



Turf war concludes

By a narrow 7-6 margin, council votes against delaying tendering of proposed indoor sports facility/ 8



FAST PITCH: City council narrowly agreed to go against administration's recommendation and will take the \$33-million indoor turf facility project to the next phase.

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GOING BACK TO THEIR ROOTS



Mural captures organization's soul /12

STAGE IS SET



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FILE

Reopening schools safely matters to everyone

That's why the government of Ontario has worked with health officials, school boards and educators to develop a comprehensive plan to keep kids and staff safe.

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- **More nurses** will be in schools.
- **School cleaning** will be enhanced.



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LOCAL NEWS



COLOUR PARADE: Strips of colour on the rainbow and transgender crosswalks will be enhanced.

Crosswalk given a quick overhaul

Colourful lines widened on rainbow crossing

THUNDER BAY

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The city's first rainbow and transgender crosswalks were controversial enough to begin with.

Just hours after it was completed at the intersection of Bay and Algoma streets last Thursday, the complaints from within began flooding Northwood Coun. Shelby Ch'ng's inbox.

It seems there just wasn't enough colour, and far too much grey pavement showing, to satisfy the public.

Ch'ng said they took the complaints seriously, and over the weekend, made adjustments to the rainbow crosswalk, widening the colour stripes to make it pop off the street as originally planned.

A similar enhancement is planned for the nearby transgender crosswalk, but it will take time for the additional colour strips, which have to be heat blasted in place, to arrive. The city and contractor used colour strips on hand for a second rainbow crosswalk on Donald Street, outside of city hall, to make the fix on the first one.

It was unfortunate, Ch'ng said. "Unfortunately the rainbow segments, after much community feedback, it was felt more colour needed to be added to the crosswalks," she said on Monday.

"Administration was very responsive. The

contractor was responsive as well and the following day the colour that was going to be used at Donald and May streets was actually put down at the corner here at Bay and Algoma streets. Unfortunately we didn't have the materials on hand ... to do the trans crosswalk segments."

However, Ch'ng said she's confirmed with the city's engineering department that the materials for both remaining crosswalks have been ordered and both should be completed in the coming weeks.

The total cost for the project is estimated at \$28,000, with the contractor, North-West Lines, committing to half the cost and both the city and Thunder Pride Association splitting the remainder 50-50.

"You should see in about three weeks time the materials come in and hopefully the contractor will be back as soon as possible to make the changes," Ch'ng said.

The second term city councillor said she's not sure how the project got to this point, saying she put the motion forward to help get the ball rolling, but wasn't privy to the design,

"I didn't see the technical drawings. I'm not an engineer. I'm just happy I can use my influence to help rectify this for the community," she said.

Ch'ng added she doesn't expect the additional work will add to the cost of the project.

"... it was felt more colour needed to be added to the crosswalks."

SHELBY CH'NG

LOCAL NEWS

Local Conservatives rally behind O'Toole

POLITICS
By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The grassroots has spoken, says the organizer of Peter MacKay's local Conservative Party of Canada leadership bid effort.

Now it's time to get down to business, said Derek Parks, hours after Erin O'Toole was anointed the party's new leader at a virtual convention in Ottawa.

While his preferred candidate didn't ultimately come out on top, Parks said he's more than willing to work with O'Toole to ensure the Conservatives have the best chance to dethrone Liberal Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in the looming federal election.

"In fairness, it was a decisive win. It showed that Erin O'Toole and his team have what it takes to hopefully win the next general election," Parks said on Monday morning.

It took three ballots – and more than six hours of counting after issues with an envelope-opening machine that meant the final results weren't released until early Monday – for O'Toole to be crowned the party's new leader.



LEITH DUNICK

GRASSROOTS EFFORT: Peter MacKay supporter Derek Parks says Erin O'Toole will unite the Conservative Party of Canada heading into the next federal election.

seats there. And as we all know in Canadian politics, you need to have Quebec at the table in your party to form government," Parks said, noting O'Toole has reached out to the LGBTQ community and other minority groups, something Scheer was seen by many to be less proficient at.

Parks is confident O'Toole's big-tent philosophy could lead to success at the local level too. The Conservatives, who haven't been elected to office in decades in Thunder Bay, but finished in second place in both local ridings last fall with former councillors Linda Rydholm and Frank Pullia representing the party on the ballot.

Conservative Kenora MP Eric Melillo, an O'Toole backer, said he's thrilled to get down to business. It's an exciting time for the party, he added.

"I'm looking forward to working with him to hold this government to

account and form the next government, a strong, principled Conservative government that I know is going to stand up for Northern Ontario," Melillo said.

Pays attention

O'Toole showed interest in the region from the start of the campaign, and continued it consistently through the leadership race, he added.

Whenever the election is called, Melillo said he's confident the Conservatives are ready to take on Trudeau and the Liberals.

"We have a government that is spending money like you couldn't believe, record-setting deficits even before the pandemic," Melillo said.







"We were sliding into recession even before and there seems to be no path to an economic recovery."

The Conservatives, under O'Toole, are the only party who can fix the problem, he said, reached on Monday by Thunder Bay Television.



ERIN O'TOOLE

Weather Forecast

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 Risk of strong thunderstorms Probability of Precipitation: 70% HIGH 20 LOW 16	 Mainly sunny Probability of Precipitation: 10% HIGH 25 LOW 14	 A few showers Probability of Precipitation: 60% HIGH 19 LOW 14
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LOCAL NEWS

School resources needed: First Nations

Indigenous schools may move to online model this fall

EDUCATION
By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

Northern Ontario First Nations are warning they can't guarantee a safe return to class without additional resources to address COVID-19 safety concerns.

Some schools may not be ready to launch in-person classes at all come September, says Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Deputy Grand Chief Derek Fox.

NAN maintains the First Nations it represents have received little to no additional funding to prepare schools for the pandemic. Its 49 communities, located in Treaty 9 and Treaty 5 territory, deliver education to nearly 9,000

elementary and secondary students.

Fox says the organization submitted a proposal for safe reopening to the federal government - which bears responsibility for First Nations education - about one month ago, requesting \$33 million for precautions including personal protective equipment (PPE), enhanced cleaning, and additional staff.

Less than three weeks from the scheduled resumption of classes, they have yet to receive a response, he reports.

"We haven't even gotten a yes or no - it's just complete silence," he says. "The basic needs are not even being acknowledged. There's just been no support whatsoever for our schools to open."

By contrast, Fox points out Ontario has freed up hundreds of millions of dollars for school boards to hire additional staff and improve ventilation, among other measures - even if much of that comes from allowing boards to access their own reserve funds.

"It's absolute discrimination against our children," he says. "What we're left with now is our communities are not ready to open."

Some schools have had to dip into core education funding to buy masks and other COVID-19 necessities, he added.

Two secondary schools, Dennis Franklin Cromarty in Thunder Bay, and Pelican Falls in Sioux Lookout, will not be ready when classes are set to begin on Sept. 8, Fox said, with both strongly considering going online-only for the first quadmester in September and October.

The deputy grand chief worries many students will struggle with online learning, creating an impossible choice for parents.

"What you're left with is either sending your kids to school without any of that safety assurance, or not sending your kids to school and [having them] fall behind."



CAUTIOUS APPROACH: Nishnawbe Aski Nation Deputy Grand Chief Derek Fox.

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LOCAL NEWS

School boards delay return to classes

EDUCATION
By Doug Dlaczuk - TB Source

Now that two of the city's largest school boards know how many students will be returning to the classroom, the hard work continues to determine just what the school year will look like, and so far it includes a staggered and delayed start, and potential smaller class sizes.

The fine details are still being worked out.

Both boards have pushed back the start of classes from Sept. 3 to Sept. 8, to give themselves more time to get classrooms ready and teachers and education workers up to speed.

The Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board will see 895 students of the 7,500 registered learning from home this academic year, with 240 in secondary and more than 600 in elementary.

In the Lakehead Public School Board, 825 elementary students will be learning from home and 350 secondary students.

Both boards are classified as non-designated, meaning students will be returning five days a week with normal class sizes. With several hundred students choosing not to return to the classroom, it will mean smaller classes sizes, but it will differ between both boards.

"We are looking at those numbers as we speak and we are looking at where the pressure points are in our system and we will have to look at what space we have in our schools to look at reducing those numbers," said Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board director of education, Pino Tassone.

"We are aware of some pressure points,

so we will probably be looking at splitting those classes or moving them around in order to reduce the numbers. That will be a priority for us to reduce those numbers in areas we have pressure points."

Tassone added there could be some classes with 15 or fewer students, as well as using additional classrooms to allow for more physical distancing.

"We have to look at those pieces as well whether we will have to hire additional staff," he said. "We recognize that and we will do that where needed."

The Lakehead Public School Board has a higher enrollment of more than 13,000 students, and according to A.J. Keene, superintendent of education, class sizes will still be closer to normal levels.



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Editorial

EDITORIAL

Election not set in stone

The stage is set for a fall election, But while many in new Conservative Leader Erin O'Toole's base are likely drooling at the opportunity to take on a scandal-plagued Liberal Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, forcing a vote might be a little bit premature.

The mathematics also might not add up to get the necessary support to make it happen.

First and foremost, the country is still in the midst of a pandemic. Odds are good some voters will punish the party that forces them to head to the ballot box this fall.

Secondly, O'Toole and his team have barely had time to start thinking about a platform to run on.

Toppling the government next month would give Canadians very little time to figure out what they're all about, and how O'Toole differs from Andrew Scheer, the former leader who failed to guide the Conservatives back to power.

The NDP, by all accounts, don't have the money to wage a costly election campaign and they hold the balance of power.

For all the scandal, the Liberals still remain relatively popular outside of the prairies. A poll released this week shows the Liberals with 38 per cent support, compared to 30 per cent for the Conservatives — which drops even further with O'Toole at the helm.

CONTACT US:

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

Editor: Leith Dunick 346-2650
ldunick@dougallmedia.com

Reporter: Doug Diaczuk 346-2622
ddiaczuk@dougallmedia.com

Reporter: Ian Kaufman 346-3558
ikaufman@dougallmedia.com

Reporter: Karen Edwards 346-2591
kedwards@dougallmedia.com

Sales Manager:
Kathy Harris 346-2510
kharris@dougallmedia.com

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Charge not warranted

To the editor:

CBC covered an incident in Calgary about a guy on a bike spitting at three separate people and yelling racial slurs. The male was charged for these acts, but my question is why spitting in Calgary is different than spitting in Thunder Bay, when the victims are police officers?

The same week this took place, Const. Courtney Clair of the Thunder Bay Police Service had her formal Police Act charges from December 2019 withdrawn. Const. Clair was the alleged officer who slapped a young girl for spitting in her face.

A quick recap of the story saw Const. Clair attend a call where other officers were already present. The police had been to this house countless times. At the home, Const. Clair found a young girl unable to take care of herself.

It is relevant to know that police could simply have left without dealing with this young girl, as she was not the reason for the original call.

Const. Clair saw a male approach this young female in a way that made her fear for the girl's safety. Const. Clair then arranged to have the girl medically checked. While on the ambulance gurney the young girl began struggling and assaulted the ambulance attendant.

Const. Clair tried to prevent the assault and this is when the girl spit in her face. The officer reacted as every officer has been trained — to gain control without causing unnecessary injury. This is what took place.

The young girl was Indigenous, so the screams of racism began, based on 12 seconds of video instead of the entirety of the incident.

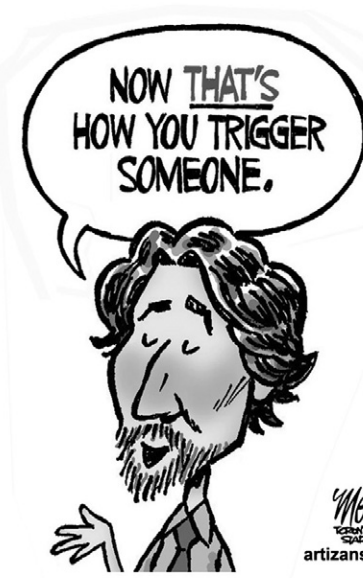
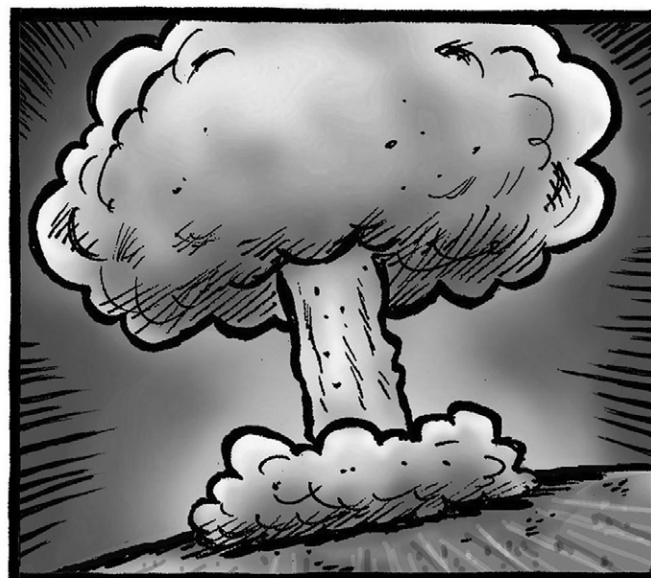
Federal cabinet minister, Carolyn Bennett, publicly condemned Const. Clair, based on the video. National media blanketed the country with the accusations of racism. So when exactly was Const. Clair racist? When she attended the house? When she assisted the young girl and likely saved her from an assault? When she helped the young girl upstairs as she was vomiting? When she helped the young girl onto the stretcher, or when she reacted to the young girl assaulting the paramedic and after being spat at in the face?

Was the slap the racist act, or was Const. Clair a racist just for trying to help.

For ensuring the girl's safety, Const. Clair was spit on, made to take a drug cocktail to prevent possible disease, was called a racist by the federal government, was now known country-wide and received death threats because of a 13-second video.

The next day, according to some reports, the young girl was on social media saying she got what she deserved for her behaviour.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Those who work with and know Const. Clair did nothing to quell those screams of racism.

In fact, their actions likely enhanced the narrative that led to the death threats. The police service and union not only have a duty to root out a bad police officer, but also to support the overwhelming majority of fine and dedicated police officers who work there. It seems in this day of enlightenment, that is expecting too much.

Instead of applauding the officer's actions, the police service condemned her.

It took 19 months to finally withdraw charges that never should have been laid? The department's own use-of-force officer found nothing wrong with how Const. Clair reacted. She was not even charged for the slap, but for some ridiculous procedural nonsense that is not important to this letter.

The charge was to appease those screaming, and who cares what it did to a dedicated officer?

This also took 19 months because Const. Clair refused to be railroaded by a biased and absurd police discipline system.

The charges against the girl for assault against the paramedic and Const. Clair were dropped. Why was that spitting less serious than the incident in Calgary?

It is beyond ridiculous that Const. Clair had to endure this, but this is where we are at today. And people wonder why police recruitment has become so challenging.

What message was sent to police officers in Thunder Bay? Did you make it more or less likely that officers will take the extra step, recognizing they could be the next target of a crazed media or of a federal cabinet minister who talks without facts? Maybe our own cabinet minister can arrange an apology to Const. Clair from minister Bennett? Don't hold your breath.

We all know there are serious issues surrounding the conditions that exist for Indigenous people. Canadians everywhere want to see improvements. But using an officer who did the right thing to push a false story is wrong.

How hard was it for police to acknowledge this instead of simply saying they had no comment for the

retraction story.

It was a ridiculous statement by spokesman Chris Adams, who said "corrective steps to correct the officer's actions" were taken.

What actions?

When you cannot get a discipline conviction under the completely biased system of police discipline, then you had no business charging this officer in the first place.

Const. Clair saved a young girl from a possible sexual assault. Many people failed Const. Clair and, ultimately, the public. But they will likely not give it a second thought. Pushing back against unfounded accusations is just not in their DNA.

Const. Clair exhibited what is good about police officers and for that, she was called a racist. That is where we are today. Does anyone actually think this is a good thing?

Jim Mauro,
Thunder Bay

Jim Mauro is a former Thunder Bay police officer and president of the Thunder Bay Police Association.

Perspective

Conservatory woes

Legacy facility well worth saving for the community

OPINION

By J.R. Shermack
Special to TB Source

There are differing opinions from a number of perspectives on the question of closing the Thunder Bay Conservatory but unfortunately the biggest stakeholders are silent.

So I ask the same question once raised by Dr. Seuss in *The Lorax*, "Who speaks for the trees?"

Or if trees and plants could speak for themselves imagine what they would say.

Because sadly, it appears that the demise of our Centennial landmark is caused by a lack of vision by decision makers unable to imagine a fix for crumbling infrastructure.

And unless this community speaks up, yet again, the cherished ecosystem living in the Conservatory will perish without a whimper when it is abandoned and left for dead.

It has suffered a sad history of neglect as desperately needed repairs were overlooked and this once proud city structure became a crumbling ghost of its former glory.

All this in spite of the fact that deep, heartfelt support for this local icon continues to be strong and deeply rooted in the lives of local citizens.

But I was encouraged last week by a new documentary, *A Promise Unfulfilled*, which makes a compelling case for keeping the Conservatory open despite repeated calls for closure.

The unfulfilled promise referred to by filmmaker Torin Gunnell dates

back to a 2012 council decision (a recorded vote) to give the Conservatory top priority.

Unfortunately that show of support was all show and no support and the Conservatory continued to fight for its existence – it has always been an easy target for cost-cutting.

Mr. Gunnell was approached by the Friends of the Conservatory and although his documentary strongly reflects their views, the threat of closure is a strong subtext.

The filmmaker had trouble finding outright support for the closure which isn't surprising since repeated surveys over 15 years have confirmed support for the structure.

That confirmation remains unfulfilled just like the empty promise made by council in 2012.

Even Coun. Mark Bentz's "maybe yes/maybe no" response lacks any real conviction – whichever way the wind blows seems to be the default political stance.

Supporters are disheartened while Conservatory staff and nervous employees are frustrated by council's repeated efforts to demolish a part of our city's heritage.

It is challenging to build a business case for such an emotionally charged issue as the Thunder Bay Conservatory.

But it can be done with vision, courage and determination and it would certainly help to have city

leadership display these qualities.

A little compassion, humility and spiritual awareness wouldn't hurt either.

Coun. Aldo Ruberto points out that if profitability is the only criteria there are many cherished facilities and services in Thunder Bay that should be shut down.

But in spite of widespread support it is the Conservatory that has been singled out – will council continue to survey our citizens until it gets the answer it wants?

Should the Thunder Bay Conservatory, an established local treasure, be repaired, replaced, restored or even expanded?

Council will not take yes for an answer.

The Friends of the Conservatory are accepting memberships (about 2,200 to date) and there are petitions circulating if you want to speak for the trees.

The soul of this community is built on the many success stories and inspiring accomplishments of our diverse population.

Sadly, our history has also been tempered by stories of hardship, intolerance and violence that continue to haunt us to this day

We don't need to add the ghost of the conservatory to the tormented soul of our precious city.

For me and for many other sentimental, supporters the loss of this special place would diminish our community as a whole.

"It has suffered a sad history of neglect..."



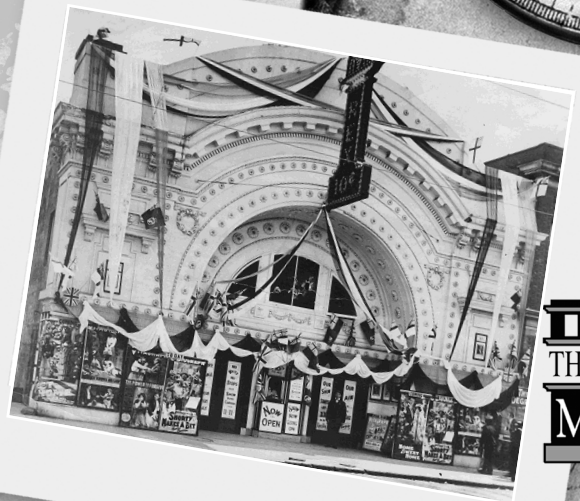
STILL GROWING: The Centennial Botanical Conservatory was built in 1967 in Thunder Bay.

LEITH DUNICKY/FILE

A look back in history:

Rex Theatre 1909

The Rex Theatre on Simpson Street was one of our city's most decorative theatres. Built in 1909 as the Palace Theatre it was one of two theatres in Fort William that specialized in silent films. The Rex (as it was named in 1911) seated 500 to 600 and was usually packed for such films as *Shorty Makes a Bet* or *Home Sweet Home*. Shows ran continuously for 12 hours every day.



HOW TO WRITE US:

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

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

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LOCAL NEWS

Close vote doesn't delay turf facility

City council agrees to send \$33-million project to tender now

CITY HALL
By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

In an acrimonious debate that stretched well into the early morning, Thunder Bay's city council has confirmed its decision to go ahead with a controversial indoor sports complex.

A last-ditch effort to delay a decision on the project by 90 days ultimately fell short, defeated on a 7-6 vote.

That was a closer margin than the initial vote to put the project to tender on Aug. 10, which passed 9-4.

The indoor soccer venue, which could also host sports including ultimate frisbee, cricket, football, lacrosse, and baseball training, has drawn widespread opposition over its price tag amid the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The chamber of commerce urged the city to delay the project given the lack of hoped-for support from provincial and federal governments and the uncertain impact of COVID-19.



MOVING AHEAD: The proposed indoor turf facility may cost taxpayers up to \$48 million.

Thunder Bay's Community Economic Development Commission, meanwhile, found the complex could end up costing the city up to \$48 million, despite its nominal \$33 million price tag.

City consultations found 50 per cent of

respondents either opposed the project or wanted a delay, while 35 per cent supported it.

Still, a slim majority of councillors stuck with the facility, calling it a long-term investment in Thunder Bay's

future. Proponents on council have said the complex will offer badly-needed winter recreation opportunities for youth and help attract and retain young families to the city.

Coun. Shelby Ch'ng, responding to concerns over the impact of COVID-19, argued councillors needed to take the long view on the project's impact.

"It's not [about] the chaos of COVID-19 today," she said. "It's for the 10 or 15 years down the road, when COVID-19 is a distant memory and we have something to show."

Mayor Bill Mauro, who has championed the facility, pointed out the city would bear hardly any costs for the facility until 2023, and argued the city had the fiscal capacity to move ahead.

Coun. Brian Hamilton said families like his would benefit from the facility, but maintained committing to the massive investment during a time of financial uncertainty clearly went against the desire of the community.

He said council's willingness to go ahead with the project would undermine any future arguments for fiscal restraint.

"The collateral damage from this decision tonight is going to make it very difficult to ask the public for any kind of

service reductions, any implementation of the program and services review," he said. "How are we going to go to the public and ask them to help us with our infrastructure gap if we're not ready to address it ourselves?"

Coun. Trevor Giertuga said the decision had attracted some of the most feedback he'd seen on any issue in his 20 years of council, most of it negative. Some others, including Mauro and Coun. Aldo Ruberto, disputed that, saying they had received only in the neighbourhood of 60 comments from residents.

The debate, which lasted past 3 a.m., at times became acrimonious. Hamilton referred to the rationale of some supportive councillors as "bull crap," while Giertuga said it was "pigheaded" for supporters not to listen to community opposition.

On the final vote to move forward with putting the project to tender, Couns. Aiello, Ch'ng, Foulds, Fraser, Oliver, Ruberto, and Mayor Mauro voted yes; Couns. Bentz, Giertuga, Hamilton, Johnson, McKinnon, and You voted no.

McKinnon and You had previously voted in favour of proceeding, but threw their support behind a 90-day delay.



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LOCAL NEWS



THINK RECYCLE



LEITH DUNICK/FILE

COMING SOON: The city's new strategic master fire plan will be received by council in December.

Council agrees to receive fire plan

However, the move does not bind the city to act on the recommendations

CITY HALL
By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

Some major questions about the future of fire services in Thunder Bay remain unanswered after city council received a new strategic master fire plan.

The report includes 15 recommendations, but on its most controversial topic – whether to reduce the number of fire stations in the city – it offers four possible options, with no recommendation for council on which to follow.

Council's vote to receive the report Monday evening doesn't bind the city to implement its recommendations. A further report on implementation from city administration will be presented to council by Dec. 14.

Coun. Rebecca Johnson pressed consultant Darryl Culley of Emergency Management and Training Inc., who prepared the plan in consultation with Thunder Bay Fire Rescue (TBFR), on which of four options on how to manage the city's fire stations he would recommend.

However, Culley declined to settle on a single recommendation.

The options range between a "status quo" plan to replace the Vickers fire hall with a new, smaller building to a "realignment option" consolidating the Vickers and Water Street stations into one. Another option proposes converting the Churchill Drive station to an EMS station.

The city's firefighters association raised the alarm over an earlier, draft version of the report, arguing its recommendations would cause longer response times and put fire-

FIRE MASTER PLAN OPTIONS

The four options for fire stations are the following:

- **Status quo:** Decommission aging Vickers Street station, build smaller station nearby and move TBFR administration to the Water Street station.
- **Realignment Option 1:** Consolidate Vickers and Water Street stations into one centrally-located station in the vicinity of Central Avenue and Balmoral Street. Relocate Churchill Drive station to Victoria Avenue and Tarbutt Street area.
- **Realignment Option 2:** Same as Realignment Option 1, but without relocation of Churchill Drive station.
- **Realignment Option 3:** Turn Churchill Drive station into an EMS station, with firefighters there assigned to medical response.

fighters in danger.

Acting fire chief Greg Hankkio told councillors more study is needed before a decision could be made between the station options.

"There is a significant body of work that needs to be done yet," he said, saying that could include public consultation.

Other recommendations in the plan include working with EMS to reduce the frequency of medical responses by firefighters, reviewing firefighter training, more frequent fire officer inspection and overtime reduction.

However, Culley said the city's current staffing levels at TBFR are appropriate.

Administration will report back to council by Dec. 14 on implementation of the master plan.

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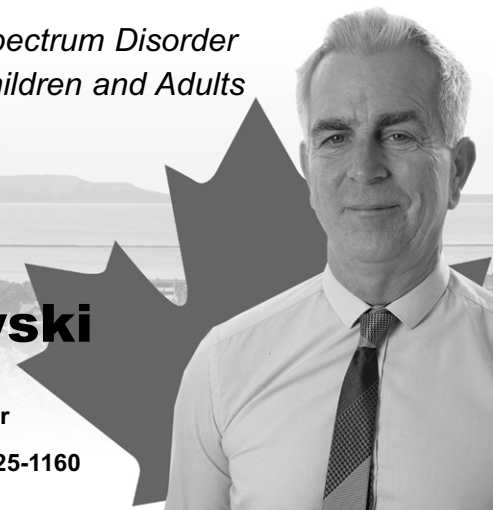
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COLOURFUL: Boy Roland was one of four artists who collaborated to create a mural on an exterior wall at Roots to Harvest's Fort William Road home.

Mural captures essence of Roots to Harvest soul

THUNDER BAY
By Leth Dunick – TB Source

Erin Beagle says trying to pick out a favourite piece of a new mural adorning an exterior wall on the Roots to Harvest building is like trying to choose a favourite child – it's just not possible.

Beagle, the executive director of the organization, says she loves every inch of the artistic endeavour, which was made possible by a donation from a supporter who told them to do something interesting and unusual with the money.

The project, which came together in a matter of weeks, was completed earlier this week.

"We wanted the feeling of what we do here and what our community means to us, and when (the artists) came back with their final concept to us, it was cheering, basically, on this end when we

saw the picture. Because they totally nailed it," Beagle said.

"They captured, I think, what the work is Roots to Harvest does, but really the elements and the feeling that we try to convey in all of our work. We're not about the food, we are about community and I think you see that."

The artwork was completed by a veteran team of four, known for their work with Die Active.

Kathleen Beda, Vicki Nerino, Boy Roland and Lora Northway, said they were tasked with creating a mural that displayed the joy and beauty of what Roots to Harvest does inside the walls for everyone in Thunder Bay to enjoy.

The vision came together quickly and centred around connecting with the community.

"We kind of focused in on food and community and hands and hard work as the basis of what we wanted to illus-

trate into a mural form," Northway said.

Roland said everyone involved took their own interpretation and brought it to the table and the final design was hashed out from there – a true collaborative effort that was also indicative of the work being done by Roots to Harvest.

"It was really fun to have the interplay with the mural of that collaborative spirit," Roland said.

"We all kind of talked together, came up with common themes and then everyone goes their separate ways to develop something that works in the space. Then we kind of come back together, try to arrange things to see what fits, what doesn't, edit, take stuff away, put stuff in, move things around and totally change stuff. It's very interactive."

All four artists are thrilled with the final result.

"I'm very proud of the work that we did. It's really nice to have a new wall up. It's always a good feeling," Roland said.

"We're not about the food, we are about community and I think you see that."
ERIN BEAGLE

End of summer's arriving in a hurry



FRED JONES
RURAL ROOTS

How quickly this summer has been rolling by. September is just waiting to pounce beyond this weekend. Telltale signs of seasonal change have appeared like clockwork despite the rollercoaster ride of the thermometer.

This is the time of year when critters that bed down for the winter are on the move seeking shelter. I have been observing more dead 'Pepe's' (skunk name from 'Pepe Le Pew', a Looney Toons cartoon character) on highways. They are beginning to move usually at night, caught, too late, in a vehicle's headlights. One tries to avoid running over a 'schmucked' Pepe but still that burnt, rubber tire stench pervades as you drive by.

Then there are the 'suicide' squirrels. The time of year does not dictate when they will suddenly dash across the road along which you are driving. Do they wait until a vehicle is coming? Are there buddies hiding in the woods watching, having placed bets as to whether or not their mate will make it? I have swerved to avoid so many times and only once, thank goodness, made contact to send the small furry's soul heavenward.

Getting in the way

And more stupid grouse are on the back roads down which we drive. They, too, seem to like dashing in front of a vehicle just as you are about to pass by.

The intense heat and lack of rain throughout June and July resulted, at least where we live, in a lousy berry crop.

Raspberries were small and very few and weren't very sweet. I took our pooches for a walk to the back of the property along our trails and up to the meadow where two serious patches of

blueberries grow.

Last year we managed to gather enough for a large freezer bag, sufficient to add to a muffin batter or to pancakes. This summer?

I found three and they were very small. I suspect a resident bear had scarfed the crop which is a good thing as my wife, Laura, pointed out since that meant that they wouldn't be seeking nourishment from our garbage.

We have seen evidence of their presence on our concession road and once on our trail. Fortunately, we had no confrontation when out walking our pooches.

The drawn-out dry of early summer played havoc with our vegetable garden too. Some plants did very well; some not even though Laura, The Gardener, watered a lot. Cucumbers are few and small, not enough to make pickles but our corn has done very well.

Laura says that each year is different regarding the garden depending on weather conditions. Last year was wet

and cold. Some veggies did better than others. This summer the lack of rain in the early part of the growing season caused some plants to do well and others not.

Insect invasion

The ankle-biter flies were late this summer, but when they did appear, they came with a vengeance. Black flies did not invade here in large numbers in May and were pretty much gone by mid-June, all due to the lack of rain since they breed in fast-flowing water.

They are also responsible for pollinating blueberries so perhaps their reduced numbers played a role in why there were fewer 'bloobs' on our property.

I know that I read that around Nipigon and perhaps up around Upsala the crop was supposed to be good, but not here.

Another example of the extremely low water levels occurred this past weekend when Laura and I took our motor boat out to Northern Lights Lake to just be

on water and perhaps fish. Normally we have no problem unloading the boat at the launch site.

We have been out four times before this weekend and while the level was noticeably low, it didn't interfere with unloading the boat from the trailer. But this past Sunday was really difficult. The trailer actually rose up as I backed it into the water.

It required several 'heave-ho's' to push it off. When we returned to load the boat onto the trailer at the end of the day, Laura waded and scouted out a low part in the sand and once I had backed the trailer into the water, more 'heave-ho's' to place it in a low spot after which we managed to haul the boat onto the trailer. That experience made us really wonder if we can return to that lake (our favourite) this year.

Going to need a lot of rain to replenish the lake levels and while we've had a couple of rainfalls lately, it has not been enough.

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Choosing a rod not all that difficult



**KEITH
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THE GOOD LIFE

Picking out a new fishing rod can be a daunting task, especially with the seemingly endless variety of rods available today. While pairing the length of a rod with the intended type of fishing is relatively easy, understanding the other information printed on the rod blank can be confusing, especially for newer anglers. Along with the brand and length, you will notice several specifications, including “action”, “power” and some weight ranges printed just above the handle. Understanding each of these can help an angler select the right rod, with the best possible performance, control and sensitivity, for their target species.

Action: The action of a rod refers to the area where the rod flexes along the blank. Faster action rods flex mostly near the tip. Moderate or medium action rods flex through the middle of the blank. Slower action rods flex all the way through the length of the rod, sometimes all the way down into the butt section.

An extra-fast action rod provides



WHICH ROD WORKS BEST?: Adam Munshaw uses a Medium-Heavy power rod to battle a giant Lake Superior salmon.

ultimate sensitivity to detect the smallest of nibbles and also gives the angler immediate power to set the hook. These rods are ideal for techniques like jigging. Of course, there are tradeoffs and really fast rods can lead to some

undesired “long-distance releases.”

At the other end of the spectrum, moderate to slow action rods are fine for presentations that require less sensitivity (like trolling or fishing with a bobber) as their purpose is mainly to

provide more flex to help keep the hook in the fish’s mouth.

The average angler will likely only use one or two rods for a wide variety of fishing applications. If this is the case for you, a moderate-fast action is

probably the best compromise.

Power: The power of a rod refers to how much pressure it takes to flex the rod. Different rod powers are designed to handle a certain range of lure weights and line sizes. To select a rod power that will perform best for you, simply consider what species and techniques you prefer.

Ultra-light rods are great for tossing tiny spinners to stream trout while heavy power rods are built to handle the big lures necessary for big fish such as chinook salmon and musky.

Just like with action, a good compromise for the average angler chasing walleye, bass and pike would be a medium or medium-light power rod.

Weight: The weight ranges printed on a rod are directly related to power and they refer to the ideal size of fishing line to use with the rod. In some cases, lure weight may also be printed on the rod blank and this simply refers to the size range of lures the rod is designed for.

Modern fishing rods are designed to perform optimally for different applications and fishing techniques. Choosing the rod best suited for your style of fishing and your target species can definitely impact the number of fish you land, and perhaps more importantly, how much fun you have fighting those fish.



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IN THE bay

arts | entertainment | culture

Magnus heads to Waverley Park for play

THEATRE

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Magnus Theatre is hitting the great outdoors.

Faced with the reality of only being able to stage shows inside in front of an audience of no more than 39, the Thunder Bay theatre company had decided instead to present live theatre in nearby Waverley Park.

The troupe is offering up 12 performances of *A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline*, making them one of the first regional theatres in the country to stage live productions.

It's an idea artistic director Thom Currie has been kicking around for months, and with the gradual lifting of gathering restrictions, he said the timing is perfect.

"When we got the news that we would be able to have performances outside for audiences of up to 100 people, I knew that *A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline* would be the perfect show under these conditions," said Currie, who will also direct the play.

Created by Dean Regan and first staged in Vancouver, *A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline* tells the tale of the country legend's rapid rise to fame and features the songs that still endure today, including *Crazy*, *Walkin' After Midnight* and *I Fall to Pieces*.

"Set during a radio broadcast celebrating Cline's rise to stardom, radio DJ Little Big Man guides the audience from Cline's humble beginnings as a country singer playing honky-tonks in her native Virginia to achieving pop music level stardom and performing at the legendary Carnegie Hall in New York City," Currie said.

He added he chose the play, not only for its theatrical merit, but for logistical reasons.

"One of the reasons I chose this

show is that it could be cast with 100 per cent Thunder Bay talent," Currie said.

"Not only do we have an award-winning Patsy Cline, but the entire band from the 2012 Magnus production is available to reunite for this special production."

Amy Sellors, one of the few actors approved by the musician's estate to play the role, will star as Cline, who died in 1963 plane crash outside Camden, Tenn.

It's a role she was born to play, and one she's performed to great acclaim in record-breaking productions in Regina and at the Stephenville Theatre Festival in Newfoundland.

Local legend Danny Johnson returns as musical director, and also plays piano in the band, which also includes Martin Blanchet on bass, Rob Jardine on pedal steel guitar, Chris Plater on drums and Dan Zadkovich on guitar.

The production will be staged in front of a maximum of 100 people, the current outdoor gathering limit in Ontario.

Other precautions are also being taken, Currie said.

"Patrons will be seated in household/social "bubbles," distanced at least two meters apart. There will be one entrance and one exit point, and Magnus Theatre will be encouraging ticketholders to wear masks in a further effort to promote public safety."

A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline runs from Sept. 3 to Sept. 13, with show times scheduled for 7 p.m. and matinees at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Tickets are \$40 apiece and available online starting on Aug. 25 at www.magnustheatre.com or by phoning the box office at 345-5552.

"One of the reasons I chose this show is that it could be case with 100 per cent Thunder Bay talent."

THOM CURRIE



A STAR IS BORN: Amy Sellors stars as legendary country singer Patsy Cline in the Globe Theatre's 2011 production of *A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline*. Sellors stars in Magnus Theatre's production of the show in September 2020.

Summerland a promising debut film



**MARTY
MASCARÍN**
MOVIE TALK

British WWII drama overcomes contrivance with empathetic performances

Summerland (Shaw PPV) is another example of how the Brits manage to mine WWII for original stories. Gemma Arterton, (*Their Finest*), demonstrates her estimable range as Alice Lamb, a reclusive writer who conceals her emotional wounds with outwardly abrasive behaviour.

When we come upon Alice, she's a thorny septuagenarian writer living in Kent during the 1970s, finishing her memoir about her life during the 1940s.

This is a framing device that returns at the film's end.

Backward in time

The story then harkens back to WWII, where Alice is totally absorbed by her research in pagan mythology. Her interactions with the villagers are so (ridiculously) shrewish and prickly that she's labeled a 'witch' by the village kids.

One day, Alice is gobsmacked when a social worker plunks a young evacuee from the London Blitz,

school-aged Frank (Lucas Bond), in her temporary custody. The lad's father is serving with the RAF while mum is working for the "Ministry." (It'd help, too, if Alice paid better attention to her oft-ignored mail catcher where letters are buried under detritus jammed in by the spiteful kids.)

Infuriated by the imposition on her privacy, Alice declares to the social worker and the school principal (veteran Tom Courtenay) that she'll put up the lad for only a week. Her taciturn attitude is over-the-top, as she hands over eggs and a saucepan so Frank can cook dinner for himself.

Fortunately, Frank's his own person. He's an observant, curious lad who manages to overlook Alice's contempt to demonstrate interest in her work. Gazing upon her wall postings, he becomes taken with Alice's documentation of *Summerland*, a kind of pagan heaven, where mysterious mirages seemingly connect the living with the deceased, but this may be simply a phenomenon of refracted sunlight. Frank's fascination with her work gradually penetrates Alice's gruff exterior, albeit grudgingly.

Frank's presence in her world triggers another recollection, Alice's long-suppressed memories about her love affair with aspiring novelist Vera (Gugu Mbatha-Raw, *Motherless Brooklyn*) back in the '20s during her university days.

The affair nurtures Alice's otherwise repressed spirit. Alas, Vera, torn by her yearning to be a mother, eventually leaves Alice, doubting society's tolerance for an interracial lesbian relationship. Frank senses this love wound is haunting Alice, though he accepts her otherwise unorthodox romance rather easily.

Central to the film is the evolution of Alice and Frank's relationship which unfolds in wobbly, predictable fashion.

Make the audience believe

Both Arterton and Bond are convincing enough that one overlooks the familiarity in their edgy bonding.

The cast's efforts are complemented by the superb cinematography, embracing everything from Dover's lush landscapes and sunsets to interiors of Alice's cramped cottage, further enhanced by authentic set design.

However, the hoary element of coincidence thuds into the film's latter half, where sobering information is both withheld and divulged conveniently at critical points serving only to amp up the melodrama, coupled with a startling plot twist.

Once wincing at the contrivances.

Still, the combination of persuasive performances and appealing production values makes *Summerland* a promising directorial/writing debut for playwright Jessica Swale.



TOUGH ROLE Gemma Arterton plays Alice Lamb, a reclusive writer, in *Summerland*.

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Gender neutral won't equal equality

Combining acting awards won't help recognition of women

The entertainment industry – who at one time was seen as the epitome of liberal attitudes – has been struggling to make changes.

In 2015, Jennifer Lawrence published an open letter about the wage gap for women in Hollywood and the floodgates opened.

In 2016, the Academy Awards were condemned for nominating only white actors – for the second year in a row.

Today, there's still a lot of work to do to create more equality and diversity in entertainment.

After all, Hollywood is nearly a century old. It's going to take more than a few TV interviews and editorials



to transform such an institution.

But recently, the Berlin Film Festival announced a huge change to its award competition.

This winter, instead of having a lead female and a lead male prize, the competition will be gender-neutral. In a truly "everyone is treated equally" mentality, male, female, transgender, non-binary, gender-neutral or however-they-define-themselves actors will be

competing together.

And if we're lucky, North America will totally ignore this. The numbers don't support equality.

Women, transgender, and non-white roles make up a very small part of entertainment productions.

In 2018, only nine per cent of movies had gender-balanced casts.

Just 33 per cent of speaking characters were women and ten per cent of movies had a woman of colour in a lead role.

Meanwhile, of the top 100 grossing movies, 30 per cent had no black, 50 per cent had no Asian, and 70 per cent had no Latina women.

Minority women were also four times more likely to be sexualized and nude than men. Not exactly the character

qualities that lead to an award nomination.

OK, it has happened.

In 1928, Janet Gaynor won the first Academy Award for best actress for her role as a prostitute.

Sadly, after about a dozen more similar wins over the decades (all white), columnists have joked that the best way for a woman to win an Oscar is to play a hooker.

Ironically, I haven't found any male actors who can claim the same. (In an interesting twist, however, I discovered that French star, Gérard Depardieu, was a male escort before becoming an actor.)

So despite representing 50 per cent of the population, women are making up only a third of the lead roles. Non-white are even rarer.



And last year, not a single transgender actor was cast in a major film.

This means that if awards shows start combining the gender categories before the entertainment industry fixes this disparity, women and transgender actors will likely see even less representation and recognition during awards season.

And those awards are often catalysts for bigger and better roles. Not to mention paycheques.

So while I'm sure some super-woke guy in charge of the Berlin Film Festival man-splained his idea to a roomful of other men in a way that made it sound like a move toward equality, this gender-neutral award is a bad idea.

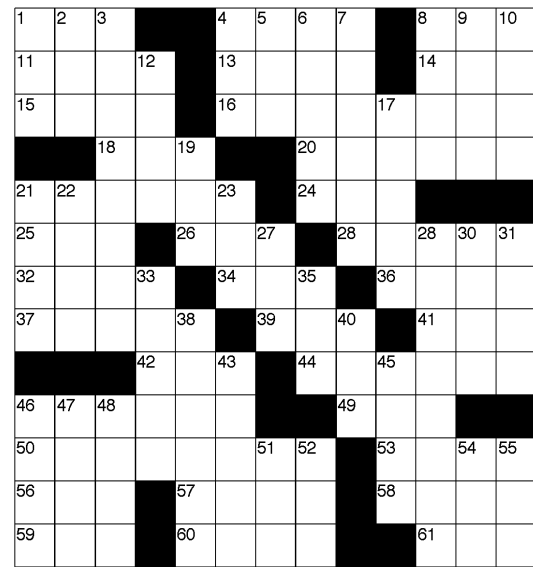
Then again, so is their in-person film festival despite travel constraints and the COVID epidemic. There's a time and a place boys. And this ain't it.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Whit
 - 4 Both sexes
 - 8 Rim
 - 11 Highest (pref.)
 - 13 Star facet
 - 14 Metallic rock
 - 15 Wound crust
 - 16 Authoritative
 - 18 Bird's beak
 - 20 Turk. inn
 - 21 Edible shellfish
 - 24 Correlative
 - 25 Political party
 - 26 Doctor (abbr.)
 - 28 Music sign
 - 32 Redact
 - 34 "The Jungle Book" pythons
 - 36 Neat
 - 37 Rotating part
 - 39 Bachelor of Fine Arts (abbr.)
 - 41 Noun-forming (suf.)
 - 42 Mythical bird
 - 44 Pronoun
- DOWN**
- 1 Low (Fr.)
 - 2 Interstate Commerce Commission (abbr.)
 - 3 Send
 - 4 Chief petty officer (abbr.)
 - 5 Dolt
 - 6 Finally (Fr.)
 - 7 Moon of Mars
 - 8 Large Eur. dormouse
 - 9 "Dies _____"
 - 10 Animal coat
 - 12 Funeral notice
 - 17 Proofreader's mark
 - 19 Sleeping location
 - 21 Polish border river
 - 22 Old name of Tokyo
 - 23 Korean soldier
 - 27 Public vehicle
 - 29 Lobo (2 words)
 - 30 Containing nitrogen (pref.)
 - 31 Pointed arch
 - 33 Shinto temple gate
 - 35 Stern
 - 38 Gun: slang
 - 40 Exclamations of delight
 - 43 Port opposite Gibraltar
 - 45 Mississippi bridge
 - 46 Help
 - 47 Sambar deer
 - 48 Russ. range
 - 51 Brythonic sea god
 - 52 Mulberry of India
 - 54 Council for Econ. Advisors (abbr.)
 - 55 Niger-Congo language

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

G S A P A M A G O
 H A T E A R O M A M A
 O U R S V I S C E R A L
 B R A A L L E Y B R A
 I G B O S M A
 M I N E R V A A G I L E
 A B E L A A R G N A R
 I N D I A R U B I C O N
 D N R B O E R
 I C S T A T A R E P A
 C A N N A B I S C A E N
 A B A A D S U S E D
 A B A T E E B E N



WORD SEARCH

E S T R E S N I B U G G Y K C
 S K V I P E R S E N A T E C H
 N S F H O W O C I C H S V O O
 O A M G W I B R G R L Q C M I
 I C S R E N W O O L A O A S R
 T R S F R G E W A C H R I D O
 A E T M F M N B L R T G D N I
 X D C E U U E A S I E R O E N
 A S E S L Y C R N S L I Z F E
 L Y P S E T A L U P O P A N S
 E B S E R A D Z E Y K S H D V
 R E U S E D T E S H C T A B S
 D W S G N I Y L P S Y C H I C
 H X Q P L S P F D I M P U R E
 J T S B G N I X I F P W D Q U

- Batch
- Blitz
- Buggy
- Casks
- Choir
- Crispy
- Crowbar
- Cuffs
- Dares
- Easier
- Eyeballs
- Fends
- Fishy
- Fixing
- Goals
- Grips
- Impure
- Insert
- Lethal
- Martin
- Messes
- Newborn
- Owners
- Piped
- Plying
- Populates
- Powerful
- Psychic
- Relaxations
- Reused
- Sacred
- Senate
- Senior
- Sewing
- Smock
- Suspect
- Thrown
- Vipers
- Wring
- Zodiac

Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

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

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ENIGMA CRYPTOGRAM

“QP HERP K WXPP. WDP WXPP TEGPZ
 ZDKBP PGPL WS DEJ ADS FCWZ SVV DEZ
 QSCTDZ.”
 – ZXE FDKWKLKMK JKDKUXKQDC
 PREVIOUS SOLUTION: “Fortune cannot aid those who do nothing.” – Sophocles

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Sports

local sports news | information | coverage

Which players destined for hall of fame?

As the NHL playoffs shifted into the second round, I became more and more convinced the Boston Bruins are going to win the Stanley Cup.

It would be the second championship for several of the players on the current version of the Big Bad Bruins, which got me wondering who off the team is headed for the hockey hall of fame.

That led me to start wondering which active players are destined for induction.

I came up with a list of 17 sure things, including two off the current Boston roster.

Alphabetically, by team, here are my choices. Keep in mind, these are sure-fire, could retire tomorrow and be first ballot choice kind of guys.

Ryan Getzlaf, C, Anaheim: Getzlaf should hit 1,000 career points next season (assuming there is one). While that alone won't earn him a spot, winning a Stanley Cup with the Ducks in 2007 and taking home Olympic gold in 2010 and 2014 is easily enough of an accomplishment to merit induction.

Patrice Bergeron, C, Boston: One of the top faceoff men of all-time, the 35-year-old shows little signs of slowing down. A six-time 30-goal scorer, Bergeron has four Frank J. Selke trophies, tied with Bob Gainey, and is in the running every season, it seems. An easy choice.

Zdeno Chara, D, Boston: At 6-foot-9, the Slovakian import was as fearsome as they come on the blue-line, adding offence to his game when he landed in Ottawa after four seasons on Long Island.

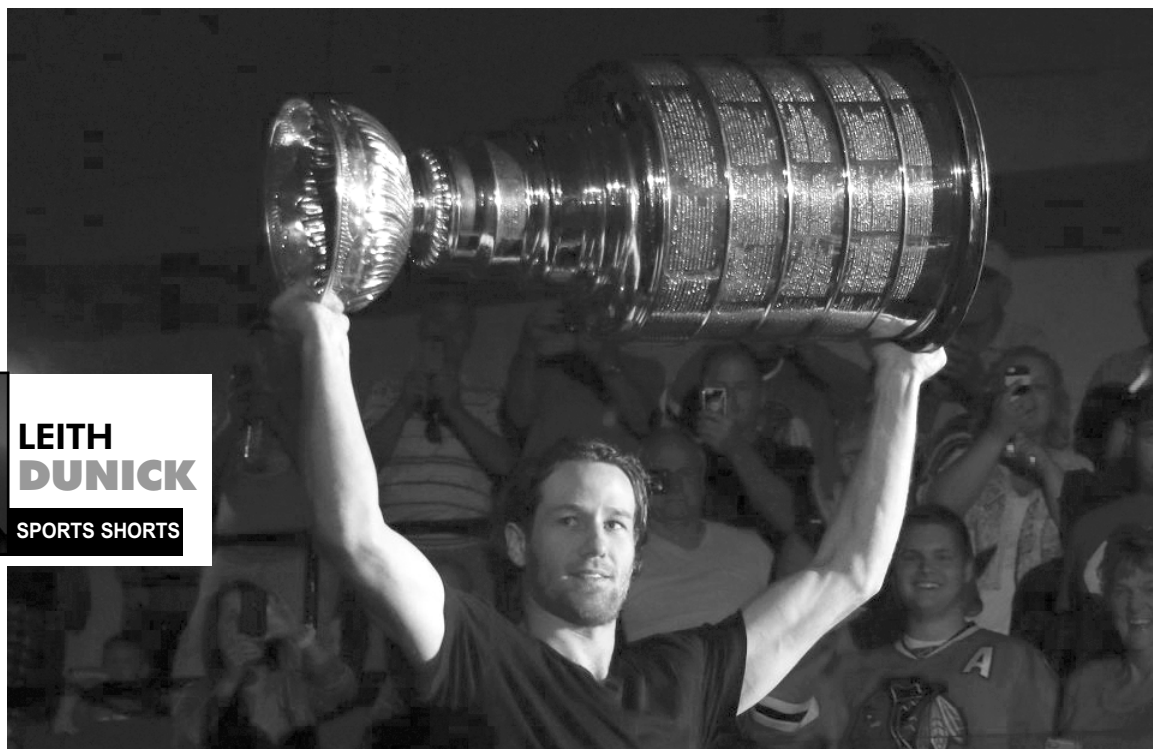
After arriving in Boston he won a Stanley Cup in 2011 and a Norris Trophy two years earlier.

Jonathan Toews, C, Chicago: One of a trio of players considered the heart of



**LEITH
DUNICK**

SPORTS SHORTS



TRIPLE THREAT: Chicago defender Duncan Keith hoists the Stanley Cup in Fort Frances in 2015, his third championship win in five years.

the Blackhawks three titles between 2010 and 2015, Toews has two Olympic golds, a Conn Smythe Trophy and a Selke of his own.

Duncan Keith, D, Chicago: Keith, who brought the Stanley Cup to his one-time home in Fort Frances in 2015, is a three-time all-star, two-time Olympic champion, has two Norris Trophies and took home the Conn Smythe in the Hawks third and final win of the decade.

Patrick Kane, RW, Chicago: As an American, Kane doesn't have the Olympic wins, but he's easily a top 5 player of his generation. He won a scoring title and a Hart Trophy in 2016, was rookie of the year in 2008 and playoff MVP in the Hawks in 2010.

Connor McDavid, C, Edmonton:

Granted, he's only played five seasons, but he's got two scoring titles, a Hart Trophy and has hit the century mark in points three times. He's in, hands down, lack of playoff success and longevity aside.

Drew Doughty, D, Los Angeles: A blue-line architect of the Kings two Stanley Cup champions, he's a four-time all-star and won a Norris in 2016. He also has two Olympic wins.

Anze Kopitar, C, Los Angeles: One of the top two-way players in recent years, he can also put the puck in the net. The Slovenian import has 333 goals and 950 points over 14 seasons, and led the Kings again in points this past season.

Carey Price, G, Montreal: The top goaltender of his day, Price has racked

up 353 wins and is Canada's go-to-goaltender in international play. Fifty shutouts, a 2.46 career goals against average, he's an easy choice.

Henrik Lundqvist, G, New York Rangers: King Henry's 459 career wins are sixth all time and his 64 shutouts place him in the top 20. Known as one of the most clutch goaltenders in recent memory. He led the Rangers to the final in 2014, won a Vezina in 2012 and Olympic gold in 2006.

Sidney Crosby, C, Pittsburgh: Crosby was destined for the hall of fame by the time he got to Rimouski as a teenager and lived up to the hype, delivering three Stanley Cups to Pittsburgh. He's considered by many as a top five player of all-time. By far the No. 1

contender on this list.

Evgeni Malkin, C, Pittsburgh: Drafted a year before Crosby with the No. 2 pick in 2004, Malkin has three 100-point seasons, two scoring titles, a rookie-of-the-year award and a Hart Trophy.

Brent Burns, D, San Jose Sharks: A year or two ago, I might have chosen Erik Karlsson in this spot, but he needs more production to get the nod. Burns has a Norris win, scored 20+ goals on three occasions. Probably my most controversial choice, but I think he belongs.

Joe Thornton, San Jose Sharks: One of the top playmakers of all-time, Thornton's 1,089 assists are seventh in league history. He won a scoring title and MVP in 2006 and is a three-time all star. Also won Olympic gold in 2010.

Steven Stamkos, C, Tampa Bay: One of the last 60-goal scorers in the NHL, Stamkos at 30 has 422 goals in 803 games and could wind up with 600+ if he can stay healthy – a big if these days. He's in, though a Cup win would cement his selection.

Alexander Ovechkin, LW, Washington: Already considered by many as the best pure goal-scorer to ever play, winning the Cup in 2018 was just a feather in his cap. He's an eight-time 50-goal scorer, an eight time Rocket Richard Trophy winner and has three MVP wins under his belt. With 706 goals, he's got an outside shot at catching Wayne Gretzky's record of 892.

By no means is this list everyone who will get in. Young stars like Auston Matthews, Nikita Kucherov and David Pastrnak still have plenty of time to pad their resumes.

Veterans Nicklas Backstrom, Corey Perry and Pekka Rinne, not to mention Hearst's Claude Giroux and our own Eric Staal, will also get strong consideration.

Soccer Northwest pledges to raise \$1M for indoor turf facility

SOCCER

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Soccer Northwest is pledging to raise \$1 million to help offset the cost of a proposed indoor turf facility.

Michael Venezia, president of the organization, last Thursday said the board has been kicking around a few fundraising ideas.

They hadn't finalized anything at the time, but now that council has approved sending the \$33-million

project – which could cost taxpayers up to \$48 million when the cost of the debenture is factored in – to tender.

Council had been asked by city administration to delay the decision for 90 days, while the city gets its COVID deficit under control.

Venezia said it was important for Soccer Northwest to show its support to the proposed project, not just with enthusiasm, but also financially, given the cost of the facility.

"From the very beginning we've

always been saying that we need a multi-turf indoor facility that can help everybody. If we're able to raise some funds to possibly pay down the debenture, that possibly go toward the loss of the initial first year, that possibly keep costs a little bit lower for everybody else, we want to do that for our community," Venezia said.

"We believe in this process. We believe in this facility, and we've been working from the beginning and we want to keep going with it."

It's too soon to say what those fundraising ideas might look like just yet. Venezia said they don't want to start approaching local businesses or potential donors until the project gets the official green light.

"We've done a lot of research into it," he said.

It's been about four years since the city last had an indoor turf facility. The Sports Dome, which was located on the Canadian Lakehead Exhibition grounds, collapsed in November

2016. Venezia said even if it gets the OK on Monday, it will take at least two more years before it can open.

Every little bit helps, he said.

"We need to get this thing started." A private group has started clearing land off of Golf Links Road to build a potential two-dome indoor turf complex, but on Thursday a project spokesman said investors have yet to commit to move to the construction phase.

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BIT	COED	LIP	ESK	TRESNIBUGGY	KCH	3	9	2	7	6	4	1	8	5
ACRO	PANE	ORE	SKVIPERSENATE	CH	NS	7	8	1	5	2	9	4	3	6
SCAB	OFFICIAL		NS	FHOWOICHSVO	O	4	6	5	8	3	1	9	7	2
NIB	IMARET		O	AMGWIBRLOQMI	I	1	5	6	9	7	8	2	4	3
OYSTER	NOR		I	CRENWOODLACAS	R	9	7	4	3	1	2	5	6	8
DEM	DOC	SEGN	T	RSFRGEWACHRIDO		2	3	8	6	4	5	7	9	1
EDIT	KAA	TRIG	A	ETMFMUASTRDN	I	8	1	7	2	9	6	3	5	4
ROTOR	BFA	ATE	X	EDUEASTRGOEN		6	2	9	4	5	3	8	1	7
ROC	THEYRE		A	SESLORNSLIZFE		5	4	3	1	8	7	6	2	9
BRUISE	SAW		L	YPSERALUPOPANS										
AURICULA	DOCK		E	BSEARDEYKSHDV										
CSA	OTEA	SLEW	R	EUSEDTESICTABS										
KIAL	EARL	FAA	D	WSGNLYLPSYCHIO										
			H	XQPLSPFDIMPURE										
			J	TSBGNIXINPWVQU										

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "Be like a tree. The tree gives shade even to him who cuts off his boughs." — Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu



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