



Workers celebrate

Labour Day parade honours those who lost jobs or went to work during the pandemic /5



EARLY START: Ivy Heatley, 4, on Monday took part in the Labour Day parade, which took the place of the usual annual Labour Day picnic.

LEITH DUNICK

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

FAMILIAR LEADERSHIP



Thunder Bay Regional hires Rhonda Crocker-Ellacott as new CEO /3

CHARACTER DRIVEN



Netflix flick draws on Twin Peaks /11

PANDEMIC INTERFERENCE



New SIJHL commissioner says there are still hurdles ahead /13

REVIEW

Review of Draft Forest Management Plan Black Spruce 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), Resolute Forest Products Canada Inc. and the Black Spruce Forest Local Citizens' Committee (LCC) invite you to review and comment on the 2021-2031 Draft Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the Black Spruce Forest.

The Planning Process

The FMP takes approximately three years to complete. During this time, five formal opportunities for public consultation and First Nation and Métis community involvement and consultation are provided. The third opportunity (Stage Three) for this FMP occurred on March 10, 2020 when the public was invited to review and comment on proposed operations for the ten-year period of the FMP. This 'Stage Four' notice is to invite you to:

- review and comment on the draft FMP; and
- contribute to the background information.

Comments from the public will be considered in revisions to the draft FMP.

How to Get Involved

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

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

The Draft FMP and the Draft FMP summary will be available electronically on the Ontario government website at www.ontario.ca/forestplans and can be made available by contacting the Resolute Forest Products Canada Inc., contact listed below, during normal office hours for a period of 60 days: **September 14, 2020 to November 13, 2020**. Comments on the draft FMP for the Black Spruce Forest must be received by Scott Galloway of the planning team, by **November 13, 2020**.

In addition to the most current versions of the information and maps which were previously available, the following information can be obtained electronically on the Ontario government website (www.ontario.ca/forestplans) to assist you in your review:

- Draft FMP, including supplementary documentation;
- Draft FMP summary;
- MNRF's preliminary list of required alterations.

The Information Forum related to the review of Draft Forest Management Plan will be held via individual or group remote meetings which may be arranged by calling the individuals listed below during the review period. Remote meetings with representatives of the planning team and the LCC can be also requested at any time during the planning process. Reasonable opportunities to remotely meet planning team members during non-business hours will be provided upon request. If you require more information or wish to discuss your interests with a planning team member, please contact one of the individuals listed below:

Scott Galloway
MNRF Thunder Bay District
435 James Street South, Suite B001
Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7
tel: 807-473-3073
e-mail: scott.galloway@ontario.ca

Niall Scarr, R.P.F.
Resolute FP Canada Inc.
2001 Neebing Avenue
Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S3
tel: 807-473-2843
e-mail: niall.scarr@resolutefp.com

Jim Cassan
LCC Representative
Thunder Bay District Office
435 James Street South, Suite B001
Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7
tel: 807-475-1471

During the planning process there is an opportunity to make a written request to seek resolution of issues with the MNRF District Manager or the Regional Director using a process described in the 2020 *Forest Management Planning Manual (Part A, Section 2.4.1)*.

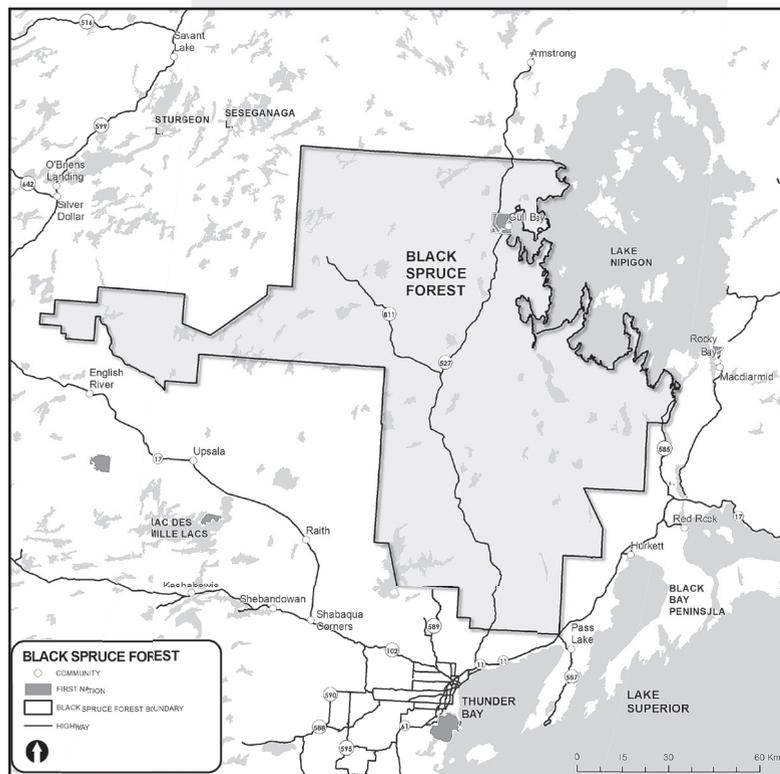
The last possible date to seek issue resolution with the MNRF Regional Director is **November 30, 2020**.

Stay Involved

The MNRF-approved FMP will be available for inspection for the 10-year duration of the FMP **Stage Five** - Inspection of the MNRF-approved FMP is tentatively scheduled for **February 19, 2021**.

The approval date of the FMP is tentatively scheduled for **March 20, 2021 with implementation on April 1, 2021**.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is collecting your personal information and comments under the authority provided by the Forest Management Planning Manual, 2020 approved by regulation under Section 68 of the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act, 1994*. Any personal information you provide (home and/or email address, name, telephone number, etc.) may be used and shared between MNRF and/or the sustainable forest licensee to contact you regarding comments submitted. Your comments will become part of the public consultation process and may be shared with the general public. Your personal information may also be used by the MNRF to send you further information related to this forest management planning exercise. If you have questions about the use of your personal information, please contact Alyson Dupuis at 807-475-1512.



LOCAL NEWS

Charity going virtual

Non-event will replace United Way's annual fundraising breakfast

THUNDER BAY
By TB Source staff

Those overwhelmed with Zoom meetings and virtual events may find comfort in the United Way of Thunder Bay's approach to its usual fall fundraiser.

A tongue-in-cheek "non-event," dubbed the Recover 2020 No-Show Gala, will replace the charity's popular annual Impact Breakfast due to COVID-19 concerns.

"You are invited to spend the evening however you choose," reads an invitation from CEO Albert Brulé. "Mindful of everyone's busy lives and the uncertainty of COVID-19, we request the honour of your absence for the Recover 2020 No-Show Gala. Please don't come."

Instead, "non-attendees" are encouraged to add up expenses they'd normally incur for a gala or evening out – babysitting, drinks, cab fare, raffle tickets, or sponsoring a table, for example – and donate the funds to the United Way.

The event website allows participants to select from a menu of those expenses or simply donate a given amount, giving an idea of the impact each donation can have in the community.

Funds support a multitude of local initiatives that lend a hand to those in need. The charity expects the need for that support to continue to grow.

"The recovery from COVID-19 will require unprecedented levels of community programming, services, resources, coordination and collaboration," the agency said in a statement. "Prior to COVID-19, Thunder Bay was already struggling to tackle the unignorable issues of poverty including homelessness, hunger, domestic violence, social isolation, mental health challenges, and unemployment and education inequality."

Those who participate in the non-event will receive a digital package outlining the United Way Recover 2020 campaign and what local groups are doing to meet what they describe as growing needs in the community.

Over \$1,200 in (real) prizes will also be given away to those who select a nominal \$1 door prize donation, and charitable tax receipts will be issued.

The date for the non-event is Sept. 17, though donations can be made past that date.

LOCAL NEWS



LEITH DUNICK

RETURNING HOME: Rhonda Crocker-Ellacott is currently the CEO of both the North West and North East LHINs.

Hospital hires CEO

Former VP Rhonda Crocker-Ellacott familiar face at Regional

HEALTH
By Leith Dunick – TB Source

During her interview process for the position of president and CEO at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, Dr. Rhonda Crocker-Ellacott was asked if she wanted a tour of the hospital. She politely declined.

Crocker-Ellacott, currently the CEO of the North West and North East Local Health Integration Network and the transitional lead for Ontario Health in the North Region, is plenty familiar with the facility, having worked at the hospital since it opened in 2003 before leaving two-and-a-half years ago.

inspired to return in her new role, starting on Nov. 23.

“I think my experience at the health sciences centre in the past, as well as my experience in the LHIN environment will really help to bring us to a new system of care across the Northwest and I certainly think those experiences will benefit all of us as we move forward,” Crocker-Ellacott said.

It’s a time of tremendous change in the Ontario health industry and the incoming president and CEO said one of the things she wants to tackle is the silo mentality that at times separates individual hospitals from the system as a whole.

“This is excellent news for our hospital and health research institute.”
MATT SIMEONI

This needs to change, Crocker-Ellacott said.

“We’re really moving into a health systems perspective. What I see as an opportunity is both the health sciences centre and the health research institute are key leaders when it comes to health-care

capacity and criticized for housing patients in hallways for a lack of space. Crocker-Ellacott said there are opportunities to work with system partners across the region to put an end to gridlock and ways to support patients and families differently.

“And I certainly think through COVID, that’s one of the learnings that we’ve had more than anything more, how reliant were are on working together to really improve the system of health for all Northwestern Ontarians,” she said.

“That’s a tremendous opportunity, to really leverage those pieces, to be able to move forward to ensure issues like (alternate levels of care) in hospitals and gridlock and those sorts of things don’t happen anymore.

Perfect fit

Matt Simeoni, board chair at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, said she’s a perfect fit for the hospital.

“This is excellent news for our hospital and health research institute. The board is absolutely confident that Rhonda is the right person to lead our Hospital through the development of a new strategic plan and health system transformation,” Simeoni said.

“She is a highly respected and proven leader, as well as a champion of patients and families, as demonstrated by her three decades of growth and success.”

Knows the hospital
She started with the organization in 1991.

It’s that familiarity and more importantly experience, that helped convince the search committee that she was the right person to guide both the hospital’s and the Thunder Bay Regional Health Research Institute’s steering wheels going forward, taking over the reins from retiring president and CEO Jean Bartkowiak.

Crocker-Ellacott, who served as vice-president of patient services and who inspired the patient and family centred care in her previous position at the health sciences centre, said she is honoured and

Weather Forecast

| WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |
| Mainly sunny | A few showers | Mainly sunny |
| Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 22 LOW 14 | Probability of Precipitation: 80% HIGH 17 LOW 10 | Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 17 LOW 9 |
| SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY |
|  |  |  |
| Chance of showers | Showers | Mainly sunny |
| Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH 20 LOW 13 | Probability of Precipitation: 60% HIGH 17 LOW 8 | Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 13 LOW 6 |



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LOCAL NEWS

Teachers, kids set for back-to-school

EDUCATION
By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

With students returned to school after a lengthy hiatus, across Thunder Bay, teachers were busy last Friday readying classrooms and meeting with their new charges.

At St. Thomas Aquinas Elementary School, kindergarten teacher Jennifer Wiseman was in her second day of intake meetings with families.

Normally, the meetings would be an occasion for students to explore their new learning environment. This year, they were held in a gazebo just outside the school, allowing students to see their teachers' faces before masks go on indoors.

While the COVID-19 pandemic will make this a unique school year, Wiseman reported the families she spoke with seemed mostly at ease with the new rules and measures in place.

"They seem very comfortable – they

do have some questions, but still mostly the same questions they've been asking us in previous years," she said. "Hopefully that means we've done a good job in informing families what this year's going to look like."

A significant number of parents had opted children into online learning, leaving Wiseman and an early childhood educator with 20 students in their classroom.

Inside nearby St. Vincent elementary, some of the changes inspired by COVID-19 were immediately obvious in Rebecca Piccinato's Grade 2 classroom: mask hooks were affixed to the side of each desk, while floor tape marked a square around each desk to maintain distance between students.

"I'm a firm believer in flexible seating and allowing kids to move or stand, so I had to make sure they still had their own area they're aware of that they can move around," she explained.

Newly-installed floor decals indi-



GETS READY: Grade 2 teacher Rebecca Piccinato cleans her classroom last Friday.

cated traffic flow and safe distancing in the school hallways, while bulletin boards and classroom doors were plas-

tered with signs using humour and familiar pop culture figures like Batman and Dr. "Bones" McCoy to remind students about hand-washing, distancing, and mask wearing.

Piccinato hoped the omnipresent visual cues would make it easy for even the youngest children to remember those fundamentals without constant reminders.

The long-time teacher expressed confidence in the return to school, underlining its importance for children's mental health.

"I'm excited to be back and I'm excited to have our kids back," she said. "I think it's important our kids are in class. I'm happy to be in Thunder Bay – our numbers are low and I think our kids are going to be great."

Initially expecting 18 students, her class now stood at 15 after a few more had opted for online learning.

While wearing a mask could be an adjustment for some, she felt even

children in lower grades would adjust quickly if supported by parents. Her own children, entering grades 2 and 6, had been practicing regular mask use over the summer.

"I think if they've been prepared at home before coming to school, there's no reason they can't wear masks," she said.

At St. Thomas Aquinas, Wiseman echoed Piccinato's confidence, with a similar emphasis on the importance of parental support.

"It's been a long time since we've been with our children, since March, and we really missed our families," she said. "I'm looking forward to getting started back up, and we're confident we'll be able to have a great program with the support of everyone around you and our families."

Students will return to school throughout this week at both the public and Catholic boards, as part of a staggered re-entry.

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LOCAL NEWS

55-Plus Centre to reopen

The Canada Games Complex also taking program registrations

THUNDER BAY

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The city's 55-Plus Centre is reopening its doors on Sept. 14.

The city says classes and registered program should resume the week of Sept. 21.

According to a release issued on Friday, masks will be required to enter the building and must be worn in all public areas. However, they may be removed for fitness classes once in the

proper location within the building.

Capacity limits will be in place, there will be no entry prior to 10 minutes before an activity is scheduled to start and there will be no access to either change or shower facilities.

Time has been added between activities to allow for sterilization and sanitization and touchless water stations will be in place to allow participants to fill their own water bottles.

Additionally, the River St. Cafe will be open, but for take-out service only, with no seating in the cafe. The library, gift shop, billiard room and puzzle exchange remain closed for now.

Registration for programs is open by calling 625-8463.

A full list of programming can be found at www.thunderbay.ca/55Plus.

The city also announced on Friday that fall program registration in its aquatics and fitness programs at the Canada Games Complex and Churchill Pool, as well as the neighbourhood recreation program, will begin on Sept. 17, by calling 625-8463.

The Canada Games Complex has been closed since mid-March. Churchill Pool opened earlier this summer. No date has yet been announced for the reopening of the Games Complex, although one is expected this week.



LEITH DUNICK

SOMETHING DIFFERENT: Dozens gathered on Monday to take part in the Labour Day parade.

Workers honoured

THUNDER BAY

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Perhaps more than any year in recorded history, labour has been hit hard in 2020.

More than three million jobs in Canada were lost because of the COVID-19 pandemic, and while about 55 per cent, or 1.7 million, had been recovered by the end of July, there are still plenty of people out of work.

It's one of the main reasons Monday's Labour Day parade was held, a show of support for those who are out of work because of COVID-19, and a big thumbs up to those who persevered through the pandemic, front-line workers who worked despite the dangers of the virus.

Sheena Woods, a registered practical nurse at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, was among those placed directly in the firing line, a hospital worker who showed up to do her job in the face of the unknown, in a profession that lost at least 13 workers to COVID-19 in Ontario alone.

"With the whole pandemic and being a nurse at the Regional, it's definitely been a little interesting having to be an essential worker and having to be out there," Woods said on Monday, driving one of more than 30 vehicles that took part in the parade, a replacement for the popular annual Labour Day picnic.

"I think today helps band all the workers together and shows support for all the essential health-care workers out there that have to be on the frontlines and have to show up."

Carlos Santander-Maturana said the parade was a chance to celebrate the accomplishments of labour, while also looking ahead to a murky future.

The pandemic showed there are plenty of holes in the country's social safety net and it's up to the government, with input from the labour movement, to find ways to rectify the

problem. Both the federal and provincial governments stepped in with big spending programs to help both business survive and workers who lost their jobs have a steady stream of guaranteed income, but there is plenty to be concerned about moving forward. Labour has a plan, Santander-Maturana said.

"The Canadian Labour Congress is launching today a program called Forward Together and it's a plan designed in Canada to address the need of Canadian people based on what the pandemic taught us," Santander-Maturana said.

"We have to learn how to create jobs that are going to replace the (millions) of jobs that were lost in the pandemic and how we have to ensure that issues such as pharmacare and long-term care are going to be part of the health-care system to address the needs of Canadians."

It has to be a made-in-Canada solution he added, noting a made-in-the-United States plan won't work north of the border.

Both senior levels of government must also continue to step up for Canadians, said Thunder Bay-Atikokan NDP MPP Judith Monteith-Farrell, who also took part in the parade, praising essential workers for putting their lives on the line for the country and its people.

It's far from over, she added.

"(Now) we have the teachers that are headed back to the classroom in iffy times, and we also have the idea that we are really, really upset that now that the pandemic is somewhat waning, we have rollbacks to the extra money for workers that we know are so important, like personal support workers," Monteith-Farrell said.

"It's important to celebrate Labour Day and all the accomplishments of everyone pulling together and doing such a great job. But it's also important to remember we need to protect labour."

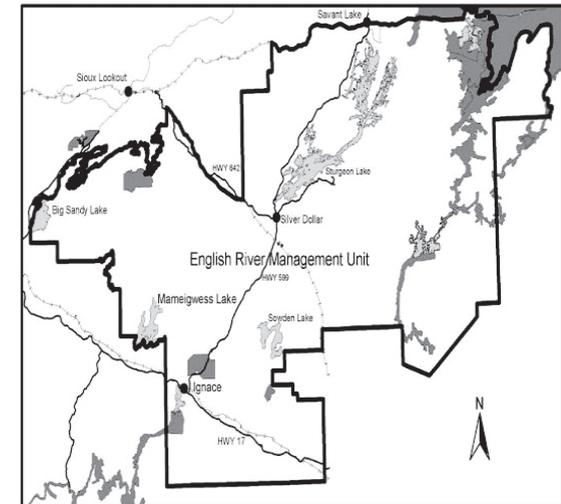
"I think today helps band all workers together ..."

SHEENA WOODS

Independent Forest Audit of the English River Forest

Ontario legislation governing sustainable forest management requires an Independent Forest Audit (IFA) of each Sustainable Forest License (SFL) or Crown Management Unit in the Province every five to seven years. The Forestry Futures Trust Committee has retained Arbex Forest Resource Consultants Ltd. to conduct an Independent Forest Audit of the English River Forest for the five-year period 2015-2020. The Forest is managed by Resolute FP Canada Inc. (RFP) and administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) Dryden District Office out of its Ignace Field Office. The audit will assess the forest management activities of RFP and the MNRF for the audit period. Specifically, the audit will assess:

- Compliance with the Crown Forest Sustainability Act
- Compliance with the Forest Management Planning process
- Planned versus actual forest management activities
- The effectiveness of forest management activities in achieving audit criteria and management objectives.
- The licensee's compliance with the terms and conditions of the SFL.
- The sustainability of the Crown Forest.



Your comments related to forest management activities on the English River Forest during the audit period may be sent to;

Bruce Byford R.P.F.
Arbex Forest Resource Consultants Ltd.
1555 Scotch Line Rd. East
Oxford Mills, On. K0G 1S0
Telephone 613 798-3099
Email: bbyford@arbex.ca

Please provide all comments by September 30, 2020.

Under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* personal information sent to the Auditor will remain confidential unless prior consent is obtained.

Editorial

EDITORIAL

Great pick for new CEO

Thunder Bay Regional chose well when selecting its future president and CEO.

Rhonda Crocker-Ellacott was clearly the person best suited for the job, one that will come with plenty of pitfalls as the health-care industry navigates through the post-COVID-19 world.

The next CEO has plenty of other challenges.

First and foremost, the hospital cannot afford to return to gridlock.

That's going to be a tricky path, given the backlog in surgeries disrupted by COVID-19 and the province asking hospitals across Ontario to adhere to strict capacity levels in case there is a second wave of the virus.

Crocker-Ellacott says her vision is working region-wide with health-care partners to help ensure patients get the treatment they need, without putting additional strain on any one institution.

That seems like a great solution, especially given the unknown economic impact COVID-19 will have on Ontario provincial coffers going forward.

As the current head of the North West and North East Local Health Integration Network, Crocker-Ellacott has a keen sense of the whole picture, and knows probably as well as anyone how things can be better integrated.

The hospital should be in good hands for years to come, which is good for everyone in our region.

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Not the time for facility

To the editor:

I'll be brief, just two points. One, to those conservatives out there, the city's super soccer-plex will directly compete with a private business and stop it from being built. Is that not your biggest fear, big bad government unfairly competing against poor citizens just trying to make a dollar?

Two, to everyone else out there, this is so far from the right time to do this it should just be back burned for an as-yet-to-be-determined time.

We are going headlong into a recession. We still don't know the true costs of what COVID-19 will be. We can't even figure out how far we still have to go fighting COVID-19. The city's roads are a disgrace.

There are so many other things that need attention in this city that the building of this complex will hurt the cities image abroad, not improve it.

I don't have words for how embarrassing this is that while asking for money from higher levels of government, while holding a debt on past projects this city has done in the past, this council and mayor think it's a good idea to push a multi-million dollar project that the city doesn't have the money for either.

Wake up people!

This city is asking for money for financial relief, at the same time as money for a recreation facility and is planning on asking for more financial aid later.

All during a pandemic.

Sean Scalzo,
Thunder Bay

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



How to choose an executor

I am in the process of getting a will but am not sure who I should pick for an executor. Should I use a family member or a friend? Any tips?

Colin

Great question Colin. A friend or a family member – it all depends?

This will be the person who controls and manages all your assets that you leave behind and will have a legal obligation to carry out your estate plan. Your executor will secure all your assets, make investment decisions if necessary and file your final tax return. It is important for you to choose the right person to be your executor, and to consider the person's competency and age, availability and location, trustworthiness and dependability.

Please do not choose an executor that does not reside in Canada. This could have legal and/or tax implications depending on your provincial legislation. Under Canadian tax law, an estate is considered to be a trust

and we do not want the tax residency of a trust to be questioned if the primary management and control takes place by a non-resident.

This will trigger your estate being disposed of its assets as a non-resident, subject to capital gains tax, possible with-holding tax, loss of enhanced dividend tax treatments, and even being subject to the rules and regulations of the foreign country where your executor resides. Of course, in situations where an estate is subject to tax in two or more jurisdictions, tax conventions and foreign tax credits may be available to reduce the overall tax burden.

Non-resident executors may also be restricted when it comes to investment instructions over the estate's Canadian investment accounts since this can be viewed as the executor controlling foreign assets. It may also require the executor to report this on their own personal taxes.

For example, a US resident who is acting as an executor of a Canadian estate maybe required to file various US reporting forms and it is a good idea to

seek professional assistance to ensure compliance. Another example is in Ontario. If an executor is not a resident of Ontario or a Commonwealth country, the executor is required to obtain a bond. The out-of-town executor could get a bond from an insurance company – but would have to apply and pay for this. Legal, taxation and financial advice should always be considered.

Let's face it, you worked hard for your money Colin, and the last thing you want is our government (or any other government) getting their hands on your estate. No one would intentionally put their assets in jeopardy. Speak to your advisor or estate lawyer to find out if the person you want as an executor is the right choice.

Good luck and best wishes,
Money Lady

Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author of the best-selling book "How to Retire Debt Free & Wealthy" and a new book Don't Panic – How to Manage your Finances and Financial Anxieties During and After the Coronavirus" available at all bookstores across Canada. If you have a money question, please email on website: www.askthemoneylady.ca



CHRISTINE
IBBOTSON
MONEY LADY

Perspective

Who's our next hero?

Bus drivers, crossing guards, volunteers on the list

OPINION

By J.R. Shermack
Special to TB Source

I wonder who will be the next Canadian hero.

Over the past months we have seen heroic actions by selfless front-line medical workers, researchers and scientists to keep the virus at bay and our families healthy.

Many local heroes have emerged and willingly made personal sacrifices, including separation from their own families, to reduce the health risks in our community.

And it worked – compared to other regions Northwestern Ontario has been spared the worst case scenarios and devastation of uncontrolled infection.

I don't want to have a false sense of security but I am cautiously optimistic that those same heroic efforts will continue to be effective.

Family fun

That's why our small family circle was able to share the long weekend with loved ones to enjoy dinner, have some fun and merriment and to forget about COVID for a while.

I'm sure many other families were equally happy to get together and socialize like it was 2019 with some semblance of "normal" family life.

But for Canadian families with school-age children the Labor Day weekend was the calm before the storm – parents are facing a huge challenge and some very difficult decisions.

"To school or not to school," is the question many parents face amid an atmosphere of uncertainty, unpredictability and apprehension.

Even if you don't have kids returning it is still mind-boggling to imagine millions of anxious Canadian children suddenly showing up for class.

The rules are in place (although they differ from one place to another) but it is impossible to plan for every scenario, to anticipate every crisis.

The logistics are a nightmare, the space is inadequate, everything must be sanitized repeatedly, hands must be washed properly and masks must be worn conscientiously.

This is the new normal in education and this is the eerie reality we expect teachers to face and deal with, somehow, and educate our children too.

We also expect heroic efforts from custodians for continuous cleaning and hygiene to control infection and keep schools safe.

Once again our success depends on the compassion and hard work of community heroes who rise to the occasion.

By the time you read this the schools will be open and we will have a glimpse into the new reality – will we be shocked, or relieved?

As I write this the re-opening is still a day away so I can only speculate and hope that everyone remains safe and healthy going forward.

It will take an army of heroes to navigate the pitfalls and glitches of re-opening schools while keeping our communities safe during a global pandemic.

Educators are faced with the difficult (some say "impossible") challenge of planning for the unknown, dealing with the unpredictable and coping with chaos.

Some teachers would call that just another day in the classroom and they face it all the time under normal circumstances,

But this scenario is unprecedented and very serious – who will be the heroes this time?

Unsung heroes

They will be bus drivers, crossing guards, volunteers and the many other unsung heroes that continue to keep our kids safe.

They will be the parents, grandparents and guardians who answer questions and soothe the troubled minds of the children in their care.

And they will be teachers, worried about their own families and counting on support from the community at large.

Our success depends on the compassion, courtesy and kindness of everyone involved and continued due diligence by us all.

As schools re-open over the weeks and months ahead each one of us has a responsibility to share the burden and lighten the load.

Take the opportunity to be the next local hero.

CHOMPING AT THE BIT



FISH FRENZY: The Kam River Fighting Walleye last week unveiled their new mascot, Chomper.

LEITH DUNICK

A look back in history:

FW Girls Pipe Band

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



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.

Address them to:
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TB Life

people | health | home | food | leisure

It's low-water fishing time

Throughout the last week I had been receiving text messages about how low the water is in our local rivers. By Friday, we had decided to cancel a fishing trip we had planned for the weekend because the water was just too low. Low water often means low oxygen content so the effectiveness of catch and release fishing is greatly diminished, especially with delicate fish like trout.

Even though we would be targeting salmon, the chance of catching some trout was high and we didn't want to inadvertently kill any, so we postponed our trip and I went out to camp instead. From our floating dock, looking back at the shoreline, I couldn't help but notice how far below the high water line the current lake level is.

The water on our small lake has dropped about eighteen inches in the past couple of months. Some lakes, like the one where my sister has her camp, are down a full two feet since May Long Weekend. Yet, despite the dramatically low water levels, some hardy species like

walleye, pike and bass are still fair game. Here is how to find them and convince them to strike:

Search for new structure. Drought-like conditions in the late summer and fall months can suck the water right out of your favorite fishing spots and leave prime structure high and dry.

This forces predatory fish to search for new cover that provides safety as well as an ambush point in their search for food. This means we need to make

adjustments and seek deeper water for structure like humps, submerged trees, rock piles and transition areas. The good news is, that with shallower water there are only so many places the fish can be, especially in smaller lakes.

Find the flow. I had mentioned that low water is often synonymous with low oxygen levels. In lakes with inflowing water, from a stream or narrow channel, the moving water will have more oxygen and will therefore attract both baitfish and game fish.

Go Early. When fishing popular spots,

being on the water early can make all the difference as the best fishing often occurs before the sun gets too high in the sky and the fish shut down due to the bright skies and heavy boat traffic.

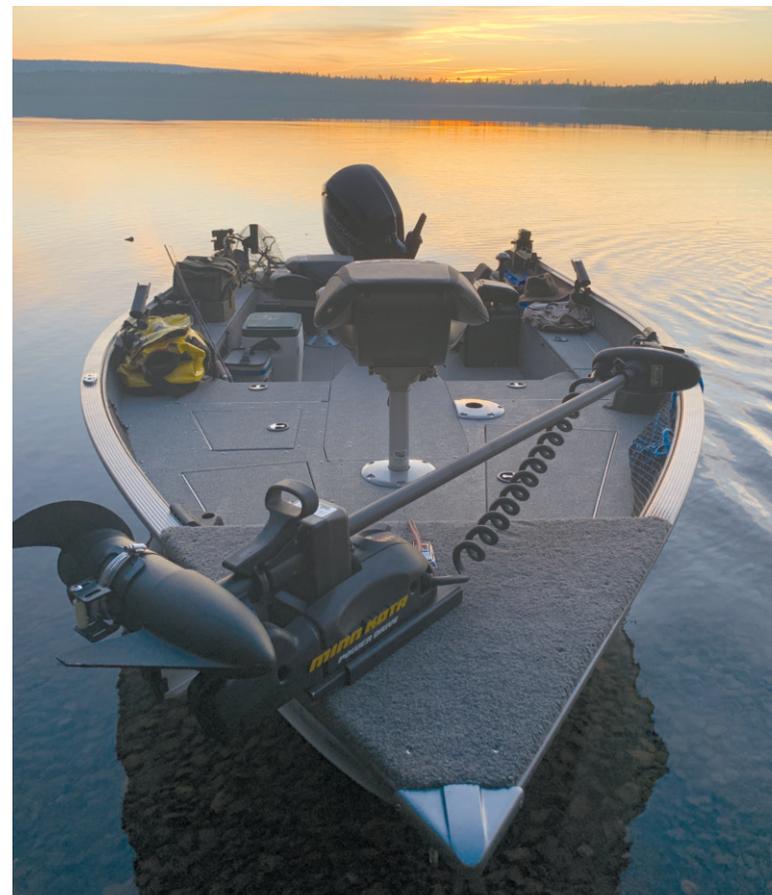
Kill the motor. Fish can be extra wary in low water. It usually pays to shut off the big motor and use a silent electric trolling motor instead. As well, maneuver the boat slowly and drift whenever possible so as not to spook any fish directly beneath you.

Go au naturel. Low water is usually clear water, so natural colours and smaller baits are often required to fool fish, especially the big ones. In skinny water, it is also important to shut off the music, wear natural coloured clothes and keep a lower profile to avoid spooking the fish, please be extremely careful when navigating low water in a boat. Obstructions that were deep under water may now be just below the surface and could cause major damage to your boat if you hit a rock with the prop at high speed.

The next time you hit your favourite lake in these low-water conditions, keep these tips in mind and you will likely still have plenty of success.



KEITH AILEY
THE GOOD LIFE



EARLY BIRD WINS: Being on the water at first light makes for great fishing conditions.

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Harvest time



FRED JONES
RURAL ROOTS

The colours of autumn are beginning. There are a couple of sugar maple trees on our road, the leaves of which have begun to morph into those gorgeous fall colours. Manitoba a.k.a. 'Moose' maples have also commenced their colour change. And with lower morning temperatures, a serious threat of frost has caused us gardeners into harvesting action.

Morning temperatures have largely stayed steady at plus 10. A couple of mornings we had it down to plus five and even plus four. My wife, Laura, The Gardener in the family, told me that frost comes at plus four.

Sure enough, an inspection of the vegetable garden later in the day revealed frosted leaves of cucumbers, squash, basil, and assorted other vegetables susceptible to the frost. There was a more serious threat early in the week with a low of plus three Monday night. On Saturday afternoon, we sprang into action.

We hauled out cardboard boxes and newspapers to line their interiors as we picked all of the tomato crop for this summer. Unfortunately, several were split open or covered with spots that Laura said would rot. The small, ripe, cherry tomatoes are delicious but in some cases, they too were split. Instead of tossing, I ate them – a sweet, juicy treat.

Next, we dug up potatoes. Sure, they were in no danger of being frosted, but Laura, who spends most of her spare time in the garden, had been keeping watch, checking to see if the spuds were big enough to unearth.

Small size

Sunday morning I was on my knees helping to dig the Murphys. Not huge in size this year probably due to the late June/July drought.

"I should have been watering more," Laura intoned.

Well, sure, Dear, but there are only so many hours in a hot summer day and you had to work and was too stunned to observe a watering pattern.

When it comes to gardening, I'm afraid that I need recurring instruction due to a bad memory. I didn't think of it. Will do better next year.

Next year could be completely different from this one. Some summers some things do well, others don't according to a wise, old gardener that Laura knows.

This summer what did well were peas, red cabbage, carrots, kale, garlic, corn-on-the-cob, basil and, amazingly, tomatoes ripening on the vine, very unusual.

What did not do well were cucumbers that got frosted in June and then parched in July,



SPUD SEASON: Potato harvest has arrived.

beets because the deer ate the tops and we suspect a ground hog ate the bottoms, and green cabbage that were slug-attractants.

But our main problem was not lack of water or too much though we probably didn't water enough; our main problem is the pervasive invasion of quack or crab-grass.

When digging the potatoes Sunday, some of the roots of this grass I pulled were two feet or more in length.

And a few potatoes had the darn stuff growing right through them. So, how to deal with this pest that completely takes over?

Big ideas

Laura's plan is to dig permanent beds, fill them with wood shavings, then dirt. In fact, she wants the lane ways to receive the same treatment. That means when all the vegetables are harvested, we dig everything up, beds and aisles, lay out where we want these permanent beds, and make them.

A lot of work but, hopefully, we will only have to do it once, and proceed to figure out how to prevent the evil weed grass from invading our garden. There are other weeds that also invade but they are easy to extract by hand.

One wears gloves as there are quite a few thistles that sneak in among the planted vegetables.

Where they come from I know not but they are there every year. I suppose the fact that during the past two years the paddocks and fields around the vegetable garden are festooned with thistles doesn't help.

The first beds to prepare will be the garlic ones since mid-September is when you plant it for next year. Didn't use the rototiller this year but with Laura's master plan we will be this autumn.

Sunday I got down on my knees to dig out *pommes de terre*, spuds, Murphys. It felt really good to have my hands in dirt.

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.

- **Physical distancing** measures will be implemented such as desk separation, signs, floor markings and one-way hallways.
- **Face coverings** will be required for staff and students in Grades 4-12.
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- **More nurses** will be in schools.
- **School cleaning** will be enhanced.



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IN THE bay

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Art with a Future Vision

ART

By Linda Maehans – TB Source

What's that expression: hindsight is 2020?

Not so, here. Not in the slightest. With the long-awaited re-opening of Definitely Superior Art inside their new digs, a former-now-refurbished cinema complex on North Cumberland, comes an exhibit with edge and beautiful bite. Filling but never cluttering the fresh clean cathedral-like space of this city's leading-edge artists' collective, 2020 Future Vision awaits your presence. Eyes, mind and imagination: together again at last.

"The whole idea was to fuse artists of this region with others at the national or international level," explains DefSup's director David Karasiewicz. "One obvious, certain perspective is the excellence coming out of our region. Never mind 'elevating' or thinking that works with a national-international reputation are somehow better; what we really see is that, here, the art is of equal calibre."

2020 Future Vision consists of twenty pieces rendered in all genres, materials and subject matter. Here's a hint to whet your appetite: hoping your sixth sense, the spooky one, is adequately sharpened.

From the entrance, head right and stop before a fantastical photograph. In an exotic jasmine-scented grove, a woman with a lacy veil over her eyes contemplates a gift; it's from another hand, looks to be male, holding



NEW SHOW: Future Vision is on until Sept. 26.

a pink "sweet". Why do we immediately think of poison, shrink away? Yet "Offrendal" is lovely. As is an oil-on-canvas triptych titled "Marriage". Women's faces: one veiled except for the eyes; the second, equal to her jewellery, is sparkling; the third, can you hear it, utters a warrior's cry. Is that joy?

A clunky sculpture with kinetic appeal beckons. To be honest, it isn't very attractive. And what is that whispering, ever so faint? By

the time we realise what the sound is, it's too late. We've been hypnotized by a battalion of lead pencils, stubby short things in ranks tethered by a trapeze of sorts; made of twisted wiring, doesn't matter. Because we can't stop watching what the pencil nubs are doing: tracing, ever so lightly, their concentric circles onto the papery lids of dark metal drums. Oil barrels. Is this the artist's vision of past-present-and-future all rolled into one? How long, mesmerized, do we watch those shadowy little soldiers go 'round and 'round? How do you react to "America First"?

Move on, and step inside DefSup's new "black box". Sorry, that's all I'm going to tell you about this perfect new room.

Near the opposite end of the gallery and on the whimsical side, decide if you might like to have "Ol Crazy Legs The Coyote" as your new coffee table. Or pause to wonder how one artist actually made her glass fox she's named "Urbanite".

"Something we've been told by many visitors, and tourists over previous years, is that they can't believe the diversity and quality of contemporary art here in Thunder Bay. This is just a sampling," remarks Karasiewicz, "only twenty! Watch for many future shows. And, as has happened before, some of our local-regional artists will reach national, even international heights.

And that," he adds, "is a statement in itself."

Go see what he means. 2020 Future Vision is up until Sept. 26.

HAGI TV Bingo return to local airwaves

TELEVISION

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

At the dawn of COVID-19 restrictions in Northwestern Ontario, Community HAGI Bingo became a wildly popular, stay-at-home activity throughout the region.

Then the season came to a halt. Next weekend, it returns to Thunder Bay Television, bigger and better than ever. Long-time host Gary Cooper says the show's new season is set to begin at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12 and because of the demand that left distributors quickly sold out of cards this past spring, they've added more to each of their games.

"Last March, when everything shut down, we hadn't seen it before, where every one of our distributors by noon on the Monday before the game were calling for more cards. And we didn't have them. We couldn't access them in time," Cooper said.

"So what we've done is we've increased our lot so that for the \$3,000 bingo we're putting 5,000 cards out into the community. For the \$5,000 (game), we're putting 6,000 cards out."

Cards are distributed throughout Northwestern Ontario, so Cooper said keep that in mind when planning to buy them each week.

Thunder Bay has a limited allotment, he said.



THADDEUS WEISS

Cooper said it was fascinating to watch how wildly popular the game, proceeds from which benefit the Wilderness Discovery Camp and the Thunder Bay Therapeutic Riding Association, became with everything on hold.

He hopes that popularity remains.

"COVID is still with us, so people are looking for something to do on Saturday nights. I have been with the program since the beginning and I have never been stopped as many times as I have on the

grocery store or on the street, people wanting to know when we start," Cooper said.

He said he heard tales of families hosting potlucks prior to the restrictions being put in place, and hosting Zoom sessions afterward so they could keep playing together.

Thaddeus Weiss, president of the Handicapped Action Group Inc., said the money is put to great use.

"From last year's Bingo, we sponsored 120 individuals this year for the Wilderness Discovery program at Shebadowan," Weiss said, adding they also support a local food bank with donations.

"I believe the HAGI Bingo is a community affair, and with the community supporting HAGI Bingo, in turn it comes back into the community ... The more HAGI generates, the more support we can get throughout the community."

HAGI TV Bingo airs weekly from September to May on CTV Thunder Bay.

Cards are six for \$9 and are sold at several locations in the city and throughout the region.

IN THE BAY

Edgy, surreal look into Twin Peaks world



**MARTY
MASCARIN**
MOVIE TALK

When it comes to Charlie Kaufman, whether as screenwriter or director or both, expect rather trippy storytelling. Rather, if you favour conventional narrative and explainable behaviours, look elsewhere, as exemplified by some of his previous works, including *Adaptation*, *Being John Malkovich*, and *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*. These are mostly edgy, acquired tastes.

Based on Canadian Ian Reid's novel, expect even more weirdness and surrealism of TV's *Twin Peaks* variety in *I'm Thinking of Ending Things*. (Netflix)

Ostensibly, the movie is about a girl (wonderful Jessie Buckley, *Wild Rose*, *Beast*, TV's *Chernobyl*) heading off on a long, wintry country drive with her new boyfriend, Jake (Jesse Plemons, *The Irishman*, TV's *Fargo*) to meet his parents. Seemingly innocuous, right?

However, things are off from the get go. The couple's dialogue in the car and Buckley's own interior monologue is

stilted and contradictory – she's amazed by their relationship (we fail to see why) but she thinks she has to end it.

Jake sporadically responds to Buckley's unspoken thoughts, creating a sense of foreboding. Buckley recites her freshly written, bleak, longish poem, word for word, without needing notes. Huh.

Upon arriving at the parents' farm, they discover the parent's bizarre approach to caring for the sheep and pigs. Then they meet oddball mom (Toni Collette, *Knives Out*) and dad (David Thewlis TV's *Fargo*), who are like a twisted version of *The Addams Family*. Mom creakily laughs too hard at virtually anything while dad encourages the two to stay overnight and have sex in Jake's old bedroom.

Throughout the evening, time seems to jump ahead, and then reverts to an earlier point, then returns to the present.

Buckley is at once a painter and a student of quantum physics. (In the car, she was a poet and an apparent student of marine biology.) She's also referred to variously as Lucy, Louisa, and Lucia.

She finds her recited poem inside a book in Jake's room. (Was it hers to begin with?) A framed picture of a

child on their wall – is that her?

The stormy drive homeward is even weirder as the Buckley and Jake characters shift in mood and disposition. Buckley begins imitating Gena Rowlands' razzberry-spewing character from *Woman under the Influence*. They stop at an isolated slurpee shop which is remaining open during a blizzard, served by three unusual waitresses.

The final act involves a stop at Jake's old high school where dreamy surrealism takes over, replete with an odd custodian. Welcome to David Lynch Land.

Kaufman is using the film to offer commentary on one's fragile sense of identity, the transitory nature of human behaviour. He also takes witty swipes at more conventional filmmakers and the critics.

The performers are thoroughly committed to the director's stylized vision, as Buckley, Clemons, Collette and Thewlis are fine.

But as in the case with the Pattinson and Dafoe characters in *The Lighthouse*, one can appreciate a film's intellectual and stylistic flourishes, but ultimately is left to ask, "Are we enjoying time spent with these peculiar characters?"



QUESTIONS REMAIN: Jessie Buckley stars in *I'm Thinking of Ending Things*.

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IN THE BAY

WineOh! brings touch of class to waterfront

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Ontario's finest wines will be featured later this month on board the former Coast Guard cutter *Alexander Henry*.

A new wine-tasting event, WineOh!, is scheduled for Sept. 19 aboard the ship, a chance for local connoisseurs to sample the best the province has to offer, paired with some of the finest Ontario cheeses.

The organizers, who started and then sold the popular BrewHa! event, said wine is the logical next step after several years hosting a beer-tasting event.

Kerry Berlinquette, co-organizer of WineOh!, said the idea has been germinating for quite some time.

"It just sort of grew. We wanted to do this for a number of years. It just came naturally to us. What's next,

after beer is wine, so let's open up that market," Berlinquette said.

"Thunder Bay hasn't had a wine event for a while, so we thought we'd get that going again."

The event is a fundraiser for the Lakehead Transportation Museum Society, which offers tours of the *Alexander Henry*, berthed at the former Pool 6 property on Thunder Bay's waterfront.

It's a win-win for both groups. "Not everybody's been to the *Alexander Henry* yet, so we wanted to do something very unique to go with the new idea and we wanted to be first to have a really cool event on the ship," Berlinquette said.

For its inaugural year, WineOh! will be subject to strict COVID-19 restrictions, including mask wearing, frequent sanitizing stations and crowd limits.

Berlinquette said they'll be offering

five sessions on the day of the event, each capped to meet gathering guidelines.

"We checked with the health unit, got all the information we needed, did a walk-through. We'll have people come in batches of 50 people and then separate those people into groups of 10. Each group will arrive at a designated time and get into their group of 10 ... and then go through the ship and taste the wines in their group of 10," Berlinquette said.

"It takes about 90 minutes to do the entire tour, which is guided by the volunteers here at the *Alexander Henry*."

Tickets are \$60 per person and are available at www.universe.com/wineoh.

Tickets include eight wine-and-cheese samples, the tour and live music.



HELPS OUT: Kerry Berlinquette says WineOh! is also a fundraiser for the *Alexander Henry*.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Study constellation
 - 5 Mississippi bridge
 - 9 Discover
 - 12 Amer. Civil Liberties Union (abbr.)
 - 13 Nick
 - 14 Amer. College of Physicians (abbr.)
 - 15 Leader (Ital.)
 - 16 Mendacious person
 - 17 Orinoco tributary
 - 18 "Pomp and Circumstances" composer
 - 20 East wind
 - 22 Hog's guts
 - 24 Price
 - 25 Eng. dramatist
 - 26 King of Thebes
 - 30 Tatar dynasty
 - 31 Amazon tributary
- DOWN**
- 1 Energy unit
 - 2 Five-franc piece
 - 32 Altar
 - 33 lt. dish
 - 36 Part of golf club
 - 38 Sheep's cry
 - 39 1st incarnation of Vishnu
 - 40 Lieutenant (abbr.)
 - 43 Bay (Sp.)
 - 44 Tree
 - 45 Pueblo Indian
 - 47 Tablespoon (abbr.)
 - 50 Caliph
 - 51 Economy (abbr.)
 - 52 Pelvic bones
 - 53 Allow
 - 54 Former Korean president
 - 55 Fat (pref.)

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

TUPIREBFDIC
IBIDULUBELA
DEMEANORITEA
ERATAINOHAM
HEWSCAR
TEREFAHAMONG
BEADYAMINIA
ALIGNMADNESS
LEUCDEE
ABBTODEA OVI
BRIGWRINKLED
LIRA EERALEE
YEDORIALARA

- 3 Euripedes play
- 4 Dueling rules
- 5 Brilliance
- 6 Cattle rearing caste
- 7 Port. explorer
- 8 Expanse
- 9 Moselle tributary
- 10 Pale brown
- 11 Heroic poem
- 19 Clan
- 21 Where (Lat.)
- 22 Bay
- 23 Locality
- 24 Social affair
- 26 S.A. tuber
- 27 Okay
- 28 Atomic physicists
- 29 Hall (Sp.)
- 31 Feminine (suf.)
- 32 Father: Arabic
- 35 Congregate
- 36 Exclamation
- 37 Ear inflammation
- 39 Fr. historical provinces
- 40 Loyal (Scot.)
- 41 He (Lat.)
- 42 Discharge
- 43 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (abbr.)
- 46 Scot. exclamation
- 48 Freedom, briefly
- 49 Monkey

WORD SEARCH

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

- Amongst
- Capes
- Chariot
- Cheetah
- Chirp
- Defamed
- Descriptor
- Downy
- Envelop
- Excels
- Exhort
- Fight
- Fluid
- Forks
- Frying
- Fusses
- Heard
- Interpretations
- Lovely
- Madcap
- Muffle
- Natives
- Pouring
- Proof
- Pulls
- Pulps
- Quack
- Quiche
- Ramps
- Refuel
- Rivalry
- Skewing
- Stormy
- Surveys
- Tolls
- Towed
- Volleyed
- Weave
- Yowled
- Zones

Sudoku

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

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 8 | | 4 | | | | | 2 | 3 |
| 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 3 | 7 | 9 | | | | | | 5 |
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| 5 | | | | 4 | | 9 | | | 2 |
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| | | 3 | | | | | 2 | | |
| | | 2 | | | | | 3 | | 6 |

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SIJHL still holding out hope

Border closure and 50-player bubbles are major obstacles

SIJHL
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The commissioner of the Superior International Junior Hockey League is still holding out hope the 2020-21 season will still go ahead.

What it might look like is still a work in progress.

Darrin Nicholas, who took over the reins of the seven-team circuit this summer, said as it stands, it would be pretty tough to start up.

First and foremost, Canada's border with the United States remains closed, at least until Sept. 21, with many saying it won't be until 2021 at the earliest before it reopens to non-essential travel. That would all but eliminate the two American teams, the Thief River Falls Norskies and the Wisconsin Lumberjacks, from being part of league play this season.

Secondly, under current guidelines, teams will only be allowed to play in 50-player bubbles in Stage 3 of Hockey Northwestern Ontario's return-to-play



LEITH DUNICK

UNSURE: SIJHL commissioner Darrin Nicholas says there are still uncertainties in the league's plan to play a 2020-21 season, but he's hopeful they can be overcome.

guidelines. This could change if the governing body for the game in the region advances into Stage 4, but there's currently no timeline to do so.

Nicholas made it clear the SIJHL won't ask for special consideration, saying they want to be a part of the

solution and not part of the problem, potentially risking bringing COVID-19 cases into the various communities the league plays in.

"Let's make no mistake. Under the conditions that are there now, we wouldn't be able to operate our league,"

Nicholas said. "The 50-player bubble, there's an indoor gathering limit of 50 spectators right now, and those are really the two things that have to change."

"There are other regulations that it would be nice to change, but we can work around, up to and including the border situation. But if we have to play in cohorts of 50 and we can only have 50 people in the stands, those are likely going to be non-starters."

The SIJHL can start training camps on Sept. 14, but have already pushed back the start of the campaign until at least Nov. 14, hopeful restrictions are further lifted by that point.

Nicholas said they have yet to build a schedule, with too much uncertainty in place, but are looking at a variety of contingencies.

Should the league get some certainty from the federal government about a border reopening date, the possibility of having the U.S. teams play each other for a couple of weeks, is a possibility.

Not knowing is the biggest issue, Nicholas said, which makes it tough for the Norskies and Lumberjacks to both recruit and retain players.

"What really causes the challenges is the month-to-month stuff," Nicholas said

Fighting Walleye to play at Norwest Arena

SIJHL
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Matt Valley calls it the shoe box. Others know it as the one-time stomping ground of the brothers Staal.

Future generations will know it as the home of the Superior International Junior Hockey League's Kam River Fighting Walleye. The team on Thursday made it official, unveiling the Norwest Arena as their new home.

The Fighting Walleye are the first SIJHL club to play out of the rural rink, located minutes up the hill from the Stanley Hotel.

Great feeling

"It's like chill city," said first-year coach Matt Valley. "I grew up playing here and how many guys have walked through those doors that are fantastic hockey players? To be able to add to that, hopefully, is something I'll hold near and dear to my heart. It's coming home. It's about family, it's about community and that's how we coach

as a coaching staff -- it's all about culture, it's all about community."

Valley, a former player in the SIJHL, said there are plenty of advantages playing in an older rink that he's confident the Fighting Walleye can make work in their favour when visitors arrive.

"I've been in a men's league here for a while now and obviously I grew up here. We call it a shoebox. It's tight quarters. There are some hometown bounces here for sure, and we're going to play to those. We're going to be a hard-skating, physical team hopefully that competes for every bounce. That's the way our coaching staff wanted to approach it anyway," Valley said.

"Being in this rink is advantageous to the way we coach and I think this small arena, jam-packed with 300, 500, 600 people is going to feel like maybe closer to 5,000."

Oliver Paipoonge Mayor Lucy Kloosterhuis was on hand for Thursday's windy unveiling, helping team officials rip the brown-paper covering of the Fighting Walleye logo that now adorns the wall adjacent to the rink's entrance.

She called it an exciting day for her community, with a junior A hockey team to call their own.

"I think it's terrific," said Kloosterhuis, adding the on-again, off-again negotiation took about a year to complete.

"I live just down the road and I can't wait to see the games start." When that will be remains up in the air. The league has tentatively set Nov. 14 as their hoped-for start date, but with two teams south of the still-closed Canada/United States border, and rules in place at the moment only allowing 50-player league bubbles, as it stands the 2020-

21 campaign would not be able to start.

Commissioner Darrin Nicholas says it's a waiting game, though teams are expected to begin holding tryouts as early as Sept. 14.

Familiar rink

Nicholas, whose son Evan won a city bantam AA championship at the Norwest Arena in 2014, said he's excited to see a team set up shop at the rink, which did host the Thunder Bay North Stars occasionally in the past.

"I think it's a great building. I thought it was a great choice by their organization and congrats to the community for working with them. As a coach I've had an opportunity to participate in quite a few provincial, regional and national championships and the ones that are the most memorable and most enjoyable are probably the ones that are in the smaller centres," Nicholas said. "This will be a big deal for Oliver Paipoonge."



LUCY KLOOSTERHUIS

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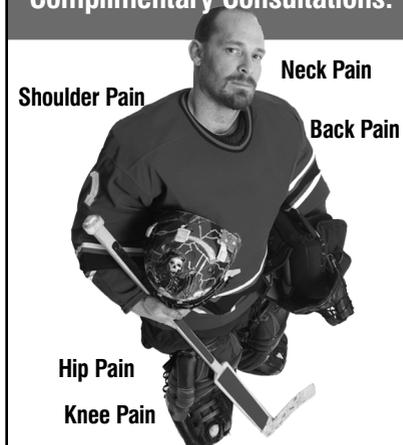
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Montoyo mayhem

There was a lot of chatter online last week about Toronto Blue Jays manager Charlie Montoyo and whether or not he's up for the task of leading a major league club into the postseason.

I'll admit I was one of those being critical.

Montoyo's team has been one of the surprises since baseball returned.

Led by Teoscar Hernandez's breakout campaign, the Jays are an 85 per cent lock to make the expanded postseason.

But the prevailing line of thought is they could be in even better shape had Montoyo had a better handle on his pitching staff and his baserunners.

Some of his moves are downright questionable, leading one blogger to ask if the Jays manager was simply pulling names out of hat.

Case in point, Saturday's 3-2 loss to the lowly Boston Red Sox in the second game of a double-header.

In the sixth inning, Derek Fisher was due up with two outs and the bases loaded.

Fisher was hitting well below the

Mendoza line at the time, and yet, with all-world prospect Vladimir Guerrero Jr. on the bench, Fisher was sent to the plate.

He struck out and the Jays lost a game they could have won.

He told reporters after the game he had a gut feeling Fisher was going to hit a homerun that day.

My slo-pitch manager has better instincts than that and he's never played beyond beer-league ball.

Admittedly, it hasn't been a great season for Guerrero, who in the seventh and final inning grounded into a rally-killing double play.

But it's just an example of how close this team – which I wrote off in the pre-season, full disclosure – can be to a solid ballclub.

As of weekend play, they'd already passed the New York Yankees and Houston Astros in the American League playoff race, and could even get home-team advantage in the post-season if things continue to go well. A win here and win there could be the difference. It starts with you, Mr. Montoyo.



LEITH DUNICK

SPORTS SHORTS



DECKED OUT: Wearing a toque to combat chilly conditions, Brett Shewchuk had a 2-over 74 on Monday to close out the win.

Wire-to-wire victory

Brett Shewchuk earns a seven-shot District Amateur triumph

GOLF

By Leith Dunick –TB Source

Opening the day with a five-shot lead, Brett Shewchuk was still nervous about his position atop the Teleco District Amateur leaderboard.

The wind was howling Monday at Whitewater Golf Club, which can lead to crooked numbers in a hurry with a wayward shot or two.

It didn't help that he opened with a double-bogey on the first.

But he quickly showed the mettle of a champion, birdying the second hole to right the ship, and despite a little shaky play on his final nine, easily cruised to a seven-shot win over two-time defending champion Colin Sobey and Jeremy Kirk.

It was the third District Amateur championship for Shewchuk, who punctuated his round with an uphill putt for eagle on his final hole and finished the day with a hard-fought, 2-over 74, winding up with a three-day total of 211 at the final local major of the season.

"To save double on one was actually great, because I played three off the tee and then I hit it over the green and managed to get up and down from behind the green, which is kind of nuts," said Shewchuk, also a three-time winner at the Strathcona Invitational.

"I almost drove the green on two, so that was just a chip and a putt for a birdie to bounce back and kind of settle in."

Despite the distance between Shewchuk and second place, there was a time the final result was in doubt.

After hitting his tee shot on 12 into the woods, the 28-year-old was forced to scramble to save a bogey on the tricky par 5, while Sobey, playing in the group ahead, sank a 10-footer for birdie to cut his deficit to four.

Nathanael Moulson, who shot his way out of second flight to enter the final round of the 54-hole tournament five back of the lead, was only three back at the time.

Shewchuk took the conservative approach the rest of the way.

He barely missed a nine-foot birdie putt on the par 3 13th, then played fairway to green on the final five holes, a three-putt bogey on No. 16 the only blemish as he made his way home.

"When it's windy like this, you're always worried about hitting one up into the air and trying to keep it in play between the trees out here. A lot of times I'd think like that, if I thought I could get to the bush with one club or if I couldn't I'd hit another one," Shewchuk said.

Any thoughts of a final round comeback were quickly dashed, Kirk said. Shewchuk made sure of that.

"Today was obviously tough with the wind. It was hard to get the ball close and Brett made some really big putts. He putted great and he deserves every bit of it because he played so well," Kirk said.

Moulson finished solo first after a 5-over 77, for a three-day total of 219. Jack Moro wrapped up the top five with a 9-over 224 total.

Only six of the 55 golfers scored in the 70s on Monday.

"When it's windy like this, you're always worried about hitting one up in the air..."

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