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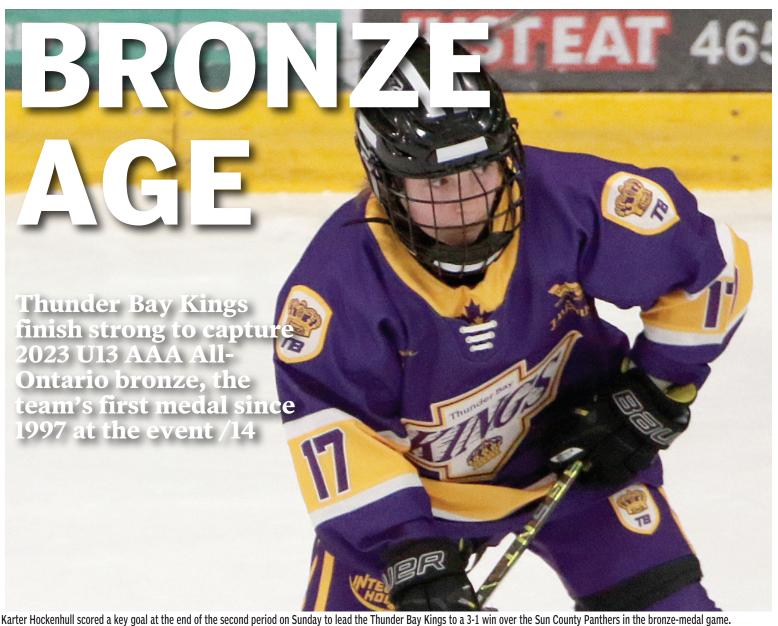


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Thursday, April 20, 2023







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NEWS

Moses Beaver inquest begins

Indigenous artist died in 2017 after a transfer from the District Jail

By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

An inquest jury will determine the circumstances surrounding the death of an Indigenous artist while in custody in Thunder Bay and provide recommendations to prevent similar incidents from happening in the future.

The coroner's inquest into the 2017 death of 56-year-old Moses Beaver of Nibinamik First Nation opened in Thunder Bay on Monday.

Beaver died at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre on February 13, 2017 after being transferred from the Thunder Bay

District Jail. A coroner's inquest is mandatory if a death occurs while a person is in custody and the death is determined to not be the result of natural causes.

An inquest is not meant to assign blame but rather determine the facts surrounding a person's death.

Inquest officer Dr. Louise McNaughton-Filion provided instructions to the five-person jury on Monday, including the scope of the inquest, which is to determine the circumstances surrounding Beaver's death and to make recommendations involving mental illness care at the Thunder Bay District Jail, suicide awareness and prevention in the Thunder Bay District Jail, and delivery of acute mental illness care to Indigenous persons in isolated communities.

Inquest counsel Rob Kozak informed the jury during his opening that they will hear from numerous witnesses from parties with standing in the matter.

Witnesses include members of the Beaver family, physicians, forensic pathology experts, as well members of Nishnawbe Aski Police Service, Ornge, Nishnawbe Aski Nation, the Thunder Bay District Jail, Indigenous Services Canada, and the Ministry of the Solicitor

According to Kozak, Beaver was experiencing a mental health crisis in Nibinamik First Nation before coming into contact with officers with the Nishnawbe Aski Police Service. He was placed under arrest and then transferred to the Thunder Bay District Jail.

Following the death, Nibinamik Chief Johnny Yellowhead said Beaver had struggled for years to get the treatment he needed.

The inquest was adjourned to Tuesday when the first witness will testify. The jury will hear from more than 30 witnesses and the inquest is scheduled for approximately three weeks.

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Moses Beaver died in 2017 at Thunder Bay Regional, after a transfer from the District Jail.



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Manslaughter gets a 14-year sentence

Kenneth Moonias guilty in 2020 killing of 31-year-old

By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

One of the two accused in the brutally violent beating death of 31-year-old Christopher Meeseetawageesic that was filmed with a cellphone and shared with others has been sentenced to 14 years in custody.

Kenneth Moonias, 32, of Neskantaga First Nation, appeared before Justice Bruce Fitzpatrick in a Thunder Bay courtroom on Monday for sentencing.

Moonias was originally charged with seconddegree murder in connection to the 2020 death of Meeseetawageesic but in November 2022 he pleaded guilty to the lesser included charge of manslaughter.

Natalie Moonias, who is a cousin of Kenneth Moonias, was also charged and she has since pleaded guilty to manslaughter and was sentenced to nine years in custody.

The charges relate to a violent attack on Meeseetawageesic the evening of Aug. 28, 2020 in an industrial area near Main Street.

According to an agreed statement of facts, Kenneth Moonias repeatedly stomped on Meeseetawageesic's head with his foot while Natalie Moonias filmed the attack on her cell phone.

Meeseetawagesic's body was found two days later behind a trailer in the area with a cinder block left on his chest. A post-mortem examination determined he suffered 14 blunt force trauma injuries to his head and neck.

An investigation by the Thunder Bay Police Service found that the video of the attack was shown to others and Kenneth and Natalie Moonias were identified as suspects after several witnesses were interviewed.

During the sentencing hearing on Monday, members of Meeseetawageesic's family shared emotional victim impact statements with the court, attempting to express how his loss has affected everyone in his life.

"It is very difficult and very challenging to be writing this today," said Meeseetawageesic's mother, Flora Moonias. "He was a father, son, grandson, brother, uncle, and a friend to many that knew him. Christopher loved his family and his family loved him."

Flora Moonias added that she could not believe the news that her son had been killed and she was filled with anger after learning the two responsible were from her community of Neskantaga First

"When I see you sitting across from me all I see is a murderer who took my son's life away from me and my family," she said. "Losing a child is very difficult to accept. The grief and the hurt never goes



Police in 2020 where Christopher Meeseetawageesic was killed.

awav."

Meeseetawageesic's sister, Roberta Meeseetawageesic, said the day her brother died her life changed forever.

"All I want to know is why. Why did you take him?" she said in court. "My brother didn't deserve this. He was a human being."

Crown attorney Stephanie Baker called for a sentence of 14 years, citing the numerous aggravating factors involved in the attack on Meeseetawageesic.

"The victim was stomped to death and the assault continued after he was gasping for air. We all saw that in the video," she said. "Natalie said: 'he's still breathing' and Kenneth comes down with another kick to the head. This was a deliberate, brutal, and extremely violent act."

Baker also cited Moonias' past criminal record that included convictions for charges also involving

Defense counsel Kevin Matthews was seeking a 12-year custodial sentence, acknowledging the aggravating factors cited by the Crown, but also highlighting challenges Moonias faced growing up.

According to a Gladue and pre-sentence report, Moonias has struggled with substance abuse issues since he was a teenager. He has also been diagnosed with several conditions, including post-traumatic stress disorder and fetal alcohol spectrum disorder.

Matthews added Moonias was intoxicated at the time of the attack on Meeseetawageesic and has no memory of the assault.

WEATHER FORECAST



Precipitation: 90% HIGH 1 LOW -2

FRIDAY Snow

> Precipitation: 80% HIGH 2 LOW -6

SATURDAY

Partly Cloudy

Precipitation: 30% HIGH 2 LOW -6



Partly Cloudy

Precipitation:30% HIGH 3 LOW -5





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A section of Memorial Avenue was repayed last summer, but the rest of the project may be shelved for now.

Most road work gets council OK

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

A contract covering the lion's share of 2023 road resurfacing work has been approved by Thunder Bay's city council.

Administration recommended awarding a \$5.7-million road-work contract to low bidder Pioneer Construction Inc. in a report presented to council on Monday.

The wide-ranging contract will notably see the local company fully rehabilitate sections of Arthur Street and Dawson Road, and resurface a number of other city streets. It also covers spot repairs to sidewalks, street lighting, curbs and gutters.

A major portion of the contract along Memorial Avenue was approved only conditionally, and could be put on hold if the city does not receive hoped-for government infrastructure dollars this year.

The city has applied for \$3 million in NOHFC and FedNor grants to help cover the rising cost of a \$13 million rebuild of core sections of Red River Road and Court Street. The city's 2023 budget includes only \$8 million for the project.

If those grants don't come through, the city will delay \$1.5 million of the road work contract, pushing off rehabilitation along Memorial including a planned new traffic signal at the Harbour Expressway intersection.

Coun. Brian Hamilton called the contract the city's major answer to residents' road quality concerns, and asked staff what impact it would have beyond major arterial roadways.

"Despite what people are saying - and there are roads that are bad - there's a lot of arterial roads that are getting done," he

said. "I notice that a lot of residential streets are pretty bad. So does this actually get into those residential sections that we really need to get into?"

Director of engineering Kayla Dixon said the contract's impact will be felt in improvements throughout the city on arterial, collector, and residential streets.

Pioneer's \$5.7-million bid for the road work contract came in well below the city's pre-tender estimate of around \$6.4 million.

Two other bids, from Bruno's Contracting and Taranis Contracting Group, each came in several hundred thousand dollars above Pioneer's.

The 2023 city budget included \$1.5 million to rehabilitate Dawson Road from Ada Avenue to Hunter Road; \$1.6 million to rehabilitate Memorial Avenue from the Harbour Expressway to Central Avenue, and rebuild the traffic signal at Harbour; and \$900,000 to rehabilitate Arthur Street from Highway 61 to Mountdale Avenue.

The contract approved Monday will also see paving on sections of Ford Street, Wren Court, Lar-Den Court, McLeod Street, and Picton Avenue.

In addition, it provides for spot fixes to correct issues on streets including Albany Street, Arthur Street, Balmoral Street, Gore Street, High Street, Island Drive and Norah Crescent.

Lastly, the contract includes grading and drainage improvements on Townline Road between Oliver Road and Pole Line Road, in preparation for application of surface treatment later this year.

Council approved the contract, with the Memorial Avenue work okayed only provisionally, in a unanimous vote Monday.

Fleury begins new role as chief

By Matt Vis - TB Source

The first city police chief hired from outside the ranks in 28 years has started the process of taking on

Darcy Fleury, who was announced last month as the next chief of the Thunder Bay Police Service, had his first day inside the Balmoral Street headquarters on Monday.

Fleury is the first external chief hire for the police force since 1995, after predecessors Sylvie Hauth, J.P. Levesque, Bob Herman, and Leo Toneguzzi were all promoted from within the ranks.

"I got a chance to come in [Monday] morning first thing, take a tour around, and get a chance to meet a lot of the young people here in the building, and get to know their programs and understand some of



New Police Chief Darcy Fleury spent his first day on the job on Monday. (Matt Vis)

the language they use here in the department. It's quite different than what I'm used to," he said. "It was nice to get that first feel and a bit of an understanding of how things operate."

"We have meetings set up pretty much all week just to do that, to get acquainted with everybody and understanding how things are operating and some of the things that we're working on and things we want to push forward."

Fleury, a citizen of the Red River Métis and member of the Manitoba Métis Federation, has more than 36 years of policing experience and has most recently served as chief superintendent with the RCMP Central Alberta District based in Edmonton.

Over the last few weeks, he has officially retired from the RCMP and started getting ready for the new job.

Just within the last week, the independent expert review panel commissioned by the Thunder Bay Police Services Board released their final report, which contained a series of recommendations to improve policing in the city.

"I was aware of some of the reports

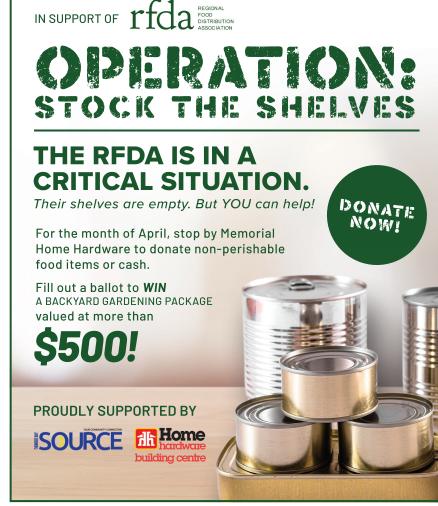
that were coming out, and of course some of the reports that I had read before [about] what was going on in the community," Fleury said. "Just reading up on those and preparing myself. We have these meetings coming up this week so that I can be ready to go and have some knowledge of what was going on."

Fleury, whose official title is chiefdesignate until he is sworn in next month, will work with acting chief Dan Taddeo during the leadership transition. Taddeo has been in the post since last June, following the suspensions of Hauth and deputy chief Ryan Hughes.

"Just a real good understanding of the community right now," he said of Taddeo. "We haven't really dug into some of the things that are going on in the department, but that's what this week is all about."







EDITORIAL

Cup drought

The Stanley Cup playoffs are here and once again, the big question on everyone's mind is will this finally be the year for the Toronto Maple Leafs? Well, or for any of the Canadian

It's been 30 long years since the Montreal Canadians hoisted Lord Stanley's mug, unprecented in the 105 or so years the NHL has been around.

The Leafs likely have the Boston Bruins to look forward to, if they happen to get past the Tampa Bay Lightning.

Connor McDavid and the Edmonton Oilers dropped Game 1 in overtime on Monday night, and the Winnipeg Jets, the No. 8 seed in the West, drew the Vegas Golden Knights in Round 1.

Odds aren't great the streak won't reach 31, but it's the playoffs and anything can happen.

The question is, why can't Canadian teams win? Too much media pressure sometimes forces moves that are popular, but not smart.

The dollar and tax rates don't help attract top free agent talent, and there's been a general amount of front-office incompetence over the past three decades. A Canadian team will win again, just not likely in 2023.

Stop the insanity

To the editor:

I was disappointed in footage I saw on TBT News on April 12 in the item regarding the release of Environment North's postcards about proposed nuclear fuel waste transport through Thunder Bay.

While I was glad to hear from the president of Environment North, the accompanying file footage of Vince Ponka (NWMO) speaking on behalf of the nuclear industry conveyed several untruths.

Ponka said, "In Finland, their nuclear reactor is between 400 and 500 kilometres away from the repository, and in our case, it's a little over a thousand."

In fact, Finland has two nuclear power generating sites comprising five reactors. The largest facility (Olkiluoto), with three of the reactors, is a mere two kilometres from Finland's planned repository.

Another much smaller Finnish nuclear power facility (Loviisa) lies about 500 highway kms away from Finland's planned repository.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Here in Canada, the closest nuclear power generating station (Bruce Power) to the

proposed repository site west of Ignace is 1,650 highway kilometres away from it - not 1,000 kilometres as Ponka stated.

Furthermore, some of the radioactive waste in Canada would travel as much as 2,650 km to the proposed site west of Ignace, from the Point Lepreau nuclear generating station in Ouebec.

Ponka dramatically inflates the distance to be travelled by nuclear fuel waste in Finland, and deflates the distance for Canada, in an attempt to make the two countries' models appear similar. In fact, the proposed plans differ dramatically in this and in many other ways.

I realize news agencies cannot always fact-check the words of their interviewees (nor even my letter to the editor) - but I am glad of the opportunity to expose what Mr. Ponka says, in the employ of the nuclear industry, as untrue.

Wendy O'Connor,

Quetzalcoatl an eye into The Plumed Serpent

Written in Chapala in May and June 1923 but never carried beyond typescript form, Quetzalcoatl is an earlier and much different version of D.H. Lawrence's Mexican novel. The Plumed Serpent.

The importance of Quetzalcoatl lies mainly in his treatment of the heroine of The Plumed Serpent. In the earlier version Kate Burns, Irish widow of a failed Irish patriot, is a woman of tenacious independence and strong individuality who has lost faith in political revolutions.

As the Mexican revolution, based on an effort to revive the Aztec gods, develops, Kate watches its growth with a mixture of fascination, revulsion and sympathy. In the end she does not agree to join, quite unlike the early story presents the story of the heroine of *The Plumed Serpent*, who reluctantly accedes to the demands of revolutionary leaders

Don Ramon and General Cipriano.

In the final version Don Ramon is the dominant figure, through his sermons, prophecies and poems, while in the early version Kate emerges as the filtering consciousness that dominates the book with her doubts and her strongly maintained independence.

The Plumed Serpent is a book of prophecy in the Biblical sense, while a European consciousness witnessing and almost participating in an attempt to revive pagan gods.

> Quetzalcoatl was the title that Lawrence wanted to give his novel, but his publisher objected to the strange name of the Aztec god, and so, for the final version published in 1926, Lawrence accepted the translation, The *Plumed Serpent*, with the name Quetzalcoatl in

brackets below.

Iohn Pateman

BOOK BANTER

After the writing and partial revision of Quetzalcoatl, some 16 months elapsed before Lawrence undertook his elaborate revision of the book, written in Oaxaca in the Fall and early winter of 1924-25 - a revision that nearly doubled its size.

When Lawrence wrote from Chapala to his German mother-inlaw, he spoke of Quetzalcoatl as 'the first complete sketch'. 'Sketch' is appropriate for this early manuscript is truly analogous to an artist's careful, detailed drawing made as a design for a larger oil painting.

Such preliminary drawings frequently have integrity and value in their own right; sometimes, through their fluency and grace of line they come to be valued even beyond the contemplated final work.

At the heart of both novels is a Mexican nativist movement that wants to rid the land of America's capitalist influence. It is an attempt to return Mexico to a state of precolonial primitive communism:

'We shall establish a system something like the old Indian village system, with a war chief, and a cacique, and a peace chief. But also a chieftainess, and a woman cacique who will suffer with the women. Then the women will weave again in their houses and spin for themselves. And the woman of peace will be chieftainess of them all. And the peace chief of the men will divide the land and be chief judge and the living Quetzalcoatl.'

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Canadians are going to waste

By JR Shermack

Waste not, want not.

We were taught at a young age that it was a crime to waste food and were expected to eat everything off our plates before we left the table.

Many families at the time were told about the millions of kids around the world who went to bed hungry every night and that we somehow owed it to them to eat all our supper.

I was never sure how that was supposed to help but we certainly didn't want any starving kids on our conscience.

To this day I am reluctant to waste food although it appears that Canadians in general are a lot less shy about tossing good food right into the garbage.

Not a good look

What shameful behavior especially in view of the fact that more hungry mouths are waiting to be fed every day, whether we clean our plates or not.

In 2022 the National Food Waste

Council investigated the food buying habits of Canadian consumers to discover how much of our groceries end up in the trash.

The results were horrifying and hard to believe - we throw away an embarrassing amount of food and a good portion of it is still fresh and perfectly edible.

Every day in 2022 Canadians threw away 2.4 million potatoes, 1.2 million tomatoes, that same number of apples, 640,000 bananas and 139,000 heads of lettuce.

Also discarded and wasted were one million cups of milk, 650,000 loaves of bread and 470,000 eggs or in other words, breakfast for a lot of hungry kids.

Each average sized Canadian family household wastes 140 kg of food every year (\$1,300) and as a country we discard 2.3 million tons at an annual cost of \$20

But that's just us - globally, over a third of all food production (approx. 2.5 billion tons) is lost or wasted every year at an estimated

cost of \$230 billion.

Food "loss" refers to uneaten food products lost due to supply chain problems, lower demand and bad weather conditions.

Food "waste" is food intended for human consumption that is purposely discarded during preparation, sales or by grocers who just want to get rid of it.

I guess it's just easier and more convenient that way.

The challenge is to rescue all that orphaned food from retailers who don't want it and redistribute it to hungry families who need it.

Problems along supply chains cause damage and spoilage while circumstances at the retail level result in tons of perfectly good, fruit and veg being trashed due to oversupply.

It's not just food that is being wasted but also the time, energy and water resources squandered during cultivation, harvesting, packaging and transportation.

And notably, all three of these vital resources are now in short supply.

Food waste and loss are rising as

are the number of hungry people, including children, who don't know where their next meal is coming from..

Maybe it has already been scraped off someone's plate and into the garbage.

Direct connections

Fortunately we now understand the connections between food waste and global hunger and the need for Sustainable Food Management all along the food chain.

In Canada millions of pounds of "rescued" food is donated by farmers, grocers, restaurant owners and others who redistribute good, wholesome food to hungry families.

Sometimes global problems are best solved at the community level by many individual acts of kindness and compassion.

We should all think about the families going to bed hungry, many very close to home, and do what we can to eliminate hunger locally, one full belly at a time.

That would not be a waste of resources.



Canadians throw out a lot of food. (iStock)

Nhat's Happening in and around. .

The Bay

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

April 18

Puppy Perks Storytime

Families, drop in at the Brodie Street Library for storytime with actual, live puppies! Tammy from Positively Social will be at Brodie Library each Tuesday in April and May at 10 a.m. for this funfilled event.

She will bring the puppies, you bring the smiles.

Children of all ages are welcomed, drop-in.

April 20

TBSO Masterworks

Spring has long been associated with rebirth and revitalization, but with the current environment of our world, we must also consider reflection.

Canadian composer Dinuk Wijeratne's HymnPeace causes us to examine our place in social history, Brahms's choral masterpiece "Schicksalslied" encourages the idea of seizing our destiny in the here and now, and Florence Price's Symphony No. 1 highlights and celebrates innovation and inspiration.

This concert is a thoughtful and joyful exploration of modern and traditional classical music in our changing world.

There will be a pre-concert talk proceeding the show with TBSO Music Director Paul Haas, starting at 6:45 p.m. on the TBCA mezzanine.

The show starts at 7:30 and tickets are available through Ticketmaster.

April 22

Flea Market and Craft Show

Browse through a large amount of items at the Big Fleamarket and Craft Show at the CLE Coliseum.

It runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. Call 767-5488 for informa-

Admission is \$2 per person and free for children under 12.

April 23

TBSO Masterworks

The Slovak Legion Ladies Auxiliary 2-Bit Auction is back on Sunday in the

Main Hall of the Slovak Legion, located at 801 Atlantic Ave.

Get ready for a night of fun, competition, great themed baskets to bid on and good times!

Admission is \$6, and advanced Tickets available at the Slovak Legion Office from 9 a.m. to noon)

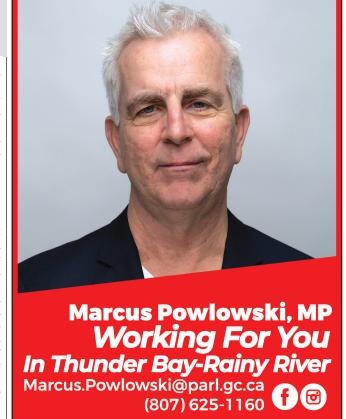
The doors open at 12:15 p.m.

April 24

Of Fire and Man, forest renewal

Join Mac Squires and Gerry Racey at the Lunan Hall at St. Paul's United Church as they share their experience and insight into forest renewal and sustainability. They share their enthusiasm for the boreal forest by, through vastly different experiences, telling a common story. Gerry will lead us through an overview of fire ecology and some of the processes that sustain our forest plant communities in the presence or absence of fire.

The discussion runs from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Monday night.



Marty Mascarin

MOVIE TALK

Renfield needs a bit more bite

Renfield (SilverCity) features Nicolas Cage playing a campy, modern-day Dracula skulking in a deserted hospital basement in New Orleans. Given the actor's idiosyncratic tics, the Prince of Darkness

would seem ripe for Cage's full-on narcissistic interpretation, priming us for a sardonic spoof.

The movie's focus, however, lies not with Dracula but with his perennially hapless henchman, Robert Montagu Renfield (Nicholas Hoult),

who, as our narrator, still scouts victims to satisfy his master's bloodlust. Like Popeye's spinach, he gobbles yummy insects to stoke short-term super-powers required to ensnare victims and protect the Count.

Looking for suitable food sources for his particular boss, Renfield stumbles upon a 12-step co-dependency therapy group brimming

with potential whiny victims.

However, the selfempowerment glop espoused by the comically bland group leader (Brandon Scott Jones) rubs off on Renfield who realizes that after slavish centuries he needs to break free of his toxic Count relationship.

Building on his first vampiric appearance in 1988's "Vampire's Kiss," Cage is having fun channeling Max Schrek, Bela Lugosi, Leslie Nielsen among others adding flourishes of the Joker crossed with Marilyn Manson. His mouth is a grill of pointy chompers. (So much for simple elongated incisors.)

The first act seems promising, where Hoult and Cage are digitally inserted into a black-and-white montage from Todd Browning's 1931's "Dracula" to re-kindle backstory, complemented by Hoult's diffident, amusing narration, himself channeling Hugh Grant.

But director Chris McKay and writers Ryan Ridley and Robert Kirkman forego subtle parody for an over-the-top splatter fest intended to elicit gross-out guffaws, tethered to a lame, poorly developed subplot where Renfield finds himself helping a nononsense incorruptible cop (Awkwafina) waging a one-woman

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war with a crime family controlling the city, led by a throaty matriarch (Shohreh Aghdashloo) and her punk son (Ben Schwartz), who Awkwafina holds responsible for the death of her police captain father.

An unholy alliance with the aforementioned crime clan would help Dracula fulfill his plan for world domination. Unfortunately, the bad guys are played mostly as straight men, bereft of satirical possibilities.

Fondly recalled cinematic Dracula tropes including the threat of sunlight, (well, it's still there, sort of) crucifixes, wooden stakes, the furtive, spooky menace of demonic consumption, the sexually charged sinking of fangs into a comely victim's neck, are absent.

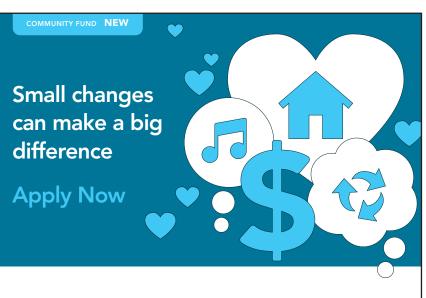
Instead, Dracula shreds assailants

into bloody specks, heads are decapitated and limbs are lopped off, the sound effects rife with squishy sounds of ripped sinews, scrunched bones, and blood splatters (The sound guys are very good.) Renfield reluctantly follows suit when compelled to do so.

This is cartoonish versus horrific, a tendency that becomes increasingly monotonous, less inventive.

Hoult has his comic moments as our put-upon narrator, literally trying to shed Renfield's darkness with a Barbie-bright wardrobe and cheerily-appointed apartment. Alas, Awkwafina is more earnest than funny. The attraction between her and Hoult is unconvincing.

By favouring gross gore over subtle parody, the filmmakers rob *Renfield* of more engaging comedic bite.





Submit an application and short video about your project

24

Submissions close on

May 24th, 2023

NEW THIS YEAR

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NEW THIS YEAR



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Submissions close at 4:00 pm EST on May 24





Bear Grease kaleidoscope of sound, vision

By Linda Maehans - TB Source

The squeaky wheel gets the grease, and ain't that the truth.

Except, there's nothing squeaky, bent or flat about this one; unless we are remarking on the bent-sharp lively humour that runs through this show like a fleet red fox, or maybe a beam of summertime sunshine so warm and welcome after many moons of cold.

Magnus Theatre ends its mainstage line-up with a whiz-bang sparkler of a production, new on the road from Edmonton and with many miles of happy, appreciative audiences ahead of it.

That much is certain. Bear Grease takes the iconic success of Olivia Newton-John and John Travolta's Grease, its music, catchy moves-andgrooves and heart-throbbing storyline to a whole 'nother way of lookin' at life – life gone Indigenous style - and boy, do I mean style!

This talented troupe-of-ten has enough energy and creativity to cloak the Sleeping Giant with some bright new regalia.

In fact, one of the musical numbers, a snappy hip hop ditty, has been custom-designed to fit our enduring landmark on the horizon like a glove.

Or maybe a special jingle-dress that could shake and shimmy during the next rain or windstorm on Superior. You get the idea.

Bear Grease delivers a colourful kaleidoscope of sound and vision, dance and choreography, words in several dialects and languages, tunes and hits from the past that tug on the heartstrings and stir up cherished memories for the "older set", regardless of culture or place-in-time.

Alongside, as mentioned, a ribbon of humour impossible not to enjoy: that unique combination of selfdeprecating wit, wry observations about Indigenous culture, and soft but not-so-gentle pokes at human nature we know is universal, regardless of background or race.

Yup. A refreshing dip in the stream-of-life, just to be extra corny

One of the layers of creativity throughout Bear Grease comes not from the beautiful, oh-so-easy on the eves cast who is in constant motion on stage but rather from a projection screen that is really a time machine back to those Happy Days and American Bandstand shows some of us can remember as if it were

Complete with the mini-skirts and big hair, souped-up cars and slicked hair, of the chicks and dudes at the hop; except of course here it's at the pow-wow and what might be in anyone's particular hopes and dreams as sunset draws near.

Well, you can just imagine, can't you?

The projection screen also gives us an ongoing splash of lyrics, words and slang we would otherwise miss because it's all so rapid fire clever.

At times there is almost too much to look at all at once.

But the jolt of joy and happiness we receive from Bear Grease carries us out the door with huge smiles on

A big Miigwetch goes out, from the Lakehead, to the cast-and-crew of Bear Grease: co-directors MC RedCloud and Crystle Lightning, choreographer Sabrina Pipestream, Joel Oulette, Melody McArthur, Tammy Rae, Teneil Whiskeyjack, Rodney McLeod, Bryce Morin, Nipîy Iskwew and Robert Mesa.

Bear Grease spins and shines at Magnus until April 23.T

Take in this exceptional show while it's still here.



Bear Grease runs through April 23.







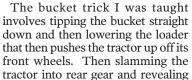
Melting snow means it's time to chop wood

melting at a rapid rate. I cheered. So did my wife, Laura, who, upon seeing bare ground in our veggie garden, beamed a huge smile at me.

For a long while I couldn't ferry the

horse stall leavings to what I call Mt. Crumpet.

There was just too much heavy wet snow on the path to the manure pile. I tried to plough, but my Ancient tractor, Big Red, simply couldn't do it. In fact I almost got stuck and had to do the bucket trick to be able to free the beast and move back.



The snow was melting. It was it. You tilt the bucket back to its usual position. Ideally, the tractor will now move back out of the sticky snow. It took two tries but I managed to free Red, vowing not to try any ploughing until most of the

snow was gone. That occurred this past week.

On Friday, I ventured with Red through the snow to where I dump manure in the winter. We made it sans incident. While there, I ploughed the accumulated dumplings piling it up so that I had room to bring the quad and cart now full of manure to

the dump site. Sunday morning, we mucked the three horse stalls and I drove guad and cart to the dump site and dumped the full cart without any problems. Good.

And then it began to rain. We had

tossed the two who are sound into their winter paddock where they have lots of hay and water. The third horse has been on stall rest due to an injury to her front hoof.

Stall rest means the horse stays in the stall all day and night and four times per day I feed her hay, change her water bucket, and muck out the poop. We are hoping that by the time you read this column, the farrier will have been and put pads on her hooves that will allow the horse to go back outside and join her mates. It will save me a lot of work.

But as I mentioned, Sunday it rained - freezing rain that coated windshields, windows, and made staircases extremely slippery. Oddly enough, there was a time in the morning when I drove to our local corner store for some supplies and the highway was not slippery, just wet. But there was no guarantee that by the afternoon with the fierce

EVERY

winds, the pelting now-sleet, that the roads might become treacherous.

However, we took advantage of the drying conditions and the sun during the week to begin bucking our new wood supply.

Ten bush cords of birch to cut, split, and stack so that by next winter, we will be ready.

I have two chainsaws, so Laura took one and I took the other. We suited up in protective gear and helmet with ear protection and set to. On Saturday, our son Doug and I got quite a lot cut. But there was still too much snow around the splitter to begin that task.

We had tossed into the basement the remainder of our winter wood supply, but there were several pieces frozen onto the planks we'd laid upon which we'd stacked the wood. Now that the sun had warmed the ground, Laura took a mallet and banged those no-longer frozen

pieces of birch and tossed them into the basement wood room. Now we could prepare the stacking area.

Sunday morning our pooch, Sophie, who was lying on the couch staring out the window, got very excited.

I looked out and saw the source of her excitement: two, large trumpeter swans standing in the paddock. One spread its wings. Wow! What a wind span! But about a half hour later, the swans were gone. I felt for them as there is no open water yet.

Lots of returning birds - Redwing Blackbirds, a large flock of black birds (not Redwing), and my first robin. But what they faced by Sunday night was freezing rain followed by snow. By Sunday night all of the freezing rain had turned our yard into a skating rink. My heart has gone out to all the birdies and beasties that thought winter was gone. So did we.



Fred Iones

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There are plenty of opportunities for would-be cyclists to get involved in the sport in Thunder Bay. (Caitlin Guarasci photo)

It's cycling season

Keith Ailey

the GOOD LIFE

It might seem like spring has barely started, but the Thunder Bay Cycling Club has a packed calendar of events that are slated to start next week.

Established in 1975, the club has grown into a large and diverse group of cyclists who ride and race on the roads surrounding the city. With this club, hundreds of people have found the motivation to be active and live healthy with the help of a supportive group of peers. While the club's roots are in racing, much of the recent expansion within the membership base comes from the women's

This growing group of female cyclists, known as WOW (women on wheels), will continue their

weekly rides on Tuesday evenings with short and medium-distance options aimed at beginner and intermediate cyclists. These fun, non-competitive rides are offered to encourage women in our community to come out to ride and socialize together.

This year, WOW is adding a series of Ride To Race training sessions on Saturdays as well. Females have traditionally been under-represented in bike racing, so these extra rides are offered

as an easy entry point for women who want to add more fun and increase their fitness even further. These weekend rides will appeal to ladies of all ages who are curious about racing, interested in riding more efficiently, or just wanting to sharpen their safe bike handling skills when riding with

Meanwhile, the club's racing division continues to offer a wide variety of race formats and distances so everyone can find their own level of comfort. With the races, all ages and abilities are welcome, and participants can find just the right amount of challenge for their current fitness with groups ranging from the speedy category 1 riders to the almost-as-fast category 2s, the less intense category 3s and a new "no-drop" category for those who want to experience racing without the tactics and

Races start in April and continue until November. They include gravel events, road races, a time trial series, a cyclocross series in the fall and the 4-day Tour of Thunder Bay stage race. While many of these events include a lot of socializing, the time trial (TT) series is more of a personal challenge where riders depart individually and ride solo, stag-

gered by one-minute intervals. This low-stress format allows every individual plenty of space on the road while they chase a new personal best time against the clock.

Finally, the club offers group touring rides on alternate Sundays starting in

The 2023 season kicks off on Saturday April 29th with the Roy Nisula Memorial Gravel Race. Roy, who was an icon of the endurance sports community

in Thunder Bay, passed away unexpectedly earlier this year. Many of us would enjoy frequent rides out to Kakabeka for a coffee with Roy. Those memories will be honoured as Roy's favourite midride refuel of coffee and butter tarts are served after this event.

The popularity of cycling continues to grow here in Northwestern Ontario because it is a fun and easy way to stay happy and healthy. Visit tbaycc.ca to learn more about becoming part of the amazing cycling community in Thunder Bay.



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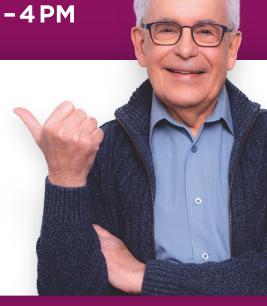
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Baking is lots of fun and also rewarding, but takes plenty of patience and careful measuring. (iStock)

Baking 101

Contrary to what some people may believe via the Beefcake's social media. I am no baker. I don't genuinely believe I'm even very good at it to tell you the truth. Now, let me preface this statement by saying, I am very proud of some of my creations that have garnered such praise. However, I approach cooking the same way I approach baking. I know how things are supposed to taste and I know how things are supposed to look. So, in a simplistic fashion I just keep throwing stuff in the bowl till I think its gonna bake right and taste good. I will say this as well,

this is not the way to garner success in baking. To be a successful baker you must recreate your creations week in and week out. This is something I, one, cannot do and two, have literally zero interest in doing. I began making desserts for the shop(s) mostly as a way to entertain myself, be creative without being bound to train others, and satisfy my inner (outer) fat kid.

A (real) baker is a tradesperson who specializes in making and selling baked goods, such as bread, cakes, pastries, and pies. Bakers need to employ a combination of scientific knowledge and artistry to create these products. The schedule usually includes mostly early mornings or late nights to ensure that fresh baked goods are available for customers at the beginning of the day.

To become a professional baker, it is generally necessary to complete some form of culinary education or training, such as a baking and pastry arts program. Most bakers start out as apprentices, working under the guidance of a more experienced baker to learn the trade. In the age of social media, many niche, home and specialty bakeries have opened with self trained bakers concentrating in one or two specific types of pastries. In the modern era many smaller bakeries can thrive while getting known for one or two products, provided those pastries are top quality. Its kinda funny that in the last 5/6 years I had never heard of the term social media chef/baker, however this is a real thing now. People with little to no professional training are cooking and baking for

the express purpose of posting on their social channels to inform and entertain and obviously, make money.

This kind of new "genre" of food personality can be very polarizing to professionals. I will confess to my less than guilty pleasure of seeing some of these "social media chefs" being absolutely

mangled by professionals on Gordon Ramsay's *Next Level Chef*, a show that challenges chefs to grab their ingredients in 30 seconds and then take 45 minutes to create a dish with what they were able to grab. Concluding, while I may be halfway decent at baking, I will never profess to be a baker, I'm just not that good at following instructions.

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



Derek LankinenHere's Cooking at You Kid

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Majors win All-Ontarios

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

If you basically run the table at a provincial championship, you probably deserve to hoist the trophy at the end.

The Markham Majors on Sunday night blanked the Nickel City Sons 5-0, a team coming off an exhausting 2-1, doubleovertime semifinal win over the day,

Massimo Tomassi stopped all 20 Nickel City shots and Antonio Schiavo scored twice to deliver the first All-Ontario Ul3 AAA championship in team history, the team pouring on the ice as the clock hit zero to celebrate and share joyous hugs of accomplishment after winning for the seventh time in eight games at the provincial championship.

"It's a great accomplishment. We played as a team and won it. This was our goal from the beginning of the year and we did it," Schiavo said, his teammates taking turns hoisting the trophy and taking pictures with family and other players on the Majors.

"We were fired up and we were getting out there. We scored a couple of goals quick and eventually got up 5-0 and won

There's no question the Majors were the team to beat at Fort William Gardens, site of this year's champi-

In eight games they scored 45 goals, 13 more than the next closest team, and only allowed 12. The Sun County Panthers, who lost to the host Thunder Bay Kings 3-1 in Sunday's bronze-medal match, allowed 19 in eight contests.

Towering forward Justin Boudreau, said the key to the Majors success was

"I think we played really well and we played until the end," said Boudreau, who like several of his teammates, has NHL dreams in his sights.

It was Schiavo who struck first for Markham, grabbing a rebound on the



The Markham Majors captured thier first U13 All Ontario AAA title last Sunday at the Gardens. (Leith Dunick)

doorstep of Nicolas Rocca's crease and burying it five-hole, the goal coming just 69 seconds into the game.

Joseph Fenwick doubled the lead at the 5:36 mark of the first, a wide-open onetimer catching Rocca out of position, and the Majors took a 2-0 lead to the second.

Schiavo scored his second of the night with less than four minutes to go in the second, his shot through traffic maneuvering its way to the back of the Nickel City net, the Sudbury side down 3-0 and the game quickly falling out of reach.

Cam Johnson and Jaxson Staley rounded out the scoring in the third.

"This is massive for the organization. It's the first All-Ontarios for the organizations, so it's a massive accomplishment," said Markham coach Kevin Cribari, who led the Majors to a Greater Toronto Hockey League championship, no mean feat in itself, he said.

"Even to get out of our league, the GTHL, it's a very competitive league so to accomplish that and move onto this, it's remarkable," Cribari said.

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Thursday, April 20, 2023

SIJHL denied in Kenora

By TB Source staff

City staff say a Junior A hockey team looking to start up next season will be frozen out of ice time.

Kenora city officials issued a statement lat Friday, saying the recreation and culture department had received a request from a prospective team.

The statement said the city's recreation team has reviewed the request and determined that the team will not be included in next season's ice schedule.

"This decision is an administrative decision which was based on assessing several factors outside of just the ice allocation," the statement said. "Through public consultation, concerns have been raised by community groups and users and the City wants to take the necessary time to thoroughly consider the potential addition of a Junior A team in the future to ensure everyone is heard

and all concerns are considered.

"The City of Kenora's Recreation and Culture department works with individuals and groups to expand programming opportunities in the community, and when reviewing new programs, we review facility availability while ensuring the program aligns with our values by providing adequate and appropriate recreational opportunities for all community members."

The city did not identify the team's proponents nor league the team would have played in, but the Superior International Junior Hockey League was working diligently with a prospective ownership group in Kenora to bring a team to the city as soon as next year.

The league currently has teams in Thunder Bay, Oliver Paipoonge, Fort Frances, Dryden, Red Lake, Sioux Lookout, and Spooner, Wisc.



The under-13 Thunder Bay Kings won a bronze medial at the All-Ontario Championships on home ice, thier first medal since 1997.

Kings take bronze

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

For the first time in 26 years, the under-13 Thunder Bay Kings are All-Ontario medallists.

Buoyed by Kainaan Macgillivray's 33-save performance, and a pair of goals by Brady Nash, the Kings captured bronze on Sunday night, beating the Sun County Panthers 3-1 in front of a raucous Fort William Gardens crowd.

It was a win for the ages, Macgillivray said.

"It means a lot to me and it means a lot to the team," the youngster said, suiting up for Thunder Bay's final three games.

The team just kept improving throughout the tournament and was able to set aside a couple of lopsided losses to be competitive in Sunday's 3-1 semifinal loss to Markham and outlast a Panthers squad that beat them 7-0 during the round robin.

It showed a lot of character, Nash said.

"We played good all throughout the game," he said. "We just kept playing the whole way through the game and didn't give up."

Snapping the 26-year-medal drought was the coolest feat of all, Nash added.

"It's a pretty cool opportunity we have to be out here and it was an awesome time."

Before the 1997 title, the last time the under-13 program won a medal was 1981, said Kings coach Jason Disher, who got to watch his son, Cooper, help make history on the ice.

It wasn't always easy this season, but sometimes good things come to those who wait – and for the Kings, it was about two months since their Greater Toronto Hockey League season came to a close.

"We played great in the GTHL all season long,

and then our season ended in February. Then we had to come home and practice for a month-and-a-half and have exhibition games ... So, it took us a little while to get going and as the tournament wears on, you never know what's going to happen. Everybody gets tired and the kids just kept going."

Still, the Kings would have been in tough if it weren't for Macgillivray in net.

He made a big stop in the opening two minutes of the contest and never looked back.

"The last three games we played, we don't win them without Kainaan. He played amazing and he stepped his game up 150 per cent."

Nash opened the scoring with the Kings killing a penalty, firing a high, hard wrist shot that Sun County goaltender Ethan Townsend couldn't catch up to, the goal the lone tally of the opening period.

It appeared the two teams would play a scoreless second, but in the dying seconds of the period, defenceman Karter Hockenhull may have turned the momentum for good, ripping a shot from just inside the blueline that snuck past Townsend for a 2-0 Thunder Bay lead at the buzzer.

"When a goal comes from one of our players that doesn't score very often, the kids just get pumped for him. They're all little brothers out there. The kids were so excited the Hock scored because he doesn't get that many goals. They were excited for him and pumped for him and it carried us through."

Nash added his second of the night with just over six minutes to go. A Gianluca Mclure goal with just 1.6 seconds left in regulation spoiled Magillivray's shutout bid, but couldn't spoil the celebration that erupted moments later.



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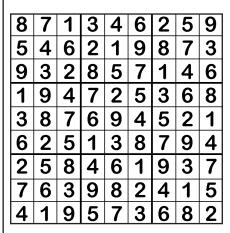
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