

SOLEMN VISIT: Federal NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh posed for selfies with supporters on Monday after spending time with local Indigenous people at the Sacred Fire.

assistant coach in Montreal /15

Mamow Obiki-ahwsoowin

A model of tradition that meets the needs of today.

Tikinagan Child and Family Services has a dual mandate. It is one of 53 Children's Aid Societies in Ontario mandated under the Child, Youth and Family Services Act to protect children from harm. We are accountable to Ontario for this responsibility. We are also mandated by our Chiefs to provide services that are culturally sensitive to the needs of Indigenous children, families and First Nations. We are accountable to the Chiefs and to the communities for this responsibility.

Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin represents the culmination

of almost 35 years of work to develop a culturally appropriate response to children and families who are in need of help in the First Nation communities. In developing Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin, we have sought to be true to the original vision that the Chiefs and Elders had when Tikinagan was created. The service model is now described in detail in a set of comprehensive service manuals, including service standards and policies, and case management procedures and forms.

Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin is designed to respect the inherent authority of First Nations to care for our own children. It acknowledges that our First Nation mandate supersedes provincial legislation and that our ultimate goal is the pursuit of complete First Nation jurisdiction over our own child welfare services. Until this goal is achieved, Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin services are designed to be culturally appropiate and meet the needs of our First Nations and provincial legislation, regulations and standards.

The Answers Lie Within The Communities



Obiki-ahwahsoowin. Mamow Obikiahwahsoowin is the Tikinagan service model. In Ojibway/Oji-Cree, Mamow Obikiahwahsoowin means, "everyone working together to raise our children." It is a system of protecting and caring for children and supporting families that has been designed and is delivered by First Nations people.

Customary Care. Customary care is an integral element of Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin. Within the customary care system, the First Nation Chief and Council have the authority to declare children to be placed in Tikinagan care when removal from their home is required. The First Nation, parents, Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin

caregivers and children in care sign a Mamow Obikiahwahsoowin Care Agreement for children coming into the agency's care. Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin care puts the decision in the hands of families, extended family, communities, and First Nation leadership, and not mainstream Court systems.

Find out more about Tikinagan at **tikinagan.org** and follow us on Facebook **@Tikinagan** and instagram **@ tikinagancfs**.



tikinagan.org







Weather Forecast



SEEKING INPUT: NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh (right) is joined by NDP MPP Sol Mamakwa at the Sacred Fire on Monday night.

Singh calls for end to boil-water advisories

POLITICS By Leith Dunick – TB Source

NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh says it's heartbreaking to think young people in a northern community like Nesktantaga First Nation have never not lived under a boil-water advisory.

Singh flew to the remote community on Monday to see the situation first hand, and criticized the federal government for not only breaking a 2015 election promise to end all boil-water advisories in Indigenous communities by 2020, but for extending it for five more years ahead of a widely expected federal election this fall.

Singh said he spoke to a pair of youngsters while in Neskantaga, and was told by one, a 10-year-old girl, that she was fighting for clean water for her family and her community.

"Think about that," Singh said. "I think about what I was doing when I was 10 years old, would I ever have thought about having to fight for clean drinking water? I just turned on the tap and I got it."

Another youngster told him residents of the community deserve to be treated like humans, not animals or sub-humans.

"We have kids that their entire lives, because this boil-water advisory, not having clean drinking water, has gone on for 26 years. This means we have kids, 15-year-olds, 20-year-olds, 24-year-olds, who have never been able to drink out of their own homes, the tap out of their own home," Singh said.

"They don't know what that's like." There's simply no reason, he said. Singh said the federal Liberals and Conservatives have shown in the past when there's a will to get some-

thing done, it gets done. He pointed to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's decision to spend billions at the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic to support big business.

"He did that without hesitation. But when it comes to Indigenous people and clean drinking water, he made a promise back in 2015 and six years later, broke that promise. Now he promises another five years. In the 21st century, with the wealth that we have, being one of the world's largest economies, I don't accept for a second the excuse that it could not have happened sooner," Singh said.

"Eleven years to have clean drinking water for all Indigenous communities is not good enough."

There are currently more than 50 boil-water advisories in Indigenous communities across Canada, about 80 fewer than when Trudeau entered office six years ago.

"It can be done, it can be fixed, it's a matter of making it a priority. New Democrats, at all levels, provincial and federal believe it should be a priority and will work to make it done."

Singh said a concrete plan is required, along with the resources necessary to end the advisories. Promises are no longer enough.

Singh on Tuesday spoke with evacuees of Northern Ontario wildfires, along with MPPs Sol Mamakwa and Judith Monteith-Farrell. He was also joined on Monday night by Thunder Bay-Superior North nominee Chantelle Bryson and Thunder Bay-Rainy River nominee Yuk-Sem Won.





STILL A CHOICE: Vaccines won't be mandatory this year at Confederation College.

Vaccines expected by College

EDUCATION By Gary Rinne - TB Source

Confederation College says it expects students and staff to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to access its campuses in person this fall.

In a clarification issued Wednesday, a college spokesperson said vaccinations will not be mandatory, but the college is "strongly encouraging everyone to get fully vaccinated" for the start of the semester.

College President Kathleen Lynch had announced late Tuesday afternoon that anyone attending classes, labs, support services or other activities is expected to be completely vaccinated by Tuesday, Sept.7.

Fully vaccinated is defined as having received two Canadianapproved vaccine doses and having completed the 14-day waiting period following the second dose.

medical exemptions will be respected if appropriate documentation is provided.

The expectation that students be vaccinated does not apply to students learning remotely or online.

"With the continued and real threat of COVID-19, the steady supply of vaccines in Canada, and our move to increased on-campus activities, implementing this approach is the best way to stop the spread of infections and to keep our college community safe," Lynch said.

She said the college administration is taking into account assurances from government authorities that vaccines will be generally available to everyone.

"We anticipate that if international students arrive in Canada unvaccinated, they will be offered the opportunity to be vaccinated while in quarantine," Lynch added, noting that international students currently

The president's statement said in the country are already fully eligible for vaccinations.

Seneca College last week became the first college in Ontario to announce a mandatory vaccination requirement for all students and staff coming on campus.

Lakehead University announced Monday that all students living in residence must have at least their first vaccination shot and a plan to obtain their second dose.

The provincial government has told all colleges and universities that capacity limits and physical distancing will not be required when the fall semester starts.

However, programs at Confederation College that were previously scheduled to be delivered 100 per cent online in the new term will remain online.

Students with on-campus learning will receive additional information about their schedules prior to the start of the semester.

HOSTED BY:



Council denounces conversion therapy

Motion passes in unanimous fashion on Monday night

CITY HALL By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

he City of Thunder Bay has The City of Finance 2.5 denounced the practice of socalled conversion therapy, pledging to advocate for its criminalization and to examine ways to fight it with municipal bylaws.

A motion put forward by Northwood councillor Shelby Ch'ng was passed unanimously by city council Monday, denouncing treatments that attempt to change someone's sexual orientation or gender identity as harmful, unscientific, and unethical.

The city will call on the federal

government to pass Bill C-6, which would amend the Criminal Code of Canada to include conversion therapy-related offences.

The bill has seen several delays since it was introduced in March of 2020. It is currently stalled before the Senate over its summer recess, after passing second reading in the House municipality in June.

"The

has an ability

to send a

strong clear

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2SLGBTQIA+

community."

JASON VELTRI

All major political parties officially support the bill, though 62 Conservative MPs more than half of the party's caucus - voted against it on second reading. Advocates from the Rainbow Collective of Thunder Bay presenting to

city council Monday worried

that with a federal election widely expected to cut the current legislative session short, Bill C-6 won't make it into law.

While the battle to ban conversion therapy may be playing out on federal turf, Rainbow Collective president Jason Veltri told councillors the city could join other Ontario municipalities in taking a stand on the issue.

> "The municipality has an ability to send a strong and clear message of support to our 2SLGBTQIA+ community," he said.

Dr. Kristopher Wells, a professor at MacEwan University in Edmonton, argued conversion therapy should be firmly condemned as he spoke to council with the Rainbow Collective.

"It's not a recognized therapy at all, it's a form of abuse, and in some cases may reach the level of

family violence and child-focused violence," he said. "We can be very clear that these kind of practices have no place anywhere in Canadian society."

Research indicates at least 50,000 Canadians have been exposed to conversion therapy practices, he said, adding that was likely an underestimate.

Ch'ng's motion directs city administration to report back to council with ways the city can "support the intent of Bill C-6... through planning and development, business licensing and human resources support available for city employees."

That follows in the footsteps of the City of JASON VELTRI Kingston, which recently

passed a similar motion, with a draft bylaw due for review by its city council before the end of the year. McKellar Ward councillor Brian

Hamilton supported advocating to

pass Bill C-6, but pushed to drop the bylaw efforts, saying the city's licensing and enforcement division was already overwhelmed with work.

Work on a potential nuisance bylaw hadn't moved forward more

than a year after city council asked for a report, he noted.

City manager Norm Gale agreed the office had little capacity for new work.

"You have asked us to do a lot when it comes to bylaw enforcement - their plate is full," he said, saying the situation was similar at legal services. Notice of the resolution

passed Monday by council will be shared with the prime minister and various federal ministers including local MP Patty Hajdu, and other local representatives.



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Editorial

EDITORIAL

Water is a basic right

NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh has a point.

It's time to end the boil-water advisories in Indigenous communities once and for all.

Singh, who travelled to Neskantaga First Nation on Monday to see firsthand a community where boil-water advisories have been in effect for more than a quarter of a century, said there's no excuse why the situation has yet to be fixed.

Singh accused Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of not working fast enough to end the advisories, though to be fair to the PM, he has cleared dozens off the books since taking office in 2015.

A plan is needed, one with clearly defined timelines and the necessary budgets needed to make it happen.

If this was Toronto or Montreal or Vancouver, or even Medicine Hat, Alta. or Truro, N.S., the work would have been done.

The problem is, too many politicians don't see enough political capital in First Nations. Translated - they don't see enough votes.

It's easy to promise and it's proving tougher than necessary to deliver.

As Singh said, if there's a will, there should be a way. Canada's First Nations deserve clean drinking water and don't deserve the endless supply of excuses of why it hasn't happened yet.

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intense twenty year relationship and write some of America's greatest novels, giving voice to a 'lost generation' shaken by war. Eager to find his way in life and words, Dos Passos first witnessed the horror of trench warfare in France as a volunteer ambulance driver retrieving the dead and seri-

ously wounded from the front line. Later in the war, he briefly met another young writer, Hemingway, who was just arriving for his service in

the ambulance corps. When the war was over, both men knew they had to write about it; they had to give voice to what they felt about war and life.

he Ambulance Drivers by James Morris is the story

of Ernest Hemingway, John Dos Passos and a

After meeting for the first time on the front lines

of the Great War, two aspiring writers forge an

friendship made and lost in war.

Dos Passos was opposed to war as he saw it as the ruling class using the masses as cannon fodder to advance their interests. He got into trouble with the censors for writing letters home that were full of antiwar sentiment. Hemingway fully embraced war and saw it as a fast route to fame and glory. When he was badly wounded he fell in love with his nurse and used

their story as the basis for his masterpiece A Farewell to Arms.

Their friendship and collaboration developed through the peace of the 1920s and 1930s as Hemingway's novels soared to success while Dos Pasos penned the greatest antiwar novel of his generation, Three Soldiers.

In war, Hemingway found adventure, women and a cause. Dos Passos saw only oppression and futility.

Their different versions eventually turned their private friendship into a bitter public fight, fueled by money, jealousy and lust.

Hemingway was jealous of Dos Passos because he always seemed to be one step ahead; Dos Passos was in the war before Hemingway and also in Spain, which Hemingway eulogized in For Whom the Bell Tolls and Death in the Afternoon. Dos Passos also got published before Hemingway and generally received more positive reviews although his difficult literary style made him less popular with readers than Hermingway, whose terse prose reinvented the English language.

It was politics that tore them apart. Hemingway threw himself whole heartedly into the Spanish Loyalist cause and helped to make a Communist propaganda film -The Spanish Earth - while Dos Passos grew disillusioned with the struggle.

Rich in evocative detail - from Paris cafes to the Austrian Alps, from the streets of Pamplona to the waters of Key West - The Ambulance Drivers is a biography of a turbulent friendship between two of the century's greatest writers, and an illustration of how war both inspires and destroys, unites and divides.

In the process it reminds us that Dos Passos, who's books are now out of fashion, was once rated alongside Hemingway, Faulkner and Steinbeck. It also reminds us that Hemingway was passionately committed to progressive causes such as the Spanish Civil War and the Cuban Revolution.



JOHN ATEMAN BOOK BANTER

Perspective

Cautious approach

Thunder Bay is starting to come alive all over again

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

Sometimes it feels like things are finally getting back to normal I'm a little nostalgic these days and my perspective can best be explained by the well-known cliché, "Absence makes the heart grow fonder."

For the past eighteen months or so we have all been restricted from enjoying the people, places and things that we used to take for granted.

Won't it be nice to get everybody together again for special occasions or have a friendly chat with someone in the grocery store or go out for dinner without worrying?

Sometimes it's surprising how even the smallest things can become very important to us when they are suddenly missing and we are deprived of their many tiny delights.

Things like walking into a coffee shop for a hot beverage and a cruller or dropping in to the library or an art gallery or popping in on someone just to say hello

Another astute observation that comes to mind is, "You never miss the water 'til the well runs dry."

Both of those tired, old clichés have new meaning for doublevaxxed Canadians who are enjoying some forbidden activities for the first time in many months.

Here in Thunder Bay our community has earned this privilege by bringing the number of active cases down through public health measures and high vaccination rates.

Ontario has met the criteria over 80 per cent of adults have had at least one dose of the vaccine and more than 66 per cent aged 12 years and up are now fully vaccinated.

Some days there are no new cases locally and the result of everybody's due diligence and responsible behavior is a province wide shift to phase three and further easing of

restrictions. After what we've

tions are still in place

for the general public and we

would be foolish to ignore them

However, compared to where we

were a few months ago there is a

sense of optimism as we slowly

poke our heads out the door and

Retail outlets can open, subject to

the two metre distancing rule and

nightclub limits are capped at 25

The number for outdoor social

gatherings and public events has

increased to 100 people while

venture out a little further.

per cent capacity.

now and put our success at risk.

normalcy.

nice to get been through it is natural to be a little everybody skittish but anybody together who is fully vaccinated again for is now safe and free to special pursue some sense of occasions " Public health restric-

"Won't it be

indoor gatherings can include up to 25.

Restaurants are open for indoor dining – there is no set limit on the number per table, but physical distancing is required between groups.

Indoor sport and fitness facilities can open at 50 per cent capacity and the same goes for personal care services.

In all cases masking and physical distancing rules remain in place and District Health Units will

respond to community needs as required if local conditions change.

Going forward with the good health of our community in mind it is now a personal choice how you would like to proceed from here – a cautious approach is recommended.

As for me, my heart really has grown fonder of the people, places and simple things I've been missing.

I've been getting together with family and friends, shopping for a few non-essential items and trying to re-acquaint myself with the community.

After a long absence, later this week I will be part of a high level backyard bull session with a few old chums I haven't seen since before the lockdown.

Things are happening, our community is coming alive and we are beginning to experience a real sense of normalcy.

ISEUM



GRILLED GOODNESS

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER: The Regional Food Distribution Association, the United Way of Thunder Bay and the Dew Drop Inn teamed up last Thursday for a fundraising community barbecue.

HOW TO WRITE US:

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

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France will require vaccination or a negative COVID tests to fly on planes, go to concerts or eat in restaurants, etc. Should Canada do the same?

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Commercial Fishing Dock

A load of fish unloaded in Thunder Bay. Commercial fisheries on Lake Superior thrived through to the 1930s. In 1938, 400 tons of whitefish, 400 tons of trout, and 600 tons of herring were caught with a value of \$140,000. By this time, however, commercial fishing was becoming largely uneconomical.





CHANGE COMING: Digging for coins when parking in Thunder Bay could be a thing of the past.

CITY HALL pay for parking tickets as soon as they are issued. **By Leith Dunick – TB Source** App users will pay a 15 cent new system will allow Thunder "convenience fee" per parking ABay residents to extend parking session, while online payment will

sessions or pay tickets in seconds online, but that convenience comes with new user fees.

City council on Monday approved an agreement with U.S.-based Passport Labs Inc. for a parking enforcement system including new software and hardware, a smartphone parking payment app, and an online ticket payment service.

Elsewhere

The company works with other municipalities including Toronto, Kitchener, Orillia, Timmins, and Windsor, staff noted.

Users can download Passport's mobile app free to Android and iPhone devices, allowing them to pay for on-street or off-street municipal parking spaces. They can also extend parking sessions through the app, and

Meters made easier

come with a \$3.50 fee per parking ticket.

Coun. Shelby Ch'ng welcomed the move, saying the modernized system will be far more user-friendly and good for businesses, which can opt to cover parking for paying customers via the system.

The city will continue to offer cash payment options, Ch'ng emphasized, noting that remained important to some residents.

The city's existing systems are at the end of their useful life, according to a report from the licensing and enforcement division, which called equipment failures "an on-going problem" and noted some of the technology is no longer supported by vendors.

Existing parking meters will remain in place for those who prefer to pay with coins, the city said.

The Thunder Bay Parking Authority will pay an annual fee of \$15,000 to the company for the enforcement app and ticket management system, up from current annual fees of \$5,600.

Fewer tickets

The number of tickets issued for expired meters is expected to decline under the new system, since users can check the status of their meter and top it up from their phones, the city said. However, that would also increase meter revenue.

The city completed a privacy impact assessment on the agreement, it reported, saying all end user data will be stored in Canada and will be pursuant to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

The agreement with Passport and the two new user fees were unanimously approved by city council on Monday.

Joshua Taylor running for Conservatives in TB-ŠN

POLITICS By Leith Dunick – TB Source

oshua Taylor has been tapped by the Conservative Party of Canada to take on Health Minister Patty Hadju in Thunder Bay-Superior North.

Taylor, a native of Geraldton, Ont., said in a release issued on Thursday he's hoping to bring back a sense of community he feels has been lost over the past six years under Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the Liberal government.

"As a lifelong resident of the North, I've seen the rural areas of Thunder Bay-Superior North neglected and unable to live up to their amazing potential under Liberal and NDP Members of Parliament," Taylor said.

"When I was growing up in Geraldton, there was a real sense of community. So much of that has been lost because of rising crime and a lack of economic development under this government. I believe that we can have that sense of community again with the right elected representative."

A graduate of Western University who said he researched Indigenous intergenerational trauma while at school, Taylor said he believes that background would serve him well as a Member of Parliament under the Conservative banner.

Taylor, who worked in southern



NEW CANDIDATE: Joshua Taylor wants to bring back a sense of community.

Ontario before moving back to Northern Ontario three years ago to work for the municipality of Greenstone, is currently the youth engagement facilitator for the tobacco control departments at the Thunder Bay District Health Unit.

Local party leadership welcomed Taylor to the race, which also includes recently announced NDP candidate, lawyer Chantelle Bryson.

"We are looking forward to having Joshua as Thunder Bay—Superior North's Conservative candidate in the upcoming election. With Joshua, we are confident that we will run a successful campaign and get one step closer to securing the future for the residents of Thunder Bay-Superior North," said Thunder Bay-Superior-North EDA president Jordan Erickson.

An election has not yet been called, but there is widespread speculation the minority Liberals will pull the trigger this fall. Conservative candidate Frank Pullia finished second to Hajdu in 2019.



NEW ALL NON-SMOKING

Smart tech will spy fake vaccinations

HEALTH By Leith Dunick - TB Source

ealth Minister Patty Hajdu says while Americans won't have vaccine passports at their disposal when the border reopens to fully vaccinated U.S. residents on Aug. 9, she's confident the unvaccinated won't be able to fake their way into the country.

Hajdu on Wednesday said with rare exception, visitors will have to upload their information into the ArriveCan app, which has the ability to weed out and reject false documentation.

"It in fact has artificial intelligence built into it to understand and machinelearn how to detect fraudulent documents. This is a big part of why ArriveCan is being used and will eventually become fully mandatory, except in rare situations when someone has some kind of circumstance that doesn't allow for them to use the app," Hajdu said.

International travellers will be allowed to enter Canada for non-discretionary reasons starting on Sept. 7.

Hajdu stressed the non-vaccinated, those who have only had a single dose of an approved vaccine - AstraZeneca, Johnson and Johnson, Pfizer or Moderna - or those whose second shot was administered less than two weeks prior will still be banned from entering the



CHECK AND BALANCE: Health Minister Patty Hajdu says the ArriveCan app will be able to flag counterfeit vaccination papers.

country

Everyone seeking entry into Canada, including Canadian citizens, permanent residents and students, must also present a negative COVID-19 test result at the border, though a mandatory quarantine currently in place will be waived when the restrictions are lifted against American and international visitors. "It is very important that people use

that app. Download it. Get used to it. It's going to be a big part of international

travel back into Canada, both for Canadians and for travellers visiting," Hajdu said.

The United States last Wednesday announced it was extending its border closure to non-essential travel through

Aug. 21, though Canadians are allowed to fly into the United States for leisure purposes.

As for vaccine process, the health minister said it's still a work in progress, echoing statements made earlier this summer.

It's also got to be done in partnership with other jurisdictions, namely the provinces, she said.

"What we're trying to do is to ensure that Canadians who want to travel to other countries have the evidence they need to provide, in a standardized format that will be accepted by other countries. This is obviously health data that is owned and protected by provinces and territories. Privacy of health data is extremely important," Haidu said.

"So we're working right now with the provinces and territories on how to share aspects of that data without compromising any privacy."

One thing unlikely to change anytime soon is the rules surrounding children. They will no longer need to self-quarantine for 14 days, but won't be allowed to attend school, daycare or other group settings for 14 days after their return.

Hajdu said children can still catch COVID-19 and thus spread it to classmates or others with whom they come in close contact.

IN BRIEF Swimmer dies Monday night near Marina Park

A male swimmer died Monday night while swimming near Marina Park.

Thunder Bay Fire Rescue, Thunder Bay Police Service and Superior North EMS responded to a 911 call on Monday regarding a male who had not returned to shore while swimming in the vicinity of Marina Park just before 6 p.m.

Thunder Bay Fire Rescue searched the water in the area where the male was last seen. They located the male a short time later. Despite the lifesaving efforts of Fire and EMS crews, the male was later pronounced deceased.

Members of the Thunder Bay Police Service Major Crimes Unit are now involved in the investigation. A post-mortem examination is pending.

Overdose deaths spike

ourteen fatal overdoses in July linked to suspected fentanyl use have led police to issue an urgent warning to the public.

It's staggering, said Det.-Insp John Fennell of the Thunder Bay Police Service, adding two of the deaths have occurred in the past 24 hours. Fennell said while the problem is

widespread, some parts of Ontario appear to be more hard hit than others.

"In all of Northwestern Ontario, we're finding that it seems to be a little more concentrated in the north than in the south, and I think it's just because of the amount of money that drug dealers can make from our population, because they'll spend a little bit more for it," Fennell said.

"The deaths seem to be a little more increased here. And yes, it's staggering here. It's bothersome. We're continuously trying to develop new strategies with how to deal with it and it's just overwhelming to us right now

Body found at LU

City police say they are investigating a sudden death after the body of a male was found on Saturday night near Lakehead University.

In a release issued on Sunday, police say a passerby discovered the body just after 9:30 p.m. on Saturday night.

Police have not released any further information about the investigation or said whether or not the death is suspicious."

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There are parks aplenty in the area



n Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario, we are spoiled with an abundance of naturally beautiful parkland. During the warmer months, thousands of people choose to spend some time at our municipal, provincial and national parks and campgrounds.

Considering the number of aweinspiring parks to visit in our region, I couldn't possibly cover them all, but I will highlight a few favourites. Each of these unique destinations provides us plenty of opportunities for family fun and relaxation.

Perhaps the best part is that, no matter where you live, there is park near by and probably a dozen more within a day's drive.

Many of us have visited the headliners like Quetico, Neys and Sleeping Giant, but there are many more that are definitely worth a visit during this summer holiday season.

Municipal parks: Trowbridge Falls Campground, beside the cascading rapids of the Current River, is right on the doorstep of a quickly-growing mountain bike mecca that sprawls from Kinsmen Park to Centennial Park to Shuniah Mines.

The campground also features a park, hiking trails, and easy access to popular swimming spots on the river.

Chippewa Park Campground, on the shore of Lake Superior provides a great view of the Sleeping Giant as well as a campground that offers rental cabins and campsites for everyone regardless of whether you are staying in a tent or a fully equipped RV.

Provincial parks west of Thunder Bay: A short 20 minute drive from Thunder Bay, Kakabeka Falls Provincial Park is best known for its location next to the 40 meter high rock cliff waterfall often referred to as "Niagara of the North". Here, visitors and campers can enjoy nature trails, great views from platforms along the gorge or even trace the voyageurs' route around the falls.

Sandbar Lake Provincial Park by the town of Ignace features a beautiful sandy beach with a gently sloping swimming area that is great for children and families.

Paddlers will enjoy several challenging canoe routes through the park. Hike the Silhouette Trail and the Rockcliff Trail to



FUN OUTING: The canoe is one of the best ways to explore a large park like Quetico.

explore the unique natural features of the park including jack pine woods, aspen forests and wetlands. Quetico Provincial Park by Atikokan is renowned for its isolation, rugged beauty and picturesque rivers and lakes. Portaging with a canoe, you can explore the heart of the park in a few days or map out a route into the interior and spend weeks exploring. We found that getting away from the access points means it is possible to paddle for days without seeing any other people. The further we go into the park, the more incredible the wildlife viewing and fishing becomes. This amazing playground also connects to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area of the Superior National Forest in Minnesota to create a massive area of unspoiled wilderness.

Aaron Provincial Park near Dryden is easily accessible right off highway 17, making it the perfect stopping point for cross-country explorers. Thunder Lake is a remnant of the ancient glaciers that covered Ontario tens of thousands of years ago and it features two sandy beaches and clear waters perfect for swimming, boating and fishing.

There are plenty of other amazing parks west of Thunder Bay including Blue Lake, Rushing River, and Caliper Lake to name a few, but I would need to write a full book to sufficiently cover all the cool features of each.

In next week's column, we will look at some of the best parks along the north shore of Lake Superior heading east from Thunder Bay.



CONGRATULATIONS FRED JONES ON YOUR 1,000th COLUMN!

Drought conditions tough on farms

Hot, dry weather and a lack of rain are tough on vegetable gardens and lawns



his long spell of intense heat and dryness has played havoc on the flora in the country.

I have written about driving down our dirt road and how much dust swirls up behind the vehicle resembling a desert dust storm if you aren't careful.

One cannot drive the speed limit; one must drive very slowly if one wishes to be kind to neighbours. I was amazed that my truck and/or car can actually motor at 20 kilometres without stalling.

Yellowing

What one sees are drooping leaves on trees and bushes and a change in colour on all those small bushes crowding right beside the road, ferns and such.

No longer green, their leaves are now that orange/yellow you don't expect to see until the end of August. Such has been the effects of lack of

We did receive a smattering of rain that accompanied a brief, early morning thunderstorm on Friday.

I sat on our screen porch with mug number one of java watching the skies.

rain.

At first I wasn't sure that what I beheld were clouds and not just the thick haze of smoke from the forest fires west of us.

But then I sniffed and did not smell any smoke. So, clouds.

The rumbles though were way to the south and I thought that whatever storm was brewing was passing us by.

It wasn't long before the sky got darker and separate black clouds gathered and then the rumbles got nearer and nearer.

The storm brought rain but not much – no downpour.

I was grateful for whatever moisture fell from the heavens to water our vegetable garden and our lawns that were showing distinct signs of being parched.

Later in the day I drove to get the mail at our mailbox in the village and was happy that I could actually drive the speed limit without covering a neighbour's lawn and 'hoosie" with dust.

Didn't last though. By Saturday afternoon making the drive to our local dump (Saturday being dump day), I saw the dust again swirling up behind the vehicle.

I have also written that my memory 'ain't wot it used to be' so I forget how long annual events like the beautiful display of lupins are supposed to last. Seems shorter this year.

But along the roadside you do see the gorgeous light blue of chicory on tall stems and lots of yellow, both trefoil and buttercup.

My wife, Laura, The Gardener (I am but the 'grunt'. "Here, carry this..."), voiced her relief that we put in a much smaller vegetable garden this year that requires less watering.

We have the two greenhouses that needs one of us in there, hose-inhand, on a daily basis especially with

this heat. 'We'd be out there for hours watering if we'd done our usual size garden," she said.

Watering involves two things: bending low to water the roots of the plants and doing it in the evening when the blast of the sun is lessened. But then we get mosquitoes, whole squadrons of them along with noseeums.

The best time to water is really early in the morning before ol' Sol starts pumping out the heat.

But neither of us wish to do that particularly when Madam must get ready for work and "The Grunt" wishes just to sit and sip until he sees too many tails and manes swishing, skin twitching and legs stomping, trying to rid themselves of the biting flies, indicating that it is time to bring the equines into their stalls for the day. So, we water in the evening.

In days of yore when we ran a riding business and had to gather small, square hay bales off the field, we learned that mosquitoes punch a time clock.

At 10 p.m. precisely, they would come out.

Times haven't changed. Since with the heat we can't let the horses back outside until the thermometer registers 20 C or lower, we tend to stay inside ourselves.

Lots of work

Even covering one vegetable bed that contains the beets and carrots as protection against any Bambi strolling by, before 10 not a problem; after 10 bombardment.

Seems a shame to cover one's body with deet just for a short veggie bed covering duty. So, we endure.

I read on Facebook a post from my friend, Pat, that said there is "a small silver lining with drought: no weeds and fewer mosquitoes." True about the weeds; not so true about the mosquitoes, at least in our experience. Dang!

Commenting on the lack of rain Sunday morning, Laura expressed her gratitude that we have a very good well. Amen.





Conservatory reopens after being closed by COVID-19

THUNDER BAY By Justin Hardy – TB Source

Thunder Bay's Centennial Botanical Conservatory opened its doors againlast Wednesday to allow the public to enjoy the beautiful plants and other features available for the public to come and enjoy.

"This is so needed in the community, people have been calling and wanting to come here constantly," says Karen Nadeau, lead hand curator for the Thunder Bay Conservatory.

"They go outside, however they need to come in and just relax, and it's their home away from home." While the temporary closure of the

Lottery License #: RAF1201852

tory staff to focus more effort on the outdoor features around Thunder Bay, such as the culling of invasive species and planting in low impact development areas. The Conservatory staff has also been

able to add the care of the marina to their plate of responsibilities.

conservatory was a blow to the morale

of the community, it did allow conserva-

The Conservatory is now open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., seven days a week.

There is no fee for admission but donations are greatly appreciated and are accepted at the entrance of the conservatory.

Visitors must observe posted physical distancing requirements.



TWEET TO FILM: Riley Keough (left) plays Stefani and Taylour Page plays the title role in Janicza Bravo's film, Zola.

Zola light on finding emotional investment

MARTY

MASCARIN

MOVIE TALK

The film Zola (Shaw PPV) caught one's eye thanks to recent critical accolades by some noted TV movie mandarins.

Much is being made of what was the quirky story of A'Zia "Zola" King (Taylour Paige), a Black waitress turned stripper, who became a cause célèbre in 2015

thanks to posting an 148 tweet thread describing in real time a harrowing weekend gone wrong with fellow white dancer, Stefani, (Riley Keough) during a fateful road trip to Florida.

The tale made a social media splash thanks to the immediacy of Zola's

tweets, rendered with apparent candor and streetwise sarcasm, giving an insightful look at the world of sex workers. The thread, eventually taken down, resulted in a story in Rolling Stone.

The trip was supposed to a fun jaunt, with the girls making easy money dancing at a variety of clubs.

However, Zola did not bargain for Stefani's "roommate" X (Colman Domingo) coming along as their domineering 'driver' nor Stefani's clued-out boyfriend, Derek, (Nicolas Braun). Their presence immediately casts a shadow on ensuing events.

After the girls' first dancing gig, X aims for bigger returns setting Stefani up doing more unseemly activities. An appalled Zola is coerced into serving as her 'greeter.' X betrays a menacing Caribbean patois when angry, departing from his smooth American alter ego.

Zola tries to persuade Stefani into realizing she can change her life. Then naïve Derek inadvertently leads their party into a nasty lethal scene potentially involving sex trafficking.

The film's thematic commentary regarding female empowerment vs exploitation embellished by a dash of satire glimmers but only sporadically.

There are major hurdles confronting *Zola*. The characters aren't particularly likeable. One admires Taylour Paige's strength as our self-possessed protagonist. But beyond her refusal to compromise herself, there's little revealed, other than she does enjoy dancing and has a

loving boyfriend. How she connects with the likes of Stefani in the first place is a head-scratcher. She also mysteriously eludes enduring Stefani's exploitive activities.

Keough's Stefani is harder to like. She displays little interior life other than apologizing for deceiving Zola,

tearfully disclosing her own desperate rationale which still doesn't prevent her from being any less duplicitous.

Domingo is properly repellant as the slick bullying pimp, X, and Braun mines some mirth as the wellmeaning but hopelessly ineffectual Derek.

Director Janicza Bravo interestingly attempts to emulate the spirit of Zola's thread italicizing the scenes with tweet alerts and sardonic freeze frames. She captures the tacky motels, rundown bars and gaudier establishments. She ably generates a sinister vibe, accentuated by Mica Levi's effective soundtrack.

However, while it's commendable to stick to a vision and style inspired by original source material, it's another matter turning this unsavory story into an engaging, palatable narrative.

In some quarters, *Zola* is being hailed as a 'zany romp'. Well, there's barely any 'romp' and it's hardly zany when grim, bleak aspects overtake the story. This is not appealing to all tastes.

Ultimately, *Zola* proves to be stylistically and thematically interesting but falters in generating much emotional investment.





GRATITUDE: Employees at the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board present Dr. Janet DeMille with a signed banner, expressing thanks for guidance during the pandemic.

Educators thank DeMille

HEALTH By Leith Dunick – TB Source

t's been a rough couple of years in Ontario schools.

TBLife

Last Wednesday, representatives of the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board thanked Dr. Janet DeMille and the Thunder Bay District Health Unit for 16 months of support and guidance, as educators weaved their way through pandemic restrictions, outbreaks and a new way of delivering classroom learning, in person and remotely.

Allison Sargent, superintendent of education at the board, said it wasn't easy navigating COVID-19 and it wouldn't have been possible without the help of DeMille, the medical officer of health for the district, and her staff

"Dr. DeMille has been unbelievably amazing during the whole pandemic –

through the closing of schools and opening of schools and closing of schools again and reopening schools through the vaccine roll-out," Sargent said.

"We really acknowledged the fact that they understood that we were dealing with kids. The restrictions that they had in place in schools ensured that students were able to celebrate their milestone occasions, special occasions in the schools."

It wasn't easy, she added, noting students and staff alike worked hard to make it work.

"The PPE in itself was a challenge to wear all day, but the creativity that (staff) had to make sure that students still had meaningful experiences, despite the physical distancing, despite all the hand washing that had to be done and all the restrictions that were in place, our entire staff really rose to the occasion," Sargent said.

DeMille said she had no idea just how many signatures were going to be on the banner, adding it was a touching moment when the banner was unfurled.

"I was caught off guard. I knew this was happening, but I wasn't quite expecting huge banner and all those signatures," DeMille said. "I'm looking forward to reading them and seeing the effort they put in.

"Honestly, this was a very difficult year and a very unusual year. We saw school boards ... really step up and take on this huge task and all the teachers and staff and even the students, implementing a lot of health measures and then of course following up."

Both DeMille and Sargent said they are awaiting provincial guidelines for a return to school in th fall.

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IN THE **BAY**

Sit-coms have foregone laugh tracks

This past season's collection of comedies are decidedly different from those of my childhood. Back in the day, we had *All in the Family, Happy Days,* and *Taxi*.

Then came Cheers, The Cosby Show, Frasier, Friends, and Everybody Loves Raymond.

They were produced "in front of a live studio audience." The pace was quick and the punchlines ran aplenty.

These comedies were easy to watch and allowed for an end-of-the-day descent into mindless TV viewership. It was a simple format: A character walked in to the sound of applause – so we knew this was someone important to the scene. Then a couple lines were spoken between characters and the sound of laughter erupted – so we knew it was funny. And that laugh-track was key.

Of course, despite being shot in front of studio audiences, that laughter is prerecorded and laid over the sound of the



actual audience. That way, the sound is consistent and controlled.

After all, if the laughter is too weak, the joke doesn't sound funny enough. If there's too much of a pause before it starts, the audience might realize the joke wasn't funny at all. (No need to give them time to think about it.) And if the laughter goes on too long, it slows the pace and muddies the actors' next lines. Besides, in every group there's always that one person who cackles like a hyena. Or worse, the snort laugh. Hence, the handy-dandy laugh-track. But over the years, someone decided viewers can think for themselves. They

don't need audio cues from canned laughter.

Consequently, present-day comedies are comparatively quieter than in the past. *Modern Family, The Unicorn, Mixed-ish, Sunnyside*, and *Perfect Harmony* forego both studio audience and laugh-track. They take quirky yet relatable people/situations and present them with plenty of dead air pauses for viewers to contemplate. Weigh. Consider. Ruminate. And then, hopefully, chuckle quietly to themselves should they feel so moved.

No pressure. Take your time. Ironically, we rarely laugh about those same awkward moments in the real world. Like the time my 70-year-old male doctor decided to discuss my biological clock while my feet were still in the stirrups.

Or when my downstairs neighbour called my office to ask where I'd been because he'd been watching for me all week and never heard me going up the stairs at night so if he ever wanted to see me he had to "hunt me down at work."

This is where a personal laugh-track would be a useful tool. It would bring levity to those intensely awkward moments. It would also cue others when we're making a joke so that we're not sacrificed on social media by an angry mob of trolls.

These days, life could use more laughter. So let's keep it going. Let's recycle that all-powerful laugh-track and put it to good use again. Like as an app for your phone.

After all, it's better than having a drummer follow you around doing rim-shots all day. (insert laugh-track here)



EXACTAMUNDO: Henry Winkler played The Fonz on the '70s hit, Happy Days.

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Know That...

Did You



Letowski signs on with Habs

Former NHLer lands an assistant coaching gig with Stanley Cup finalists NHL

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

wo weeks ago, Trevor Letowski was watching the Montreal Canadiens play in the Stanley Cup final. The 44-year-old former NHLer, who has coached the Ontario Hockey League's Windsor Spitfires for the past three seasons, winning a Memorial Cup as an assistant coach in 2017, was not thinking about moving on.

Instead, he figured he had a few more weeks to enjoy camp life with his family in Northern Ontario before he'd head back to southern Ontario to get set for the upcoming hockey season.

A phone call from Dominique Ducharme changed his mind-set in a hurry.

The two had coached together on a pair of World Junior Hockey Championship teams, winning bronze in 2016 as assistants and gold two years later with Ducharme in charge.

Three years later Ducharme is now behind the Canadiens bench and when he needed to add an assistant coach to the team, Letowski was one of the first names that came to mind.

On Wednesday the Habs made it official, signing Letowski to join their coaching staff, the first NHL coaching gig for the former pro who spent nine seasons in the NHL, playing for Phoenix, Vancouver, Columbus and Carolina.

"You spend a lot of time at that tournament together," said Letowski, who also played with fellow Montreal assistant Luke Richardson for a couple of seasons with the Blue Jackets.

"Not just the few weeks at Christmas. You really have time to build a relationship and we became good friends through that. Now I'm getting this opportunity and I'm just really, really excited."

Montreal presents an intriguing opportunity for Letowski, who also won gold as a player at the 1997 World Junior Hockey Championship.

He said coaching in junior takes a specific set of



MOVING UP: Trevor Letowski has spent the past five years behind the bench of the OHL's Windsor Spitfires.

skills, while coaching at the NHL level takes another set of skills.

But deep down, coaching is coaching.

"In junior, the focus is truly on development and getting them better and developing them as players, but also as people. They come in so young and they have so much to learn on and off the ice as 16-yearolds, whereas at the NHL level, they're grown up, they're the best players in the world," Letowski said.

"I think the NHL has changed a little bit. I think it's gotten younger over the years and there certainly is room for development with the younger players, specifically in Montreal."

It was the likes of Cole Caufield and Nick Suzuki that led the Canadiens playoff surge this past season, propelling the team into its first championship round in 28 years - the last time a Canadian team won a Stanley Cup.

"Especially in a place like Montreal, as everyone knows, it's a high-pressure place to be. I think as a coach, especially as an assistant coach, it'll be part of my job to keep those guys comfortable and get them through tough times," he said. "Suzuki and Caufield had great seasons, but they will have adversity and they'll go through slumps and things like that.

"I think that will be part of my role, to do one-onone stuff and just get them through that, whether it's a conversation or with some video or some extra work after practice."

Having that playing experience at the NHL level will help his credibility with the next generation.

'There's a fraternity among players. You know how it is. Unless you've played there, it's kind of hard to understand the expectations that are put on you on a day-to-day-basis, so I can certainly relate to what they're going through."

Experience aside, Letowski said he never would have gotten where he is today without the love and support of his family, his wife and kids, his parents and in-laws and his brother and sister.

"Anyone in the hockey world, especially in the hockey world, knows that," he said.



you see above, Thunder Bay's Trevor Letowski is heading back to the National Hockey League as an assistant coach with the Montreal

Canadiens. That's spectacular news for one of the good guys in hockey. I've gotten to know his extended family quite well over the past five years - his sister, Trisha, and

my girlfriend, Cathy, are really close friends.

Trisha spilled the beans to me on Thursday night, but swore me to secrecy until Friday when Montreal made it official. That was a tough secret to keep.

Whenever Trevor and his teams were playing, you could bet his parents, George and Sue, were gathered round the computer

watching, more often that not his brother and sister doing the same. It's what family is meant to be. It's not hard to guess what they'll be doing on Montreal game nights this season.

ood news for Thunder Bay's Marc Staal, who Gon Sunday signed a one-year, \$2-million deal to remain with the Detroit Red Wings. Staal is just 52 games shy of reaching 1,000 for his career, a plateau his older brother Eric, and younger brother Jordan, have already hit. There have never been three brothers to play 1,000 games apiece in NHL history.

ad a chance to speak with NHL draft hopeful Nick DeGrazia last Friday. Ultimately he wasn't chosen, but his hockey future is bright. He'll likely suit up for the OHL's Sudbury Wolves this season and if his offensive talent lives up to its billing, there's no doubt he'll start drawing interest from NHL clubs again.

He was ranked 85th of Central Scouting Bureau's North American skaters.





sports NEWS

Strathcona Invitational set to begin on Friday

GOLF By Leith Dunick – TB Source

COVID-19 forced the Strathcona Invitational to the sidelines last year, but the crown jewel of Thunder Bay golf tournaments is back and better than ever in 2021.

A full field of 128 golfers is expected to tee off, competing for \$18,000 in prizes, starting on Friday with the qualifying rounds for the senior division.

An outdoor champions dinner will follow later that night, with two golfers' names being selected and given one shot off the first tee to hit a hole-in-one and win \$1 million dollars.

On Saturday golfers in the regular division will tee off in a qualifying round, the top 16 moving on to the championship round match play format.

The remainder will be slotted into flights to compete over the course of the long weekend. Senior championship flights will also start on Saturday.

The finales in each category are scheduled for Monday at Strathcona Golf Course.

Robert Cumming is the two-time defending champion at the event and will be honoured



DRIVE FOR THREE: Robert Cumming won the Strathcona Invitational in 2018 and 2019.

as the 2010s player of the decade at the banquet.

Hank Wilke is the defending senior champion, while Ryan Untinen was the 2019 super senior winner and Ron Hamilton took the masters crown two years ago.

For more information about the tournament, visit www.strathconainvitational.ca.



DEADLINE: Classified Word Ads: MONDAY @ 4:00p.m.



SECOND CHANCE: Kendra Fortin is headed to Calgary this week to showcase her talents at the national level.

Fortin invited to play at HC NextGen camp

"The biggest

thing is being

able to play

with the top

girls in the

country of my

age."

Kendra Fortin

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

On the same day Kendra Fortin was told the truth about the Easter Bunny, she was also told she'd never make the National Hockey League – because she was a girl.

It was a double whammy, but she didn't let the devastating news get her down.

That perseverance paid off.

On July 29, the 18-year-old from Thunder Bay will join 22 other so-called NextGen hockey players, born in 2003, to take part in the eight day national women's under-18 team summer development camp at

Calgary's Olympic Park.

It's a do-over for the athletes, who last summer could only participate in a virtual under-18 camp, an opportunity to get nationallevel experience, familiarize themselves with the Team Canada way and get ready for the upcoming season.

Fortin, whose older brother Zach played parts of two seasons with the Gatineau Olympiques of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, and will suit up for the Superior International Junior Hockey League's Kam River Fighting Walleye this season, said it's a dream come true to get the invite to Calgary.

"The biggest thing is being able to play with the top girls in the country of my age. I think that's a pretty good opportunity to get ready for Bemidji and that's one of my main focuses," said Fortin, who plans to attend Bemidji State University in the fall after a spending last season with the Etobicoke Dolphins of the Provincial Women's Hockey League.

"It's a big honour to make that team after not playing for a year-and-a-half and it definitely motivates me more to work hard to play in college for my four years."

It's also a chance to get seen and maybe start down the Olympic path like Thunder Bay's own Katie Weatherston and Haley Irwin, who together have won medals at the last four Games – three of them gold.

"That's the biggest thing for us. My next step would be playing for Bemidji State and then hopefully getting noticed for the U-22 roster, which is the next step for the Olympics. That was kind of my dream since I was little," Fortin said.

> "My dad and I always talked about stepping stones. This is just another milestone. I'm going to make my way up the mountain and do it the right way. It's going well so far, I guess."

Fortin credited her family, her trainer, her coaches and the Thunder Bay Queens organization for helping her get to where she is today.

Her older brother has been a huge influence on her career, she added.

"I think growing up I didn't have very many female role models. Haley Irwin was obviously one of the biggest for me, for a female, but my

brother was definitely one of my biggest role models, just because I grew up around him. I'm his friend and I worked out with him since I was 11 with my trainer, Brady Fox," Fortin said.

The NextGen camp runs from July 29 to Aug. 5.

Kelsey roars back to take tennis title

Mascarin downs Malik in men's open final match TENNIS

By Leith Dunick –TB Source

Before this weekend, Emily Kelsey had never played at the Thunder Bay Tennis Centre. Not even once.

She made her presence known in a hurry, capturing the VW City Memorial Tennis Tournament, in honour of Dr. Jerry Stitt, roaring back from one set down to edge Anna Turner 2-6, 6-0, 6-3 to take the ladies singles title.

After dropping the opening set, Kelsey broke Turner's serve eight straight times over the final two sets to claim the championship, the first event the 30-year-old Roseview, Calif. native has played in since arriving in the city from Toronto, where she's lived for the past decade. It wasn't the start she was looking for, but definitely the finish.

"I was making a lot of errors so I knew I had to change something. I had to take a bit off the ball and just get a rhythm going again. As soon as I got that rhythm going I was able to put a bit more on and steal a bunch of games."

Kelsey stormed through the second set, out-duelling Turner, particularly successful in rally situations, throughout the frame.

She said she decided to attack Turner's second serve, putting her opponent on the defensive, despite being on serve.

"I was able to get her on the run right away and I think get on the offence, so that definitely helped me," Kelsey said.

After tying it up in such a decisive manner, Kesley said she couldn't let her foot off the gas in the third. It was more of the same in the early going of the final set. She broke Turner twice to open

the third and took a commanding

3-0 lead, and fittingly broke her to capture the title, the winning point coming on yet another lengthy rally between the two tennis players.

"The third set comes down to sudden death, so you've got to just put as much energy as you can out there. We've been battling the elements out there – smoke and heat – and I just wanted to give it the best I could give it," Kelsey said.

Gianni Mascarin defeated Imran Malik 6-2, 7-5 in the men's open final, while Hudson Van Dyke took a straight-set win, 6-1, 7-6, over Kaz Kitchener in the men's 3.5 final. In the women's 3.5 final it was Janine Black over Amanda Frederick, winning 6-0 and 6-3.

In the men's open doubles, Robert Beckford and Brad Kirkham defeated Malik and Rohan Rakshit (6-0, 6-3) and in the women's open doubles, it was Leanne Ryder and Kristine Thompson downing Kelsey and Dolly Niemi (6-4, 6-2).



SWING AND A HIT: Emily Kelsey hits a return on Sunday at the Thunder Bay Tennis Centre.

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Employment Opportunity

Position Title: Application Deadline:

Program Coordinator Pathways Thunder Bay August 2nd, 2021 5:00 PM EST

Location: Thunder Bay: Blended Office Model (to start) Remote and In Centre/Community Duration: August 2021 – March 31st, 2022

(becoming permanent position in 2022 based on secured partnerships and funding) Salary Range: \$48,000 - \$60,000 per annum including benefits

The Multicultural Association of Northwestern Ontario (MANWO) and the Regional Multicultural Youth Council (RMYC) with the support of Nishnawbe Aski Nation and local school boards and funding from Pathways to Education are collaborating to launch a stay-in-school and graduate initiative targeting First Nations students. We are looking for a well qualified culturally competent individual with management skills committed to working with Indigenous students and supporting them succeed.

Pathways

to Education

RM

Pathways to Education Thunder Bay is a unique community-based program designed to increase high school graduation rates with a focus on Indigenous students in the city. The program offers tutoring, mentoring and cultural programming, financial support, and advocacy to support high school students to successfully transition to post-secondary education, training or meaningful employment.

Position Summarv

The Program Coordinator for Pathways Thunder Bay will be responsible for helping in the final design of the first full program year, launching in October 2021 and ensure its smooth implementation. The individual will oversee the execution of one-on-one intervention, mentoring, cultural, and tutoring activities including support of the entire full-time program team (Student and Family Support Team), part-time team (facilitators / drivers), and volunteers. The Program Coordinator, with the Operations Manager and the Executive Director will be responsible for developing and maintaining a wide range of partnerships, which are key to the program's overall success. They will ensure the program is working according to Pathways to Education Canada's standards while ensuring the voice of youth is continually heard. This role will be adapted in the 2022/2023 school year based on new partnerships.

Responsibilities

- · Undertake training via Pathways Canada (background, program design, program expectations, systems, reporting and communications)
- Create final plan/design for Pathways Thunder Bay. And promote employment opportunities and lead selection process of new hires for Pathways Thunder Bay
- · Working with the MANWO/RMYC Executive Director in following up on existing and new partnerships with all relevant school boards, local organizations and First Nations and Indigenous organizations, resulting in signed agreements/ contracts/MOU's clearly outlining relationships, roles and requirements including who will manage / deliver cultural mentoring component
- . Working with youth team (August 2021) to promote registration for Pathways Thunder Bay to launch in October 2021
- · Provide supports to staff with partners at school boards, local organizations, and systems
- Ongoing support / care for youth engagement and ensuring youth voices are heard Recruit 12 – 18 volunteer tutors for 2021/2022 school year
- · Design and deliver (with support from other staff) tutor training for in-person / virtual tutoring
- · Work with Pathways Canada to determine virtual tutoring opportunity / process
- Ongoing supervision of RMYC Pathways staff and volunteers
- Working with potential partners for transition of roles

Requirements

- Focus on increasing wellbeing of youth and young people
 Post-Secondary education in Education, Child and Youth Work, Indigenous Studies, Non-Profit Management, or related fields
- · Creative and innovative thinking / planning and program development
- Experience with leadership and providing supervision and support for staff
- · Ability to build healthy relationships with partners, co-workers, community, and youth
- · Excellent communication skills: both written and verbal
- Excellent computer and digital skills, particularly MS Office · Experience and cultural competency focused on First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples
- · Experience working in an educational environment an asset
- · Understanding of tutoring strategies / methodologies an asset
- · Understanding of youth engagement strategies / methodologies an asset

Application / Hiring Process

Please provide resume (with at least two references), cover letter to the Pathways to Education Thunder Bay Hiring Committee, (outlining how you, and your experience will help you be a strong fit for this role), and a document speaking to one (1) of the following statements:

- A short (less than 500 words) essay on why does high school success and graduation matter for Indigenous students. 1.
- 2. In less than 500 words, what are three (3) tools you would use, and why, to engage youth involved in a tutoring and mentoring based program
- In less than 500 words, what are four (4) key strategies / tools in building healthy relationships with partners, co-workers, community, and youth

Young people will be involved in our hiring processes. Those selected for an interview will take part in online discussion with a selection committee of youth, staff, and partners of RMYC.

Final candidate will require a vulnerable sector check, criminal record check, drivers abstract.

Please send full applications to manwoyc@tbaytel.net.

While all responses are appreciated only those being considered for interviews will be acknowledged.

Learn more about the RMYC at https://www.rmyc.info

Learn more about Pathways to Education at https://www.pathwaystoeducation.ca/

Employment Opportunity



Position Title: **Operations Manager** Pathways Thunder Bay Application Deadline: August 2nd. 2021 5:00 PM EST

Location: Thunder Bay: Blended Office Model (to start) Remote and In Centre/Community Duration: August 2021 - March 31st 2022 (becoming permanent position in 2022 based on secured partnerships and funding)

Salary Range: \$48,000 - \$60,000 per annum including benefits

The Multicultural Association of Northwestern Ontario (MANWO) and the Regional Multicultural Youth Council (RMYC) with the support of Nishnawbe Aski Nation and local school boards and funding from Pathways to Education are collaborating to launch a stay-in-school and graduate initiative targeting First Nations students. We are looking for a well gualified culturally competent individual with management skills committed to working with Indigenous students and supporting them succeed.

Pathways to Education Thunder Bay is a unique community-based program designed to increase high school graduation rates with a focus on Indigenous students in the city. The program offers tutoring, mentoring and cultural programming, financial support, and advocacy to support high school students to successfully transition to post-secondary education, training or meaningful employment.

Position Summary

The Operations Manager for Pathways Thunder Bay will be part of a management team that oversees the financial management, high-level human resource duties, and setting training standards and hiring procedures. The individual should be able to analyze and improve organizational processes, and work to improve quality, productivity, and efficiency. They will manage spaces and places, ensuring safety is a priority for the program participants, volunteers, partners, and staff. As part of RMYC, a grassroots organization, this role will be dynamic and provide space for diverse opportunities.

Responsibilities

- · Undertake training via Pathways Canada (background, program design, program expectations, systems, reporting and communications)
- Provide financial oversight / management of budget with Executive Director
- Organize office systems and troubleshoot issues including equipment, facilities and spaces
- Work with external organizations to develop and maintain accurate financial statements and reports, develop and implement internal financial procedures, including managing the payroll.
- Prepare supporting documents for annual audit, funder reporting, and management of financial transactions (via expenses of organization and staffing)
- Overseeing and training for staff for the maintaining of records (financial, student and program) as it related to the Pathways Program
- Ensure safety and security of all related student information (digital and otherwise)
- Providing reporting to Pathways Canada as it relates to financial and students' outcomes

Requirements

- · Focus on increasing wellbeing of youth and young people
- Post-Secondary education in business/non-profit / operations management or related field
- Experience in management, operations, leadership, human resources
- Understanding of general finance and budgeting, including profit and loss, balance sheet, and cash-flow management Technical fluency with excellent computer and digital skills, particularly MS Office including CRM databases, social media and the ability to learn new applications efficiently
- Ability to build consensus and relationships among partners, co-workers, community, and youth
- Excellent communication skills: both written and verbal
- Proven problem solver with solid analytical skills
- Experience working with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples
- Demonstrated cultural competency focused on First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples
- Non-profit experience an asset

Application / Hiring Process

Please provide resume (with at least two references), cover letter to the Pathways Thunder Bay Hiring Committee (outlining how you, and your experience will help you be a strong fit for this role), and a document speaking to one (1) of the following statements:

- A short (less than 500 words) essay on why does high school success and graduation matter for Indigenous students. In less than one page, please share what would be important components of a data security process that helps protect 2.
- digital information of students and their families.
- In less than 500 words, what are four (4) key strategies / tools in building healthy relationships with partners, co-workers, 3. community, and youth

The RMYC engages young people in our hiring processes. Those selected for an interview will take part in online discussion with a selection committee of youth, staff, and partners of RMYC.

Final candidate will require a vulnerable sector check, criminal record check, drivers abstract.

Please send full applications to .

While all responses are appreciated only those being considered for interviews will be acknowledged.

Learn more about the RMYC at https://www.rmyc.info

Learn more about Pathways to Education at https://www.pathwaystoeducation.ca/

MANWO & RMYC are known for creating an inclusive environment and proud to be an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, and age. As this role will support primarily Indigenous students and families in Thunder Bay, we strongly encourage Indigenous applicants to apply, and in particular, members of Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) member First Nations.

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