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SOURCE SOURCE

Thursday, April 27, 2023







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Council hikes pay

City's elected officials will get a 2.9 per cent raise, though some say the figure should grow a little higher

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

City council has voted unanimously to award itself a historically large 2.9 per cent pay hike, responding to a year of surging inflation, with some councillors suggesting compensation should climb further.

The move followed a 2019 policy that suggests pegging council's compensation at half the rate of inflation, but leaves the choice in council's hands with a yearly vote.

The city uses the previous year's Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase for Thunder Bay, as calculated by Statistics Canada, as a benchmark.

That inflation measure shot up by 5.8 per cent in 2022, prompting the 2.9 per cent pay hike recommendation.

Monday's vote brings annual base pay to roughly \$32,500 for councillors, and \$99,000 for the mayor.

Council members take home more than that after accounting for paid committee assignments, health and retirement contributions, and a car allowance, however – upwards of \$40,000 for councillors and around \$130,000 for the mayor.

The pay hike will cost the city just over \$15,000 this year, an amount that was already budgeted for.

Agreed to agree

Smaller increases have sometimes prompted hand-wringing at council in the past, but on Monday, councillors seemed to find a new consensus.

"I'm not ashamed to say this job doesn't pay what it should – not only not keeping up with inflation, but the type of work we're now having to do that's being downloaded by other orders of government," said Coun. Shelby Ch'ng. "We're expected by the public to deal with things like mental health and homelessness... with very few resources at our disposal."

Compensation has serious implications for equitable representation, she added..

"If you're a single mother... if you're a person with a disability, you can't afford to be around this table," she said. "The only people who can afford to be around this table are people who are independently wealthy, who are retired, who essentially look like us."

Council is officially a part-time gig for all but the mayor, and most councillors also hold down other jobs – though most also say they spend what amounts to full-time hours on their council duties.

Mayor Ken Boshcoff, who put his workweek at 80 to 90 hours, said he'd "never encountered any kind of public objection" to what councillors are paid.



Council debated remuneration on Monday night. (FILE)

"I think there's a lot of appreciation for what council does and I think [people] truly understand that the compensation is low for the amount of hours," he said.

The policy of half-inflationary increases yielded pay bumps of 2.35 per cent last year and 0.55 per cent in 2021.

Council briefly departed from the policy in 2020, foregoing a 0.5 per cent increase in a move meant to recognize the financial challenges of COVID-19.

Councillors have said the policy stops pay from falling behind and keeps politics out of the decision.

Fought decision

Last year's increase came over the objections of Coun. Mark Bentz, whose push to reduce it to 1.5 per cent failed by a single vote. At the time, Bentz said while he generally favours the policy, it should be reconsidered in times of high inflation.

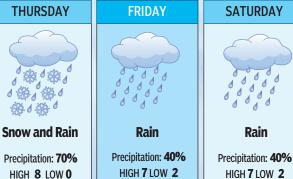
Bentz had also warned it would be poor optics for council to award itself increases above what the city negotiated with unionized workers, typically 1.5 to 2 per cent.

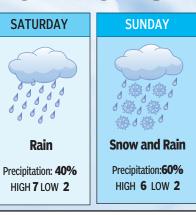
On Monday, however, Bentz said while he was "not out to advocate for more money for politicians," the half-inflation policy might fall short.

"Half of CPI is not sustainable, and it's going to result in a large-scale re-adjustment at some point," he said. "It means every year, remuneration around this table drops in buying power."

In a report, staff noted the 2019 policy was approved following a process including public consultation and an assessment of compensation levels in comparable municipalities.

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Visit TBnewswatch.com **NEWS** Thursday, April 27, 2023

PSAC expands strike locations

By TB Source staff

Striking federal government workers in Thunder Bay are taking their picket signs to the Richardson grain terminal on Water Street starting Tuesday.

The Public Service Alliance of Canada alleges that the Canadian Grain Commission is allowing private companies to use replacement works to inspect grain intended for export.

In a statement Monday, the union said it will establish a picket line at 7 a.m. on the access roads to the terminal.

According to the union, grainhandlers who belong to the United Steelworkers Union have pledged not to cross the line.

Since the beginning of the strike on April 19, the several hundred local members of the Public Service Alliance of Canada have restricted picketing to the offices of Indigenous Services Canada and Thunder Bay-Superior North MP



PSAC workers walked a picket line last week outside Liberal MP Patty Hajdu's office.

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Patty Hajdu.

"The use of private inspectors is a threat to public safety and under-

mines free and fair collective bargaining that is enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and

Freedoms," the union said in a state-

The union did not immediately make a spokesperson available for further comment.

About two-thirds of Canadian Grain Commission staff belong to the union, including 140 grain inspectors across the country who are participating in the strike.

Grain commission corporate information services manager Rémi Gosselin said the commission developed a contingency plan to provide official certification of export grain during the walkout using modified procedures.

He said the commission respects the union's right to strike but implemented these measures to keep exports flowing and maintain Canada's access to grain importing nations.

Nonetheless, Gosselin said, the provision of official inspection and certification of grain has been significantly impacted by the strike, as the only remaining inspection

staff are some managers and specialists across the country.

Under the contingency plan, grain exporters identify priority cargos and provide the commission with "composite samples."

He said grain companies may use their own in-house inspectors for this task, or hire third parties to do this work before the samples receive final inspection and certification from PSAC's non-union staff.

"It's not our preferred way to operate, but under the circumstances it keeps grain exports flowing," Gosselin said.

"Our sole focus at this time is just to minimize the impact on grain producers and grain companies. Obviously once there is closure with the strike, we are focused on getting our staff back to work just as soon as we can to conduct those inspections."

A spokesperson for Richardson did not immediately respond Monday afternoon to a request for comment.



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Fifty years of conservation

On Jan. 13, 1973, the North Shore Steelhead Association (NSSA) was formed as a non-profit organization concerned with the conservation and preservation of fisheries in the rivers that feed Lake Superior.

Over the past five decades, their efforts have resulted in steelhead, as well as other species like pacific salmon and native brook trout, benefitting from conservation-focused initiatives on the tributaries these fish use in their annual spawning

Among the many NSSA projects that help migratory fish reach their spawning grounds are the installation of fish ladders and plunge pools below barriers, the elimination of perched culverts, and the addition of "steps" carved into the bedrock of natural waterfalls.

Of equal importance, the club has made significant efforts to gather scientific data to track population trends and spearhead positive changes to the fishing regulations.

Most recently, the club has used



The North Shore Steelhead Association has helped local angling immensely over the years.

social media as well as riverside signage to educate the public about the importance of keeping our rivers clean and the benefits of releasing our steelhead to fight again another day. Past president Frank Edgson, who has been with the club since 1983, says it is the change in attitude

we have seen towards both littering on the streams and catch and release fishing that he is most proud of.

Looking to the future, he says continued work to eliminate migration barriers on the Current River is a priority and this spring we will see the installation of fishing line collec-

tion units from Clear your Gear on local streams.

These units will provide anglers an environmentally friendly option to properly dispose of their old monofilament fishing line.

Current club president Tom

Whalley was introduced to the NSSA at a youth fishing clinic 37 years

He echoes Edgson's thoughts on the shift in focus by local anglers towards releasing their catch, saying that people now recognize the value of our steelhead as a sport fish. He empha-

sizes how important it is that anglers can see the benefits of a thriving recreational fishery as opposed to the old attitude of fishing for the purpose of harvest.

It is this change in attitude, and the widespread adoption of proper fish handling techniques before safely releasing steelhead, that has seen populations rebound on our most heavily pressured rivers.

Terry Kosolowski, the club's vice president and a member since its inception, says this has been made possible because of partnerships. "Over the years we have continued

> to develop relationships with the scientific community as well as federal, provincial and local government agencies.

Along with the input from other user groups and the general public, we have been able to secure the necessary approval and provide the

guidance, funds and even the labour to get vital conservation projects done."

Steelhead are notoriously difficult to find and even harder to catch, but thanks to the North Shore Steelhead Association, the prospect of hooking a steelhead is now a reality for more people than ever before.







Keith Ailey

the GOOD LIFE



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EDITORIAL

Visit TBnewswatch.com
Thursday, April 27, 2023

EDITORIAL

Keep building

The new Thunder Bay Art Gallery appears to be a go.

A proposed science centre is also up for discussion, both projects aiming to call the city's waterfront home.

While the cost for both may be seen as somewhat staggering for many taxpayers, the benefits both entities will bring to the community – and our attempts to rebuild a tourism industry, are enormous.

Thunder Bay has the potential to have a world-class waterfront, and while trails and natural surroundings have to be one of the primary focuses, it's not enough.

Tourists, and those of us who call Thunder Bay home, need options.

Art galleries around the world are focal points, destination attractions. So too are science centres, which provide plenty of programming and entertainment for local residents too.

A few more restaurants, maybe a pub like the Lower Deck in Halifax, and Thunder Bay's waterfront could easily find the proper mix of business, residential and outdoor use.

It's not hard to imagine, and quite frankly it's something that's long overdue in this city.



Stolen has Northern Ontario ramifications

Stolen by Ann-Helen Laestadius is a novel about the Sami people who inhabit the region of Sapmi, encompassing northern parts of Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Russia's Kola peninsula. The region was formerly known as Lapland, and the Sami known in English as Lapps or Laplanders, but these terms are, today, deemed offensive.

This novel tells the story of a girl growing up in a Sami family and the story is told largely by her. Elsa lives in the north of Sweden and is a nine-year-old Sami girl when the narrative begins, maturing into an adult by the end.

Like many of the families here, herding reindeer is the family's chief means of livelihood, but a malevolent Swedish poacher who lives in the vicinity sees the wild-roaming herds as a source of cheap income for himself. The unfolding conflict between him and the family is at the

centre of what becomes a tension-filled crime story even if the only murder victims are the reindeer.

Like so many minority peoples, the Sami find their culture and traditional ways of life challenged and under pressure from modernity and racist attitudes.

Author Laestadius, herself of Sami descent, while telling the coming-ofage story of nine-year-old Elsa subtly shows how these factors play out in the daily lives of the villagers in their northern homeland.

Their traditionally harsh, nomadic lives have been transformed by modern housing, powered snowmo-

> biles, cars, and schools; Swedish language and culture sit uncomfortably alongside their own; television, computer games, junk food and alcohol, mental health issues and higher suicide rates all play a part in undermining their previously cohesive,

healthy and ordered lives. And now on top of it all, global warming is also endangering their way of life.

From the 19th century onwards, the Sami have been targeted with

Scandinavianisation and Christianisation policies aimed at forced integration.

The Norwegian and Swedish authorities regarded the Sami as a "primitive people" in need of "civilising", imposing Scandinavian languages, banning the Sami language and culture in many contexts, and particularly in schools.

To begin with, the Scandinavian authorities showed little interest in the harsh and non-arable inland populated by the Sami and did not interfere much in their way of life, but that would soon change. Unlike the coastal-dwelling Norwegians who were strongly dependent on their trade with the south, the Sami

lived off the land.

With the gradual opening up of those northern regions for forestry and mining, Norwegians and Swedes moved north.

Laestadius helps us comprehend what a terrible trauma for the Sami people this clash of cultures represents, and bear witness to the erosion of their way of life.

This will be a familiar story to the people of Thunder Bay where settler-colonialism continues to be an ongoing project rather than a historical event.

The Ring of Fire poses the same threat to the lifestyle and future of Indigenous people in Northern Ontario as the mining operations in Sweden.

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Goofing around has merits

By JR Shermack

Research reveals that "goofing around", when done properly, is an important key to understanding, enlightenment and an unencumbered mind.

I am intrigued by the notion that doing nothing can be productive and meaningful – tell me more.

This discovery was made by observing the tireless antics and playful activities of children while they are goofing around at home, at the park, in school or anywhere they choose.

There is much to be admired about the behavior of young children especially when they display their natural exuberance and carefree approach to discovery and learning.

Kids have a lot to learn in their first few years about the physical world around them, the human emotions inside them and the toys spread all over the floor.

They also have to learn how to crawl and then walk, all while becoming fluent in at least one language and oh yeah, grow two complete sets of teeth.

Fortunately kids are wellequipped for the task – all healthy children are born with an innate sense of wonder, endless curiosity and a brand new, fully functional human brain.

And how do they use these precious gifts - anyone who hangs out with the five-and-under crowd will notice that they spend most of their day just playing and goofing around.

They have an abundance of time on their hands, are unafraid of making mistakes, do not overthink things and they play freely and have fun while learning.

With all these natural resources at their disposal children learn much faster than adults and quickly develop new skills as they navigate their strange, new world.

Goofing around helps make sense of it all.

Wouldn't it be nice to experience life with all the energy and exuberance of young children as they goof around looking for whatever comes next?

To have endless curiosity, boundless energy, no fears or anxieties and an infinite capacity to learn without barriers – kids' brains work better than adult brains.

The advantage is largely due to "neuroplasticity", a young brain's ability to learn or unlearn habits, routines and actions, most noticeable and rapid before the age of five.

The afternoon naps are probably helpful too.

In the 1990s psychologists began studying what they called "free-form attention", the childhood capacity to relax and allow their brain to follow any direction it wants.

This childhood talent has been found to benefit learning and development and it is also restorative for young, hardworking brains.

For want of a better phrase it was referred to as "goofing off" and just to clarify, there is good goofing off and bad goofing off -



Video games have plenty of merit.

it must be done properly.

The bad one means "to evade work or responsibility" but good goofing around refers to the childhood ability to think and act freely with an unencumbered mind.

Young children take responsibility for their own learning by acting on their own ideas, creating and solving their own problems and looking for new adventures.

Sadly, somewhere along the road to being a grownup we lose much of our childhood exuberance as adult responsibilities leave little time for goofing around.

As for me, I've been goofing around my whole life (good and bad) and lately I've been hangin' with my grandkids to update my skills and goof around.

So far I can play several tunes on the toy xylophone, I can stack wooden blocks over ten high, my finger painting is up on the fridge and my Lego work (some Duplo) is improving.

There's no telling how much I can learn if I can ignore all the distractions, put my brain in gear and just keep goofing around.

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

April 30

Royal Ball

Take photos of princes and princesses and royal activities and volunteers as the community comes together for the common goal of making cystic fibrosis history.

This magical event will be held Sunday, April 30, 2023 at the Davinci Centre in the Michelangelo Ball Room.

The Ball will run from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and will feature many activities including: a luncheon, ice-cream bar, penny and silent auction, crafts, dancing, and more!

This wonderful afternoon will be held in support of Cystic Fibrosis and the Fort City Kinettes.

April 27-28

SIJHL playoff hockey

The Bill Salonen Cup final shifts to Fort William Gardens for Games 3 and 4 of the championship round between the Kam River Fighting Walleye and the Thunder Bay North Stars.

Expect the Gardens to be packed as these two crosstown rivals battle for the right to advance to the Centennial Cup next month in Portage, Man.

Tickets are available, cash only, at the door.

Puck drop is 7:30 p.m. each night.

April 29

Big Spring Clean-Up

Meeting up at the Sleeping Giant Brewery for the sixth annual big spring clean, there will be a booth outside somewhere with warm beverages and snacks, a safety briefing and intro into 2023.

From here we'll head to clean up the surrounding area.

The event starts at 4 p.m.

April 27-30

Benjamin's Circus

John Davenport is a third-generation circus performer and along with

his brother Jairo have created the Great Benjamins Circus.

A traditional circus that offers amazing acts of international quality while being true to the traditional circus roots. Great Benjamins Circus and its caravans travel to the four corners of North America; from Florida to California, Alaska to Newfoundland and Labrador.

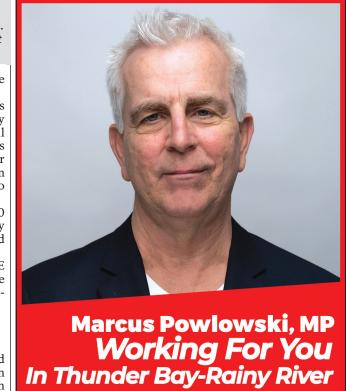
The first show is Thursday at 7:30 p.m., with two shows a day on Friday and three each on Saturday and Sunday.

The circus takes place at the CLE Exhibition grounds and tickets are available online at www.tickets.greatbenjamincircus.com.

April 28

Comedy at the Forks 8

Comedians Jennifer Sterger and Eddie Pence will be at Forks South Sports Lounge, starting at 7 p.m. on Friday. Tickets are \$28 and available at eventbrite.ca.



Marcus.Powlowski@parl.gc.ca (807) 625-1160

Will winter ever come to an end this spring?

So, it snows. Then it melts. Then in the bush. Good. That mess done. it snows. Then it freezes and then more snow. Argh!

Thanks to Ol' Man Winter, I've been on my ancient tractor, Big Red, more times than I want. I just get

the driveway in driveable shape - scraping and scraping and scraping again - thinking that this must be it, that Winter has had its fun and now for serious melt, warmer temperatures, and yes, mud season.

The first melt revealed the leavings of our three pooches. Somebody

quipped that "April is Dog Poop Awareness Month". Got that right. We took turns, my wife, Laura, and me. We divided up the lawns around Casa Jones and beside the tractor shelter. We both filled a wheelbarrow to be dumped far away

And then it snowed. I was so hoping that we could keep on top of it. But (I know that I'm repeating myself) it snowed, covering up any new deposits. Ratz!

> When the first heat came on, I watched what was happening to the snow. The smooth became pock-marked like stucco. And then it was almost all gone. Now I look out the living room window to see white all around smooth with the only interruptions being either dog

tracks or, first thing in the morning once it is light enough for me to see outside, the unmistakable tracks of

Don't get me wrong: I love snow. I love how it carpets the ground, how it clothes the trees. And then winds arrive to create ballets of snow being picked up off the ground to swirl in mini tornadoes or blown in full sail across the field. Another effect is when the wind causes the snow on the branches of the coniferous trees to suddenly let go and be driven like a sheet over the land. But that thrill overstayed its welcome and now it is depressing.

Thursday was the worst. Not only a blizzard of the white stuff but fierce winds driving the snow horizontally past our windows. And it kept snowing only to cease and desist Saturday night. Sunday was gorgeous with sun, at least for the morning.

It was nice and sunny the previous Friday and Saturday, perfect weather for getting at the ten cords of firewood we had bought and that is sitting out front.

I have two chainsaws and Friday Laura and I suited up protective gear

EVERY

and set to. Laura tackled the end of the pile facing the house while I went after the other end. Our rule is to at least get through a tank of gas and then stop. It was a good thing when the gas tank on my saw emptied because my back was hollering at me about this unaccustomed activity.

Saturday it was me and son, Doug doing the honours. During those two days we got a good start on the bucking of winter wood but then winter returned, first with a vengeance and then with a steady, unrelenting snowfall. So, now I have to wait for more melt that I am sure will eventually arrive.

And while continuing snowfall is inconvenient, it has played havoc with our feathered friends. All of the returning birds have got to be in shock.

Certainly around the bird feeder, the picnic table and elsewhere where I scatter seed, the different breeds congregate for the seed. And for the first time that I can recall we've had crows competing with the juncos, the grackles, the Redwing Blackbirds, the blue jays, and all those other wee grey and brown jobbies.

During the howling winds and snow on Thursday and Friday, I put out extra. I like seeing the tiny claw prints in the snow.

Sunday night our wee dog wanted out at 3 a.m. Usually she is out for ten minutes max, not this night.

After a half an hour, I donned a coat and boots and headed outside to call her. I was greeted with an incredible display of northern lights all around Casa Jones. Magnificent!

Eventually the wee dog deigned to come back inside.

Do northern lights indicate a change in the weather, say, an end to this prolonged winter?



Fred Iones

RURAL ROOTS





Proper dieting needs thought

Fad diets aren't really sustainable

With the visual exception of my hairline running away from my face at a high rate of speed, and a few aches and pains that typically had never existed, having turned 40 didn't much affect my daily life.

I still work far too much (according to most people) and I still train almost daily with weights and cardio exercise. However, my current work/life schedule makes it difficult to commit fully to my workouts.

While I still love food more than the average human, my consumption must change, first and foremost because I have noticed I have started to very quickly gain weight. Now, your metabolic rate doesn't decrease at a sharp decline over your lifetime. On average most humans experience a two per cent dip in their rate each decade after 20 years of age.

That's not a very huge issue for most people who maintain an active lifestyle.

Over the course of my personal research to plan my own personal attack on my weight issue, I have discovered a few tools and things to prioritize as I embark on changing my body yet again,

however this time after 40.

Stress has a huge effect on how your body deals with sugar and psychosocial stress can have an adverse effect on Cortisol, the hormone which regulates appetite and how and when the body stores fat.

Now before I continue, I realize that my lifestyle isn't conducive to

a stress less life. However, yoga, massage and breathing exercises can contribute to lowering stress levels.

One thing that men especially can lose over time is strength and muscle mass. This in turn can lower your metabolic rate as in less meat to operate,

less fuel needed.

Derek Lankinen

Here's Cooking at You Kid

Prioritizing strength training is something I am going to adjust in my regimen.

Sleeping enough is important, and if your lifestyle is making you cheat sleep, then think about what you can do to get enough. Sometimes, however, biology is keeping you from enough shuteye, and it's imperative to solve that. Now, full disclosure, I have had my issues with sleep in the past, I have none of those at this time.

Creating a sustainable plan at this age that I can maintain for the next 20 to 50 years is crucial. Fad diets and yoyo dieting work less and less the older you get.

When creating or exploring a specific plan with specific rules, I have to make sure it goes with my lifestyle, which, for most guys (including myself), gets increasingly complicated in your 40s with more responsibilities at work, with your family, and

maybe even with aging family members.

A vegan diet can be hard to do in a healthy way if you live a graband-go existence.

Meal prep is going to be a challenge if you're never home long enough to cook.

Basically, what I am saying is there is no one-size-fits-all solution here.

I am going to have to tailor make this plan for myself.

Good thing I know that guy pretty well after 40 years.

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.







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Momologues 2 set to open on stage

By Linda Maehans - TB Source

Or, and this straight and true, from one of the moms herself: sometimes the days are long but the years are way too short.

Next week, Cambrian Players' latest curtain rises to an eyeopening, heart-warming sequel called The Momologues 2: Back to School.

Audiences and in particular the mothers among us will recall Cambrian's first Momologues, presented this same time of year but back in 2019 (before the pandemic had flattened life for everyone). Readers of this today, take heart! There's no room for, nor even mention of Covid in *The Momlogues 2*; exactly as should be. This show is purely about motherhood: that tough yet supremely rewarding journey for women after

their children have left infancy in the playpen dust and shot, like arrows straight and true, into new worlds of wonder and discovery. Okay, maybe not always on the mark. That's where moms step in, to create and compose this very best Music of Life. Let's take a closer listen to that score.

Lyn is a dauntless mother-ofthree. Actor Maranda Dumas smooths back a lock of lustrous auburn hair. "I think the word comes to mind is chaos."

She sure appears calm, to my eyes.

"For the most part my kids like school, but every kid has quirks. Whether I accidentally send an apple in my son's lunchbox when he only eats pears, or I mess up my daughter's sandwich, well," a smile, "we work it out. I'm a stay-at-home mom; can't imagine if I had

(another) full-time job on top of this one. I'm fortunate, because I do have the time. And, I take classes on parenting, on what I need to know, how I should be acting and reacting. I'm always learning.

My advice for fellow-moms? Hmm. I'd say 'progress over perfection'. If your kids are happy, smiling, and safe, that's all that matters."

Cheryl Silen, acting as Lea, is also a mom-of-three. In real life. Outward calm? Not rehearsed. Everything about this woman is genuine.

"This weekend? Let's see. We have homework, soccer, cub scouts, dance recital, car pool, play dates... you name it. Oh, and church. So, yeah, lots goin' on." Cheryl takes a deep breath, continues without missing a beat. "You put one foot in front of the other and keep going. And, there's always a list." A shrug and big smile. "This is the best time,

EVERY

this middle piece. When they're no longer little and pulling on you all the time; not yet snarky, sullen teenagers. For me, this is 'the golden age'. Hands down best music-of-mylife."

As mentioned: arrow straight and true.

Directed by Nathalie Roy, *The Momologues 2* plays on Spring Street from Wednesday-to-Saturday, May 3 to May 6; and again the next week, May 10 to May 14.

The May 14 (Sunday) matinee includes a special tea following the performance. All other shows at 7:30 p.m. Proceeds going to Our Kids Count. Tickets online @Cambrians' eventbrite.com page; limited tickets at the door.

Dads! You of course are also in this story, and very welcome; but this one's for the Moms. Just in time for Mother's Day.



The Momologues 2 begins on May 3.







to celebrate, we're offering 50% off a set of hearing aids for one lucky winner who books a hearing test during the month of May!

Everyone who books a hearing test during the month of May and has a qualifying hearing loss will be entered to win 50% off their purchase of Signia brand hearing aids.

Offer expires June 1, 2023. No purchase necessary. See clinic for further details.

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S OHUMN D HEARING 18A Court Street North Thunder Bay, ON P7A 4T3 **807-935-8785**



Joaquin Phoenix has never been afraid to play off-the-wall characters, including the title role in Ari Aster's Beau is Afraid.

Beau is bizarre

Marty Mascarin

MOVIE TALK

Beau is Afraid (SilverCity) is a rarity, a challenging art-house film turning up on the big screen in Thunder Bay.

Director/writer Ari Aster made his mark with stylish horror films including Hereditary and Midsommar, demonstrating technical brilliance and a flair for the foreboding. With Beau, Aster conjures a more personal nightmarish scenario, exploring where an individual's mental state and his external world conspire against him.

The story begins with Beau Wasserman (Joaquin Phoenix) preparing to catch a flight to visit his mother, Mona (Patti LuPone) on the anniversary of his father's death. Beau never knew his dad. Reasons come later. Mona remains unseen during their tense long-distance conversation.

Phoenix is all in as a passive, tattered husk of a man. He suffers major anxiety due to his colossal oedipal complex. His avuncular therapist (Stephen McKinley

Henderson) gives him a new prescription that absolutely needs to be taken with water, one of many little points that will have grave consequences.

Beau is then suspected of being the "rampant naked circumcised stabber" on local TV news, who Beau sees running around the city streets. Overnight before his flight, Beau's sleep is disturbed by an increasing number of menacing notes slipped under his door complaining about loud music he never

Beau misses his flight, much to his mother's chilly disappointment. He then gets some fateful news.

More mishaps thwart his trip. Beau gets rundown by an SUV driven by Roger, a renowned doctor (Nathan Lane) and his wife Grace (Amy Ryan). They feel compelled to nurse Beau in their own home. But their teen daughter Toni (Kylie Rogers) deeply resents Beau occupying her room. Beau finds himself playing surrogate for their deceased serviceman son, furthering his angst and Toni's jealousy. Terrified, Beau runs away.

Aster ramps up themes of guilt and urban paranoia recalling titles like "Eraserhead," "A Serious Man," and "The Tenant" among many others where the

hapless protagonist is visited upon by misery after misery, interlaced with surrealism, symbolism, absurdity, dark comedy, and irony.

The film's centerpiece is an overlong hallucinatory episode as Beau lives out a play staged by some forest-dwelling thespians that oddly reflects his own life.

Rumpled and near catatonic from his odyssey, Beau finally arrives at his mother's ritzy, imposing home. An attractive woman turns up, (Parker

Posey) who was his girlfriend in early adolescence. She initiates sex which terrifies Beau since he believes he'll die upon orgasm like his dad, according to untruthful mommy. Patti LuPone then imposes her possessive, domineering, and diabolical motherly will.

The film is about relationships rattled by the attendant baggage of guilt, disappointment, fear. At a three-hour running time, the movie is darkly funny, imaginative, detailed, and provocative with a whatthe-heck ending. What is the point? 'Don't worry about figuring it out,' says Aster. 'It's part of the gag.'

One can admire Aster's ambitious, confounding vision. Embracing it is another matter. Just don't feel guilty about it.





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GERALDTON - SATURDAY, MAY 27 Geraldton Community Centre

NIPIGON - SUNDAY, MAY 28 Nipigon Community Centre



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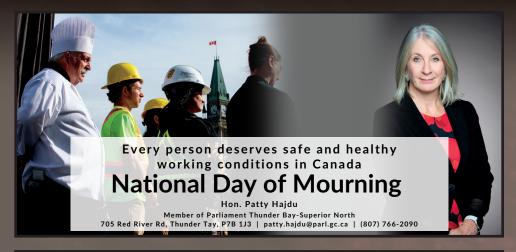
Alzheimer Society

NEWS

Visit **TBnewswatch.com** Thursday, April 27, 2023



THE NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING IN CANADA IS A DAY TO REMEMBER AND HONOUR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED, BEEN INJURED OR SUFFERED ILLNESS IN THE WORKPLACE.



National Day of Mourning Friday~April 28~2023

Ceremony to be held at
First Wesley United Church
5:30pm
130 N Brodie Street, Thunder Bay

Speakers, Laying of the Roses

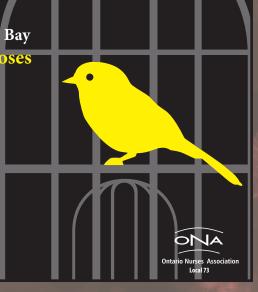
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STRONG LANGUAGE & MATURE CONTENT

Thursday, April 27, 2023

Stars stun Walleye

Edison Weeks scores OT winner, Thunder Bay up 2-0 in SIJHL final

By Leith Dunick -TB Source

Rob DeGagne says he'll take will over skill every day of the week.

It's a good thing Edison Weeks has plenty of both.

The Alberta native scored the biggest goal of his junior hockey career on Monday night, corralling a loose puck at the feet of Kam River Fighting Walleye goaltender Eric Vanska and backhanding it into the net 7:43 into the first overtime period to give the Thunder Bay North Stars a 3-2 win and a commanding 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven Superior International Junior Hockey League final.

It was the second goal of the night for Weeks, his fourth in two games, the North Stars stunning the top-ranked Fighting Walleye for a second straight night on the road, with a chance to head back to Fort William Gardens to potentially close out the series on home ice.

"We've been preaching going to the net all day and (Colby) Feist went to the net pretty hard there. I saw a little bit of an opening and started swinging at the puck, and was happy it went in," Weeks said. "It was pretty electric and I saw some North Stars fans in the crowd, so the boys headed over there to celebrate with them. We really appreciate the support all year.

"Just to get a gritty one like that, going into our third game, everybody's buzzing right now."

The North Stars were 72 seconds away from winning the game in regulation, but lost a faceoff deep in their own end and the puck wound up on the stick of SIJHL defenceman-of-the-year Jack Cook, who blistered a shot from the far side of the right faceoff circle at Norwest Arena, the puck shooting through the pads of Thunder Bay goaltender Keenan Marks



Edison Weeks has seven playoff goals, including four in two games in the SIJHL championship.

Marks, who finished with 47 saves on the night, said he forgot about the goal in

"It was all right after that, nothing crazy," said Marks, after leading the Stars to their fifth straight playoff victory.

"I just skated to the corner and went right back in net."

That's the type of mentality DeGagne was looking for from his team, who could have folded up the tent after giving up the equalizer in the final two minutes.

"Truthfully, it's a learning lesson for these guys. They have to learn how to win. They could have just quit after that goal went in, but you can't quit. They've got to where they have so far because they've worked. Really, it's not their skill, it's not their talent, it's because of work," DeGagne said.

The North Stars never trailed in the

contest, taking the lead just 3:35 into the opening faceoff when Weeks beat Vanska for the only goal of the opening

Anthony Oviedo evened things up 5:07 into the second, firing the puck along the ice and between Marks' pads.

The game remained tied for just over nine minutes, when Thunder Bay captain Matthew Halushak's shot from the top of the circle eluded Vanska.

The good news is the Fighting Walleye did look dominant at times, outshooting the Stars 21-8 in the second. The bad news is the team is down two games and looking to avoid another championship round upset, after last year's loss.

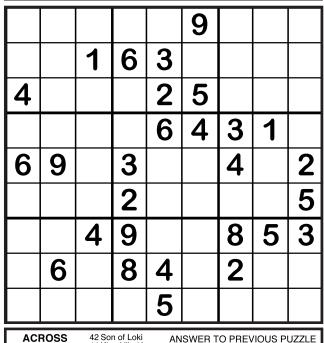
"We are in a hole. It's just going to be one game at a time from here on in and I'm very confident that if we bring that, in the Gardens, we'll be successful."

Game 3 is Thursday night at 8 p.m.

CRYPTOGRAM

"VBKFWFRR TR OUF SFMP YMW'R TYTOMOTLW LJ ROVFWAOU."

- FVTH ULJJFV





- Aryan City in Judah Sheep's cry 12 Air (pref.)
- 13 Tiber tributary 14 Abdominal (abbr.) 15 Killer of Casto
- 16 Musical composition
- 20 Decorated wall
- part 21 Book 23 Recoil
- 26 Social affair 29 Drunkard 31 Force
- 32 Noun-forming (suf.) 33 Bath sponge
- 35 Hindu title 36 National (abbr.) 38 Eight furlongs
- 39 Tennis term 40 Aluminum-

- 42 Son of Loki 44 King killed by 46 Over there
- 50 Gomuti (2 words) 53 Love of Radames
- 54 Guido's note (2 words) 55 Lower intestine 56 Music character
- 57 Mulberry of India 58 John, Irish
- 59 Cant

DOWN Levantine ketch

- Mother of Castor Russ, inland
- Inflict
- Praise New (pref.)
- Ger. theologian Bird Female noble 10 Dance
- company 11 Commotion 17 Redact 19 Hood
- (abbr.) 37 Lake (Ital.) 41 Stone 43 Legislate 45 Inclement

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weather 47 Port. Timor's capital 48 Noble (Ger.) 49 Float

24 Anxiety 25 Discharge

26 Care for 27 Son of Rebecca

28 Convex molding

30 Laic (2 words)

34 Aeronautical

50 Flood 51 Axilla 52 Field



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Visit TBnewswatch.com Thursday, April 27, 2023

OCN Storm win Junior B title

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Chavez Constant says he's been chasing a championship for 10 years. It finally arrived on Sunday after-

Constant, captain of the OCN Storm, scored what proved to be the game-winning goal, early in the third period, to help power his team to a 6-3 win over the Schreiber Falcons in the finale of the Central Canada Cup, a matinee affair contested at the Thunder Bay Tournament

"It's unbelievable. I haven't accepted one of these in a long while," said Constant, who hails from the team's home community, Opaskwayak Cree Nation in Manitoba.

"This one feels great, to be my last vear. It's unbelievable."

Hoisting the trophy came the hard way. The Storm, who won their regular season title, only to fall to the Peguis Iuniors in the Keystone Junior Hockey League championship, only managed a single point in the four-team round-robin portion of the Central Canada Cup, the Junior B tournament for teams from Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario, formerly known as the Keystone Cup.

But the Storm exacted a measure of revenge on Saturday, knocking off Peguis 7-1 in semifinal play, earning them a date with the Storm, who edged the Thunder Bay Northern Hawks 4-3 in the other semifinal.

"The boys finally bought into a game plan and we stuck with it. We have a great group of guys, mostly from OCN and The Pas. A lot of these guys grew up together, and



The OCN Storm doubled up Schreiber 6-3 on Sunday to win their first Central Canada Cup.

they battled for each other," Constant said.

OCN opened the scoring in the first, Ezekiel Kirkness jumping on a loose puck at the feet of Schreiber goaltender Andrew Kreis, the goal

coming at the 4:35 mark.

The Falcons tied it up seven minutes later when Tyler Kinisky took a 2-on-1 pass from Owen Keene and ripped it past Storm goaltender Nolan Sinclair, Jr.

The lead stood for less than three minutes, Ron Campbell sneaking the puck past Kreis off the draw for a 2-1 OCN advantage, a lead they'd stretch to two 34 seconds later, the Storm up two men after the Falcons were assessed a pair of minors, seven seconds apart.

Milan Constant grabbed the puck just inside the Schreiber blueline and laced a shot through traffic that eluded Kreis.

Schreiber got one back with 61 seconds to go in the second, however, OCN was quick to respond to open the third, Chavez Constant blasting the puck from the left faceoff circle, over Kreis' right shoulder to extend the lead to 4-2.

They'd add two goals late, sandwiched around a Noah Francis tally that cut the OCN advantage to 5-3 in the final minute of play.

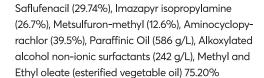
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ANNUAL VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Every year, CN is required to clear its right-of-way of any vegetation that may pose a safety hazard. Vegetation on railway right-of-way, if left uncontrolled, can contribute to trackside fires, and impair proper inspection of track infrastructure. The spray program is not being done for aesthetic reasons.

For safe railway operations, CN will conduct its annual spray program on its rail lines in the province of Ontario. A certified professional will be applying herbicides on and around the railway tracks (primarily along the 16 - 24 feet graveled area/ballast). All product requirements for setbacks in the vicinity of dwellings, aquatic environments and municipal water supplies will be met.

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CN only uses herbicides that have been approved for use in Canada and in the province within which they are applied.

The program is expected to take place from May to October 2023.

Visit www.cn.ca/vegetation to see the list of cities as well as the updated schedule.

For more information, contact the CN Public Inquiry Line at contact@cn.ca or 1-888-888-5909.

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42. South

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46. Health

47. Travel

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50. Personal

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52. Tenders

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54. Home Improvements

55. Bus. Opportunities 56. Training Courses

EMPLOYMENT

57. Help Wanted

49. Lost & Found

40. Current River

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- 19. Wanted
- 20. Condos 21. Miscellaneous

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- 22. Bargain corner
- 58. Careers 23. Misc. 24.Antiques 59. Child
- 25. Music 60. Health Care

 - 61. Employment Wanted

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64. Craft & Flea Markets

63. Coming Events

66. Cards of Thanks

67. In Memoriam

68. Death/Funerals

65. Happy Ads

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- 30. Misc. Wanted

26. Office Equip.

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- 34. Motorcycles/ATV's
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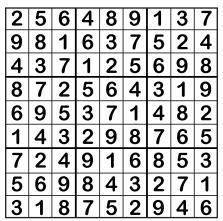
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