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#### **INSIDE NEW STATION?**



**Chief lavs out reasoning** for \$52-million facility /3

**GOT THF HOOK** 



A short list of must-have lures for fishing /9



**Rotary House Lottery** tickets on sale now /11



YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol.17 No. 11

# **Making tracks**

Annual Sleeping Giant Loppet draws a crowd of 892, well above the recent average for the ski race /17



LIFE FATHER, LIKE SON: Adam Kates (left) and his son, Landon, celebrate finishing the eight-kilometre track at the 43rd annual Sleeping Glant Loppet last Saturday.

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### **REVIEW**

2

#### Review of Proposed Operations: Information Centre Dog River-Matawin Forest 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), Resolute FP Canada Inc. and the Dog River-Matawin Local Citizens' Committee (LCC) invite you to the information centres. These information centres are being held as part of the detailed planning of operations for the 10-year period of the 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the Dog River-Matawin Forest.

#### **The Planning Process**

The FMP takes approximately three years to complete. During this time, five formal opportunities for public consultation and First Nation and Métis community involvement and consultation are provided. The second opportunity (Stage Two) for this FMP occurred on December 16, 2019 when the public was invited to review and comment on the long-term management direction. This **'Stage Three'** notice is:

- To invite you to review and comment on:
  - the details of access, harvest, renewal and tending operations for the ten-year period of the plan, and
- the proposed primary and branch road corridors and the proposed operational road boundaries for the ten-year period of the plan, and
- · To request contributions to the background information to be used in planning.

#### How to Get Involved

To facilitate your review, information centres will be held at the following locations from **3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on the following dates**:

#### Thunder Bay

Thursday, March 19, 2020: Valhalla Inn, 1 Valhalla Inn Road, Thunder Bay, ON

#### <u>Upsala</u>

### Tuesday, March 24, 2020: Upsala Community Centre, 20 Community Hall Road, Upsala, ON

The following information may be obtained at the information centres:

- Summary of the MNRF Regional Director's preliminary endorsed long-term management direction;
- Summary map of:
- the planned areas for harvest, renewal and tending operations for the ten-year period of the plan;
- the proposed corridors for new primary and branch roads for the ten-year period of the plan;
- Summary of public comments and submissions received to date and any responses to those comments and submissions;
- The proposed road use management strategies; and
- The list of required modifications resulting from the public review of the longterm management direction.

The proposed operations will be available for review and comment at the Resolute FP Inc. office and at the MNRF Thunder Bay District Office at the locations shown below by appointment during normal office hours for a period of 60 days, **March 19, 2020 to May 18, 2020.** Comments must be received by Peter Wiltsey of the planning team at the MNRF Thunder Bay District Office **by May 18, 2020**.

Meetings with representatives of the planning team and the LCC can be requested at any time during the planning process. Reasonable opportunities to meet planning team members during non-business hours will be provided upon request. If you require more information or wish to discuss your interests and concerns with a planning team member, please contact one of the individuals listed below:

#### Peter Wiltsey, R.P.F.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 435 James Street South, Suite B001 Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7 tel: 807-475-1145 e-mail: peter.wiltsey@ontario.ca Beau Johnson, R.P.F. Plan Author

Resolute FP Canada Inc. 2001 Neebing Avenue Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S3 tel: 807-475-2030 e-mail: beau.johnson@resolutefp.com



#### Dog River-Matawin

Local Citizens' Committee Representative c/o Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Thunder Bay District Office 435 James Street South, Suite B001 Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S3 tel: 807-475-1145

During the planning process there is an opportunity to make a written request to seek resolution of issues with the MNRF District Manager or the Regional Director using a process described in the 2017 *Forest Management Planning Manual (Part A, Section 2.4.1).* 

#### Stay Involved

The tentative scheduled date for submission of the draft FMP is **June 21**, **2020**. There will be two more formal opportunities for you to be involved. These stages are listed and tentatively scheduled as follows:

Stage Four - Information Centre: Review of Draft FMP Stage Five - Inspection of MNRF-Approved FMP August 24, 2020 February 12, 2021

If you would like to be added to a mailing list to be notified of public involvement opportunities, please contact Peter Wiltsey at 807-475-1145.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is collecting your personal information and comments under the authority of the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act.* Any personal information you provide (address, name, telephone, etc.) will be protected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act;* however, your comments will become part of the public consultation process and may be shared with the general public. Your personal information may be used by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to send you further information related to this forest management planning exercise. If you have questions about the use of your personal information, please contact Alyson Dupuis at 807-475-1512.

Renseignements en français : Annie Wheeler au 807 475-1251.



#### Thursday, March 12, 2020

## About \$52M needed to build new cop shop

#### CITY HALL By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

**C**ity councillors raised critical questions Monday night over a report recommending a \$52 million new headquarters for Thunder Bay police.

Some councillors expressed concerns over that price tag and questioned the need for a new facility, while others were disappointed the report seemingly rules out locating the new station in a downtown core.

The document was presented for information and discussion Monday night. The city's Police Services Board leads the process, while it will be up to city council to approve funding for a firmer proposal at a later date.

The report indicates the current police headquarters on Balmoral Street, built in the mid-1980s, is nearing end of life and is "insufficient to support current operational requirements." It recommends building a new one nearly double the size at a new location, saying that option would ultimately be cheaper and more effective than making additions to the existing station.

Police Chief Sylvie Hauth said the force is scrambling to meet its growing needs in the current station, which she said is too small and lacks key facilities, like a shooting range and forensics lab.

"We currently have nowhere to train, all we have is a boardroom that we on a daily basis convert from a computer room to a use-of-force self-defense training room," she told councillors. "We have no access for any type of public meeting area. From a logistics standpoint, we have no report-writing room for our officers. The list is quite extensive."

#### Staff influx planned

Hauth added there are also accessibility and privacy concerns due to limited space at the current building.

Beyond the limitations police are already dealing with, the report says the force is likely to grow significantly. It estimates the number of full-time equivalent employees operating out of police headquarters could grow from its current 309 to 400 in the next 20 to 25 years. That estimate is due to trends in policing, not projected population growth, the report says.

Some councillors weren't convinced of the need for a new station, at least not without seeing additional information. Several wanted to know if police had considered alternatives like adding smaller satellite stations instead.

"To throw away a 30-year-old building like this, how do we explain this to the public?" asked Coun. Mark Bentz. "To just abandon this large building that most feel is probably still functional – [or] it should be... Basically we're talking about doubling the police station to almost the size of the Superstore – which boggles my mind, really."

"It'd be nice to have a nice, new shiny building – I mean, we'd all want that," said Coun. Trevor Giertuga. "I just don't think the community can afford a \$52 million new building, [not] without exploring all options."

Engineering consultants with Form Studio Architects and RPL Architects told councillors they weren't asked to consider the possibility of satellite offices, but that a single station is likely a better option for a community like Thunder Bay.

Councillors also expressed disappointment at the report's recommendation that the station should remain



BIG ASK: Thunder Bay Police Chief Sylvie Hauth.

centrally located, rather than moved to a downtown core as some had hoped. A travel time study showed a south core location would leave parts of the city more than a 15-minute drive away, while consultants also had concerns that level rail crossings in the area could impede response times.

Coun. Aldo Ruberto was heavily critical of the report, saying it should have looked harder at bringing a permanent police presence into the downtowns, where he says the highest number of crimes and incidents occur.

"I don't see why we're not looking at other options," he said Monday. "Honestly, I was shocked when I saw this [report]. I was thinking to myself, this is unbelievable. Looking at the best urban design practices, you locate a police station in a downtown core area, whether it's a hub or something else – number one, you've got security. Number two, there's a tax income."

#### Better spending options?

The at-large councillor went on to wonder what the proposed spending of over \$50 million could do if applied to address underlying crime issues like mental health and poverty.

Giertuga began to move a motion calling on the Police Services Board to examine the satellite station option, in addition to those already considered in the report, but withdrew it after City Manager Norm Gale warned that could come with unknown additional costs. Giertuga said he would consider moving the motion at next week's council meeting after learning more.

The report pegs the costs of a new station at roughly \$52 million, while it estimates renovations and additions to the new station to meet similar needs would run closer to \$64 million.





## **New Art Gallery gets \$600K in donations**

#### THUNDER BAY By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

For Gail and Brian Scott, the arts are an important part of any community and can help foster healing and inspiration.

"People can look at one piece and have different feelings about it," Gail said. "Maybe their own problem are solved or realized in a different way so they can have a different perspective on how they feel about themselves or the world around them. It's an uplifting kind of feeling."

"I think it's important because it's inspirational. It gives people something to dream about or think bigger," Brian added. "It's like you're in a different place."

#### **Reason enough**

This is what motivated Gail and Brian Scott to donate \$150,000 to the new waterfront art gallery capital campaign. The \$150,000 is part of the more than \$600,000 in donations to the capital campaign announced last Friday at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery.

"With these donations it brings us to \$2.5 million that's been raised and our goal is \$3.5 million," said Sharon Godwin, director of the Thunder Bay Art Gallery. "We are going to be soon coming to the community on a more public campaign, but at this moment we are talking to donors who are interested in supporting the project."

The Paterson Foundation, which already has a gallery at the current location named after it for past donations, donated \$250,000 toward the new waterfront location.

"We've supported the arts for many years," said Alexander Paterson, president of the Paterson Foundation. "That was easy. When we heard they were building an art gallery on the waterfront, we have some 25 miles of waterfront in Thunder Bay that is wounded from the past glory days of our economic past, getting people to the waterfront is a huge



GREAT GIFT: Gail and Brian Scott donated \$150,000 toward the waterfront art gallery.

revitalization for the city of Thunder Bay."

The \$33 million project has received \$21.8 million from the federal and

provincial governments and \$5.7 million from the city of Thunder Bay.

Other donations announced on Friday include \$100,000 from Maurice and

Jackie Black, \$25,000 donated individually by Ken Boshcoff, Greg and Carol Ann Brumpton, and Cathy MacDonald, and corporate gifts of \$10,000 from TBT Engineering and \$25,000 from Bruno's Contracting.

"For us it's really meaningful that the people that are coming forward to give donations really understand the importance of the new gallery for everybody who lives in this community because it is for everyone," Godwin said.

#### **Timelines in place**

Godwin said construction is expected to start by the end of this year and it is estimated to take two years to complete. But for Gail and Brian Scott, it will be worth it for the people of Thunder Bay and they hope others will donate as well.

"I realize there are so many worthy causes to donate to, hospitals and food banks, these are all very worthy causes for funds, but we have to encourage the artistic elements in the city and let people dream big," Gail said.



### LOCALNEWS



ENOUGH ROOM?: A jet lands at Thunder Bay International Airport.

## Airport runway may lenghthen

#### TRANSPORTATION By Gary Rinne – TB Source

Thunder Bay International Airport is studying a proposal by Transport Canada to require the country's busiest airports to extend their runway end safety areas to better align with international standards.

Federal Transport Minister Marc Garneau has proposed an amendment to the Canadian Aviation Regulations which would lengthen the safety area to a minimum of 150 meters in order to provide extra room for aircraft to stop safely in case of an emergency.

The current mandatory safety area is 60 meters long.

The change would apply to the 28 airports that meet a threshold of at least 325,000 passengers annually.

Thunder Bay Airport handled about 870,000 passengers in 2018. International aviation standards define the runway safety area as "the surface surrounding the runway, prepared or suitable for reducing the risk of damage to airplanes in the event of an undershoot, overshoot, or excursion from the runway."

There is no hard deadline to adopt the new regulation as yet, as the government is inviting feedback from the air industry.

However, Garneau's announcement stated that airports would have two years to comply.

The minister also said airport operators would have the alternative option of taking measures to help slow down an aircraft at the end of the runway.

"The proposed measures also include other means of compliance for airports where land is not available. Airport operators would have the option to adjust a runway's distances or install a system that would help slow down an aircraft at the end of the runway," a press release stated.

Thunder Bay Airport CEO Ed Schmidtke said he and his staff will review the implications and consult with airlines before deciding how to proceed.

"We're going to do a look into the future on the most likely aircraft, get some cost estimates done, and install whatever the right fit for Thunder Bay is," Schmidtke told Tbnewswatch.

The plan, he said, might still be tweaked by Transport Canada.

"It might get longer, it might get shorter. Once it gets carved in stone we're going to start doing some work with engineers and planners and come up with the right fit."

Asked about the potential challenge for airports to add 150 metres to their runway safety areas, Schmidtke said it depends on the terrain.

"On some thresholds it's going to be more work than others. Don't be picturing concrete. It is a reinforced [hard-packed] surface so that if the aircraft runs off the runway, it doesn't sink," he explained.

Schmidtke said airport officials still have to evaluate how much room they have at the end of the runway to work with.

Thunder Bay Airport's longer runway is currently 7,318 feet. Its other runway is 5,297 feet long.

### INSPECTION

#### Inspection Of Approved 2020 – 2021 Annual Work Schedule: Black Spruce, Dog River-Matawin and Lakehead Forests

The Thunder Bay District Office of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) has reviewed and approved the April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021 Annual Work Schedule (AWS) for the Black Spruce, Dog River-Matawin and Lakehead Forests.

#### Availability

The AWS will be available for public inspection at the respective SFL holders' offices and the Ontario government website at **www.ontario.ca/forestplans**, beginning **March 15**, **2020** and for the one-year duration of the AWS.

#### Scheduled Forest Management Operations

The AWS describes forest operations such as road construction, maintenance and decommissioning, forestry aggregate pits, harvest, site preparation, tree planting and tending that are scheduled to occur during the year.

#### **Tree Planting and Fuelwood**

The SFL holders below are responsible for tree planting on the listed forests. Please contact the appropriate SFL holder for information regarding tree planting job opportunities.

For information on the locations and licence requirements for obtaining fuelwood for personal use, please contact the Ministry Offices as listed below. For commercial fuelwood opportunities; please contact the respective SFL holder directly.

#### **More Information**



For more information on the AWS or to arrange an appointment with MNRF staff to discuss the AWS or to request an AWS operations summary map, please contact:

#### **BLACK SPRUCE FOREST**

#### Bertha Strickland, R.P.F.

Management Forester Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Thunder Bay District Office 435 South James Street, Suite B001 Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7 tel: 807-475-1147

#### DOG RIVER-MATAWIN FOREST

#### Peter Wiltsey, R.P.F.

Management Forester Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Thunder Bay District Office 435 South James Street, Suite Boo1 Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7 tel: 807-475-1145

#### LAKEHEAD FOREST

Vishnu Kowlessar, R.P.F. Management Forester Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Thunder Bay District Office 435 South James Street, Suite B001 Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7 tel: 807-475-1163

#### Niall Scarr, R.P.F.

Planning Coordinator Resolute FP Canada Inc. 2001 Neebing Avenue Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S3 tel: 807-473-2843

#### Beau Johnson, R.P.F.

Planning Coordinator - Ontario Resolute FP Canada Inc. 2001 Neebing Avenue Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S3 tel: 807-475-2030

#### Phil Brown, R.P.F.

Planning Forester Greenmantle Forest Inc. 179, 25th Sideroad Rosslyn, ON P7K 0B9 tel: 807-939-3136



## **Editorial**

#### **EDITORIAL**

## Paid sick days a right

f you've been at your friendly neighbourhood grocery store lately, good luck trying to find certain essentials – namely toilet paper.

The shelves in many stores are bare, or close to bare, as people stock up amid fears of coronavirus arriving in Northwestern Ontario and the inevitable 14-day self-quarantine that comes along with a diagnosis or encounter with an infected person.

Some people, it seems, are stocking up for the apocalypse. It's a little overboard, if you ask us.

What we're more concerned about is how anyone who is quarantined is expected to survive financially.

The province says it has a plan to tackle coronavirus, but won't release any details. This is the same government that removed paid sick days and replaced it with three days of unpaid sick leave – and also allows employers to demand a note from a doctor.

Employers are under no obligation to make concessions for anyone who is asked to quarantine themselves to allow the coronavirus to pass. Faced with the possibility of losing their job to the disease, there will be a lot of people who decide it's best just to say nothing and go to work. That will lead to more exposure, more cases, and likely, more deaths.

The provincial government should issue legislation to protect people's jobs during the crisis, and if necessary, help those who need it most not face bankruptcy.

#### CONTACT US:

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#### Police face challenges

**To the editor:** Who is looking for a job where everyone will feel they know more about it than you? Are you a psychologist, a social worker and a marriage counselor?

Would you be willing to take powerful anti-viral drugs due to the risk of catching a disease?

Do you possess secret spidey powers to subdue drug-fuelled individuals without injuring them? Is being spit in the face by countless people okay with you? Are you fine with having split second decisions in dangerous situations triple guessed by Monday morning experts? Do you enjoy being told you are a racist because of the uniform you wear? If you answered yes than front-line policing is the career for you.

Seventeen years ago people laughed when I said recruitment for police officers would plummet if things did not change.

Last week, a news outlet in Boston ran a story about the challenges their police force is facing in recruitment. Google displayed stories about the topic including Thunder Bay.

What does that say about a profession that pays in excess of \$100,000 a year in three years?

Could it be that certain politicians have handcuffed the profession? Are the non-stop accusations of racism a factor? Could it be that officers are now hesitating, jeopardizing their own safety because they do not want to be the next public target for a social media campaign of anger?

Do people realize that these campaigns do not increase public safety they actually increase public risk?

When I ran for a provincial union position 23 years ago, I borrowed a slogan from the Cleveland Police Union that is even more relevant today.

"A society that makes war with its police had better be prepared to make friends with its criminals".

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Police are not perfect and there are some bad officers. No officer worth his or her badge would object to "reasonable" accountability. But contrary to the belief of some, police are not responsible for racism in a community.

They cannot solve homelessness, substance abuse, poverty, or mental health issues.

They cannot change centuries old federal policies but they often bear the brunt of dealing with those issues. And inevitably when things go wrong in these scenarios, we get to hear from a few politicians looking to score points, or others wanting to expand their power base.

The officers working the street today, face far greater challenges than

existed even a decade ago. It is my belief that things will continue to get worse.

Do not listen to those that say this is a money issue. It is not. It is a willingness issue; the willingness of people to stop sitting on the sidelines and to actually stand up and demand better from those who actually govern policing services.

Demand better from your provincial and federal representatives in terms of how police are supported.

Demand the necessary structures in social policies to take these issues away from police officers and have them addressed by appropriate professionals.

Fix archaic policies that have marginalized people for decades and

stop looking to the police to take the blame for the lack of decisions by those who hold political office.

Police officers did not create the justice system that people complain works against marginalized communities but, they are required by law to work within it.

Police officers however make handy scapegoats for people who want to avoid accountability or for those looking for more and more political power.

If you want recruitment to improve, then fix some of these issues, and maybe ten years from now recruitment won't be such a challenge.

> Jim Mauro, Thunder Bay

### NDP seek support for highway safety measures

#### **POLITICS** By Leith Dunick – TB Source

f at first the NDP don't succeed on road safety in Ontario's North, they'll try, try, try again.

On Monday Mushkegowuk-James Bay MPP Guy Bourgoin was in Thunder Bay seeking support for his already defeated private members bill aimed at boosting Highway 11 and Highway 17 to Series 1 highways, meaning snow must be removed within eight hours. Currently, maintenance crews have up to 16 hours to clear the two highways.

Bourgoin, brought Bill 125: Making Northern Ontario Highways Safer to Queen's Park in November, where it was defeated by the governing Conservatives. He said statistics he's gleaned from the Ministry of Transportation show drivers on northern highways are three to four times more likely to be killed than motorists on southern Ontario highways.

On top of that, the impassibility at times during the winter is having major impacts on Northern Ontario commerce.

"When I was growing up, the highways weren't closed as much as they were when they privatized (maintenance). It's definitely it's a huge step. From 16 hours to eight hours would make a huge difference," Bourgoin said.

"Don't forget. A lot of industries, when the highways are closed, they're affected, especially in forestry and schools and medical appointments." Bourgoin's Thunder Bay-Atikokan counterpart, Judith Monteith-Farrell, said as the Opposition party's forestry critic, she's heard the concerns of industry, particularly those in the forestry business.

"It's important that we support those industries and the workers. If a long-haul driver doesn't deliver his load, he doesn't get paid," Monteith-Farrell said.

In many areas, there are no workarounds if the Trans-Canada is closed just about anywhere in the region.

"There's no bypass," said Monteith-Farrell, adding in many places there isn't even a shoulder to get by, should a crash block the roadway.

"With our climate getting more precarious, with stronger weather systems coming in, we see that result – closures and fatalities."

## **Perspective**

ROCK & AGES

## Leadership required

### Innovative ways of thinking needed to fix our city

#### **OPINION** By J.R. Shermack **Special to TB Source**

ust like many other local fami-lies, we have a vested interest in the success of Thunder Bay and the well-being of everyone who calls this city home.

In spite of alarming stories in the news there are many generous, kind-spirited people living here, doing their best to improve the quality of life for everyone.

This city claims to have a giant heart and many caring, compassionate citizens are working to keep that heart from being broken.

Sadly, our reputation has been tarnished in recent years and disturbing media reports paint a dismal picture of a city in crisis.

This can be very discouraging, especially for those who love this community and embrace the lifestyle and opportunities it offers.

But these are troubling times in many ways and effective remedies for our social and economic challenges are sometimes hard to imagine.

It is difficult to focus on a brighter future in the face of harsh reality but now more than ever we could use some positive community aspirations to guide us.

We need innovative leadership and effective solutions - what changes do we want going forward and how can we make them happen?

We are desperately seeking

creative solutions and fortunately, the guidance we seek is already being provided from within our own community.

Thunder Bay has been extensively consulted about the harsh realities (and exciting possibilities) in front of us and a road map to a better future is waiting to be unfolded.

I came across a thoughtprovoking document last week that offered a realistic assessment of our current situation (harsh) and some possibilities (exciting) to consider.

It was the strategic plan for the Thunder Bay Public Library (TBPL), a loyal, old community friend offering some well-considered direction.

As I read through the 2019-2023 plan I was struck by its accurate portrayal of our community and the frank assessment of what needs to be done.

I was inspired by the document and generally impressed by its realistic tone and well-intentioned thoughts.

As stated in its vision statement, TBPL intends to become the heart of the community, a welcoming and inclusive centre of social innovation and change.

The strategic plan grew out of city-wide conversations, surveys and consultation which revealed the contents of our community's collective "heart'.

This is reflected in the stated objectives which address community health and safety, racism, cultural diversity and inclusion, homelessness and poverty.

In its own quiet and understated way the library is transforming into a community hub where people can access the resources and services they need.

It also promotes a shared understanding of who we are now and how we can deal with our on-going difficulties.

Because like it or not, our harsh realities need to be acknowledged and action needs to be taken.

If not now, when – if not TBPL, then who?

Thunder Bay's own vision statement declares, "We embrace and celebrate our diversity as it makes our community a vibrant and dynamic place to grow,"

City council must be gratified to see that its most compelling priorities have also been included in the strategic plan of such a venerable local institution.

And since TBPL is right across the street from city hall, councillors can easily go over and see firsthand how well the plan is working.

They might even consider other, more supportive options instead of funding cuts and public criticism of their strategic ally.

I look for City Council to lead by example and inspire this community to become the all-inclusive, compassionate, caring and thriving community it is meant to be.

Now that's what I call a community aspiration worth pursuing.



MARCHING FOR RIGHTS

LOOKING FOR EQUALITY: Nearly three dozen women took part in Sunday's International Women's Day solidarity march through the downtown north core of Thunder Bay. See page 8.

#### HOW TO WRITE US:

etters 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** 87 North Hill Street, Thunder Bay, ON P7A 5V6

Email: ldunick@dougallmedia.com Visit our website: www.tbnewswatch.com



mize the spread of coronavirus?



VISIT www.tbnewswatch.com TO SHARE YOUR IDEAS AND VIEWS ABOUT OUR WEEKLY POLL QUESTION.

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### INSPECTION

#### Inspection of Approved 2020-2021 Annual Work Schedules: Kenogami and Lake Nipigon Forests

The Nipigon District Office of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) has reviewed and approved the April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021 Annual Work Schedules (AWS) for the Kenogami Forest and Lake Nipigon Forest.

#### Availability

The AWS will be available for public inspection on the Ontario government website at **www.ontario.ca/forestplans**, and at the following locations beginning **March 16, 2020** and for the one-year duration of the AWS:

 Kenogami Forest Ne-Daa-Kii-Me-Naan Inc. office
Lake Nipigon Forest – Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc. office

#### Scheduled Forest Management Operations

The AWS describes forest operations such as road construction, maintenance and decommissioning, forestry aggregate pits, harvest, site preparation, tree planting and tending that are scheduled to occur during the year.

#### **Tree Planting and Fuelwood**

Ne-Daa-Kii-Me-Naan Inc. is responsible for tree planting on the Kenogami Forest. Please contact Deanna Hoffman, Chief Forester, listed below, for information regarding tree planting opportunities.



Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc. is responsible for tree planting on the Lake Nipigon Forest. Please contact Scot Rubin, General Manager, listed below, for information regarding tree planting job opportunities.

For information on the locations and licence requirements for obtaining fuelwood for personal use, or for commercial fuelwood opportunities, please contact one of the individuals identified below.

#### **More Information**

For more information on the AWS or to arrange an appointment with MNRF staff to discuss the AWS or to request an AWS operations summary map, please contact:

#### **KENOGAMI FOREST:**

#### Charlotte Bourdignon, R.P.F.

Management Forester Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 208 Beamish Avenue West P.O. Box 640 Geraldton, ON POT 1M0 tel: 807-854-1826 e-mail: charlotte.bourdignon@ontario.ca

#### LAKE NIPIGON FOREST:

#### Raymond Weldon, R.P.F.

Management Forester Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 5 Wadsworth Drive P.O. Box 970 Nipigon, ON PoT 2J0 tel: 807-887-5058 e-mail: raymond.weldon@ontario.ca

#### Deanna Hoffman, R.P.F.

Chief Forester Ne-Daa-Kii-Me-Naan Inc. 1-101 King Street, 2nd Floor Longlac, ON POT 2A0 tel: 807-876-9696

#### Scot Rubin, R.P.F.

General Manager Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc. 2225 Rosslyn Road Thunder Bay, ON P7K 1G9 tel: 807-621-7835 e-mail: srubin@hmeenterprises.ca

Ontario 🕅

## Women fight for rights

#### **THUNDER BAY** By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

For Marg Arnone, the fight for women's rights is as pressing as ever. As just over 30 people prepared to join Thunder Bay's solidarity march for International Women's Day, Arnone said the movement is still desperately needed.

"It's hugely important, because women have not made very much progress in the world," said Arnone, secretary of the Thunder Bay and District Labour Council. "Men may think so, but women don't think so. We still have a long way to go when it comes to equality when it comes to pay, having jobs, basic rights."

The march, which began at the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) headquarters on Memorial Avenue and doubled back at the corner of Bay and Algoma streets, is a longstanding annual tradition.

It was one of the final events in over a week of programming marking International Women's Day in Thunder Bay. That began with a flag-raising at city hall and included a sign-making potluck, a day of displays and speakers at Lakehead University, and a pancake breakfast before the march Sunday morning.

Two other events are upcoming: a women leaders' event hosted by the PARO centre March 12, and women's self-defense training through the Northwestern Ontario Women's Centre March 14.

Thunder Bay-Atikokan MPP Judith Monteith-Farrell said local participation in events around the day has grown, and increasingly reflects Thunder Bay's diversity.

Monteith-Farrell noted the issues of the day have changed since she became involved in the women's movement, but the fight remains as important as ever. The MPP said she first got involved in forming Thunder Bay's first rape crisis groups, and later joined the fight for paid maternity leave, then pay equity.

As she joined in the march Sunday, she said there were a number of women's issues on her mind.

"The major one in my mind is keeping women safe," saying there remains a need for greater support for rape crisis centres. She pointed to the ongoing fights for pay equity and access to childcare as other key issues.

Monteith-Farrell said the day is also a chance to celebrate women who make a difference in the community.

"I just celebrate the great women in Thunder Bay," she said. "We have awesome leaders and organizers. The women that do all that work, I'm just very proud to represent them."

### LOCALNEWS



CAUGHT: A wild brook trout that fell for the author's homemade jig fly.

## trio of lures

friend recently asked me for some advice on fishing lures. He is getting excited about spring and, since he does a lot of hiking, he often finds himself on the shoreline of some small secluded lakes that look like they should have fish in them. This spring he plans to toss a packable rod and a small tackle box into his backpack and try his luck for the trout that often inhabit these inland lakes that surround Thunder Bay. Not wanting to haul a giant tackle box down the rocky, rooted trails, he was looking for a short list of a few must-have lures to bring along. The criteria for these lures is simple: they have to be small enough to fit in a pocket, and they have to catch fish.

• Spinners: The first lure I would tie on to explore new water would be a Mepps spinner. The original French spinner is fantastic for covering a lot of water



in a short amount of time. They can be cast moderately far with light line, and when retrieved through the water the rotating blade creates both flash and vibration to attract fish. I'd carry a few different colours in

size two or three for trout. Models with dressed hooks, featuring squirrel or buck tail, can be especially deadly on trout.

• Spoons: If you are trying to reach further water, and the Mepps spinner is too light to cast far enough, try a Little Cleo spoon. These need to be retrieved a bit slower, especially in deep water, but the erratic wiggling action mimics an injured baitfish, which can prompt a reactionary strike from predatory fish that might not even be hungry.

• Jigs: If the fish are not active and they are refusing to chase down a spinner or spoon, try slowing things down with a jig fly. Tied on a bullet head jig with the same materials you might use to tie a streamer fly, these finesse lures can imitate minnows, crawfish, leeches or just about anything a trout could want. Simply cast them out as far as possible, allow them to settle to bottom, then lift and twitch them back on the retrieve. The hair and feathers pulsate in the water, giving them a lively appearance. Carry a few different sizes in natural tones to entice finicky trout.

A spinning combo with ultralight line is an effective way to present these small spinners, spoons and jigs. Using a tiny black barrel swivel about eighteen inches from the lure will prevent line twists, which is especially important when fishing the spinners and spoons. However, using the swivel also allows you to tie on a fluorocarbon leader ahead of the lure. Fluorocarbon is nearly invisible under water and I'm convinced that using it results in additional strikes.

There is no need to break the bank or carry a suitcase full of gear when exploring new water this spring. Simply add these three lures to your pack and you'll be well prepared to coax even the most reluctant trout into striking.

### **INSPECTION**

#### Inspection of Approved 2020-2021 Annual Work Schedule for the Dryden, English River and Wabigoon Forests

The Dryden District Office of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) has reviewed and approved the April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021 Annual Work Schedule (AWS) for the Dryden, English River and Wabigoon Forests.



#### Availability

The AWS will be available for public inspection at Dryden Forest Management Company Ltd. (DFMC) for the Dryden Forest, Resolute FP Canada Inc. for the English River Forest and Domtar Inc. for the Wabigoon Forest by appointment during normal business hours and on the Ontario government website at www.ontario.ca/forestplans, beginning March 11, 2020 and for the one-year duration of the AWS.

#### **Scheduled Forest Management Operations**

The AWS describes forest operations such as road construction, maintenance and decommissioning, forestry aggregate pits, harvest, site preparation, tree planting and tending that are scheduled to occur during the year.

#### **Tree Planting and Fuelwood**

DFMC, Resolute FP Canada Inc. and Domtar Inc. are responsible for tree planting on the Dryden, English River and Wabigoon Forests. Please contact each of the respective forests for information regarding tree planting job opportunities.

For information on the locations and licence requirements for obtaining fuelwood for personal use, please contact the MNRF Dryden District Office or Ignace Field Office. For commercial fuelwood opportunities, please contact the respective forest company for the forest you are interested in harvesting on.

#### More Information

For more information on the AWS or to arrange an appointment with MNRF staff to discuss the AWS or to request an AWS operations summary map, please contact:

P.O. Box 730, Dryden, ON P8N 2Z4

e-mail: derek.johnson@ontario.ca

1 Duke Street, Dryden, ON P8N 2Z7

WABIGOON FOREST

Derek Johnson, R.P.F.

Management Forester

tel: 807-223-7556

Daniel Yeboah, R.P.F.

**Planning Forester** 

tel: 807-223-9090

MNRF

#### Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

**Dryden District Office** 479 Government Street, P.O. Box 730 Dryden, ON P8N 2Z4

#### **DRYDEN FOREST**

Don Armit, R.P.F.

Management Forester MNRF P.O. Box 730, Dryden, ON P8N 2Z4 tel: 807-223-7526 e-mail: dj.armit@ontario.ca

#### Dave Legg, R.P.F.

**General Manager** Dryden Forest Management Company Ltd. Domtar Inc. 28A Earl Avenue, Dryden, ON P8N 1X5 tel: 807-223-7216 e-mail: dave@drydenforest.ca

**Ignace Field Office** Corner of Hwy. 17 & 599, P.O. Box 448 Ignace, ON PoT 1To

#### ENGLISH RIVER FOREST

John Coady, R.P.F. Management Forester - MNRF P.O. Box 448, Ignace, ON PoT 1To tel: 807-934-2255 e-mail: john.coady@ontario.ca

#### Matthew Hupf, R.P.F.

Planning Coordinator Resolute FP Canada Inc. 2001 Neebing Avenue Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S3 tel: 807-475-2458 e-mail: Daniel.yeboah@domtar.com / e-mail: matthew.hupf@resolutefp.com



### REVIEW

#### Review of Proposed Operations: Information Centre Black Spruce Forest 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan

The Ontario **Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), Resolute FP Canada Inc.** and the **Black Spruce Forest Local Citizens' Committee (LCC)** invite you to an information centre. These information centres are being held as part of the detailed planning of operations for the 10-year period of the 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the **Black Spruce Forest**.

#### **The Planning Process**

The FMP takes approximately three years to complete. During this time, five formal opportunities for public consultation and First Nation and Métis community involvement and consultation are provided. The second opportunity (Stage Two) for this FMP occurred on January 10, 2020 when the public was invited to review and comment on the long-term management direction. This **'Stage Three'** notice is:

- To invite you to review and comment on:
  - the details of access, harvest, renewal and tending operations for the 10-year period of the plan, and
- the proposed primary and branch road corridors and the proposed operational road boundaries for the 10-year period of the plan, and
- To request your contribution to background information to be used in planning.

#### How to Get Involved

To facilitate your review, the information centres will be held at the following locations from **3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** on the following dates:

April 9, 2020:Valhalla Inn, 1 Valhalla Inn Road<br/>Thunder Bay, ONApril 15, 2020:Nipigon Community Centre<br/>52 Front Street, Nipigon, ON

The proposed operations will be available for review and comment at the Resolute FP Inc. office and at the MNRF Thunder Bay District Office at the locations shown below by appointment during normal office

hours for a period of 60 days, March 19, 2020 to May 18, 2020. Comments must be received by Bertha Strickland of the planning team at the MNRF Thunder Bay District Office by June 9, 2020.

Bertha Strickland

Management Forester Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Thunder Bay District Office 435 James Street South, Suite Boo1 Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S3 tel: 807-475-1147 e-mail: bertha.strickland@ontario.ca Black Spruce

Local Citizens' Committee Representative c/o Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Thunder Bay District Office 435 James Street South, Suite Boo1 Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S3 tel: 807-475-1145

During the planning process there is an opportunity to make a written request to seek resolution of issues with the MNRF District Manager or the Regional Director using a process described in the 2017 *Forest Management Planning Manual (Part A, Section 2.4.1).* 

#### **Stay Involved**

The tentative scheduled date for submission of the draft FMP is **July 13, 2020**. There will be two more formal opportunities for you to be involved. These stages are listed and tentatively scheduled as follows:

Stage Four – Information Centre: Review of Draft FMP Stage Five – Inspection of MNRF-Approved FMP September 14, 2020 February 19, 2021

If you would like to be added to a mailing list to be notified of public involvement opportunities, please contact Bertha Strickland at 807-475-1147.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is collecting your personal information and comments under the authority of the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act.* Any personal information you provide (address, name, telephone, etc.) will be protected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*; however, your comments will become part of the public consultation process and may be shared with the general public. Your personal information may be used by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to send you further information related to this forest management planning exercise. If you have questions about the use of your personal information, please contact Alyson Dupuis at 807-475-1512.

Renseignements en français : Annie Wheeler au 807 475-1251.



Ontario 🕅

## Sentence delayed

#### COURT

By Karen Edwards - TB Source

A local man who has pleaded guilty to numerous charges involving fraud was granted another lengthy adjournment by a Superior Court Justice on Monday morning.

Richard Belbas was scheduled to appear for sentencing on charges dating back to 2017. Defence lawyer, Karen Scullion, announced Belbas had approached her in hopes of retaining her for his case.

"Mr. Belbas approached me regarding his case," she said. "This matter is set for sentencing, I am not in a position to proceed."

Ontario Superior Court Justice Danial Newton granted the adjournment application to return in early May while Belbas is in the process of retaining a new lawyer to allow his new counsel enough time to get up to speed with his case.

His previous lawyer, Francis Thatcher, announced he would no longer be able to represent Belbas.

Belbas was convicted and served time in jail in 2015 after he was found guilty of taking money from clients and not completing renovation work.

Crown prosecutor Andrew Sadler went over the numerous amounts of times Belbas's court hearings have been adjourned since he pleaded guilty in 2017, stating prosecutors did not believe more adjournments would be appropriate.

"Given the numerous adjournments provided to Mr. Belbas and given the length of the matter before the court...Crown is not in a position to consent to an adjournment application," Sadler said, adding Belbas continues to accumulate new charges.

Belbas's new lawyer says the 60-day adjournment is needed in order for Belbas to fully retain her as a lawyer in order to proceed with sentencing. According to Scullion, Belbas is looking at a potential five-year custodial sentence.

Sadler also brought up the probation order Belbas was bound by which required him to notify his probation officer of any new clients he retained. This allowed his probation officer to protect members of the public and notify them of Belbas's ongoing charges.

Sadler announced that court order has since expired.

Belbas's new method of supervision requires his surety to notify the police of any new clients. Crown counsel notified the courts this method has been less effective.

Justice Newton ordered Crown counsel to vary the conditions of his release and determine whether or not his pre-sentence report — which was completed in 2018 —should be updated.

Belbas will return to court on May 1.

Niall ScarrBIPlan AuthorLaResolute FP Canada Inc.C/2001 Neebing AvenueThThunder Bay, ON P7E 6S343tel: 807-473-2843The-mail: niall.scarr@resolutefp.comte

For your daily news visit www.tbnewswatch.com





FOOD FOR THOUGHT: The kitchen will be a huge attraction for ticket buyers who tour this year's Rotary House Lottery home, which is open on weekends from noon to 5 p.m.

## **Rotary lottery home worth \$589K**

THUNDER BAY By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Canada Day is always a fun celebration in Thunder Bay. For one lucky ticket-holder, it could also be life-changing.

The Fort William Rotary Club plans to unveil the winner of its 34th annual House Lottery, the grand prize a \$589,946 home located on South Creek Street in the city's River Terrace subdivision.

In addition there will be 10 early-bird draws worth \$5,000 apiece, to be drawn weekly between now and July 1, when the top prize is handed out.

The brick-faced bungalow comes complete with a garage, five bedrooms, a state-of-the art kitchen and a spacious backyard.

Dave Knutson, chair of the Fort William Rotary House Lottery committee, said last year's giveaway helped raise \$452,000 for a dozen local charities and this year they're hoping to creep closer to half-amillion dollars.

"We had a very successful year last year and we're looking forward to a very successful year this year," Knutson said on Thursday, five days after ticket sales launched on site at the home.

"We've added some additional features this year that I think will make it interesting to the buying public.

The best part is all the money goes to support local charities."

The house lottery is always a hot ticket.

Last year's draw sold out well in advance, nearly a month before the winner was announced.

This year's recipients include the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre Foundation's Our Hearts at Home campaign, the Thunder Bay Art Gallery, Shelter House, the George Jeffrey Children's Foundation, 70th Squadron Air Cadets, the Wilderness Discovery Camp, Christmas Cheer, the MS Society's Lake Superior chapter and Roots to Harvest and others.

Fort William Rotary Club president Stephen Margarit said it's a pretty good return for a club that only includes 45 members.

"It's really amazing work that this lottery does in our community," Margarit said. "Last year we made over \$100,000 in proceeds more than we did the year before. And every time you buy a ticket, you are helping local and district charities."

Tickets are 100 apiece or three for 250 – with the same name or names on each ticket.

The home, built by Lormar-Mario Michieli, is open for tours and ticket sales on Saturdays and Sundays until it sells out, from noon to 5 p.m.

For more information, visit www.fwrotary.ca.



GREAT SPOT: This year's lottery home is located on South Creek Street in the River Terrace neighbourhood.



Thursday, March 12, 2020

11



Call 346-2600 To Advertise In The Church Directory

## **Celebrity roast a big hit**

#### RBC's Brent Hagberg will take one for the Easter Seals' team

#### THUNDER BAY By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

**B**rent Hagberg isn't second guessing his decision to put his name forward to be roasted by friends and family, and even if the jokes might be at his expense, he knows it's for a great cause.

"It's all for good fun and at the end of the day all the proceeds that they raise go to a great cause so for me to put my name out there it's fine, there's enough stories going around about me," he said.

Hagberg, a mortgage specialist with RBC volunteered to be the victim in this year's Easter Seals annual Celebrity Roast.

#### Important fundraiser

Rhonda Harrison, senior development officer with Easter Seals Ontario, said this is one of the biggest annual fundraisers for the organization.

"It has been going on for 17 years and in those 17 years we raised more than \$700,000, so we are very excited for this year's event,"



SPOTLIGHT: Brent Hagberg is the 2020 Easter Seals Celebrity Roast victim.

she said. "We average around \$50,000 every year so that is what we are hoping to do again this year."

Easter Seals helps families with children living with physical disabilities with the purchase of equipment, communication devices, bathroom upgrades, and summer camp opportunities. There are more than 150 kids in Northwestern Ontario supported by Easter Seals. Past celebrity roasts have featured prominent people in the city of Thunder Bay and while not many people want to be in the hot seat, Harrison said this year they got lucky.

TBLife

"This year's victim was kind of easy," she said. "He volunteered at last year's event so we took him up on his offer. Brent is always great to work with. He's been supporting Easter Seals for quite a few years now at quite a few events so we are very honoured for him to step into the hot seat this year."

#### Wanted to help out

"I've been working with Easter Seals for the past two or three years," Hagberg added. "Seeing what the proceeds go towards, for Kamryn and her family being able to help with accessibility issues, is something true to my heart."

The Celebrity Roast will be taking place on Thursday, April 9 at the Victoria Inn. Tickets are \$125 and tables of eight and 10 are available. For more information visit the Easter Seals website.

"It's a lot of fun and people looking forward to coming to this event every year," Harrison said. "Everyone has fun at the roaster's expense. But it's a really light fun evening."



### 686 Squier St. Thunder Bay, ON P7B 4A8 • a1repairstbay@gmail.com Tel: 807-346-8001 Fax: 807-346-8003

## Spring ahead, spring thaws

FRED

IONES

RURAL ROOTS

Always comes as a bit of a shock that switching of the clocks. Woke up Saturday morning to fast-approaching daylight. Woke up Sunday morning to dark thanks to the time change. Checked thermometer – zero C. I knew what that meant.

It meant that as we get more daylight, we get warmer temperatures. While a

wonderful thing for humans and beasties like cat, dogs, and horses out here on the farm, the downside would be discovered when trying to drive off the property and later in the day, drive back. The melt has

begun. The snow on the driveway turns to mush. That mush likes to grab car tires. One must judiciously drive, varying speed to negotiate the few dangerous spots like curves where the vehicle wants to slide off the driveway.

The melt has not yet progressed to where the it will actually cause the car to get stuck but unless I jump onto my faithful sidekick, Big Red, my elderly tractor, and, using the bucket on the front, scrape the slush, to level the drive until it is solid again, there will be trouble.

#### Taking a chance

I was musing Sunday afternoon to my wife, Laura, as we drove off the property to attend a birthday party "up road", if I could safely gamble and remove the heavy, awkward farm snow blower from Red's rear.

"Afterall, if we are in fact being blessed with these spring-like temperatures, then why not attach the blade on the back of the tractor? It would make it much easier to scrape and get rid of the mushy snow," mused I.

"Don't do it yet. Logic dictates, Captain, that we could get more dumps of snow like the one we received last week," Laura counselled.

Oh, right, like the one we got last week

that we didn't know was coming. Woke up to a white-out. Very beautiful but indicating that Ol' Man Winter wasn't through with us yet. That snow did what the weather office said it would: gone by late afternoon. I sighed and climbed into my snow-clearing suit, trudged through the large drifts of snow thanks to the roaring winds, to reach the tractor shelter and fire

up Ol' Red. The snow-clearing wasn't difficult although two times the wind played switchers on me and I got covered as the snow blasted out of the blower funnel. At least I got the driveway and parking

areas cleared. Just in time, too.

#### Called in

The next day (Friday) just before I headed out to the barn to feed and kick out the equines to their day paddock, I received a telephone call from the chap who delivers firewood.

"I have a load on the truck for you now. Are you ready for it?" he asked. "As ready as I ever will be," I answered, "Bring it on and please dump it beside the old wood pile."

Which, when I returned from the city later in the afternoon, I saw that he did. Ten cords of birch to buck, split, and stack for next winter and, if we have another relatively warm one, possibly for the next one too.

This is the earliest that we've got wood so that I won't be doing the above bucking, splitting, etc., in August. It is hoped that the round of preparing the firewood will be done before Laura and I jump in the truck, pull the boat behind us, and head off to Northern Lights Lake for some fishing.

But boating at this stage of the game is but a dream. We still have snow and, on the lakes, ice. And that snow is changing texture thanks to the arrival of the warmth. Over the next week or so, I suspect me and Red will be busy. Then it will be the chainsaw's turn.

## City endorses Fox on \$5 bill

#### By TB Source staff

The City of Thunder Bay is weighing in on the question of who should replace Sir Wilfrid Laurier as the face of Canada's \$5 bill. City council passed a resolution earlier this week backing Terry Fox for the honour.

Council's endorsement will be expressed through letters to Minister of Finance Bill Morneau and Bank of Canada Governor Stephen Poloz.

The bank earlier this year announced plans to replace Laurier, who served as prime minister from 1896 to 1911, inviting Canadians to nominate citizens who have shown outstanding leadership or achievement. Nominations are open through March 11 and can be made through a form on its website. **ADVERTISING FEATURE** 

## **TB**Life **City take precautions against COVID-19**

#### HEALTH **Bv TB Source staff**

There are no cases of Coronavirus anywhere in the city or district of Thunder Bay to date.

But city officials say they are monitoring the situation as it evolves in Canada, and are "actively" updating the municipal influenza planning strategy.

In a statement issued last

Wednesday, the city said Dr. Janet DeMille, Medical Officer of Health for the district, had confirmed to Mayor Bill Mauro that no presumptive or confirmed cases have turned up in the area so far.

The statement said the city's executive management team and the Municipal Emergency Operations Control Group are currently reviewing the city's pandemic plan. According to City Manager Norm

Gale, officials are "prioritizing programs and services" so the city is prepared in the event a pandemic causes significant staff shortages or there is a disruption of supplies in the city.

A precautionary advisory has been sent to all city staff to remind them of the measures they can take to protect themselves and their families from respiratory illness.

Gale noted that the city has stocks

of personal protective equipment for paramedics and health care workers.

He reiterated a statement he made last Friday related to recent changes in emergency response procedures, requiring dispatchers to be aware of the potential for workers to be exposed to a virus.

"Screening points for 911 emergency medical calls alert paramedics and other first responders to the potential of a COVID-19 (Coronavirus) patient," Gale said.

He added that the city's employee health nurse is constantly monitoring the situation and working with the Thunder Bay District Health Unit to stay up-to-date on developments in the province and country.

"The city is committed to providing safe and healthy spaces for the public and for employees," Gale said.

Realth Mind & Body From chiropractic to the health care aide, our special section offers an abundance of ideas and services.

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Remember, healing takes time. It does not matter if the pain has been there days, months or years. The condition begins to heal and get better with laser therapy. The longer the problem has been there, the longer it typically takes to get better. But we have seen some very chronic problems respond quite quickly, within weeks or months. Our Certified Laser Therapist will discuss treatment options with you and numbers of treatments.

Knee pains, from arthritis, old injuries,



wear and tear, sports, post-operative scar tissue and unknown causes have all been helped. We use a holistic approach and in addition to Laser Therapy, we recommend diet changes, European pain relieving gels, exercises and supplements. Jody, our certified laser therapist, is experienced helping many of the most common and uncommon conditions. He

will coach and guide you through the healing process. He works under my Chiropractic license and I supervise all care

Herniated and bulging discs in the low back and neck from arthritis, injuries and old age have responded amazingly well to cold laser therapy, even when it results in sciatica referring pain down the leg. It takes time to heal these difficult conditions, but they do respond.

Medical Doctors and Nurse Practitioners now refer to us for their patients needs although you do not need a referral to receive care

We also perform Smoking Cessation with laser therapy with an over 97% success rate.

Laser Therapy is covered by work place extended benefits under Chiropractic.

There will be a free seminar on Laser Therapy at the Thunder Bay Wellness Centre, 701 Memorial Ave, on Wednesday March 18 at 6pm-7pm. Space is limited, so please call 343 7932 now to reserve a seat for you and a friend. See our website at www.tbaywellness.com for more information and like us on Facebook.

Dr Alan Cranton DC, ND (Ret) is a Chiropractor and retired Naturopathic Doctor practicing in Thunder Bay for 35 years at the Thunder Bay Wellness Centre



## IN THE DOAL arts entertainment culture

## Emma a bit clueless



Given the generally positive reception for director Autumn de Wilde's latest incarnation of *Emma*. (yes, that's with a period) and the overall fondness extended to previous film and television versions of Jane Austen's meddling romantic protagonist that have surfaced over recent years, one comes away from this version feeling a bit disengaged.

There's an enduring appeal to Austen's satirical story situated in 19th century England, set in the little village of Highbury, where Emma Woodhouse's misadventures as a precocious 21-year-old self-proclaimed matchmaker allowed the author to have a bit of fun with the manners and morals of the back-woodsy upper crust classes, twitting their frivolous sensibilities, fixated on proper societal behaviour and idle gossip.

#### Matchmaker

The essential plot deals with Emma's efforts to find romantic salvation for Harriet Smith (Mia Goth) ostensibly a young adult orphan, whom Emma intends to link with the village vicar, (Josh O'Connor) a union Emma sees as having more potential than one posed by another candidate, a gentle, young farmer (Conner Swindells).

In the midst of this, Emma finds herself personally taken with the "trifling silly fop" Mr. Churchill (Callum Turner) while failing to see the yearning fermenting in the eyes of stalwart family friend, appropriately named George Knightley (Johnny Flynn).

What ensues are actions and intentions that are misinterpreted, hinting at star-crossed romance, but to uneven effect.

Attempts at humour are stilted, rather than fluidly emanating out of the story. Even Bill Nighy as Emma's hypochondriac widowed father comes off as eccentric for eccentric's sake.

And there are young maidens identically tricked out in identical Red Riding Hood-like outfits. They're cute, but why?

Unlike Gretta Gerwig's *Little Women*, another period piece from a popular novel, De Wilde, working from Eleanor Catton's script, isn't quite as successful in clearly defining her characters, or finding a consistent tone and a definitive through-line.

The key to this is Anya Taylor-Joy as Emma who's severely lacking in charisma. We are not meant to like Emma necessarily, but we could still be amused by her own hapless missteps if only they were imbued with a bit more warmth, charm and wit.

Instead, she's cold and detached. And a profession of love to her results in a nosebleed?

However, no one can fault the sumptuous production values.

#### Lovely to look at

From imposing mansions and photogenic estates to ballroom dance choreography to well-appointed, candle-lit interiors to corseted gowns and high-collared shirts and much ringletted hair, the production is indeed impressive to behold, surely as Oscarworthy.

Musical embellishments range from classical to traditional folk, with Flynn himself, a musician, offering a jaunty rendition of *Queen Bee* for the closing credits.

It's not as if *Emma*'s a waste of time. There's simply frustration that the piece doesn't really gather steam until the final act, where there's a clearer definition of how characters are feeling and where they're going. Ironically, it's not until the end where Emma herself finds love that's been standing right in front of her all along.

She's been too clueless to see it. Wait a minute, that's in another movie.



AUSTEN HEROINE: Anya Taylor-Joy stars as the title character in the movie Emma.



### Things to do this weekend

#### Friday

There will be anything but the sound of silence on stage at the Community Auditorium when the Simon and Garfunkel story returns to Thunder Bay. Featuring hits like *Mrs. Robinson, Cecilia, Homeward Bound* and *Bridge Over Troubled Water*, the show covers their career from start to finish. Tickets are \$45 to \$60.7:30 p.m.

#### Saturday

The second annual Healing All Nations gospel concert will be held Saturday at the Community Auditorium. It features the music of The Freemans, Lott Thunder, Yvonne St. Germaine and many more. Worship times are from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35 at the box office or online.

#### Saturday

The Shamrock Shakedown kicks off St. Patrick's Day celebrations at the Sleeping Giant Brewery. Featuring the music of The Thirsty Monks and food by Pinetree Catering, there will be more than 16 types of beers on tap, including the limited release of Shamrock Shakedown event beers. Tickets are \$10 to \$60 and capacity is limited. Proceeds benefit Our Kids Count.

#### Saturday

The Downtown Shamrocker is the ultimate St. Patrick's Day pub crawl, having participants join one of six teams and travel around to Black Pirates Pub, The Waterhouse, The Foundry, Red Lion, Atmos and the Sovereign Room, before wrapping up at NV Night Club to party late into the night.

Ticketholders receive a shamrock T-shirt for the event and \$3 featured shots at all participating bars. Tickets are \$15 per person and are available online through NV Night Club's website.

### IN THE **bay**

## Juried and honours exhibitions shine

#### ART By Linda Maehans - TB Source

Every year the culmination of cre-ative talent coming out of the Visual Arts Department of Lakehead University is an amazing surprise.

Once again Thunder Bay Art Gallery plays host to the annual Juried and Honours Exhibitions: there must be close to a hundred selections filling all three gallery spaces with inspired works in every imaginable genre, use of materials and ideas. From real to surreal; from whimsy to shocking to quiet and lovely. Work to spark the best of human emotion in viewers with eyes to see

Political-cultural, and of course environmental themes were what seemed naturally to be emerging in recent years from the art students at LU. Now, here in 2020 and at least for this viewer, there is a new theme to sense, to see. In our deluge of social-media, with its accompanying nastiness; and a pervasive tech-overload everywhere; how

PAPER

refreshing to encounter genuine human feeling, thought, and emotion.

The Honours Exhibition by this year's cohort of five reflects some solid achievements. Solid skill with ceramic; with celadon-glazed porcelain; with the "golden oldies" complete with sound; with the garments (including shoes) depicting women's roles-in-life. With acrylics. Or, I've never seen anything such as this before, candle smoke on paper. How on earth does someone create something as wonderful as this?

On the juried side, tell me HUMANnature (acrylic on raw canvas, steel frame) isn't the most quiet-with-silence to grace any room, anywhere.

Or, when you look at an acrylic-oncanvas titled "7:00 AM", what was that artist thinking? What does it have you thinking?

Diagonal from the entrance to the Juried, an installation had me circling the "outside", then stepping back "inside" because I have an imagination. Something haunted, just behind those doors. One so narrow small; all of them

GLASS



CANADA'S GAME: Hockey Boys, by Erika Niva, is part of the juried exhibition.

charred. You could smell it. I couldn't stand the squares of the panels, in that smallest door.

"Fort Mac Strong" is a mixed-mediaon-wood, by Katie Untinen.

She said it's a representation of those

who went through a catastrophic event. "It didn't hit me until a few days later; was like being in a movie.

People see videos, even documentaries about it; but it's a completely different feeling when your life flashes in front of your eyes. I was in the classroom, grade one, 22 of them; and the next minute we're trying to evacuate.

These doors represent the homes of Fort McMurray residents and the life they lost. The main thing I wanted to express is the helplessness and disbelief when a natural disaster like this happens; in front of your eyes. Takes everything from you. Something I will never forget.

This experience has shaped me into the person I am, today.

Our path in life can change in an instant; hope it brings some closure to others, viewing it, as creating it did for me."

LU Juried and Honours Exhibitions are up until April 5 and March 29 respectively: go see visual art, see what you think.



#### tickets: magnustheatre.com | 807-345-5552 | 10 Algoma St S.









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#### Learn more at Tikinagan.org or call 1-800-465-3624

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Child & Family Services



#### IN THE **bay**

## Social media erupts after live stunt

#### Nik Wallenda wore a harness, which upset raging Internet trolls

The Wallenda family has been making headlines for nearly a century. The Barnum & Bailey Circus hired the Flying Wallendas in 1928 after seeing them in Cuba. And their inaugural show at Madison Square Gardens received a standing ovation after the family performed without a safety net.

It had been lost in transit. Unfortunately, that became the standard by which they would forever be judged.

And over the years, their increasingly death-defying stunts without that net took their toll.

In 1962, a seven-person chair



pyramid collapsed, killing two and paralyzing one. One family member fell to her death in 1968 and another was electrocuted on the rigging in 1972.

#### Tragedy

In 1978, at the age of 78, family patriarch, Karl, fell to his death during a promotional walk between the towers of Condado Plaza Hotel in Puerto Rico.

However, great-grandson, Nik, continued the family legacy by completing that walk in 2011.

Since then, Nik Wallenda has continued to promote the family brand. While other aerial performers battled bureaucracies for years, Nik Wallenda secured permits to cross Niagara Falls and the Grand Canyon.

He's walked blindfolded and even hung from a helicopter using only his toes.

However, luck hasn't always been his. A 2017 rehearsal of the troupe's eight-person pyramid high-wire act for a new Guinness World Record for height almost ended in tragedy.

The pyramid collapsed and five performers fell. Fortunately, everyone survived.

Yet Nik continues to break records and try new feats. And that included a

recent 30-minute walk across a live volcano on an ABC special.

For this evening stroll, Nik faced gas fumes, extreme heat and high winds – not to mention what has to be going through his head when he steps onto that wire.

#### Wore protection

Consequently, he wore goggles to protect his eyes (so he could see), a respirator against the noxious gases (so he could breathe), and a harness (so ABC didn't accidentally air a death scene on live TV).

Despite the harness being a legal requirement from the network, it didn't sit well with many viewers. Social media was flooded with complaints that the harness meant Wallenda cheated. Some even called him a fraud.

A fraud? The earlier Wallendas still

had a chance of survival if they fell. Albeit in a wheelchair with a feeding tube.

#### But still a chance.

Internet trolls ignored the fact that Nik was walking above a roiling lava lake measuring 700 C to 1,200 C.

A fall meant certain death. His body would have liquefied.

Yes, it's Wallenda's job to push the limits. That doesn't mean he should give his life if a mistake is made.

We're usually horrified by news stories of people dying on the job. After all, a paycheque shouldn't be a death sentence.

Yet social media condemns this guy and ABC for ensuring his safety?

Besides, did you want to risk your children seeing a man die in a lake of molten lava?

If that's the standard for entertainment today, humanity is truly lost.

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HUGE FIELD: Race organizers say 892 participants took part last Saturday in the Sleeping Giant Loppet, warm weather making it a great day for racing or just hitting the trails for a leisurely outing with friends and family.

## MacLean, Shields take Loppet titles

#### **SKIING** By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Alannah MacLean and Andy Shields have won a lot of ski races in their day.

But until Saturday, they had never captured the marquee 50-kilometre freestyle race at the Sleeping Giant Loppet.

It was a title that had escaped the duo, who each captured gold at the recent OUA Nordic championships, skiing for Lakehead University and who have each represented Canada on the international stage.

#### The wait is over.

Shields led all skiers, finishing with a time of 2:18:18, while MacLean was the top female skier in the race, crossing in 2:44:57, the 11th best overall time.

"I've been on the podium the last two years, but I've never taken the win. So I was really hoping that I was going to be able to do it this year," said MacLean, a former member of the National Training and Development Centre-Thunder Bay team who is attending medical school at Lakehead University.

"The race couldn't have gone better

than it did out there."

MacLean, who later this month plans to compete on the World Cup circuit in Quebec, said she's not sure how she finds the time as she continues her studies to become a doctor.

"I have no idea how I keep skiing at the level I keep skiing at. I think the biggest thing is I love the sport. I love to be out here, I love to be competitive, that's what keeps fuelling me," she said. "And there's no pressure for me to do well – but it seems to me I still have some speed left in my legs."

Shields is in a similar boat.

At 28, he's a rookie with the Thunderwolves program, he won gold, silver and bronze and will lead LU's second-place men's team into nationals in Silver Star, B.C. later this month.

The Loppet was a bit of a tune-up, and a chance to scratch the title off his skiing bucket list.

Shields said he pulled away fairly early and held on, as the sun burst through the Northern Ontario winter sky and slowed the course down considerably as the race went on.

"It was a little bit of a lonely ski," Shields said. "I kind of pulled ahead of the rest of the guys 15 K into the race and then had a pretty good section for a while there. I felt really good, had a lot of energy. But I ran on empty with 10 K to go.

"So it was a scary win at the finish. I thought the guys were going to be coming up behind me. I managed to stay ahead right to the end and I'm pretty happy with that. Finally, I think this is my first Sleeping Giant Loppet win."

#### Sibling act

Brothers Angus and Fergus Foster of Murillo were second and third respectively, while Lakehead's Taij Mann took fourth and veteran Werner Schwar rounded out the top five.

Kim Rudd, of Plymouth, Minn. was second in the women's race, with Kaministiquia's Peters taking third.

Paul Inkila took the men's title in the 50-kilometre classic race, posting a time of 2:56:10, while Kerrie Berg of Bemidji, Minn. was the female winner in 3:08:50.

A total of 892 skiers took part in Saturday's races, which also featured a family-friendly eight-kilometre event, 20- and 35-kilometre races and a 50-kilometre skiathalon, which was won by Ely, Minn.'s Tyler Fish.



FIRST FINISHER: Alannah MacLean (left) tops the field in the freestyle competition. To the right is Nadine Haalboom, who took part in a classic-style race.

sports NEWS

## Williams a Top 100 choice

#### **BASKETBALL** By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Jylisa Williams only spent a season-and-ahalf in a Lakehead Thunderwolves uniform.

But her accomplishments still reverberate today.

Williams, who arrived in Thunder Bay in 2013 and was forced to sit half a season because of OUA eligibility requirements, was a tour-de-force in her short time with the T-Wolves.

She set a league record with 50 points in a game against Toronto in 2015 on the way to OUA and CIS player of the year honours, a Lakehead first.

Last Wednesday she was named one of the 100 best Canadian collegiate women's basketball players of all time.

"Words cannot describe the amazing feeling I have to be chosen as one of the Top 100 Players in Canadian University history. I owe so much to my Lakehead family. My teammates, coaches, and fans have given me so much amazing support and I feel beyond blessed," said Williams. in a release issued by the school.

"Playing for this community has definitely felt like my home away from home. This is a once in a lifetime honour and I will cherish it for the rest of my life."

#### Earned it

It's a well-deserved honour, said Thunderwolves coach Jon Kreiner.

"The first year, we knew what we had, we had a special player. But in her second year, it was one of the most enjoyable, fun things to witness and watch each and every night," Kreiner said.

"Scoring that 50-point game in that game against Toronto, at the end of the year, in my mind, she

was the best player that I've ever seen live. So it doesn't surprise me (she's on the list), but it's still an amazing accomplishment, especially since she only played here for two



RECORD-SETTER: Jylisa Williams in 2015 scored 50 points against the Toronto Varsity Blues.

years."

"Words

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to be

chosen .... "

**J**YLISA

WILLIAMS

Williams' path to Thunder Bay wasn't an easy one.

The Atlanta native began her college career at Georgia State in 2008-09, but left midway through her sophomore season. She wound up in Alaska, spending two years in the United States Army, before enrolling at Alberta's Olds College, where she spent a single season in 2012-13. As a rookie at Georgia State, she

averaged 10.5 points a game, 18th best in her conference.

It was in Thunder Bay, however, where Williams began to really

shine. In her first game with the team, on Jan. 10, 2014 against Waterloo, she poured in 39 points and went on to lead the Wolves with a 20.2 points-per-game average over 12 games, Lakehead winning eight of its final 12 games that season before being knocked out in the first round by McMaster.

Williams was absolutely dominant in Season No. 2.

She topped 40 points twice, 30 points seven times, and only twice all season was she held to less than 20 points. She finished with a 28.8 points-per-game average, 9.3 rebounds a night and 3.4 assists a game, and took LU all the way to the OUA semifinal, where a questionable elbow by a Windsor defender landed her on the sidelines with a concussion.

#### As good as they come

Kreiner said he's had some special players over the years, including former OUA player of the year Leashja Grant, but none compare to Williams.

"She was phenomenal. She was a player that led the league in scoring easily, but only making 2-for-10 all year, in the age of the three-point shot. Her defence, her intensity, her ability to pass the basketball ... she was willing and able to do all the things and had the tools to do all the things necessary to win a basketball team," Kreiner said.

"She just really elevated a team that was probably a very average team to an elite level."

Lakehead athletic director Tom Warden said it's a fantastic honour for both Williams and the school.

"We've had a lot of good athletes come and go. There's no question that she was special. We moved a few rules around to put her in our wall of fame as soon as we could. I think we realized how special she was ... I think it's a huge honour for her and just a testament to the talent that she has.

Williams continued her career overseas, but injuries forced her to retire.

She currently works in hospital admissions in Atlanta.

The top 100 list, celebrating 100 years of Canadian Collegiate basketball, was selected by a panel of women's basketball coaches and partners.

## Strat-O-Matic baseball season set to start



t's my favourite weekend of the sports year that doesn't have wall-to-wall coverage from Augusta National.

This weekend I'm heading back to Halifax where a bunch of my ex-Daily News colleagues, and some others who have joined over the years, and I will gather at a local watering hole early Saturday afternoon and spend several hours restocking our Strat-O-Matic baseball teams.

It's an old-school baseball board game,

with each player having a card filled with potential results that come into play based on a roll of three dice (and a 20-sider to boot).

It's about as realistic a re-creation of the game as you can get, taking in fielding and baserunning skills, as well as the tradtional hitting and pitching abilities.

The league has been going since 1996. I first joined in 1998, left after 2006, but jumped back in seven years later.

I've never managed to win the championship, though I did get to the final in 2003, only to be swept.

This year, my team is looking pretty good. I made a deal in the offseason to snag Justin Verlander to head up a rotation that already included Jacob deGrom and Sonny Gray, and with Alex Bregman, Anthony Rendon, Josh Bell, Bryce Harper and J.T. Realmuto, I think finally this might be my year.

#### 

**C**ongratulations to Thunder Bay golfer Evan DeGrazia, who last month managed to secure conditional status on the Mackenzie Tour-PGA Tour Canada for the 2020 season.

DeGrazia finished tied for 17th at qualifying school in San Antonio, and should be able to use his status to get into a few events before they reshuffle the order after the first six tournaments.

DeGrazia tried and missed out last year to gain status. He played in four Staal Foundation Open events in Thunder Bay from 2015 to 2018, and failed to make the cut. May your fairways be wide and your greens soft.



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