives, pancake suppers, fish suppers, donations and

## RDSB chair believes elected trustee system is safe from provincial chopping block

by Tom Sasvari

an Island trustee with Rainbow District School Board (RDSB) are hopeful that while the minister of education is open to changes to the school gover-

### **Billings continues to** push for Bridal Veil parking changes with MTO reps

by Tom Sasvari

KAGAWONG—While Billings Township officials are pleased Bridal Veil Falls is such a huge tourist attraction, bringing people in nationwide and from around the world, parking on the highway in the area of the attraction is still a huge problem, one that appears to have gotten worse this year.

"Especially this year, there is a problem with parking with an uptick in tourism, especially on holiday weekends," stated Bryan

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nance model, including elimi-MANITOULIN—The chair and nating elected school trustees, that they and school boards will remain in place in some form to represent the members of the

> "Personally, I am not surprised the government is looking (at eliminating elected school board trustees) with all the hits involving school board trustees in the last while, issues where trustees have behaved badly (with spending irresponsibly)," stated David Farrow, chair of the RDSB, last week, "but I'm not tremendously worried. Trustees are elected to service local residents in their area, and act as a conduit to provide information to the Ministry of Education and take action to advocate for them on needs in the school system."

> "Our school board and others in Northern Ontario are very different demographically than those in areas like Toronto and Ottawa. We are looked on, and needed, to present local issues and needs to the minis-

> > ...continued on page 11

local business contributions, form part of the Municipality of Central Manitoulin's Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) stage two application, explained Marcus Mohr of MARC. The application seeks support for multiple key repairs at the arena, which include: structural repairs of the west wall, removal and installation of the low-e ceiling to allow a full building inspection and repairs to the ammonia valve in the arena's ice plant.

Among those in attendance were Central Manitoulin municipal Councillors Dale Scott and Linda Farquhar, both early and continued supporters of MARC's efforts. MARC chairperson Marie Ford said, "We were pleased to have Councillors Scott and Farquhar present at the cheque presentation. They have supported us from the very beginning, and it was meaningful to have them there to accept the cheque on behalf of the municipality.'

Ms. Ford pointed out among those present was Marie Nagler, whose late father donated the property on which the arena now stands, offering a poignant reminder of the arena's deep roots in the community.

The donation was made possible thanks to the generosity of the Island community through bottle drives, fish suppers, donations and strong local business support.

"I think it is amazing for a community group to raise that amount of money in a short amount of time," stated Councillor Dale Scott. "And the funds were raised through

...continued on page 9

# Gore Bay's mayor says there is 'no place for social housing' in the downtown

Mayor Lane says more mental health supports are required first

by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY—Gore Bay Mayor Ron Lane says social housing has no place in the downtown of his community. As such, the Town of Gore Bay is hopeful it can purchase the former Woods Lane Apartments property (that was severely damaged in a fire on April 1) to have control of what might be located there in future.

"I made it clear that we don't want them (Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services [OAHS]) to rebuild the same social housing units, and that as a town we are prepared to purchase the property," stated Gore Bay Mayor Ron Lane, after a recent meeting with OAHS representatives. OAHS is the landlord of the former apartment complex.

"It was a good meeting, we had a good discussion and conversation," Mayor Lane said of the meeting held with the CAO of OAHS, the building manager and other agency officials. "One of the topics we discussed was to ask why it is taking so long for OAHS to have the building demolished," said Mayor Lane. "Currently, it is an eyesore."

"We told her about our plan to encourage more residential development in the downtown area of town, and that social housing is not the best use of that property in the downtown area of town," continued Mayor Lane. "She was interested in what we were saying, and she indicated (OAHS) builds all types of housing throughout Ontario.'

"No, there were no conclusions arrived at during the meeting, it was a meeting to ask questions and discuss concerns," said Mayor Lane. He pointed out, as has been reported previously, town council passed a bylaw in August that will allow it to control any development on the Woods Lane Apartment building property for at least a year, to allow time for a study on the best housing use for the property. "They understood what and why we are looking at this and put the (interim control bylaw) in place," said Mayor Lane. "The CAO told us the property and building are still tied to the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board (DSB) and the DSB

...continued on page 9

# **Central councillors** unhappy with integrity commissioner findings

by Michael Erskine

CENTRAL MANITOULIN—A report from the Central Manitoulin integrity commissioner into a complaint made against Councillor Dale Scott was accepted by his fellow councillors, under protest.

Mayor Richard Stephens put the question of receiving the commissioner's report forward, but it required several moments before he could secure both a mover and seconder for the motion. Mayor Stephens noted that the commissioner found no fault in his report.

Councillor Derek Stephens opened comments, saying, "I have a big problem with this report and our whole process and how it works, investigations and everything else. This particular incident caused an

awful lot of havoc in the municipality and to have it come back with no findings, I find that very hard to fathom. I was never questioned. I don't know who was, but, as far as I've seen in the report, there were only two proponents that were questioned. I don't know how they came to these conclusions."

Councillor Stephens continued on, noting, "I don't know if we can change the process or what we can do but I have a big problem with this particular report and the findings in it."

Councillor John Bisaillon agreed. "I'll follow along with Councillor Stephen's comments," he said. "I'm in the same position where there were known facts and the conclusion in this report doesn't

...continued on page 9

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# The Manitoulin West Recorder



Rainbow District School Board (RDSB) Chair David Farrow welcomes the student trustees for the 2025-2026 school year, Daynara Cyr, of Manitoulin Secondary School, centre in photo and Izabella Guenette of Lasalle Secondary School. They were sworn into their roles as student trustees during the regular meeting of RDSB on August 26.

# Rainbow Board welcomes new student trustees, includes Manitoulin Sec. rep

SUDBURY—Daynara Cyr of Manitoulin Secondary School (MSS) and Izabella Guenette of Lasalle Secondary School (LSS) will serve as student trustees on the Rainbow District School Board (RDSB) for the 2025-2026 school year. They will co-chair the student senate, which includes representatives of the board's secondary schools in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin Island. Ms. Cyr will also serve as vice-chair of the Indigenous student trustee council for the Ontario Student Trustee Association (OSTA).

"On behalf of the board of trustees, I extend a warm welcome to Daynara Cyr and Izabella Guenette," said board chair David Farrow, at a meeting last week. "We look forward to having our student trustees represent the student voice and contribute to our collective focus on student achievement and well-being. At the board table, they will also have an opportunity to experience the decision-making process and learn more about public education locally and provincially"

about public education locally and provincially."
From Zhiibaahaasing First Nation, Ms. Cyr is
the former Indigenous student senator for Sud-

bury Secondary School (SSS) and this year's Indigenous student senator for MSS. She is passionate about Indigenous advocacy and sharing her language and culture.

Ms. Cyr attended Grade 9 and 10 at Sudbury Secondary School where she was enrolled in the Specialist High Skills Major in Visual Arts and Dance. She worked with a team of peers to establish the SSS Indigenous Advocacy Committee. She has facilitated ribbon skirt making classes, presented hand-drumming practices, shared cultural teachings and offered fancy shawl demonstrations at school-wide and public events.

As she enters Grade 11, she will continue to be a student leader at MSS where she plans to get involved in school sports. Daynara is taking the level 3 Ojibwe course and would like to teach Anishinaabemowin in her community to revitalize the language. She also wants to continue making regalia, ribbon skirts, shirts, vests and building her brand as an Anishinaabe seamstress, aspir-

...continued on page 7

### Laila Kiviaho feted for her farmers' market dedication

by Michael Erskine

LITTLE CURRENT—Laila Kiviaho has been a fixture on the board of the NEMI Farmers' Market for its entire existence as a farmers' market, but her involvement stretches back to a precursor organization. Although she intends to continue having her booth selling Watkins and crafts at the market, Ms. Kiviaho has announced her intention to step down from the board. On Saturday, August 29,



# Rotary Club hosts Italian student as part of unique exchange program

Sunsite Estates teen studying in Spain

by Tom Sasvari

SHEGUIANDAH—The Gore Bay Rotary Club has had a successful year in terms of events and fundraising and owes much of the support of its community and volunteers, said outgoing president Dave Rogalsky at the Rotary annual general dinner meeting held June 11 at Red Lodge in Sheguiandah. The club is also partnering with both the Rotary Club of Sudbury and the Sudbury Sunrisers in this years Rotary Exchange, in which a young person from Manitoulin Island, Cameron Meawasige, will be living and going to school in Spain for a year, beginning this fall, with a young person from Italy joining the Meawasige family at their home on Sunsite Estates in Manitowaning in mid-August.

At the meeting Dave Rogalsky, outgoing president of the Rotary Club introduced Cameron Meawasige and her family, including parents Melissa Brandon and Nishin Meawasige, along

...continued on page 7

NEMI Farmers' Market president Marc Lefebvre, left, and past president Ken Ferguson, right, watch as Laila Kiviaho cuts the cake marking her retirement from the farmers' market.

the vendors at the NEMI Farmers Market presented Ms. Kiviaho with a gift basket of items from their booths as a token of appreciation.

"The NEMI Farmers' Market took time today to recognize Laila Kiviaho for over 25 years of helping run this market in Little Current," said NEMI Farmers' Market president Marc Lefebvre. "This year saw a large increase in vendors and NEMI Farmers Market continues be part of the Farmers' Markets of Ontario. Laila is always there to help new vendors and

...continued on page 8

# Musical father-daughter duo benefit concert will help them to awards show

by Tom Sasvari

TEHKUMMAH—A fundraising concert is being held this Saturday for the father-daughter duo of Ben and Katelyn Lentir as they get ready to be honoured at the annual Northern Ontario Country Music Association (NOCMA) Awards inductee celebrations in November.

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

Mr. Lentir has been an important fixture on the Manitoulin Island country music scene for many years, not only entertaining at hundreds of dances and other events, but also serving as the Manitoulin representative and taking on the organization of Bluegrass in the Country when the late John Featherstone retired to move

Out west

His daughter Katelyn, 19, has been playing music for over nine years, ever since she was 10 years old—a characteristic she shares with her father, who also began his musical journey at a young age. Mr. Lentir began playing the bass guitar, moving onto piano, guitar and mandolin.

As is tradition, a fundraising evening of music will be held at the Tehkummah Hall to raise money for the annual trip to Sault Ste. Marie and to recognize and celebrate the father and daughter's accomplishments.

The fundraising concert will take place on Saturday, September 6 beginning at 7 pm at the Tehkummah Hall. Music will be provided by The Manitoulin Opry members.

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

For more information, please see the ad on Page 18.



A benefit concert to help send Katelyn and Ben Lentir to the Northern Ontario Country Music Association Awards will be held this Saturday in Tehkummah. The father-daughter duo are both up for recognition.

# 149th Manitowaning Fall Fair on this Friday, Saturday

by Michael Erskine

MANITOWANING—The countdown is on for the 149th edition of the Assiginack Agricultural Society's Manitowaning Fall Fair being held September 5 and 6. This year's fall fair theme is 'Barnyard Boogie.'

Fall fairs are a staple of rural life and entering items into the fair competitions is a time-honoured tradition. Fairs offer an amazing opportunity to "get creative and showcase your talents" from baking to crafts, gardening and photography, there is something there for everyone.

"Welcome to our annual Fall Fair on September 5 and 6," said Assiginack Agricultural Association president Alice Pennie. "This fair has seen many beautiful exhibits throughout the years, all made or grown by our local families and friends ranging from artistically displayed booths of years ago to our fabulous exhibits of today."

Ms. Pennie noted a particular facet of the fair. "We have a 'tea biscuit' queen at our fair," she said. "The crown gets passed each year to the winner of the tea biscuit entry, and it is always fun to see who will win the 'crown' each year. It could be you! All you have to do is become a member and enter the tea biscuit section."

Ms. Pennie went on to thank "our directors, associate directors, junior directors, volun-

teers, judges and of course, the many exhibitors who make our fair possible. Also thank you to those people who attend our fair. Next year, 2026, will be our 150th fair, so start planning for it now. Any ideas are welcome. Thank you, miigwetch and see

...continued on page 8

# Prov Bay post office is there to stay, Canada Post says

PROVIDENCE BAY—A Canada Post Corporation representative says the rumours of the Providence Bay post office being closed or relocated are false.

"We have confirmed with the local operations team that there are currently no plans to close or relocate the Providence Bay Post Office," said Lisa Liu, media relations with Canada Post, last Friday.

"The current post office is not relocating and not closing," stated a regional Canada Post official.

These comments were made after The Expositor had been contacted by a Central Manitoulin municipal employee indicating the municipality was actively searching for a rental location in Providence Bay as the post office was going to need to be relocated from its current location at the Huron Sands in Providence Bay.

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"who dares not offend cannot be honest"

# One Manitowaning Road opinion

### <u>editorial</u> School children will be on the early morning roads again

The start of the school year is always an exciting, and perhaps even a bit daunting, time, for youth in our communities. The Expositor wishes to add our voice to those asking for caution from

A 2016 study from Toronto found that 411 children were involved in motor vehicle collisions near schools over a 12-year period, with 29 children requiring emergency room treatment.

On average, about 1,000 child pedestrians, ages up to 14, are injured each year in Canada.

Child pedestrian fatalities in 2023 numbered 18—that's 18 too many. Especially since many of those injuries and fatalities are en-

Oddly, it is the older children, teenagers, who seem to be more prone to being hurt in vehicle-student collisions. No matter what their age, getting hit by a vehicle, car or truck, can result in life-altering injuries for the child.

As if they didn't have enough strikes against them, children in lower-income areas are at a higher risk of being injured by motor vehicles than those living in higher-income neighbourhoods in Ontario, according to a study from The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids), York University and the International Credential Evaluation Service

The cause of these injuries is inevitably linked to speeding and distracted driving.

Too many vehicles do not slow down when entering an area

where school children can be found making their way to or from classes—and too often when they do it is what is on the screens on their cellphones they are paying attention to and not what is going on outside their windshields.

Too many vehicles still swerve past school buses dropping off their young charges on the side of the road. That is behaviour that should have greater penalties and enforcement than is presently the case

A child's life is filled with potential and there are few greater tragedies that seeing that life cut short because someone was in a hurry or not paying proper attention to the road in front of them. There are, of course, fines for distracted driving and speeding, but no amount of money or other retribution can make up for the loss of a child's life or the pain and suffering they will go through after being hit by a vehicle.

So, as the school year begins, and throughout the coming months, The Expositor pleads with drivers to pay close attention to the world around them, and the children on the road who might not be paying enough attention to the oncoming traffic. When entering a school zone, or any area where school children might be, slow down—even if it means going below the speed limit. Factor slower speeds into your daily commute.

A child's life is too far too precious to sacrifice just for a few second's sooner arrival at your destination.

### The Path Forward: Wiikwemkoong and Beyond reclaim life and spirit

by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

TORONTO—Healing is not a destination. It is a river that bends and churns through the landscapes of our lives, carving canyons in memory, flooding and receding with trauma and clarity alike. Rarely linear, healing requires courage, presence, and the willingness to confront the fire within.

For Lindsay Trudeau and Roland Pheasant of Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory, that river was wild and treacherous. Addiction had claimed years of their lives, wrapping its claws around them and refusing to release them. Yet, through love, commitment and community, they found their way back—not alone, but together.

At the First Nations Community Wellness Conference, hosted by the Chiefs of Ontario and held in the grand halls of the Fairmont Royal York, Ms. Trudeau and Mr. Pheasant stepped onto the stage to share their story. Their workshop, Healing Through Community and Culture - Lived Experience as Medicine, was more than a lecture. It was a ritual, a ceremony in words, a space where survival became instruction, where pain transformed into guidance.

"I've been addicted to opiates the majority of my adult life," Mr. Pheasant told attendees, voice steady and threaded with memory. "It took me a long time to turn my life around. When I did, everything changed for the better. I couldn't believe that life could

The turning point for the couple came not from a clinic or program, but in a quiet, ordinary moment of radical clarity. Ms. Trudeau awoke one morning to a house full of friends, laughter spilling over old habits. Something inside her snapped. She asked everyone to leave. She declared, with unwavering resolve, that she was done—that she would choose sobriety.

Mr. Pheasant, following her lead, asked her to throw away the liquor that was in

"She did that," he said. "And from there, we never looked back."

Ms. Trudeau entered a treatment program, and the couple stopped selling drugs to feed their habits. She understood how close they had come to disaster, overdosing more times than she could count

While rehabilitation programs have been a part of their long-term success, the deeper medicine was the land itself. Weeks spent in the forests of Northern Ontario, breathing cedar and pine, letting wind and rain wash over the shadows of the past, became a crucible of healing. Ms. Trudeau recounted vividly: "We were out there for a couple of months. It was the best place to be, the best place to heal."

"My life now is amazing," she added. "There was a point in time where I didn't even want to be here at all. And I'm so grateful for everything that's happened. You know, all of the work that I've been doing on myself from seeing a therapist. I've taken somatic therapy and I've done acupunc-



Those on a panel about healing at a Toronto wellness conference were, from left to right, Regan Gamble, Quentin Bird, Alison Recollet, Lindsay Trudeau and Roland Pheasant.

Now, years later, their lives have been reoriented around purpose and service. Ms. Trudeau is launching her own company, while both have dedicated themselves to helping others navigate the wilderness of addiction. "There's a lot of people who need help," she said. "And they're afraid. So, we try to be that voice for them."

Yet the panel was larger than any one story. It was a gathering of voices, each carrying scars and sparks, weaving a narrative both intimate and collective.

Among those voices was Grandmother Alison Recollet, a daughter of Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory. Ms. Recollet, who works for Nookimisnang Family Violence Shelter in her community, is proud to tell those newly on their healing journey the meaning of her spirit name —the Balance of Fire Woman—she embodies the intersection of trauma, survival and cultural reclamation.

"I come from sexual abuse," Ms. Recollet said, her voice calm, heavy with gravity. "A lot of shame goes with sexual abuse. You carry it with you, but every step, every ceremony, every act of speaking truth moves it just a little bit.'

Ms. Recollet's story is inseparable from the history of her family and her nation. Her father, John Recollet, survived residential school, his childhood was marked by trauma, yet he found redemption in the

Ms. Recollet inherited this legacy, an echo of ancestral endurance, tempered through ceremony, community.

At 30, she experienced what she calls a rebirth after having physically died on a hospital bed, reclaiming her identity from the shadows of violence and cultural erasure.

She tells us her spirit name is befitting to her because "when the fire is burning just right, not too high or too low," she explains, "that's when balance is found. That's how

The panels lived expertise extended beyond Wiikwemkoong, encompassing a wider fabric of First Nations experience.

Quentin Bird, of Dakota Plains Wahpeton Nation, spoke next. Growing up in care and spending many years in jail, Mr. Bird described a childhood fractured by displace-

ment, a youth stolen by cycles of neglect, and the painstaking work of reclaiming a sense of self. "I had to learn who I was in the ashes," he said. "And in that learning, I found a path forward. It wasn't easy, but it was necessary. You can't rebuild without first knowing what was broken.'

Regan Gamble, a member of Beardy's and Okemasis Cree Nation, followed. Her story was heavy with history: surviving residential school, struggling with addiction, enduring domestic abuse. Yet, through it all, she found grounding in ceremony, in community, and in the unbroken lineage of her ancestors. "Our stories are heavy," Ms. Gamble said. "But they are also medicine. We can use them to heal ourselves and each other." Her voice shook at moments yet held unwavering conviction.

The panel painted a tapestry of perseverance and dignity. Trauma, they demonstrated, is not solely individual—it flows through families, communities, and the land itself. Healing is a communal act, found not only in sweat lodges but at kitchen tables where Elders share stories, in songs sung by firelight, in laughter that shakes the shadows, and in the quiet hours of introspection when the wind reminds us that we are part of something larger.

The conference hall itself became part of the story. The scent of sage and cedar hung in the air, anchoring attendees in shared history. The rhythm of drumbeats echoed softly in the hearts of the audience, bridging the gap between story and memory, between past and present. The voices of the panelists were layered like the rings of a tree, each mark of growth and scar of injury visible, each ring representing a year of endurance.

Audience members leaned forward, rapt, absorbing the cadence of these lives, feeling both the weight of trauma and the lift of reclamation.

Healing, the panel made clear, is a mosaic of sweat, tears, song, and silence. It is in the act of sharing, in the witness of listening, in the spaces where culture, story and community converge. It is the work of reclaiming language, song, ceremony and presence; of walking in the footprints of ancestors while leaving new trails for those who follow.

# **obituary**

# **Ivan Wheale 1934-2025**

# A passion for art drove a lifetime of creativity as Whealism was born

by Michael Erskine

Internationally celebrated Manitoulin artist Ivan Trevor Wheale (90) known for his hyper-realistic paintings, particularly of the wild shorelines of Georgian Bay, has finally put away his paints and brushes, passing away August 9 under his own terms at the Manitoulin Health Centre in Little Current, surrounded by friends and family.

Born on November 8, 1934 in Sunderland, England to the late Arthur Wheale and Doris Wheale (Parker), he was a dear brother to the late Anglican Bishop Gerald (Jean) and Hilary Millichamp, who still lives in Oxford, England. He was married for 57 years to his beloved Jean Wheale (Livingston, predeceased in 2014) and was father to four children: Geoff (Cindy), Mike (Evyonne predeceased), Kathy and June (Darryl) as well as nine grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

While he was primarily best known for his artwork that hangs in collections ranging from Buckingham Palace to the Art Gallery of Ontario and countless corporate offices, Mr. Wheale was far from being a one-trick pony. A tireless community activist, he not only served on community boards, such as hospitals and libraries, but made innumerable donations to worthy causes over the course of his lifetime.

An avid outdoorsman, his sister Hillary Millicham described her older brother to The Expositor as a "Nature Boy," in the sense of the Nate King Cole hit from the 1948 of the same name, and that song so aptly described his character.

"There was a boy
A very strange, enchanted boy
They say he wandered very far
Very far, over land and sea
A little shy and sad of eye
But very wise was he
And then one day

A magic day he passed my way And while we spoke of many things Fools and kings, this he said to me 'The greatest thing you'll ever learn Is just to love and be loved in return.

The greatest thing you'll ever learn Is just to love and be loved in return."

Ms. Millichamp, a self-confessed 'city girl,' recalled her brother taking her on trips up into the North Country above the large town where he would build a hide out of the bracken and instruct her to be very still and just observe. She learned to not mind the scratches on her legs and arms and to revel in the wonders around them. Years later, when she would come to Manitoulin for a visit, Mr. Wheale would take her up



Manitoulin artist Ivan Wheale poses with one of the many paintings he would create for the annual opening of the Perivale Gallery.

onto Willisville Mountain to look upon the wonders below.

Mr. Wheale's daughter June recalled to The Expositor that her father would take the family camping and just build a lean-to, cobbled together with whatever was at hand and they would sleep under the stars. The family would spend summers sailing, fishing and exploring nature. Winters were for skiing.

Mr. Wheale and his beloved wife Jean were accomplished dancers and skiers—observers comment on how the couple were always in synch whether on the dance floor or the slopes. They joined the Ski Patrol, where Mr. Wheale met his



From left are: Dr. Richard Nanka-Bruce, artist Ivan Wheale, Dr. Nanka-Bruce's wife Joanna and son Robert. Dr. Nanka-Bruce is credited with saving Mr.Wheale's life by diagnosing an encephalitis infection missed by other

photo by Michael Erskine

said.

Then a judge from one of the many exhibitions he entered recommended him to galleries in Toronto and Montreal and everything changed. "I never le Gallery.

the North Channel) and I add,

or take away from that image

to make it better." he said. "In a

"I can't paint anything that

does not grab me," he said. "I have to be passionate about it

A self-taught artist, Mr. Wheale became consumed with

a driving passion to pursue his

art fulltime after seeing an exhi-

bition of the works of Van Gogh

in Toronto during the 1960s. He

left his job at a Sudbury lumber

yard and set his sights on that

"For the first year my friends

and family bought my work,'

he said. "But after that there

It wasn't easy.

sense, it's better than real.'

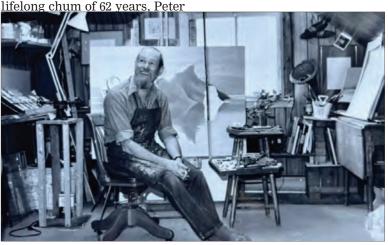
or it just doesn't happen."

The unveiling of the annual Ivan Wheale collection at Perivale Gallery has always been the unofficial start of the summer art season on Manitoulin, faithfully covered by The Expositor for decades.

Along with the late Peg Forbes, Mr. Wheale co-founded the La Cloche Art Show and he was central to the establishment of the Sudbury Museum and Fine Arts Centre—both venues that have helped to promote and nurture countless area artists through the years. For many years, the Ivan Wheale Award and the Peg Forbes Award (both judged by Mr. Wheale himself) have been the most sought after ribbons at the La Cloche Art Show. Mr. Wheale was proud to be able to judge again this one last time at the July show, although declining health meant that he was not able to attend the artists' reception this year—but still managing to send a video message from his hospital bed instead.

Leafing through the scrapbooks of yellowing news clippings maintained by Mr. Wheale's wife Jean over the years of Ivan's career, not a page goes by that does not contain a clipping documenting his generosity toward hospitals, cancer societies, schools, libraries and symphonies-and there are many, many pages in those scrapbooks. Mr. Wheale was the recipient of the Rotary Club's highest honour, the Paul Harris Fellowship and, most recently, being nominated for a King Charles II Coronation Medal for his contributions to the community and many, many other accolades, including the Little Current Citizen of the Year.

Mr. Wheale was also known for his good humour and mischievous side and for years was the anonymous author of a series of "368" classified ads in this newspaper containing a



The artist in his younger days.

Dow (Mr. Dow recently passed as well).

Over the past decade since his wife Jean passed, Mr. Wheale was known for taking his boat out in the early morning to explore the North Channel and not returning until nearly sunset (much to the consternation of the marina staff, he was after all over 80 years old by that

time). But soon he would pull in hauling the days catch on a stringer and with his head filled with new ideas and images.

His adventurous spirit led him to explore Canada's far North, settling into the shores of Baffin Island's Pond Inlet with nothing more than a pup tent and a knapsack filled with dried food. The resulting paintings remain among some of his most sought-after works.

Mr. Wheale described his favourite times of the day as being "just before sunrise and just after sunset, when the shadows are much longer." Light played a critical role in his artwork and observers looking at one of his works are amazed at his deft utilization of light and shadow to make his subjects "pop."

While casual observers might say that his work resembles a photograph, Mr. Wheale's "Whealism" is reality made better. "I take an image from somewhere like the Benjamin's (a collection of islands that are a popular sailing destination in



Artist Ivan Wheale at work in his studio.

looked back after that," he said. Although he is known primarily these days for his oil paintings, Mr. Wheale actually began more as a water colourist and it was one of his watercolour works that was chosen by artists across Canada to be presented to Queen Elizabeth II. It went on to join a number of barn paintings that were already in the Queen's collections.

Mr. Wheale's influence is reflected in the work of his countless students, taught over the years at colleges and universities and, most recently, in the art workshop classes for Periva-

joke. He also penned a number of articles and series for the paper. The final 368 classified ad ended, for more details call 368-heaven.

He will be missed, but his art and contributions to the community will live on. His ashes, mingled with those of his beloved Jean have been committed to the waters of the North Channel.

A video documentary by Laurentian's Kathy Browning of Mr. Wheale describing his work can be found online at laurentian.ca/videos-visual-artists-greater-sudbury.



The artist's very busy studio.

Manitoulin OPP executes warrant and makes arrest
The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) executed a warrant in Billings Township.

On Thursday, August 14, members of the Manitoulin OPP responded to a complaint of a known person breaching their conditions on Main Street in Billings Township.

The conditions included the individual required to remain at least 50 metres away from any location where the complainant might be. The individual had parked their vehicle next to the complainant's and, while at a local restaurant, walked past them, thereby breaching the conditions.

On Tuesday, August 26, at approximately 12 pm, officers with the Manitoulin OPP Crime Unit executed a search warrant at a residence on Highway 540 in Billings township. As a result of the investigation, William Concannon, 58 years old from Gore Bay, was arrested and charged with two counts of breach of recognizance and criminal harassment.

The allegations have yet to be proven in court.

### Police seek info on stolen ATV

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is calling for assistance from members of the public in locating an all-terrain vehicle (ATV), stolen from a location in Sandfield Township last month.

The ATV was reported to the OPP as stolen on July 30. "The complainant reported that a 2019 Honda TRX Four Trax Rancher ATV was stolen," explained the OPP in a release. The vehicle was stolen from a residence on Gibraltar Road in Sandfield.

The vehicle has an Ontario-registered off-road vehicle plate, number 93BJ4.

Anyone with information related to the theft, those



responsible, or the location of the ATV is asked to contact the OPP using reference number E#251016033 or Crime Stoppers anonymously. You can contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

### Driver arrested for impaired after driving on walking path at Low Island Park

One person is facing impaired-related charges after a traffic stop at Low Island Park.

On Friday, August 15 at approximately 8 pm, officers with the Manitoulin detachment of the OPP were at Low Island Park in Little Current, when they observed a vehicle driving on the walking path. Police conducted a traffic stop, and further investigation resulted in the driver being arrested for impaired operation.

The driver, Robert Nahwegahbo, 45 years old from Calgary, Alberta, was charged with operation while impaired, operation while impaired-blood alcohol concentration (80 plus).

The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Gore Bay on September 23.

The OPP wants to remind the public that no amount of alcohol or drugs in your system is safe while driving. If you suspect an impaired driver on our roads, waterways or trails, don't hesitate to 'make the call' and dial 911. Your phone call could save someone's life.

Domestic dispute results in multiple charges
Accused led police on hunt through two communities
A 36-year-old male from M'Chigeeng First Nation has

been charged with numerous criminal code offences involving weapons, assault, and uttering threats. Due to the nature of the incident-intimate partner violence (IPV), a publication ban is in effect. The name of the accused will not be released.

On August 19, at approximately 1:02 pm, UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service responded to a report of a domestic dispute at a residence on Highway 540 in M'Chigeeng First Nation.

Upon arrival, officers encountered a distressed victim who alleged that the accused had damaged their vehicle and threatened to cause harm. When police arrived, the accused fled into a wooded area.

During the investigation, police received information that the accused may have recently obtained a handgun, which police were able to locate and seize during the course of the investigation. Officers established scene containment and requested additional resources including the Manitoulin OPP and a K9 unit. The residence was cleared, and a search of the surrounding area did not locate the accused.

A cellphone location search later identified the accused's position whereabouts, and the suspect vehicle was eventually located on Virginia Crescent in Aundeck Omni First Nation (AOK). After initially fleeing into the bush the accused surrendered to police without incident.

Earlier, the Manitoulin OPP had advised of a heavy police presence in the area of Highway 540 between Hill Street and Bebonang Street in M'Chigeeng First Nation as well as on Virginia Crescent in AOK.

The incident was resolved with the arrest of the male and charges laid. The accused was transported to the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service, processed and held

...continued on page 21

# Friends and Neighbours

### Providence Bay Alexia Hannigan

Alexia here with your friendly September fly! Some days hit right and some days are a fly ball gone foul then again, some days are...record scratch soundbite. Wait a minute! It's September? Anyone with a Gob smacked overtired teen knows it, because today the kids and teachers went back to the bells and books. The sleep schedules will finally fall back to where parents and grandparents can catch some peace at night and reanimate their end of June to-do lists that they found crumpled and covered in smidges of cotton candy, ice cream and smores, evidence of a summer well spent.

Here's what's happening: Fair-grounds, no events for now but there will be the Providence Bay Fall Market around mid-October and a few more fun fall events to look forward to before the recreation night skating and hockey season goes full tilt, stay tuned!

Manitoulin recreational events calendar with class schedules for Providence Bay Hall, Mindemoya Hall and

Spring Bay Hall visit: centralmanitoulin.ca or contact Alison Sloss at asloss@ centralmanitoulin.ca, or call 705-377-5726

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

Sunset Music Series went out with a big finish! Thanks to all the amazing organizers and staff and crew who made the magic happen and to the incredible community of musical artists who came out and serenaded us with music and storytelling, we look forward to seeing some of you again next season!

Thank you to all of the staff and crew of the Discovery Centre who hosted and organized lots of fun learning events for everyone this summer. It was a great season of learning and fun under the sun!

Reuse/Recycle: The Providence Bay Reuse Shed is open at the Providence Bay Transfer Station. For more information contact 705-377-5726. Visit the transfer station at 4077 Government Road.

The Lions Club bottle drive continues next to the arena, this program is open to the public and we encourage everyone to drop off their used bottles and cans, your empties help fund great local initiatives.

The Providence Bay and Spring Bay Lions progressive "Catch the Ace" lottery continues to benefit the Mindemoya Hospital Auxiliary Inc. Draws are broadcast live on the Providence Bay and Spring Bay Lions Facebook page so check it out weekly for updates. From each ticket sale, 20 percent funds the weekly jackpot, 30 percent contributes to the progressive jackpot and 50 percent goes directly to the Mindemoya Hospital Auxiliary Inc.

The Heavens: Manitoulin Island is a dark sky reserve so find a dark sky spot, bring your telescope and enjoy the wonders of the cosmos.

September 7th Corn Or "Harvest" Moon.

Total Lunar Blood Moon Eclipse September 7-8

The Friends: Happy Birthday to all of you early September babies! Regards and remembrance for JahVai Roy and family.

Wishing everyone a happy, safe and successful new school year! 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! Check out your favourite local businesses, art gallery and restaurant social pages for updates or you can visit the Central Manitoulin Township webpage or visit exploremanitoulin.com for updates on all the events happening near you.

Reminders: The Marc Hovingh Memorial Youth Bike Ride and Rodeo is happening on September 6 at 1 pm! For more information, please see the poster on the Central Manitoulin page or contact Marie Ford at 705-348-8472.

Registration for September's Knowledge Sharing Sessions are now open!

We have Nancy and Erin-Blythe joining us on Wednesday, September 10 to share their tips on seed saving and Geranium clippings! Then, on Wednesday, September 24, Alison McAllister is back with a fun fall decoration, turkey pumpkins! To register for either session, please email Alison at asloss@centralmanitoulin.ca.

Harvest Glory Days is around the corner! Start gathering up your haybales, mums', flowers and scarecrows, time for some good old fashioned fall fun! Stay tuned for details and deadlines!

Happy Brrr, back-to-school and big comfy sweater season and countdown to the silly season!

"First there's summer, then I'll let you in September when it comes"

- Rosanne Cash

### Kagawong Team Fergmeijer

Today is the first official day of classes for students across Manitoulin. We wish all students and staff a happy and productive start to the new school year. Team Fergmeijer will never forget the inspirational words our teacher once said to us: she said we were just like Su-

perman, except that he had super vision and we needed supervision.

Good luck, too, to all the young (and young-at-heart) Kagawongians moving away for post-secondary studies. Always remember the important life lessons that Kagawong has taught you: you have to show up early if you want the best baked goods, never swim in the plunge pool after the salmon have spawned, and always alternate your ice cream scooping arm for balanced muscle development!

Kagawong has closed the door on another market season and we would like to thank all the marketers who help create such an iconic event each week. Most of all, we need to offer heart-felt thanks to the one and only Ethel Newburn, who works tirelessly to organize and manage all the moving pieces that make the market happen. We appreciate everything you do!

We've had a new book idea! It's a crime novel where the twist is that the chicken did it. It might not win a lot of awards, but we are hoping for a pullet surprise.

Body Stories Dance has announced their 2025/26 dance schedule for classes in Kagawong, which include offerings for children, youth, adults and seniors. You can register on their website: www. bodystoriesdance.com.

Happy Birthday to our Manitoulin Mom who turned 29 last week. Age is just a number, but you know you are getting up there when people call at 9 pm, only to apologize and ask if they woke you up.

After an incredible summer, the village is settling into the quieter fall season. The Old Mill Heritage Centre is now open Wednesday to Sunday from 10 am to 5 pm, and the library is back to their winter hours (Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4 to 7 pm; Saturdays, 10 am to 1 pm). The landfill remains on its current schedule (Tuesdays and Thursdays 2 to 6 pm; Saturdays and Sunday 10 am to 4 pm) until October 31.

Today we saw a man dragging a clam on a leash behind him. It must be difficult to walk with a pulled mussel.

Want free books for your little ones? Billings families can register their children (under 5) for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library! Each month, your child will receive an age-appropriate book in the mail, absolutely free. To take part, complete and return the registration form found on the library's Facebook page (FB.com/kagawonglibrary), or visit the library in person for a paper copy and more information!

Getting paid to stand in line for others is a strange ocqueuepation. Have a great week!

### Silver Water Karen Noble

On Friday night, we went to euchre in Meldrum Bay.

On Saturday morning, we had another market in our yard. There were lots of vendors and lots of shoppers. We are getting close to our goal of fundraising for the Angel Bus.

On Saturday afternoon the recycle bins were open. We had lots of people out. Thank you to all the people who continue to donate their liquor containers and pop cans.

On Monday night we went to euchre at the Burpee and Mills Complex.

ne Burpee and Mills Complex. Tuesday evening was fire practice.

Wednesday evening, there was a Local Services Board meeting with an election at the Silver Water Hall. The new board for the next three years is Paul Sorbara, Charles Pickard, Doug Wismer, Gerard Binsfeld and Karen Noble. The new fire hall roof grant has been approved and next steps in the process were discussed. A tender for the project will be placed in the Expositor soon.

Larissa Chevrette spent Thursday with us helping me bake muffins for Saturday's market. We went out for supper at Randi's Snack Shack in Sheshegwaning. Then we took her to Zhiibaahaasing for a tour and saw all the construction that is happening.

On Thursday evening there was euchre at the Silver Water Community Hall.

Anne Boyd went with Jim and Patsy Kling on the cruise out of Little Current to fundraise for Manitoulin Family Resources on Saturday, August 23.

Gladys Duncanson, Irene Duncanson and Ardith Cull went to the anniversary party for Jack and Betty Wood on Sunday, August 24.

Lara and Chad Chevrette spent last week in Algonquin Park.

The UCW monthly meetings resume on Thursday, September 4 at St. Andrew's United Church in Silver Water at 1:30 pm

The Tekhummah euchre tournament is on Sunday, September 7 at 1:30 pm.



### ...Rotary Club hosts Italian student as part of exchange

with their other two children, Marley and Rex Meawasige.

Cameron told the Rotary Club that she will be staying with a family in Madrid, Spain and will be attending high school in Spain, and will be leaving in mid-August. "When Rotary offered me to be part of this exchange program I wanted to cry as I was so happy." She told the meeting that her mother, Melissa Brandon, had originally informed her about the opportunity of taking part in the Rotary student exchange program.

"My family has been very supportive of all of this," stated Cameron. "I will definitely miss them when I go away. It is such a special opportunity for me," she said as she spoke a few words in Spanish to the club.

The Rotary Club will also be hosting an incoming student from Italy for the 2025-2026 school year. Ludovica Costa hails from Albisola Superiore in Northern Italy. The sponsoring Rotary Club in Italy, is based in Savona. She will be arriving in Canada in August, attending Manitoulin Secondary School for the fall semester and completing her exchange year in Sudbury before returning to her home country.

"We're very excited for Cameron to be given this type of opportunity," said Ms. Brandon. "Thank you for giving Cameron this type of opportunity. We are excited to be having an exchange student from Italy join our family for the next year. It is an exciting time for someone to be coming to Manitoulin Island.'

Mr. Meawasige said, "We have been living on the Island for the past 12 years. With our exchange student coming here we get to rediscover Manitoulin Island all over again. We are already making plans where we are going to be taking Ludovica on the Island. Cameron will be a great ambassador for the Island, and we are already excited about hearing her stories from Italy."

Mr. Rogalsky said, "When I accepted the position of club presi-



The Gore Bay Rotary Club held its annual general meeting at the Red Lodge Resort in Sheguiandah, with guests including the Meawasige family. Cameron Meawasige, centre, in white skirt, is taking part in a Rotary exchange and is currently studying in Spain.

dent this past year, I was somewhat hesitant because I didn't really have a full grasp of what serving as club president entailed. I will admit I still don't have a full grasp on the situation, however, the support of the member and guidance from our past president. Jack Clark, has allowed me to gain an understanding of the position and an appreciation for the importance of 'service above

"It has been an honour to serve this club and our community in this role, and I encourage all members to take the opportunity to do likewise when they are ready," said Mr. Rogalsky.

"As you may recall, last June at the 2024 annual dinner, I set myself a goal of increasing our membership by two during the 2024-25 Rotary calendar year," said Mr. Rogalsky. "While I am pleased to report that we did indeed welcome these new members, we at the same time saw other members leave the club for a variety of reasons, some of whom joined other clubs elsewhere, leaving our number essentially where we started. We should not be discouraged by this, but rather, encouraged that we do make a difference and have a relevance to the community and there are people out there that are willing to serve with us, the key will be finding them and reaching out to make them feel welcomed and engaged.

To that end, I hope that we as a club, will continue to work on membership as one of our continuing goals for the coming year."

'We have had a very successful year in terms of the events that we have staged and the fundraising that we have seen as a result of those activities," continued Mr. Rogalsky. "We owe much to the support of our community and volunteers, like Robbie White, members of the Frosty Cup Committee, the Gore Bay Fire Department, Max Burt, that helped us to achieve this success. These efforts have allowed this club to disburse over \$40,000 to a variety of community-based support services, to families in need and to other organizations that operate within our Western Manitoulin catchment area as well as some international aids."

"While we should be proud of these results, I am most proud of you, our members and spouses and volunteers, who step up each and every time to make things happen," said Mr. Rogalsky. 'That is truly the 'Magic of Rotary,' the theme of Rotary International this vear.'

Rogalsky then Mr. handed over the president gavel to the incoming Rotary President, Peter Carter. The latter presented the past president's pin to Mr. Rogalsky for all his efforts over the past year as club president.

"I can't believe this moment has come, it's here" stated Mr. Carter. "I have big shoes to follow in Dave's footsteps. and he had big shoes to fill following the illustrious Jack (Clark)," said Mr. Carter. "I am going to do my best."

Mr. Carter explained the Gore Bay Rotary Club originated in 1954, and has a long record, and tremendous history. "We have had the opportunity to host many exchange students over the years, and we hope Cameron has a wonderful year in Spain. I know she will have many stories to share with us when she returns.'

"I would also like to thank Oliver Runnalls for representing Barrie Island, Manitoulin Island on the Rotary club for many years, and wish him a belated 90th happy birthday," said Mr. Car-

Mr. Carter said recruiting new members to the club will be a focus for the next year. "We have a very good club, everyone pitches in. Our club is small in numbers but mighty in terms of what we do.'

"Our focus is our community and what we raise over the year we put back into the community," said Mr. Carter. "I look forward to working with each and every one here on projects and events we have planned, to help the community."







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The Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Program (JYSEP) of Kagawong is looking for serviceoriented youth (ages 17-30) to volunteer as animators in the program, empowering junior youth (ages 11-15) to become catalysts for community building and self-directed change in the Billings area. Contact Pam Jackson at (705) 210-0529.

valuable insight. The student voice makes education more meaningful." The two student trust-

ees were sworn into their roles during the regular meeting of RDSB on August 26.

### .Rainbow Board welcomes new student trustees

...continued from page 3

ing to have her creations featured on runways. Ms. Cyr also contributes to youth councils on Manitoulin Island.

"Through school involvement, students learn important life skills like collaboration, communication and leadership," said Ms. Cyr. "Being involved has enabled me to meet new people and gain an appreciation for the diversity in our schools."

She says student voice matters because students are the future. "I am so excited to be representing Indigenous students across the Rainbow District and be a role model and a voice for us all."

A Grade 12 student at

LSS, Ms. Guenette is actively involved in her school community, including drama production, the concert band. jazz band, senior winds and many sports from flag football and basketball to volleyball and soccer. She is president of student council and serves as score keeper and captain of the Reach for the Top team. She has also supported Lasalle's Sport Health Academics and Leadership Program (SHAL), helping out with tournaments and special events. Her involvement in school life will continue as she co-chairs the student senate and serves as student trustee.

"Involvement in school and life is extremely important as you get to experience new things and meet new people, which can lead to lifelong relationships," said Ms. Guenette. "You also get to develop your strengths, such as leadership, confidence, responsibility and time management.'

Ms. Guenette said, "students experience school every day. Their voice matters. When students have the opportunity to be heard, they are recognized as active participants in their education. They feel respected and know they matter." She said every student experiences the school day differently, through extracurriculars, academics and social aspects. "The student perspective offers

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WEDNESDAY: 4 PM - 9 PM
THURSDAY: 4 PM - WHEN TRIVIA ENDS
FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 4 PM - 1 AM

# Town of NEMI, Wiikwemkoong receive Hydro One funds

MANITOULIN—The Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands (NEMI) and Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory (WUT) are among 28 organizations, municipalities and Indigenous communities to receive funding from a Hydro One program.

Today, Hydro One Inc. (Hydro One) was joined by the non-profit organization, Drop-in at The Bridge (in Barrie) to announce the 28 Indigenous communities, charitable organizations and municipalities that will

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# Introduction to Music Piano Lessons

for kids and adults taught in Kagawong by Karon Graham 705-297-5634 each receive \$25,000 in funding from the Energizing Life Community Fund," a Hydro One release explains.

For the fifth consecutive year, Hydro One is awarding funds to local initiatives that address community needs across the province.

The Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands (NEMI) will use the \$25,000 in funding it will receive toward a training program that will provide community workshops to promote the importance of safety awareness and energy preparation while providing participants with a 72-hour emergency kit.

Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory (WUT) is upgrading the local arena to enhance communication, engagement and energy during hockey games, tournaments and special events.

"Our 2025 recipients are powerful agents of local change, and we are excited to partner with them through our Energizing Life Community Fund," said Bronwen Evans, vice-president, sustainability, communications and marketing, Hydro One. "Congratulations to all the recipients and thank you for your dedication to building a better and brighter future.'

Hydro One directs a minimum of 20 percent of its corporate donations and sponsorships to support Indigenous communities and initiatives that serve them. Reflecting this commitment, approximately 28 percent of the 2025 Energizing Life Community Fund grants will benefit Indigenous communities and organizations.



The Manitowaning Fall Fair Saturday parade is one not to be missed.

### .149th Manitowaning Fall Fair this weekend

...continued from page 3

you at the fair the weekend after Labour Day."

Exhibits can be brought to the arena on Thursday evening between 7 and 9 pm and/or Friday morning starting at 8:30 am. The doors are locked at 11:30 am sharp and entries can no longer be submitted.

Only one entry is allowed for each individual section in each class. All exhibits must be made, grown, or tended by the exhibitors, otherwise they will be disqualified.

The judges will commence to award the prize for the articles in the exhibit hall (arena) at 12:30

pm on Friday.

During the inspection for any of the exhibits no person will be allowed to interfere with the judge. nor will they be allowed to go near them except for the directors and helpers for the category being judged. Any person wishing to change a ticket due to a mistake must only do so with attendance of any official before judging be-

All exhibitors and their print in the program and

helpers must have the exhibit number visible when removing their exhibits. Exhibits cannot be removed until Saturday at 3 pm.

The fair is always looking for sponsors, and if you or your business are willing to lend a sponsorship you can contact Ms. Pennie at (705) 869-3670 or Brenda at (705) 859-2112. Sponsors are appreciated and will be recognized in prize list.

All exhibits in the arena must be properly ticketed before submitting them for judging, according to the fall fair booklet. Youth and pre-school entry tags must clearly show the age of the exhibitor as of December 31.

There's plenty more going on at the fair, so check out Pages 16 to 17 in this edition of The Expositor for details.

### ...feted for her farmers' market dedication

...continued from page 3

welcome visitors to the market. Thank you, Laila, from all the vendors.'

Ms. Kiviaho found herself slightly non-plussed by the attention. "I just do what I do," she said. "I don't know what all the fuss is about."

"Laila has been kind of the rock for this organization since it started," said former market president Ken Ferguson, who was on hand for the presentation. "She was diligent in making sure all of the vendors had paid their dues and was always ready to lend a hand or suggestion for new people," he said. "She kept the books straight and all the details looked after.'

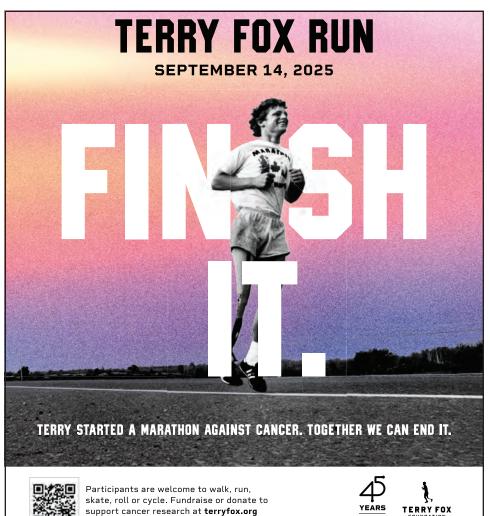
Mr. Ferguson also largely credits Ms. Kiviaho for the success of the market in recent years.

Ms. Kiviaho, for her part, was slightly alarmed that people would think she was quitting the market. Nothing could be further from the truth.

You know the best part of the market is meeting all the people," she said. That's very important when you start to get older. You need that social interaction to keep your mind fit."

There is no question that Ms. Kiviaho's mind is fit as a fiddle, which stands to prove her point.

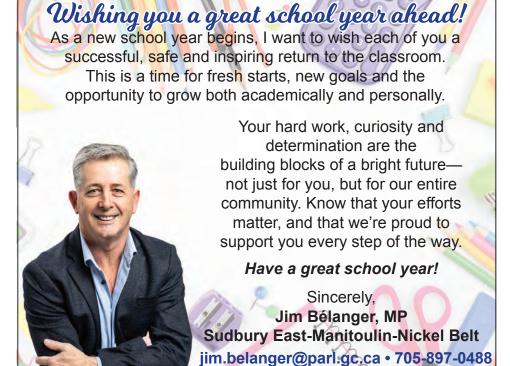
She said she is grateful for the expression of thanks from the vendors, but she was quick to add that she wasn't alone in building up the market. While that might be, her contributions have been integral to the NEMI Farmers' Market's continued success.







Join us at Low Island Park, Little Current on Sunday, September 14. Run begins at 1 pm.



# ...Central councillors unhappy with integrity commissioner findings

...continued from page 1

lead us to what I believed was received as facts and the conclusion as I see it? I'm not happy with the report. I'll just leave

Integrity Commissioner Zachary Courtemanche's report is as follows.

July 2024, the Integrity Commissioner received a complaint naming Councillor Dale Scott as respondent and alleging breaches of the Municipality's Code of Conduct. The allegations related to the disclosure of comments made in closed ses-

"During the month of sion in violation of the applicable provisions of the Code of Conduct. Further, the allegations suggested that subsequent conversations in the municipality's offices by various individuals were violations of the Code of Conduct attributable to the respondent. The

complainant confirmed

following the submission of the complaint that the respondent was Councillor Scott. Following receipt of the complaint the Integrity Commissioner interviewed the complainant, requested relevant documents from the municipality, and

advocating for the building we all know, love and

Community members wishing to support MARC can contact the group at marcvoice377@ gmail.com and stay up to date by liking their Facebook page at facebook. com/MindemoyaArenaconducted interviews with the respondent and other relevant witnesses identified through review of the documentation or arising from the prior interviews (including members of council and municipal staff). Where appropriate, the Integrity Commissioner interviewed witnesses suggested by parties/ other witnesses in order to determine the relevant facts. Following the completion of the inquiry process, the Integrity Commissioner provided a preliminary copy of the report to the complainant and respondent for comment. The complainant and respondent were invited to provide comment if desired, but neither did so. The Integrity Commissioner does

not find that there has been a violation of the Code of Conduct by the respondent as alleged in the original complaint. The pivotal question in this complaint was whether the respondent can be determined to have shared confidential comments arising from a closed session with an individual not party to the closed session. It was clear following interviews that there was no direct account of any specific comments being shared with a non-party individual by the respondent (or anyone else present in the closed session). Accordingly, no recommendations made for council on any penalty as no violation of the Code of Conduct is found.

### MARC donates \$23K to the arena repair cause

...continued from page 1

a lot of hard work and fundraising by MARC, which is continuing its fundraising efforts."

"The work on the west wall was \$100,000 so the MARC group raised onefourth of the cost of the work," Councillor Scott pointed out. "This all goes towards making the arena safe for all kids that play hockey and all the groups that use the

Construction work on the west wall was carried out by P. Sheppard and Son Construction. Represented at the event by Dustin O'Reilly, the company not only organized additional donations for materials but also completed the work at a reduced rate to benefit the community.

Paul Sheppard and his company carried out the work for \$100,000 (less than what they had originally been offered by the municipality, of \$150,000). Mr. Sheppard noted the support of Whittington Engineering which provided the design drawing for the work at no cost, Manitowaning Mill that provided materials at cost, Lafarge which provided concrete at a reduced cost and Terrastar Building Products which provided materials at a reduced cost.

The construction work was carried out in a quick and timely manner to ensure the arena was available for the upcom-

### ...mayor says

...continued from page 1

board still has some say as to what happens with the property."

The Town is interested in buying the property,' said Mayor Lane, who explained OAHS officials will be discussing this with the DSB to see if this will receive consideration.

"OAHS indicated it is still going through its insurance company since the fire. They didn't provide a timeline but indicated they are working with their insurance company as to a rebuild or a payout on the insurance," continued Mayor Lane. OAHS inquired as to whether the town would be in favour of OAHS constructing social housing in another location in town. "We don't need social housing here in town. There are no mental health supports in place in the area to allow for this type of housing," added Mayor Lane. "We agreed to talk further in the future."

ing ice season.

The cheque presentation celebrates the power of local volunteers, donors, and businesses working together. MARC emphasized that the funds reflect the trust and generosity of the community and are dedicated to ensuring that the Mindemoya arena continues to serve as a safe and vibrant hub for

recreation and community life for years to come.

"MARC is continuing its fundraising efforts as the condition reports from the municipality have indicated there are several short, medium. and long-term items that need addressing at the arena," said Ms. Ford. "We hope to continue our partnerships with the community and to keep

use on a regular basis, a true hub for our community."

Repair.



# ...Billings continues to push for Bridal Veil parking changes

...continued from page 1

Barker, mayor of Billings. "With the COVID pandemic completely over, there has been an increase in people visiting the falls. The problem with parking is only going to get worse and we are wanting to get ahead of it, with a proactive approach."

Mr. Barker and a delegation from Billings met

with Ministry of Transportation (MTO) officials in August, as part of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) annual conference held in Ottawa.

"We are working in partnership with the ministry in regard to parking issues on the highway at the Bridal Veil Falls area," said Mayor Barker. "They agreed to work with us on some possible resolutions on the issue and will be meeting us as early as next week to look at mitigating the parking issue (with vehicles being parked in areas on the highway that they are not allowed and causing safety concerns). Being that we are talking about a provincial highway (540) we need ministry permission to carry out any options being looked at."

Mayor Barker indicated, "In 2023 we met with the ministry, and several good ideas came out of the meeting, for instance the installation of crosswalks across the highway, parking delineators on the shoulder where people try to park, which can be removed in the winter for snow removal. Whether any of these or other options are practical we will hash this out at our meeting with the MTO."

The Billings delegation met with provincial ministry officials on three different issues. "We were LLS rina

The parking issue at Bridal Veil Falls has again raised concerns for Billings officials.

photo by Ed Prudhomme

looking for guidance on funding opportunities available to complete the Small Craft Harbour with new washrooms, laundry and showers," said Mayor Barker, after the meeting with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism representatives.

"We are looking for get funding and approvguidance on funding al for continued funding

streams, or areas where funding can be sourced that are already in place," said Mayor Barker.

"The third delegation we had was with the Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility," said Mayor Barker. "We were looking for guidance on how we can get funding and approval for continued funding and a permanent location for our very successful seniors active living program."

"This is a program that has been very successful," said Mayor Barker. "At our meeting they gave us a couple of leads and direction on sources for funding we can apply for."

Regional Chief Terry Tee-

### A quaint shop providing loose leaf teas, decadent chocolates, sweet treats, teawares, & MORE in the heart of Manitoulin Island! CLOSED Monday Tuesday CLOSED 6284 Hwy 540, 10 AM - 8 PM Wednesday M'Chigeeng ON POP 1G0 10 AM - 8 PM Thursday Friday 10 AM - 8 PM Saturday 10 AM - 8 PM 10 AM - 8 PM Sunday

### National chief calls for accelerated action on implementing the UN Declaration Act following release of federal report

OTTAWA—Assembly of First Nations (AFN) National Chief Cindy Woodhouse Nepinak released a statement in response to the Department of Justice Canada's release of its fourth annual progress report on implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act

(UNDA).

"Today's report is itself a call to action for Canada to improve its efforts to work alongside First Nations to build true nation-to-nation partnerships so we can accelerate progress on the UN Declaration," said National Chief Woodhouse Nepinak on August 25. "We appreciate the increased level of detail and transparency in their report compared to previous years, but it still reveals an ongoing lack of meaningful measures to ensure Canada's policies, legislation, consultation processes and mandates are aligned with the spirit and intent of the Declaration. Action will be especially important as Canada is aiming to advance major infrastructure projects and build a stronger economy. Respect and real

partnership will be key to progress."

"We are concerned with the government's planned reduction in spending towards First Nations priorities, including support for First Nations to meaningfully participate in implementing the UN Declaration," continued National Chief Woodhouse-Nepinak. "AFN's 2025 pre-budget submission identifies \$30 million over the next five years to continue the important work of implementation, including processes, mechanisms and legislation to ensure First Nations free, prior and informed consent.'

"After four years of slow, incremental progress in implementing the UNDA, First Nations continue to advocate for stronger commitments and decisive, transformative actions that recognize and implement First Nations' sovereignty, nationhood, inherent rights and title and our right to free, prior and informed consent," added British Columbia

geen, AFN portfolio holder on the UN Declaration on the rights of Indigenous peoples. "The recently disappointing failure of the Canadian federal government to properly engage and consult with First Nations on the one Canadian Economy Act (Bill C-5) reveals the deeply embedded colonial practices that inform laws and policy in this country and the struggle to overcome these frameworks. Without true co-development, the recognition of free, prior and informed consent, and First Nations participation at critical decision-making tables across all levels of government, UNDA risks being another symbolic gesture incapable of addressing the historical and ongoing injustices First Nations peoples face. First Nations remain watchful and engaged, ensuring that progress on UNDA translates into meaningful and lasting change on the ground."

"We encourage all Canadians to learn more about the UN Declaration, and we urge the federal obligations to upholding First Nations inherent and treaty rights, title, and iurisdiction as affirmed in the UN Declaration," concluded National Chief Woodhouse Nepinak. "We will continue to press for processes that respect First Nations-driven solutions, including strengthening relationships with provinces and territories who have an obligation to uphold the Declaration. The AFN will be sharing its own progress report on Canada's implementation of the UN Declaration. based on mandates from First Nations-in-Assembly, in the coming weeks to supplement Canada's own reporting."



### **NOTICE BOARD**

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

### **NOTICE OF MEETINGS**

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

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

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

Centennial Museum of Sheguiandah is happy to present the Manitoulin Fine Arts Association Members Only Art Show on until September 7th

Open daily 9 am - 4:30 pm

### School is back in session! Protect our children.

Stop for school buses when the lights are flashing! The crossing guards are there to protect our children. Please drive carefully and stop for crossing guards!



### Sheguiandah Fall Fair

at the Centennial Museum
September 13th, 2025, 10 am to 3 pm.
Get your entries ready!
Books available at the Town office,
Centennial Museum and the Manitoulin Expositor.

### Join us for an evening of Fun at the NEMI Recreation Centre

on September 10<sup>th</sup> to learn to make apple fritters with Pam Roy. Cost is \$15 and you can register by email at lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca

### Gentle Fitness is Back!

Starting September 9<sup>th</sup> at 11 am in the main hall of the NEMI Recreation Centre.

Cost is \$10

Register by email: lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca or come early to class (10:30 am).

### Line Dancing

Line dancing starts on September 10th. Cost is \$20 and you can register by email with lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca.

### **TENDER**

### REPLACEMENT OF THREE OIL FURNACES WITH PROPANE FURNACES at NEMI Recreation Centre

Interested parties may pick up copies of the tender at the municipal office or request a copy from the Manager of Community Services, Reid Taylor, at rtaylor@townofnemi.on.ca

RFP documents are available on the NEMI website: townofnemi.on.ca

If further information is required, please contact:

Connor Davis at cdavis@townofnemi.on.ca.



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.

5 kg box of frozen trout fillets available for \$66!



54 Vankoughnet Street East, Little Current 705-368-3755 Fall Hours:

Tues-Thurs 9 am-3 pm, Fri 10 am-4 pm. Closed Sat-Mon.
Visit the Manitoulin Trout Farms – The Fish Store on Facebook

# ...RDSB chair believes elected trustee system is safe

...continued from page 1

try. And we face different and unique challenges to those in other areas."

He explained the funding RDSB receives is allocated locally where it is needed to maximize the needs including, for instance, special education.

"RDSB is committed to being student focused and success focused," said Mr. Farrow. "If the ministry asks us for a specific report, we carry it out. If we have to reduce our budget, we do that. Our trustees do not take exorbitant trips out of our district, and our trustees and board are doing a very good job with the continued tightening of budgets."

"As well, our trustees are also active members of the community and have the local pulse of where there are needs and what the priorities are," said Mr. Farrow. "Trustees are part of the community and know what the students, parents and community needs are. Where are they going to provide that voice if there are no trustees. It is really important."

"I can't see us going away, but it definitely looks as if there will be some restructuring taking place," stated Lisa Corbiere-Addison, the Island trustee with the RDSB.

"As a trustee we had to complete training online to fulfill our requirements as trustees," said Ms. Corbiere-Addison. "And I understand we might be going through some further changes."

"As a trustee my first priority is the kids—the students we represent on the board and the affects any of these changes may have," said Ms. Corbiere-Addison. "We are elected as trustees to represent the local population and be a representative for our area."

The Trillium reported recently that Ontario's education minister poked a bear when he mused about eliminating local school board trustees at the recent Association of Municipalities of Ontario conference when Minister Paul Calandra took part in the "bear pit," an annual tradition where local politicians line up at microphones to ask provincial ministers questions.

One rural councillor aired complaints about her local board and asked the minister if he'd consider giving municipalities more power in overseeing school boards, reported The Trillium. Mr. Calandra said no to the question but went on to explain that he will be changing the school governance model to give more power to the province.

"It's safe to say the governance model is going to change," the minister said. "We have to stop downloading responsibility to trustees who neither have the authority to tax,

or the expertise to undertake some of the things that we're asking them to do. So, the province will step up through the ministry, take more responsibility for the things that we have to have responsibility for, and be far more engaged in how we get schools built, and how we manage the education system so that it's more consistent throughout the province," The Trillium reported.

CBC News later asked Minister Calandra if he would go as far as eliminating trustees before the scheduled 2026 elections, and he replied that "everything is on the table."

"If it looks like we can deliver the product better, provide better outcomes for students, better resources for teachers, and give parents certainty, and if that means eliminating trustees, then I'm going to do it," he told the CBC.

Several education system leaders and provincial politicians have voiced their opposition to the idea.

Alan Campbell, president of the Canadian School Boards' Association, said he thinks the minister should take a lesson from Manitoba before going ahead with eliminating trustees. The Progressive Conservative Party of Manitoba made a years-long effort to eliminate school boards in that province, but eventually abandoned

it in the face of outrage from voters, Mr. Campbell told The Trillium. Nova Scotia went ahead with eliminating school boards in 2018, replacing them with regional bureaucracies under the control of the ministry and local advisory groups. In Quebec, a law that eliminated school boards in favour of 'service centres' was successfully challenged by the English board, a decision that the current government is appealing.

David Mastin, newly elected president of the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario (ETFO) told The Trillium his union is 'thoroughly disgusted' and accused Progressive Conservatives of 'trampling on democracy and education' since the 1990s.

"School board trustees and school boards are incredibly important in ensuring that there are local specific decisions made that are unique to the communities that they're in," he said. "This notion that one size fits all, run out of downtown Toronto, can somehow adequately prepare students in really, really diverse communities, is a faulty notion."

"Our belief is that their intent is to destroy the public system with the

...continued on page 12

### FRED EAGLESMITH

In concert:
Saturday, September 27, 7:30 pm
Gore Bay Community Hall
\$50 in advance
visit www.fredeaglesmith.com



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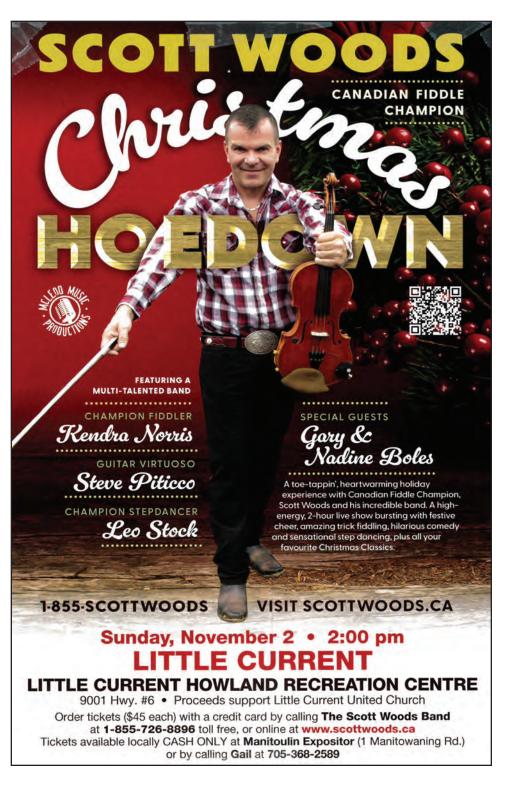
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# Nearly 100 motorcycles join Spirit Island Thunder Run

by Michael Erskine

MANITOULIN—It has been 10 years since the founding of the Redrum Spirit Island chapter on Manitoulin and motorcycle enthusiasts from across the North and beyond came to Manitoulin Island to join in the club's 11th annual Thunder Run.

"We are celebrating our 10th annual Spirit Island," said Club President Robbie Shawana. "This is actually our 11th annual Thunder Run—it's been 10 years as a chapter, so when we first started our run in 2015. This is actually going to be our 11th annual run since we started."

So, the club actually held its first Spirit Island Thunder Run before becoming an official Redrum chapter.

Anishnaabemowin Word of the Week

earn the Language, Honour the Culture

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As the motorcycles pulled into the Assiginack Community Centre, lining up on the track, the club members from across Turtle Island, some even travelling all the way up from the US, were looking forward to a great weekend of exploring Manitoulin.

Some six chapters had representatives taking part in the Thunder Run.

"We're going to go for a ride around the Island today," said Mr. Shawana on Saturday morning. "Through Tehkummah, Providence Bay to Mindemoya, and then we'll do a pit stop over in M'Chigeeng for the powwow. Then we'll continue our way down Bidwell and back here to the Assiginack Community Centre, where we're going to have

Mishiimin

(mish-ee-min)

**Apple** 

some biker games out in the field here." Mr. Shawana explained that the games resemble a Bike Rodeo with motorcycles instead of horses.

"Then we're going to have a pig roast later, along with some chicken and we will have some presentations as well," he said. Inside the community centre ice surface a number of vendors had set up shop, offering Redrum merch, beadwork, custom knives and a host of other items.

Mr. Shawana said the club was grateful to the vendors who, he noted, had also donated items to the club's raffle and auction table. He was also grateful to the Southeast Manitoulin Lions Club. "They set up the pavilion here and opened up the bar for us," he said. "They're selling some hamburgers and sausages and hot dogs. So, they were able to help us by feeding us and we're able to help them with their causes as well. Perfect. So nice, scratching each other's backs and helping each other out."

"That's all part of the Run," said Mr. Shawana. "We all support each other's runs, and so when they have their own runs going, we get out to them."

Mr. Shawana had a simple message for motorists and communities across Manitoulin. "Watch out for motorcycles," he said. "Even though we're on

the road, it doesn't matter how big your bike is, how many lights you have on, we're still invisible to too many drivers. People still can't see us. So stay off your cell phones while you're driving and always watch out for the bikes."

The Redrum Motorcycle Club's motto, 'Spreading Positivity on Two

Wheels,' sums up the underlying spirit that drives these leather clad individuals. Specifically, the club aims to bring "positivity and righteousness to a city, town, reservation or community near you."

While the word "redrum" might conjure up memories of Stephen King's novel 'The Shining' and read backwards spells murder, those connections are completely spurious.

"'Redrum' represents the Red Drum, the heartbeat of Mother Earth and its people," notes club member Darcy. In his daytime occupation, Dar-

...continued on page 13



Thunder Run. A stop at the Manitowaning Fairgrounds provided refreshment and a chance to catch up with old friends and new.

photo by Kelly Ranta



The Thunder Run, hosted by the Spirit Island chapter of Redrum, took in a stop at the M'Chigeeng powwow.

### ...believes elected trustee system safe

...continued from page 11

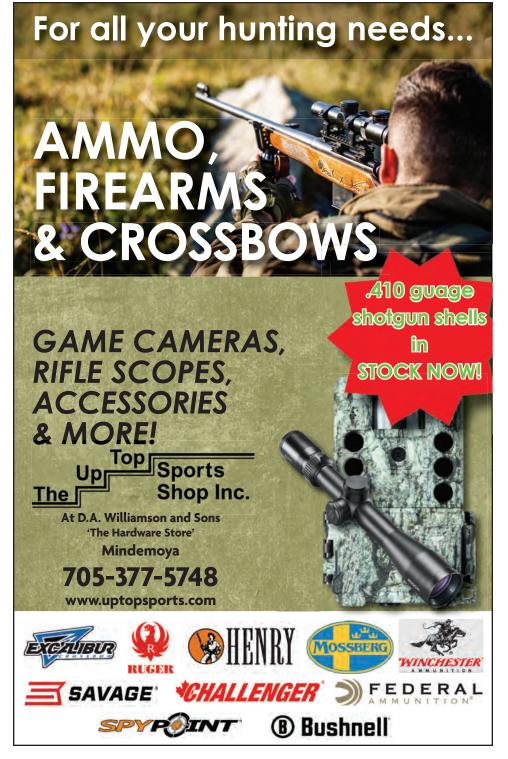
intent to hand it over to private capital," Mr. Mastin told The Trillium. "So yes, parents will lose their voice. Yes, democracy will suffer, and this government is, I believe, trying to distract peoples' attention from where the blame actually lies and it's on the provincial government."

"A one-size-fits-all approach simply can't work in a province as diverse and as large as Ontar-

io," said Martha Hradowy, Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation (OSSTF).

Maria Hardie, the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board Trustee in Barrie and chair of the board told The Trillium she doesn't think the elimination of trustees will take place. She referenced the education minister appointing supervisors back in June to the Toronto District School Board, Toronto Catholic District School Board, Ottawa-Carleton District School Board and Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board over alleged "financial mismanagement," the scrutiny over trustee spending at some of those boards. "Unfortunately, I think that's flagged all of

us."
Mr. Farrow added, "I'm not surprised the ministry is looking at making some changes. I hope the ministry will come and visit with our board and our schools and we can show him the great things we are doing and how much bang for the buck the province is getting."





# Terry Fox Run returns to Little Current Sunday, September 14

by Michael Erskine

LITTLE CURRENT—The Little Current Terry Fox Run will be returning to Low Island Park, 66 Water Street West on Sunday, September 14 thanks to the efforts of organizers Gloria Goodwill-Aelick and Amelia Wood.

The Terry Fox Run has always been a non-competitive, community-based fundraiser and this year it is seeing its 45th anniversary. As an 18-year-old lad from Port Coquitlam, Terry never saw himself as a hero or in any way remarkable, but he has been remembered as displaying an unusual determination to achieve his goals.

Diagnosed with osteogenic sarcoma just above

the knee, Terry's leg was amputated, and he was fitted with a prothesis. His experiences in the cancer wards instilled in him the knowledge that more funding for research was needed.

On April 12, 1980, Terry Fox dipped that prothesis into the Atlantic Ocean and set out to run across the country.

He set out on his Marathon of Hope to little fanfare at first, but soon his mission captured the imagination of the nation and crowds began turning out to cheer him on.

Sadly, Terry never reached the Pacific Ocean. His cancer returned in his lungs and he was forced to end his epic journey on September 1, having run 5,373 miles. Before his death on June 28, 1981 at the too-young age of 22, Terry had accomplished his incredible goal of raising \$1 from every Canadian—but his legacy has continued on to the present day. The Terry Fox Foundation has raised more than \$950,000,000 to date.

He was ranked second in the 2004 CBC special The Greatest Canadian, only coming second to the formidable Tommy Douglas, the father of our nation's universal health care system. Terry Fox is that most Canadian of heroes and has risen to be one of our nation's greatest heroes.



The Terry Fox memorial outside Parliament Hill reminds Canadians of the heroic young man and his Herculean efforts.

Shutterstock

"Amy and I noticed that there hasn't been a Terry Fox Run for a number of years," said Ms. Goodwill-Aelick. So, the dynamic duo set about organizing an event in Little Current; a pair of remarkable individuals who exemplify the "ordinary" Canadians who have kept Terry's dream alive.

The date set for the run was actually set by Terry Fox himself, a time picked by him when he requested Canada continues on without him and nearly 600 communities have picked up the challenge this year. Those communities run the gamut from urban centres to rural communities, and cross the French English divide for a common cause.

When asked about their motivation for setting up the event, Ms. Goodwill-Aelick pointed out that there are very few families who have not

been impacted by cancer. "Including ours," she said. "So we looked at what needed to be done and we said, 'We can do

that."
As soon as they set about lining up the run, they discovered a very supportive community.

The modest goal set for the fundraising has surpassed 120 percent, but that doesn't mean more isn't welcome.

Ms. Goodwill-Aelick advises people hoping to get a T-shirt to come and register early.

Registration starts down at the Low Island pavilion at 12:45 pm, with a start time for the one kilometre loop set for 1 pm. Washrooms and parking are available and the route is accessible for those on bicycles, wheelchairs and leading a dog on a leash, as well as the usual runners and walkers. The event is set for rain or shine—so dress appropriately.

Those unable to take part can still do their bit by donating to the cause, just pop by run.terryfox.

# ...Spirit Island Thunder Run

...continued from page 12

cy is part of an Indigenous organization that works to force drug dealers off remote Northern Reserves.

The original name of the club was, in fact, Red Drum, but the second d was dropped along the way. The name serves to inspire conversations between club members and the curious.

Redrum MC boasts more than 126 chapters in more than 18 countries, from the US, where most chapters are located (the mother chapter being found in New York City), to Australia, Brazil. Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary, Mexico and beyond.

The club was formerly known as 'Redrum Crew' and is an Indigenous based motorcycle club. Founded in 2006, the club has at its foundation on the concept of the 'Red Road,' a path focussed on

"brotherhood, motorcycling, community, respect, responsibility, fundraising and supporting family."

The club takes pains to note that they are not a one percent, or outlaw, club and they are not affiliated with any other motorcycle clubs.

"We send love and respect to all motorcycle clubs and ask them to respect the fact that we are a First Nations people motorcycle club," notes the club's website. "Our mission is to bring Native American bikers, brothers and supporters who wish to follow the Red Road together so we can help our communities in need, not only Indigenous, but all in need."

To that end, the funds raised from the 10th Annual Spirit Island Thunder Run will be going to the Good Food Box program.





# Twin 5 Bills, clean water and the long fight for justice

by Jacqueline M.St.Pierre,

**Local Journalism Initiative Reporter** 

ANISHINABEK NATION—The battle over water is older than Confederation and yet as fresh as the boil water advisories that still haunt the kitchens and classrooms of First Nations across this country.

On July 10, 2025, Alberta and Ontario declared their

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at



offers something for everyone! From classic breakfast to hearty burgers, refreshing salads, wraps or apps to share!

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opposition to C-61 —a federal pledge that every First Nations child should drink safely from their own water, a measure of rights, health and sovereignty — a mere five days after Ontario's Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act received Royal Assent, arguing C-61 would "undermine competitiveness and delay project development." Critics say such reasoning places corporate profits ahead of human health.

For The Chiefs of Ontario and many others, what has unfolded in recent months is nothing less than a legislative sleight-of-hand, where two different governments — Ontario and Canada — are moving in parallel, advancing bills both numbered "5." On Queen's Park desks sits Ontario's Bill 5, an omnibus bill that quietly reshapes land, water and resource governance. In Ottawa, Bill C-5 echoes with its own bureaucratic hum, hiding water rights deep in the folds of legislative text. The pairing has not gone unnoticed by those who live with the daily reality of non-potable water.

### Hidden Knives in the 5s; the Hammering Down of Bill C-61

According to the Chiefs of Ontario and other First Nations political organizations, Ontario's Bill 5 represents far more than "red tape reduction." They argue it dismantles environmental assessments, weakens wetland protections, and erodes safeguards for watersheds that support entire communities and not only First Nations.

For First Nations communities, this legislation is the reverberation of the early treaty ceremonies: consultation hollowed into ritual, once spoken in trust, then bound in European ink, promises lost to a nation-state whose governance favours semantics over the wellbeing of land and people.

Bill 5 arms corporations with freer rein—projects can surge forward under thinner oversight, muted dialogue and a shrinking duty to secure consent. Its threats arrive alongside another battle: Ontario and Alberta, in concert, oppose the federal reintroduction of Bill C-61, legislation meant to guarantee First Nations safe drinking water, turning basic rights into political contention.

"Ontario and Alberta's opposition to Bill C-61 is not only disappointing, it is a direct attack on the rights, health and safety of First Nations," said Chiefs of Ontario Regional Chief Abram Benedict in a statement to APTN News.

The issue is no abstraction for the people of Neskantaga First Nation, who have lived under a boil-water advisory for more than 30 years, a situation Chief Ben-



Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige, left, cracks a witty remark that makes the table, including Premier Doug Ford, share a laugh during a meeting with the premier in Muskoka earlier this summer.

edict described as "a national failure that must be addressed." The provincial government of Ontario, the territory with the highest number of long-term water advisories in the country, is alongside Alberta in demanding Ottawa set aside C-61.

Bill C-61, known as the First Nations Clean Water Act, sought to codify what many argue should never have been in question: that Indigenous families deserve reliable access to clean, safe water. The legislation passed Second Reading in the House of Commons and was under study at the Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs when it died with the prorogation of Parliament in March.

On World Water Day 2024, Grand Chief Stewart Phillip reminded Canadians of what is too often forgotten:

...continued on page 19



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PAGE 16 — THE MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR Wednesday, September 3, 2025 THE MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR — PAGE 17 Wednesday, September 3, 2025



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6:30 pm Doors Open to Exhibit Hall, Vendors, Canteen, Silent Auction, Voting for Baby Photo and Cat Photo Contests,

Auction Bidding, 50/50, Bake Sale, 'School of Moo' Dairy Booth, Fish Pond, Demonstrations

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9:00 - 11:00 am Pancake Breakfast at Knox United Church 9:00 am Horse Halter Class Judging in Horse Ring

Demonstrations by Angry Owl Blacksmith, Heartwood Mushrooms, Manitoulin Spinners, 'School of Moo' Butter All Day

Makina Workshop

Assembling and Judging of Parade Floats on Michael's Bay Road 10:30 am

11:00 am Parade - Theme 'Barnyard Boogie'

Doors open to Exhibit Hall, Vendors, Canteen, Silent Auction, Voting for Baby Photo and Cat Photo Contests, 11:30 am

50/50, Bake Sale

Classic Car Show at Fairgrounds

12:00 - 3:30 pm Children's Activities: Facepainting, Play Area, Fish Pond, Corn Box and More!

12:00 pm Western Games Horse Show in Horse Ring

1:00 pm Livestock Show and 4-H Showmanship in Livestock Ring

1:30 pm Country Olympics on Track

Single Horse Pull Competition on Track 2:00 pm

Baby Photo Contest Announcement on Stage in Arena

Silent Auction Bidding Closes

2:30 pm Cat Photo Contest Announcement on Stage in Arena

3:30 pm Removal of Exhibits From Hall

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# M'Chigeeng Traditional Powwow attracts record crowds

M'CHIGEENG—The M'Chigeeng Traditional Powwow was held this past weekend featuring a host of drums and dancers, beautiful weather and a huge turnout of visitors and tourists.

One of the highlights of the event was a Jolly Jumper baby dance competition and another was a chance to learn how to hoop dance under the tutelage of champion hoop dancer Gordie Odjig.





Indigenous Tourism Ontario's Craig Fox was on hand to promote Indigenous Tourism

across the province photos by Michael Erskine



Start them young! Young
Declan paused in his
drumming to pose for a
photo. The little guy was very
pleased with his new drum.



Powwow MCs Maag Snake and Gordie Odjig were keeping the banter going while dancers and drums did their thing under a blue late-summer sky.

photos by Michael Erskine



Champion hoop dancer Gordie Odjig takes his young charges through the motions of three basic hoop dance moves.



Designer Bruno Henry is a staple at Island powwows with his traditional bone earings. Mr. Henry also creates awesome Indigenous clothing designs.



Retired educator Carolyn Lane-Rock stopped by the Kenjgewin Teg booth for a chat. The Indigenous post-secondary institution has been growing by leaps and bounds in recent years, coming a long way from its portablebound classrooms.



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# ...Twin 5 Bills, clean water and the long fight for justice

...continued from page 14

"Water is the lifeblood of Mother Earth. It's everything to us. Water is sacred, and it's a symbol of our sovereignty."

Bill C-61, known as the First Nations Clean Water Act, is meant to put those words into law. At its heart, the bill would establish minimum standards for drinking water and wastewater on First Nation lands, while affirming First Nations' inherent right to self-government in managing, protecting and governing their own water.

C-61 was crafted as a direct response to decades of failure. The 2013 Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act was widely condemned for ignoring Aboriginal rights, failing to secure adequate funding, and offering little protection for source water. First Nations called for its repeal, and in 2022 the government agreed. What followed was years of consultation — hundreds of sessions, multiple drafts, and feedback from rights-holders across the country.

Leaders such as Chief Erica Beaudin of Cowessess First Nation have called the introduction of Bill C-61 "historic," not because the struggle is new, but because it might be the beginning of a future where children are born with the guarantee of safe water written into law.

The bill aligns with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, grounding its provisions in free, prior, and informed consent. It places responsibility on Ottawa to make "best efforts" — in collaboration with First Nations — to ensure safe, reliable water and sustainable funding.

Since 2016, the federal government has invested more than \$4.3 billion into water and wastewater projects in First Nation communities, yet long-term boil-water advisories remain. Chiefs have been clear: the status quo is not acceptable.

In June of 2025, Todd McCarthy and Alberta Environment Minister Rebecca Schulz wrote to federal Environment Minister Julie Dabrusin asking her to move away from legislation that they say would "delay project development and undermine competitiveness."

Grand Chief of the Anishinaabek Nation, Linda Debassige, alongside several dozen First Nation chiefs, sat down with Premier Doug Ford back in June to press the concerns surrounding Bill 5. The day before, Premier Ford had dismissed their opposition with a cutting remark—that First Nations should stop coming to him "hat in hand" if they refused to support his legislation.

Behind closed doors, the Premier apologized to the Chiefs. Hours later, he repeated that apology in front of cameras at a televised news conference. At that time, the Chiefs accepted the words and agreed to continue forward with extensive consultations on the proposed law

Grand Chief Debassige also recounted that Premier Ford pledged his support for clean drinking water for every First Nation in Ontario, saying he would find a way to help. While the issue lies in federal hands, Ford has hinted on radio that Ontario may step in if Ottawa fails to act.

### **Promises Drowned in Policy**

While Bill C-61 would not end the struggle for clean water, but set the stage for a true Nation to Nation relationship between First Peoples and Canada, its revocation — just as the "5s" have been passed — does not inspire confidence for First Nations and their allies.

Federal bill C-61's scope is simple, though long denied: that no First Nation child should grow up unable to drink from their own tap, their own river, their own land

The Chiefs of Ontario have called for the bill to be revived without delay. "We fully support the federal government's commitment to reintroduce Bill C-61, and we urge Prime Minister Mark Carney and Minister Mandy Gull-Masty to move forward without hesitation and reject any attempt to delay or weaken this legislation. Our communities cannot afford to wait any longer," Chief Benedict stated.

At the same time, Indigenous leaders are warning that Bill C-5 — a federal initiative framed as modernization — poses further risks by centralizing authority over water governance. They see parallels to historic patterns of legislation imposed without meaningful consultation, with echoes of the Indian Act's unilateral approach.

On July 10, 2025, Alberta and Ontario declared their opposition to C-6 — a mere five days after Ontario's Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act received Royal Assent —arguing it would "undermine competitiveness and delay project development." Critics say such reasoning places corporate profits ahead of human health.

Grand Chief Debassige offered a stark interpretation: "When they say competitiveness, they mean the right of oil and mining companies to dig faster, spill sooner, and pay less. When they say delay project development, they mean the right of children to drink poison while the trucks keep rolling. They are telling us, flat out, that water is expendable, that our lives are expendable."

The issue of water rights in First Nations communities has unfolded through repeated cycles of pledges

and unmet commitments:

2015: Prime Minister Trudeau commits to ending all long-term boil water advisories on reserves within five years.

2018: Federal reports note that several advisories have been lifted, but new advisories continue to appear, leaving overall numbers high.

2021: The five-year deadline passes with over 40 long-term advisories still in place. The federal government extends its timeline.

2021 Auditor General's Report: Finds that Indigenous Services Canada has not provided sufficient funding or resources to ensure safe drinking water, nor developed a comprehensive long-term plan.

2023: Class-action settlements proceed, with Ottawa agreeing to pay \$8 billion to First Nations affected by unsafe water. Financial compensation does not yet correspond to fully functional water systems.

2025: Alberta and Ontario formally oppose Bill C-61, which was intended to guarantee safe drinking water for First Nations communities, highlighting ongoing tensions between provincial and federal approaches to resource management and Indigenous rights.

The Numbers That Tell the Story

According to Indigenous Services Canada, as of mid-

...continued on page 26



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### ...continued from page 6

in custody pending a bail hearing.

The accused has been charged with the following Criminal Code charges: five counts of adult failure to comply with undertaking, adult mischief (domestic), three counts of adult uttering threats cause death or bodily harm, unauthorized possession of a prohibited or restricted firearm, possession of firearm or ammunition contrary to probation order, possession imitation weapon for dangerous purpose, possession of weapon for dangerous purpose, assault with a weapon (spousal), adult assault (spousal).

On August 20 the accused attended bail court. UCCM police contested the release of the accused. However, following a review of the matter, the Office of the Crown Attorney consented to the release of the accused on conditions. The victim was personally notified by UCCM police and Mobile Crisis Response team of the condition of the accused's release.

The investigation remains active. Anyone with information related to this incident is encouraged to contact UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service; phone 705-377-7135 or provide information anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS).

### Police respond to second weapons call in one day

On August 19 UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service responded to an incident on Ge Te Miiikan in Sheguiandah First Nation involving reports of threats and a potential weapon. Upon arrival, officers conducted a search of the area and located a pitchfork in a roadside ditch approximately 20 metres from a residence. The item was seized as evidence.

During the investigation, officers leaned that the accused had attended a nearby residence and made statements regarding an altercation involving a neighbour's dog. The accused was reported to be intoxicated by alcohol at the time. Police attended the



accused's residence, where they attended the end of the driveway. The accused was informed he was under arrest, placed in handcuffs without incident, searched, and secured.

As a result, the accused, a 34-year-old male from Sheguiandah First Nation has been charged with the following criminal code charges: possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, uttering threats, failure to comply with release order (Conditions: do not possess any weapons as defined by the Criminal Code, including but not limited to pellet guns, firearms, imitation firearms, crossbows, prohibited or restricted weapon or devices, firearm parts, ammunition, explosive substances, or any imitation thereof).

This was an isolated incident, and there is no ongoing risk to public safety.

On August 20, the accused attended a bail hearing and was released from custody with strict conditions.

Anyone with further information related to this incident is encouraged to contact: UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service at 705-377-7135, or provide information anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS).

### Drug warrant executed

On August 20, the Northeast Region Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) executed a controlled drug and substances act search warrant at a residence on Daawema Road in Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory.

The execution of this search warrant was a joint effort between the Northeast Region CSCU, Manitoulin OPP, UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service and Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service (WTPS).

Police seized amounts of suspected fentanyl, cocaine

and crack cocaine with a total estimated street value of approximately \$12,800, and approximately \$7,800 in Canadian currency.

As a result, Sunny Hang, 21-year-old from North York was arrested and faces multiple charges including possession for the purpose of trafficking and possession of property obtained by crime.

### OPP investigating abandoned vehicle in Gore Bay

The Manitoulin detachment of the OPP is continuing an investigation into the abandonment of an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) early in the morning of August 21.

The OPP had been contacted by a local resident who reported that an individual had been seen driving the ATV at a high rate of speed and was possibly impaired, in the downtown area of Gore Bay.

OPP officers investigated, finding an abandoned ATV on Meredith Street, in front of the Canada Post office at about 5 am. Officers called a tow truck to recover the abandoned ATV which was partially blocking the driving zone on Meredith Street.

### Report of assault at campground in Espanola

### results in arrest

One person has been arrested following a call to police about an assault that took place at a campground.

On Wednesday, August 20 at approximately 11 pm, the Manitoulin OPP received a call reporting an assault at a campground in Espanola. Police attended the campground and initiated an investigation. As a result, one person was arrested for assault.

As a result, Sergey Adamov, 70, from Calgary was arrested for assault cause bodily harm.

The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Espanola on October 6.

...continued on page 22

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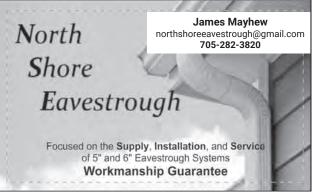
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### Manitoulin OPP responds to false stabbing report in Espanola

The Manitoulin detachment of the OPP wants to remind the public about the appropriate use of 9-1-1 and the serious consequences of misusing emergency services.

On Sunday, August 3, at approximately 10 pm, officers with the Manitoulin detachment of the OPP responded to a 9-1-1 call reporting a stabbing in Espanola. Upon arrival, police determined that no stabbing had occurred. The caller was intoxicated and had contacted police seeking assistance in retrieving personal belongings from another location. The individual was subsequently arrested for public intoxication and public mischief.

9-1-1 should only be used for emergencies involving police, fire, or medical services where someone's health, safety or property is in jeopardy, or a crime is in progress.

Intentionally misusing 9-1-1 is a criminal offence. Individuals found misusing emergency services may be charged with public mischief.

Accidental 9-1-1 calls also continue to be a significant issue, typing up emergency lines and resourc-



es. To help prevent accidental calls: lock your phone screen when not in use, disable auto-dial emergency features if they are not needed, store phones securely, keep phones out of reach of children.

If you accidentally call 9-1-1, do not hang up. Stay on the line and inform the operator that the call was made in error and that there is no emergency. Hanging up may prompt emergency services to send officers to your location to confirm your safety, consuming additional time and resources to identify you and attend your location.

For non-urgent police matters, contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122. For weather updates, contact Environment Canada. For road conditions or closures, dial 5-1-1.

The OPP appreciates the public's cooperation in using 9-1-1- responsibly to ensure help is available when it's truly needed.



In recognition of National Dog Day August 26, the Manitoulin detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police highlighted a different kind of support system, its member's dogs. "Policing can be demanding, and the ability to decompress off-duty is essential. For many of our officers, their dogs provide that balance. Whether it's a quiet companion after a long shift, or a reason to get outside and reset, these dogs play a meaningful role in the lives of police officers and other first responders," a release explains. To mark the day, we are sharing a collage featuring the dogs of our detachment. This is a good reminder that wellness comes in many forms, including four-legged ones.



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Email: jtminiexcavating1@gmail.com





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# MANITOULIN SNOWDUSTERS FISH SUPPER

Saturday, September 6, 2025 at Rockville Hall 5 pm to 7 pm

\$25/person \$10 (12 and under)



Whitefish, potatoes, coleslaw, coffee, tea, strawberries and ice cream



Bag Days at Knox United Church Rummage Sale in Manitowaning will continue until Thursday, September 4. Fill a large bag for \$5 or a small bag for \$3. Open Wednesdays to Saturdays from 10 am to 3 pm. The rummage will be closed on Friday, September 5 and Saturday, September 6 to accommodate the Pancake Breakfast and will reopen on Wednesday, September 10 at 10 am.

15-16p

PancakeBreakfastatKnoxUnitedChurchHallinManitowaningonSaturday,September 6 from 9 to 11:30 am.Adults, \$15; Ages 6 to 12, \$7.50;ages 5 and under, free.

15-16p

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 evergy, 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 Expostior (1 Manitowaing Road, Little Current) or by calling Gail at 705-368-2589.

16-25p

Assiginack Ratepayers
Association next meeting is
Wednesday, September 10. Scan
the QR at the township Post office
for time and location.

16-17p

**CONTACT US!** 

705-368-2744

**NEWS TIP?** 

editor@manitoulin.ca



in Providence Bay

705-665-5923



**Are you looking** for a quiet spot to park your RV overnight or for a weekend? Call 519-272-4259.

5-16

Available October 1, seven month rentals. Executive water-front in Little Current overlooking LaCloche Mountains and Picnic Island. Prices range from \$1,450 for studio to \$2,200 for two bedroom units. Negotiable. Mountain View Lakehouse includes all of the best amenities. Call 705-368-6240 for details.

15tfr

**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



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



# 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!

# \$ For Sale

Leather green couch and chair, newly upholstered, \$100. Cap for small truck, was on a Ford Ranger, grey in colour, fits 1993-2012, \$2,000. Call 705-368-1145. 15-16c

Pets



West Highland White Terrier pups for sale. Registered, microchipped, health guaranteed and first needles. These adorable puppies will be available after September 12. \$2,500. Phone 705-662-8559.

16-17c

Groups.



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

16-19p

Amazing yard sale at 116
Oakcliffe Drive North (off
Silver Bay Road) on Saturday,
September 6 and Sunday,
September 7 from 9 am to
4 pm. Many new items such
as dog crates and toys, kids'
Halloween costumes, wool and
other things still in boxes. Also
furniture, crystal, baby items (no
clothes) and much much more.
I am determined to downsize so
prices will be great. Don't miss
this sale! Rain or shine!

160

**Moving sale,** rain or shine at 224 Hwy 540 on Saturday, September 6 from 9 am to?



Celebrating our 95th anniversary, the Royal Canadian Legion and the Manitoulin Centennial Manor Auxiliary invite all seniors for a no frills luncheon at the Little Current Legion, Vankoughnet Street East, Little Current on Tuesday, September 9 from 11 am to 1 pm. Price is \$5. Serving sandwiches, cookies, tea or coffee and ice cream. Entertainment by George Williamson and friends.

15-16p



Royal Canadian Legion Branch #177
Saturday, September 27th, 2025

1:00 - 4:00 pm Royal Canadian Legion Hall (upstairs)

> 15 Vankoughnet Street East Little Current, ON

Kindly R.S.V.P. by September 8th, 2025 e-mail: rclbr.177@hotmail.com phone: 705-368-2465

Please indicate number of patrons attending



Are you concerned about someone's drinking? Al-Anon has one purpose: Welcoming, giving hope and comfort to help family and friends of alcoholics. Changed attitudes can aid recovery. Stepping Stones Al-Alon Group: Espanola Al-Anon, Tuesdays at 7 pm, Anglican Church, 213 Tudhope Street, Espanola, 705-869-6595. For more information call 1-888-4Al-Anon (1-888-425-2666, M-F, 8 am - 6 pm ET) http://www.alanon.org. For meetings including electronic in Northern Ontario go to OntarioNorthAl-Anon.com. Please note the only Alateen meetings available in Northern Ontario are on a mobile app. Look for the app under Al-Anon Family

Tfn

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

tfn



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

17tfı

**Used oil-fired water heater,** 100,000 to 120,000 BTU. Call 705-859-1278.

15-1/C

**Wanted, Dion** threshing machine with straw shredder, any condition. Phone evenings, 905-983-9331.

16-18c



**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.

JU. **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





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

"The spirit of the Lord is upon me to preach glad tidings, to set the captives free..." IS.61:1.

"He shall be held (captive) by the cords (bonds-shackles) of his sin," PROV. 5:22.

Many people are held captive by addictions (drugs, alcohol, tobacco, gambling) and by many other sins.

Use of illegal drugs, excessive use of alcohol (drunkenness) and tobacco are sins. They are destroying your own body. God wants you to take good care of your own body by proper diet, exercise and rest. I can guarantee deliverance because God's word (the Bible) and all the power in the universe stands behind it to fulfill these promises of deliverance. Jesus died to set you free. Just like a patient has to trust and follow the prescriptions and instructions of their doctor to regain health, so every sinner has to trust God's word and follow God's instructions to regain freedom. God's word is like medicines PROV. 3:8. 16:24. There

every sinner has to trust God's word and follow God's instructions to regain freedom. God's word is like medicines PROV. 3:8, 16:24. There are some basic instructions in God's word that needs to be obeyed in order to receive freedom. JOHN 8:31 says "If you continue in God's word you shall know the truth, and (obeying) the truth shall set you free." The first step to freedom is accepting all of God's word (the Bible) as the standard of right and wrong and the truth. If you do not accept what the Bible calls sin is sin, you don't accept that sin creates bondage and that God is willing to deliver you (set you free) from that bondage.

Step 2. Jesus is the saviour (from sin), the deliverer. He died to set you free, therefore you need to accept Jesus as your Lord and Saviour. In order for you to receive this freedom you must confess the addictions and sins as sin, you must repent. That means you must become willing to obey God's instructions and commandments, and you must be correctly baptised by complete immersion in water in the name of Jesus. Before baptism, you must confess your sins and repent and be willing to obey God. After correct baptism you receive the power (the Holy Spirit) to obey God. You may not expect freedom, deliverance or healing without taking these specific steps.

I explain these steps in more detail in my book "The Keys to the Kingdom" which is available from Amazon or by writing me.

I am also available for counselling from a Biblical perspective. Hank Reckman

Prophet of Manitoulin
Search for Truth Biblical Ministries
Box 210
M'Chigeeng, Ont
P0P 1G0
226-808-1594



### **SNOW REMOVAL TENDER**

To supply all labour, equipment and services necessary to provide snow removal in the parking area at the Gore Bay Ontario Provincial Police Detachment.

Contractor must quote on a "per call" basis for snow removal and sanding as well as a "lump sum" basis for snow removal and sanding for the season commencing fall of 2025 to May 15th, 2026.

Snow removal requirements are available upon request. Interested parties must possess a valid Ontario driver's licence and carry liability insurance.

Please contact the address/telephone number listed below for approved tender documents.

> Tender can be faxed or mailed to: **Detachment Commander Ontario Provincial Police** 54 Boosneck Road, PO Box 638 Little Current, ON P0P 1K0 (Telephone) 705-368-2200 (Fax) 705-368-2666

Quotations to be submitted no later than 1600 hours, 03 October 2025.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

LINDA GAIL VARGA

(nee Prairie)

# **Looking for a new career? Check out the LIFEstyles section**



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, appelle nous au 705-370-3378 ou par courriel mnvs@vianet.ca

> Funding provided by: Subventions accordées par: Ontario



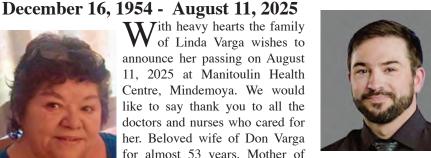
### Notice

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.

The Little Shoppe Around the Corner at Knox United Church in Manitowaning will be closed on Friday and Saturday, September 5 and 6 and on Friday and Saturday, September 12 and 13. It will reopen on Friday, September 19 with fall clothing and other trea-

15-16p

### **Death Notices**



With heavy hearts the family of Linda Varga wishes to announce her passing on August 11, 2025 at Manitoulin Health Centre, Mindemoya. We would like to say thank you to all the doctors and nurses who cared for her. Beloved wife of Don Varga for almost 53 years. Mother of sons, Clint, Russell (Erin) and Trevor. Dear sister of Gary Prairie

(Janet) of Manitowaning, Sharalynne Wragg (Al) of Thunder Bay and Beatrice Rice (Jim) (predeceased) of Thunder Bay. Special aunt of Evan of Manitowaning and several nieces and nephews of Thunder Bay. Grandmother of her precious grandchildren, Savannah (predeceased), Nathan (son Matthew), Brooklyn, Tanner, Taylor, Tommy and Harper. Linda was born and raised in Thunder Bay. Her and Don vacationed on the Manitoulin regularly and finally retired here. Linda made friends quickly and soon had a lot of bingo buddies. She will be missed by all. Fly free Linda with your beloved dogs Dakota and Stryker! Until we meet again, we will miss and love you. No service at this time.

### **MELVIN DOUGLAS FRIESEN** August 23, 1954 - August 17, 2025



In loving memory of Melvin Douglas "Doug" Friesen, age 70, of Chatham. Born in St. Catharine's, ON in 1954. Passed away surrounded by family and friends. Son of Eva Madeline Friesen and the late Melvin Friesen. Beloved life husband to the late Glenda Jean (Leeson) Friesen (July 20, 2019). Cherished

father of Sarah Lynn Friesen of London, ON and the late Brion Friesen (September 16, 2020) of Prince George, B.C. Doug is also survived by his loving grandson Kayleb James Gervais Friesen of Wembley, Alberta, his sisters Barbra Corelli (Mario) and Beverly Ferrante (Joe) of St. Catharine's and many nieces and nephews. A special thanks to Lee Ann Boland, Brantford, ON and Chad Weston of Chatham, ON for their years of friendship and loving support through the difficult times. Doug dedicated his life to family, friends and community. In lieu of flowers please donate to Special Olympics Ontario or the charity of your choice.

### **RYAN GERRARD**

(nee Toland)



Ryan Gerrard (nee Toland)
left this world suddenly on August 23, 2025, at the age of 31. Ryan was devoted to his wonderful 4-year-old daughter, Morgan, to whom he would give the world and be her friend for (mother Devon Woods) Forever in the hearts of his mother Karen Gerrard-Shortt, stepfather Thomas Shortt, his father Aron

Toland (Jennifer Toland) and his sister Melissa Gerrard. Ryan will be joining his grandparents in the spirit world: Maurice and Rachelle Gerrard and Elmer and Agnes Toland. Lovingly remembered by his aunt Laurie Gerrard, uncle Kevin Gerrard, cousins Adam and Jordan, niece Lilith and nephew Cain. Ryan's gift was helping people, friends or strangers and treating them like family. Ryan touched the lives of so many people in so many places in so many ways. Ryan's slogan was "the only one that can stop you from achieving your dreams is you – get out there and dare to fail." A Celebration of Life for Ryan is to be held on Saturday, September 13, 2025 at the Royal Canadian Legion, Espanola at 1 pm. Social gathering to follow. To honour Ryan's memory, please dress in your motocross jersey, cowboy hat, casual clothes or suit, because that reflects the many facets of Ryan. Donations can be made to the Ryan Gerrard MX18 Memorial Morgan Gerrard Trust Fund. Autodeposit to ryanmorgangerrard@ gmail.com. Arrangements by Bourcier Funeral Home Ltd,

### **Celebration of Life**

### **GRENVILLE "GG" GREEN**



Celebration of Life for A Grenville "GG" Green will be held Saturday, September 13, 2025 at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall in Little Current, 15 Vankoughnet Street East, Little Current. Visitation from 10 am and service at 11 am, lunch to follow.

### PETER STANLEY LAWR December 10, 1944 - August 27, 2025



Ttis with great sadness and sorrow **⊥**that Barbara Lawr announces the passing of her husband and best friend, Peter Lawr, on August 27, 2025 at Health Sciences North. Peter and Barbara were happily married for 60 years. He will be greatly missed by his sons, Kevin (Louise) and Todd (Kelli). Very proud grampa of Joshua, Aidan, Curtis and Morgan. He worked

at Burns Transport and Maple Lodge Farms driving truck in Georgetown and then retired as foreman of the Town of Erin-Hillsburgh. Peter lived in Hillsburgh for 40 years and retired to Gore Bay in 2005. He enjoyed hunting and fishing. Working in his workshop was his enjoyment. He built many outside benches for his family and friends. We wish to thank the Manitoulin Health Centre, Mindemoya emergency unit for their wonderful care and Health Sciences North, Sudbury for their excellent care of Peter. Many thanks to all our friends who have supported us through this. Peter is being cremated and will eventually rest in Hillsburgh. If desired, you can make a donation to Manitoulin Health Centre, Mindemoya emergency unit or Health Sciences North, Sudbury intensive care unit.

Memorial donations are gratefully appreciated and can be made at the admitting office to the auxiliaries of the Manitoulin Health Centre and the Renovation Fund in both Mindemoya and Little Current and the Gore Bay Manitoulin Lodge Auxiliary Incorporated, 3 Main Street, Gore Bay, Ontario, POP 1HO and the Manitoulin Centennial Manor Fundraising or Manor Auxiliary, Postal Bag 460, 70 Robinson Street, Little Current, Ontario, POP 1K0. Donations can also be made to the Manitoulin District Cenotaph Fund, Box 656, Little Current, Ontario POP 1K0 or Pet Save Manitoulin, Box 393, Gore Bay, Ontario POP 1HO.

Remember your loved ones fondly in The Manitoulin Expositor

In Memoriam or Obituaries

Send an email to Debbie at services@manitoulin.com or call 705-368-2744

# FOR SALE

### **McGregor Bay:** Iroquois Bay & Ishmael Lake Frontages

This cottage features 1,200+ sq. ft. on the main floor including a sunroom with 2 bedrooms & laundry, another bedroom, full kitchen, sauna (electric), 3 piece bath and a spacious living/dining area overlooking the stunning westerly view. On the upper level you will find a loft & master bedroom as well as a 2 piece bath.

- Check out the Hot Tub in its own enclosed lakeside room!!
- Additional guest\grandchildren bunkbed accommodation in the sleep cabin which also houses a workshop.
- This is a Water Access only property, 2 miles by boat from Walser's Landing, 4 miles in from Highway #6 at Whitefish Falls.
- Just 15 minutes from Whitefish Falls is full shopping & medical services at the town of Espanola, and the Trans Canada Highway.
- The main cottage is fully insulated and the property is Hydro One serviced,
- well suited for those looking for an all season recreational getaway. Built in the early 90s, everything has been maintained to a high standard.
- All the benefits of being located within an "unorganized area" including lower realty taxes.
- Assessed as 2 acres.
- Amazing hiking and canoeing opportunities out your back door!
- With frontages on 2 lakes and on the edge of Killarney Provincial Park, this is a very special property!
- The adjoining property is also listed for sale (MLS # 2122430)

### \$595.000 - MLS # 2123977



# ...Twin 5 Bills, clean water

2025, more than 30 First Nations across the country remain under longterm boil water advisories. The true number, communities argue, is higher, as short-term advisories — lasting weeks or months — can stretch into years in practice.

In Ontario, Treaty 9 tells its own story: Neskantaga First Nation has endured Canada's longest continuous boil water advisory, declared in 1995 and still unresolved 30 years later. More than 800 residents rely on bottled shipments flown in at staggering cost. In Eabametoong, Sachigo Lake, and Attawapiskat, advisories stretch like chains across generations. Children have grown up, had children of their own, and never once filled a glass of water from the tap without fear.

Across the prairies, Manitoba and Saskatchewan echo with similar crises. In northern Manitoba. Shamattawa and

### **LEESON'S OF MANITOWANING ELLIOT LAKE MONUMENTS**

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...continued from page 19 Tataskweyak face recurring advisories, their water plants aging beyond repair. In Saskatchewan, more than 20 communities have faced repeated boil water warnings in the last decade, with the provincial government often downplaying the scope. In each case, geography is used as an excuse: too remote, too costly, too complicated. Yet oil rigs, hydro dams and mining camps rise overnight in those same landscapes, consuming freshwater to meet their quotas.

### The Human Cost

Grand Chief Debassige has spoken often about the spiritual violence of water denial: "To deny water is to deny life. To watch governments argue over competitiveness while mothers mix formula with bottled water, while Elders boil pots for their tea, is to see clearly where we stand in this country's priorities. They are not failing us by accident. They are failing us by design.'

From the Indian Act to residential schools, Canadian policies have pursued assimilation and dispossession. Today, long-term water advisories trace that same legacy, touching the daily lives, health, and futures of Indigenous families, and laying bare persistent gaps in access to safe drinking water.

### The Fight Ahead

Bill C-61 recognizes, on paper, that safe drinking water is a human right for First Nations. But paper rights mean little without political will. As Ontario and Alberta dig in, the fight sharpens, urgent and unyielding. Coupled with Bills 5 and C-5, the stakes rise: a coordinated effort to limit Indigenous sovereignty under the guise of reconciliation.

Indigenous communities are not waiting. In Ontario's North, First Nations coalitions are demanding authority over water governance, rejecting piecemeal funding and top-down control. Across the country, youth step forward, mobilizing through social media, legal challenges and land defense.

Grand Chief Debassige has said it plainly: "We will not beg for water. We will take back the power to protect it. If that means standing in front of pipelines, mining projects, or government buildings, we will do it. Our children will drink from the rivers again."

The crisis is tangible. Children with rashes, Elders with stomach sickness, mothers hauling cases of bottled water upstairs—these numbers are flesh and blood. From Manitoulin to Neskantaga, Shamattawa to Attawapiskat, the people resist. The water waits.

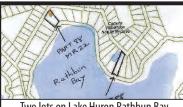




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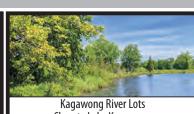
Two lots on Lake Huron Rathbun Bay MLS #2122354, \$97,000 (1664) MLS #2122353, \$67,000 (1663)



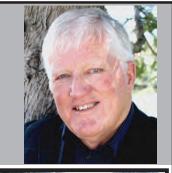
Lake Huron Watt's Lake Road Forested 8.9 ac. & 178 ft. waterfront MLS #2123735, \$129,500 (1671)



MLS #2124318, \$52,500 (1672)



Close to Lake Kagawong MLS #2118130-2118132, \$199,000 each (1638-1639)





Meldrum Bay Waterfront Chalet 2 beds, 1.5 baths, full basement MLS #2122277, \$519,000 (1662)



Deluxe Camping Little Lake Huron 3 cabins, decks, contents and more MLS #2122877, \$129,000 (1620)



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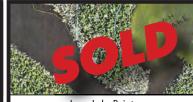
Gore Bay building lot Water view, one acre MLS 32122431, \$87,999 (1666)



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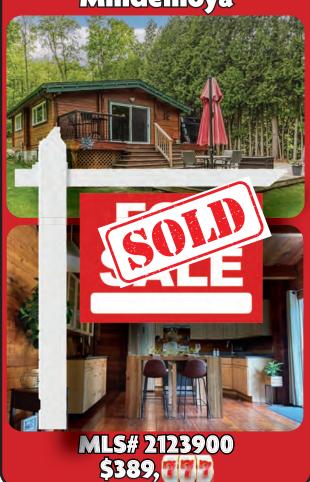




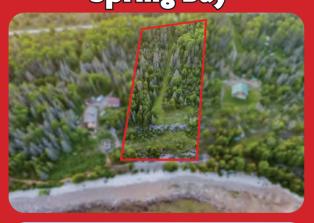
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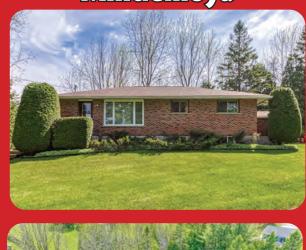
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\*MARKETING COORDINATOR







### Pioneer Museum hosts end of season soiree to say thanks to volunteers

by Margery Frisch

MINDEMOYA—The summer was full of activities at the Pioneer Museum in Mindemoya, and as summer drew to a close, one more event was planned for Friday, August 29.

"The members of the Central Manitoulin Historical Society are volunteers at the Museum," said Alison Sloss, events coordinator for Central Manitoulin Township. "They give tours and run programs all summer long. This event today is a way of saying thank you to them and to our student volunteers." Ms. Sloss, along with Museum Curator Mnawaate Gordan-Corbiere organized the 1920s-themed tea party on the back lawn at the Pioneer Museum. There were games, refreshments, and live music was provided by George Williamson.

"We had planned to 1920s dresses,'

said Historical Society member Sue Moggy, "But it was too cold this morning, no one wanted to put on those light summer dresses." Hers hung on display amidst the photo albums, set out for perusal.

There were wickets set up and balls and mallets available for the enjoyment of croquet. For those unfamiliar with the game, and for those a little rusty about how the game was played, there were sets of instructions displayed intermittently at the front of the field. Once Ms. Moggy and her sister Lynn Quesnel gave it a go, others quickly joined

Fancy teacups and tea pots were set up on a long table, covered with a white cloth. Flowers adorned each section of the table, and each place setting was equipped with a traditional, decorative hand-held (manually operated) fan. The



Sara Kankaanpaa, right, learns the art of croquet from Lynda

Congratulations
Another Great photos by Margery Frisch Season

Pat Costigan gets into the spirit of the 1920s, wearing a lovely fascinator.

Fiddle

period details added much to the enjoyment of the guests.

Throughout July and August, for a nominal fee, crafts such as jewellery making, learning to knit, learning to crochet, embroidery for kids and even candlewick embroidery were on offer at the museum. These events were sponsored by the Central Manitoulin Historical Society (CMHS) and the Friends of the Mindemoya Old School (FOMOS). In addition to the craft programs, volunteers also lead museum tours, and this summer has been a busy one.

"Thank you to all the staff, volunteers, workshop facilitators and visitors of the museum who made this summer so successful. We appreci-

ate your dedication and support!" was written on the Historical Society's Facebook page. It was also written on the faces of those who attended the afternoon event - the food, the music, the games and the animated conversations made it apparent, those being thanked thankful in return.



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### Sea cadet is the lead instructor in youth sailing program

by Michael Erskine LITTLE CURREN

CURRENT— Thanks to a Manitoulin Sea Cadet and the generous donation of a boater's family trust the popular Little Current Yacht Club (LCYC) youth sailing program not only continued this summer but stepped in to help train a group of Manitoulin Sea Cadets in the art and science of sail.

Master Cadet Laszlo Vernarsky joined the Manitoulin Sea Cadet Corps two years ago and will be entering his third year this September. When he learned about the opportunity to become a trained sailing instructor, the Grade 11 student who hopes to pursue a career in "marine navigation" (aka ship's captain) didn't hesitate to put his name forward.

"I love this job," he said. "It could not be better."

Laszlo took the requisite training and is now able to teach the Cansail program's level one and two sailing classes.

He noted that it doesn't get much better than being outside in the summer on the water.

Earlier this year, the yacht club was concerned that they would not have a program this season when their former sailing instructor decided to pursue a career in the trades.

"When Laszlo put his name forward, we jumped at the opportunity and were able to get him into the instructor's course,'



Master Cadet Laszlo Vernarsky is at the helm of the Little Current Yacht Club youth sailing program.

said LCYC Commodore Bruce O'Hare, adding that Laszlo is working out very well. "He's young too, so we hope to have him in the program for a few years." It's a hope Laszlo says he shares.

LCYC The popular workshop series, WD-40 for the Mind, played a key role in filling in the gap when the Department of Defence indicated it would not be funding the annual sailing program for cadets this year. Local boater Eric Cowan was engaged in conversation with Commodore O'Hare at one of the workshop events held at the Anchor Inn bar side where he learned of the loss of the cadets' sailing program.

It just so happens that Mr. Cowan and his two siblings sit on the board of a family trust, Spark Canada Potential. Mr. Cowan explained that a lot of the foundation's work has been aimed at supporting education in communities in Africa in the past but was looking closer to home these days. "The last couple of years we were looking for more local projects we could support," he said.

"Sailing has had a big impact on my life," said Mr. Cowan, and he was looking for a way to give back to the sport. He noted that it is easy to give away money for racing programs, "but that was not what we were look-

ing for-being at a regatta and pulling up in daddy's BMW."

"I was attending one of the LCYC's happy hours and was talking with Bruce O'Hare when he told me about the Cadet sailing program," recalled Mr. Cowan. "I thought it was a good fit with what we were hoping to accomplish at The Cowan Foundation.'

Mr. Cowan credits Mr. O'Hare for the effort to bring it to fruition. "Bruce put in a lot of legwork to make it happen." he said. "It looked easy at first, but it took a lot of people to make it happen."

During the sailing program, the Manitoulin Sea Cadets were not only able to learn more about sailing in the small Pico dinghies that the LCYC sailing program uses but thanks to Little Current Dr. Stephen Cooper, they were able to experience a larger sailing vessel as well.

Roy Eaton, a charter member of the LCYC and the host of the popular North Channel Cruisers' Net program, met with the cadets during one of his early morning broadcasts, where the sailing program was outlined for his listeners.

Mr. O'Hare said that the LCYC hopes to have the youth sailing program running at full steam next vear.



Youth taking part in the Little Current United Church youth vacation bible camp are hard at work creating artworks inspired by stories from the bible.

### **Little Current United Church** holds youth bible camp

by Michael Erskine LITTLE CURRENT—The United Church Hall in Little Current was a bustling hive of creativity over the past week as youth gathered for a youth bible camp.

From tie-dyed T-shirts to hand-crafted art works, the children were kept busy being creative in expressing stories from the Bible through art.

The Expositor caught up with pastor Rev. Whitney Bruno as a group of children, and a number of adults, held a car wash on the morning of Friday, August 29.

"The kids are celebrating completing vacation Bible camp," said Rev. Bruno. "They are washing cars to raise funds so that they can do camp again next year. In general, having a lot of fun with each other.

On Sunday, the children taught anyone who arrived their very favourite parts of camp, said Rev. Bruno.

The object of the camp was to bring the teachings of Jesus and the bible to youth in a way that was fun for the children without being 'preachy' as such.

Rev. Bruno noted the youth bible camp is non-denominational and that everyone was welcome.

"We hope to expand the camp next year and have even more children come," she said.



Youth vacation bible camp attendees work diligently to clean cars and trucks to raise funds for next year's camp. photos by Michael Erskine

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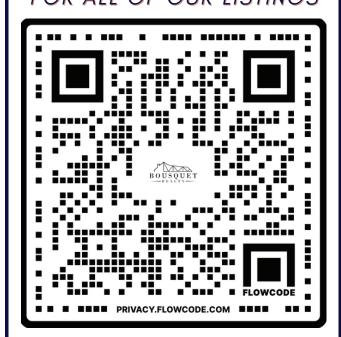
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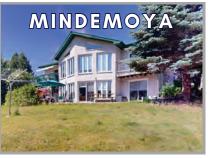
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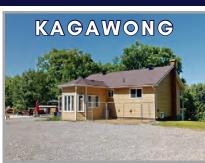
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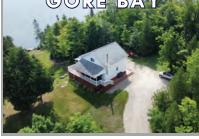


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Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

### Cyclist's tour collects much needed food for the Manitoulin food bank

by Tom Sasvari

MINDEMOYA—The second annual bicycle ride that Manitowaning resident Joseph Caulfield took this past Sunday to provide badly needed food items for the Manitoulin Food Bank in Mindemoya was again a huge success!

"This is beautiful. It is amazing," stated Terry MacKenzie, interim food bank supervisor with Manitoulin Family Resources. "We are always running out of the food and extras that people need."

Caulfield drove from Manitowaning to Mindemoya this past Sunday morning, with Ray Corbiere of M'Chigeeng First Nation riding (who



The second annual fundraising bicycle ride that Manitowaning resident Joseph Caulfield took this past Sunday was again a huge success. In photo from left, is Katharine Caulfield, Terry Mackenzie of the Manitoulin Food Bank, Joseph Caulfield, Cole Bowerman and Ray Corbiere who display the bins that were filled with non-perishable food items.

### photo by Tom Sasvari

Hardware and Canada Post Corporation with the bins set up at all six locations in the two communities. As well as the food bins, residents had the option of leaving food items by their mailboxes on the day of the ride to be picked up by a truck accompanying Mr. Caulfield, with his wife Katharine and Cole Bowerman, an Assiginack township firefighter, volunteer manning the truck.

Mr. Caulfield, owns a bicycle company on the Island, Bike Whizzards, grew up in London, England. When he and his wife moved into their home in Manitowaning,



Joseph Caulfield, right in photo was accompanied by Ray Corbiere for a portion of Mr. Caulfields' second annual ride to provide needed non-perishable food items for the Manitoulin Food Bank in Mindemoya.

just recently had a knee replaced) along with him for half of the distance.

While the actual number of non-perishable food and other supplies may have gone down a few items this year (just under 400), "I think this year we have a lot more variety of items (with non-perishable food items, toothpaste and other personal supplies being provided by local residents) and the bins are definitely heavi-

Again, Mr. Caulfield said he is very grateful for the generosity of local residents in donating items for the cause.

Mr. Caulfield again this year requested that Island residents, both permanent and seasonal, provide non-perishable food items that were presented



Joseph Caufield poses with Terry Mackenzie of the Manitoulin Food Bank and his food haul from this year's ride.

to MFR for the food bank. He and his wife Katharine moved to Manitoulin in May 2024. As he did last year, he had six food box bin locations set up along the route from Manitowaning to Mindemoya, thanks to support to set up the bins at the Guardian Pharmacy, Home

they found that the previous owners had left many good items like kayaks and food, which they donated to the food bank.

The annual ride will take place on the same weekend every year, the Labour Day long week-

# **Manitoulin Sporting Life**



### Local runner, finalist at Canada Games

Brodie Pennie has been doing an amazing job preparing for his second, cross country season for his University of New Brunswick Reds team. Hailing from Assiginack, the sophomore distance runner was way out east for the 2025 Canada Games held in St. John's Newfoundland. Competing under the New Brunswick flag for his school, Brodie ran a 3:54 and finished fifth in the second heat of the 1500m, just one second behind the final's eventual winner. Brodie had a strategic race in the final, finishing in eighth place overall with a 3:53! Congratulations, Brodie and good luck in Cross Country this fall!

### **Tennis Tournament** this weekend!

The annual, End of Summer Tennis Tournament at the Manitoulin Secondary School's courts postponed due to rain is all set for this Saturday at 9 AM! Organizer, Chris Theijsmeijer is hoping to have a rough estimate of numbers, so if you could please drop him a quick email at ctheijsmeijer@gmail.com that will make everything smoother for orga-

### Bike Rodeo for Marc

The Marc Hovingh Memorial Youth Bike and Rodeo will be held this Saturday, September 6th in Mindemoya. The event is free to register and is open to anyone under 18. The omnipotent organizer, Marie Ford needs numbers to tailor the day to whoever is interested. The day will be based at the Mindemoya Arena. She has planned a barbeque with hamburgers and hot dogs, gift certificate draw prizes, a fun skills course and a group ride. The fun starts at 1PM but Marie needs numbers so please register now! You can call her at 705-348-8472. Thanks to sponsors, OPP Youth Foundation, MICA and the North Channel Bike

### North Channel Bike Park

Speaking of the Park, their Facebook page has a bunch of great pictures and videos of the amazing progress on the Honora Bay area trails a dedicated Mountain Bike destination. In one video you can ride-along for an idea of what there is to experience. There are carefully constructed berms and flowy humps and great vistas!

Organizers report that some lines are

at the trail finishing stage but can still use raking, shaping, packing, and cleaning up. They would appreciate any help we can offer. You can reach out through the Facebook page.

MARC updates!
This past week the Mindemoya Arena Repair Committee (MARC) proudly presented a cheque for \$23,362 in front of the arena's West wall, the section of the building that required urgent repair.

The contribution was made as part of the Municipality of Central Manitoulin's Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) Stage 2 application, which supports multiple repairs at the arena, including: The West wall repair, Removal & reinstallation of the low-e ceiling for a full structural inspection and ammonia valve repairs for the ice

MARC recognizes that this milestone represents the hard work of countless volunteers and the generosity of our community through fundraising events, donations, and in-kind support. Together with the support of NOHFC, and our community, we are ensuring the Mindemoya Arena remains a safe and thriving space for future generations.

### Call out for fall hockey registrations!

Every community is hoping to solidify their teams for the upcoming season. It is a huge, headache for local minor hockey associations as September arrives even well before ice is on the horizon. Your local has decisions and duties that cascade down from their numbers. The NOHA has to have their numbers, schedule makers, referee assignments, ice-time slots, etc. etc.

The Gore Bay Bruins have out their reminder. They need more players in U11 (2015, 2016), U13 (2013, 2014) and U18 (2008, 2009, 2010) to make a team. Registration also open for U7 (2019, 2020, 2021), U9 (2017, 2018) and U15 (2011, 2012).

'If you plan on playing hockey in Gore Bay, register now before it's too late! Please help us spread the word so every child gets the chance to play." Bruins' local President Nick Lane is also looking for used equipment donations. "We hold an annual equipment exchange later in September/early October, it is open to any Island hockey family that is in need and in preparation for this, we are looking for used equipment to be donated."

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



### Never too late to ride!

Debbie Hietkamp, who is 93-yearsyoung drew a lot of attention when she headed out on a motorcycle ride with motorcyclist Rob Smith. "Oh yes, it was a lot of fun," stated Ms. Hietkamp of the ride on Water Street in Gore Bay. She and Mr. Smith have been talking about taking this ride for about a year, and when it took place people were stopping and pulling their vehicles over to the side of the road and waving at Ms. Hietkamp in encouragement.

photo by Lori Peters

by Heather Marshall

anitoulin has benefitted from strong policing from both the Ontario Provincial Police and Indigenous police services for many years. Recently, there has been a major changing of the guard as many long-serving police officers have retired or moved on and been replaced with a fresh crop of people dedicated to serving and protecting the community. This is especially true in local Indigenous police services. This series follows the beat of a new generation of police men and women on Manitoulin.

Unlike many recent recruits to local police detachments, Staff Sergeant John Buligan is not one of those launching his vocation as a police officer. Rather, he is writing one of the final chapters in his nearly three-decade long career with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) by being seconded to the Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service (WTPS) to share his experience and expertise with the detachment's sergeants.

Originally from Southern Ontario, John developed an early interest in law enforcement, influenced by family connections to the field. He pursued this path through a combination of academic and practical experience, earning a college diploma followed by a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology. Throughout his postsecondary education, he also served eight years in the military reserves, gaining valuable leadership and service experience.

After completing six months of training at the Ontario Police College, John joined the OPP in 1996. Since then, he has served in various roles across south-



# On the Beat

by Heather Marshall





Staff Sgt. John Buligan is writing the final chapter in his policing career with the Ontario Provincial Police by being seconded to the Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service.

ern Ontario, steadily advancing from a constable in the Highway Safety Division to his current position as Staff Sergeant and Operations Manager at the Dufferin Detachment.

John gained valuable experience throughout his career that enriched his professional life such as his years as a Sergeant in Caledon and, later, as a Detective Sergeant specializing in

drug trafficking investigations with the Community Street Crime Unit. He also contributed to the OPP's Organized Crime Enforcement Bureau and has been part of several specialized units, including the Emergency Response Team, Urban Search and Rescue, and the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear Response Team where he served as a certified Bomb Technician. His time with the Crime Unit has further enhanced his skills in conducting in-depth and complex investigations.

It was while perusing job postings one day at the office that he saw a secondment opportunity featuring two components that immediately piqued his interest. The first was that the job involved Indigenous policing, an area of interest. The second was that the chief of the Indigenous policing service to whom he would report was Ron Gignac-someone he had been on the same platoon with in the OPP's Nottawasaga detachment 27 years earlier.

"I saw this unique opportunity to provide support to the WTPS and to work with Ron again," he explains. "I was aware of provincial and federal efforts to modernize and grow the police service and wanted to be a part of that process. I've always worked for a large organization, so the chance to be part of a smaller team undergoing

positive changes and building a new team was really appealing. I wanted to share my knowledge and skills as I mentor officers but also to continue learning -especially from the diverse community we serve. Engaging with different perspectives not only strengthens our approach to policing but also helps foster trust and meaningful relationships.

John arrived on the Island during the heart of winter in January and settled in Wiikwemkoong. The experience has been a rewarding one, offering unique advantages in community-based policing.

"Among the things I appreciate is how tightly knit and community-oriented this area is. It stands in contrast to many southern suburban centres where people often commute to larger cities, making it more challenging to build meaningful relationships. Here, strong community ties enhance our policing effectiveness, which relies heavily on relationship building, networking and open information sharing.

I had only visited Manitoulin once, years ago, and am grateful for the chance to now spend more time here. I have genuinely come to love this small, vibrant environment. When I first arrived, I thought it might take time to be welcomed as an outsider from the OPP, but that was quickly proven wrong. Numerous locals have expressed their appreciation for the support we provide to the WTPS, and I am proud to play a role in the OPP's partnership with Indigenous policing services. It's an honor to contribute to a collaborative approach that strengthens community safety and trust.'



# Manitoulin Centennial Manor

**INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL** (IPAC)/QUALITY MANAGER **Permanent Full-Time** 

Candidates are invited to apply for this Full-Time position to work at our Manitoulin Cen'tennial Manor, a 60-be'd long-term care facility, located in Little Current, Ontario.

Reporting to the Director of Care, the IPAC/Quality Manager will oversee the IPAC and quality improvement programs.

Responsibilities

Leads the LTC home's IPAC program
Ensure the IPAC program in the home is consistent with provincial standards and best practices

Train staff, residents and care providers on IPAC standards and practices

Conduct IPAC audits and risk assessments in the home, developing corrective plans and actions

Other responsibilities as related to IPAC in the home

### Additional Responsibilities Include

Oversee quality teams

Reviewing quality indicators

Working with staff to improve quality within the home

### Qualifications

Education and experience in IPAC practices including infectious diseases, cleaning and disinfection, data collection and trend analysis, reporting protocols, outbreak management, asepsis, microbiology, adult education, epidemiology and program management.

LTC home operational experience, considered an asset.

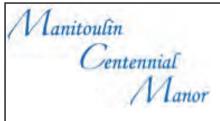
Certification in infection control from the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology or willing to obtain Cortification.

obtain Certification.

Effective communication skills and ability to work independently and collaboratively are essential.

Interested applicants may forward their resume by mail or email to:

> Don Cook, Administrator 70 Robinson Street, Postal Bag 460 Little Current, ON **POP 1KO** don.cook@exeassist.ca



**Manitoulin Centennial Manor ASSISTANT DIRECTOR** OF CARE (ADOC) **Temporary Full-Time** 6 – 9 Month Contract

Candidates are invited to apply for this Temporary Full-Time position to work at our Manitoulin Centennial Manor, a 60-bed long-term care facility, located in Little Current, Ontario.

Reporting to the Director of Care, the ADOC will review and update all Clinical program teams.

### **Responsibilities**

- Review all clinical programs
- Review policies for clinical programs
- Train staff, to participate in clinical programs
- Ensure all clinical programs are in compliance with Ministry regulations
- Other responsibilities as directed by DOC

### Qualifications

- Education and experience in setting up and running clinical programs.
- LTC home operational experience, and excellent knowledge of policies and procedures.
- Effective communication skills and ability to work independently and collaboratively are essential.

Interested applicants may forward their resume by mail or email to: **Don Cook, Administrator** 70 Robinson Street, Postal Bag 460 Little Current, ON **POP 1KO** don.cook@exeassist.ca

## Anishinabek Nation honours 17 with lifetime achievement awards

CHIPPEWAS OF RAMA FIRST NATION—A total of 17 Anishinaabe citizens, including nine from Manitoulin Island and area, were honoured at the Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity annual Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Awards on August 28.

"The Anishinabek Evening of Excellence began as the Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Awards in 1999. At that



The Waindubence Family accepted the Lifetime Achievement Award for the Gordon Waindubence baa at the Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity annual Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement



Anishinabek Grand Chief Linda Debassige, left, presents a lifetime achievement award to Danette McGregor.

photos by Prachi Nanavati

time, the goal of the event was to bring awareness to our Anishinabek Nation citizens who have succeeded in various professional endeavours.'

"Our Evening of Excellence brings together approximately 250 people annually to recognize deserving Anishinabek citizens who are presentwith Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement We recognize Awards. these people as 'building blocks,' to improving the lives of Anishinabek citizens and the Anishinabek

Nation as a whole."

Among the Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award recipients were the late Melvina Corbiere of M'Chigeeng First Nation, Darrell Mandamin, Steven George of Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory, Andrew J. McGregor, Danette Mc-Gregor, Gail 'Kiki Mc-Gregor, Brian 'Chuck' Ziegler of Whitefish River First Nation, the late Gordon Waindubence of Sheguiandah First Nation and Verna Hardwick of Sheshegwaning First Nation who received the Educator Anishinabek Excellence award.

Darrell "Sergeant Mandamin of the Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service (WTPS) was honoured for his over 34 years of dedication and service. Darrell Mandamin has dedicated his entire career to public service through peacekeeping and policing work on behalf of the WTPS and the Anishinabek Police Service. He has been a steady, loyal ambassador of the Mukwa Dodem keeping the community safe," his nomination states.

"Over the many years, he's always been ready to respond with a calm demeanor in any situation whether it be a minor incident or situations which are dangerous or traumatic. As you can imagine, in his line of work he is subjected to many forms of abuse, whether it be physical, mental, verbal and even spiritual, but he is always responding in a healthy manner to ensure the safety of the people involved as well as the community at large.'

"Additionally, Sergeant Mandamin, in his role of leadership within the police service, has at times

been a mentor to new recruits of First Nation and First Nation policing.'

His work has included RIDE checks, emergency response, search warrant execution and patrol duties, often during the overnight hours. He has also worked as an expert criminal investigator on the crime unit.

In July 2024, Sgt. Mandamin and Constable DiSalvo were credited with saving a family from a burning residence, risking their own lives in the process, an act that highlighted Sgt. Mandamin's bravery and commitment to his community.

He is also recognized for his role as a mentor to new Indigenous police recruits. His efforts have helped train and guide future officers with a focus on integrity, respect and service.

"Sergeant Mandamin represents the very best of what it means to serve and protect," said WTPS Police Chief Ron Gignac. "His unwavering dedication over 34 years, his courage in the face of danger, and his commitment to mentoring the next generation of officers have left a lasting impact on our police service and our community. Darrell's leadership and integrity are a source of pride for the WTPS, and we are honoured to see him recognized with the Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award."

Andrew McGregor, of WRFN, "is a friend, broth-

are in his presence. Family is of the utmost importance, always helping those with advice, knowledge, reassurance, or just a helping hand. He is a bridge to family history, sharing stories and family traditions that bring the past to today."

Brian Ziegler, of Whitefish River First Nation, "Known to most as 'Chuck,' has served with distinction for over three decades as a police officer



Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige, left, presents a lifetime achievement award to Darrell Mandamin.

er, father and grandfather to many, and is known as a source of wisdom, strength, and honour. An Indian Residential School Survivor, he is a man of few words. He has been a lifelong example of hard work, pride and respect."

"He is a bridge to the past, whether it be family or community history, sharing his knowledge, stories, and traditions that connect all those who with the United Chiefs and Councils of Manitoulin Anishinaabe Police Service (UCCM APS), consistently demonstrating courage, integrity, and commitment to community."

"His journey began in WRFN, where he was raised in a family that instilled in him the values of humility, strength,

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### Nakiiwin Azheyaaksin **Employment Opportunity** Financial Administrator

Under the supervision of the Rental Property Manager for Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory's Rental Property Management (RPM), the Financial Administrator will perform all aspects of financial administration and the collection, analysis, and reporting of information and preparing RPM's monthly/annual reports, maintaining an up-to-date database and financial management software, and to assist in the efficient operation of the rental portfolio.

### Responsibilities:

- Processing monthly rental payments
- Monitor cash flow received from tenants Research and investigate tenant rental accounts
- Ensure proper adjustments to tenant records
- Review and process reimbursements on over payments Track data and information and create reports
- Prepare quarterly financial reports
- Create & export GL transaction reports
- Responsible for administering the Rabbit Island Center
- Prepare and maintain financial reports for laundry revenue
- Carry out administrative duties related to the position

### Qualifications:

- Post Secondary education in a related field.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills. Experience in office administration.
- Proficient with MS Office.
- Experience in handling cash and bookkeeping.
- Proven customer service background; and,
- Commitment to become fluent or maintain and encourage fluency of Anishinaabemowin.

### Salary: \$65,009.00

### Posted: August 22, 2025

### Closing: September 5, 2025 2:00 PM

Interested applicants are asked to submit a signed cover letter of application, current resume, copies of applicable diplomas or certificates and three work-related references including current employer with contact information to:

All applications are to be marked "CONFIDENTIAL" and sent to:

Attention: Finance Administrator Vacancy Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory 19A Complex Drive, BOX 112 Wikwemikong, Ontario

erc@wiikwemkoong.ca

Please submit copies as there is no return of submissions. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered. While we thank all interested applicants, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



### Anishinabek Nation honours 17 with lifetime achievement awards

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and fairness. Though his early life was marked by systemic challenges and the impacts of racial discrimination, he emerged from those experiences with deep empathy and an unshakable sense of justice. His life's work has reflected those lessons, offering protection and compassion to the people he served."

"Throughout his 30year career, he has worn many hats: frontline responder, scenes of crime officer, traffic management officer, shift supervisor and lead investigator in major cases. Each was approached with the same unwavering dedication to public safety and community well-being. The humanity he brings to the badge is what sets him apart. He has been known to lift the spirits of those around him with quick wit and a well-timed joke, even amid high-stress situations. Behind the uniform is a man deeply committed to family, community and the next generation.'

Danette McGregor, of Whitefish River First

programs run smoothly and safely.

**Duties and Responsibilities** 

programs and activities.

and community activities.

ensure quality service delivery.

provincial safety regulations.

programs accordingly.

usage schedules.

**Facility Management** 

**Staff Supervision** 

scheduled.

**Budget Maintenance** 

recreational facility.

and staffing for events.

weekend activities.

that facilities meet the needs of the community.

**Program Development** 

Design, implement and evaluate recreational

Develop and implement a variety of recreational

Plan and coordinate special events, tournaments

Assess community needs and interests to adjust

Oversee day-to-day operations of recreational

Monitor program participation and feedback to

Develop promotional materials and outreach

strategies to increase program engagement.

Liaise with community partners, vendors and

Oversee the maintenance and cleanliness of the

Ensure compliance with safety regulations and

Manage logistics, including permits, equipment

Train and supervise recreational staff and

Schedule staff shifts to ensure weekly and

Ensure program reports are completed as

Prepare and manage budgets for recreational

Perform other related duties as assigned.

facilities, including maintenance and safety. Coordinate facility bookings, events and public

programs and services for different age groups and

**Job Purpose** 



Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige, left, presents a lifetime achievement award to Gail 'Kiki' McGregor.

esteemed leader and cultural advocate within her community. For over two decades, she has left an indelible mark on the hearts and minds of countless individuals, shaping the future through her role as an educator at the Maam-Kendaasing Early we Learning and Innovation Centre.'

"More recently, she has focused on the language. Under her leadership,

JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: RECREATION/FACILITY MANAGER

Reports To: Band Manager

The Recreation Manager oversees the operations and activities of recreation facilities, ensuring that

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

Nation, "is known as an the Anishinaabemowin program has flourished, becoming a cornerstone of the educational experience at Maamwe Kendaasing. Her work serves as a profound and integral link in the fabric of Anishinabek society, weaving together threads of resilience, cultural revitalization, and intergenerational healing.

"Her lifetime work symbolizes a collective journey of resilience, healing,

and cultural resurgence for the Anishinabek people. She inspires future generations to embrace their heritage, uphold their traditions, and chart a course toward a bright,

more empowered future.' Gail McGregor, also of WRFN, is "affectionately known as Kiki, and has served the community in countless roles for over 45 years. She became the youngest-ever member of the WRFN recreation committee and has never stopped showing up. She is a co-founder of the annual powwow gathering and remains a key part of its continued success. Whether organizing community events, seasonal solstice ceremonies, baby welcomes, or annual parades, she has been the quiet current behind many of the community's most meaningful traditions."

"Her gifts extend far beyond event coordination-she is a knowledge keeper and a spiritual woman whose wisdom profoundly shapes the lives of many, grounding others in Anishinaabe ways of being. Her work with the senior population is especially meaningful, as she brings wellness practices, language, and culturally grounded care to both elders and clients. Her journey has not been without hardship. Very few can say they have supported their First Nation from youth into their elder years with such constancy and purpose. Gail is a living thread connecting the past to the present, embodying the teachings, values, and spiritual strength of

the Anishinabek people. Her work touches every life stage, from birth to death, and her presence is a reminder that tradition, kindness and hard work can build legacies that

The late Melvina Corbiere of M'Chigeeng First Nation was "a residential school survivor. She often described this experience in a positive way, in the sense that it helped equip her and others with the tools they needed to be leaders of change in First Nation communities."

"As a teacher, she inspired many students to achieve their educational goals. With her kind approach, she worked as a peer within the teaching community to help other teachers understand the First Nations people, their

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### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY** WHITEFISH RIVER FIRST NATION

### **INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTOR**

Term: Full-Time

Salary Range: \$90,140 to \$107,632 (depending on education and experience) \*In addition to a competitive salary we offer a comprehensive benefits package, including group benefits, pensions and more!

The Infrastructure Director, a pivotal leadership position, is of utmost importance as it is responsible for overseeing the planning, development and management of infrastructure projects within the Whitefish River First Nation community. This role, which encompasses various responsibilities such as managing public works, housing, facilities, land use codes and emergency services carries significant weight in the community. The Infrastructure Director will oversee the planning, development and management of various infrastructure projects within the Whitefish River First Nation (WRFN) community. This role involves managing capital projects, ensuring compliance with standards and fostering positive relationships with stakeholders. The Director also plays a key role in developing and implementing infrastructure plans, managing budgets, and ensuring the efficient and effective operation of infrastructure and community assets.

- Developing and implementing strategic plans for infrastructure development, including long-term infrastructure planning, state-of-good-repair planning and asset management frameworks.
- As the Infrastructure Director, you will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of infrastructure projects, from planning and design to construction, operation and maintenance. This includes managing project budgets and timelines, as well as ensuring projects are completed on time and within budget. Your role is crucial in ensuring the smooth operation of the community's infrastructure.
- · In conjunction with the Band Manager and the Finance Manager, planning and directing a comprehensive asset management program to ensure the efficient and effective operation and maintenance of the WRFN's infrastructure according to planned targets, budgets, procedures and priorities, and in accordance with applicable legislation.
- Mentor and supervise the Housing Manager, Public Works Manager, Facilities Manager and the Infrastructure and Emergency Services Manager as required to operate the work as directed and assigned effectively.

### Qualifications

scheduled.

2 years of experience in recreational program or facility management.

Ensure programs reports are completed as

programs and facility maintenance.

Monitor expenses and revenues.

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

### Ensure compliance with organizational policies and Core Competencies

- Organized, reliable and detail-oriented.
- Ability to plan and prioritize multiple programs
- and deadlines. Excellent problem-solving and conflict-resolution
- 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.

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Completion of a University degree in a related field (construction management, engineering, architecture, a master's degree or a post-graduate diploma is highly desired.
- Ten (10) + years of experience in capital project management, including five (5) + years in a leadership role.
- Previous experience working in a First Nations community and/or organization preferred. • An understanding of relevant federal, provincial and local legislation, policies and procedures.
- Strong knowledge of infrastructure systems, including water, wastewater, roads and buildings.
- Significant experience in infrastructure planning, project management and financial management is
- Sound knowledge of MS Office Programs (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), Microsoft Project.
- Knowledge of the Aboriginal Water and Wastewater Association of Ontario (AWWAO).
- Knowledge of the Fuel Systems Management Circuit Rider Program.

- A thorough understanding of First Nations culture, history and governance structures is often required. • Thorough working knowledge of road/sewer/construction, maintenance management, waste
- management, water and subsidy processes. • Experience developing and managing capital and operational budgets.
- Must possess excellent strategic planning, performance management, problem solving and decisionmaking, as well as strong leadership skills. Sound judgement and professional tact to gain cooperation and compliance from members of the
- community, contractors and industry professionals (Engineers and Architects, etc.).
- · Understands and ensures compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act, Regulations and any WRFN policies and procedures. Computer literacy utilizing the Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook) and virtual
- meeting platforms.

\*\*Must submit a clear Police Criminal Reference Check (CRC) upon hire. For a complete job description, please email: murray.mcgregor@whitefishriver.ca\*\*

### Application Closing Date: September 12, 2025 at noon

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

> CONFIDENTIAL: Infrastructure Director Whitefish River First Nation

17-A Rainbow Ridge Road, P.O. Box 188, Birch Island, ON POP 1A0 Email: jobapplications@whitefishriver.ca Fax: (705) 285-4532

At Whitefish River First Nation we value diversity and inclusion. Milgwetch (thank you) to all who apply; however, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

### ... Anishinabek Nation honours 17 with lifetime achievement awards

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systems of governance, language, traditions and culture. She helped break down the barriers of colonialist attitudes towards First Nation people in a positive way.'

"After many years as a teacher, she became a principal and director of education. During this time, she was instrumental in acquiring control of the M'Chigeeng First Nations Educational system from Indian Affairs Canada, becoming one of the first First Nations in Canada to achieve broad control of their education-



Bartenders needed. Smart Serve required. Drop resume off at the branch, email to rclbr514@eastlink.ca or mail it to Box 160, Gore Bay, Ontario **P0P 1H0** 





Lisa Corbiere-Addison, left, receives the Lifetime Achievement Award on behalf of her mother, Melvina Corbiere baa, by Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige.

al system."

"She was fluent in Ojibway and had a lifetime of cultural understanding. As an elementary educator, she saw a need for resource development to help teachers with language development. With her educational background and knowledge of curriculum, she worked with the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation and the Kenjgewin Teg Educational Institute to help develop books and curriculum resources in the language. These resources and others were shared with made her an exception-

many teachers across the province and around Turtle Island to help those understand and speak Anishinaabemowin.'

"Many people in communities today credit Melvina as an integral figure in shaping the First Nation education system into what it is today. Her legacy has led many others to follow in her footsteps and become leaders in their own journey. Her love of teaching, dedication to First Nation people, and commitment to her students' success

al educator, and we are proud to honour her today with an Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award in the category of educa-

Steven George of Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory "has been the local historian for Wiikwem-koong and fellow Anishinaabe communities within the Anishinaabe Territory for many years. Rooted in rich Anishinaabemowin fluency, historical knowledge and genealogy knowledge, he has been called upon to

and culture. He demonstrates his retention of culture and language while sharing it with many. His ability to recall and share history helps bridge the divide amongst generations and helps to regain identity in family and community with the knowledge that people's identity is integral to the future of the Anishinabek."

The late Gordon Wain-Sheguiandah dubence, First Nation. "Our next award recipient dedicated his life's work to the



Whitefish River First Nation Chief Rodney Nahwegahbow received the Lifetime Achievement Award on behalf of Brian 'Chuck' Ziegler.

bridge the past into the present while preparing and building a future. He is often sought for his insight, reference, understanding and inter-pretation of Anishinaabemowin."

At the core of being Anishinaabe is language

Anishinabek Nation and tonight, we remember and honour, the late former Anishinabek Nation Head Getzit Gordon Waindubence-baa of Sheguiandah First Nation who returned to the Spirit World on November 24, 2021.'

"In 1997, former An-

ishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Vernon Roote-baa offered Elder Gordon tobacco to build a Nation. He accepted but said it would take time. He fasted and received a clear vision for Ansihinabek Nation. He set out to carve the Eagle Staff and would encourage each member First Nation to share an Eagle Feather to represent unity."

"He worked tirelessly for over 24 years to build a Nation and to guide leadership in this endeavour. He travelled throughout the nation, sharing his cultural knowledge and gifts with determination in developing a Nation and fostering Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinabe-One Anishinaabe Family."

"We recognize him for all he has done for the Anishinabek nation and say "Chi-Miigwech" for the following significant events: appointed as the first head Getzit of the Anishinabek Nation, implemented the stand-up election process for the Anishinabek Nation's leadership and for the Chiefs of Ontario; Helped create Ngo Dwe Waangizid with Manitoulin Getzidiig, created the June 6 Anishinaabe Giizhigad yearly holiday in recognition of the acceptance of the Chi-Naaknigewin by Chiefs-in-As-

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### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY** WHITEFISH RIVER FIRST NATION

### **HOUSING MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR**

Term: Full-Time (35 hours per week) Salary Range: \$50,490 to \$60,290 (depending on education and experience)

### POSITION SUMMARY:

The Housing Maintenance Coordinator plays a crucial role in providing administrative and coordination support for the renovations of Whitefish River First Nation (WRFN) rental units. This position coordinates resources and third parties/vendors for project execution, including tracking and analyzing project performance, expenditures, procurement and reporting. The Housing Maintenance Coordinator is also responsible for overseeing renovation projects, repairs and maintenance, as well as the overall operation of WRFN rental homes and properties.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Prepare, coordinate and monitor daily minor and major maintenance and renovation services to all WRFN band rental units under the Housing Department.
- Perform general inspections in rental homes and engage with tenants to determine renovation needs and requests.
- Collaborate and communicate with the Housing Navigator a key aspect of this role, ensuring tenants' well-being is at the forefront of our operations.
- Assist with budgets for each unit or project and report on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis.
- Assist with maintenance planning for all equipment and vehicles.
- Troubleshoot and report any issues with electrical, plumbing, heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems (HVAC) in the rental units, including necessary equipment repairs

(For a complete job description, please email hrmanager@whitefishriver.ca).

- Grade 12 or GED is required. A post-secondary diploma in Project Management, Business Administration, Construction/House Inspection, or other related programs is an asset. An equivalent combination of education, training and/or experience will also be considered, providing a pathway for career growth and
- Minimum of three to five (3-5) years of experience in general maintenance, carpentry, and knowledge of the mechanical operation of housing unit equipment/systems preferred.
- Thorough knowledge of building and operating systems, construction, installation, maintenance and repair practices.
- Experience in Project Management is required; experience supervising crews is an asset. Thorough knowledge of Workplace Ontario Occupational Health & Safety Regulations.
- Knowledge of applicable construction codes (ONT Building, ON Plumbing, Canadian Electrical).
- Proficiency in MS Office (Outlook, Word, Excel). MS Project (project management software) is preferred.

- Knowledge of construction processes, materials and techniques; ability to read blueprints.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Motivated and physically fit to perform this type of work, and the ability to lift at least 50 lbs.
- Must train new employees and work flexible hours; maintain on-call schedule.
- Excellent problem-solving, multi-tasking and collaborative skills.

\*\*Upon hire, the successful candidate must submit a Police Criminal Reference Check.\*\*

### **OPEN UNTIL FILLED**

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

CONFIDENTIAL: Housing Maintenance Coordinator c/o Human Resources Whitefish River First Nation 17-A Rainbow Ridge Road, P.O. Box 188, Birch Island, ON POP 1A0

Email: jobapplications@whitefishriver.ca Miigwetch to all who apply; however, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

### **NEW EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY** WHITEFISH RIVER FIRST NATION



Term: Full-Time Term (35 hours per week) Salary Range: \$23.16 to \$27.65/hr (depending on education and experience)

The Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper plays a crucial role in supporting the Economic Development Department. By providing administrative, financial and clerical services, they facilitate efficient operations and contribute to our mission of promoting sustainable economic growth. This role requires strong organizational skills, attention to detail and the ability to manage multiple tasks in a fast-paced environment, fostering sustainable economic development within the Whitefish River First Nation community.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

### Administrative Duties:

- Provide general administrative support to the Economic Development team.
- Schedule meetings, prepare agendas and take minutes.
- Maintain organized filing systems (digital and physical).

### **Bookeeping Duties:**

- Maintain accurate financial records using accounting software (e.g. Sage, QuickBooks)
- Process invoices, receipts, payments and payroll.
- Reconcile bank statements and prepare monthly financial reports.

### Departmental Support:

- Assist in the planning and execution of community events, public meetings and stakeholder engagements.
- Coordinate logistics for workshops, conferences and outreach activities.
- Assist with grant applications and reporting requirements.

(For a complete job description, please email hrmanager@whitefishriver.ca).

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Diploma or certificate in Accounting, Business Administration or related field. • Minimum 2 years of experience in bookkeeping and administrative support.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite and accounting software.
- Strong organizational and time-management skills.
- Knowledge of Indigenous governance and economic development is an asset.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.

### **SKILLS:**

- Strong attention to detail to minimize errors in financial records.
- Ability to manage multiple tasks and prioritize effectively.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills for interacting with customers and team members
- Understanding of basic accounting principles and practices.

\*\*Upon hire, the successful candidate must submit a Police Criminal Reference Check.\*\*

### Applications must be received by September 12th, 2025 at noon.

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

> CONFIDENTIAL: Administrative Assistant/Bookeeper c/o Human Resources Whitefish River First Nation 17-A Rainbow Ridge Road, P.O. Box 188, Birch Island, ON POP 1A0 Email: jobapplications@whitefishriver.ca

At Whitefish River First Nation we value diversity and inclusion. Milgwetch to all who apply; however, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

# Lady Panthers (hockey) scramble golf tournament was a success this past weekend at Rainbow Ridge Golf Course



The ladies division wining team, shown in photo included Kathryn Corbiere, Natalie Hastings, Maggie Ziegler, and Suzy Ballongh. They posted an 18 hole score of 72.



The men's division winning team included Joseph Caulfield, Chris Assiniwe, Jamie Mallette and Dylan Francis. They posted an 18 hole score of 56.



The mixed division winning team included Dominic Morningstar, Sonya Morningstar, Crystal Madahbee and Emilio Tomaselli. They posted an 18 hole score of 62.



# **Employment Opportunity Golf Course Manager**

The Wikwemikong Property Management Co. (WPMC Ltd.) o/a Rainbow Ridge Golf Course is seeking a highly motivated and well-organized individual to fill the position of Golf Course Manager.

The Golf Course Manager reports directly to Enaadmaagehjik Management and Board and will be responsible for all Golf Course operations including, but not limited to, Restaurant, Pro Shop, Golf Course maintenance and administration.

### **General Duties:**

- Develops, maintains and administers a sound business and organizational plan for the property which includes an operating/capital budget and marketing plan
- Hires, develops and supervises all key employees of the property and ensures that all employees have the necessary certifications
- Consistently assures that the property is operated in accordance with all applicable local municipal, provincial and federal laws
- Oversees the care and maintenance of the property's physical assets and facilities
- Development and implementation of the Rainbow Ridge Golf Course marketing strategy and annual business plan
- Ensures the highest standards for food, beverage, sports, recreation activities and other property
- Analyzes financial statements (income and expenses) relative to budgeted goals and takes corrective measures as necessary
- Prepares and presents financial and operational reports to the Enaadmaagehjik Board and Shareholders on a Quarterly and Annual basis
- Responsible for hiring, scheduling, supervising and directing the work of all Golf Course employees
- Participates in outside activities to enhance the presence and brand of the Golf Course in the local community
- Other applicable duties/responsibilities as assigned

### **Qualifications:**

Must have 3-5 years related management experience in the hospitality industry and/or golf operations/club management with a proven track record of leading a professional, efficient, high quality, service-oriented

- Post-secondary education in business, commerce, hospitality/tourism management or hotel & resort management is preferred
- Must possess excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Must be highly organized, efficient and detailoriented
- Must have excellent interpersonal/relationship skills
- Must be proficient in the use of accounting/ database software and Point of Sale Systems Must have extensive human resource background
- in supervisory, coaching and staff development experience
- Must have a strong business aptitude and passion for the golf industry

Wikwemikong Property Management Co. Ltd o/a Rainbow Ridge Golf Course is an equal opportunity employer.

Salary Range: \$60,000 - \$70,000 plus benefits

Please submit cover letter, resume, current and three (3) work-related references to:
Wikwemikong Property Management Company Ltd.
PO Box 96 Wiikwemkoong, Ontario P0P 2J0

> For more information and/or job description, contact John Dube, Business Services Manager at jdube@wikydevcom.ca

> > Deadline: September 5th, 2025 at 4:00 PM

### Island-wide Backpack fundraiser reaches \$6,000 goal

 $\begin{array}{ll} MANITOULIN-Thanks \, to \, the \, generosity \, of \, the \, Manitoulin \, community, \, the \, Is- \\ \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ll} raising \, \, \$6,000 \, \, toward \, \, providing \, \, backty \, of \, the \, Manitoulin \, community, \, the \, Is- \\ \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ll} raising \, \, \$6,000 \, \, toward \, \, providing \, \, backty \, of \, the \, Manitoulin \, community, \, the \, Is- \\ \end{array}$ land Wide Backpack Program fundraising goal has been highly successful.

"We reached our goal of raising \$6,000," stated Pastor Jamie Greenwood of Spring Bay Pentecostal Church on Thursday of last week.

The campaign, spearheaded by all pastors on Manitoulin Island, had a goal of need on Manitoulin.

This year saw an increase of 31 students in need (over last year).

"We want to thank 3 Cows and a Cone. churches, and everyone who helped support this campaign to support students, added Pastor Greenwood.



### **Mnaamodzawin Health Services Employment Opportunity** Community Health Nurse – Full-Time 35 hours per week

Salary range: RPN \$52,778- \$63,075 // RN \$67,975 - \$81,236

### Overview:

The Community Health Nurse (CHN) will deliver comprehensive community health nursing services in 5 First Nation communities in collaboration with an interprofessional health care team. Through consultation, clinical practice, leadership and by facilitating health promotion and disease prevention, the CHN provides care utilizing in-depth nursing knowledge and skills, clinical expertise and advanced judgment. The CHN will utilize a primary health care approach to address overall health needs in Indigenous communities. The successful candidate shall possess:

### Required Competencies:

- Integrity and respect for cultural diversity
- Dependability
- Work effectively both independently and with others
- Show initiative and be action-oriented
- Adaptability
- Critical thinking
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Continuous learning

### Qualifications and Work Experience:

- Experience incorporating physical, mental, social/environment and emotional/spiritual practices in order to meet the needs of individuals, families and communities.
- Knowledgeable and respectful of Anishnaabe customs, culture and language.
- Minimum of three years related experience as a Registered Nurse or Registered Practical Nurse, currently registered with College of Nurses of Ontario in good standing.
- Current Ontario Driver's Licence (and vehicle).
- Current CPR and First Aid Certification.

Deadline: Friday, September 5, 2025 at 12 pm

### Submissions:

Send resume, cover letter, Vulnerable Sector Check, 3 references and copies of credentials marked 'Confidential' in person, by mail or email to:

### **Human Resources**

Mnaamodzawin Health Services Postal Bag 2003, Hwy 540 48A Hillside Road, Aundeck Omni Kaning Little Current, Ontario P0P 1K0 705-368-2182 ext.271 hr@mnaamodzawin.com





# CAREGIVER

### FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services and Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory are currently looking for live-in caregivers to foster a safe, stable, and nurturing environment for First Nations children at our Foster Home in Wiikwemkoong (Kaboni). The community foster home is fully furnished to comfortably accommodate three children aged 0-18, along with caregivers, and includes all necessary amenities and expenses.

The perfect candidate should have experience working with children and be sensitive to the cultural and spiritual needs of youth. A commitment to providing continuity of care and a willingness to collaborate as part of a service team are essential.

Join one of our upcoming information sessions or complete an interest form on our website and we will connect with you to begin the journey of becoming a live-in care giver.





Scan the QR code to fill out the interest form - we will reach out to you.

### IN-PERSON INFO SESSIONS



se se

September 4, 11, 18, 25

(1)

10:00AM - 3:00PM

OUR CHILDREN, OUR RESPONSIBILITY • WWW.KGCFS.ORG • TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION CALL 1-800-268-1899



Now Hiring: Child & Family Advocate Location: Sheshegwaning Health Centre Employment Type: Full-Time (4-Day Work Week!) Deadline to Apply: Open until filled

### About the Role

We are seeking a self-directed, motivated individual for the position of Child and Family Advocate. The successful applicant will be responsible for ensuring that the Heritage, Cultural Traditions, Identity and Rights of Sheshegwaning First Nation families, children and youth are recognized by all parties involved in child welfare matters throughout Sheshegwaning child welfare model and community-based approach.

### What You'll Do

- Provide support, advocate to maintain family units and advocate for satisfactory solutions to family problems for both on and off-reserve members.
- Maintain an up-to-date understanding of family law, child services and legal proceedings as it relates to child services.
- Pre and post trial meetings, reporting and monitoring with families and appropriate agencies.
- Develop and deliver culturally relevant prevention programs, workshops and community events.
- Seek extended family placements where and if needed.

### What You Bring

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills with the ability to maintain strict confidentiality.
- Strong organizational skills, time management, negotiation and evaluation skills.
- Must have a Secondary School Diploma and a valid "G" Class driver's licence
  Must be flexible with hours, including days, evenings and weekends.
- Understanding of client population, cultural and socioeconomic characteristics of
- the area.Working knowledge of relevant child and welfare laws preferred.
- Able to speak Anishnabemowin and understand Cultural practices/traditions would be an asset.
- Must provide clear Criminal Reference Check and Vulnerable Sector Check as a condition of employment.

### Why Join Us?

- 4-Day Work Week
- Matching Pension Plan
- Comprehensive Benefits Package
- Ongoing Training and Professional Development

Apply Today!
Send your cover letter and resume to:
Nicole Bush, Health and Well-Being Director
nicole@sheshegwaning.org
1079B Sheshegwaning Road, Sheshegwaning, ON P0P 1X0

Sheshegwaning First Nation is committed to equity, diversity and inclusion. Preference will be given to qualified members of Sheshegwaning First Nation. We thank all applicants for their interest; only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

### ...Lifetime achievement awards

...continued from page 5A

sembly on June 6, 2012; Implemented shared the Doodem (clan) governance system for restoration of jurisdiction in education and governance, which is carried on today by head Getzit Richard Assinewai and Elder Gordon's son Chop Waindubence; Taught the importance of engaging with Elders wherever we went; Built the arbour that stands at the Anishinabek Nation head office; Gifted an Eagle Feather to Getzit Richard Assinewai to become Head Getzit of the Anishinabek Nation, to carry on the important work that he started and ensure that the Nation was in good hands; provided guidance to staff, Anishinabek Chiefs, cit-

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.



Verna Hardwick, left in photo, was presented a Lifetime Achievement Award by Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige.

Walker's Electric
is looking for a
mechanically
inclined/
handy person
izens and leadership and shared his kindness, built strong friendships, and showed Zaagiidwin for us all-Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe.

Verna Hardwick,

Verna Hardwick, Sheshegwaning First Nation. "Verna is retiring this year after 33 years in education as a qualified teacher, fluent speaker and Odawa woman. It has been said that replacing her will be impossible."

"Verna is passionate about teaching our young people the importance of language in connecting to our culture, ceremony and Odawa identities. She has brought structure, passion and a deep love of her students to her teachings."

"Our students are moving forward in their language because of her excellent teaching style, foundational work and dedication and commitment to the community."





Now Hiring: Ontario Works Administrator
Location: Sheshegwaning Administration Office
Employment Type: Full-Time
Contract to July, 2026 (4-Day Work Week!)
Deadline to Apply: Open until filled

### About the Role

Sheshegwaning First Nation is seeking an Ontario Works Administrator who is responsible for providing all financial and administrative functions to ensure effective, efficient and accurate financial and administrative operations in accordance with the Ontario Works directives and current legislation.

### What You'll Do

- Submission of monthly and quarterly reporting requirements ensuring applicability of legislation and accuracy of content, to INAC & MCSS, including TSF.
- Monitor and verify the monthly client reporting requirements and ensure adherence to applicable policies and legislation, as well as ensure accuracy of content.
- Help clients apply for Employment Insurance (EI) and to the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP).
- Conduct client interviews to process applications and monitor ongoing client eligibility for Ontario Works.
- Professional Dévelopment attend ONWAA training assemblies, maintain a good working relationship with organization, regularly complete required training to fulfil duties of Ontario Works Administrator.

### What You Bring

- Ability to work independently and collaboratively as a member of a team
- Ability to be consistent and display a positive/helpful attitude
- Must have a Secondary School Diploma and a valid "G" Class driver's licence
  Ability to deal effectively with difficult clients and conflicting situations
- Ability to use good judgment in assessing difficult situations maintaining confidentiality and professionalism

### Why Join Us?

- 4-Day Work Week
- Matching Pension Plan
- Comprehensive Benefits Package
- Ongoing Training and Professional Development

Apply Today!
Send your cover letter and resume to:
Joan Sheppard, Executive Director
joan@sheshegwaning.org
1079A Sheshegwaning Road, Sheshegwaning, ON POP 1X0

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



### EXPOSITOR OFFICE IN LITTLE CURRENT

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

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

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

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

# PASSPORT SVISA photos



Digital Passport Photos also available.