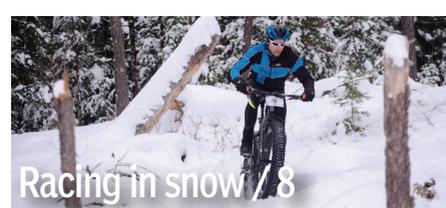




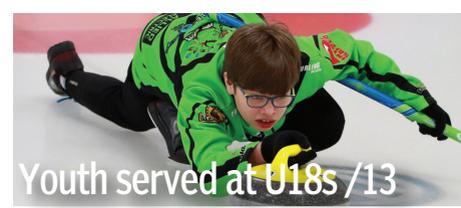
Police overburdened /5



Council hands out grants /3



Racing in snow /8



Youth served at U18s /13

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Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol. 20 No. 2

Thursday, January 12, 2023



END OF AN ERA

Tbaytel plans to remove the rest of its payphones this year /2



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With some phones not seeing use in more than two years, Tbaytel says they haven't had many complaints about their decision to decommission their remaining 197 payphones.

Tbaytel dialing out payphones

Some public phones haven't been used in more than two years

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The payphone era is about to come to an end in Thunder Bay.

Tbaytel has begun the process of decommissioning and removing its last 197 payphones in the city, saying they're simply not being used enough to warrant the cost of upkeeping the coin-and credit-card-operated phones.

Jamie Smith, a spokesperson for the publicly-owned utility, on Monday said even the busiest public payphones are only used on average once every five days. Some have sat



At their peak, there were more than 800 payphones in Thunder Bay. (Leith Dunick)

idle for two years or more, said Smith, noting the rise in cell phone use has in large part made

payphones obsolete.

At their height, Smith estimated there were as many as 800

payphones located throughout Thunder Bay.

"It's just kind of a sign of the times that declining usage has reduced the numbers," Smith said. "Based on what we've been seeing, in some cases these payphones haven't been used in two years. In the highest range of uses, it's about once every five days."

"As a result, as of March 31 we will be decommissioning the remaining payphones we have in the city, which is pretty standard if you look at other providers over the last decade."

Smith said the credit-card-enabled phones should all be out of commission by the end of March, but he expects some of the coin-operated phones may stick around a little longer. He added many of the payphones are situated within busi-

nesses and Tbaytel has spoken to most, if not all, of the business owners about the plan to remove them.

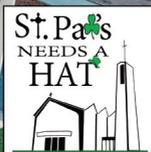
"We're going to work with those organizations and businesses should they require an alternative method of access for people. We've been letting all the businesses and organizations know that this is happening. We have decals on the payphones letting the public know," Smith said.

"We work with a lot of organizations to get people access. They're the subject matter experts, so they're going to tell us what people in our community need and we'll certainly work with them to get that done."

According to an ABC News report, the payphone was first installed in 1889 at a bank in Hartford, Conn. The first outdoor coin payphone was installed in 1905 in Cincinnati.



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LICENCE NO. M835740

City giving \$3M to non-profits

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

Thunder Bay's city council has approved over \$2.9 million in funding for local non-profits through the Community, Youth & Cultural Funding Program, with some agencies seeing significant changes to their allocations.

The Shelter House, for example, will receive over \$100,000 less than it did last year, with the city citing the cancellation of its Street Outreach Service (SOS) program as the main reason.

The shelter's sustaining grant will be \$319,600 in 2023, down from \$430,000 and well below its request for half a million dollars.

The Thunder Bay Art Gallery and the Community Auditorium, meanwhile, will each see large increases in their sustaining grants, which are provided to 10 organizations deemed to be "integral to [the city's] identity."

The art gallery will receive \$308,800, up by nearly \$40,000, to help it build capacity as it prepares to expand to a new, larger waterfront location. The gallery says the added funds will help cover the cost of adding an Indigenous curator and part-time visitor services position.

The Community Auditorium will receive \$833,100, with the \$75,000 increase chalked up to the implementation of a new arms-length relationship with the city.

The Community, Youth & Cultural Funding Program will support a total of 18 organizations in 2023, with the rest seeing their allocations remain largely stable.

Other major recipients of sustaining grants include the Thunder Bay Museum (\$471,300), Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra (\$244,700), Magnus Theatre (\$143,150), Thunder Bay Boys and Girls Club (\$123,400), and the Regional Food Distribution Association (\$103,500).

Applications to the program are reviewed by teams made up of city staff and some citizen representatives, and can be appealed to a committee made up of city councillors.

Coun. Andrew Foulds, who sits on that committee along with Couns. Mark Bentz, Brian Hamilton, and Mayor Ken Boshcoff, spoke to one of three appeals filed in relation to this year's funding.

The Northern Nishnawbe Education Council (NNEC), which operates Dennis Franklin Cromarty school, filed an appeal over the rejection of an application to support the Wake the Giant Music Festival, which the city said was mostly to cover the use of a festival stage and part of production costs.

The appeals committee upheld the decision not to award funding, but recommended the city allocate \$15,000 to support the festival, and to support Wake the Giant orientation activities welcoming students who largely hail from remote



The Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra is getting \$244,700.

First Nations to the city.

Council approved the teams' recommendations at a meeting on Monday, and the committee's decision on the three appeals.

In two other decisions, the committee rejected an appeal from the New Directions Speakers School workers resource centre, which was declined for funding after receiving \$15,000 last year, but granted one from People Advocating for Change through Empowerment (PACE) after the organization submitted additional information to support its \$30,000 request.

The CYC program will cost the city roughly the same as last year, when it also awarded around \$2.9 million in funding.

The program, created in 2007, provides sometimes crucial support through the sustaining grants, which account for over half of the museum's total operating budget, and more than a quarter for others like the art gallery and Northwestern Ontario Sports Hall of Fame.

Its operating grants provide lower levels of assistance to organizations like the Lakehead Social Planning Council, Community Clothing Assistance, and Roots Community Food Centre.

The program will also offer \$47,600 in one-time project grants, which are still to be allocated.

Foulds also said the program comes with oversight. "Citizens should feel comfortable that this [funding] is going to good, solid, accountable organizations," he said.

Full details of the 2023 funding allocations and requests are available online as part of Monday's council agenda.

WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy
Precipitation: 30% HIGH -2 LOW -11	Precipitation: 30% HIGH -7 LOW -12	Precipitation: 30% HIGH 0-3 LOW -6	Precipitation: 30% HIGH -1 LOW -2

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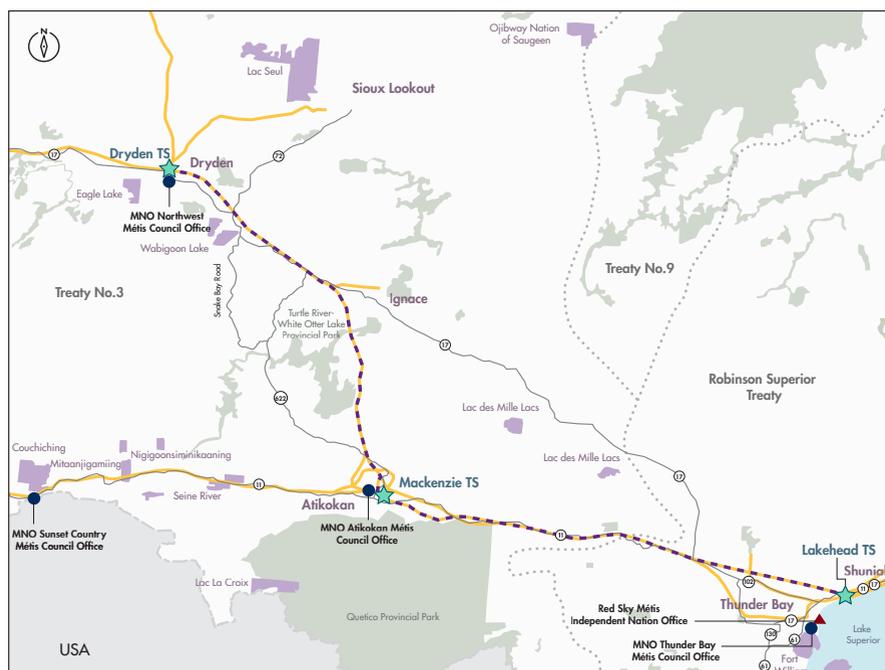
We've reached another milestone in our work on the Waasigan Project and invite you to join our community open houses to learn more, hear about next steps, speak with project team members and provide your feedback.

Hydro One is proud to serve the northwest and be a trusted community partner. Since March 2022, we have been conducting an Environmental Assessment under Ontario's *Environmental Assessment Act* to build a new double-circuit 230 kilovolt transmission line between Lakehead Transformer Station (TS) in the Municipality of Shuniah and Mackenzie TS in the Town of Atikokan, and a new single-circuit 230 kilovolt transmission line between Mackenzie TS and Dryden TS in the City of Dryden.

Based on information and feedback received, we've identified a preliminary preferred route, as shown on the map below. Your feedback, alongside environmental, technical, and other considerations, has been crucial in identifying a preliminary preferred route for the new line. Once built, the new line will add 350 megawatts of electricity to the region – which is more than two times what it takes to power the City of Thunder Bay.

Si vous souhaitez une copie de cette notification en français, veuillez visiter le site Internet du projet ou envoyer un courriel au projet pour en demander une copie.

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WAASIGAN TRANSMISSION LINE

Map Legend

- Existing Transformer Station (TS)
- Preliminary Preferred Route
- Existing Transmission Lines
- Highway
- International Border
- Red Sky Métis Independent Nation Office
- Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) Council Office
- Treaty Boundary
- First Nation Reserve
- Provincial Park



Scan the QR code or visit HydroOne.com/Waasigan to view a more detailed and interactive map.

PLEASE JOIN US:

JANUARY 16, 2023

Thunder Bay

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Local Time
Oliver Road Community Centre
563 Oliver Road, Thunder Bay

JANUARY 17, 2023

Atikokan

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Local Time
Royal Canadian Legion 145
115 O'Brien Street, Atikokan

JANUARY 18, 2023

Dryden

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Local Time
Royal Canadian Legion 63
34 Queen Street, Dryden

You can also take a virtual tour of our open house at your convenience by visiting our project website.

1-877-345-6799

Community.Relations@HydroOne.com

www.HydroOne.com/Waasigan

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

All personal information included in a submission – such as name, email address, address, telephone number and property location – is collected, maintained and disclosed by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for the purpose of transparency and consultation. The information is collected under the authority of the *Environmental Assessment Act* or is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public as described in s. 37 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public unless you request that your personal information remain confidential. For more information, please contact the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator at 416-314-4075.

Homicides taxing investigators

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Thunder Bay will undoubtedly be the murder capital of Canada once again, but the 15 homicides are just the tip of the violent crime iceberg in the city, says acting Police Chief Dan Taddeo.

Violent crime in Thunder Bay is through the roof, skyrocketing above similar sized communities in Ontario, such as Kingston and Barrie.

It's left Taddeo's department threadbare at times, with officers and investigators being pulled in from other critical areas, such as traffic control, to secure crime scenes, canvass for witnesses and track down and arrest suspects.

Taddeo's big concern is there doesn't seem to be an end in sight.

While last year's 15 homicides might seem like an anomaly, four more than the previous record of 11 confirmed homicides set in 2014, the root causes of the problem aren't going away.

Thunder Bay is awash in drug



Acting Police Chief Dan Taddeo says 15 homicides in one year is tragic and time consuming.

addiction and ripe for the picking by ruthless gangsters from southern Ontario, who view the city as a narcotics cash cow.

Ties to the drug trade were directly linked to six of last year's killings, but substance abuse was a likely factor in several more, so

called-crimes of passion fuelled by addiction and poverty.

"Just due to the size of the Thunder Bay Police Service, serious crimes, whether it's homicides, attempted homicides, aggravated assaults or the like, they require what we refer to as an all-hands-on-deck approach," Taddeo said.

"We rely on many of our other units, whether it's primary response or other specialized units, they basically collapse in order to support the investigation. There's a lot of validity when you hear a lot of work needs to be done in the first 48 hours-plus. That's not a myth. That's a fact, so you do require a lot of human resources."

At one point in 2022, police were dealing with seven homicides over a seven-week period.

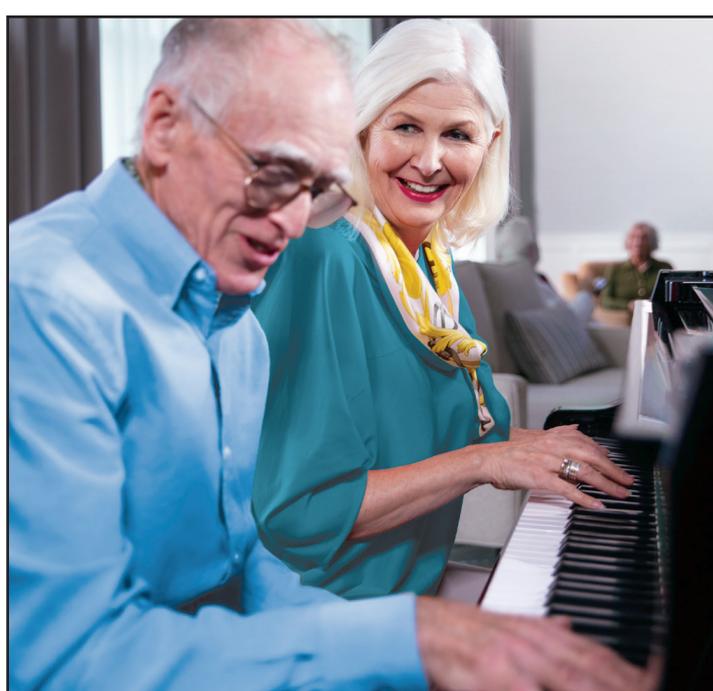
"You can appreciate that our numbers are representative of a city — specifically our homicides and crimes of violence — are more akin to a city of 500,000 or one million people," Taddeo said. "And with urban issues. That's not us. This

police service is based on an economy of scale. Our comparators are tending to two or three homicides (a year). This cannot be our normal, because the design of our police service, or the funding, isn't based on that."

Taddeo said the fact the city's population is likely under-counted by tens of thousands adds to the problem, as does a revolving-door policy in the criminal justice system.

The acting chief didn't hesitate to take aim at the courts, saying dangerous people are being bailed out, only to commit more crimes in Thunder Bay. Sentencing guidelines are also not locking up dangerous criminals long enough, he said.

"What's frustrating is when we're re-arresting people who have been released on conditions that include not to be in Thunder Bay, unless for a court appearance. They view the justice system, really it's not taken seriously, and it's my opinion that the broad-brush approach of the judicial system, specifically bail, needs to be re-examined."



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EDITORIAL

Overworked

In speaking with acting Police Chief Dan Taddeo last week, he expressed plenty of concern about the amount of manpower Thunder Bay Police have to expend with the city's growing violent crime rate.

It's time for senior levels of government, both the province and the feds, to start taking this seriously.

As it stands, police are forced to call in investigators from other departments, including traffic, to help fill in some of the gaps.

At one point last summer, investigators were working on seven homicides in seven weeks.

This is not sustainable from a policing standpoint - and the underlying problems aren't going to disappear by themselves.

The court system is quick to release just about anyone caught up in the local drug trade, which is leading to re-arrests, despite orders for many of the accused to leave Thunder Bay.

Every single drug death has to be investigated as a potential homicide, which is adding to the pressure faced by police.

And little is being done to stop the underlying drug problem. Our city needs help now, not years from now.

Help these doctors To the editor:

Today sitting at hotels in our city are six Afghan doctors pondering where to settle their families and attempt to restart their careers.

At the same time according to the CBC, here in Northwestern Ontario, we are short over 100 doctors.

It seems like we have lucked out. I have heard from members of the economic development community that Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre is capable of and has in the past moved heaven and earth to get foreign doctors credentials recognized here.

Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre here is hoping that is true.

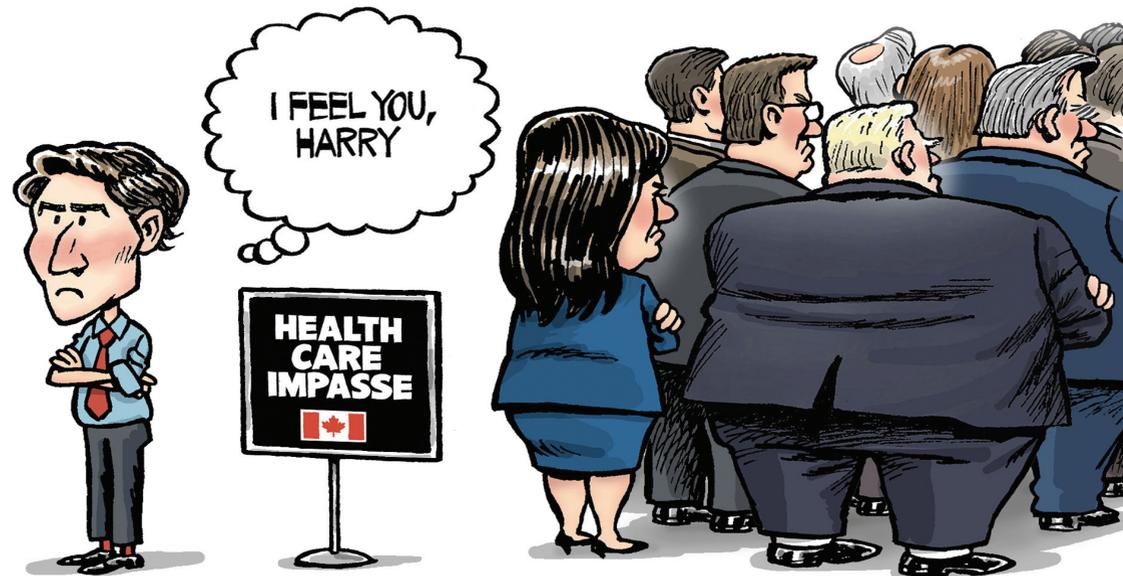
To our local politicians: MPs Patty Hajdu and Marcus Powlowski, MPPs Lise Vaugeois and Kevin Holland, and Mayor Ken Boshcoff how do we make this happen?

Robin Rickards,
Thunder Bay

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



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THUNDER BAY
ARTIZANS.COM



Berlin brought to life in McKay's latest novel

Berlin by Sinclair McKay is the story of life and loss in the city that shaped the 20th century when Berlin stood at the centre of a convulsing world.

Its history is often viewed as separate acts: the suffering of the Great War, the cosmopolitan city of science, culture and sexual freedom, steep economic plunges, the rise of the Nazis, the destruction of World War Two, the psychosis of genocide and a city torn in two by competing ideologies.

But people do not live their lives in fixed eras. An epoch ends, yet the people continue - or try to continue - much as they did before. Berlin tells the story of the city as seen through the eyes not of its rulers, but

of those who walked its streets.

In this masterful biography of a city and its inhabitants, best selling historian Sinclair McKay sheds new light on well known characters - from idealistic scientist Albert Einstein to Nazi architect Albert Speer - and draws on never before seen first person accounts to introduce us to people from all walks of Berlin life.

For example, we meet office worker Mechtilid Evers, who in her efforts to escape an oncoming army runs into even more appalling danger; and Reinhart Cruger, a 12 year old boy, who in 1941

witnesses with horror the Gestapo coming for each of his Jewish neighbours in turn.

Ever a city of curious contrasts, moments of unbelievable darkness give way to a wry Berliner humour - banned poems and the often ridiculous tit for tat between East and West Berlin, for example - and moments of joyous hope, such as forced labourers at a jam factory warmly welcoming their Soviet

liberators. How did these ideologies - fascism and communism - come to flow so fully here? And how did their reper-

cussions continue to be felt throughout Europe and the West right up to the end of the Berlin Wall in 1989?

You cannot understand the 20th century without understanding Berlin; and you cannot understand Berlin without understanding its people.

Drawing on a staggering breadth of culture - from art to film, opera to literature, science to architecture - McKay shows us this hypnotic city as never before.

In doing so he does not follow other revisionist modern historians who seek to equate Hitler with Stalin and fascism with communism. These were polar opposite ideologies with one

fueled by racial hatred and a desire to conquer and enslave people, and the other inspired by the equality of man and the building of a new society freed from capitalist exploitation.

The Red Army won the Second World War by, in Churchill's memorable phrase, 'ripping the guts out of the Nazi war machine.' It was the Soviets who liberated the enslaved peoples of Europe and pierced the very heart of the Nazi empire - Berlin.

While the British and Americans tried to 'de-Nazify' the people of West Berlin, the Soviets tried a more direct approach in the East - to instill communism by drawing on the roots of German culture.



John Pateman
BOOK BANTER

CONTACT INFORMATION
87 North Hill Street
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7A 5V6
Tel: 807-346-2600

Editor: Leith Dunick 346-2650 | ldunick@dougallmedia.com
Reporter: Doug Diaczuk 346-2622 | ddiaczuk@dougallmedia.com
Reporter: Ian Kaufman 346-3558 | ikaufman@dougallmedia.com
Reporter: Justin Hardy 346-2591 | jhardy@dougallmedia.com
Sales Manager: Kathy Harris 346-2510 | kharris@dougallmedia.com

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Population keeps exploding

By JR Shermack

It may have happened already but one day in 2023 India will overtake China as the most populous country on Earth, four years sooner than predicted.

Another global milestone has come and gone and now that the human population has reached eight billion and counting, this is a good time to pause and reflect.

The Earth is 4.5 billion years old and in all that time there have been many milestones that have transformed our planet while its inhabitants slowly evolved.

Some of these developments changed the course of history (for better or worse) and others led to a downward spiral of unintended consequences all the way to the 21st century.

Dinosaurs ruled the Earth for about 175 million years until they all died out due to a catastrophic natural disaster that nearly eliminated all life on Earth.

You could argue that the dinosaurs never really harmed the

planet and didn't deserve their global termination - they were in the wrong place on the wrong planet at the worst time.

However, it was a happy accident for all species of mammals, including ours which evolved to fill the evolutionary niches made available by the mass extinction.

Enough of our global ancestors survived to nurture the further development and evolution of millions of species over eons of time, including Homo sapiens.

Evolution has been very good to humans - we were equipped with everything necessary to rule a planet which was last dominated by those now extinct dinosaurs.

But even though we are the dominant species on Earth it will be millennia before we match the reign of those overgrown lizards - some say we will never make it.

Nevertheless, in six million years of human occupation on Earth we have achieved many global milestones ourselves, some of which have altered the entire world.

We harnessed fire a million years

ago, surviving as hunters and gatherers until the development of agriculture supported permanent settlements and larger populations.

The invention of the wheel changed the world. It was a distant forerunner to the industrial revolution and eventually the digital and information revolutions.

Human population grew slowly at first, but since the Bubonic Plague in the 1400s our numbers have increased constantly.

We successfully reproduced our way towards global overpopulation milestones in spite of thousands of wars, natural calamities and disasters, not to mention man-made hardships.

Humans first conquered outer space when soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin took his spacecraft for a spin around the Earth in 1961.

Humanity set foot on extraterrestrial soil as Neil Armstrong danced on the moon in 1969 - today we are looking to the edge of the universe, searching for the meaning of existence.

The list of human achievement

and milestones is extensive but there is one questionable milestone that humans are driven to achieve, even at our own peril - overpopulation.

We humans have a propensity for procreation, but we need to control our urges for the sake of our home planet and the future generations who will be living there.

The eight-billion milestone was reached in spite of India's declining birthrate - the worldwide birthrate is also down but the population clock continues to tick, tick, tick.

As for me, I first became aware of overpopulation in high school - I haven't done much about it besides keeping my reproduction rate below the replacement level of 2.1 kids.

Nor have I addressed the effects of overpopulation like pollution, pandemics, famine, starvation, and extinction - who knows what milestones we will achieve on those fronts.

Will they ensure the future of our species or will overpopulation be our epitaph?



The Earth's population is now eight billion.

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

January 13/14 Lakehead Basketball

The No. 9-ranked Lakehead men's basketball team will tip-off against the 10-2 University of Toronto Varsity Blues in a battle of the OUA Central Titans.

On the women's side, the T-Wolves will be looking for their first win after an 0-10 start and will take on a Varsity Blues team ripe for the picking at 3-9 and losers of six straight.

The women are scheduled to start at 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday night, with the men's games following at 8 p.m. each night.

January 13/14 SIJHL Hockey

The Thunder Bay North Stars will be back on home ice this weekend, taking on the surprising first-year Sioux Lookout Bombers.

The North Stars are fifth in the SIJHL standings at 12-8-4, but are looking to make up some ground in

the hunt to host a first-round playoff series down the road.

Game time is 7:30 p.m. at Fort William Gardens on Friday and Saturday nights.

January 14 21 Days for Spiritual Awakening

Little by little we practice every day to cleanse our inner subtle system using the powerful techniques of Sahaja Yoga Meditation.

This is a spiritual meditation in which we awaken the inner energy that gently brings positive change within people - making them more balanced, peaceful and joyful.

As you participate in daily classes, you will notice increasing gaps between your thoughts and feeling more relaxed, peaceful and spiritual.

No prior meditation experience is needed. It starts at 8:45 p.m.

The 21-day course is free via Zoom. Find the link at eventbrite.ca.

January 16-25 Ten Days of Happiness

Self-reflection, self care and focusing on what makes us happy.

Each day will be a new activity or event for students to take part in to spread positivity and put smiles on faces.

Events are put on by Lakehead University for students and staff. For more info, email the school at orientation@lakeheadu.ca.

January 16 TBDHU Community Kitchen

Come out to learn some food skills and nutrition information from Thunder Bay District Health Unit dietitians.

Make some food to bring home to your family.

This is a free program, and childcare for kids 0 to 6 is provided.

Please call 333-0148 to register. The location is 16-288 Windsor Street and it runs from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

HOW TO WRITE TO US:

Letters to the editor are most welcome. Those kept to 350 words or less have priority.

The Thunder Bay Source reserves the right to edit submissions for content and clarity. All attempts will be made to preserve the core argument of the author.

Address them to: **THUNDER BAY SOURCE**
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TO SHARE YOUR IDEAS
AND VIEWS ABOUT OUR
WEEKLY POLL QUESTION.

THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Would you be OK with a drastic cut in city services to cut the proposed tax-levy increase to below two per cent?

TOTAL VOTES: 1,759

<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW
52.47%	40.31%	7.22%

Cold always a winter biking issue

Last weekend I travelled down to Minnesota with a few friends to do a fat bike race.

There are always a lot of logistics to consider when racing in the winter, but even more when you are travelling to the event. In preparing for our races, we were most concerned with three things: transporting our bikes, keeping our water bottles from freezing during the race, and keeping ourselves warm while sweating profusely during a maximal effort in cold weather.

In summer, travelling to races is easy. You simply put the bikes on a hitch-mounted bike rack and go. In the winter however, the salt and slush from the road is kicked up by the vehicle's tires and it can quickly destroy a bike's components if it is on a rack behind the vehicle.

While modern race bikes are made from carbon fiber, there are still metal components in the hydraulic

brake calipers and rotors, the derailleur, and the bearings which keep everything from the pedals to the cranks and the wheels turning smoothly. The solution is to either cover the bikes completely or to keep them inside the vehicle.

We opted to keep the bikes inside.

In each truck, we put one bike in the back seat area of the cab and the other under a tonneau cover in the bed. Problem number one was solved, and we were off to the races.

In a prolonged, high-intensity endurance event, the physical effort is massive.

This means burning through piles of calories every hour. To keep the legs pumping and the cramps away, many of those calories will need to be replaced.

In a race, there is no stopping for snacks, so that means a lot of the calories taken in during the effort will be mixed with liquid in a water-bottle.



Keith Ailey
 the GOOD LIFE



Biking through snow burns a lot of energy, which needs to be refreshed during the race.

To keep these from freezing, we tested a couple methods.

The best solution we found was to boil the water, add some salt, electrolytes and plenty of calories, then keep that hot water mix in a thermos

until just before the race. As we were heading out to start the warm-up, we transferred our drinks to thermal insulated bottles, which help to keep the liquid from freezing for a couple hours.

Additional calories came from a maple syrup and salt mixture which is kept in a plastic flask, stored next to our body to keep it from freezing.

A winter endurance athlete is not only concerned with keeping the water bottles from freezing. Keeping fingers and toes warm is always a problem too.

For this last race, it was only -10 C, so a good pair of gloves would be enough to protect the fingers. For the toes however, we all have our personal preferences.

I have found that battery-powered, heated insoles are the perfect answer for me. My friends all have other solutions, ranging from insulated boot covers to chemical hot pockets and heated socks.

When it comes to winter activities, especially endurance sports, one of the most exciting aspects is taking on the challenges presented by the weather.

Regardless of whether we land on the race podium, it is always rewarding to find unique solutions for all the variable conditions winter throws at us.

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Customers can be tricky at times

"The customer is always right"
Most of us have heard these words in some form over the course of our lives.

This is something I have prided myself on trying to live up to most of my career.

There have been instances however, where not only is the customer wrong, but they are so completely blind to their wrongness they are blindly ignorant to it.

Now before I continue, I would like to preface by saying 99 per cent of the customers I have encountered over the last 20 years are a pleasure to serve.

However, we don't often remember those relatively generic

interactions.

If you're a regular reader of HCAYK you will remember last week we discussed inflation. Now, that can splinter off into new issues because while prices raise, the value and more importantly the *perceived* value of a product will be affected in kind.

This \$5 burger is great but once you get up to the \$5.25 burger, is it as good as it was at \$5? Most would say yes, it's the same.

However, there's an occasional customer that will perceive the value of that burger differently depending on the sale price.

There are many types of criticisms that can be sluffed off as a difference of opinion. This is

normal and part of being a restaurateur.

In 20 years I know how hard it is to make a dollar worth of profit in this business and being told that your time isn't worth what you put into a food product is a tough insult to eat.

There is also the (often wrong) observation that people who work in hospitality's time is less valuable than other businesses.

Now perhaps the pay per hour isn't breaking the bank, but is a worker's value strictly determined by how much they make per hour?

And should they be treated based on that wage? I would hazard to guess that most of you found that question as uncomfortable to read as I did to write.

In my career I have been yelled at, assaulted, insulted, and spat on. Most of these interactions were



Hunter Fernyc eats a Beefcake's burger.

with customers who weren't ... sober. Yet, a few of them have been with sober people who were

just not nice individuals.

Most of them I was just defending a staff member doing the right thing. These things happen.

I will close by saying, mistakes will always happen. How both parties choose to deal with them is both their specific responsibilities.

No one working in hospitality sets out with the express purpose of screwing up your distinct day and when mistakes happen, an ounce of understanding can go a long way.

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



Derek Lankinen

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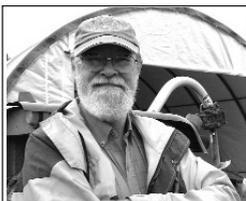
January is Wolf Month locally

So, I state the obvious: we have begun a new year. We have begun this new year with the month of January.

For the Celts, the New Year began after the harvest in the autumn. But for the Romans the new year began in January dedicated to Janus who had two faces: one looking back and one looking forward.

The media tends to look back over the previous year highlighting events of note. I have never been a fan of this trend especially if the year just ended has been fraught as this one has. "Let's get on with it. Let's hope for something better," is my credo.

I've read that the Dutch call



Fred Jones
 RURAL ROOTS

January 'the frosty month' while the Saxons knew it as 'Wulfmonath' or 'wolf month' apparently because wolves could be very troublesome from the scarcity of food.

Then came Christianity and the name changed to 'Formamonath' or first month which meant 'after Yule'.

I recently saw a list of all the months and their corresponding designations. January has been called "Stay Inside Month" or 'Snow Month', stretching from Dec. 22 to Jan. 22.

Well, we certainly have received snow and at times, it has been 'frosty'.

We go for snowshoe tromps. Each

time we go out we try to expand the trail.

The snow is quite deep and soft so the going can be physically exacting.

Also, while our two female pooches are fleet of foot even through the snow, our aged senior weighs more than he should and has a lot of trouble negotiating the newly tramped trail unless we've been over it several times.

The warm temperatures didn't help. But then we received some 'frosty' weather and what we'd snowshoed over had become solid, providing firm footing for the old guy (large breed and eleven this year).

This is also the time of year when, if you heat with wood, you should order more. Our property does not have a lot of birch on it. Poplar,

sure, but poplar is to me, a last resort burning source since it doesn't give off as much heat as either birch or black ash and it leaves a lot of ash.

However, I have found a couple of poplar trees toppled by storms so why not? It's free and all I have to do is buck and haul back to Casa Jones to split and stack and then use as a supplement to the birch.

We bought ten cords two years ago that I bucked and split. I hired some local boys to help stack (bribed with cookies). I estimate that we have just enough to get us through the rest of the winter.

We have both a wood and electric boiler in the basement that heats the water that is circulated through copper pipes throughout our 'hoosie'.

On freezing January nights, I am

not interested in stumbling downstairs to throw in more wood. The electric boiler keeps us warm. It is also a backup when we are absent from the house so no pipes freeze.

Thus, we must soon 'bite the bullet' and get 10 more cords that will need bucking and splitting. Fortunately, our son, Doug, is again living at home and willing to lend a hand.

So, this is the 'Wolf Month'. On our snowshoe treks we see lots of tracks, mainly foxes but also rabbits and deer but so far, no evidence of either wolves or coyotes.

Probably a good thing since I wouldn't want any confrontation twixt wolves and our pooches. Pooches would lose. Anytime the dogs want to go outside when it is dark, I hope they return unscathed. So far, my hope is working.

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Emily a millennial nightmare

Given *Avatar's* domination of SilverCity with a few exceptions, we are catching up with a relatively recent release otherwise overlooked on the home TV front.

Emily the Criminal, (Netflix) is a character study/thriller starring Aubrey Plaza as a graphic artist who's driven to criminal activity to alleviate a \$70,000 art school debt. She's behind the employment eight-ball, thanks to a DUI and (unexplained) aggravated assault charge, further hampered by a depressed job market, confining her to menial jobs, a common millennial challenge.

Her sketchings confirm Emily's artistic talent. However, foregoing graduation for work to pay legal fees, and to support herself and her grandmother, doesn't help her CV. She bristles at humiliating job

interviews where either her blemished past overshadows what she can now offer talent-wise or there's expectations that she'd be content working as an unpaid intern for five months. (Gina Gershon has a great single scene as a snarky boss.)

Emily's edgy, short fuse does not help her cause.

Her anxiety is heightened when she discovers that her hourly wages at a corporate catering company are barely covering the interest never mind the principal on her loans.

Then a fellow catering employee tips her off to a credit card scam outfit where a quick \$200 can be

made with little risk, an alluring prospect for someone cash strapped. Emily's successful right off, quickly leading to bigger jobs and paydays.

However, the greater the return, the greater is the risk. Desperation sidelines her fear. She's impulsive but not reckless. Her assault charge informs scenes where she reacts to physical threat.

This leads her to intimate involvement with her scam contact, Yousef, (Theo Rossi) who's not the heartless exploiter he appears to be. She learns more tricks, developing a practical attitude towards her new-found criminality.



Marty Mascarini
MOVIE TALK

First time director/writer John Patton Ford does an impressive job with his lean, taut, bi-level script. It starts as a portrait of someone driven to extremes by economic factors and life circumstances. Self-defeating faults aside, Emily's plight is relatable.

Granted, Ford stacks the deck against her. The legit world offers phonies, exploiters and little compassion. The underworld offers menacing, unsavory characters, seeming easy money and the threat of apprehension, even death.

The latter half becomes a credible, nifty thriller, again skillfully set up by Emily's character, where her survival is dependent upon her quick-witted, street-savvy instincts and increasing ruthlessness.

The movie contends that the system works against the disadvantaged regardless of class, colour or gender. This is hardly profound but Ford's direction gives this notion a gritty, authentic relevance. The movie condemns the underside of capitalism, albeit with a few clichés.

Known primarily for her deadpan comic persona on TV's *Parks and Recreation* and chat shows, Aubrey Plaza has been demonstrating greater range recently.

Plaza's Emily remains inscrutable, but she commands attention here with her single-minded, coiled rage.

Plaza's magnetic performance makes *Emily the Criminal* an engrossing film noir for millennials.



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Josh Hari will lead his team into North Bay this week for the U18 playdowns. At 11, he'll be one of the youngest competitors in the field in recent memory.

Youth served at U18s

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Josh Hari has been curling for eight years.

In Thunder Bay, that's really no big deal.

Josh, however, is only 11 years old. On top of that, as skip, he's the unquestioned leader of his team, which this week headed to North Bay for a shot at the Northern Ontario U18 boys play-downs and a chance to represent the region next month at nationals.

No one on the team has hit their 15th birthday yet, the squad featuring lead Hudson Kelly, second Kyle Haynen and third Hunter Torkkeli. The first two checking in at 13, while Hunter is 14.

Josh, whose father Jon introduced him

to the sport and coaches the team, said competing at a provincial-level championship is a dream come true.

"It's going to be very interesting going there. But it's going to be a good learning experience," he said.

"It means a lot to go to a provincial championship, to represent Northern Ontario is pretty big."

The youngster has all the confidence in the world, looking to follow in the footsteps of the Dallas Burgess foursome, who won the title last year before aging out of U18s.

"It's a very tough field, but I think we have a good chance," Josh said.

Kyle Haynen, who turned 13 on New Year's Day, said he got involved in curling by chance. His mother saw an ad

on Facebook for Thunder Bay youth curling. He thought it sounded cool, so he wanted to try it out.

Four years later he's about to head to provincials.

"Not in a million years," he said, asked if when he first took the ice he thought he'd one day be competing for a Northern Ontario title.

"To say the least, I'm pretty nervous." To put those fears out of his mind, Kyle said he and his teammates are exercising the three Ps.

"Practice, practice and practice," he said.

"I hope we do as well as we could for one of the younger teams in the tournament."

The curling kicked off on Wednesday.

ENIGMA™ CRYPTOGRAM

Enigma cryptograms are created from quotation: and proverbs from around the world. Each letter stands for another letter. Hint: "V" = "A"

"ZC VDC ULDR UDVEC, HDAXHTRN VRO
 NDCCOK, VRO FLXH LJ AX DCFVTR
 NDCCOK."

— VAHILD ARMRLZR

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2				5	3	7	6			

ACROSS

- 1 Heavy blow
- 5 Abyss
- 9 Tumor (suf.)
- 12 Israeli dance
- 13 Wings
- 14 Eth. prince
- 15 Sleeping
- 16 Milk (Fr.)
- 17 Deed
- 18 Love (Lat.)
- 20 Peruser
- 22 Bureau of Indian Affairs (abbr.)
- 25 King of Judah
- 27 Roofing slate
- 28 Stupid person
- 29 Husband of Jezebel
- 31 Ray
- 34 52 (Rom. numeral)
- 35 Blue-gray
- 37 S.A. tuber
- 38 Son of Isaac
- 40 Anima
- 41 Stitchbird

DOWN

- 42 Noncommissioned officer (abbr.)
- 44 Bird's beak
- 45 Went first
- 46 Barber of Seville
- 49 General equivalency diploma (abbr.)
- 51 Past
- 52 Hillside shelter
- 54 False friend
- 58 Feminine (suf.)
- 59 Twist
- 60 Irish exclamation
- 61 School course (abbr.)
- 62 Cure
- 63 Site of Second Punic War's end

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

T	A	C	T	U	H	F	U	G	L	I
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A	G	O	N	E	R	E	B	E	A	D
Y	O	N	D	T	E	R	O	L	L	A

- 3 shelf
- 3 Yorkshire river
- 4 French art group
- 5 Overshoes
- 6 Diminutive (suf.)
- 7 Secular
- 8 Bad smell
- 9 Neroli (2 words)
- 10 Nutmeg husk
- 11 Star (pref.)
- 19 Lady's title
- 21 Seize
- 22 Bundle
- 23 Mother of Horus
- 24 Jagla (2 words)
- 26 Brother of Moses
- 30 Sunfish
- 32 Longing
- 33 Domestic
- 36 River into the North Sea
- 39 Fiddler crab genus
- 43 Mountain spinach
- 46 Fall short
- 47 Fire (pref.)
- 48 Woodwind
- 50 Mex. president
- 53 Estuary
- 55 Amer. Dental Assn. (abbr.)
- 56 Group of whales
- 57 Harem room

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Lakehead has some 'splainin' to do

I hate to say I was shocked by the allegations levelled at Lakehead University coach Jon Kreiner, in a CBC piece by Logan Potvin released last week.

But two months ago, I received an anonymous letter, after reporting that Kreiner was no longer behind the women's basketball team's bench, levelling many of the same accusations against the long-time coach.

The allegations, which have not been proven, included verbally abusive conduct and suggestions that players recruited through the Junior Wolves program were required to pay back a portion of their wages to then funnel that money to foreign players brought in by Kreiner to boost the program.

I reached out to Lakehead University and was told the school doesn't comment on personnel

matters.

At the time, the school couldn't even tell us if Kreiner was still employed by the university.

I asked Kreiner, via text, to confirm if he was still coach and that I'd heard he'd parted ways with the team.

He responded by saying it was news to him.

Obviously things have changed.

Reuben Villagracia, the sports editor at the *Chronicle Journal*, and I both asked athletic director Tom Warden about the Kreiner situation months ago, and were told by Warden he couldn't comment.

Warden and the university need to come clean about the situation. The women's basketball team has hit

rock bottom, with an 0-10 record, and one has to wonder how much the behind-the-scenes environment has led the team here.

All-star Sofia Lluch left the team abruptly last season, with no explanation.

One former player I spoke to said the issue of player abuse dates back to the early 2000s.

Talia Peters, a former player for LU now playing with the Manitoba Bisons, told Potvin and the CBC her university dream quickly became a nightmare at Lakehead.

The ball's in your court, Lakehead.



Leith Dunick

SPORTS SHORTS

Things aren't all bad in Thunderwolves land. The men's hockey team swept Toronto last weekend and is

just a point out of first in the OUA West.

Ben Badalmenti is looking great, scoring in both games, and rookie Josh Van Unen has been a fantastic find for coach Andrew Wilkens.

Goalies Christian Cicigoi and Max Wright were also fantastic last weekend.

As an aside, the T-Wolves last won a division title in 2007-08.



As another aside, give a listen to Reuben Villagracia's podcast covering the local sports scene. Lots of great insight from a guy who's been covering sports in Thunder Bay for more than 20 years.



It's less than two weeks until the Baseball Hall of Fame inductees are announced. With about 35 per cent

of the known ballot in, thanks to Ryan Thibodaux's tracker, Todd Helton and Scott Rolen are starting to look like they might both get voted in.

I hope so, because with Andruw Jones, Gary Sheffield and Billy Wagner all likely falling just short, but also above 65 per cent of the vote (75 per cent is needed for election), next year's ballot is going to get crowded all over again.

Adrian Beltre is a lock, and with Joe Mauer, Chase Utley, Bartolo Colon and David Wright will all be becoming eligible, along with holdovers Carlos Beltran, Alex Rodriguez, Manny Ramirez there won't be enough votes to go around.

Players like Mark Buerhle and Andy Pettitte could wind up victims of a numbers game and not get the five per cent needed to stay on the ballot in 2025.

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Concerned tax payers meeting. Saturday January 14th, 2:00pm Mary J L Black Library. Doors will open at 12 noon. Open mic. Voice your concerns over the city's high taxes and proposed tax hikes. Come early and fill out short questionnaire. Ray Smith will chair the meeting.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS In the Estate of

ANNE BEVERLEY GURBA

All Persons having claims against the Estate of ANNE BEVERLEY GURBA, late of Thunder Bay, ON, deceased, who died on or about August 4, 2022, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before February 9, 2023, after which date the estate will be distributed, with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice and the undersigned will not then be liable to any person of whose claims they shall not then have notice.

Dated at Thunder Bay, Ontario on the 12th day of January, 2023.

ANDREW GURBA, ESTATE TRUSTEE
c/o ERICKSONS LLP
ATTN: RYAN VENN
 Barristers and Solicitors
 291 South Court Street
 Thunder Bay, ON P7B 2Y1



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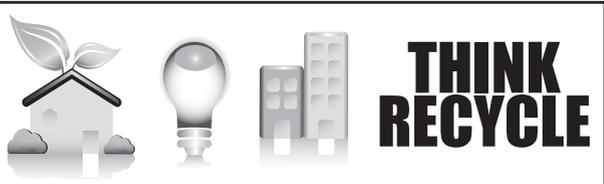
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PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "We are born brave, trusting and greedy, and most of us remain greedy." — Author Unknown

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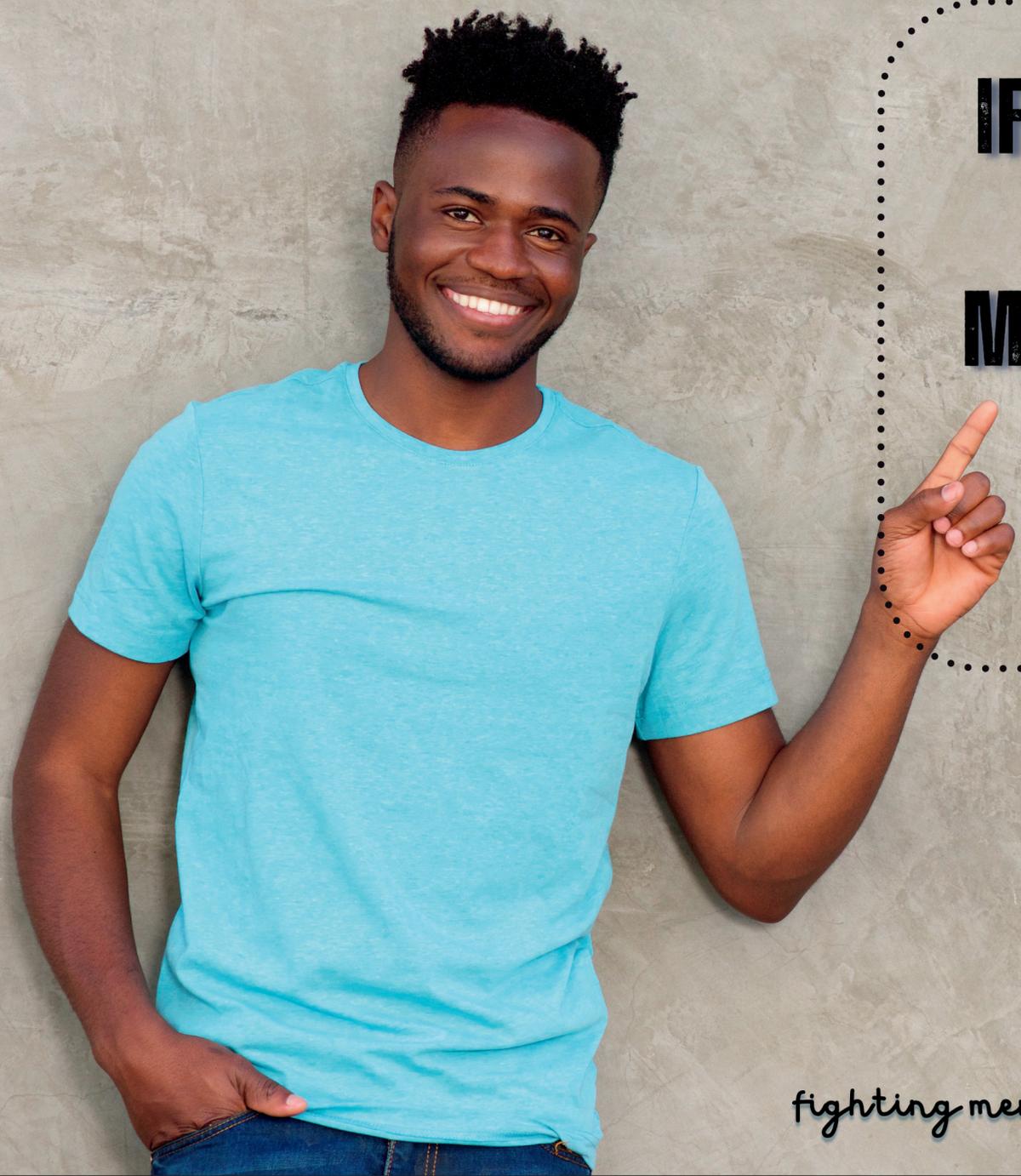


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