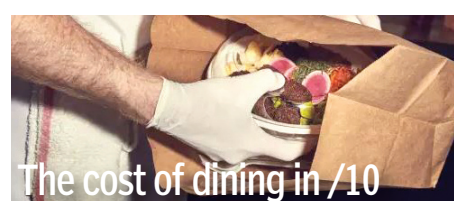
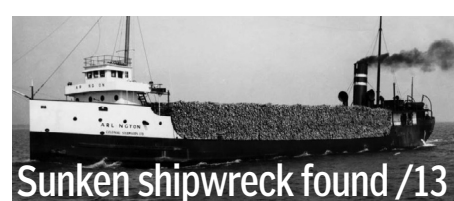




Council passes budget /3



The cost of dining in /10



Sunken shipwreck found /13



Wolves in playoffs /18

YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION

THUNDER BAY SOURCE



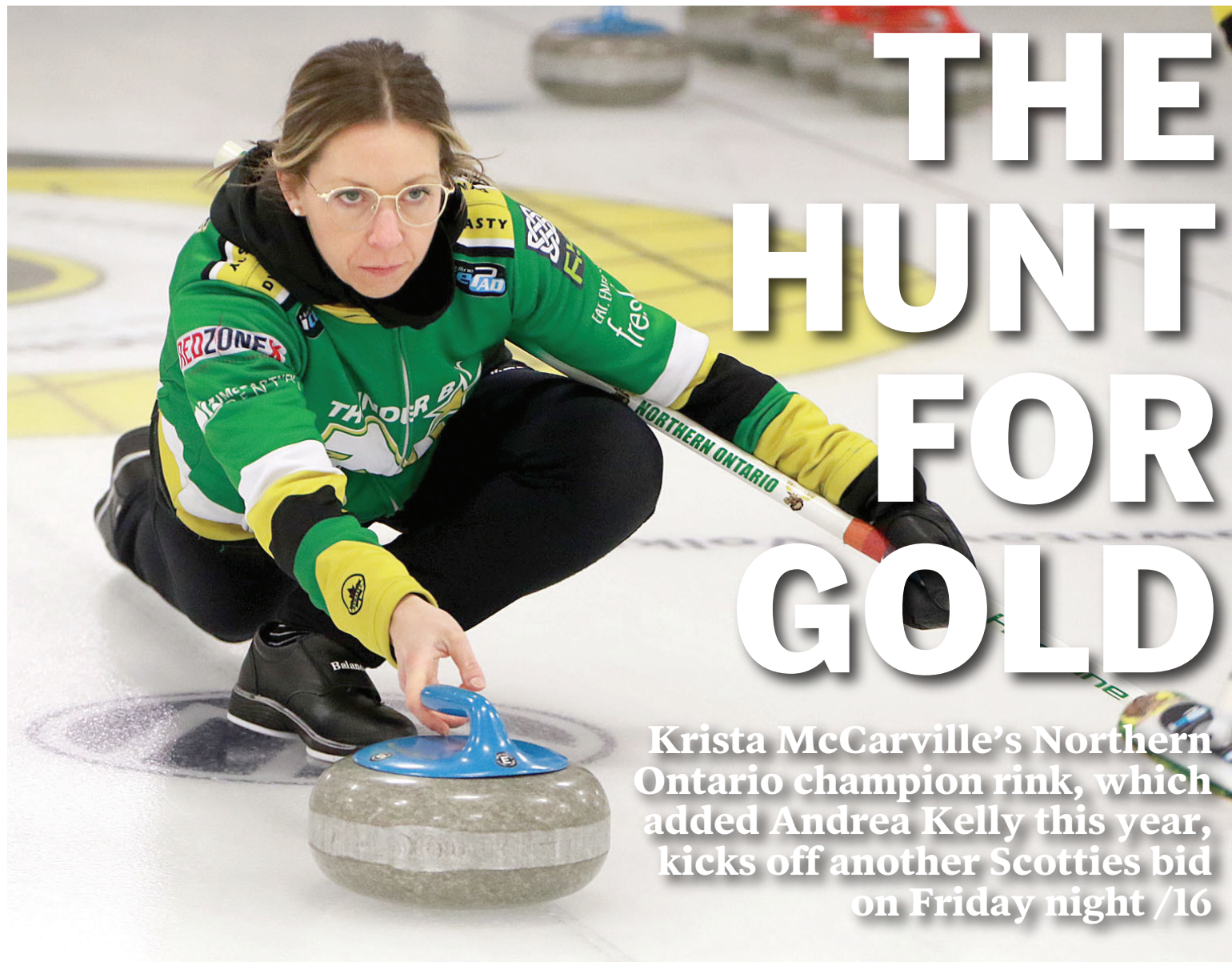
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Thursday, February 15, 2024



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THE HUNT FOR GOLD

Krista McCarville's Northern Ontario champion rink, which added Andrea Kelly this year, kicks off another Scotties bid on Friday night /16

Krista McCarville is making her 11th Scotties Tournament of Hearts appearance in Calgary this weekend, bringing a veteran team that have plenty of podium finishes, but has yet to win.

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Tikinagan
Child & Family Services

What is the meaning of ᑕᑕᑦ ᑕᑦᑕᑦᑭᑎᑦ ᑕᑦᑕᑦᑭᑎᑦ Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin?

“ Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin is the Tikinagan service model. In Ojibway/Oji-Cree, Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin means, “**Everyone working together to raise our children.**” It is a system of protecting and caring for children and supporting families that has been designed and is delivered by First Nations people in our 30 communities. ”

For more information, go to
[TIKINAGAN.ORG](https://www.tikinagan.org)

TIKINAGAN.ORG
1-800-465-3624



Budget approved

Tax-levy hike drops to 5.47 per cent after growth and 5.91 per cent before growth is factored in

By Kevin Jeffrey - Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Council officially ratified the 2024 operating and capital budget with a slight decrease in the municipal tax levy.

The tax levy on the more than \$537-million budget dropped to 5.47 per cent after growth and 5.91 per cent before growth.

Council did vote in favour of a staff recommendation to adjust fees at both Chapples and Strathcona golf courses to the following:

- 3.03 per cent increase for a golf season pass for adults (36 years to 59 years)
- 1.72 per cent increase for a golf season pass for intermediate adults (23-35 years)
- 5.26 per cent increase in the cost to play nine holes
- 4.10 per cent increase in the cost to play 18 holes

Originally Red River Coun. Michael Zussino had recommended a 4.55 per cent increase to the cost of a season pass for adults as well as a 4.83 per cent increase for the cost of an intermediate adult season pass and also a 6.13 per cent increase in the cost of a daily green fee.

In his report back to council, Cory Halvorsen, manager of parks and open spaces, said he "is confident that anticipated course utilization rates for 2024 can achieve an additional \$30,000 in revenue using these rates, should we experience typical weather throughout the operating season."

The other change that council voted in favour of reversed a motion from At-large Coun. Rajni Agarwal to push all but \$200,000 allocated for repairs to the Victoria Parkade to the 2025 budget.

Staff recommended putting the \$1.2 million back in to:

- Replace the waterproofing to half of the P1 level and the P1-P2 ramp, concrete and shear stud repairs in the same area as required

- Repair and replacement of deteriorated drain piping, structural steel repainting, and exterior sealant replacement.

- General manager Karen Lewis stressed the cost of basic demolition of the parkade would not align with the capital forecast for the next few years.

"There are complicated relationships between the parkade, McKellar mall, the reimagined Victoriaville project and other



Coun. Michael Zussino wanted larger golf pass hikes.

city-owned lands," Lewis told council on Monday.

"Our consulting engineer did offer some very initial informal thoughts on the elements that might be included in a full demolition. He was not aware that full demolition was extremely complicated as the mall is directly below the parkade, and it includes renovated city facilities, long-term tenants. It was a critical element in the approved reimagined Victoriaville project."

Lewis said staff recommended to "continue with scheduled repair work to Victoria Parkade as we track and report to council on the performance of the parkade through quarterly variance reports and a planned financial performance update in June of 2026. This will give council the information to assess the impact of revitalization, the value of the parkade into the future, and any additional studies that council may wish us to undertake."

At-large Coun. Mark Bentz voted in favour of the ask.

"As much as I would like to see the parkade gone, and I believe eventually it will have to be torn down, I also hear there are some risks if we defer that million dollars this year," he said.

All councillors voted in favour of the budget in a recorded vote.

Keep in mind what the taxpayer ultimately pays is based on the amount of the tax levy and your property assessment value, which is determined by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC).

WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
Precipitation: 30% HIGH -4 LOW -17	Precipitation: 30% HIGH -13 LOW -17	Precipitation: 40% HIGH -7 LOW -13	Precipitation: 20% HIGH -5 LOW -15

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vendredi 23 février – 17h
Parc historique du Fort William

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Thunder Bay 2024
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PRESENTED BY / PRÉSENTÉ PAR
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Bentz favours smaller council

By Kevin Jeffrey – Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The committee looking at the long-term representation of council has received some results.

Thunder Bay went through the first phase in determining the potential composition of council with a three-week public engagement survey.

Nearly 75 per cent of respondents felt that having 13 councillors around the table was not appropriate, providing value or representing the city well.

At-large Coun. Mark Bentz agreed with a potential reduction in the number of elected members around the table.

“I do see the merits in the hybrid system but one of the things I have shared with the council composition committee is that I believe the at-large councillors should have a majority around the table,” Bentz said.

“I believe we need voices that are accountable to specific areas of the city. So perhaps have less ward councillors with more at-large members and a reduction of two councillors.”

In 1970, Thunder Bay began with a mayor and 12 councillors elected evenly across four wards.



Coun. Mark Bentz says he would be in favour of a potential reduction in the size of council.

That number expanded to seven wards in 1976 and then in 1985 the city adopted its current hybrid system that elects a mayor,

seven ward councillors, and five at-large councillors.

About 53.6 per cent of respondents to the

first phase of the survey see the value in having a ward system in Thunder Bay, while 83 per cent of respondents feel that a ward boundary review should be completed.

Bentz has served on council for 17 of the past 21 years, which included 11 years as the Northward ward councillor.

He said there are no set responsibilities between being an at-large and a ward councillor.

“The understanding is the ward councillor is going to be on the front line for people to bring ward specific issues like pothole repairs. At-large members sometimes get called on those things as well.

“When you’re an at-large member, I think you have more of a global view of the community. People in the ward didn’t like my global view of the community - they wanted me to only think about the ward, which I think doesn’t do a good service to the community.”

Roughly 61 per cent of respondents felt that the \$31,552 base pay plus a car allowance of \$2,750 is fair compensation for the work performed by a councillor

The composition committee will next meet on March 5 with a final report slated for completion in advance of the 2026 municipal election.

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Mayor looking for housing help

By Kevin Jeffrey - Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The process has started to create the mayor's task force that will focus on more housing in Thunder Bay.

The task force was developed as part of the pledge the city made to the province to achieve 2,200 units by 2031.

Stefan Huzan from Northern Planning spoke to council Monday, offering his recommendations on behalf of builders to include three housing industry members on the task force instead of one.

"This is intended to be a rapid action group, not a forum for theoretical discussions. Many people are interested in housing, but they are not well positioned to be making housing action recommendations. They should still be able to sit in on the task force discussions," Huzan said in his deputation.

"The clock on available provincial and federal housing incentive funds is ticking down very fast, therefore actions must be taken as rapidly as possible. Otherwise, the people of Thunder Bay who need homes, and the industry that is in a position to supply them, will simply lose out on millions in grant dollars. We cannot afford actions that are too late or too slow," he said.

At-large Coun. Shelby Ch'ng pointed out to Huzan that Thunder Bay is one of nine communities in the province that have met their housing goals, and asked why would "we cheap out on a consultation at this point?"

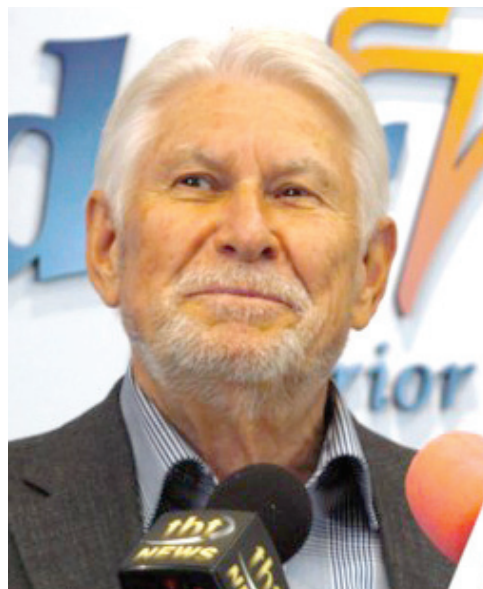
Huzan said there are a range of reasons why the city is meeting its housing goals.

"If you talk to people in the industry, there are a couple of developers out there that are very intensively investing in the construction of new homes, which contributes strongly to meeting those goals.

"On the other hand, I hear from others in the same field that say 'Oh my goodness we're having difficulties, it's challenging and maybe we're going to make more money in other markets.' So they're actually thinking of targeting their investments in housing into other communities."

At-large Coun. Rajni Agarwal also stressed the need to get something done right away.

"April 19 is very important for us as a community because that's when the housing enabling water systems fund is available for project ready items to create more housing within our community. That has nothing to do with the Housing Accelerator Fund and how much we receive from that," Agarwal said



Thunder Bay Mayor Ken Boshcoff.

during the meeting.

"If we wait for a task force to come up with terms of reference to be able to do these projects, we will miss out on a ton of money."

Development services director Joel DePeuter responded that municipalities have not yet received the details for the building faster fund.

He also stated that the establishment of the task force is not for submitting applications nor would they decide on projects that fall under a certain application.

The Committee will be made up of the following members:

- Mayor Ken Boshcoff
- Representative of a construction/trades association involved in housing construction
- Representative of a public/not-for-profit housing organization involved in affordable housing
- Representative of a real estate association
- Representative of an Indigenous-led stakeholder with affordable housing development experience
- Representative of an institution delivering construction and trades training
- Member from the public with working knowledge or research involvement in housing and housing affordability and development

Recruiting members for the committee will take place over the next three to four weeks before a recommendation is brought to council.



A naloxone kit proved instrumental in saving two lives last week at a home in the city's north end. (FILE)

Officers save two lives

By Katie Nicholls - TB Source

A bystander and city police officers were able to help two people who were found without vital signs at a home in the city's north end.

Emergency services were dispatched to a home on Tupper Street around 8:15 p.m. last Thursday.

Two people were located at the residence and were found to be without vital signs.

While officers administered a Naloxone kit to one individual, a bystander assisted and administered one to the second person suspected of overdosing.

As paramedics and firefighters arrived at the scene, both regained vital signs and were brought to the regional hospital for further treatment.

Police continue to advise of the dangers of narcotics use.

Naloxone kits can be picked up for free at most pharmacies across the city.

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LCBOs introducing controlled entry at local stores

By Katie Nicholls – TB Source

The LCBO has announced it will pilot a new program that features controlled entrances at store locations across Northwestern Ontario.

In a release Monday, the Liquor Control Board of Ontario stated six locations would be participating in the pilot program that's expected to roll out in the spring.

One store location in Kenora, one in Sioux Lookout and four in Thunder Bay

will be launching the new safety program.

The following are the six locations that will be participating in the pilot program:

- 546 Park Street, Kenora Shoppers Mall, Kenora
 - 44 Front Street, Sioux Lookout
 - 100 North Cumberland Street, Thunder Bay
 - 1010 Dawson Road, The Landmark Inn, Thunder Bay
 - 1095 Arthur Street West, Thunder Bay
 - 969 Fort William Road, Thunder Bay
- The statement indicates the changes in

entering various locations are to mitigate the possibility of thefts that pose safety risks for patrons and staff.

In order to enter the piloting locations, an individual must appear to be 17 years of age or older and present a valid photo ID.

The security vestibule will scan the photo ID and only retain the customer's photo, name and birth date securely on file for 14 days.

This information is only accessed if there is an incident requiring investigation, and it is not linked to any other system, sold or

used for marketing purposes, says the LCBO in its release.

If an individual is under 19 years old, they must be accompanied by an adult.

Without valid ID, customers will not be allowed into the store.

The pilot program is expected to be rolled out in the spring, with more information to come at a later date for implementation.

The LCBO expects to run the program and monitor results for 12 months.

Officials will decide at the end of the 12 months if the program will continue.



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happening
here.

EDITORIAL

Cutting council

On March 5, the committee looking at council's composition will unveil its final report to city council.

It's clear the public, not to mention at least one councillor himself, think 13 council members is too many.

The survey conducted by the committee shows 75 per cent of those who responded think the same way.

A poll, which is not scientific, but still telling, conducted recently on TBNewswatch, shows the preferred number seems to be eight councillors and the mayor.

The number was chosen by 42.66 per cent of the 1,526 votes cast. Second was six, picked by 28.77 per cent of respondents.

Eighty-six voters, or 5.64 per cent, went with the status quo.

We favour a hybrid model that would see the wards redrawn.

Five ward councillors and three at large councillors, plus the mayor, should suffice. For context, Sudbury has 12 and a mayor, Sault Ste. Marie has 10 and a mayor, as does Kitchener.

Nine voices at the table are plenty to make educated decisions, have a variety of opinions and get the job done, with less grandstanding too.

High taxes a detriment for city

To the editor:

The city's high taxes make Thunder Bay less competitive and reduce the attractiveness of the community for new business and residents to locate here according to the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce.

The tax increase this year will cost city homeowners on average approximately \$200 more. Thunder Bay already has the highest taxes and tax rates in Northern Ontario and second highest in the province.

Some on council stated that economic growth, particularly attracting new industry, is the only way out of the city's financial challenges.

What council fails to mention is their inability to control spending that contributes to Thunder Bay's high taxes and tax rates. This in turn hurts economic growth and new industry and prevents residents from locating to Thunder Bay.

The city also needs to provide its existing services with fewer employees in order to hold the line on taxes according to many, including Livio Di Matteo, professor of economics at Lakehead University.

The city has approximately 2,800 employees with 599 on the Sunshine List making an average of about \$128,303.

The city released a proposed budget of \$538 million, an increase of \$23.5 million over last year's budget. It should be noted that the city receives \$18 million from TBayTel and approximately \$2.5 million from the Thunder Bay

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Casino.

With all this revenue one would wonder why the city is so far in debt (over \$200 million) and taxes are so high.

The answer is simple. The spend and tax policy of this manager and council and previous ones is not working. Is administration and council not hired to manage our tax dollars?

At budget time they always use the same old excuses. We have to cut services or increase taxes. Let's be honest they need to control spending.

As some previous letter writers to this newspaper have stated, stop spending. Let's maintain

what we've got.

Administration and council are out of touch with the average taxpayer. It should be noted that many businesses, industrial and commercial, are in the process of appealing their taxes. Some will be successful and how does the city expect to make up this shortfall?

Some cities in Ontario, including Toronto, have an auditor general on staff who assists city council in holding itself and staff accountable to taxpayers.

Perhaps this is what Thunder Bay needs.

Ray Smith,
Thunder Bay

Orientalism examines Western attitudes toward the East

Orientalism by Edward Said is stimulating, elegant and pugnacious. In this highly acclaimed work, Said surveys the history and nature of Western attitudes towards the East, considering Orientalism as a powerful European ideological creation - a way for writers, philosophers and colonial administrators to deal with the 'otherness' of Eastern culture, customs and beliefs.

He traces this view through the writings of Homer, Nerval, Flaubert, Disraeli and Kipling, whose imaginative depictions have greatly contributed to the West's romantic and exotic picture of the Orient.

Drawing on his own experience as an Arab Palestinian living in the West, Said examines how these ideas can be a reflection of European imperialism and racism.

While Said's ideological premise is sound, his methodology is problematic. For example, he presents the Humanist argument that there are

no real cultural differences and that we all share variations of a common universal culture. It has been scientifically proven that culture is more than a social construct.

Said claims that any attempt to understand Oriental culture is doomed to fail because, when it is viewed through the lens of Western cultures, it inevitably becomes an 'othering' process. This means that all Orientalists are tarred with the same colonial, imperialist and racist brush.

For example, Said suggests that T. E. Lawrence (Lawrence of Arabia) was no more than an agent of an imperial power (Great Britain) that sought to divide and rule the Arab people. This was certainly the intention of the British government and is what indeed happened at the end of the Great War when

Arabia was partitioned between Britain and France. But T.E. Lawrence's role in this process was wholly different. He studied and appreciated Arab culture, learned the language and customs and was symbolically accepted into the culture by being gifted traditional Arab clothing.

Lawrence wasn't trying to become an Arab, nor was he attempting to lead an Arab Revolt against Turkish domination. Instead he shared the Arab aspiration of independence and sovereignty and he subverted the British state by channeling money and arms to the Arab cause. When he realized the duplicitous nature

of the Sykes-Picot agreement, he tried to ameliorate or reverse it at the 1921 Paris Peace Conference and, when this failed, he reduced himself to the ranks in a very public political



John Pateman
BOOK BANTER

protest.

Said uses selective quotes from Seven Pillars of Wisdom to support his case against Lawrence. Anyone who has read the entire 683 pages of this magnus opus can only arrive at a very different conclusion.

Said does the same thing with Marx to place him - and, by association, Marxism - firmly in the Orientalist camp.

He draws on Marx's earlier works in which Marx presents a rigid and fixed periodisation and evolutionary stages of economic development.

But Marx changed his views on the economic development of human society as a whole from 'primitive communism' to capitalism and socialism.

His later works on pre-capitalist economic formations are far more open and less stereotyped than they have at times been represented.

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Record temperatures in city

By JR Shermack – For TB Source

We had a brown Christmas in 2023 and although the weather did eventually whiten up, so far 2024 has not been a winter wonderland.

Nevertheless, I helped my grandkids get started on a snow fort in the back yard and there was just enough snow to get the walls built.

But something happened while we were waiting for more snow to fall – the temperature rose, rain started falling and the walls began to crumble.

Construction is on hold and the future of our fort is now at the mercy of the elements.

Global warming has come to roost right in our own back yard and the short term forecast isn't encouraging for the snow construction sector.

We often have a January thaw in Thunder Bay but the extended above zero temperatures this year are part of a continuing widespread trend.

The streets of the city are clear, my parka has hardly left the closet and I've only fired up the snowblower twice so far this winter.

Any snow that does accumulate has been melting steadily due to the unusually warm temperatures so far this winter, not just here

but in other Canadian cities as well.

Most of the country is enjoying a mild, mid-winter break early in the year which hampers many traditional winter activities, both work and play.

Feb. 9 this year was the warmest ever in Ottawa as the temperature hit a historic 9.4 C, well above the previous record of 7.4 C for that day.

The Rideau Canal is closed which is bad news for Ottawa's Winterlude festival, forcing the cancellation of events normally held on the canal ice.

Meanwhile, Toronto broke an 86-year record with an exceptionally warm 11 C - rain and more warm weather are in the forecast.

I was browsing through some recent weather stats for Thunder Bay and the numbers are a good indication of what to expect from the 'new normal' forecast.

In the 30 days from Jan. 8 to Feb.6 the average minimum temperature was -9.8 C which is 9.7 C above average.

In the last 90 days the average minimum was -5.5 C (9.3 C above average) – over the past year the average minimum was 2.3 C (normally -1 C).

To put this in perspective these are the warmest temperature ever recorded.

The number of days above zero this winter



The lack of snow could have unintended consequences. so far is above average and the amount of precipitation is below normal. We have experienced mild winter weather before but this warming trend affects the

future of the great white north.

Many ecosystems In Northwestern Ontario depend on good quantities of snow, ice and freezing temperatures to renew the natural process of renewal and growth.

Overall, Canada is warming at twice the global rate with the Canadian Arctic experiencing three times that rise.

These changes in the weather will be stressful for many plant and animal species.

In addition, many regional economic sectors count on cold weather and adequate snow to generate income from winter business and recreational activities.

Some northern communities depend on winter roads across frozen lakes as a supply line for deliveries of food, fuel, construction materials and other supplies.

Just like our snow fort, regional ice road construction is on hold pending a weather shift toward colder and snowier – long-term forecasts are calling for the opposite.

Warmer weather, longer summers and less severe winters are all on the local wish list every year about this time – now that wish has finally been granted.

Unfortunately the new warmer forecast will have unintended consequences – we should be more careful what we wish for.

what's happening
in and around...

The Bay

To submit an event, email ldunick@dougallmedia.com.
 Please include details about the event, including any cost

February 17-18

Voyageur Winter Carnival

Celebrate the world of winter sports and games with a magical blend of traditional carnival fun.

Embrace the outdoors with sliding and snow snake, then roll through their Zorb ball snow track! Meet local artisans showcasing their traditional skills in wood carving, snowshoe weaving, sash weaving, and more!

Warm-up in the Cozy Corner Café with tea and cookie samples or visit the craft station to make something beautiful.

Enjoy live musical performances by local musicians and join our historical interpreters in voyageur songs and dances.

Fort William Historical Park's Voyageur Winter Carnival is the perfect place for families and friends to share in the joy of play and embrace the magic of the winter season. The event runs Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets are

available on site or online.

February 18-19

SnowDay on the Waterfront

Join us at Marina Park for a SnowDay on the Waterfront first! The Exposure exhibit is a free interactive public art display that invites you to be a part of the art.

This exhibit runs from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. on both Sunday and Monday.

On Sunday, join the Fighting Walleye and Healthy Kids at the Prince Arthur's Landing skating rink from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. (rink lights on until 10 p.m.).

Explore the Baggage Building Arts Centre and take part in some fun with Lets Talk Science, as well as crafts & games. Cold Slate Creamery will also be onsite!

Taiji Park offers a candle lit snowshoe trail and outdoor games.

The Festival Area will be aglow with the EXPosure Exhibit, warming fires, crafts with CAHEP, CanWest Maple,

TBay selfie sign, and a vibrant pixel wall. BeaverTails and Mini Donut Shoppe will be here too! (Food vendors, EXPosure Exhibit, and TBay Selfie Sign open until 10pm.)

On Monday, come skating at Prince Arthur's Landing (lights on until 10:00pm).

Head to the Baggage Building Arts Centre and visit the Thunder Bay Museum, take part in art activities with both CAHEP and Julia Tribe. Cold Slate Creamery will also be onsite!

The Festival Area shines with the EXPosure Exhibit, warming fires, crafts with CAHEP, activities with Science North, TBay selfie sign, a vibrant pixel wall, and horse-drawn wagon rides. BeaverTails and Mini Donut Shoppe will be here too! (Food vendors, EXPosure Exhibit, and TBay Selfie Sign open until 10 p.m.)

Special Pop-Up Performances by All the DAZE Productions with happen throughout the event area from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.



Marcus Powlowski, MP
Working For You
In Thunder Bay-Rainy River
Marcus.Powlowski@parl.gc.ca
 (807) 625-1160





Murdered and missing Indigenous men and boys will also be advocated for by NAN, along with women and girls. (FILE)

NAN to expand murdered, missing Indigenous people

By Justin Hardy - TB Source

Nishnawbe Aski Nation is broadening the way it advocates for the families of Indigenous people who have been murdered or considered missing.

NAN has advocated for decades for the families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, but that call will now include the families of Indigenous men and boys.

NAN's 2024 Chiefs Winter Assembly saw a motion brought forward that would expand advocacy to include missing and murdered Indigenous people. The motion was supported by the chiefs in attendance both in-person and by-proxy.

Deputy Grand Chief Anna Betty Achneepineskum said the motion gives NAN a mandate to advocate for people of any gender and that the change comes at the request of families of missing or murdered men and boys, such as the family of Alex

Lawson - who has been missing for more than a year.

"It will address some of the lack of resources that we have, for example, shelters, we don't have emergency shelters for, say, a single dad with children, or our gender diverse citizens," she said.

"They become vulnerable because we don't have the resources to be able to provide them with those safe spaces."

The change won't mean any less advocacy for women and girls, Achneepineskum said, adding that NAN wants to see more funding for the prevention of gender-based violence.

"I must add that we receive very minimal funding right now to fulfill the mandate to end violence against Indigenous women and girls and that needs to change as well," she said.

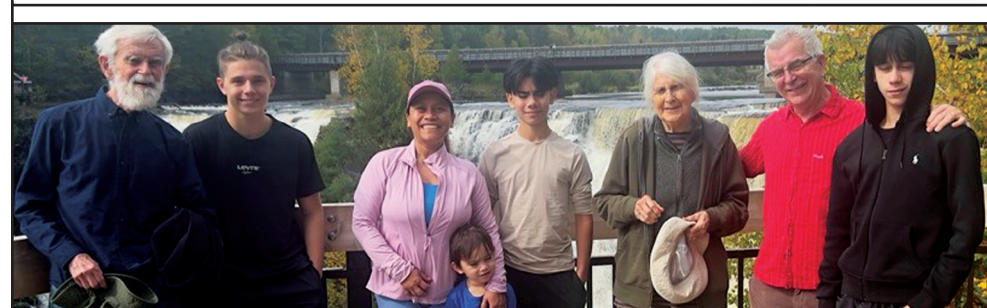
"There's been a lot of advocacy, not only locally, but all across this nation there has to be more investment for that particular mandate."



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Wit Knits program is aimed at 55-plus crowd

Public invited to come out to weekly Mary J. L. Black library sessions

By Lucas Punkari - TB Source

Back in 2011, Margaret Crozier went to the first meeting for Wit Knits, a new 55 and over program that was being put on by the City of Thunder Bay and the Thunder Bay Public Library.

"There were only two or three people there and a couple of days later I ran into Nancy Angus (who was with the City of Thunder Bay) and I told her that I had been to the meeting, and then she told me, 'Oh, you can be my activator then,'" said Crozier, who served as the program's volunteer leader for eight years.

Since that time, the program has now grown to 23 members who bring their own knitting, crocheting and embroidery projects to the Mary J.L. Black Library on Thursday afternoons during the fall, winter and spring.

"The program got off to a slow start at the

Brodie Library," Crozier said. "I used to go there on some afternoons and spend an hour knitting all by myself because nobody showed up.

"When this library was finished, we moved in here. There is a lot of free parking and we have this big beautiful room to work in and it's been wonderful."

The main goal of Wit Knits, which is free for anyone to join, is for seniors to get out of the house and take part in a social setting.

"We have some pretty interesting conversations at times here," Crozier said with a laugh.

Wit Knits members have also done a lot of work for the community as a group. They've knitted hats and blankets for the Neo Natal Unit at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, along with socks for Shelter House.

"We did things a little bit differently this past fall," Crozier said. "Everybody just donated what they knitted to whatever cause they wanted to."

There's no knitting instruction provided with Wit Knits, but everyone is invited to come try it out from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursdays.



More and more people are turning to delivery services to have meals brought to their doors. (Uber Eats photo)

Ordering in

Every delivery app has their own version of it, but the results are very much the same.

A year end report about what kind of foods were the most delivered to people via Skipthedishes, UberEats or etc.

The results of our old friend 2023 were very interesting on a national scale. Thunder Bay may be it's own animal, but the national numbers were very interesting and telling.

The 2023 condiment addition of the year to no ones surprise was sriracha, topping all of the lists in Canada and the United States. Proving that the shortage of 2022 proved the old adage of absence really does make the heart grow fonder. Spicy items weren't reserved for condiments as some of the spicy items on the list included spicy chicken sandwiches, spicy tuna rolls and hot and sour soup.

French fries unsurprisingly was the most popular side dish, while Burritos, pepperoni and cheese pizza and the classic cheeseburger maintained their reigns as some of the most popular items overall. I guess it should have been weird to see something surprise me out of left field. The biggest trend on these reports seems to be predictability.

We tend to move towards comfort food for delivered items. That is the nature of the beast it seems. That's why we want it, and we want it now (or soonish?)

Two items that fared much better last year than in previous years was Diet Coke and pineapple pizza, surprisingly. Both seeing a surprising surge in sales and popularity.

Maybe the meme makers on Instagram don't know everything. In Diet Coke's case, there was a viral campaign to better the sales of the drink which may have worked. Or it was just a coincidence, who knows. The most ordered pizza toppings were again, predictably, pepperoni, mozzarella and then again, pineapple. In all of Canada, 20 per cent of Skip the Dishes Hawaiian pizza orders came from British Columbia.

In the wake of COVID it seems like people are using the apps less and less.

Cost has increased for every user of the apps due to inflation and increased staffing costs. It only makes sense that our own frugality would eventually trump our laziness. It's human nature to only be lazy when you can afford it I guess.

Skip the Dishes has bigger issues than that, there is pending litigation in the Manitoba court of appeals that challenges Skip's claims their drivers are independent contractors and that they should be classified as employees. Similar arbitration against Uber in the United States is ongoing as well.

All of these reasons mean the delivery apps may get even more costly. So, it may just be time in the future to just go visit your neighbourhood pizza (or burger) person more often.

Derek Lankinen is an award-winning chef, author, and restaurateur. He is the Owner/Operator of Beefcake's Burger Factory with two locations in Westfort and Current River and Co-Owner of Elite Beef.



Derek Lankinen

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Finding some Family Day fun

There are plenty of outdoor activities to try on Monday

Monday is Family Day in Ontario, and there may not be a better place to spend it than at Sleeping Giant Provincial Park.

The park is a popular year-round destination just east of Thunder Bay, on the southwestern tip of the Sibley Peninsula. During the summer, visitors to the park enjoy camping, hiking, fishing, wildlife viewing, mountain biking, paddling, swimming, and sea kayaking. In the winter months however, there is a whole different list of recreational opportunities on offer.

If you haven't been to the park yet this winter, then Family Day might just be the time to check it out.

There is no shortage of things to do at the park on the holiday Monday, and the Lake Marie Louise campground will be

the base for activities with the Visitor Centre open from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Nordic skiing is the best way to see Sleeping Giant Park in winter, but the full seventy kilometers of ski trails are suffering a bit due to lack of snow. Reports from last weekend indicate that the 20-kilometre Marie Louise Lake loop is holding up pretty well though.

For something a little slower, strap on the snowshoes and head off-trail to do some exploring. A five-minute drive down Hwy 587 from the Visitor Centre brings you to the Kabeyun Trail parking area, which provides several other trail options including the short hike to the Sea Lion, a longer jaunt to Tee Harbour, and epic treks towards either Sawyer Bay or Thunder Cape.

Fat tire bikes are also a great way to explore the trails.

On groomed sections, remember to respect the classic ski tracks and keep the tire pressure low to avoid damaging the skate lane for the skiers.

If you are not interested in any long-distance adventures, you might prefer to bring the skates and try out the ice-skating oval located in the main campground at sites 85 to 96.

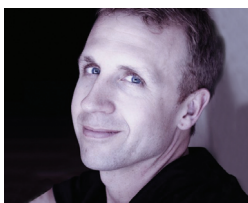
There will also be a bonfire here to warm up if your fingers or toes get cold.

Finally, since it is Family Fishing Weekend, there is no license required to fish on Family Day.

Try your luck for perch or bass on Marie Louise Lake or stop and drill a few holes on Pass Lake on the way home to see if you can land a splake or two.

There are no fees for any of the Family Day activities at the park, so all you need to purchase is a daily parking permit. Better yet, order an annual vehicle permit online so you can continue to enjoy the park for the rest of 2024.

Less than an hour from Thunder Bay, the adventures that await you at Sleeping Giant Provincial Park are well worth the drive. For those seeking family fun and adventure, don't miss the chance to spend Family Day with the Giant, in the Marie Louise Lake Campground on Monday.



Keith Ailey
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Skiing at Sleeping Giant Provincial Park is accessible.



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Black history mandatory

By Justin Hardy – TB Source

Officials at Lakehead Public Schools are looking forward to including more Black history content in their curriculum.

The government of Ontario announced on Thursday that it's introducing new mandatory learning in Grades 7, 8 and 10 history focusing more on the contributions and history of Black Canadians.

The province said students will now learn about the contributions of Black individuals to Canada's foundation as a young nation, and the obstacles they faced in the pursuit of building a democratic, inclusive and prosperous country.

"Black history is Canadian history," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education in a release on Thursday.

"By mandating learning on the contributions Black individuals made to our country's founding and success, the next generation of Canadians will better appreciate the sacrifice, patriotic commitment and long-lasting contributions Black Canadians have made to Canada.

"As the economy and technology continue to change, we will continue to modernize curriculum, with an emphasis on STEM education, so students have the skills and

confidence to graduate into good-paying jobs," he said.

Sherril-Lynne Pharand, director of education for the Lakehead Public School Board, released a statement on Friday that said the board is looking forward to working with the Ministry of Education to implement those changes into the curriculum while also ensuring teachers have the necessary materials to provide that education.

"In the past, curriculum on Canadian history has largely been from a Eurocentric narrative, which discounted the critical contributions of so many, including Black Canadians," the statement read.

"Learning the history of the Black Canadian experience pre- and post-Confederation, and their fundamental role in shaping the country we live in today is critical for our students to understand the full history of Canada."

Starting in September 2025, Grades 7, 8 and 10 history classes will include mandatory learning with an emphasis on elevating Black history as Canadian history, by highlighting the various Black communities that emerged, developed and contributed to the development of Canada.

"Acknowledging the full spectrum of Black Canadian history is essential to address the legacies of anti-Black racism," Pharand said.

Scavenger pups forage in forest

It's been a long-time tradition for Jones dogs to bring home bones

So, our two dogs tend to hang around either the house or the barn depending on where we are.

The other day, only Lily, the terrier mix (we think), was nearby. We adopted her four years ago from the Thunder Bay Humane Society when she was but a wee thing) So, where was Sophie, our black lab?

When I was finished working in the barn, Lily and I headed back to Casa Jones and lo-and-behold Sophie appeared with something large clenched in her jaws. What was it?

It was a large bone that presumably she'd found in the bush somewhere.

On closer inspection when she dropped it, I saw that it was fresh with some flesh and cartilage still attached.

"Oh ho," thinks I, "you found a fresh kill." Ah yes, but to what did this bone belong and where did Sophie locate it?

To discover the truth would require me strapping on snowshoes and tromping along the trails.

Our series of trails we had made when we ran a riding business, criss-cross and meander.

Of course, Sophie, unlike this here "hooman", need not be confined to the trails. In fact, on all of our walks along the trails, both she and Lily tend to dash hither and yon through the bush probably more than confining their dashing to the trails.

After all, they have canine 'schnozzes' that pick up the faintest scents.

But on this occasion, Sophie ventured out alone without her buddy to return with her prize.

This was not the first time one of our dogs has returned to the house carrying some prize from the bush.

Our late, and dearly missed pooch, Baxter was known to show up with a large deer leg bone still festooned with fur.

Where he found that we never knew. My beloved Ceddy, regularly appeared

with a leg or rib bone.

I'm sure that all of the 'prizes' were from the carcass of a deer probably brought down by wolves.

Two years ago the dogs and I were trekking our trails and I decided to head up on to what we call Mountain Trail (really a steep incline) just for variety's sake.

At one point just before you exit the bush and enter the meadow, there is a bit of a clearing, not large, but off the trail.

The dogs immediately turned off the trail and headed into this clearing, not their normal behaviour.

I followed.

There on the ground was a full skeleton of a deer - rib cage, legs, both front and hind, but not the skull.

The skull was missing. There was even fur and sinew still on the rear legs. Again, I suspected a wolf had managed to get a meal.

With the exception of the bits of fur and sinew on the rear legs, the skeleton was picked clean.

I once saw a nature film where somebody had placed a trail camera near a dead moose. Over the course of time you saw a variety of animals: a black bear,

a couple of wolves, and ravens taking turns denuding the carcass.

The film lasted a good half an hour and I probably saw only a portion of the 'feast'.

I learned that in the bush, nothing goes to waste.

I already knew that ravens are the clean-up crew in the forest (Through the intercom: "Clean up on trail number three...").

I debated whether or not I would venture out in the hopes of locating the remains of some unfortunate deer.

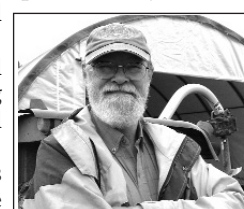
But on Sunday, Sophie did not disappear down the trail.

Well, she and Lily both disappeared for a while and just when I began to worry, they showed up sans bits of eviscerated Bambi or whatever critter that had found its demise in our bush.

And whatever happened to the prize brought home by Sophie? No idea. No sign of it.

Wonder if the ravens found it.

After all, it is their job.



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1940 shipwreck located

By Gary Rinne – TB Source

The actions of its captain remain a mystery, but the remains of the ship with which he went down in Lake Superior in 1940 have been discovered in deep water north of the Keweenaw Peninsula.

The 244-foot bulk carrier *Arlington*, carrying a cargo of wheat from Port Arthur to Collingwood, Ont., sank on May 1, 1940, during a violent storm.

On Monday, the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society and shipwreck researcher Dan Fountain announced they had located the wreckage in over 600 feet of water, 55 kilometres offshore.

Built by the Detroit Shipbuilding Company just before World War One, *Arlington* was captained by Frederick Burke, described by GLSHS as a seasoned veteran of the Great Lakes.

As it set out on what would be its ultimate voyage on April 30, 1940, it was accompanied by a larger freighter, *Collingwood*.

Both ships encountered thick fog, followed by severe weather when day turned to night, and *Arlington* began to take on water.

This prompted the first mate to order a



The *Arlington*, sailing from Port Arthur to Collingwood, Ont. went down in Lake Superior in 1940. (GLSHS)

course that hugged the Canadian shore, but Captain Burke inexplicably reversed the order and put it back on course across the open lake.

At 4:30 a.m. on May 1, with *Arlington* beginning to sink, the crew of 24 abandoned ship in the absence of orders to do so from the captain.

They made it safely aboard *Collingwood*, but Burke was last seen near the pilothouse, reportedly waving at *Collingwood* just minutes before *Arlington* disappeared beneath the surface.

According to author R. Patrick Smith's

book *Steamboats, Sawlogs and Salvage: The story of Burke Family and their Near Relatives*, when *Arlington* was loaded there was only 3.5 feet between the waterline and the deck level, leaving it in peril of being swamped in rough water.

Smith points out that the tragedy would have been much worse had *Collingwood* not been so close by.

Although smaller, *Arlington* had direction-finding equipment, which is why the other ship trailed it out of Thunder Bay.

GLSHS executive director Bruce Lynn credits teamwork for the discovery of the wreck.

Opportunities Northwest Job Fair coming

By TB Source staff

The upcoming Opportunities Northwest Job Fair has helped connect companies with potential employees for the past two years - and it's returning for year three on March 28 at the Valhalla Hotel and Conference Centre.

At a time when hiring the right people isn't always easy, it's a chance for businesses and decision-makers to put a face to a name and for those seeking jobs to ask questions in a less formal setting than a typical job interview.

It's also a chance to get an understanding about the type of work being done by dozens of companies, the skills required and a sense of what it might be like to work for a particular business. For those doing the hiring, it's an opportunity to have as many as 2,000 potential employees

stroll past their booth.

"The great thing about this particular event is it's a multi-sector career fair," said Nancy Milani, event consultant.

"It encompasses all the different sectors - everything from technology to trade, construction, mining, government, retail, hospitality, tourism, et cetera."

Some of the biggest names in the regional and local economies have signed up, including Greenstone Gold Mines, Newmont Corp., Barrick Gold, St. Joseph's Care Group, Bayshore Home Health, the Canadian Armed Forces, the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board, Fort William Historical Park, the Power Centre and Equipment World.

There will be an opportunity for just about everyone, of every ability and interest, Milani said.

ENIGMA™ CRYPTOGRAM

Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations and proverbs from around the world. Each letter stands for another letter. Hint: "P" = "H"

"ZCOQG QGTGSDM ODM UER GRQ, HX
HCORKORK DPG FSR EPU MGGIM
GMDGGF SRQ CGWGCGRJG ORDU
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ACROSS

- Council for Econ. Advisors (abbr.)
- Flee
- Vision (suf.)
- S Afr. Boer assembly
- Five-franc piece
- Basel-Normandie city
- Ger. highway
- Snares
- Bureau of Labor Statistics (abbr.)
- Rear
- Your (Ger.)
- Devotee
- Stockings
- Aida's love
- Cossack
- 103 (Rom. numeral)
- Stop
- Bare
- Sodium carbonate
- Rotula
- Try
- Wax (pref.)
- Federal Trade Commission (abbr.)
- Wife of Mohammed
- Parent-Teacher Assn. (abbr.)
- Aoudad
- Ran
- Yugoslavian
- Knot lace
- Study
- Hebrew letter
- Soft drink
- Arrival (abbr.)

DOWN

- Great omentum
- Food
- Stir
- Erudite
- Yearn
- Chomp

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

E	O	N	H	A	A	B	A	S	A	P
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- Month abbr.
- Skull bone
- Affirmative
- Mortar mixer
- Nat'l Public Radio (abbr.)
- Ray
- Child
- Syncope
- Sword
- Receipt (abbr.)
- Display
- Castor
- Juice
- Utterly
- Recommended daily allowance (abbr.)
- Knife
- Amer. Automobile Assn. (abbr.)
- Rend
- Flora and fauna
- Divine law (Lat.)
- Three (Sp.)
- Wing with a hole
- Rip
- Annex
- 50 Son of, in Arabic names
- Military macaw

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An overlooked Civil War hero

We continue to unearth titles with Oscar nominations. The latest entry is "Rustin," (Netflix) featuring Colman Domingo, nominated for Best Actor, as the title character. This is a true story about a little known civil rights activist overshadowed in the annals of history.

Domingo throws himself into the role of Bayard Rustin, the man who helped to orchestrate the peaceful civil rights march for Jobs and Freedom in Washington DC in 1963 where Martin Luther King delivered his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech to 250,000 people.

It was the largest peaceful gathering of its kind to date. Rustin was a proponent of non-violent demonstrations.

Rather than a standard bio-pic, the movie focuses on the occurrences leading up to the

momentous event and Rustin's crucial role within it. It's Domingo's vibrant presence that makes the piece worthwhile.

The film opens with Rustin working in support of King, having established himself as a career

activist. He also has a brief career singing. However, his communist affiliations and gay orientation are seen as liabilities by other civil rights leaders, temporarily alienating him.



Colman Domingo plays civil rights activist Bayard Rustin, who helped Martin Luther King organize iconic marches.

Rustin eventually is recruited back to lead planning for the march on Washington.

Rustin still has to navigate resistance by Congressman Rev Adam Clayton Powell (Jeffrey Wright) and NAACP executive secretary Roy Wilkins (Chris Rock) who oppose the march, concerned about retribution from

the white establishment.

Carolina senator Strom Thurmond smears Rustin as a "Communist, draft-dodger and homosexual." Being gay then was considered illegal, conducive with mental illness. Rustin figures he's cooked but King counters by publicly vouching for Rustin. This business is

resolved rather tidily.

The film shows Rustin involved at different times with a young white man and Black preacher who's assisting him but he is also married with a pregnant wife and a congregation newly bestowed upon him. Their break-up is one of the film's more sensitively realized moments. However, the personal and political narratives are not well integrated.

Upon getting past these conflicts, the movie focuses on the march itself, a massive organizational undertaking. Rustin is a master inspirational organizer, attracting the support of young people, Black and white, and women's rights groups to do critical ground work.

The dialogue is a little clunky. Director George C. Wolfe wobbles in tone going from subtle to overly reverential, perhaps due to the presence of executive producers Barack and Michele Obama. President Obama posthumously bestowed the Presidential Medal of Freedom upon Rustin in 2013.

Domingo's performance manages to surmount the director's predilection to overdo a moment. Once King has delivered his speech to tumultuous applause, his glance back in thanks to Rustin goes on too long. We get it.

However, in the next closing scene, Rustin humbly dons a trash bag and pick pole to quietly help clean up after the demonstration, content to return to the shadows. Narrative flaws aside, "Rustin" is an interesting historical subject worth exploring.

Snowarama helps raise \$29K for Easter Seals

By Justin Hardy -TB Source

Due to the sustained warm weather leading up to this weekend, the 19th annual Easter Seals Snowarama looked a little different on Saturday.

The lack of snow meant shorter trails and snowmobilers weren't able to ride as much as they normally would. However, that didn't stop the roughly 80 participants from Northwestern Ontario and Northern Minnesota from showing up and raising as much money as they could in support of children and youth with disabilities.

Over \$29,000 was raised for Easter Seals Kids this year. The event has raised more than \$575,000 over the last 18 years.

Funds go to help purchase mobility equipment, communication devices, and also provide summer camp opportunities.

Rhonda Harrison, Easter Seals' northern region manager, said it's been amazing

seeing the event grow.

"We had a great turnout," she said.

"A lot of people out there are just coming out and are going to hang out at the casino for the weekend and show their support of Easter Seals and donating and participating wherever they can."

Participants usually have two snowmobiling routes to choose from - a 120-mile one or a 35-mile one. However this year, snowmobilers only had about 12 miles of Minnesota trails to ride.

Tony Swader, Grand Portage trail ride volunteer, said they were working tirelessly to ensure attendees had some kind of riding experience.

"We had the groomers out. We got the trails flat. It was not going to be a race-track, but it should have been very enjoyable," he said.

"I'm so happy that all these people came out to help the kids."



Snowarama is always a popular draw for sledders, who travel south of the border to Grand Portage, Minn. for the event.

Local man wins on Price is Right

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Come on down, Murray Ross, you're the next contestant on the Price is Right.

More than 40 years after his parents were in the audience for a taping of the iconic game show, the Oliver Paipoonge resident and his wife Pat found themselves in the crowd too, and took it one step further.

Ross, the second person called to contestant's row on Jan. 10, was the first person to win his way on stage for a pricing game, and after earning four chances in the Punch-a-Bunch game, handing back prizes of \$500, \$1,000 and \$1,000, opted instead for the card hidden in the top left-hand corner of the board.

He was rewarded for his patience with a \$5,000 prize.

To get to the stage, he bid \$700 on three pairs of designer shoes, the next lowest bid coming in at \$3,000, which was \$65 higher than the actual retail price of \$2,935.

"It's a good thing I knew nothing about shoes," he said on Friday, dressed in the same grey Canada T-shirt, complete with the famous Price Is Right name tag he wore on the show, a day after he and Pat were joined by about a dozen friends for a watch party for Thursday's airing of the episode he was on.

Ross said it was a dream-come-true to be on the show.

"I loved it," he said, matter-of-factly.

"It was the start of our vacation and we talked about it the entire vacation."

Ross said they've still got a VHS tape of his parents in the audience, which helped fuel his love of the show, made famous by long-time host Bob Barker who began hosting the show in 1972.

"I've been watching Price is Right almost ever since. When we decided to go to L.A. my wife got us tickets and we went on and we had a fabulous time," he said.

Ross said he couldn't have been treated better throughout the experience.

Host Drew Carey, who took over from Barker in 2007, and announcer George Gray, were down-to-earth and very friendly, Ross said.

"They talked to you just like you were common people," he said.

"Drew came and shook hands and talked to people. He's a very nice man."

Ross said he was hoping to get on, but didn't use his parent's experience in the audience as a selling point to show producers, who interview audience members beforehand to get a sense of what they might be like on stage.

"I was hoping to get on, but you never



Murray Ross followed in his parents' footsteps, attending a taping of the Price is Right in January. He did them one better, getting on stage and winning \$5,000. (Leith Dunick)

know. When I got on, I just went with the flow. As you can see by the video, I didn't take too long to punch. I was going to run it out to the end anyhow. My wife would have wanted that."

Cameras panned to Pat, who wore a matching outfit, several times during Murray's time on stage.

The humble Ross joked the prize he won was not all that surprising.

"It's kind of nice," he said. "I guess \$5,000

seems to be my lucky number. A year ago on HAGI TV Bingo I won \$5,000."

Ross wasn't as lucky in the Showcase Showdown.

He spun the big wheel, stopping on 85 cents, but the next contestant bested him and his time on the show came to an end.

"It's a heavy wheel, but it's not a problem for me," he said.

"I thought I had a good shot at it with an 85, but the young lady behind me topped it

with a 90, so it is what it is. I'm still happy to be there. I was laughing for two or three days."

The toughest part of the experience was keeping it a secret until the episode aired, a condition for being on the show.

"I'm (usually) a blabbermouth," he said, but acknowledged he and Pat didn't even tell their cruise mates, while sailing from Los Angeles to Miami through the Panama Canal, how they fared.

McCarville 5 set for Scotties

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

At the Scotties, experience matters. Team Northern Ontario has plenty of it. Skip Krista McCarville and her newly minted third, Andrea Kelly, are each making their 11th trip to the national women's curling championship.

It's the eighth time for Ashley Sippala, and Kendra Lilly and Sarah Potts have gone to the event seven times apiece.

McCarville, Sippala, Potts and Lily are coming off back-to-back podium finishes at the Scotties, earning a silver medal in Thunder Bay in 2022 and bronze last year in Kamloops, B.C.

This may be their best team yet, McCarville said on Monday, getting in some last-minute practice time at Fort William Curling Club, the rink she calls home.

"I think our team is a lot stronger and I think we feel really positive. We worked really hard this year, but also the years in the past. We're going there as a team that's a little bit more experienced now, so hopefully we can perform really well, make it to the playoffs and then we'll see from there," McCarville said.

It's not a tournament that any team can afford to get complacent at, especially with the addition of an additional wild-card team, a decision made when Nunavut opted not to ice a team this year. The move means one more of Canada's top teams is in the mix.

It makes a big difference, said McCarville, whose first Scotties appearance was 18 years ago, in 2006.

"It's definitely changed. Most provinces are there, but there are a lot of added teams and the added teams are those top teams in Canada. If we want to win, we're going to have to play our best and it'll be that much more exciting when we do win," she said.



Krista McCarville has two silver and two bronze medals at 10 previous Scotties Tournament of Hearts appearances.

Kelly, who skipped New Brunswick to bronze in 2022 at Fort William Gardens, is the big difference for the team this year, opting to join forces with Team McCarville, despite

calling Fredericton, N.B. home. Kelly has made a couple of trips to Thunder Bay, along with Sudbury's Lilly, and was a key factor in last month's provincial championship win in Little

TEAM McCARVILLE SCHEDULE

Friday	B.C. (Brown)	8 p.m.
Saturday	Canada (Einarson)	8 p.m.
Sunday	Sask. (Ackerman)	3:30 p.m.
Monday	P.E.I. (DiCarlo)	10:30 a.m.
Monday	Nfld. (Curtis)	8:30 p.m.
Tuesday	Off	
Wed.	Alberta (Sturmay)	10:30 a.m.
Wed.	Que. (St-Georges)	8:30 p.m.
Thursday	Manitoba (Lawes)	3:30 p.m.

Current, Sask., where they put their five-man rotation to its latest test.

It was a gamble, but so far, so good.

"We've played together for eight years and we've been so close every time. We said we needed to do something different. Last year we made some changes with our practicing, we made some changes in our strategy and we still got so close, but not close enough," McCarville said.

"That's when we started talking about a five-man team, maybe exploring the rotation and said why not give it a shot. Andrea jumped on board. She's a great player. This is her 11th Scotties as well, so she has the experience and she's a really good asset to the team."

Kelly said the provincials cemented her role, and as the week went on, she felt more able to be herself on the ice, adding the Scotties will be different in many ways this year, but the same in many others.

"I'll get to represent a new province. It's really special to have won it with this team. We've become really good friends over the course of the season," Kelly said after capturing the Northern Ontario title.

Team McCarville opens play on Friday night at 8 p.m. E.S.T. against British Columbia's Corryn Brown. Manitoba's Kerri Einarson is the three-time defending champion.

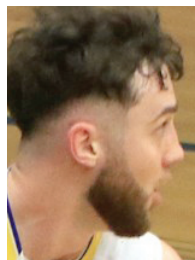
Playoff spot still not secured by Thunderwolves

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The playoff party will have to wait a few more days – and it's not so cut and dried as it was before last-weekend began.

The Lakehead Thunderwolves men's basketball team opened up a 14-point first-half lead over the visiting No. 9-ranked Ontario Tech Ridgebacks on Saturday night, but couldn't hold on in the second half and dropped a second straight contest, falling 85-79 at the Thunderdome.

At the same time the Waterloo Warriors, who have to win their final four games and



TYLER SAGL

hope Lakehead doesn't pick up a single win over the final two weekends of the regular season, got the second of those wins on Saturday night, edging Windsor 73-68 in overtime.

The Wolves are 9-11 and hold the tiebreaker over Waterloo, who are just a game back at 8-12.

It's getting tight, said LU's Tyler Sagl, who took a pounding at both ends of the court, but still managed to put up 23 for the Thunderwolves, leading his team in scoring.

"It was definitely a tough game. Everyone worked their butts off. But

we still have two big games coming up next weekend against McMaster, which is big for

us. I think we're just going to start focusing on Monday and just get right to it."

Lakehead coach Ryan Thomson pointed to two key areas that likely led to the loss – too many turnovers and too many fouls.

"We had 17 turnovers and we put them on the line 29 times. Every game we talk about valuing possessions. Limiting them to under 20 free-throw attempts, and those two things combined, it's tough to get wins that way."

The streaky T-Wolves looked like the better team for most of the opening half, playing tough D and rewarding themselves by making their shots.

Nathan Bilamu drained a three-pointer midway through the first that opened a 14-5 lead, then added a second straight bucket to

up the advantage to 11. A Sagl three early in the second, part of a 6-0 run that spanned the first and second quarters, made it 33-19, but the T-Wolves struggled to contain the Ridgebacks Keon Baker, who scored eight points in the final six minutes of the second to close the gap to 44-37 at the half.

Lakehead were outscored 22-16 in the third, but still managed to hold a one-point lead after 30 minutes.

Zubair Seyed scored off a Harold Santacruz turnover to give the Ridgebacks a 71-69 lead. The Wolves twice tied the game, but a thunderous two-handed Baker dunk put Ontario Tech in front for good.

Baker led all scorers with 26 points, grabbing nine rebounds and four steals.

T-Wolves stay alive with win

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The Lakehead Thunderwolves drive for the OUA women's basketball playoffs is alive and well.

The team still has work to do, and will have to win at least one game next weekend on the road against a McMaster Marauders squad that's racked up six straight win.

But the T-Wolves took care of business at home on Saturday night to give themselves a chance, pulling away in the fourth quarter to dispatch the pesky one-win Ontario Tech Ridgebacks 56-46 and pulled into a three-way tie for 13th, a half game behind Laurentian.

The Voyageurs hold the tiebreaker so LU will need to win both games, a tall task, after Laurentian downed Algoma 70-46 on Sunday.

"Our main focus tonight was we wanted to win it for our seniors. It's their last time on the court. Yeah, the playoff run is still there, but that was the main focus. I feel we played harder, and more as a team, when everybody's on the same page and we do it for each other," said guard Kirpa Brar, who led the way with 20 points, including six in the

fourth quarter.

The team bid farewell to forward Claire Wiersema and injured guard Alexia Giroux, who dressed but did not play in Saturday's home finale.

Wiersema finished with five points in her last home-court appearance at the Thunderdome, and the Kingston, Ont. native said it was an emotional night.

"It's bittersweet. I'm so sad to be done and gone, but I loved it here. The fans were great, the team was great. I'll miss the girls, but I won't be far, so I'll try to help out and I'll be the one in the crowd now," Wiersema said.

First, she added, the team has a little work to do.

"It's huge. We had a big game from Kirpa. We had everyone step up where we needed to be. It's a huge win and it's so great to be in a playoff run, still. We've just got to keep pushing."

A night after missing all 17-three-point attempts, Paula Lopez ended the slide in a hurry, burying one from beyond the arc that erased an early 2-0 Ontario Tech lead. The teams swapped the lead four times in the opening quarter, LU emerging with a 15-12 lead at the break.

Twice they grabbed an eight-point advantage in the second quarter, the first on an Eva Guilera hook shot in the paint.

The Ridgebacks roared back before the buzzer and cut the Lakehead lead to 26-24 at the half, Cobourg, Ont.'s Marie Stasiuk hitting a pair of free throws with eight seconds to go in the half. She finished with 10 points and eight rebounds.

There were five lead changes in the third quarter including an own-basket by UOIT, the points credited to Brar.

Lakehead took the lead for good in the fourth on a corner three by second-year forward Sara Azzolini, stating an 8-0 run that pushed their advantage to 46-34 before Stasiuk ended it, hitting one of two from the charity stripe.

Rookie Kelly-Anne Coulombe and Brar hit back-to-back buckets and Whalen added a third, off a steal by Brar, stretching LU's lead to 52-41.

"Absolutely, we've got a chance," said Thunderwolves coach Hugo Boisvert. "We're quite banged up right now. We'll see how many bodies we can get for next weekend and who we'll have available, but yeah, we're in the hunt."



Kirpa Brar had 20 points to lead Lakehead to victory.

North Stars down Ice Dogs, standings tighten

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Just eight points separates first from fifth in the Superior International Junior Hockey League standings.

With about 10 games to go for each team, every point matters.

The Thunder Bay North Stars grabbed a couple of big ones on the road on Saturday night, downing the host Dryden Ice Dogs 4-1.

Four different goal scorers lit the lamp behind Dryden netminder Ewan Soutar.

Cohen Tangedal got things going at 9:51 of the first, and while the Ice Dogs Adam Zimmerman evened the score less than three minutes later, it was all Thunder Bay from there, at least on the score sheet.

Dimitri Trahiotis restored the North Stars one-goal lead with less than two minutes to play in the first, his 10th of the season, and Edison Weeks and Christian Rapp scored in the second and third periods, respectively, delivering the win for Thunder Bay.

Keenan Marks made 28 saves to pick up the victory between the pipes for the North Stars. Soutar was beaten four times on 30 shots.

The third-place Stars improved to 25-10-4 on the season, while Dryden slipped to 25-14-12, good for solo fourth place.

Red Lake 6, Fort Frances 2: Blake Hiltermann scored twice to lead the Miners to a win, gaining a pair of points on the Ice Dogs, the next closest team in the standings. Matthew MacPherson, Justin Gelderland and Preston Tauter each had a goal and an assist for Red Lake (24-12-2). Remington Richardson and Magnus Pearson scored for Fort Frances.

Wisconsin 6, Kenora 2: Dillon Phillips had a pair of goals and added an assist to lead the Lumberjacks (11-18-5) past the last place expansion Islanders. Brayden Mackay had a goal and helper for Kenora (2-31-1).

Kam River 3, Sioux Lookout 2: The Fighting Walleye (28-9-1) climbed to within a point of the league-leading Bombers. Ryan Daponte and Liam Bell scored third period goals to erase host Sioux Lookout's 2-1 lead after 40 minutes. Brydon Bell had the Fighting Walleye's other goal, tying the game 1-1 at 10:50 of the first. Owen Riffel, the league's top goal-scorer, and Owen Cotter replied for the Bombers (27-7-4).



LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY THUNDERWOLVES

2023-2024 SEASON

SEASON SCHEDULE

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NOV 10 & 11TH vs. YORK LIONS	NOV 17 & 18TH vs. TORONTO VARSITY BLUES
NOV 24TH vs. WESTERN MUSTANGS	JAN 12 & 13TH vs. TMU BOLD
NOV 25TH vs. WINDSOR LANCERS	JAN 19 & 20TH vs. NIPISSING LAKERS
JAN 5TH vs. LAURENTIAN VOYAGEURS	FEB 2 & 3RD vs. QUEEN'S GAELS
JAN 6TH vs. NIPISSING LAKERS	FEB 16 & 17TH vs. RMC PALADINS
JAN 26 & 27TH vs. BROCK BADGERS	
FEB 9TH vs. QUEEN'S GAELS	
FEB 10TH vs. ONTARIO TECH RIDGEBACKS	

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Welcoming all athletes

What an exciting couple of weeks to be in Thunder Bay if you're a sports fan.

First and foremost, the Ontario Winter Games kick off this weekend at venues around the city.

Hundreds of athletes will be coming to the city to take part in the event, which concludes next weekend.

While the number of sports has been scaled down, largely because of travel and cost concerns, there's still plenty on the schedule to watch, including futsal, ringette, men's hockey, curling, cross-country skiing, five-pin bowling, archery, artistic swimming, diving and biathlon, to name just a few.

What an opportunity for young athletes to pursue their sport, and who knows, maybe make a name for themselves on the national level.

It's been 50 years since the Games have been held in Thunder Bay, and the best way to support them is by coming out to watch.

The price is right, as admission is free for spectators.

The action kicks off on Friday, with futsal, a variation of soccer played on a hardwood floor, and ringette.

The opening ceremonies officially launch the Games on Friday night at Fort William Historical Park.

Wrestling, diving, cross-country skiing and badminton get under way on Saturday, with Week 1 wrapping up on Monday and gold medal games in futsal, ringette and badminton. More information is available on the City of Thunder Bay website.



If you'd rather watch a little hockey this weekend, the Kam River Fighting Walleye are hosting the Thunder Bay North Stars in a matinee contest on Family Day Monday.

The Superior International Junior Hockey League standings are about as tight as I can ever recall, with just eight points separating first place Sioux Lookout from fifth place Red Lake.

The North Stars are just three points back of the Fighting Walleye, who trail first-place Sioux Lookout by just one point.

The two teams played a wild one last Friday night, the Stars storming back to take a 4-3 lead with less than three minutes to go, only to give up the tying-goal a minute later and the OT winner 38 seconds in. Game time is 3 p.m.



Leith Dunick

SPORTS SHORTS



Nick DeGrazia celebrates Ed McNeill's game-tying goal in the first period last Friday, against Lakers goalie Zach Roy.

Wolves take 5th

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

A Nick DeGrazia snapshot found more than the back of the net.

It landed the Lakehead Thunderwolves in the OUA men's hockey playoffs.

DeGrazia, tied for the OUA rookie lead with 13 goals, took a pass from defenceman Colin Van Den Hurk off to the side of Nipissing Lakers goaltender Zach Roy and wasted no time, blasting it high and hard for the third-period winner.

Griffen Fox would add an empty netter in the final minute of the third and the Thunderwolves went on to double up the Lakers 4-2, the win landing them in fifth place in the OUA West.

They opened their best-of-three first-round series on Wednesday against Windsor at home, and will take to the road for Games 2 and possibly 3 on the weekend.

The win also ensured the T-Wolves wouldn't have to take part in Sunday's play-in game, the sixth and seventh-place teams battling in a one-game, do-or-die match for the final playoff spot.

Laurier edged Nipissing 5-4 in overtime to advance to play Toronto in Round 1.

"I kind of messed up the first shot, didn't get all I wanted onto it. Lucky enough (Colin) made a great pass and I just put that one in," DeGrazia said, adding he and his teammates weren't doing too much stand-ins watching heading into Friday's game, played in front of a season-high 3,459 at Fort William Gardens.

"I don't think guys were thinking about it

too much. I think we just wanted to go out there, play our game and that's what we did and we got the result we wanted."

It was the Lakers (10-13-5) who struck first, though.


Moments after Spencer Blackwell lost the handle going in alone on Roy, the Lakers raced to the other end of the 73-year-old rink, emerging on a three-on-one. Payton Vescio, skating down the right side, kept the puck and fired a wrist shot to the short side of Thunderwolves goaltender Max Wright, giving Nipissing a 1-0 lead at 7:21 of the first.

Rookie Ed McNeill evened things up on the power play just three minutes later and the teams took a 1-1 score into the first intermission.

Keighan Gerrie took care of that in the opening three minutes of the second, firing a low shot on Roy that slipped untouched through the goaltender's pads.

Jonathan Rees evened the score at 9:22 of the second, and after 40 minutes the two teams were tied again.

Lakehead appeared to be heading to the power play seven minutes into the third, but Noah Massie jumped in the fray and was given an offsetting minor to negate the man advantage. However, the penalty troubles that plagued the Lakers all night long came back to bite them. Mathieu Franche was sent off for roughing 43 seconds later and the Wolves took advantage of some 4-on-3 hockey to take the lead for good on DeGrazia's goal.



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LEGAL NOTICES
NOTICE TO CREDITORS & OTHERS
In the Estate of Donald Eugene Oja Sr.

All Persons having claims against the Estate of Donald Eugene Oja Sr. late of Nipigon, ON, deceased, who died on or about December 9, 2023, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before March 7, 2024, after which date the estate will be distributed, with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice and the undersigned will not then be liable to any person of whose claims they shall not then have notice.

Dated at Thunder Bay, Ontario on the 8th day of February, 2024.

JENNIFER OJA and MEGHAN OJA, ESTATE TRUSTEES
c/o ERICKSONS LLP
ATTN: RYAN VENN
Barristers and Solicitors
291 South Court Street
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Anyone having a claim against the Estate of RICHARD KALLE WADE MAKAHANUIK, ALSO KNOWN AS RICK MAKAHANUIK, late of the City of Thunder Bay, District of Thunder Bay, who died on the 28th day of January, 2023, is required on or before the 4th day of March, 2024, to file with the undersigned solicitors particulars of their claim duly verified, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to those claims of which Notice shall then have been given.

DATED: January 26, 2024

Hannah J.M. Gladstone
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