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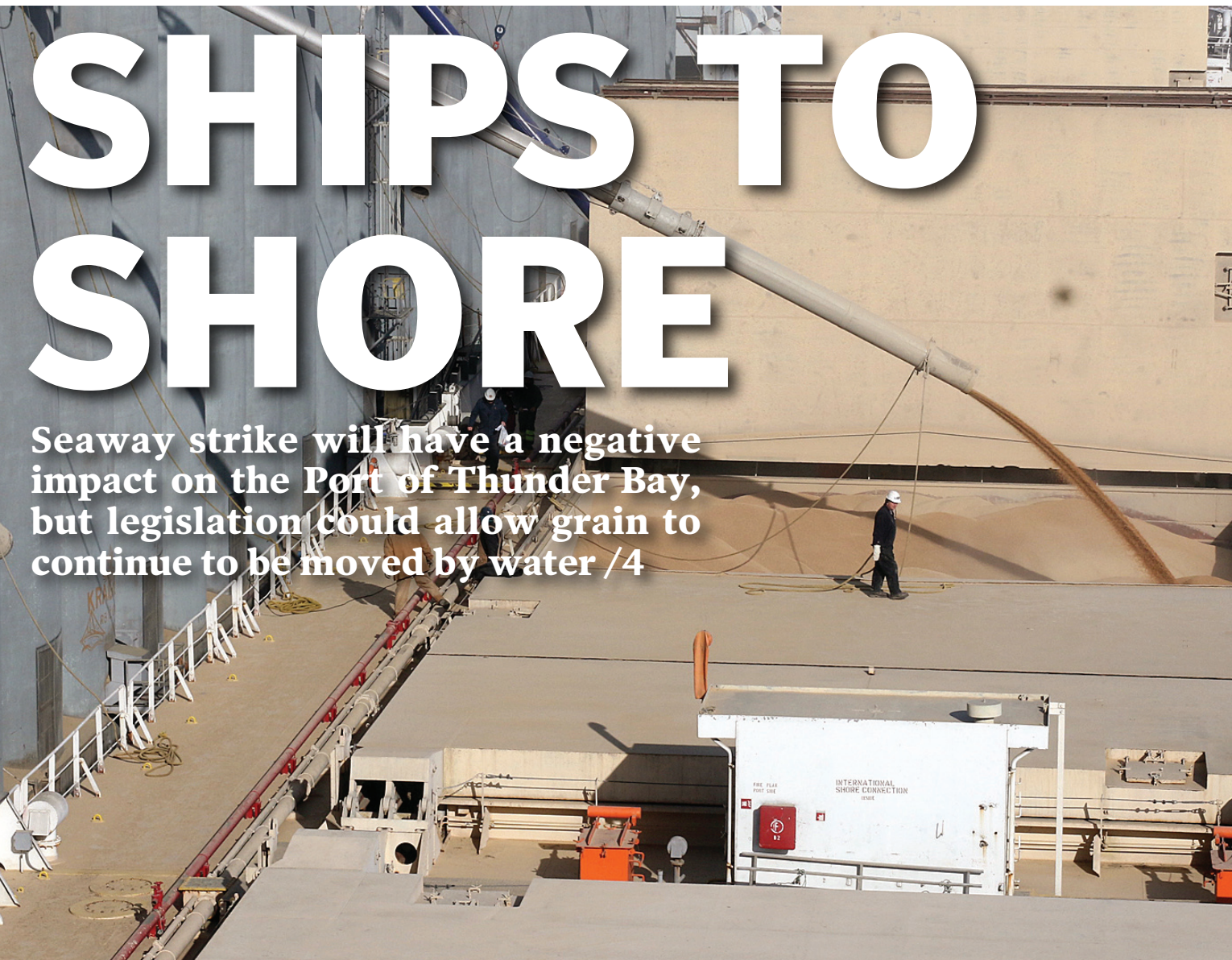
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Thursday, October 26, 2023

# SHIPS TO SHORE



Seaway strike will have a negative impact on the Port of Thunder Bay, but legislation could allow grain to continue to be moved by water /4

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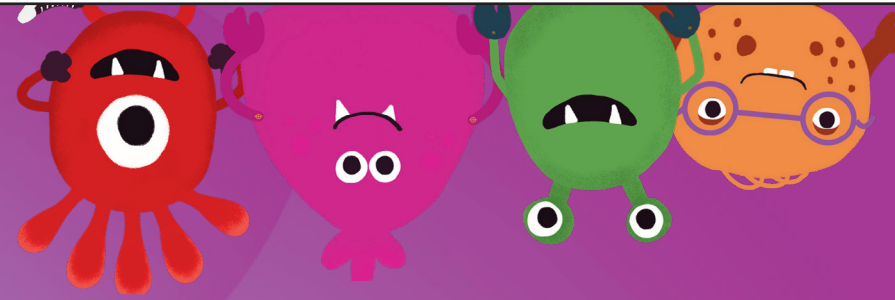
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Hundreds of St. Lawrence Seaway workers walked off the job this past Sunday, and local port officials said a prolonged strike will affect the Port of Thunder Bay. (FILE)



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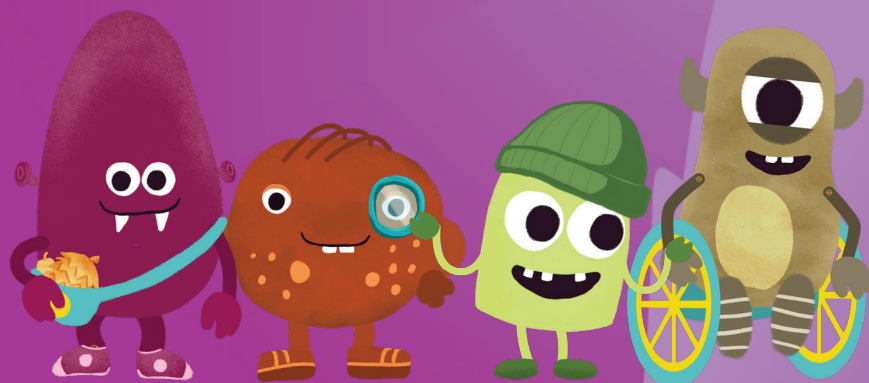
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# City sets 2031 housing target

## Move will grant Boshcoff strong mayor powers

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

Thunder Bay's city council has approved an ambitious housing pledge, committing to see 2,200 new housing units built by 2031 - even after learning the commitment isn't needed to be eligible for millions in provincial funding.

City staff advised council they'd received a letter from Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Paul Calandra just hours earlier on Monday indicating council's approval of the pledge is not needed to access the three-year, \$1.2-billion "Building Faster Fund," which can be used to incentivize housing.

The Ford government now says Mayor Ken Boshcoff's endorsement of the target, made along with his request last month for "strong mayor" powers, would be sufficient.

The development was the latest in a provincial process that's meant to push cities to do more to support housing growth, but has also frustrated many municipal leaders over unclear and changing details and the connection to the new mayoral powers.

The province announced the Building Faster Fund this year as part of efforts to see 1.5 million new housing units built in the face of limited supply that has fuelled surging home prices.

### Thought it was tied to funding

The city previously believed it had to submit a council-approved pledge to meet its 2,200-unit target by Dec. 15 to be eligible for funding.

Meeting the target by 2031 would require the pace of local home construction to pick up by over 60 per cent compared with the past five years.

Leaders including Boshcoff have argued a regional mining boom could put the target within reach, while others have suggested it may be unachievable.

"I really want to affirm to the public now that this is real - this is not any kind of sales pitch," Boshcoff said Monday. "I think this council was elected at the right time to be part of a very strong resurgence of our community."

Director of development services Joel DePeuter reported encouraging progress Monday, telling council the city has awarded building permits for 280 units so far in 2023, well above the five-year average of 175 and on track to exceed this year's provincial target.

He has previously cautioned this year's housing numbers have been boosted by an



Mayor Ken Boshcoff is eligible for strong mayor powers.

"unusual" 50-unit apartment, but nonetheless expressed optimism they're part of an upward trend.

Staff estimate the city would be in line for somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$587,000 per year over three years if it achieves the target, and could receive more for exceeding it.

That's pocket change compared to the funding the city hopes could be available through the federal housing accelerator, city leaders noted.





"I'm struggling a bit with my own expectations of this," said Coun. Andrew Foulds of the provincial program. "The reality is we're only potentially eligible for just south of \$600,000 [a year]. That's not building any new roads. I'll take it, but how is this going to get more houses built?"

The city will consider creating financial incentives for additional units and affordable builds using the funds, said DePeuter.

The province tied its housing targets for cities to the controversial imposition of "strong mayor" powers, which Boshcoff requested last month, and is set to receive as of Oct. 31.

That will grant him sweeping authority to hire and fire city staff, propose the city budget, and in some cases pass or veto bylaws with the support of just one third of council.

## WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			
<b>Rain</b>	<b>Rain</b>	<b>Partly Cloudy</b>	<b>Partly Cloudy</b>
Precipitation: <b>40%</b> HIGH 7 LOW 4	Precipitation: <b>80%</b> HIGH 7 LOW 0	Precipitation: <b>30%</b> HIGH 5 LOW 0	Precipitation: <b>30%</b> HIGH 3 LOW -3

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# Seaway strike has a negative impact

By Kevin Jeffrey – Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Vessels that typically come to Thunder Bay are on standby.

It's a residual effect as the St. Lawrence Seaway, which has work sites in Ontario and Quebec, shut down Sunday as a result of hundreds of workers walking off the job.

Port of Thunder Bay CEO Chris Heikkinen says there is a negative impact on the port for everyday that the strike carries on.

"The grain elevators would be ceasing up to load vessels as those vessels dry up in the system," Heikkinen said. "There is a provision in the Canada Labour Code, and I know that [there has been action to apply to] the Canada Industrial Relations Board to seek a ruling on continuing the movement of grain. But we haven't heard the results of that ruling yet."

The Canada Labour Code states that grain shipments through licensed terminals must continue during a work stoppage.

The ruling efforts were filed on Sunday by the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation to the Canada Industrial Relations Board to ensure that grain can continue to move through the Seaway.

On Monday, the Ontario Marine Council called on the federal government to take action to end the strike, saying there are 100 vessels directly affected by the job action with an economic cost of millions of dollars per hour.

The Unifor union represents approximately 360 workers across five local chapters in both provinces.

"Every day that the strike continues is damaging for the system, but also for our Western Canadian counterparts who are producing grain and other commodities," Heikkinen added. They rely on the seaway for shipping. [Needless to say, the longer this drags on] the impact will get worse."

The union states that they remain "1,000 nautical miles apart" from management on wages, and that it was up to the employer to avoid any transit disruption.



Ships using the St. Lawrence Seaway could be impacted by workers walking off the job, depending on their cargo. (FILE)

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Russel Brayden Moonias, 25, is facing first-degree murder charges after a 24-year-old Toronto man was murdered.

# Man in custody in Ogden killing

By Matt Vis – TB Source

A 25-year-old has been charged with first-degree murder in the shooting death of a Toronto man earlier this month.

The suspect, Russel Brayden Moonias of Thunder Bay, was identified and arrested last Thursday as a result of the investigation into the homicide at a home in the 300 block of Ogden Street, the Thunder Bay Police Service announced in a Friday news release.

Also last Friday, police named the victim as Abdullahi Mohamed Ali, a 24-year-old from Toronto.

The victim was found dead in the home on Sunday afternoon after police received a call indicating a possible death.

Police believe the killing took place between 8 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 14 and 6 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 15.

Police have said evidence established the case as a shooting connected to the

illegal drug trade, but offered few further details in a media availability Friday.

Det.-Inspector Jeremy Pearson indicated the force is not currently seeking further suspects in connection with Ali's death, while adding the service is always open to new information.

While affirming ties to the drug trade, Pearson said there was no indication the killing was gang-related.

"The specific relationship between the two individuals, at this point, is evolving – that's something that is still subject to the investigation," he said. "The interaction, however, has its roots, in our belief, in the illicit drug trade, and that's what led to their interaction and this homicide."

The investigation continues while officers liaise with forensic scientists, Pearson said.

Moonias appeared in court last Friday.

The charge has yet to be tested in court.

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EDITORIAL

## Kids are OK

Ongoing protests by a small group of people demanding that society 'Save Our Kids' seems completely misguided.

Our kids don't need saving.

Our kids need to be loved and accepted for who they are, not told they have to conform to the identities set for them by others.

Too often these days adults think they need to swoop in and try to change who their children are, or force a belief system on everyone, despite the harm and damage that might be exacted on these same children as a result.

The Bible teaches its followers not to judge others, or they'll face judgment themselves.

It's a concept many have chosen to ignore, instead determined to keep their kids in the dark.

Children are smart. They know when they're different, and deserve the love and support of their families and being allowed to be who they are.

They also deserve support in schools, without the fear of being outed to parents who might not be as forgiving and loving. Give kids the benefit of the doubt on this one. You might be pleasantly surprised.

## Support the War Amps To the editor:

I lost my right arm on October 18, 1944, while serving with the Loyal Edmonton Regiment in Italy. I was staked at a farmhouse that had a children's treehouse located nearby.

In the treehouse was a sniper who kept shooting at our boys. A tank then came which shot out shells, the shrapnel hitting my right arm.

When I returned home from the war, I joined The War Amps and have been a member ever since.

This Association was started by First World War amputee veterans to help each other adapt to their new reality as amputees.

Having just recently turned 100, I am reflecting this Remembrance Day upon all those who served in my regiment and never returned home. Their absence weighs on me and it is essential that we keep their memory alive.

I take comfort in knowing that The War Amps and its young members will continue to keep spreading the message long into

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



the future.

The sacrifices of those who served (and continue to serve) deserve to be remembered and honoured. Each Remembrance

Day serves as a poignant reminder of the tremendous price paid by these brave individuals. Their selflessness and courage continue to resonate,

and it is our duty to ensure that their legacy endures.

Lloyd Brown,  
Edmonton

# Study for Obedience up for 2023 Booker Prize

*Study for Obedience*, Sarah Bernstein's second novel, has been shortlisted for the 2023 Booker Prize. The narrator - really the only voice in the novella - is a young woman who works intermittently as an audio-typist and is more comfortable with the written word than in speech.

She is invited - summoned really - by her oldest brother to his house in the country overlooking a town in the plain below. He is, it seems, a successful businessman, though what his business is never becomes clear. He will go away for some months and when he returns appears to be diminished and mentally disturbed.

The house is in high country and

seems to have been inhabited by their forebears, later persecuted and killed. Nothing is made clear for at first the narrator writes as if she knows little, even nothing about them.

One assumes from the first that they were Jews, and indeed the narrator confirms this when she says she had been a disappointment to her parents and teachers because of her refusal 'to say bracha over our classroom Sabbath ceremonies'. This is presumably why she is sure she is regarded with hostile suspicion when she ventures into the town,

though this may all be in her vivid and defensive habit of mind.

Indeed, she often says what a disappointment and failure she has been. Yet at the same time her self-absorption indicates a certain complacency. People who parade their thoughts, speaking of their inability to connect to others, as she connects to nobody but her brother, are usually in thrall to their egotism.

There is always some self-satisfaction in assertions of insufficiency.

Nor is the narrator lacking in

self-pity: 'as a child I had the right answers and wanted to give them. And because of this the teachers found a way to put me in my place, to ensure I was humiliated before my peers.'

There is much to admire in this short novel: much fine and evocative descriptive writing, many interesting and intelligent observations. So, for instance, writing of her brother, the narrator says: 'For a man whose commitment to his own interests was so very serious, it must be, I reflected, no small thing to throw off the yoke of one's history. He had done very well for himself in that regard.'

And yet, while enjoying and admiring many passages, I find

myself repeatedly asking 'what is it all about?' and finding no satisfying answer. There are fine things in abundance here, for Bernstein is a very gifted and intelligent writer. For example, I like the way she creates a series of strange happenings - collective bovine hysteria, the demise of a ewe and her newly born lamb, a local dog's phantom pregnancy, a potato blight.

Yet I find myself sighing, 'where's the plot?' Where indeed is the story, for a novel can do without a plot, at least without much of one, but it can't really do without a story - and I never found myself asking 'what happens next?'



**John Pateman**  
BOOK BANTER

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# Lack of sleep comes with price

By JR Shermack - For TB Source

Earth is a sleepy planet. A global survey across 12 countries revealed a sleep deprivation epidemic affecting both developed and developing countries and with far-reaching impact.

If you have something important going on in the morning or if tomorrow is going to be a big day most people would advise you to get a good night's sleep.

Whether you have a big meeting or a big game, when you are facing a deadline or just another long and challenging work day, things tend to turn out better for those who get enough sleep.

Sometimes this is easier said than done - maintaining a balance between work demands, family life, leisure and recreational activities may be difficult due to time constraints.

And when we feel time pressure one of the ways we cope is to cut back on the amount of sleep we get every night.

When there just doesn't seem to be enough hours in the day we often steal the extra time from our overnight slumber and spend less time sleeping, referred to as a sleep deficit.

We rationalize by planning to catch up on our sleep later but it takes four days to fully recover from one hour of lost sleep - if the sleep deficit gets too high you can never recuperate.

Genetic and biological factors contribute to sleep loss but our technical, industrial lifestyle also has a negative impact on the sleep we need.

For example, the advent of electric lighting has allowed us to light up the night, disrupting the natural sleep/wake cycle (circadian rhythm) that tells us when to be awake or sleepy.

Studies have shown that blue light in particular is the most troublesome - unfortunately, blue light is emitted from the computers, tablets, smartphones and TV's that we love to use.

And while we can choose to switch off our devices, it is more difficult to turn off the internal pressure, stress and anxiety that keeps us awake and jittery all night.

Technology enables us to work anywhere, anytime, twenty-four hours a day, even across time zones and around the world - the line between work and rest has become blurred.

Cultural factors also play a role - over

time there has been a wider acceptance, even glorification, of sleeping less in order to work or play harder.

The term "workaholic" was coined in the 1970s and in 2023 it is often used as a compliment to describe ambitious people.

But it is not a free ride.

Research has shown that the number of people suffering from insomnia increased during covid 19 and worldwide rates remain higher than before the pandemic.

The added stressors of depression, social isolation and loneliness contributed to psychological stress and disrupted sleep patterns among the general population.

Many Canadians experience occasional sleepless nights, which is perfectly normal but it is estimated that 30 per cent are suffering from insomnia, trouble falling and staying asleep.

Fashion model Tyra Banks once stated that the most important item in your make-up kit is a good night's sleep.

In my younger days one of the boxes on my report card was "appears well rested" - since my bedtime in those days was 7:30 p.m. I suspect I was getting plenty of sleep.

Do we ever gain back the hours of sleep we lose?



The night sky is often artificially lit up. (NASA photo)

what's happening  
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## The Bay

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### October 27-29

#### SIJHL Hockey

The Thunder Bay North Stars, coming off four straight wins, will host the Sioux Lookout Bombers (9-0-1), a team that's yet to lose in regulation, in a weekend tripleheader.

The Superior International Junior Hockey League teams will clash on Friday and Saturday nights at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday afternoon at 1:30 p.m.

Tickets are available at the door, cash only.

### October 29

#### Simply Spice

Simply Spice is made up of five talented performers whose love of everything Spice led them to the creation of this incredible tribute.

The World wasn't ready for the Spice Girls to disband, and that is why Simply Spice has meticulously recreated a show so meticulously you will think you have time traveled back to

the '90s. Custom-made costumes (and multiple changes), perfect character embodiment and virtually identical dance moves are what make this band the one to book.

Catch them on Sunday at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium.

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

### October 28

#### The Hunger

It's time to get ready for The Hunger 16: Halloween Festival Event on Saturday, Oct. 28. The fun takes place at nine different venues and stages and features 50 music/performance acts, including 35 bands/DJs.

This one promises to be the best downtown-wide music and performance showcase and party ever.

Invite your favourite people, find a costume, and get ready for fun. This is Halloween.

### October 28-29

#### Thunder on Rails

The Thunder on Rails Model Railroad show takes place on Saturday and Sunday at the West Thunder Community Centre at 915 Edward St.

Admission is \$2 for adults, \$5 for a family and kids under 12 are free, when accompanied by an adult.

Proceeds will be donated to the Thunder Bay Metro Lions Club.

Doors open at 10 a.m. both days.

### October 30

#### SGBC Quiz Night

Think you know a lot about trivia? It's time to put your brain to the test, at the Sleeping Giant Brewery.

Join them in the taproom on Mondays this fall for general knowledge quiz nights. Random questions - no theme.

Join as a team or an individual and win great prizes. No registration fee - it's free to participate. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. The Quiz begins at 7 p.m.



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The Hunger, put on by Definitely Superior Art Gallery, is back for its 16th year on Saturday night. (Supplied photo)

# Hunger returns

By Linda Maehans – For TB Source

Dear witches and warlocks, and all other-worldly creatures divine: heed my call!

The full-moon's o'er head, so do take flight, and fast into Halloween Hunger on this luminous Night! (by Count D.)

Count D. You know, that impressive dude from Transylvania?

Yes. And thus, feasting our eyes, ears and senses on this wondrous Night, we say 3-2-1, let's jam! (signed, all 265 performers of The Hunger 2023.)

There you have it. Everything you need to know before Definitely Superior's spectacular Halloween event The Hunger swirls you into an unforgettable night-of-nights. This year the huge extravaganza that is The Hunger (16th annual) happens on Saturday, Oct.28, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. throughout the north core waterfront district. And, check the calendar, it's a full-moon. Only thing left to do, the only thing you can do, really, is decide on your costume; then head out for one helluva devilicious time!

Here's the lowdown: 9 venues; 50 acts; 35 live bands/DJ's; 265 performers; \$20 cover; 19+. A wristband pass, map and details/times of all performances (at any venue). Thousands in costume prizes at all locations; also along the streets. The Hunger After-Party continues from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m. (at Atmos); separate cover; photo ID at the door.

This year's venues: The Foundry; Black Pirates Pub; The Paramount (Level/Stage 1); Paramount (Level/Stage 2); The Sovereign Room; Nortenos Cantina; Port Arthur Legion Branch 5; Red Lion Smokehouse; Atmos.

Actually, The Hunger is much more than a gigantic Halloween bash organized by Definitely Superior Art here in the Lakehead. As DefSup's director David Karasiewicz notes,

"this year's fundraiser, our Phase 2 will go toward transitions to our new industrial gallery spaces (formerly Cumberland Cinema 5), and as ever, support for all multi-disciplinary contemporary arts here in the city and region; including our New Generation Youth programming. A fresh and exciting direction involving production, recording, and possibly tour funding for emerging musicians and bands."

It's been nothing but an undaunted forward glide for Definitely Superior. Did you know this leading-edge arts-collective, after numerous nominations, became (in 2013) the laureate winner of the Premiers Award for Excellence in the Arts in Ontario? It is the only arts organization beyond southern Ontario to ever claim such an honour since its inception in 1988. DefSup is also recognized by Canada's Council for Business and the Arts and the Ministry of Culture. It is a non-profit, non-commercial enterprise.

Okay. Back to the feast-at-hand; and a few tidbits to whet your appetite. Bands the likes of Wrong Odds (punk/rock); Forever Dead (classic-cult); Hopeless Ghost (indie rock); Stardrop (pop, R & B); Yung Shalack (hip-hop); Olivia Korkola (international sparkler-musician on fiddle). Or how 'bout show-stopping, death-defying aerial silk performances; eye-popping drag kings & queens; smoothly choreographed glow hooping/flow dancers; or fire-eaters. Are you feeling hungry already?

"Oh what a lovely, lovely day...I'm sooo hungry", croons Count D. as he flexes his wings and impatiently waits for Saturday's sunset and this night-of-nights to begin.

The Hunger 2023: see you there, if you dare and... let's party!



# Film captures ugly U.S. past

*Killers of the Flower Moon* (SilverCity) unearths an ugly chapter in American history, masterfully delivered with gut punch effect by director Martin Scorsese.

Based on David Grann's 2017 book, *Killers* is a true story. The film is set in 1920s, Oklahoma. The displaced Osage Nation has discovered that the barren land assigned to them is actually teeming with oil, suddenly making them among the richest people per capita in the world, attracting white vultures.

To supposedly safeguard their fortunes, the U.S. appoints "guardians" invariably white and unscrupulous.

Robert De Niro plays William "King" Hale a wealthy rancher who has designs on the Osage riches. He positions himself as their patron, speaking their language, posing as fatherly local benefactor.

Leonardo DiCaprio is Ernest Burkhart, King's nephew, freshly back from WWI. King gives him a job as a driver, but more importantly, coaxes his dim nephew into marrying into the Osage tribe. Ernest is already interested in the slightly cynical, but smitten Mollie (Lily Gladstone). Their marriage allows King to put his hooks into Mollie's family fortunes, a devious master plan.

Despite cynicism surrounding Ernest's intentions, Mollie places her faith in him.

However, Osage members are being murdered including Mollie's sisters. The corrupt local police are incapable of nailing perpetrators. Women are stricken by the "wasting illness."

Suicide is another suspicious cause.

The genocide is astonishingly blatant and methodical. White men

investigating the case are also murdered. The KKK is present in the town. The Tulsa race massacre of 1921 occurs just miles away. White threat is omnipresent.

A murderous explosion prompts the interest of the new Bureau of Investigation led by dogged Jess Plemons.

Scorsese, along with co-writer Eric Roth, intertwines his favourite themes—money, greed, corruption—with Mollie, Ernest and Hale. Gone is the suspense element from the book. Scorsese's meeting with the Osage people changed his outlook for the movie.

This makes the story more personal. DeNiro has villainy down pat, from faux paternalistic beneficence to calculated, cold-blooded



Leonard DiCaprio and Lily Gladstone.

manipulation. He doesn't think he's doing anything wrong.

DiCaprio evolves from petty thievery to a tormented henchman torn by familial loyalty, somehow compartmentalizing his awful misdeeds. His motives towards Mollie are twisted. His hangdog expression reflects dawning awareness of his grim prospects.

Lily Gladstone is a serene, aware, dignified presence. She hires private investigators and visits President Coolidge in Washington, beseeching his help. Yet, she still loves someone who ultimately means her harm.

The supporting cast is first-rate, including Canada's Tantoo Cardinal and Gary Basaraba. Many Osage are behind and in front of the camera.

The late Robbie Robertson's soundtrack is a simmering sinister dirge. The cinematography, editing and production design are also superb.

The movie runs at three hours, 26 minutes but every moment is absorbing. There are definitely nebulous areas, but at the very least is an epic, sobering, slow-burn explosion into evil lurking within the human heart.



Marty Mascarini  
MOVIE TALK

# Local writer recognized

By Gary Rinne - TB Source

A city man who got hooked on science fiction in Grade 6 is looking to an international writing competition to advance his career.

Because the piece he submitted was chosen as a finalist in the Writers of the Future competition, Lance Robinson gets some cash and a trip to Hollywood next April for a week-long workshop with top writers in the field of speculative fiction.

His story will also be published in the next edition of the international bestselling anthology L. Ron Hubbard Presents Writers of the Future.

Robinson's day job has him working in Thunder Bay as a government scientist in the field of forest ecosystem research.

But he said he showed an interest in writing as a child, started to get more serious about it as he was entering university, and had some stories published in small magazines.

"Eventually, life happened, and I got busy, had a lull in having any stories accepted, and family, job and all that kind of stuff. I kind of set the creative writing aside for a long time, a couple of decades almost."

After living in Kenya for awhile, the Saskatchewan-born man moved back to Canada in 2019 and decided it was time to get back to the keyboard.

"So I did, and I try to take it quite seriously, and I've been having some success. I've got a story coming out soon in a very well-known science fiction magazine...I'm mostly working on short fiction right now, and I've got some ideas for some novels."

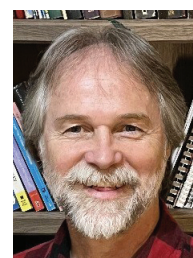
This is the 40th year for the competition founded by Hubbard, a novelist who also founded the controversial Church of Scientology.

Robinson was careful to research how the contest is run, and determined that the direct connections with scientology are minimal.

"The winners over the years have been people who've got no connection with scientology, and some of them have gone on to successful careers as professional authors," he said, adding judges each year are not affiliated with the church.

For winning the quarterly contest, Robinson gets an expense-paid trip to California and a modest \$1,000 US.

There's more cash available to the winner of the final competition in the spring - \$5,000 - but he's focused more on the long-term.



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# Critters are prowling around

Well it is that time of year again, time when we see more 'schmucked' animals, recent road kill on the roads – skunks, the occasional porcupine, and now, more often, raccoons.

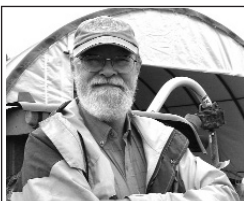
The "Pepis" (from Warner Bros. cartoons "Pepi Le Pew") are on the move. I've been told that they are attempting to locate winter quarters. Raccoons? No idea but both critters are nocturnal and darn hard to see when driving the highways and rural roads.

Last Saturday night we were returning from town wherein we had taken our newest pup-on-the-farm for some obedience training. We were driving on highway 608 heading home when suddenly our vehicle headlights picked out a racoon in the middle of the road. I managed to swerve and only just avoid running the 'furry' over.

Thank goodness there was no on-coming vehicle as I had to drive into the other lane.

I have seen a couple of unfortunate striped-tailed 'furrries' lying dead by the side of the highway, probably hit and then someone had stopped, got out of their vehicle, and moved the corpse onto the soft shoulder. Raccoons are a

fairly recent import having invaded this part of the province about 10 years ago (I think...). They are not native here but probably hitched rides on grain trains (again, so I have been told). I remember driving up Mile Hill, that stretch of highway in our township that becomes a steep hill almost one mile long.



**Fred Jones**  
RURAL ROOTS

I came around one of the corners only to see a car stopped by the side of the road and three young adults waving at me to stop. In the middle of the road was a batch of very young raccoons. Where was Mum? Probably off to the side hidden. The humans were attempting to gently usher the youngster raccoons over to the side of the road hoping that 'Mum' would corral them to some safe place.

My daughter, Beth, and I were motoring to town for a shopping expedition when we saw a dead racoon off to the side of the highway. Some motorist had duly moved the 'schmucked' Rocky (as in Rocky Raccoon) to the soft shoulder.

I was telling Beth that raccoons were a recent 'import' probably from southern Ontario when she ventured: "Shouldn't we worry about

rabies now that they are here?"

Rabies came from the Arctic but somehow passed by Northwestern Ontario spreading to the west of us and to the east. Even though we annually get the vet to inoculate both equines and dogs with rabies shots, I believe there has been no recorded instance of rabies here. Just so happened that our horse vet was visiting our barn and I asked him if rabies was now a concern here since the racoons had appeared. "No," he replied, "I've not heard of any rabies cases here. Besides, the main carrier of rabies are bats." Whew! Good to know that the now resident racoons and our foxes are not subject to rabies.

Of course, you usually see the dead skunk on the road first and then you smell it. Again, I was driving up Mile Hill but during the day last week when I rounded the corner to come face with a 'Pepi' that was crossing the road.

I stopped; it stopped; it raised its tail in that classic defensive position ready to 'fire away' if need be. I waited and Pepi slowly continued its trek. I slowly inched the car forward, stopping any time Pepi turned towards me. Eventually it realized that I wasn't a threat or more likely that the car wasn't going to do it in, so it scampered over the soft shoulder and into

the bush.

And suicide squirrels?

Well, many times when driving, suddenly a red squirrel will dash across the road right in front of me. To the best of my knowledge when looking in the rear-view mirror, I've managed to avoid killing them. But the nagging question is why?

Do the squirrels just wait for some approaching vehicle and then take their chances of dashing across the road without getting flattened? Are there other squirrels watching and this is their version of playing "chicken"? Do they keep count of their successes and get awards from their fellows at some squirrel banquet?

And the gold? Looking out the south window of Casa Jones towards the back of the main paddock and you will see all of the tamarack trees have done a costume change shedding the green to be clothed in gold. When the sun strikes them, they blaze forth in a rich gold. Or drive the expressway to town.

There is a stretch that boasts swaths of tamarack on either side of the highway and if Ol' Sol is out and its rays are unimpeded by cloud, those trees will be all aflame in gold. Magnificent!

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## Senior guide gets update

By Katie Nicholls – TB Source

Elder abuse can take many forms and often be overlooked by those unaware of its signs and a new tool aims to educate possible victims and alert those who might already be in those situations.

Rebecca Johnson, a former city councillor and a co-chair of the elder abuse committee within Age Friendly Thunder Bay, was surprised by the number of abuse incidents within the community.

"I was not really aware of the extent of elder abuse in the community, but you find the statistics are alarming," she said, adding that while there is a handbook aimed at helping identify instances of abuse, it wasn't up to date.

"It didn't have a lot of information, and it was seven to eight years old. It was completely outdated."

After seeking provincial funding and a consultant to help write an updated version, the group put together the new handbook which will be distributed across the region.



Keith Ailey explores Lehtinen's Bay by mountain bike. (Photo submitted)

# Fun at the Giant

After writing about the continuing warm weather last week, we woke up to some heavy frost at camp this past Sunday morning. By noon however, the sun was out, and we were able to continue enjoying our favourite outdoor adventures in the late-season warmth. Frigid morning temperatures and midday T-shirt weather is pretty much the standard around here in both spring and autumn.

One of my family's favourite places to spend some time, regardless of the season, is Sleeping Giant Provincial Park. Less than an hour from Thunder Bay, on the southern tip of the Sibley peninsula, lies the legendary Sleeping Giant land formation and the provincial park that shares its name. This incredible park features a popular campground and a gorgeous beach on Marie Louise Lake, but that has now closed for the season. Luckily for us, as well as the many other park visitors this past weekend, the very best part of Sleeping Giant Provincial Park is the recreational opportunities that abound here, and they remain open to visitors throughout the year.

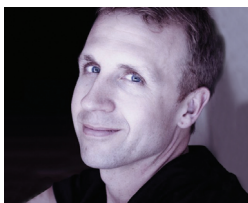
Autumn may be the very best time to visit and hike or bike part of the park's 100-kilometre trail system. Many of these trails include access to secluded stretches of Lake Superior's shoreline. Plus, there are plenty of nature walks, fishing spots and places to explore on a mountain bike. Venture deep into the boreal forest to experience backcountry camping, or

hike one of the rugged trails to the Sea Lion or the top of the Giant for unbeatable views of Lake Superior.

One of the best and most popular places to visit in the park is the Kabeyun Trail. Close to the historic Silver Islet General Store, the Kabeyun South Trailhead is located towards the southern end of Highway 587. From here, you can take the Kabeyun Trail to the Sea Lion, Sawyer Bay, Tee Harbour, Lehtinen's Bay, Thunder Cape or climb the Sleeping Giant from the Chest Trail or the Top of the Giant Trail. On a bright and clear day, you can even see Porphyry Island from atop the Giant.

If you have never climbed the Giant, now might be the time to give it a shot. The bugs are gone, and the temperatures are cool enough to make the extreme effort of the climb rather comfortable. I would highly recommend using a mountain bike to expediate the journey to the base of the climb. Compared to walking, biking in and out can save hours. That efficient use of time is essential in October and early November as the window of warmth and sunlight gets a tiny bit shorter every day.

There are still a couple weekends left before we make the transition to our favourite winter activities, so why not visit the Giant, soak up the last of the autumn warmth, the beauty of the falling leaves and enjoy the unspoiled wilderness we are surrounded by here in Northwestern Ontario.



**Keith Ailey**  
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# Falcons rally late

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Never count out the St. Ignatius Falcons.

Never can't be emphasized strongly enough after the high school senior football team mounted a near miraculous comeback on Friday afternoon, storming back from 21 points down with just over three minutes to play to eke out an improbable 36-35 win over the Westgate Tigers.

The Falcons (2-2), who had no real answer for Westgate quarterback Mitchell Papineau in the first half, were down 35-14 when they innocuously took over the ball on their own 43-yardline, looking like a team that was going to take a losing record into the Superior Secondary Schools Athletic Association postseason, and hope for the best.

Even Lucas Dupuis, the St. Ignatius quarterback, had his doubts, when his team gave up a pair of Tigers touchdowns in the third and trailed 35-14 in the fourth when Andrew Romeo found the end zone for the fourth time.

It wasn't looking good, Dupuis said.

Then again, with nothing to lose, the pressure was off.

Dupuis, who would finish the match going 12-for-19 for 219 yards with a



Lucas Dupuis and the St. Ignatius Falcons earned a semifinal rematch against Westgate.

pair of touchdowns and just enough power to muscle over the goal line with no time on the clock for the game-winning two-point conversion, found Gunnar White for a seven-yard scoring pass that cut the gap to 35-21, just 3:01 remaining on the clock.

The Falcons went for the onside kick and Nolan Poirier simply ripped the ball from the hands of Westgate's Griffin Hlady.

It appeared to be all for naught after

Dupuis's third-down pass fell to the ground, but a holding penalty against the Tigers kept the drive alive at the Westgate 38.

Dupuis handed the ball off to Alexandro Iossa, who raced for the right sidelines, found a seam and tore down the field, unstoppable on the way to the house, pulling the Falcons to within a converted touchdown of tying the match.

The clock wasn't on their side.

A second onside kick failed and the Tigers (3-3-0) got the ball back on the Falcons 50. They could only muster eight yards on two rushes and punted the ball, giving the Falcons one last shot at the win column, the ball placed on the St. Ignatius 24.

Dupuis, after taking a sack that left the Falcons three yards behind the line of scrimmage, called his own number and scampered 14 yards to move the chains, then took to the air.

White made a spectacular sideline catch for 31 yards and followed it with another brilliant grab at the Tigers three, giving Dupuis one last chance.

He rose to the occasion, finding a wide-open Bradley Wehrstedt to make it 35-34, then plowed through the waiting Tigers D to score the two-point convert and secure the win.

# Wild weekend on local sports scene

What a crazy weekend of sports.

Last Friday night I ventured out to Fort William Stadium to watch the Westgate Tiger and St. Ignatius Falcons.

Early in the match, I turned to my photographer buddy, James Mirabelli.

"If Westgate keeps playing like this, they're going to win it all," I commented.

The Tigers were looking strong. Little did anyone in the stands know the comeback that was coming.

With 3:01 left in the fourth (and most of the Westgate starters on the bench), the Falcons trailed by 21. When all was said and done, they'd managed to complete the comeback, a Lucas Dupuis two-point conversion with no time on the clock earning St. Ignatius a 36-35 triumph.

I've seen some pretty fantastic finished over 15 years or so covering high school football, but nothing like last Friday's finish.

Kudos to the Falcons for playing hard to the finish, in a game that meant nothing in the standings.

The great news is the two teams will meet on Friday night at 7 p.m. in the second senior semifinal. Top-ranked Hammarskjöld and St. Pat's play in the other, at 5 p.m.

If that wasn't enough, the Lakehead Thunderwolves and Ontario Tech Ridgebacks put on quite the show on Saturday night, to the delight of 3,315 fans at the Gardens.

The Wolves, who have struggled to score, trailed 2-1 with less than 11 minutes to go, but Joe Mack tied it up and the game ultimately wound up in overtime, where the Wolves turned a power play opportunity into the game-winner.

Colin Van Den Hurk is proving to be quite the clutch players. For the second straight weekend the LU defenceman got the winner.

I do think there's still some cause for concern. Andrew Wilkins, the

team's coach, has shuffled the lines in search of just the right chemistry, but this is a team that's only scored 13 times in five outings, so something has to start clicking soon.

□□□

The Thunder Bay North Stars are back on track and above .500, thanks to a pair of wins over the winless Fort Frances Lakers.

Jordan Tyler had a hat trick in Sunday's 5-2 win and Easton Mikus scored a pair on Friday night - though it took a while for the offense to get going in both games, so that's something the coaching staff has to work on.

It was also great to catch up with Luke Judson and his wife, former TBT reporter Tara Allaire. Judson

spent one season with the Thunderwolves in 2012-13, before taking his game to the ECHL.

He's an assistant with the Lakers this season.

□□□

I managed to stay alive in my survivor pool this week, thanks to the Seattle Sea-

hawks holding off a stubborn Arizona Cardinals team, much to the chagrin of curling columnist John Cameron, a huge Cardinals fan.

There were 800 entries when the season opened and we're down to 105, so it's starting to get interesting. Last year I was out in Week 1.

This week I think I'll take the Los Angeles Chargers, who have the Chicago Bears on tap. I am a little leery, but my first instinct has proven right so far this season.

I was going to switch and take the Cardinals over the Cowboys at the last minute and didn't. That wiped out 10 per cent of the entries.

The Bills and Rams did the most damage this week, both losing as favourites.

Other Week 8 options include the Jacksonville Jaguars and the Detroit Lions. I've used Baltimore, Philadelphia, Kansas City, San Francisco, Miami and Buffalo



**Leith Dunick**  
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# Wolves win in OT

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Goals have been at a premium for the Lakehead Thunderwolves this season.

At this point, they'll take them anywhere they can find them.

On Saturday night, it was the blue-line's turn to contribute.

Jayden Wojciechowski scored a go-ahead goal in the third period on an Al MacInnis-like shot from just inside the zone, and when that lead didn't stand, Colin Van Den Hurk scored the overtime clincher, his second game-winning goal in three outings, to lead the Wolves past the University of Ontario Institute of Technology Ridgebacks 4-3 in front of 3,315 fans at Fort William Gardens.

Van Den Hurk's goal came on the power play, the Wolves with a 4-on-3 advantage in the extra frame, which starts with three skaters aside.

Both teams had plenty of chances in overtime.

Olivier Pouliot hit the crossbar earlier in the period, and UOIT's Evan White and Alex Drover each had some quality one-on-one time with Lakehead goaltender Christian Cicigo, who stood tall on a pair of point-blank backhand chances.

Van Den Hurk said they talked about what to do when Cullen McLean was assessed a tripping minor in the final minute of overtime, and the plan worked to perfection.

"We were not going to rush things, but just make sure we got one good shot off. Ed (McNeill) just dragged it across the top and I said I just had to hit this thing as hard as I can and it went in the net," Van Den Hurk said.

The Wolves, who only tallied nine times in their first four outings, will take goals wherever they can, and if that means the defencemen have to step up, so be it, he added.



UOIT's Alex Drover tries a backhand against Lakehead goaltender Christian Cicigo. (Leith Dunick)

"It's huge for depth scoring and good for our team. We're hard to beat when we have depth scoring like that. Hopefully we can continue that next week in Toronto."

Wojciechowski's goal was extra special. Not only did it give the Thunderwolves a 3-2 lead midway through the third, it also happened to be just his second in an LU uniform and first since 2021-22, after going all of last season without putting the puck in the net.

Getting the two points is all that mattered.

"Obviously every game is important," Wojciechowski said. "To have just one game this weekend, it was nice to win that one and get some rest this week to be ready for Toronto next weekend."

Lakehead opened the scoring 5:19 into the first, Griffin Fox notching his second

of the season, beating Ontario Tech goaltender William Desmarais.

Seventy-seven seconds later the game was tied again. Ridgebacks forward Sean Ross banged the puck past Cicigo, who made 30 saves on the night. The two sides remained tied until late in the second, when James White roofed a high, hard shot just under the crossbar with 8.9 seconds left on the clock, giving UOIT a 2-1 lead after 40 minutes.

Opportunist Joe Mack spotted a loose puck in the faceoff circle to Desmarais' left, pounced on the puck and caught the UOIT goaltender in a bad spot, tying the game 2-2. Wojciechowski made it 3-2 50 seconds later, but less than four minutes later, White scored his second of the night on a low shot through traffic to send the game to overtime.

"It was obviously a huge win," said LU coach Andrew Wilkins.

## ENIGMA™ CRYPTOGRAM

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

"T KNWVI ZEBEZIZ TUTEXVS ESVIJD  
MTXXNS VSTXZ."

— TCFKTKG JEXMNJX

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### ACROSS

- 1 Opera solo
- 5 Sunlight (pref.)
- 9 Ampere (abbr.)
- 12 Feral
- 13 Zeal
- 14 Robot play
- 15 Lade
- 16 7th incarnation of Vishnu
- 17 Confederate States of America (abbr.)
- 18 Copy
- 20 Listlessness
- 22 Male friend (Fr.)
- 25 ft. exclamation
- 27 N.Z. honeyeater
- 28 No (Fr.)
- 29 Appearing dark and threatening
- 31 92 (Rom. numeral)
- 34 Department of Defense (abbr.)
- 35 Victory site of Alexander
- 37 Father
- 38 One's own (pref.)
- 40 Ten (pref.)
- 41 Unit
- 42 Soldiers
- 44 Fluidity unit
- 45 Sexually united (pref.)
- 46 Jinx
- 49 Eye inflammation
- 51 Conjunction
- 52 Year (Lat.)
- 54 Irish nobleman
- 58 Noun-forming (suf.)
- 59 Vein (pref.)
- 60 Angora
- 61 Stinging insect
- 62 Ass or donkey (Ger.)
- 63 Salt

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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### DOWN

- 1 Batrachian
- 2 Blue Nile
- 3 Bille (pref.)
- 4 Church reader
- 5 Father of King Arthur
- 6 Scientific name (suf.)
- 7 Television band abbr.
- 8 Arc
- 9 Cherish
- 10 Sup
- 11 Compass direction
- 19 Arabian Sea gulf
- 20 Atomic Energy Commission (abbr.)
- 22 Expanse
- 23 Title of Athena
- 24 Rod
- 25 Carol
- 26 Highest (pref.)
- 27 Regatta (2 words)
- 28 Flap
- 31 Television channel
- 32 Decay of overripe fruit
- 34 Hand
- 35 Ant
- 37 Cozy
- 38 Antiseptic
- 40 Killer (suf.)
- 41 Berne's river
- 42 Gait
- 43 Apiece
- 44 Harvest goddess
- 45 Girl

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# LU volleyball set to start winning

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The preseason has been all about trying to re-establish a winning culture around Lakehead's women's volleyball program.

It's been 10 seasons since the team finished at .500 or better, the 2012-13 club winding up at 9-9 to grab the Thunderwolves most recent playoff spot.

Since then, Lakehead has gone 34-128 under a parade of coaches, including just six wins in 48 appearances the past three seasons.

Rookie coach Hayden Nichol, who came to the program after most recently coaching Alberta's Keyano College Huskies, has led the Thunderwolves to impressive non-conference wins this fall over the likes of the Brandon Bobcats and Providence College, completing a weekend sweep of the Pilots on Sunday with a 3-1 triumph.

"We started off with a pretty tough schedule in Winnipeg, played against some tough Can West teams and walked away with some really quality wins for the program," Nichol said. "Over the last couple of weeks, knocking Brandon and Providence off in all four matches was really good for us. With a program that is kind of on the way up in wins



Lakehead's Lauryn Langley returns a serve in Sunday's 3-1 (25-27, 26-24, 25-15, 25-21) win over Providence College.

and losses, it's good to see.

"And good for the girls too, to go into the season with that little bit of confidence and feeling strong about themselves."

Nichol said it's been a long 10 years or so since the program enjoyed any true success, adding it'll be the team's depth that helps them

return along that path in 2023-24.

"We can roll a couple of different lineups out there. Both our setters are super capable and are going to be fighting for a lot of court time this season. We've got two very talented right sides who are both in their last year of school here at Lakehead who will be really trying to

push to be on the court," he said.

Oshawa's Lauryn Langley, entering her fourth season with the Thunderwolves, said it's been tough not winning a lot in her first two years with the team, but that comes with youth.

This year's Lakehead squad has 10 players in their third season or more, which is going to play a major factor in the on-court improvements she expects to see.

"We've got about eight people that came in during my first year," Langley said. "We've always been a younger team, but we're all in fourth year now. We're really excited to take the OUA by storm this year being an older team and show them what we've got to bring to the plate, what we've been building up for the last four years."

Nichol said strategically speaking, he wants to implement a more reliable block defence system, and that each of his players knows their role and knows where they should be playing to be able to pick up as many balls as they can.

"In a few weeks here we're going to have some very talented volleyball players are in the gym and we need to make sure all our systems are good to go," Nichol said.

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**32<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL**

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9	4	2	3	5	7	1	8	6
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2	3	7	1	9	5	6	4	8
1	8	9	6	7	4	3	2	5
4	5	6	2	8	3	9	7	1
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