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Wesley guilty in 2019 homicide

By Karen Edwards – Local Journalism Initative Reporter

A Thunder Bay man initially charged with second-degree murder in connection with the 2019 death of 58-year-old Claude Justin Kishiqueb pleaded guilty to manslaughter on Thursday.

Nathaniel Austin Wesley was arrested in March 2019 following an incident that left Kishiqueb of Thunder Bay dead outside a North Cumberland Street business.

On Thursday, March 11, Wesley appeared in a virtual Thunder Bay courtroom where he entered a plea to a new charge filed against him by Crown counsel. No facts about the incident were read into the court record during Thursday's appearance.

A pre-sentence report with Gladue consideration has been filed for Wesley.

In a news release issued at the time, Thunder Bay police responded to a Cumberland Street address following reports of a male on the ground. According to police, the person who called 911 believed a baseball bat may have been used during the assault.

Police located two male victims. One victim, Kishiqueb, became unresponsive



MORE COMING: Nathaniel Wesley will be in court on May 6 to deal with more charges.

and was pronounced dead.

The second victim was transported to the hospital with injuries.

Wesley will appear in court next on May 6 where his remaining charges will be dealt with and to set a date.

Vaccines given to all frontline officers in Thunder Bay

First doses given, staff starting to get theirs too

POLICE By Karen Edwards – Local Journalism Initative Reporter

All frontline Thunder Bay Police officers have received the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, Coun. Kristen Oliver informed council members on

Monday night.

Oliver, who also serves as the chair of the Thunder Bay Police Services Board, mentioned during the March 8 council meeting all frontline officers had received an initial round of vaccination.

"Now they're moving to the rest of the civilian staff included as well," Oliver said, adding individuals in these positions also have opportunity where they could be in

close contact with someone infected with COVID-19.

In a statement to *Thunder Bay Source*, Thunder Bay Police Service said they have been working closely with the Thunder Bay District Health Unit to begin the vaccination process for their members over the last few weeks. "This process will continue," the statement said.

Since the pandemic was declared last year, a few members of the police force have tested positive for the virus which has resulted from exposures both on-duty and off-duty.

"We have been proactive in our work with the Thunder Bay District Health Unit to ensure that members of the public have not been put in any jeopardy by these exposures," police said.

Oliver also advised paramedics are also being vaccinated as well.

are also being vaccinated as well. Mayor Bill Mauro delivered a memorandum on Monday night providing an update from Ontario's Big City Mayors (OBCM) in relation to police, fire and emergency medical service personnel receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

"OBCM continues their municipal advocacy efforts for inclusion of all first responders in Phase 2

COVID-19 vaccinations which includes police, fire service and emergency medical service staff," Mauro said. "This position is supported by OBCM where a motion was passed at the last meeting which expressed its support for the inclusion of all first responders in the priority list of phase two of COVID-19 vaccinations."

A harmless coffee break can do more harm than you think.

Wear a mask, wash your hands and physically distance to stop the spread of COVID-19. Learn more at ontario.ca/covid-19

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LITTLE SURPRISED: Mayor Bill Mauro said he couldn't have imagined a year ago how bad COVID-19 would turn out to be.

Heavy COVID impact

"It's been an

incedibly

trying time

for the

community,

as it has

been right

across the

country."

BILL MAURO

THUNDER BAY By Leith Dunick –TB Source

A year ago, the reality of COVID-19 hit home. It would be more than two weeks before the District of Thunder Bay confirmed its first case, on March 27, but March 11, 2020 is a day that will live in infamy.

That's the day the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic.

Within weeks, businesses would shut down, the NBA and NHL would close up shop and face masks and social distancing became a reality.

Thunder Bay was no different.

Looking back, 365 days later, Mayor Bill Mauro said it's hard to believe what's happened since that declaration.

"It's been an incredibly trying time for the community as it has been right across the country. We've unfortunately seen loss of life. We've seen isolation, where families can't visit loved ones who are in long-term care and in the hospitals," Mauro said.

"It's a very, very difficult circumstance. The mental health impacts that have flowed from this, the city not being able to provide a broad range of services that people generally rely upon. There's the financial considerations and the impacts as a result of COVID-19."

For much of the spring and summer, Thunder Bay was in a pretty good spot. As late as Nov. 5, there were no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the district. However, case counts began to spike in November and by Dec. 1, reached 100 for the first time.

Once it got into the vulnerable population, it jumped again, reaching a high of 470 active cases this past Sunday. To date, there have been 2,174 confirmed cases, all but 585 in 2021. There have also been 37 deaths.

Schools are closed to in-person learning for the second time since the pandemic arrived and the district remains in Grey-Lockdown, after a two-week reprieve in Red-Control on the colour-coded provincial framework.

As bad as it seems at times, Mauro said it could have

been worse.

"By and large, the people I do believe, have been doing exactly what they've needed to do throughout the entirety of the pandemic. And so you say thank you to them and you wait for the vaccines to arrive, which is ultimately the answer that's going to get us through this," the mayor said. It's been a tremendously trying time on the business community, said Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce president Charla Robinson.

Non-essential businesses were forced to close in the early days of COVID-19, and while most returned to business in the summer, a number closed their doors for good when Ontario Premier Doug Ford ordered the first shutdown.

Dozens more could face a similar fate if the

current lockdown doesn't soon come to an end. But Robinson wants to focus on the positive, where possible.

"I think the first word that comes to mind is resilience," she said. "So many businesses are still struggling, but they're still going. They're still finding new ways to do what they do. Many of them have really had to change their business model.

When the severity of the situation became apparent, Robinson said she was taking phone calls from business owners who were in tears. Thankfully government programs helped many entrepreneurs weather the storm

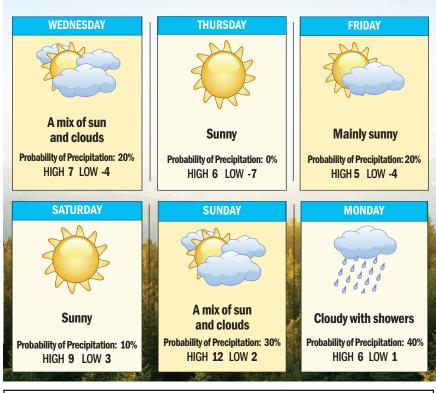
That said, she's worried it's a year in and at some point soon, tax deferments and loan repayments are going to come due.

"At some point, you need to pay that back, and that's when the crunch will come. Certainly this extra lockdown now has been detrimental to many businesses who probably in November were feeling they could get through this, that they'd been through the worst of it," Robinson said.

"Unfortunately, that hasn't been the case."

Robinson, like Mauro, is holding out hope the vaccine will put an end to the worst of the pandemic, maybe as early as the summertime.

Weather Forecast





at your TICKET #'S DRAWS START APRIL 1, 2021

Actions louder than words: Mamakwa

POLITICS By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

Kiiwetinoong MPP Sol Mamakwa says he's more interested in seeing action on urban Indigenous vaccination than the personal apology he received from Premier Doug Ford on Friday.

Ford had accused Mamakwa of "jumping the line" to get vaccinated in Ontario's legislature on Thursday, despite the fact Mamakwa had done so at the urging of community leaders to promote uptake in First Nations.

The province's current Phase 1 vaccine priority list also includes "Indigenous adults in northern remote and higher risk communities (on-reserve and urban)."

Was phoned

At a press conference last Friday evening, Mamakwa said he'd received a call from the premier earlier in the day, and that Ford apologized for personally attacking him.

"I did tell him that I really appreciated his call, [but] it's not me he needs to apologize to, it's Indigenous people across Ontario, to undo the damage that was done on the vaccination strategy," he said.

nation strategy," he said. The premier's office confirmed the call had taken place.

Mamakwa had been questioning the government over vaccine delays faced by urban Indigenous people



NOT HAPPY: Sol Mamakwa (NDP, Kiiwetinoong) received an apology from Premier Doug Ford, who last week accused him of jumping the queue in order to get vaccinated.

when Ford made the comments. The premier first defended the vaccine rollout, saying, "As I've heard from numerous people, the Indigenous community has never been treated better, ever." He went on to claim other Indigenous leaders had raised objections to Mamakwa's vaccination.

"Not only did ORNGE fly in, but the member (Mamakwa) flew in to get his vaccine," Ford said. "So thank you for doing that and kind of jumping the line, as I've talked to a few chiefs that were pretty upset about that, for flying into a community where he doesn't belong."

Media have so far been unable to verify any concerns among First Nations chiefs regarding Mamakwa's vaccination. The MPP himself said he'd "had nothing but support" from Indigenous communities.

Ford's comment sparked widespread condemnation and calls for an apology from opposition MPPs.

The comment was just another example of the racism Indigenous people face everyday, Mamakwa said Friday.

He received his first vaccine on Feb. 1 after being invited to Muskrat Dam First Nation, which sits in his Kiiwetinoong riding, as a way of encouraging reluctant members to sign up.

The NDP has said his involvement came "following very low sign-up numbers in some First Nations communities."

Mamakwa openly posted about receiving the vaccination on social media.

Responding to questions Friday,

Mamakwa said he had not accepted the premier's apology, though he expressed his appreciation for the call.

"If he's apologizing, I think I'd want to see some action – actions speak louder than words," he said. "We need to see those urban Indigenous-led vaccine clinics in Toronto, in Thunder Bay. They're in a crisis right now."

Not sure

Mamakwa was also lukewarm on an invitation he said Ford offered to meet in the premier's office.

"I would rather see him in a fly-in community in northern Ontario where there's a housing crisis, a water crisis, an infrastructure crisis, a mental health crisis," he said. "That's the invite I'd [want], not just going to his office and having a cup of tea."

Acccording to Mamakwa, Indigenous communities have been ignored under Ford's government, citing an alleged lack of provincial communication with Neskantaga First Nation during a recent water crisis.

"With this government, reconciliation is not in their vocabulary," he said Friday. "When I was talking to the leadership, there was no minister from this government that reached out to [Neskantaga chief Chris] Moonias at the time [to say], 'how can we help?"





Takeout Turkey Dinner with all the Trimmings If you're not quite ready to give up the tradition of Easter Dinner at

home, but still hate all the fuss and mess, why not let the Chef's at the Airlane prepare a full Holiday Dinner for you and your guests.

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ALMOST FULL: With its intensive care unit at or near capacity patients are being sent south.

Hospital is shipping out ICU cases

HEALTH By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

Thunder Bay's regional hospital has begun sending patients to southern Ontario for care, as it grapples with rising COVID-19 hospitalizations, and now an outbreak in its 1A Medical Unit.

There were 45 COVID-positive patients in hospital as of Saturday, with 12 of those in the Intensive Care Unit. A total of 22 patients were receiving critical care, the hospital reported, with 19 of those on ventilators.

The hospital normally has 22 ICU beds, though it has recently begun offering critical care in other areas after exceeding ICU capacity.

Two patients have so far been transferred elsewhere, a representative for the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre said.

The hospital moved its internal COVID-19 response level to Grey (Lockdown) Friday after declaring a COVID-19 outbreak.

Due to the outbreak, 24 beds in the 1A Medical Unit are now unavailable for admissions. It also means no new admissions and no access for essential care partners at the 1A Oncology Unit.

The move to Grey activates strategies including transfer of some ICU patients to hospitals in southern Ontario with more room, in order to free up critical care capacity.

The hospital may also divert incoming critical patients from regional communities to southern Ontario, except "those with life and limb needs," it said in a statement issued Saturday.

It will also further reduce elective procedures and work with health system partners to transfer patients to "other appropriate care locations."

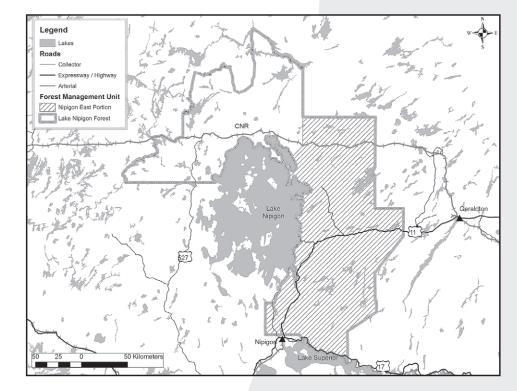
The hospital remains a safe place for people to access urgent care, it reassured the public.

The Thunder Bay District is grappling with easily the worst per capita COVID-19 numbers of any health unit in Ontario. The hospital also serves patients from a wide region beyond the district.

INSPECTION

MNRF-Approved Forest Management Plan Inspection Nipigon East Portion of the Lake Nipigon Forest 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan

The Ontario **Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)**, Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc. (LNFMI) and the Nipigon East Area Local Citizens' Committee (LCC) would like to advise you that the 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the Nipigon East portion of the Lake Nipigon Forest has been approved by the MNRF Regional Director and is available for inspection.



The Planning Process

The FMP takes approximately three years to complete. During this time, five formal opportunities for public and First Nation and Métis community involvement are provided. The fourth opportunity (Stage Four) for this FMP occurred between September 2, 2020 and November 1, 2020 when the public was invited to review and comment on the draft FMP.

This **'Stage Five'** notice is to advise you that the MNRF-Approved FMP, including the supplementary documentation, and FMP summary are available electronically for inspection for the 10-year duration of the FMP through the office of the sustainable forest licensee and on the Natural Resources Information Portal **https://nrip.mnr.gov.on.ca/s/fmp-online**.

Interested and affected persons and organizations can arrange a remote meeting with Ministry MNRF staff with the MNRF Nipigon District or Area Office to discuss the approved FMP.

For further information, please contact:

Raymond Weldon, R.P.F. MNRF Nipigon District Office 5 Wadsworth Drive P.O. Box 970, Nipigon, ON POT 2J0 tel: 807-887-5058 e-mail: Raymond.Weldon@Ontario.ca Scot Rubin, R.P.F. Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc. tel: 807-621-4004 e-mail: hsrforestry@gmail.com

Yvette Metansinine Nipigon East Area LCC c/o MNRF Nipigon District Office 5 Wadsworth Drive, P.O. Box 970 Nipigon, ON PoT 2Jo

The approved FMP will be available for the 10-year period of the FMP at the same locations listed above.

Stay Involved

Further information on how to get involved in forest management planning and to better understand the stages of public consultation please visit:

https://www.ontario.ca/document/participate-forest-management-ontario/how-get-involved-forest-management

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is collecting your personal information and comments under the authority provided by the Forest Management Planning Manual, 2020 approved by regulation under Section 68 of the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act*, 1994. Any personal information you provide (home and/or email address, name, telephone number, etc.) may be used and shared between MNRF and/or the sustainable forest licensee to contact you regarding comments submitted. Your comments will become part of the public consultation process and may be shared with the general public. Your personal information related to this forest management planning exercise. If you have questions about the use of your personal information, please contact Marie Parsons at 807-887-5012.



Editorial

EDITORIAL

Time for a new plan

Thunder Bay city council turning down the tender for the indoor turf facility doesn't necessarily mean something can't be built.

At this point, however, it's time for city officials to go back to the drawing board.

A private group, led by developer Robert Zanette, has proposed to build some sort of indoor soccer facility on property located off Golf Links Road.

At first they had proposed a bubble, but now it appears the group wants to build a more permanent structure.

Edmonton recently built a worldclass facility, domed, for \$7 million.

By the time of last Monday's council meeting, Thunder Bay's project had ballooned to \$39 million, not factoring in interest. True, the city would receive several million back in HST rebates, and there was a contingency fund included in the cost, which they wouldn't have to pay if there were no cost overruns.

We see this as an opportunity for council to deliver a much-needed indoor turf facility to the community, at a fraction of the cost.

The city should attempt to partner with Zanette, or another group if someone comes along, Call for proposals in a public-private partnership. Taxpayers win, but so does the soccer community.

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Basic income needed

To the editor: have lived in Thunder Bay my whole life. It wasn't until I had become an adult that I realized how much my family had done for me with so little.

My family definitely could've been worse off, but they made the best of what they did have.

My family sacrificed so much to ensure that my brothers and I had what we needed (and even what we wanted every once in a while).

There are not enough words to express the gratitude and appreciation that I have for everything they did for me and my brothers.

So I have been trying my best to have a basic income implemented in Canada. It's really the best way to ensure that my family has some peace of mind.

They were part of the pilot that the previous Liberal government had put in place and I saw the positive impact it had on them first hand.

They were less stressed, happier, healthier, and even setting goals for things that they otherwise may not have been able to achieve. It killed me when the pilot was cancelled. The freedom and happiness my family had was taken away almost as quickly as it had come.

Sure, they are still making ends meet, but the cheerfulness and relative ease has decreased.

And the goals and plans were dashed. Canada needs a guaranteed income. No one deserves to live in poverty.

We have the means to easily end it while making our nation more prosperous.

Why shouldn't we?

Why wouldn't we? Everyone hears basic income and they think it's too expensive.

It isn't. It's easily affordable, and the lives it would benefit would only make our world better. This isn't an expense, it's an investment.

> Steve Eh Thunder Bay

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Be wary of tax fraud

FINANCES By Jayson Stoppel – For TB Source

Solution of the second second

The saying goes, March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. This often-used reference to the spring weather can also be an appropriate phrase when handling a potential scammer on a telephone call.

Each year, in my role as a Licensed Insolvency Trustee, I help a number of individuals dealing with debt effects and budget crises that are the result of being the victim of an online fraud or telephone scam. If you receive an aggressive call that comes at you like a lion, being armed with some knowledge can help you turn that con artist into a lamb.

Each spring, most of us will file our income tax returns prior to the April 30 deadline. Generally we wait for the return envelope containing our notice of assessment with the refund cheque we are entitled to or the balance due displayed on this document.

Unfortunately, we hear many reports in our practice about apparent calls from CRA claiming if you as a taxpayer don't act fast and send money you will be fined or imprisoned. These calls are almost always fake. If you encounter a call from CRA for collections, take a breath and ask some questions. CRA doesn't regularly throw people in jail or send the RCMP to your door, and they don't require payment by gift or iTunes card.

To protect yourself against a possible fraudulent call, ask the so-called tax agent the following. What tax year is in question? What has given rise to this debt? Ask for a copy of the assessment raised against you to be mailed to your attention.

CRA generally will mail a statement of account and likely several collections letters to you if they are seeking repayment on tax arrears. If the call you receive is the first you are hearing of this tax debt, the call is likely a scam.

Ask the agent for the address of the Tax Services Office and the number they are calling from, then take the time to confirm that number online and call CRA back. Most telephone scammers are looking for the easy path to a payout, so asking these questions might be enough to push the scammer back on their heels.

In addition to the above, it's always a good idea to register with CRA online, creating a My CRA profile. A quick review of your status online can help identify if the call is real or fraudulent. Also, before making a quick emotional decision to send a potential scammer some money, take a breather, leave the call and reach out to your tax preparer. They will likely have the authorization to access your CRA account and can confirm if anything is due. Or, you can check with a family member, if you don't feel right confirm your suspicions with someone you trust.

There are too many online and telephone scams to cover in just one article.

At this time of year, it's important that you be on the lookout for the fake CRA phone calls. Keep in mind, asking questions, checking recent statements or taking time to reach out to a friend or family member works just as well with other common credit card scams.

If you receive a call about strange activity on your account, a call from a "lawyer" about a family member in trouble or a mysterious virus on your personal computer that has popped up, take a breath, ask some questions and protect your money — and turn that lion into a lamb.

Jayson Stoppel joined BDO in 1994 and has been working with families and their budgets for over 20 years.

Perspective

City facing a new COVID reality

The arrival of the vaccine is a good sign, but Thunder Bay is struggling to keep case counts at bay

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

ast week I was watching the light at the end of the tunnel and it suddenly looked a bit dimmer and appeared to be flickering.

I was enjoying some hopeful moments and encouraging news that COVID-19 vaccines are very effective and will soon be available to all Canadians.

There are hints of a ramped-up vaccine rollout and clinics in Thunder Bay are already vaccinating seniors and other high risk groups.

After a year of hardship and sacrifice there is an end in sight and we have reason to be cautiously optimistic about our post pandemic future.

But that may be wishful thinking because just as I was dreaming about better times ahead I got a hard slap in the face from cold, harsh reality.

It's gotten worse

Sadly, it is clear that our community now has one more serious burden to bear before our prospects brighten and we can finally feel safe again.

When Dr. Janet DeMille delivered her very sombre message to Thunder Bay last week she spoke clearly and concisely about the threat to public health in our community.

It wasn't a good news story - the diagnosis was grim and the prognosis was troubling.

As promised, she did not sugar coat the fact that cases of COVID 19 are at an all-time high and the risk of infec-



JAB AWAITS: The Pfizer vaccine is one of several residents of Thunder Bay might be administered when getting vaccinated this year.

tion has increased for all of Northwestern Ontario.

After one year of managing the pandemic reasonably well Thunder Bay is suddenly facing the worst scenario since this medical emergency started last March.

We are a hot spot with one of the highest rates of infection in Ontario and we all have to take responsibility for bringing those numbers down.

While it is reassuring to see the rapid rollout of the vaccine, unless we take this situation seriously there could be more trouble ahead.

It will take months until we have widespread immunity and that milestone will be easier to achieve if individual citizens accept their role in public safety.

COVID is an equal opportunity virus spreading infection whenever and wherever we foolishly disregard scientific and medical safety recommendations.

Dr. DeMille gave detailed instructions about what measures need to be taken to prevent this surge from devastating our community even more.

She urged residents of the Thunder

Bay District to do their part by reviewing and strictly following the well-known public safety measures.

How frustrating it must be to repeat those same, simple safety guidelines, again and again, only to have them fall on deaf ears.

How discouraging it must be for health care workers watching the news at home after a double shift only to see reports of large social gatherings openly flaunting the rules.

For me that is the most compelling argument - we are counting on the scientific and medical communities to lead the charge and they desperately need us to do our part.

Burning out

Health care workers are stressed to the max and our hospitals are struggling to cope with the increased case load - our due diligence will help bring the numbers down.

Dr. DeMille is confident that we have the skill, knowledge and experience to overcome this escalating health challenge and broad public support will make it easier to achieve.

Our community can still be cautiously optimistic about the future but right now we have to knuckle down, accept our personal responsibility and keep each other safe.

That means doing what needs to be done, when it needs to be done, whether we want to or not.

The last encouraging word goes to Dr. DeMille, "Stay safe, stay strong, we can do this.'

Share the burden and lighten the load for everyone.

FW Girls Pipe Band

Inspired by senior groups such as the Macgillivray Pipe Band and the Pipes and Drums of Thunder Bay, girls' pipe bands formed in both Fort William and Port Arthur. Here, in 1954, members of the Fort William Girls' Pipe Band are giving a presentation to George Macgillivray, founder of the Macgillivray pipe band.





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



Should the province officially designate Thunder Bay a COVID-19 hot spot? VOICE YOUR OPINION ABOUT THINGS THAT MATTER MOST.

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

TOTAL VOTES: 1,408

○YES ○NO ○DON'T KNOW 86.58% 11.15% 2.27%

INSPECTION

Inspection of 2021-2022 Annual Work Schedules for Black Spruce Dog River-Matawin, Lakehead, and Wabadowgang Noopming Forests

The April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022 Annual Work Schedules (AWS) for the Black Spruce, Dog River-Matawin, Lakehead and Wabadowgang Noopming Forests are available electronically for public viewing by contacting the respective Sustainable Forest License (SFL) holders, during normal business hours. It is also available on the Natural Resources Information Portal at https://nrip.mnr.gov.on.ca/s/fmp-online beginning March 17, 2021 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 listed below for information regarding tree planting job opportunities.

For information on the locations and license requirements for obtaining fuelwood for personal use, please contact the MNRF contacts listed below. For commercial fuelwood opportunities, please contact the SFL holder directly.

More Information

For more information on the AWS, to arrange a remote meeting with MNRF staff to discuss the AWS or to request AWS summary information, please contact the MNRF contact below:

For Black Spruce Forest

Robin Kuzyk, R.P.F.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Thunder Bay District Office 435 James Street South, Suite B001, Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7 tel: 807-709-1959

Niall Scarr, R.P.F.

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

For Dog River-Matawin Forest

Kim Mason, R.P.F.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Thunder Bay District Office 435 James Street South, Suite B001, Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7 tel: 807-708-3403

Niall Scarr, R.P.F.

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

For Wabadowgang Noopming Forest

Kim Mason R.P.F. Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Thunder Bay District Office 435 James Street South, Suite B001, Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7 tel: 807-708-3403

Stay Involved

Further information on how to get involved in forest management planning and to better understand the stages of public consultation please visit:

https://www.ontario.ca/document/participate-forest-management-ontario/how-get-involved-forest-management

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is collecting your personal information and comments under the authority provided by the Forest Management Planning Manual, 2020 approved by regulation under Section 68 of the Crown Forest Sustainability Act, 1994. Any personal information you provide (home and/or email address, name, telephone number, etc.) may be used and shared between MNRF and/or the sustainable forest licensee to contact you regarding comments submitted. Your comments will become part of the public consultation process and may be shared with the general public. Your personal information may also be used by the MNRF 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, MNRF, District Business Co-ordinator, at 807-708-4126.



gang Noopming

Forest

Thunder Bay District

Black Spruce

Forest

Dog River-Matawir

Forest

For Lakehead Forest

tel: 807-709-1928

Phil Brown, R.P.F.

Planning Forester

tel: 807-939-3136

Greenmantle Forest Inc.

Vishnu Kowlessar, R.P.F.

Thunder Bay District Office

Lakehead Forest

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

179, 25th Sideroad, Rosslyn, ON P7K 0B9

435 James Street South, Suite B001, Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7

LOCALNEWS







DAMAGED: The fire took place on Saturday.

Fire damages Cumberland **Street home**

No injuries are reported after a fire caused heavy damage to a home on Cumberland Street North Saturday evening.

Thunder Bay Fire Rescue responded to a reported structure fire around 6 p.m., finding significant smoke and flames emerging from the windows.

The fire was quickly brought under control, reported platoon chief Philip Dzuba, with multiple attack lines deployed by arriving units.

The structure sustained extensive fire damage, he said.

A total of five pumpers, one aerial ladder, and a command unit were on scene.

The fire is currently under investigation by TBFR to determine the cause. There were no civilian or firefighter injuries, the service reported.

Toddler dies in fire

two-year-old boy died in a fire at a Cyr Way residence in the Geraldton area last Thursday.

Five people, including two men and three children, escaped the residence, according to a friend of the family, but a two-year old boy did not.

The fire broke out around 8 p.m. Thursday night, he said.

A GoFundMe campaign established Friday afternoon to support the family had already exceeded \$16,000 as of Monday morning.

The Municipality of Greenstone released few details on the fire in a statement issued Friday.

The chief of its volunteer fire department was on scene and not immediately available for comment, according to a representative.

Two fire halls responded to a fire at a residential property within Greenstone's Geraldton Ward Thursday, according to the release.

Ontario's Office of the Fire Marshall has been contacted and will investigate.

Online vaccine portal opens

HEALTH By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Starting on Monday, residents of the District of Thunder Bay were able to start booking COVID-19 appointments online via the provincial booking portal.

The site, which can be found at www.ontario.ca/bookvaccine,was expected to be online at 8 a.m.

Anyone born in 1941 or earlier, regardless if they've turned 80 yet or not, is eligible to book an appointment.

The province has 800,000 appointments available across Ontario. Once those are booked up and begun to be processed, Ontarians 75 and older are expected to be invited to book appointments, which Gen. Rick Hillier, who is overseeing vaccine roll-out in Ontario, said he expects will be in early April. The number of appointments per public health unit was not broken down, so it's unclear how many appointments will be available in the Thunder Bay District.

Premier Doug Ford on Sunday said Ontario delivered 50,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines on Saturday, adding the province has the capacity to vaccinate three times that amount.

"We need more vaccines," Ford said at a Queen's Park news conference.

The Thunder Bay District Health Unit has already started booking appointments for those 80 and older, though their available first-wave of appointments filled up quickly when their portal was opened this past week.

"We are making steady progress in the execution of our vaccine distribution plan, and the launching of the online booking system is another major milestone," Ford said in an accompanying news release.

"In this phase of our plan we are still offering vaccines to our most vulnerable, so I encourage everyone aged 80 and older to use the portal to book an appointment. For everyone else, please be patient, as we get more supply, the vaccine will be offered to more people."

Individuals who still have a red and white health card, or who require assistance with booking, can call the Provincial Vaccine Information Line number at 1-888-999-6488 beginning on Monday.

Ontario has delivered 1.15 million vaccine doses as of Sunday morning.

INSPECTION

Inspection du Plan annuel des travaux forestiers approuvé pour les forêts Black Spruce, Dog River-Matawin, Lakehead, et Wabadowgang Noopming pour la période 2021-2022

Les plans annuel des travaux forestiers approuvé pour les forêts Black Spruce, Dog River-Matawin, Lakehead et Wabadowgang Noopming pour la période allant du 1^{er} avril 2021 au 31 mars 2022 est disponible électroniquement, pour examen public, en communiquant avec les respectif bureau de l'entreprises pendant les heures normales d'ouverture ainsi que sur le Portail d'information sur les richesses naturelles, à l'adresse **https://nrip.mnr.gov.on.ca/s/fmp-online?language=fr**, à partir du **17 mars 2021** et pendant toute la durée du plan annuel des travaux forestiers, c'est-à-dire douze mois.

Travaux forestiers prévus

Le plan annuel des travaux forestiers décrit les travaux d'aménagement forestier tels que la construction, l'entretien et la mise hors service de routes, les carrières d'agrégats pour routes forestières, le prélèvement d'arbres, la préparation de terrains, la plantation d'arbres et les soins sylvicoles, qui sont prévus dans la forêt durant la période de 12 mois.

Plantation d'arbres et bois de chauffage

Les bureaux de l'entreprises s'occupent de la plantation d'arbres dans les forêts. Pour connaître les possibilités d'emploi comme planteur d'arbres, veuillez-vous adresser aux personnes-ressource respectif pour l'entreprise forestière indiquée ci-dessous.

Pour connaître les endroits où l'on peut ramasser du bois de chauffage pour un usage personnel et savoir ce qu'il faut faire pour obtenir un permis à cette fin, veuillez communiquer avec les personnes-ressource pour le MRNF indiquée ci-dessous. Pour ramasser du bois de chauffage aux fins de vente, veuillez-vous adresser aux personnes ressource pour l'entreprise forestière indiquée ci-dessous.

Renseignements supplémentaires

Pour de plus amples renseignements sur le plan annuel des travaux forestiers, pour prendre un rendez-vous pour discuter du plan avec le personnel du MRNF ou pour obtenir de l'information sommaire sur le plan annuel des travaux forestiers, veuillez communiquer avec la personne-ressource pour le MRNF suivante :

Pour forêt Black Spruce

Robin Kuzyk, F.P.I. Ministère des Richesses Naturelles et des Forêts Bureau de district de Thunder Bay 435 Rue James Sud, Suite Boo1, Thunder Bay (Ontario) P7E 6S7 tél. : 807 709-1959

Niall Scarr, F.P.I.

Forestry Coordinator - East Resolute FP Canada Inc. 2001 Neebing Avenue, Thunder Bay (Ontario) P7E 6S3 tél. : 807 473-2843

Pour forêt Dog River-Matawin

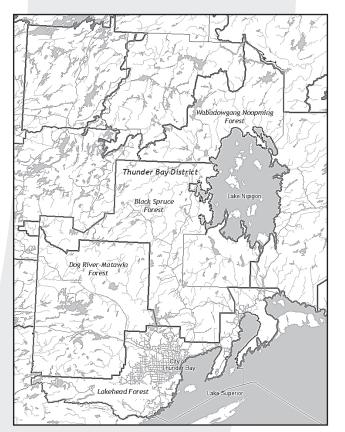
Kim Mason, F.P.I.

Ministère des Richesses Naturelles et des Forêts Bureau de district de Thunder Bay 435 Rue James Sud, Suite B001 Thunder Bay (Ontario) P7E 6S7 tél. : 807 708-3403

Niall Scarr, F.P.I.

Forestry Coordinator - East Resolute FP Canada Inc. 2001 Neebing Avenue, Thunder Bay (Ontario) P7E 6S3 tél. : 807 473-2843

Rester impliqué



Pour forêt Lakehead

Vishnu Kowlessar, F.P.I.

Ministère des Richesses Naturelles et des Forêts Bureau de district de Thunder Bay 435 Rue James Sud, Suite Boo1, Thunder Bay (Ontario) P7E 6S7 tél. : 807 709-1928

Phil Brown, F.P.I.

Planning Forester Greenmantle Forest Inc. 179, 25th Sideroad, Rosslyn, (Ontario) P7K 0B9 tél. : 807 939-3136

Pour forêt Wabadowgang Noopming

Kim Mason, F.P.I.

Ministère des Richesses Naturelles et des Forêts Bureau de district de Thunder Bay 435 Rue James Sud, Suite B001, Thunder Bay (Ontario) P7E 6S7 tél. : 807 708-3403

Pour obtenir plus de renseignements sur la façon de participer à la planification de la gestion forestière et pour mieux comprendre les étapes de la consultation publique, veuillez consulter le lien suivant :

https://www.ontario.ca/fr/document/manuel-de-participation-la-gestion-forestiere-des-terres-de-la-couronne-en-ontario/comment-participer-la-gestion-forestiere

Le ministère des Richesses naturelles et des Forêts (MRNF) recueille des commentaires et des renseignements personnels en vertu des pouvoirs qui lui sont conférés par le Manuel de planification de la gestion forestière 2020 approuvé par un règlement pris en application de l'article 68 de la *Loi de 1994 sur la durabilité des forêts de la Couronne.* Le MRNF et le titulaire de permis d'aménagement forestier durable peuvent utiliser ou échanger entre eux tout renseignement personnel que vous fournissez (adresse postale ou électronique, nom, numéro de téléphone, etc.) pour communiquer avec vous au sujet des commentaires fournis. Vos commentaires seront intégrés au processus de consultation publique et peuvent être communiqués au grand public. Le MRNF peut également utiliser vos renseignements personnels pour vous transmettre de l'information supplémentaire sur cette activité de planification de l'aménagement forestier. Si vous avez des questions sur l'utilisation de vos renseignements personnels, veuillez communiquer avec Alyson Dupuis à 807 708-4126.



IN BRIEF

Lewis named to take over city's development and emergency services

he City of Thunder Bay has named Karen Lewis as the general manager of its development and emergency services department.

A 27-year-veteran with the municipality, Lewis has spent the past several years as the director of corporate strategic services, which overseeing includes communications and strategic initiatives, like KAREN LEWIS crime prevention and the

drug control strategy.



Lewis has also been an integral part of the Thunder Bay Emergency Operations

Control Group. "I'm very pleased that Karen has accepted the position," said city manager Norm Gale, in a release issued on Monday by the city. "I look forward to the

vision, passion and experience she will bring to the position. She will continue to be an asset to the city's executive

leadership team."

The development and emergency services department focuses on health, safety and development initiatives that attract investors to the community.

It also runs regulatory functions that maintain quality of life and help make the community attractive to residents, potential investors and visitors.

Lewis, who served in the not-forprofit sector before taking a job with the city in 1994, will begin her new role on April 12. She takes over the position from Mark Smith, who has set to be nominated in the riding. retired.

Comuzzi to run

he Ontario Conservative Party is turning to a familiar face to square off against incumbent NDP MPP Judith Monteith-Farrell in the upcoming provincial election.

Moe Comuzzi, who finished second in Thunder Bay-Rainy River in 2011 running federally for the Conservatives, and dipped to third in 2015, on Monday confirmed she is

Couple wins \$70M

couple from the Northern Ontario community of Noelville is celebrating a lottery win that will change their lives and the lives of their families.

Marc and Dorothy-Ann Meilleur each buy lottery tickets regularly.

Marc Meilleur said he checked his ticket and \$70 million appeared on the screen, though he still wasn't convinced he had won.

INSPECTION

Approved Contingency Plan Inspection for Wabadowgang Noopming Forest (Formally known as the Armstrong West Portion of the Lake Nipigon Forest) 2021 -2023 Contingency Plan

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), NorthWinds Environmental Services and the Armstrong Local Citizens' Committee (LCC) advises you that the 2021 - 2023 Contingency Plan for the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest has been approved by the MNRF Regional Director and is available for inspection.

Why is a Contingency Plan (CP) Required?

The Contingency Plan is required to ensure that forestry operations can take place on the forest management unit while the development of the 2023-2033 Wabadowgang Noopming Forest management plan takes place.

This notice is to advise you that the MNRF-approved CP, including the supplementary documentation, is available electronically for inspection for the 2-year duration of the CP through the office of the sustainable forest licensee and on the Natural Resources Information Portal https://nrip.mnr.gov.on.ca/s/fmp-online.

Interested and affected persons and organizations can arrange a remote meeting with the MNRF Thunder Bay District Office to discuss the approved Contingency Plan.

For further information, please contact:

Robin Kuzyk, R.P.F. MNRF Thunder Bay District Office 435 James Street South Suite B0001 Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7 e-mail: robin.kuzyk@ontario.ca

Jeffrey Cameron, R.P.F.

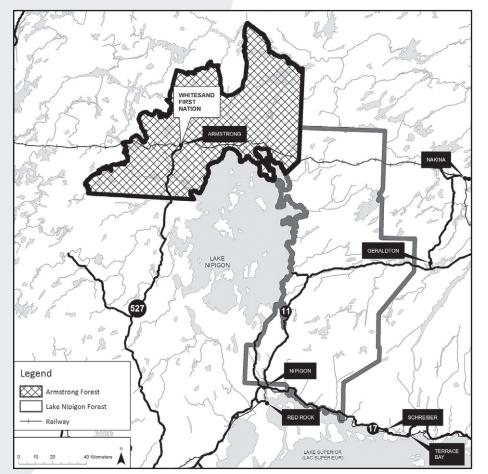
NorthWinds Environmental Services 195 Park Avenue Thunder Bay, ON P7B 1B9 e-mail: jcameron@northwindsev.ca

Bruce Hyer Armstrong Local Citizens' Committee (LCC) c/o MNRF

435 James Street South, Suite B001 Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7

The approved Contingency Plan will be available for the 2-year period of the Contingency Plan at the same locations listed above.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is collecting your personal information and comments under the authority provided by the Forest Management Planning Manual, 2020 approved by regulation under Section 68 of the Crown Forest Sustainability Act, 1994. Any personal information you provide (home and/or email address, name, telephone number, etc.) may be used and shared between MNRF and/or the sustainable forest licensee to contact you regarding comments submitted. Your comments will become part of the public consultation process and may be shared with the general public. Your personal



information may also be used by the MNRF 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, District Business Co-ordinator, MNRF, at 807-475-1512.

Renseignements en français : Robin Kuzyk, F.P.I., à robin.kuzyk@ontario.ca.



TBLIFE people health home food leisure

House Lottery top prize worth \$642K

THUNDER BAY By Leith Dunick – TB Source

ast year's Fort William Rotary House Lottery draw was interrupted by COVID-19, delayed three months, transitioned to online and mail-in sales only, and still sold out.

With little more certainty this time around, organizers are back at it again, offering up a 1,700 square foot, custombuilt, five-bedroom, three-bathroom, bi-level home worth more than \$642,000.

The house, built by Lormar Construction, is located on Bishop Court, around the corner from Woodcrest Public School, and features a finished basement, five appliances, an upgraded trim package, mirage hardwood flooring on the upper level, a central vacuum system and a deck to bring the backyard to life.

Great to be back

Cynthia Judge, president of the Fort William Rotary Club, says she's simply excited to be back in business this year, though for now ticket-buyers will have to settle for a virtual tour of black-brickfaced home for the foreseeable future.

"I'm really excited for the 35th Lottery House. We're really pleased to do this launch so people can have a virtual tour of the house. They can't come inside, but (at least) they can see what it looks like," Judge said on Tuesday, officially launching this year's ticket sales.

Proceeds raised from the draw are doled out to a variety of local charities, including the George Jeffery Children's Centre Foundation, the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation, the Boys and Girls Club of Thunder Bay and Wilderness Discovery.

"We're looking forward to the support

of the community again because they always come through for us to help with our charities. They've said they really need our help and we have a really great group of charities," Judge said.

Dave Knutson, chair of the Fort William House Lottery committee, said coming on the heels of 2020, when open houses had to be stopped and the draw pushed back from its traditional July 1 date on centre stage at Marina Park, this year should be a breeze.

"Because of last year's experience, we actually kept the extended length of the lottery, so we're going right through to Oct. 11 this year for the grand-prize draw. We actually applied for an electronic licence, which means essentially we're selling online this year," Knutson said.

"There's the option of mailing in too. It's really a major change for us. This is the 35th event. We've had 34 years that the majority of the years were person-toperson sales and there would be open houses, which obviously with the COVID situation, we can't have."

Fingers crossed

Knutson said he is hopeful they will be able to hold open houses in the late summer or early fall, but it's unlikely the method of ticket sales will change.

He added they've already sold about 2,500 of the 16,000 tickets up for grabs, which are 2,000 more than last year.

Knutson said they added more tickets to add more early-bird prize draws, including 15 \$1,000 draws and nine \$5,000 draws. The extra tickets will also help make up for increased costs, including higher building material expenses and the move to online sales.

Tickets are available at www.fwrotaryhouselottery.ca, and are one for \$100 and three for \$250.



IN THE KITCHEN: The house comes with five appliances included for the winner.



LOOKS SHARP: The lottery home has an elegant, dark, brick-faced front.



COMFORTS OF HOME: The ensuite bath in the master bedroom is elegant.



WELCOMING: The split entry is a beautiful feature of the Bishop Court home.





Pukaskwa National Park a 'dream destination'

TRAVEL By TB Source staff

n the anticipation that normal crosscountry travel will resume at some point, a Canadian travel website has come out with a list of the 20 best places to visit post-pandemic. Northwestern Ontario makes the Vacay.ca list with the nomination of Pukaskwa National Park near Marathon.

Northern Ontario's only national park is in the 20th spot, but the authors say all the destinations they chose are outstanding places to visit.

They describe Pukaskwa as "a dream destination for nature lovers" and "a thriving natural wonder" that preserves the wildest and most scenic stretches of the Lake Superior shoreline, including rocky headlands, golden sand beaches, ancient granite bedrock and "stunning vistas at every turn."

Other highlights mentioned in the article include Hattie Cove and the White River Suspension Bridge over Chigamiwinigum Falls.

INSPECTION

Inspection of 2021 – 2022 Annual Work Schedule Lake Nipigon Forest

The April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022 Annual Work Schedule (AWS) for the Lake Nipigon Forest is available electronically for public viewing by contacting Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc., contact info below, during normal business hours. It is also available on the Natural Resources Information Portal at https://nrip.mnr.gov.on.ca/s/fmp-online beginning March 16, 2021 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

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

For information on the locations and licence requirements for obtaining fuelwood for personal use, please contact Raymond Weldon of the MNRF. For commercial fuelwood opportunities, please contact Scot Rubin of Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc.

More Information

For more information on the AWS, to arrange a remote meeting with MNRF staff to discuss the AWS or to request AWS summary information, please contact the MNRF contact below:

Raymond Weldon, R.P.F.

Management Forester Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 5 Wadsworth Drive, P.O. Box 970, Nipigon, ON PoT 2Jo tel: 807-889-0881 e-mail: raymond.weldon@ontario.ca

Stay Involved

General Manager Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc. 3134 Kam Current Road, Kaministiquia, ON POT 1X0 tel: 807-621-7835 e-mail: hsrforestry@gmail.com

Further information on how to get involved in forest management planning and to better understand the stages of public consultation please visit:

Scot Rubin, R.P.F.

https://www.ontario.ca/document/participate-forest-management-ontario/how-get-involved-forest-management

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Renseignements en français : Raymond Weldon, F.P.I., au raymond.weldon@ontario.ca ou 807 889-0881.



Petition aims at hotspot naming

THUNDER BAY By Leith Dunick –TB Source

A petition has been launched in an effort to convince the province to name the Thunder Bay public health unit as a COVID-19 hot spot

The designation would allow the province to include the district in its prioritization plan for doling out vaccine supply.

Thunder Bay has been one of the hardest hit regions in the province of late, with 446 active cases as of Monday morning.

The province has named 13 other public health units as hot spots, including Durham, Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Ottawa, Peel, Simcoe, Muskoka, Waterloo, Wellington, Dufferin, Guelph, Windsor, Essex, York, Toronto and South West.

As a result, they're eligible for additional government support.

"These regions may also be placed on the expedited vaccine procurement schedule,' reads a post on the Thunder Bay group's Change.org petition.

Numbers growing

'Over the past several weeks, Thunder Bay, ON has had the highest number of new COVID-19 cases in the province per population of one hundred thousand.

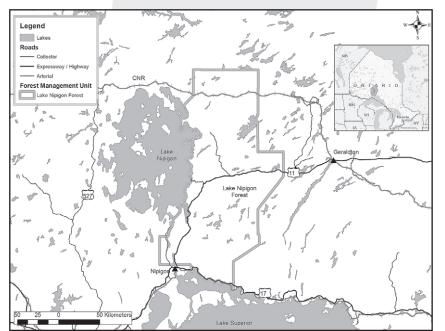
"The number of people who have been hospitalized due to COVID-19 and who are on ventilators has risen sharply. In addition, elective medical procedures at the Regional hospital have been halted, and hospital occupancy is at a critically high level."

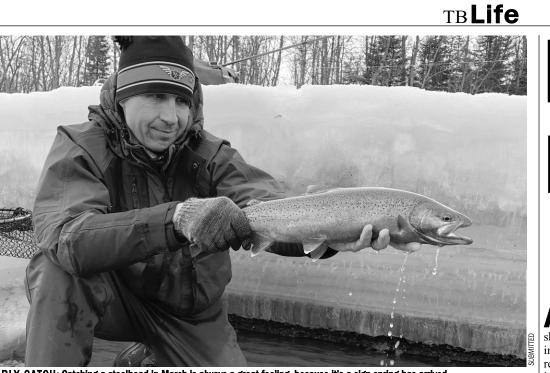
Thunder Bay moved from Red-Control to Grey-Lockdown on March 1, after re-entering the province's colourcoded framework last month.

The group says the numbers speak for themselves. Thunder Bay currently has 412 active cases and has added 516 in the first 10 days of March, following a February that saw a record 645 cases.

Last Wednesday Dr. Janet DeMille, medical officer of health at the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, recommended students continue learning from home for another two weeks, through March 28.

The district needs all the help it can get, the petitioners say.





EARLY CATCH: Catching a steelhead in March is always a great feeling, because it's a sign spring has arrived.

Open-water angli



Unseasonably warm temperatures over the past week have me thinking about spring fishing. I know it is still too early to fish in open water.

However, as I scroll through the photos on my phone, I find plenty of photo evidence to remind me that I have often impatiently wandered out to explore some water and been rewarded for taking the chance.

In several of these pictures, I am holding a trout in front of a wintery backdrop of snow and ice.

Admittedly, the chance of finding a fish in the first open water of March is miniscule, as a multitude of challenges and safety concerns stand in the way.

Lots of obstacles

Many times I have had to climb over huge chunks of ice or wade precariously out into the frigid waters

of Lake Superior in search of that first spring steelhead.

Other adventures involve drifting a float rig through the first open water that reveals itself through cracks in the ice on tributaries flowing into the great lake.

A moment of inattention or a misstep and the consequences could be lethal in these frigid waters. To make matters worse, river levels can rise quickly in the early spring and the water is often muddied from runoff, making it difficult to see where you are wading.

To top it all off, very few fish are in the rivers at this point and casting into Lake Superior can be compared to searching for the proverbial needle in a haystack. When it comes to fishing in March, I often wonder if the risk is worth the reward.

Then I am reminded why I always take that risk to get a jump on the spring season. After countless casts into Lake Superior, the silver spoon I have been pitching out to a drop-off suddenly stops dead.

I instinctively pull back on the long steelhead.

from the cold, struggle to keep up as this migratory rainbow trout does his best to spit out my lure.

The fish unleashes a series of runs, but the icy water keeps his energy in check and as long as he doesn't jump, I like my odds. Meanwhile, the jolt of excitement from the fight sends a flush of warmth to my feet. While they were frozen and lacking feeling just a moment ago, they are now able to respond as I work my way back towards the shore where my net sits on the ice.

Camera time

Finally, I am able to turn the fish towards me and into the net. I dislodge the hook and briefly lift him from the water to snap a picture.

Then I quickly put him back in the water and take a moment to admire this majestic creature until my fingers are just too cold to hold on any longer.

He swims away, back on his spawning journey. The fish is no trophy, and few are this early in the season. Yet the photo of this rainbow. set against a thick slab of ice, will be all the motivation I need to fuel the next early season fishing trip.

Roaring reds, pines whisper



fter the most recent snowfall, we decided that we should go for a snowshoe tromp while the snow lasts. The rise in temperatures over the past week removed a lot of snow, so this latest 'blessing' of the white stuff should not be taken for granted.

Traditionally there is a period when snowshoeing won't work if the snow is too sticky; but walking without doesn't work because you still sink and slog - no fun. We started out with very excited pooches to discover that the packed snowshoe trail was still in evidence although newly covered with snow.

The interesting thing was that on either side of the trail enough snow had evaporated that the trail was now a raised, snowshoe-width ridge sloping on either side. Any misstep made for awkward tromping as the shoe slipped down to the side.

Not bad out

But the weather was warm although a brisk wind from the northwest buffeted our backs as we traversed the open field before reaching the protection of the woods.

Lots of bun-rab tracks were observed and, in the bush, those of ruffed grouse as well as the straight-line tracks of fox, although our newest member of the canine pack, Lily, also leaves tracks in a straight line.

But we knew that the ones we spotted by the side of the trail were made by Reynard because they had been imprinted since the most recent snowfall and Lily had not traversed that way.

When we enter the woods to the south of Casa Jones, we pass a lone white, pine tree that stands guard (our Walmart greeter?) to which I always say "hello", white pines being my favourite tree here in the north. I

stopped to listen to the strong wind 'swishing' through the boughs sounding like several people whispering or like the sound of wind passing through a screen door.

Beautiful. I love it.

This day we decided to follow the trail that weaves its way through the red pines. This is a plantation planted in the 1960s as a potential cash crop. Tall red pine trees mixed in with Scotch pine stand sentinel in straight rows. Many of the red pine are very tall and thick enough that (as I remarked to Laura) one could build a decent-sized log home. But we will never harvest them. The trail through the "Red Pines" (as we call them) have two entrance/exits at either end.

Went exploring

We entered from the south and trooped down to where you can see the middle beaver pond, now mostly empty of water, before re-entering the pines. We stopped briefly at that open spot for a look-see and then climbed up the other side back onto the main trail inside the red pines.

Where the trails converge, I stopped.

What caught my attention was a big pile of spruce cone seeds lying beside the trail and a hole burrowed into the snow. Squirrels? While I was quietly observing this sight, I heard the wind in the red pines. Unlike the 'whispering' in the white pine boughs, the wind was roaring through the red pine branches. What a difference in sound. Could that difference in sound result from white pine having five needles per tuft and red pine only two?

We continued on the trail until we rejoined our original one and headed back across the field to the warmth of our 'hoosie' and a welcome mug of hot chocolate not knowing if we will be snowshoeing again this winter or if we have to wait until enough snow has gone that we can walk without the aid of snowshoes.

Even now there are rumours of spring smells and the changes in the calls of the birds. So, how much longer will we be able to tromp the trails on snowshoes?



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rod and feel the throbbing of an angry

The fight is on and my hands, numb

City expecting more Moderna vaccines

HEALTH By Doug Diaczuk –TB Source

The city of Thunder Bay is expected to receive more COVID-19 vaccine doses as cases in the district continue to surge.

Thunder Bay Mayor Bill Mauro spoke with the chief of staff with the Ministry of Health about the ongoing COVID-19 situation in the district. Mauro said the chief of staff did say the district will be receiving more doses of COVID-19 vaccine next week.

"The good news on the call is the chief of staff did comment Thunder Bay will be receiving more vaccine of the Moderna type," Mauro said. "She couldn't tell me for how long or how much more. But I would take away from that that is a good news piece for Thunder Bay. I hope it is significant enough. It's a recognition of the situation we have been in for three or four weeks. We are a hotspot by any other definition. That is what a grey lockdown is."



coming to Thunder Bay soon.

The Thunder Bay District Health Unit reported 51 new COVID-19 cases on Monday, bringing the total number of active cases to 446.

The district has remained under

the grey lockdown zone since Feb. 26 after the province switched back to its colour coded COVID-19 response framework following the lifting of the province-wide stay-athome order.

There have been calls online to label the city of Thunder Bay as a COVID-19 hotspot and hopes that the city would be included in plans to rollout the newly approved AstraZeneca vaccine to pharmacies in some regions of Ontario for people between the ages of 60 and 65.

Mauro said he asked the chief of staff about the hotspot designation and the AstraZeneca vaccine distribution.

"I said we are in grey, we are in lockdown, that to me is a hotspot and we need your assistance in a number of ways," Mauro said.

"I was told that these regions were chosen based primarily on their ability to get the vaccine out as quickly and efficiently as possible because of the vaccines expiry date of April 2."

Suffering from SAD

ast week I discussed Social Anxiety Disorder. My colleagues reminded me that most people associate the SAD acronym with Seasonal Affect Disorder.

It seems only fitting to discuss this as our next topic. As is the case with all mental health diagnoses, the act of sharing our experiences with one another is one of the most important pieces in reducing stigma.

Seasonal Affect Disorder (SAD) is a type of depression that is directly related to changes in seasons. For most, these depressive feelings occur at the same time each year.

They may start in the fall

as the weather turns cooler, and last through most of the winter months. In cities such as ours where the winters can be especially cold and dreary, this can mean months of struggling for some.

Symptoms of SAD include changes to sleep patterns (oversleeping or insomnia), fatigue, changes in appetite, changes in mood, social isolation, agitation, difficulty concentrating and feelings of anxiety.

Like many mental illnesses, SAD can occur at any age but typically occurs in individuals between the ages of 18 and 30.

I recognize that the timing of this article may strike you as odd: why are we discussing SAD when spring is finally here?

The weather is no longer cold and dreary, it is warm, the snow is melting and signs of summer are just around the corner.

While less common, perhaps, there are

some who experience seasonal affect disorder in the summer months as well. In order to break apart the stigma of mental health disorders, it's important to understand both sides.

Whereas someone with winter SAD might use light therapy as part of their treatment, the excess light of the summer and daylight savings time can throw off the internal clock of someone with summer-

time SAD.

Too much sunlight can decrease the production of sleep hormones in someone with summer SAD, causing insomnia that can trigger depressive

symptoms just like someone with winter SAD.

Summer SAD sufferers seek the opposite of what a winter SAD patient would need; rather than warmth and light, they seek dark, heavily air-conditioned spaces to try and achieve balance.

Whichever side of the SAD coin you may find yourself on, research consistently suggests including psychotherapy as part of your treatment.

If you are reading this and are realizing that the recent time change and the increase in warmer weather has impacted you in a way you may not have expected, know that you are not alone.

Make the call, take the first step and nurture your mental health.

Dorset Pier Mental Health. Take comfort.



Erra-Lynn C.: We are so grateful to have a brand new bed. As a growing family on a single income, we have a tight budget. By receiving this bed, we are able to use our money in other ways to better support our growing family.



Megan F.: I'm a low income single mom. It's helped me save the little money that I do have to put it to use for other essential things me and my child need. So I'm very grateful for the donation.



Organization

Daniel W.: We were lucky and fortunate to be able to move [into a new home] with the pandemic unfolding. The kids were looking forward for a long time to have their own bedroom. ... Then the sewer line backed up on the second night. Our finished basement was a mess with many of our belongings still in boxes ... with sewer water damage. One of the items was the kids' bed. It was not salvageable. The hardest part for me was not losing all these items. What got me was my 6-year-old daughter asked me the next morning if we had to move again. We [recently] received your generous delivery. We'd like to thank you all very much for replacing the lost bed.

Patricia W.: As a family of 7, we're grateful to receive a complete bed to provide to one of our children. Our toddler is excited to have a "big boy bed!" Thank you so much!

DANIELLE RIDER Dorset Pier Mental Health

IN THE bay arts entertainment culture

Two of Us a heart-rending love story



Sliding under the radar of recent releases is *Two of Us* aka *Deux* (Shaw PPV).

We first scouted this impressive little feature during its debut at the 2019 Toronto International Film Festival, seemingly so long ago.

Two of Us tells the story of two older women, Nina (Barbara Sukowa) and Madeline, (Martine Chevalier) who have been carrying on a clandestine affair for decades, enabled by the convenience of living in apartments opposite each other in a cosmopolitan French town.

Despite their advanced years, their relationship still simmers with warmth, tenderness, playfulness and passion. They plan to move to Rome where they can live together more openly, thanks to some money Nina has cached away in a little metal box. (Why the money isn't nestled safely in a bank account is one of those tiny movie head-scratchers until we see how it facilitates the plot later on.)

Still in the closet

One speed bump in their plan is that Madeline can't bring herself to fess up with her adult daughter Anne (Lea Drucker) and son Frederick (Jérôme Varanfrain), that she's actually gay and never really loved their father, hence her neighbourly pretence with Nina. She leaves them to their own speculations, much to Nina's frustration.

Plans take a turn when Madeline suffers a stroke, rendering her speechless with hampered mobility. Enter live-in caregiver Muriel and then Anne herself, who pose considerable obstacles to Nina's desperate need for contact with Madeline. Nina's helpful omnipresence arouses suspicion, incurring rivalry with the priggish caregiver which is at once comic, hard-edged and suspenseful.

Despite her collective in-house help, Madeline responds only to Nina ever so subtly which further stokes Nina's obsession, bordering on maniacal possessiveness, to singlehandedly help her lover recover at the expense of discretion.



SECRET LOVE: Barbara Sikowa and Martine Chevalier star in Two of Us, the story of two older women who have been carrying on an affair for decades.

Observant Anne, though, begins to get the picture, especially when Nina over-steps her bounds. Angered and confused by the deception and concerned for her mother's wellbeing, Anne has Madeline hospitalized. Its undisclosed location drives Nina to despair.

However, Anne soon sees the drawbacks of sterile institutionalized care and its over-reliance on medications, prompting her to reconsider. Would over-caring Nina be so bad?

This is a heart-rending story of true love and devotion, bolstered by the outstanding performances of Sukowa and Chevalier. The lived-in joy and intimacy they share is palpable and touching.

First-time director Filippo

Meneghetti, who won a César film award this past weekend for Best First Feature, shows a sensitive, imaginative hand, adroitly mixing in suspense. He makes very effective use of camera placement, close-ups and silent glances, providing an engaging, wordless subtext throughout, especially for Ms. Chevalier, who can only react with her eyes. One invigorating motif is the use of a familiar 60s pop tune rendered here in Italian (no spoilers here.) It's used to moving effect early on but is especially impactful during the closing credits as a commentary on Nina and Madeline's relationship.

Though some subplots are a bit under-cooked, *Two of Us* gives us a memorable portrait of enduring love.

IN THE **BAY Mark Harmon night provides stability**

y mother often refers to Tuesdays as "Mark Harmon night."

I've long accepted her devotion to the NCIS actor. And after almost 18 season on the same night, Tuesdays have certainly earned this distinction.

And that's saying something considering the lack of consistency in the television schedule.

Fifty years ago, there were three networks and primarily one TV season: September to May – with a brief hiatus for Christmas specials.

The summer revolved around repeats, more specials and made-for-TV movies and mini-series. So for much of the year, the TV line-ups for each night were pretty much set in stone.

That said, we knew what day of the week it was by the show that aired that night. When I was growing up, Tuesdays meant Happy Days. And despite current day revelations, Thursdays belonged to Bill Cosby,

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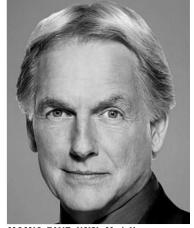
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Cheers and L.A. Law.

Fridays were for the politically incorrect Dukes of Hazzard and Dallas. If The Love Boat and Fantasy Island were on, it must be Saturday night. And of course, families gathered Sunday evenings for The Wonderful World of Disney.

It seems a simplistic way of following the passing of time. But I was a kid and I didn't exactly keep a datebook. The TV



MOM'S FAVE: NCIS's Mark Harmon

Guide was my calendar and it was reliable.

These days, TV schedules are anything but. With an increasing variety of channels and online platforms available,

WORD SEARCH

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ever to find exactly what you're looking for. visit tbnewswatch.com

the TV networks are constantly re-organizing their schedules to improve their ratings and get the highest advertising dollar. That makes for a rather fluid lineup each season.

But in the past year, COVID-related production delays have wreaked havoc with the schedule. Shows are changing times and even days every other week. After all, the networks have 24-hours a day, seven days a week to fill - each one of them with a dollar sign attached.

That's 16 minutes of revenue potential versus 44 minutes of costs.

So I get the importance of the accountants' balance sheet. However, with people out of work or working from home, their own regular schedules are also flying out the window. Many have lost track of time.

How often have you heard someone complain that they don't know what day it is anymore? And weekends? What are those?

The personal daily routines that helped so many organize their schedules are gone.

And half their schedules and to-do lists have either been cancelled or become virtual. That lack of routine and the way it grounds us is causing stress levels to peak.

And that's where television comes in. Not with a "very special" episode of Dr. Phil or some star-studded mental health P.S.A.'s. (Although who wouldn't mind a little Ryan Reynolds action?)

Instead, the networks should focus on making the TV schedule stable again. Predictable.

In the midst of this ever-changing, stress-laden world, give viewers a touchstone. Something we can rely on just because ... it's Thursday. Stability keeps us sane. And off YouTube.

I know my mom feels better when she goes to bed with Mark Harmon every Tuesdav.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE Sudoku SXORGPIVVI Т Υ С ACROSS 38 Euripedes play ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE MUAYS S L 1 ΜΗ Α R Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 40 Notch APAR BPOE SCI 42 Adjective-1 Mascagni 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9. Р S G S WOO S R W F Е LLP L Z ARMS LEAH forming (suf.) heroine 5 This one (Lat.) 8 Oriental 43 Russ. secret TONEDOWNINRE 0 А 0 QUEASYL Q Α Е 8 4 police E P I E L L I S P E A 45 Ger. spa nursemaid 47 Spurt 50 Afr. plant ALLCO R S Е S Е Е D Т B Α U Ρ R Μ 12 Aid SEAWEEDXLIII 13 Row 3 9 4 14 Midianite king 15 Scatter 52 Rebel W B S Μ S P S Е Р Μ Е N Α т ANSENETENCL 54 Disburse MATTAGALATEA 55 Abdominal 17 Famous Е Е Р Т Ρ W Е В В G F - 1 Т L (abbr.) zeppelin ROSSBAN 56 Concert halls 18 Sup 19 Of birth D С EENESTN U Е 0 N F Κ 57 International (abbr.) 58 Delirium ALGAFOREHEAD 21 Central R B С R S G N Y Т 0 R Α L standard time ABE READ ARID tremens (abbr.) (abbr.) BALA RET E P С Y RCAOR Α Ν U 59 Money BIAS 1 L L 22 Formic acid 2 source 4 (abbr.) Hamlet's friend 11 Hilt of a sword Е Е D Α 1 F Е Т 23 Crush L 5 16 Sicilian resort DOWN 25 Rant 20 Article (Fr.) 6 Kiln 29 Apparition С R L Е L Т F W S Ρ S Choice 22 Having wings 6 Millrace 1 32 Wild ox 8 Argentina 24 Silence 33 Boor Fetish S S D Κ Х U Е 0 U Т 2 25 Burmese knife (abbr.) 3 For fear that 35 Freshwater 9 Seller 26 Compass 3 Assn. of Tennis mussel 10 Down with (Fr., S S 1 1 0 СН O W N Ν U Т S 1 direction 36 Hundred (pref.) Professionals 27 Tug 2 words) 28 Chin. chairman SHCF DCRUMBG S G ΖE 10 30 Stamping 3 8 2 Acrvlic Cubed Lunar Skimpy device 12 13 31 Aurora Drills Music Skulls Again 34 Circle 15 Apart Effortlessly Outlavs Spasms 16 37 Globe 39 Slave Asleep Ember Output Speller 18 41 Electric unit 43 Arabian judge Bowls Equates Peals Stencil DIFFICULTY: 44 Valley 46 Liability Excess Boxed Peeve Super Brewing Guise Psalm Swamp 26 47 Gem 48 Noble (Ger.) Cactus Implementations Queasy Swarmed TM Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations ENIGMA 49 Nipple 32 and proverbs from around the world. Each letter Coils Upping Lasts Regimes 1 Annex stands for another letter. Hint: "N" = "A 53 Partner of 36 Crumb Lilac Relic Wisps CRYPTOGRAM Magog 40 **NEED OF CASH?** "TWNT OY N PZZE QZZV CWOBW OY PLACE YOUR AD IN ZJKXKE COTW KUJKBTNTOZX, NXE **bClassifieds** 50 52 BFZYKE COTW EKFOPWT NXE

JRZLOT." - N. QRZXYZX NFBZTT PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "If a man is proud of his wealth, he should not be praised until it is known how he employs it." - Socrates



Re-imagining 1979 NHL draft



've always loved re-imagining NHL drafts.

It's a fun little parlour game to think what might have been, with the benefit of hindsight in each team's war room.

That year, the NHL welcomed the four World Hockey Association survivors into the fold, including the Wayne Gretzky-led Edmonton Oilers. The Oilers made The Great One a priority selection, foiling Montreal's plan to take him with Colorado's top pick a year later. They then went on to draft three more hall of famers with their first three picks, building the base of multiple Stanley Cup-winning teams in one fell swoop.

There was plenty of talent to go around in 1979, 104 of the 126 players taken eventually playing at least one game.

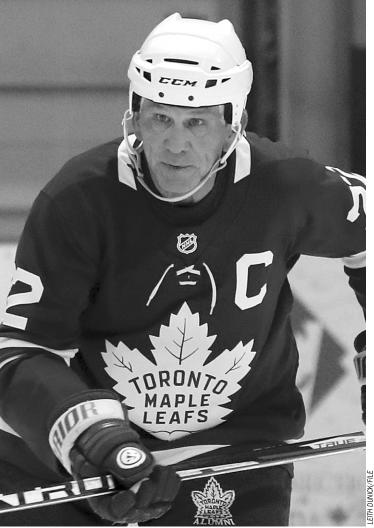
Hard to believe, from today's standpoint, that Mark Messier survived to the third round or that three defencemen went before Ray Bourque.

Anyhow, here's how I think it might shake out in a redraft. The number in parentheses is where they were originally taken.

1. Colorado, Ray Bourque (8): Originally taken No. 8 by Boston, Bourque is one of the top-five best defenceman of all time, and ironically won his only Cup in 2001 with the Colorado Avalanche. The Rockies took blue-liner Rob Ramage with the pick, so I stuck with the position.

2. St. Louis, Mark Messier (48): One of the greatest leaders in NHL history, he put up 1,897 points, won six Stanley Cups and was almost as important to the Oilers dynasty as Gretzky. The Blues pick was Perry Turnbull, a three-time 30-goal scorer who lasted eight seasons in the NHL. 3. Detroit Red Wings, Mike Gartner (4): One of eight players to score 700 goals, Gartner emerged from the WHA and is still considered one of the greatest skaters of all-time. The Red Wings took Mike Foligno, who put up 355 goals, one more than half of Gartner's total.

4. Washington Capitals, Michel



LEAF LEGEND: Rick Valve was originally drafted by Vancouver and traded to Toronto.

Goulet (20): Another Baby Bull, Goulet posted four straight 50-goal seasons and scored 40-plus in three more, finishing with 548 in his career, one of the best left-wingers the game has ever seen. The Caps originally took Gartner here.

5. Vancouver Canucks. Glenn Anderson (69): The Canucks took Rick Vaive here, but Anderson gets the edge. A three-time 100-point scorer, he's also got six Cups on his resume and is in the Hockey Hall of Fame.

6. Minnesota North Stars, Kevin Lowe (21): The Stars took defenceman Craig Hartsburg, so I'm giving them the top defenceman in the draft in Lowe, who finally made the hall of fame this year. Hartburg was offensively gifted, but injury prone.

7. Chicago Blackhawks, Brad McCrimmon (15): If the Hawks were truly in the market for a D-man, let's give them Brad McCrimmon, the best of a solid bunch of defenders. Their real pick wasn't bad either, Keith Brown.

8. Boston Bruins, Dale Hunter (41): Lucky enough to have Bourque fall in their lap 42 years ago, I'll have them go a different route and take pesky forward Dale Hunter, a guy you loved if he was on your team and absolutely detested if he wasn't.

9. Toronto Maple Leafs, Rick Vaive (5): Back-to-back 50-goal seasons after being traded to Toronto by Vancouver, Vaive finished with 441 career goals, nearly 200 more than the Leafs original pick, Laurie Boschman.

10. Minnesota North Stars, Guy Carbonneau (44): A high scorer in junior, Carbonneau skated his way to the hall of fame with his defensive game, winning three Selke Trophies. Minnesota originally took Tom McCarthy, a swing-and-a-miss in such a deep draft.

11. Buffalo Sabres, Rob Ramage (1): The original No. 1 pick, Ramage would have been a good fit on a team still led by Gilbert Perreault, considerably more offensively gifted than Mike Ramsey, the Olympian the Sabres took in 1979.

12. Atlanta Flames, Neal Broten (42): Atlanta took Paul Reinhart here, a worthy pick except for his injuries. Broten, a member of the Miracle on Ice team, had a 100-point season and finished with 923 points in his career.

13. New York Rangers, Thomas Steen (103): Probably the secondbest player in Winnipeg Jets history, Steen put up 817 points over 14 seasons, 489 more than Doug Sulliman, the real Rangers pick.

14. Philadelphia Flyers, Brian Propp (14): Propp was the Flyers actual pick, and fits in well here.

15. Boston Bruins, Dave Christian (40): Scored 340 goals. The Bruins can make up losing out on Bourque and McCrimmon in future years.

16. Los Angeles Kings, Pelle Lindbergh (35): Lindbergh was one of the rising stars of the game when a car crash cut his life short. The Kings took Jay Wells here.

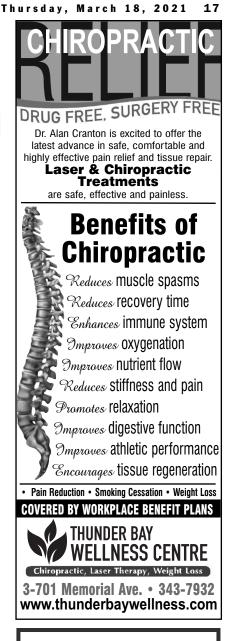
17. New York Islanders, John Ogrodnick (66): Not many teams would turn down a 400-goal scorer this late in the draft, not even a team on the verge of four straight titles. Duane Sutter was the real pick.

18. Hartford Whalers, Anton Stastny (83): No one really thought he'd escape the Iron Curtain so soon. Was a point-a-game player. Ray Allison, the Whalers pick, only played 238 games, the least of any 1979 first-rounder.

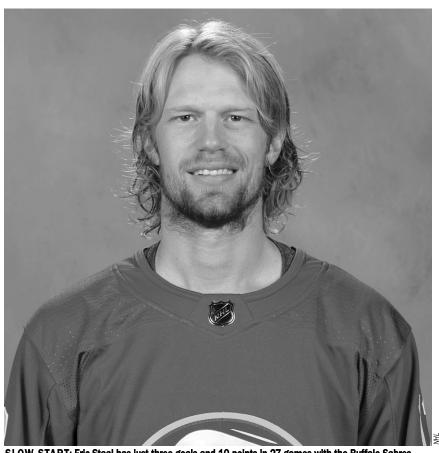
19. Winnipeg Jets, Mats Naslund (**37**): Naslund led the Habs to a Cup in 1986, putting up 110 points. Jimmy Mann could fight, but that was about it.

20. Quebec Nordiques, Mike Ramsey (11): A solid, stay-at-home defender, the Nordiques were better off with Goulet in this spot.

21. Edmonton Oilers, Paul Reinhart (12): Their three hall-offamers long gone in the redraft, Reinhart would have thrived with Gretzky and might have avoided the injuries that shortened his career to 11 seasons.







SLOW START: Eric Staal has just three goals and 10 points in 27 games with the Buffalo Sabres.



Staal's stay in Buffalo may be short-lived one

"I'm told he

would be

open to a

deal to a

contender"

PIERRE LEBRUN

Potential landing spots include a reunification with brother Jordan

NHL By Leith Dunick – TB Source

hunder Bay's Eric Staal could be on the move again.

The veteran forward was shocked this past summer to learn he'd been dealt by the Minnesota Wild to the Buffalo Sabres, but has struggled to find his groove in 2020-21.

Staal has just three goals and 10 points in 25 games this season, though he has picked up assists in each of his last two games.

According to TSN hockey insider Pierre LeBrun, the pending free agent, who has a partial no-trade clause in his contract, might be open to moving on from the Sabres to a contending team.

Buffalo is dead last in the East Division with a 6-15-4 record, 16 points out of playoff spot with 31 games to go. LeBrun said unrestricted free agents like the 36-year-old Staal are good candidates to be moved at the NHL's April 12 trade deadline.

"He was dealt sort of against his will to the Sabres in the off-season. I'm told that he would be open to a deal to a contender. He has a partial no-trade with 10 teams on it. But for the right team, he would certainly go. He's living alone in Buffalo, his family is not with him, so what's the difference [from] one hotel to another? " LeBrun said Tuesday on TSN.

Where he might land is another story.

LeBrun said Edmonton, a team that's had an up-anddown season, but is still in contention for top spot in the NHL North Division could be a potential landing spot.

However, he pointed out, the Oilers are up against the cap, so any salary they bring in would have to be matched going out.

Others, including LeBrun, have suggested Staal might be up for a reunification with his brother, Jordan, in Carolina.

LeBrun on Thursday suggested the Hurricanes might wait until closer to the deadline to reach out to Buffalo.

"It's a storyline that I think a lot of people can get behind," LeBrun said during an intermission chat between periods of the Toronto/Winnipeg game.

Staal, a former captain and second overall pick with the Hurricanes, spent the first 12 seasons of his career with the Hurricanes, winning a Stanley Cup in 2006.

He was traded to the New York Rangers at the trade deadline in 2016, then signed as a free agent with the Wild that summer.

The former 100-point player, had a resurgence in St. Paul, scoring 92 goals over his first three seasons with the Wild.

He's on the final year of a two-year extension he signed with Minnesota in 2019 and carries a \$3.25-million cap hit.

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HALF CENTURY ANNIVERSARY: The Thunder Bay Juvenile Canadians captured the city and district championships 50 years ago, in 1971. The team included: Back row (from left) Rick Malo, manager, Paul Fedick, Bruce Bevilacqua, Guy Coull, Wayne Sereda, Dennis Umakoshi, John Duchnicky, Alan Zulianello, Gordy Simmonds, Ray Smith, coach. Front row (from left): Dean McDonald, Kevin McDonald (stick boy) Ricky Mauro, Bobby McChristie, Pat McDonald (stick boy) Clayton Linklater. Missing Jerry Morriseau, Bob Karl, Greg Morriseau

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Thursday, March 18, 2021 19



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