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Thursday, October 20, 2022

MONSTER MADNESS

Thousands descend on Thunder City Speedway for sold-out shows



Fan favourite Rat Nasty performs a wheelie on Sunday at the Thunder City Speedway during Monster Madness, an event organizers hope to bring back in two or three years. (Leith Dunick)



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Remembrance Day ceremonies were last held at Fort William Gardens in 2019. (FILE)

Heading back to FW Gardens

Remembrance Day ceremony returns inside

By Gary Rinne - TB Source

For the first time since 2019, a Remembrance Day ceremony will be held indoors at the Fort William Gardens.

For the last two years, the city's south-side service was held outdoors at City Hall due to the pandemic.

Local arrangements chairperson Ken Milenko says returning to an indoor event is momentous for the Royal Canadian Legion which organizes the event, and for the volunteers who help.

"I can't tell you how exciting that is. The two-year hiatus has been pretty tough. It's very rewarding to be back inside the Gardens."

The indoor ceremony traditionally draws several thousand participants.

"That's why I'm reaching out right now to invite the public. We want

everybody to know that we're back in business...the public, schools, businesses, you name it, are more than welcome to attend, and we look forward to seeing everybody," Milenko said.

He expects people will appreciate not having to stand outside in the cold this year.

"The other thing is our veterans. We're losing a bunch of them. These poor old guys don't need to stand outside anymore. So that's the most significant benefit of being inside."

Milenko said organizers are grateful to the City of Thunder Bay for making the Gardens available.

He noted that wearing a face mask is no longer mandatory, but anyone who chooses that option is welcome to do so.

Remembrance Day will also be marked at the Waverley Park cenotaph and on Mount McKay.

Bring on business

Mayoral candidates weigh in on attracting entrepreneurs to city

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

As Thunder Bay's five mayoral candidates make their final pitch to earn the public's vote on Monday, they were asked what they would do to make it easier to attract and maintain new and existing businesses.

Growing the economy and widening the tax base has been a key platform plank for many of the candidates, mayor and council, pointed to by many as a way to help lift some of the tax burden off of residents, while providing better paying jobs at the same time.

Former two-time mayor Ken Boshcoff said the first thing the city needs to do is show itself to be a welcoming community, not one that puts up layers of red tape at every step of the process.

"That is the strongest thing. The attitudinal shift has got to be Thunder Bay wants you to come here. We want you to bring your families here. We want you to stay here if you're staging to go to mining operations around here," Boshcoff said at the recent Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce mayoral forum.

Boshcoff said the city has plenty to offer, from education and health care to natural surroundings second to none.

"We're very strong. Our shopping is great. Our restaurants are unbelievable. We have everything it takes, it only requires leadership."

Gary Mack said he's seen the problems first hand. Four years ago he and his husband opened Bay Village Café, with little or no issues. When they went to later open a second location, the paperwork was overbearing.

"We faced hurdle after hurdle and we just couldn't seem to please (the city) and had to spend quite a bit of money to satisfy all their needs. I've heard this anecdotally many times, that business is being blocked by the city and we just can't have that," Mack said, calling for a review of municipal departments that interact with the public.

Robert Szczepanski said the best way to attract business from outside to region is for the city to up its social media game.

"We should have a larger social media presence to



Peng You, Ken Boshcoff, Gary Mack, Robert Szczepanski and Clint Harris are all vying for the mayor's chair on Oct. 24.

advertise what we have locally so we can show off what we have and that will entice more people to come," he said.

Clint Harris said the city definitely has a culture of saying no to business, adding administration has been a challenge over the years.

"In my professional life and brokering deals, there's always a way to say yes and there's never a reason to say no. We need to stop saying no and we obviously need to make the city an inviting city to come to," Harris said, noting if the social issues are put to rest, companies will be more encouraged to relocate or open up in Thunder Bay.

Peng You, currently an at-large councillor finishing out his first term, said the city needs bold new ways, and pointed to amenities that could be built by the private sector as ways to improve quality of life. That will entice businesses to come to the city, he said.

"My resolution is a bubble to cover Fort William Stadium in the winter. It's zero tax dollars paid by the city. (What about) an indoor water park? And it's not paid by the taxpayer, it's paid by the private sector."

Candidates profiled inside

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Inside this week's edition you'll find campaign profiles for candidates running in McKellar, Neebing, Red River and Westfort wards, starting on Page 6 and concluding on Page 25.

Candidates for mayor, Current River, Northwood and McIntyre were profiled in the previous two editions of the paper.

You'll also find brief profiles of all 24 at-large candidates on pages 16 and 17.

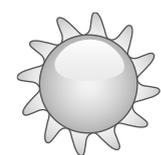
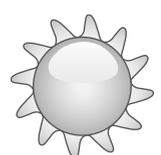
Just a reminder that full profiles for all 59 candidates running this year can be found at our website, www.tbnewswatch.com, in the T-Bay Votes section.

We hope they provide a little insight into your ballot choices as you head to the polls.

We'll also be doing a two-hour live show, simulcast on Thunder Bay Television and on TBNewsWatch on election night, from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Good luck, and make sure you cast your ballot, online or in person.

WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			
Scattered Showers	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny
Precipitation: 30% HIGH 8 LOW 2	Precipitation: 0% HIGH 14 LOW 9	Precipitation: 0% HIGH 19 LOW 8	Precipitation: 0% HIGH 21 LOW 9

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EDITORIAL

New look council

On Monday night, voters in Thunder Bay will complete the process of choosing a new mayor and council.

One thing we know, there will be change.

With new faces assured in Red River, Northwood and Neebing, and at least two new councillors being voted in via the at-large race, at least five people not currently serving on council will be voted into office this year.

In the mayor's race, a five-horse field, only Coun. Peng You is at present a sitting member of city council, though two-time mayor Ken Boschcoff is most certainly one of the front-runners in 2022.

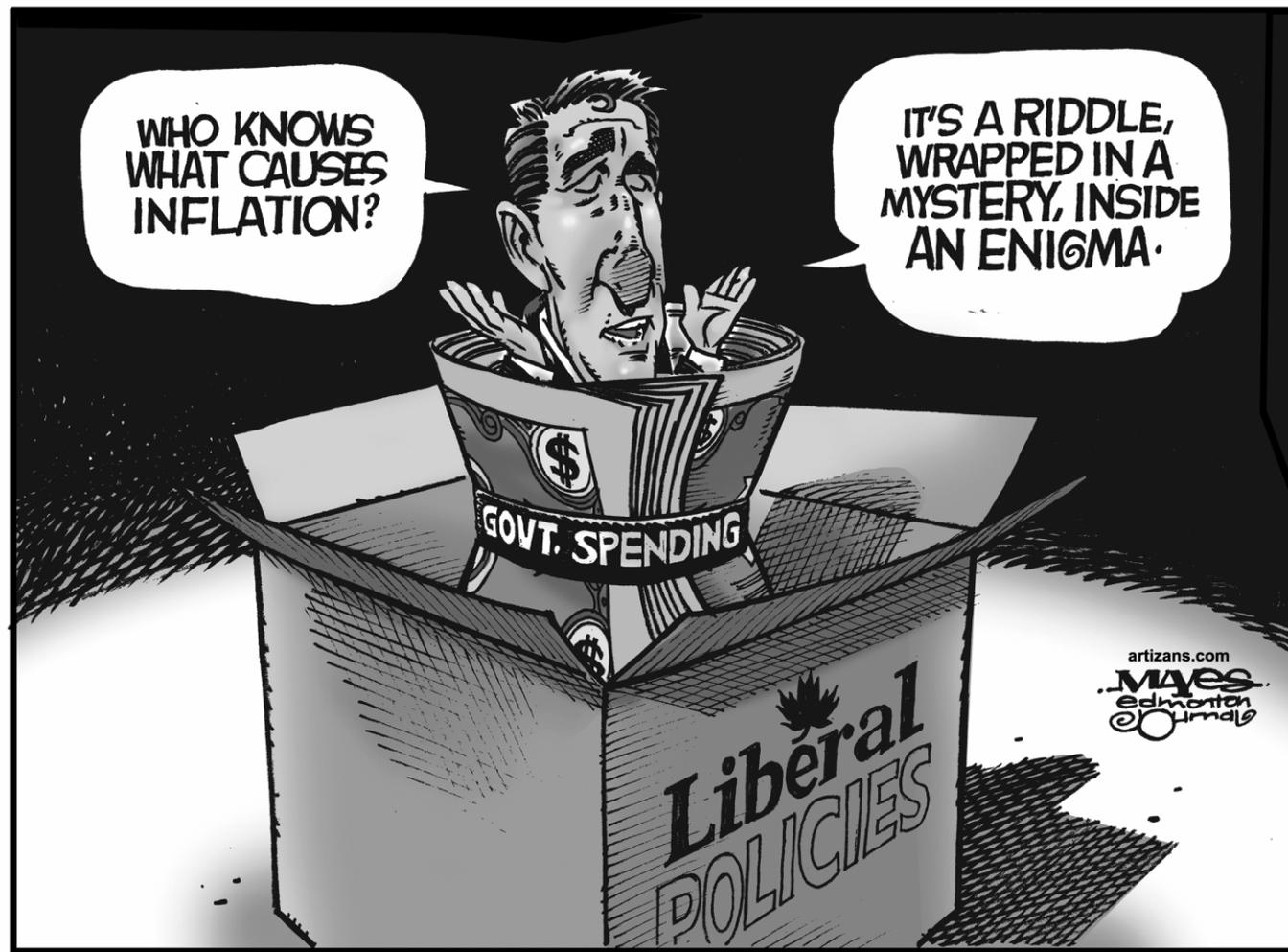
Tight races are also expected in Westfort and McKellar wards, where the incumbents are facing tough competition. In a usual election year, incumbents tend to have a big advantage, name recognition going a long way on the municipal ballot.

Don't be surprised if this year is different, and there's an upset or two.

The at-large race is particularly intriguing. There are two incumbents and one sitting councillor, Shelby Ch'ng, who is giving up her Northwood seat for a shot at an at-large position.

There are plenty of qualified candidates who could spark the interest of voters. Don't be surprised if there's an upset or two. Every four years, there's a cry for change on city council. This year, it's going to happen in some shape or form.

Hopefully the new councillors are ready to hit the ground running. The learning curve is steep, but the issues – homelessness, crime, expanding the tax base and infrastructure – can't wait. If you haven't already, get out and vote like your future depends on it.



Matawa to build 21 transitional housing units

By TB Source staff

The Matawa tribal council will use millions in new provincial funding to create 21 transitional housing units in Thunder Bay.

The supported housing units are intended to help support Indigenous families in crisis, and will be open to people enrolled at the Matawa Training and Wellness Centre, the organization says.

Construction of the new units began in July and is scheduled to be finished by spring 2023, Matawa said.

The announcement of \$2.1 million in funding to support the project, drawn from the Social Services

Relief Fund, was announced by Municipal Affairs and Housing Minister Steve Clark during a visit to Thunder Bay on Monday.

He called the investment, administered through the Thunder Bay District Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB), an important part of his government's plan to expand the availability of affordable housing.

"Indigenous housing is a critical component of our commitment to build 1.5 million new homes over the next 10 years, which will ensure that all Ontarians, especially our most vulnerable, have a home that meets their needs and budget," he said.

Rosemary Moonias, president of

Matawa's board of directors, said the new units will help connect families in crisis with a variety of supports.

"It's very important," she said. "We have so many families that are in great need here in the community of Thunder Bay."

"The families that are coming here, a lot of times they're struggling, because it's hard to find affordable housing. Coming into the city, they're not familiar with all of the services that are offered. We'll be able to provide services in one location and meet all of their needs – social, mental health, everything."

The training centre, located at the former Dawson Court facility on Algoma Street, will include a trades

school, secondary school courses, and family programming.

Residents will have access to laundry facilities and a community kitchen for three daily meals. Available programs will include cooking lessons, job training, life skills, financial literacy training, traditional and cultural activities.

Jody Davis, the vice chair of the DSSAB's board of directors, said in a statement the city badly needs more supportive housing options.

"This is a major success for our housing and homelessness service system. For many people, housing is not as simple as having a roof over your head. Some people aren't ready to live independently or need more

supports... to help them thrive."

Along with funding for 12 other supportive housing units announced through Matawa earlier this year, the DSSAB and Matawa have partnered to create 33 new transitional housing units this year, he said.

Thunder Bay-Atikokan MPP Kevin Holland, had words of praise for the project.

"I am pleased that our government is following through on our promise to get shovels in the ground for projects such as this," Holland said. "This commitment will help the most vulnerable in our society, as well as those from Indigenous communities in the north. This project is long overdue."

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Advertisers gear up for space

By JR Shermack

Advertisers are about to take a giant leap into the commercial space race using advanced technology, unbridled ambition and outrageous proposals.

Space entrepreneurs and multi-billionaires, including Elon Musk, are looking to the sky to provide advertising opportunities for their customers and additional billions for themselves.

Several companies around the world are developing the potential for advertising in space and a few cosmic options have already been explored.

One proposal by Space Marketing Inc. called for the launch of a one kilometre square illuminated billboard into low Earth orbit to display ads from futuristic companies.

Alas, it would have been as bright as the moon and visible with the naked eye but in the end the money ran out that particular space billboard was never launched.

In the late 1980's the Russian space program proposed the

Znamaya project, which would position satellites in space to reflect and beam sunlight back to the polar regions of Earth.

That project was abandoned amid skepticism after a failed launch of the Znamaya rocket.

France proposed a 'tasteless advertising stunt', sending a 15 mile ring of Mylar balloons into low Earth orbit, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Eiffel Tower.

The "Ring of Light" project would match the moon for both size and brightness but it was cancelled in response to widespread international outrage.

In spite of these failures there have been many successful attempts to exploit space by turning the sky into space for rent.

In 2000 Pizza Hut ventured into space by having its logo painted on the side of a Russian proton rocket headed for the International Space Station.

This logo launch was viewed by 500 million people around the world and a year later Pizza Hut

delivered a six-foot salami pizza to the ISS - mind you, it took a year of planning to get it there.

The '30 minutes or its free' deal does not apply to deliveries in outer space.

In 1996 the strapped for cash Russian Space Agency made a deal with an American company, Pepsi Cola - \$300 million to film a Pepsi ad in outer space.

While two cosmonauts were on a space walk outside the Mir space station they filmed a cola commercial, weightless in space with an oversized replica of a Pepsi can.

Maybe one day it will be the official cola of the cosmos.

But in the meantime a Canadian company, Geometric Energy Corporation, is teaming up with SpaceX to place an advertising CubeSat (small satellite) into orbit.

One side will have a pixelated display screen where advertisers, artists or anyone else can buy space for their illustrations and messages.

The satellite will use an attached selfie stick to livestream the footage back to Earth - for more details call

Mr. Musk.

Space advertising is just in its infancy and there's no telling what innovations will be cluttering the skies of the future.

There may be images projected onto clouds floating by, huge orbiting commercial billboards lighting up the sky or even a commercial logo projected on the surface of the moon.

When it comes to space advertising the sky really is the limit

Savvy politicians now use social media to get their message across in addition to traditional door-to-door canvassing and good, old-fashioned lawn signs.

During our municipal election when I see signs festooned all over the city I think to myself, "How quaint that we keep that tradition alive."

Because once the cosmos is open for business, savvy politicians will be sending their messages via the great billboard in the sky.

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October 21/22

Thunderwolves Hockey

The Lakehead Thunderwolves were 1-1 on opening weekend on the road last weekend and are looking for a little more offense this weekend as they kick off their home-ice schedule against the York Lions at Fort William Gardens on Friday and Saturday night. Game time is 7 p.m. each night.

October 24

Election Day

If you haven't yet done so, Monday is your last chance to cast your ballot to have your say on city council and school board elections.

For full results, watch Thunder Bay Television's two-hour show, simulcast on TBNewswatch, beginning at 8 p.m. on Monday night.

October 22

Halloween Drag Show

Pink Mafia Productions presents the

HalloQueen Drag show at the Westfort on Saturday night. Doors open at 9 p.m. and the show begins at 10:45 p.m.

Tickets are \$7 with a Halloween costume and \$10 without. There are prizes for the best costume and a door prize. Featuring Lily Corangie-Tremayne, Jenny in a Bottle, Yeti Couture and more.

October 22

Afroman in concert

Best known for his 2000 hit, Because I Got High, the American rapper, singer and songwriter will be performing Saturday night at NV Music Hall. The Grammy-nominated artist released a new album, *Lemon Pound Cake*, earlier this year.

Tickets are \$45 in advance and \$70 for a VIP meet-and-greet.

The doors open at 8 p.m. and Afroman is scheduled to hit the stage an hour later.

October 21

TBSO Hilldale Classics 1

Joined by Canadian tenor extraordinaire Justin Stolz, we explore the evolution of musical traditions and how they manifest themselves today. Opening with CPE Bach's Symphony No. 2, we hear the beginnings of the classical symphonic tradition.

Danika Loren's innovative composition continues in the lineage of Richard Strauss' famous lieder genre, updating it for 21st century audiences. Coulthard's "Quebec May" demonstrates the establishment of new Canadian traditions, and Beethoven's 7th symphony caps off the concert as the symphonic tradition introduced by CPE Bach comes full circle.

The show takes place at 7:30 p.m. on Friday night at Hilldale Lutheran Church.

Tickets are \$70, plus fees, and are available through Ticketmaster or the Auditorium box office.

HOW TO WRITE TO 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: **THUNDER BAY SOURCE**
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WEEKLY POLL QUESTION.

THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Should the city abandon the ward system ahead of the 2026 municipal election?

TOTAL VOTES: 1,067

YES 55.11% **NO** 33.65% **DON'T KNOW** 11.25%



John Collins owns Daytona's Restaurant.

Common sense for Collins

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

John Collins says when the going gets tough, that's when he's at his finest.

Best known as the owner at Daytona's Restaurant, Collins has offered his name up as a candidate in Westfort, looking to bring his can-do attitude to Donald Street as part of a wholesale turnover of council in 2022.

Collins said he's been involved in community service for the past 45 years, including sitting on the board of St. Joseph's Care Group and as the Kiwanis Club president for western Canada. He said he's been urged to run for years and finally decided to take a stab at municipal politics.

"A lot of people I know, who know my business and know the community side of me, say I would

be a great addition to council," Collins said.

"I have a common-sense approach to what I do. In business, I know what it costs to do business. I know the idea of having to make payrolls, meet deadlines and know if you have to put off decisions, nine times out of 10 it'll cost you more money."

The biggest issue he's hearing at the door is that no one on council will listen to them.

That's going to change if he gets elected, Collins said.

"It seems like they get elected and then they don't have any time for (voters), or they want to be on so many different committees that they don't ever get back to them. The one thing I've done in my business life, which I'm going to do in my political life, if I get elected, is every single person that

wants it is going to have my personal cell number."

Green spaces and more things for seniors and kids are keys to his plans for the ward itself.

"My wife and I drive around and there's not a park bench, so if you have seniors going walking, there's no place for them to sit. I think that Brown Street, Edward, Frederica, that sort of corridor, there's room for more business in there - but not competing business.

"We don't need four more hairdressers set up there or four more restaurants. But we need compatible businesses."

Collins also wants to be the voice of fiscal reason on council, someone who looks at the big picture. Spending \$20 million on a project, one that comes with a million dollars in annual costs,

might not be the best use of taxpayer dollars, he said.

"If taxes keep going up, I think that's going to be a very dangerous thing over the next few years."

Collins is not against the concept of an indoor turf facility, but said he is against spending \$40 million of taxpayer money to build one.

There's got to be a more affordable option, he said.

"I think most people who are running are in favour of the idea, but not necessarily the cost. We have to look at the infrastructure we've got going on and where is the dollars going to be for the taxpayers over the next few years.

Inflation is running a little high right now and if that doesn't come down, it's going to affect taxes and everybody's dollars at home," Collins said.



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OCTOBER 20TH & 27TH

VOLLEYBALL

NOVEMBER 10TH, DECEMBER 1ST,
JANUARY 5TH, JANUARY 19TH, FEBRUARY 9TH
OCTOBER 20TH & 27TH

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Corbett wants council change

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Alan Corbett says change can't come soon enough at city hall.

It's the No. 1 reason why he's put his name forward to run in the Westfort Ward, wanting to be part of a new-look city council over the next four years.

"I honestly believe that we can't go forward without better work with our police department, better work on the street with our raging social issues. I'm not saying that council did not do anything, but I do feel like it's time for us to have some new voices, some renewed effort," said Corbett, owner of Kontrol Media Studios, a multi-media start-up, as well as being a parent and entertainer.

Westfort born and bred

A lifelong Westfort resident, Corbett said the problems facing Thunder Bay run deep, starting with law enforcement.

"We have a major situation with our police department, as every-



Alan Corbett says the problems facing Westfort residents run deep, starting with police.

body knows. And until we fix some of these issues, I don't think we can have a safe community or

a community that's working toward the future, really."

As for Westfort itself, Corbett

said the neighbourhood deserves a little more attention from the politicians circling the table on Donald Street.

It's been left to its own devices for far too long, he said.

"I feel like there's a lot of things that take place over here in terms of maintenance that wouldn't be an issue if it was near the waterfront," Corbett said. "I'm all for the waterfront, but I know a lot of the residents down here are disappointed in that."

Corbett added he believes most of the same social issues facing the rest of the city are also prevalent in Westfort. Until they are handled, progress will likely elude both the ward and the city as a whole.

It starts with social issues, like homelessness, mental health and addiction.

"We've got to really pay better attention. Things like the SOS program has been shuttered and we absolutely need outreach on the street. I don't necessarily have

all the solutions, but I think it starts with zoning bylaw changes, in terms of families taking care of their own."

He's also intrigued by the idea of building tiny homes to help address the homeless issue.

"We definitely need to find a home for these people."

Cost containment

When it comes to major infrastructure projects, in particular the indoor turf facility, like many candidates, Corbett said he's all for the idea, but not at any cost.

"My only thing is the city has major cash flow issues. I know we have in the area of a \$30-million infrastructure deficit. So I think until we manage some of these other issues that we [do] not necessarily need to cancel the turf facility - I do feel there's a value to it - but maybe look at how we're approaching it and maybe go with a lower-cost facility," Corbett said.

"But we definitely need to put it on hold for the time being."

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Public can give COVID-19 feedback

By TB Source staff

Members of the public are getting a chance to weigh in on the City of Thunder Bay's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The city has launched an internal review of its emergency response, looking at the measures it implemented, the process and the procedures it adopted.

A key component of the review involves gathering external feedback from the community through an online survey and focus group sessions.

"As we followed government mandates which impacted our programs and services, we were guided by our established emergency plans. It's important we now review our actions to strengthen successful processes and identify lessons to be applied in future emergency management plans," said Fire Chief Greg Hankkio

He said it's important to hear from residents because "they were the ones directly impacted by our response."

The consultants will collect the feedback from the public, stakeholders and the internal review to prepare a report with recommendations to city administration.

The online survey is available at www.thunderbay.ca/GetInvolved until Oct. 31.

Oliver honoured to run

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Four years ago, Kristen Oliver upset long-time Westfort Coun. Joe Virdiramo to earn a seat on city council, bringing years of government lobbying experience to Thunder Bay's Donald Street chambers.

In 2022, she's the one with the target on her back.

Oliver, a senior advisor on municipal affairs and stakeholder relations with Enbridge, said the present term of council managed to accomplish a lot since being voted into office in 2018, calling it a privilege to serve the city and the ward.

"I think collectively, working with the community, we have made some great strides and some improvements and I just want to see us continue on with that," Oliver said, explaining why she's seeking a second term on council.

Several committees

A member of the intergovernmental affairs committee, the Thunder Bay District Board of Health, the Thunder Bay Crime Prevention Council, Oliver was also a member of the Thunder Bay Police Services Board, a controversial term that saw her under fire and the board facing human rights complaints, filed by a fellow board member.

Oliver ultimately resigned her seat in protest after an adminis-



Kristen Oliver was first elected to city council four years ago. (Leith Dunick)

trator was appointed to temporarily oversee its operation.

Asked about how to address the social issues facing the city, Oliver said police can't be the only solution. They're just a Band Aid, she said.

"We need to see more investments in this community around mental health facilities, detox centres, drug addiction facilities, that type of thing. I think police are doing what they can. It's lips

above the water line. We're certainly seeing this on a daily basis. They're making major drug busts. They're taking gangs off the streets, yet the drugs continue to flow through the community because we have lots of users."

Oliver also wants to focus on improving Westfort's infrastructure and tackle both community safety and homelessness over the next term of council.

"I think we're also looking at

quality of life, infrastructure and how do we improve that and become a community that people are proud to live in, as well as attracting new community members, too," Oliver said.

Top of mind for many voters is the currently shelved indoor turf facility, a project Oliver voted to move forward during her first term on council - but one's whose future she is reconsidering heading into a possible second.

Supports facility

"I'm in full support of it, when it came time for that tender I had some grave concerns about it, also knowing we have supply chain issues and there were going to be problems getting materials, which would likely stall the project, which in turn would cost even more," she said.

"So how do we find a way to make the indoor turf facility happen, but in a more cost-restraining mechanism? I've been talking with users of an indoor turf facility and they're looking at ways to make that project move forward with a better price tag."

Oliver said she'd also like council to put pressure on other levels of government to get a larger share of the municipal fiscal allotment, rather than expecting local taxpayers to foot the entire bill for many services that have been downloaded to the city in recent years.

Iqbal Khan

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Tommasini will fight for voters

Former New Blue candidate frustrated over lack of answers during pandemic

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

David Tommasini, like many others, was frustrated during the pandemic.

He watched as stores like Walmart remained open, but small businesses were closed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

When his kids asked why the disparity, Tommasini didn't have an answer.

At least not one that made any sense to him.

As he searched for the answers, the picture became clear - become part of the solution and work that change from within.

The Westfort candidate said if he's elected in 2022, he wants to stand up for the little guy.

"I have a son in university and my daughters are on their way, but at the same time, I'd like to show them an example that maybe common people can stand up and try to make a difference in the city. This is why I'm standing up and why I ran for the New Blue [Party]," said Tommasini, a candidate in the recent provincial election in Thunder Bay-Atikokan.

Safety for families and children in Westfort, taxation and bringing more jobs to the city are his top priorities moving forward.

"It's really important to me and employment is really important to me. The rest of the world is going crazy and hopefully we don't put any more onus on the citizens, to the taxpayers. I really don't like that idea, because it's coming down so heavy - the groceries and the gas price and everything else has gone crazy," he said.

"Hopefully the city doesn't follow suit with that and if I can say no to a few things - because I'm sure they're going to try to stronghold me into that - I'll say no when it's time to say no. I just want to be right and do right."

That said, Tommasini isn't opposed to an indoor turf facility, but said it doesn't need to come with a price tag in the tens



David Tommasini will stand up for the little guy.

of millions of dollars.

"It's a good idea. I like promoting sports. But the thing is, can the taxpayer afford it? I don't know where they're getting the funding for it, but if the funding is there and we can get other funding for other spots, like maybe the casino ... maybe we can utilize that toward the facility."

Tommasini said he knows full well the extent of crime in the city and said he'll push for more police officers on the street.

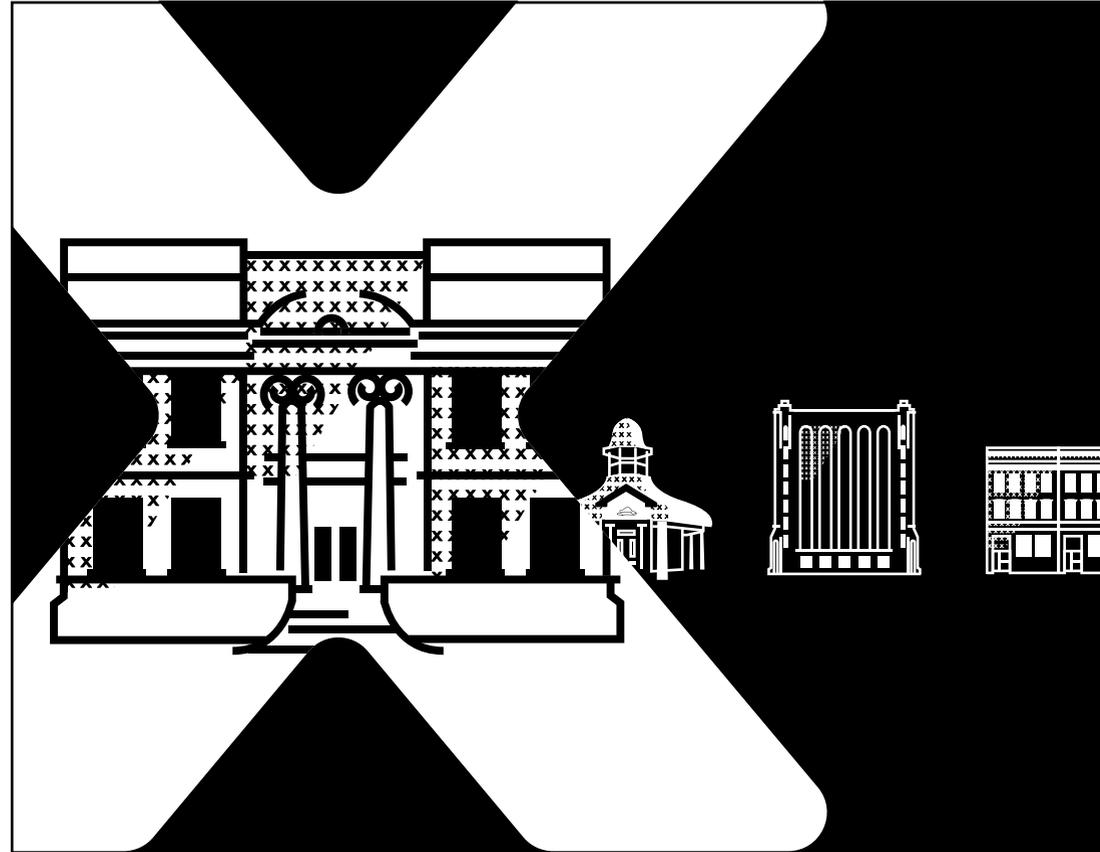
"If you leave your car door open, everything is going to be missing. I actually got my car stolen. But at the same time, I think we need more policing. I think we're not funding them enough," he said.

New blood is never a bad thing and Tommasini believes he brings a number of qualities to the Westfort race that could serve residents well.

"I'm logical and ... logic is not on the table very often. It's a lot of emotions and I prefer to see more logical answers instead of emotional answers."

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Ford voice for youth

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Brad Ford says its time to let millennials take the reins at city council.

The 29-year-old, who brings an automotive background to the municipal election race, is one of six candidates in the running to fill Brian McKinnon's Red River seat, after the long-time councillor decided to retire after 16 years.

A resident of the ward for 21 years, he's said he's up to the task.

"I was born and raised in Thunder Bay," he said.

"I figure I've got some actual young blood in the game. It's time to get some real change actually happening - not just saying you're going to do it, but following through. We've had many iterations of previous council saying one thing, but going off and doing the other. It's time to fix that."

Too many councils have focused on legacy projects, such as a proposed \$46-million indoor turf facility, or previously, a \$114-million event centre.

"They've also focused too much on special interest groups and I feel elected officials are stepping away from what their primary duty is, as an elected official, which is to represent their constituents," Ford said.

"With that being said, I feel I represent the younger generation, the blue-collar generation. I don't really bow to too much external pressure, especially the last few years. At the end of the day people just want someone who can stand for them in a strong manner, not being spineless."



BRAD FORD

There's also too much flip-flopping on council and no real desire to stand behind anything, which leads to nothing getting done, he said.

"Too many people have gotten accustomed to the flip-flop. We're seeing taxes going up, we're seeing infrastructure crumbling, we're seeing crime spiralling out of control, and we've got to address these issues head-on," Ford said.

At the moment, Ford says the top issue is split between crime and infrastructure.

"River Street has been closed for how many months now? That's an arterial road. That's a main thoroughfare that takes you into downtown, and now you're having increased traffic on the secondary streets and homeowners are not having it," Ford said.

On the crime front, Ford said the criminals are getting more and more brazen.

"They're getting bolder. Where does it end?" he said.

He'd like to see more prominence given to beat patrols, as a way of keeping crime out of neighbourhoods.

Ford is also opposed to the city building its own indoor turf facility. It's not necessary, he said.

"They've turned down private-sector proposals on more than one occasion. What's wrong with the private sector? Why can't we actually get the construction jobs going? Let's face it, the tradespeople in this city are having a mass exodus. They don't want to stay here," Ford said.

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Marsh will put ward needs first

By Leith Dunick TB Source

James Dean Marsh says he's ready to become a full-time city councillor, putting the needs of those living in the Red River Ward first.

The 59-year-old retired machinist and electro-mechanic is no stranger to the municipal ballot, having run previously in 2014.

His primary focus is fixing the city's infrastructure and ensuring Thunder Bay doesn't fall any further behind in its upkeep.

"For decades our city's infrastructures have been neglected and have now got to the point where expensive remediation of infrastructure failure is commonplace," says Marsh on his supplied profile on the Thunder Bay Votes website.

"Looking after those infrastructures is my expertise and I can concentrate my efforts full-time to pinpoint corrective action to save tax dollars and avoid costly increases. This will free up funds

that can be relocated into projects that make our city better."

It's far more important to spend taxpayer dollars on needs, not wants, Marsh said.

"Concentrating on the city's needs instead of legacy projects is more important than ever. With increased labor costs due to a smaller available workforce, increased material costs, and a high rate of inflation, this and next year, any huge legacy builds should be put off until these conditions level off," he said

"With the growing infrastructure gap, we need to concentrate and put our resources toward lessening that gap to make it more sustainable. Council should have to prove they could budget to look after the infrastructures we already have, before adding to that infrastructure."

Marsh, on his own website, said he also wants to give the people of Thunder Bay a say on matters of importance, even the little things.

"You shouldn't have to wait for a

plebiscite to vote on issues like the indoor turf facility. You will be one text, message, or call away from having your input steer the direction of council," said Marsh, who after the 2014 election created the Facebook page Thunder Bay City Council - We Have Had Enough.

"Almost every decision made by council in the past eight years has been critiqued there. Praise was given when it was deserved. Most importantly though, over 4,000 voices have a venue to be heard and will continue to be heard going forward. People not only want to be heard, they demand it, and most importantly, they deserve it," Marsh said on his campaign site.

A father of six, Marsh and his wife have also acted as foster parents to many more children over the past two decades.

"This helps us stay in touch with what our city has to offer the young, and more importantly, where it lacks," he said.



James Dean Marsh is running for the second time in Red River, the first time since 2014.

Flair to resume flights on Nov. 1, adding Ottawa

By Gary Rinne - TB Source

Travellers between Thunder Bay and Ottawa will be able to fly non-stop via Flair Airlines starting next year.

Flair has announced plans to launch jet service between Thunder Bay and the nation's capital in June 2023.

Flights will be two times a week, using Boeing 737 MAX aircraft.

Flair's chief commercial officer, Garth Lund, says the company expects a good response from the



Flair Airlines stopped flying to Thunder Bay when the main runway repairs began.

public.

The Edmonton-based low-fare airline entered the Thunder Bay market in 2021 with flights to and

from Toronto.

"We already have some idea of the airport and the market. The community, I think, has been a

good partner to Flair over the last couple of years," Lund told Thunder Bay Source.

"Based on the good demand we see between Thunder Bay and Toronto, as well as some other data that we're looking at, we do expect we'll be able to stimulate demand between Thunder Bay and Ottawa."

Flair was forced to put service in Thunder Bay on hold last May when the rehabilitation of the primary runway at Thunder Bay Airport began.

That project is now finished, so Flair flights will resume on Nov. 1.

"It's great to see that the runway work has now been completed...we're very excited to be re-entering Thunder Bay, and I would also highlight that we have some very attractive fares in the market," Lund said.

This winter, there will be two weekly flights, but the company recently announced that it will increase frequency between Thunder Bay and Toronto to four times a week next summer.

Elect
Gloria Gabrijelcic
Separate School Board Trustee



"A good education supports the needs of individuals and provides the foundation for future success. I would like to be a part of that process."

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Paid for by Martin Rukavina

Rukavina wants city hall reform

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Martin Rukavina wants to create a more responsive government at city hall, one that's open to the change he believes Thunder Bay needs.

Municipal governance reform, zero-based budgeting, reining in sprawl and modernizing the city's administration are among the planks in his campaign platform, running for councillor in Red River Ward, a seat soon to be vacated by long-time representative Brian MacKinnon who is retiring after 16 years at the helm.

"I'm really putting my name forward because I've got a lot of skills and experience in terms of helping to co-develop and engage on initiatives. And I think that skillset can really help move the city forward and help with planning," said Rukavina, also promising to push council to adopt the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce's City of Actions as guiding principles for council.

Rukavina, who spent three years working with Indigenous groups



Martin Rukavina says he wants to be part of a city hall open to change. (Leith Dunick)

to help them design a child-welfare framework, said roads, specifically River Street, is the biggest Red River issue heading into the election. The road has been closed for repairs for months and it's starting to wear on residents, he said.

"Obviously issues and errors happen and accidents occur as well, but we've really got to make sure we've got a plan for winter and make sure we've got some diversion with respect to that street," Rukavina said.

"We have to make sure we've

got some temporary bus stops. And also we have to plan for snow, because some of those streets are very narrow and it's going to be a tricky thing in terms of actually addressing snow removal."

Longer term, Rukavina said the No. 1 issue has to be crime and safety.

The solution needs to be conducted compassionately, and the city needs to ensure there are proper mental health and addiction services for those in need.

"We also have to make sure there's supportive housing, but we also need to get rid of the gangs and drug dealers that are coming to this city as well," he said.

Rukavina pointed to the community safety and well-being plan implemented by Thunder Bay Police, but said council can also be a guiding force too.

"I think council can be a bit of a convenor, to make sure we're bringing the right agencies and supports to the table, but also having the conversation with the provincial and federal govern-

ments about why Thunder Bay needs resources, and why we're so different relative to other municipalities within the province."

Rukavina, like many candidates, says he's in favour of some sort of indoor turf facility, but not necessarily one that comes with a \$46-million price tag.

"I would say a little less extravagant is where I sit. I think kids deserve a place to play. It's really essential. I think we've got seven times the diabetes rate in Northwestern Ontario relative to any other place. If we don't address recreation, we're creating issues," Rukavina said.

"I think looking at something that's already within the allocation that the city already has is great. I think we can also pursue some other investment opportunities, either through NOHFC or FedNor to make sure we're leveraging things in the proper way. I also support a private-sector opportunity as well."

The latter would have to be accessible to everyone, including lower-income families, he said.

Suutari wants council transparency

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Kathy Suutari caught the political bug earlier this year, when she ran for the New Blue Party in the 2022 provincial election.

As she knocked on doors and spoke to the people of Thunder Bay-Superior North, the issues came bubbling forward.

"I didn't win in the provincial election, and I wasn't expecting to," Suutari said. "But I learned a lot, and it just drove me to run at it more in this one. I think a lot of our problems start off in our region and in our cities, and we need to work on the problems.

"We have a homeless situation, we have a fentanyl situation, we have tent cities growing in my backyard and I think we need to deal with the basics and not worry about spending money on special projects. That money can be helping the situation

we've created and that we've never really dealt with over the 10 years that I've lived in Thunder Bay."

Suutari said crime and drugs, which go hand in hand in her mind, are the top issues facing voters in Red River Ward, where she is one of six candidates on the ballot.

"The violent crime index in this city is 176.1, which is higher than Winnipeg. We had a 44 per cent increase in sexual assaults from the end of 2021. And we're not even telling people these things," she said.

"I don't know that council can actually fix the problem, but it comes from our policing system as well. We have become a society where socialism has become the predominant language of any election. We have to be very careful what we say about people because it could be construed as racism. I really think the police have to be allowed to do their jobs."

Suutari said there has to be better use for police time than transporting criminals to and from hospital or handing out COVID-19-related fines.

The council hopeful said if she's elected, she won't make any decisions without getting the will of the people of her ward behind her first.

This includes any talk of an indoor turf facility.

Council has already shelved a \$46-million plan, but is expected to weigh its options moving forward in the coming term.

Suutari said now is not the time. "We have money issues. The city is not equipped to spend all kinds of money to support new projects. My campaign is solely dealing with prior issues that never got resolved or looked at. It doesn't mean I'm not for it down the road. I'm just not for it right now. We have alternatives that were brought forward. We can deal with them right now."



Kathy Suutari ran for the New Blue Party in the recent provincial election. (Leith Dunick)

Veltri ready to make a difference

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Jason Veltri has never been afraid to speak his mind and stand up for what he believes in.

As the head of the Rainbow Collective, he's advocated for Thunder Bay's LGBTQIA2S+ community, while also speaking out for a wide range of causes. He said he's ready to do the same for residents of Red River Ward, the city council seat he's seeking alongside five other candidates.

Among the issues he's eager to take on are the need to address mental health and addictions, better long-term planning for infrastructure renewals, traffic calming measures in neighbourhoods, and reconciliation and building partnerships with Indigenous people and communities.

"I ran because I feel I can make a difference," Veltri said. "Having been around the council table, making deputations and seeing policy change through and working with administration through that, I feel I can take the next step, sitting around the big table and advancing



Jason Veltri has been a community activist and wants to fight the same way for Red River.

issues from there.

"For me it's about equity and trying to get folks ahead and removing those barriers to success and

everyone gets a fair chance to succeed."

Mental health and addiction is the top issue Veltri said he's hearing as

he knocks on doors throughout the north-side neighbourhood.

It's coming up as a topic of conversation at every second door, he said.

"I've knocked on over 3,000 doors already and that is the No. 1 issue. With that comes crime. But when we talk about mental health and addiction, we're talking about how we're criminalizing people for their substance use, that they can't help," Veltri said.

"If we stop criminalizing people and get them the help they need – that means detox beds, transitional housing, wraparound supports that are desperately needed, that the province and feds have to step up and provide their fair share – then we'll start addressing the issue of mental health and addiction."

In Red River itself, Veltri said he'd start by advocating for a splash pad. "We're the only ward in the city that doesn't have one... Traffic calming is another big one I'm hearing, especially in Mariday Park and River Terrace. Speeding is an issue, with kids playing out on the streets and in the front yards.

Families want speeding to be dealt with."

A lifelong sports fan, Veltri said he does support an indoor turf facility, but not at Chapples Park.

"I'd like to see an LU Hangar style facility built at the CLE, somewhere around \$20 million to \$25 million is comfortable for me and comfortable for my voters in Red River ... It has to be built."

He's also in favour of building a proposed transitional housing unit, which some in the ward opposed because of its location.

"I've stood behind that and I think that's a key piece to helping the problem."

"But again, I think it starts with all of us. We've got to take an active role, both political will and community role to sit down and actually communicate about the problems that we have in our community," Veltri said, adding he'll lobby the province to commit more money to the city.

"We've got to stop the source of supply into our community ... and providing a safe access to supply. Those are going to save lives."

Holiday Train returning

By TB Source staff

The Canadian Pacific Holiday Train will be back on the rails this season on its first cross-continent tour in three years.

Virtual concerts were held the past two years due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The train raises money, food and awareness for local food banks in the communities where it stops.

In the Northwestern Ontario portion of the tour, entertainment will be provided by Tenille Townes and Aysanbee.

Townes is an award-winning singer, songwriter and musician from Grand Prairie, Alta.

Her acclaimed debut album was named Country Album of the Year at the 50th Juno Awards and Album of the Year at the 2021 Canadian Country Music Awards.

Aysanabee is an Oji-Cree songwriter from the Sucker Clan of the Sandy Lake First Nation.

He uses folk, soul and alt-pop to tell stories about his life and reconnecting with his roots.

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Dec. 2 at 11 a.m. at Heron Bay
Dec. 2 at 12:20 p.m. at Marathon
Dec. 2 at 2:45 p.m. at Schreiber
Dec. 2 at 5:30 p.m. at Nipigon
Dec. 2 at 8:30 p.m. at Thunder Bay
Dec. 3 at 9 a.m. at Ignace
Dec. 3 at 11:30 a.m. at Dryden
Dec. 3 at 1 p.m. at Vermilion Bay
Dec. 3 at 3:20 p.m. at Kenora
Dec. 3 at 5:10 p.m. at Ingolf



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Zussino wants new direction

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Michael Zussino says he wants to move the community in the right direction.

He has stressed that with a big, bold arrow on his lawn signs, but for Zussino, it's more than just a slogan. His campaign platform points to prioritizing spending to begin to cut down or eliminate the infrastructure gap, promoting the community to increase economic development and preparing the city to further adapt to climate change.

Zussino, an educator with the Catholic school board for the past 25 years, also believes that healthy people make for a healthy city, and will advocate to provide opportunities to improve both physical and mental health throughout Thunder Bay.

A long-time volunteer in the community too, Zussino said he saw an opportunity earlier this year when few candidates had signed up, a chance to make a difference in the community he's called home all his life.

"I thought, you know what, my kids are older, I have the time and I thought I could commit to this job. So that was the impetus for [running]. I want my kids to have a place they want to call home in the future. I've been involved in lots of things and there's stuff I'd



Michael Zussino has been an educator with the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board for the past 25 years. (Leith Dunick)

like to see pushed along in terms of an agenda in the city, and hopefully I can help push them along," Zussino.

He said the indoor turf facility has been the biggest topic of conversation while he's been out campaigning, one on which voters

are seeking a clear direction from the person for whom they vote.

Zussino said he does not favour a Chapples Park location, because of the ground conditions and one-way traffic.

"I think either behind the Complex where that baseball

diamond is located, or where the existing foundation is at the CLE area, that could be a potential area," he said. "And it doesn't need to be city-owned. It could be private. I haven't seen any of those proposals, so I'd like to see what they look like and go from there.

"But I think kids need something to do in the wintertime. I think people make it more grandiose than it needs to be. It needs to be a covered field that people can do stuff."

In the ward, he'd like to see the roadway and parking area at Hillcrest Park get spruced up a bit.

"It's one of our jewels and we need to put our best foot forward ... so I think that needs to be repaved, if possible."

Zussino said he sees council having a role in helping improve community safety, but said he wants to start with the selection of the city's new police chief and some resolution about the Thunder Bay Police Services Board and its internal issues, along with the implementation of trauma training for officers, before choosing a path forward.

"I think that will have to filter through before you can comment on that. You've done a consultation on this. I think you have to follow those steps and see how that goes."

Zussino sees homelessness as a two-part issue, one led by economics, the other by mental health. If the former, he wants the province to step up and create a more level playing field. If the latter, then supports must be built in, something for which council can advocate.

Care Bus may cease operations this year

Lack of funds cited as reason behind decision to end the crucial service

By TB Source staff

The Care Bus That Norwest Community Health Centre has operating for the past two years to help alleviate some of the struggles faced by people affected by homelessness may not be operating this year due to a lack of funding.

The Norwest Health Centre first launched the care bus in March of 2021, using a city transit bus to connect vulnerable people to services and providing care during the pandemic.

The pilot program was part of a call to action by the group Not One More Death, after several people died on the streets due to homelessness and the winter elements.

The care bus was equipped with harm reduction workers and supplies, along with nursing staff, and ran for four weeks that first year, then in year two, Kaspar Transportation provided one of its

buses and the care bus ran from December 2021 until March of 2022.

Norwest CEO, Juanita Lawson, says that they managed to afford to operate the care bus that second year because of support from the community as well as funding opportunities which allowed the bus to run for a four-month period.

"So, the Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre at that time in Northwest Community health centres as well had some had some available resources in terms of staffing and then as well through the Lakehead Social Planning

Council through some emergency funding that they had," she said.

"But now the care bus could be in jeopardy as there is currently no funding available to run it for a third year."

Lawson says that the care bus, like many local organizations, is facing tough decisions due to the amount of funding they receive.

"If you spoke to any community organization, people are doing an incredible amount of work with the resources and the funds that they have," she said. "[These] are just some realities of the needs in our community that are so great."

As of now, the care bus will not

be operating this winter as Lawson says that resources, which were more readily available to them during the pandemic, they no longer have easy access too, but she remains hopeful that something will change between now and when the real winter temperatures set in.

"To operate a service, you do need funding for this," she said. "I would say that you know through COVID we saw there was a number of opportunities for different funding to tap into and we are still looking, and we are still trying to assess whether we can operate the bus as well."

Bagdon wants to help homeless

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

If he's elected, Cory Bagdon will almost assuredly be the only council member in possession of an Astrophysics degree.

The McKellar Ward hopeful says it's the attention to detail required in the field - which includes analyzing data from large-scale telescopes staring deep into the universe to find out how it works - that makes him a perfect fit to be an elected official at the municipal level.

He said he's spent several years delving into the concept of democracy and feels like there might be a gap in the way elections are perceived in the public and how democracy really works.

"So I've really focused my campaign on getting people to vote, because I think that's the best thing

our community needs."

Dropping down to the ward level, Bagdon said more outreach is needed to the vulnerable communities, including the homeless, whose numbers have jumped to nearly 700 at last count.

That's troubling, he said, and unnecessary.

"We're seeing a lot of homelessness on the streets. We're seeing a lot of crime on the streets. I think these things need to be addressed.

"There's an addictions epidemic, an opiate crisis going on right now that I think is being undervalued within our social discourse, and I think we have to start taking steps to focus on those members of the community directly to find out what needs they need to get met. I think that will have an overreaching impact on the entire core," he said.

Seeing a program like Shelter House's Street Outreach Service being cancelled for lack of funding is also upsetting, he added.

"I think it's absolutely devastating. Those people on the ground, they are most in touch with the community members who need those resources. They know exactly what they need and how to deliver those resources, and it's devastating for them to have to leave because there aren't enough resources for them to provide those services," Bagdon said.

"Homelessness is more of a provincial issue, like housing, but I still think there should be ways where we can encourage and help these outreach programs connect with these valuable and vulnerable members of our community."

With the controversial indoor turf

facility still looming large, Bagdon said he recognizes the need for a facility, but said it's disappointing that council and the public can seem to agree that there is not enough space available.

"But I do think trying to go too far and building this state-of-the-art stadium with a restaurant and a mezzanine, I think we enter a point of diminishing returns for that investment. I think we're putting too much in and for the community, if we go beyond just resolving the needs the community has ... anything beyond that, the return on the investment won't be worth putting the money in," he said.

Bagdon said he leads by example, and promised to focus on building community and ensuring residents have access to public goods.



Cory Bagdon believes in strong democracy.

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BROCK BADGERS

DECEMBER 29TH, 30TH
WINDSOR LANCERS

JANUARY 6TH, 7TH
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JANUARY 20TH
GUELPH GRYPHONS

JANUARY 21ST
LAURIER GOLDEN HAWKS

JANUARY 28TH
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RAJNI AGARWAL

Experience: Realtor
Priorities: Affordable housing, increasing the tax base.
Turf facility: Yes, but not at current price.
Quote: "I had to move three women out of their homes because they couldn't afford to live there any longer - they weren't able to afford the heat, the hydro, and the taxes. They make \$1,300 a month, they're on a fixed income."
 "It was hard. No one should have to move out of their home when we have some of the most affordable housing in Canada."



ROB BARRETT

Experience: Shelter House, YES Employment, Consultant
Priorities: Public safety.
Turf facility: Yes, but with a much less costly design.
Quote: "I listen, I collaborate, and I'm very transparent. I will always call people back, I will always have a very real, honest conversation with them ... Sometimes we can't solve everything, and I would acknowledge that - but sometimes we can, and sometimes it doesn't cost extra money to do that."



MARK BENTZ

Experience: Teacher, four terms on council
Priorities: Downtown revitalization, civic pride.
Turf facility: Yes, only if it's affordable, wants private sector involvement.
Quote: "We've been through a couple of rough years. I'm really impressed with how things are progressing here with the cruise ships. The waterfront is coming along with the injection of funds from the feds and the province for the new Art Gallery, and Science North wants to locate there."



SHELBY CH'NG

Experience: Business owner, eight years on council, police services board
Priorities: Looking at infrastructure needs in the city.
Turf facility: Yes, but not at current \$46-million price.
Quote: "For far too long we've underfunded the police, which is one of the reasons why we're in this problem."
 "I think change is not coming, change is here, and it's happening and we need a council that's going to be adaptable and make decisions."



DAN COURTNEY

Experience: Thunder Bay Police officer, entrepreneur
Priorities: Diversify the economy, crime and infrastructure.
Turf facility: N/A
Quote: "We live in an area of unparalleled beauty, full of amazing, talented people yet need leadership that can face tough challenges and make logical decisions with such issues as crime reduction, road maintenance, infrastructure spending and build on the many positive changes that we have seen over the last few years."



MARILYN CULLY

Experience: Retired mental health nurse and realtor
Priorities: Mental health, infrastructure needs, especially the condition of Thunder Bay's roads.
Turf facility: Yes, less flashy using funds already in the bank.
Quote: "We need to get policemen in little offices in the worst crime areas in town, like a couple of them, for 24-hour service, so they can actually patrol the streets like they did in the past, you know, the olden days when they walked the beat."



KASEY ETRENI

Experience: Retired charge radiation therapist at TBRHSC, volunteer
Priorities: Crime, homelessness, addiction.
Turf facility: Yes, Hangar-style, using \$17 million already in bank.
Quote: "I have background in budgeting, I have background in research. My husband is also a business owner, so I have a bit of that experience too. My hospital experience is going to be critical to sitting on city council. It brings that diversity and a different voice to the table."



TREVOR GIRETUGA

Experience: Twenty-two years on council
Priorities: Taxes, crime, roads, economic development.
Turf facility: Yes, but work with private sector.
Quote: "People can tell you they're going to reduce taxes, but they need to tell you how they're going to do it. I propose continuously that we give budget surpluses back to the residents in the form of a tax reduction the following year."
 "We take this much money to run the city and if we don't need it all, we keep it."



ROBERT GIRARDIN

Experience: Substitute teacher at the Thunder Bay Catholic Districts School board
Priorities: Jobs, housing and economic development.
Turf facility: Yes, but a more encompassing space leased to user groups.
Quote: "Housing is ridiculous. Inflation is crazy and we're entering a recession. Basically, if we want Thunder Bay to be a place where people want to live and people feel like they're actually getting ahead, we have to work on the economy."



JAMES GLAVISH

Experience: Retired postal worker
Priorities: Accessibility and homelessness.
Turf facility: Yes, in conjunction with a tennis facility.
Quote: "Winter is coming and (the homeless have) got to be looked after. People have to realize this and we have to find them a place to stay and live. There might be some vacant buildings we can turn into accommodations to support these people in transition through the winter, and then get them situated in other homes or apartments."



BOB HUPKA

Experience: Retired school board trustee, 11 as board chair, business owner for more than 10 years.
Priorities: Quality of life, increasing the tax base and community safety.
Turf facility: Yes, but scaled back, like LU's Hangar.
Quote: "The city already has \$18 million set aside for the turf facility, so I'm not in favour of a Taj Mahal-type facility and I would vote first term to get this going and get it for our youth, at an affordable cost."



SHANE JUDGE

Experience: Retired journalist, two-time mayoral candidate
Priorities: Lowering property taxes, fiscal responsibility, stopping new police building.
Turf facility: Yes, but only if its built and maintained by the private sector.
Quote: "The reason I'm running is I'm upset at the broad indifference of the last council to the toxic effect that having some of the highest property taxes in Canada has on, not only homeowners, but the entire community."



IQBAL KHAN

Experience: Business owner

Priorities: Lowering property taxes, attracting more jobs to Thunder Bay, including an electric vehicle battery plant and building a train line to connect Thunder Bay to other Northwestern Ontario communities.

Turf facility: Yes, but only if paid for outside of taxpayer dollars.

Quote: "My kids, they always say, 'Daddy, this city is really falling apart.' I have five kids and I see they have no hope, so I said I want to see what I can do."



TRACEY MACKINNON

Experience: Anti-poverty advocate, ran for Green Party provincially and federally

Priorities: Wants to put an end to poverty, mental health and addiction issues and homelessness.

Turf facility: Yes, but not a legacy project and not before roads and housing are fixed.

Quote: "I think we need to address, in our investment, roads and housing, whether it's in-law suites or granny suites, but we need more housing for the homeless to get people off the streets."



STEPHEN MARGARIT

Experience: Assistant to former MPP Michael Gravelle, several council committees

Priorities: Closing the Infrastructure gap and being responsive to constituents.

Turf facility: Yes, but a less expensive option.

Quote: "I ran four years ago. It was a great learning experience, but you know what? Four years later and we're dealing with some of the same issues, and I thought this time that we needed some new vision, we needed some younger people running on council."



JIM MAURO

Experience: Former police officer, union president.

Priorities: Getting a handle on the city's growing crime problem.

Turf facility: Yes, but it needs more study, new location.

Quote: "Any poll that's been out there has seemed to indicate that the public feels (crime is) a very important issue. It's something I've been talking about for 25 years, in terms of mental health and addictions, crime levels in Thunder Bay, levels of violence, and I think we need to deal with them."



DINO MENEI

Experience: Part-time farmer, former construction worker

Priorities: Supporting the business and homeless communities, fixing crime problem.

Turf facility: Yes, but maybe an all-purpose facility for other events.

Quote: "I think the (provincial) government should step up and pay a little bit more, but how can we wait?" he asked. "You can't put money on a life. If people need help, we gotta step forward, we gotta start doing it now and pay the bill, and ask the government to help us here."



ALLAN MIHALCIN

Experience: Owner, Twin City Refreshments, in business for 25 years

Priorities: Leadership at city hall, transparency, growth, economic development and public safety.

Turf facility: Yes, but something similar to Ottawa, which cost about \$20 million.

Quote: "We haven't had solid leadership for the last several years, and as a result, we have all of these issues that are surfacing and becoming very, very significant and need to be addressed."



DONNALEE MORETTIN

Experience: Hotel front-office revenue manager, former waterfront BIA coordinator

Priorities: Bolstering social services, fixing crime, revitalizing city's downtown south core.

Turf facility: Yes, scaled down from city's \$46-million plan.

Quote: We need to let the experts do their job, and we as city council gather that information and make the best possible decisions. Whether it's the sports plex, whether it's a round-about ... we need to go to the experts, which is city administration."



ADETUNDE OGUNBERU

Experience: Immigration consultant, degree in urban and regional planning

Priorities: Finding a way to end homelessness in Thunder Bay

Turf facility: Yes, but less expensive and not before other infrastructure priorities are met by the city.

Quote: "This city has made me who I am. It's helped me achieve all my dreams - business owner, homeowner, raising a family here. I just thought it was time for me to give back to the city that's given me a lot."



ADELINA PECCHIA

Experience: Singer, ordained pastor, Conservative candidate, 2021 federal election

Priorities: Main focus is crime and safety, roads and homelessness.

Turf facility: Yes, but not as proposed and now may not be the right time.

Quote: "We used to have the neighbourhood watch program. I personally would like to see something like a community watch program, where we're looking out for each other... and also have more community policing."



BRIAN PHILLIPS

Experience: Managed Victoriaville Mall, building manager

Priorities: Mental health, crime

Turf facility: Yes, maybe something more in line with Lakehead University's Hangar facility, usable for trade shows, etc.

Quote: "Let Thunder Bay grow the way it should grow. Give incentives to new companies (we) need to come in and help us grow, make this a tourism destination point for sure. We've missed out on a few things."



BRIAN TSUBOUCHI

Experience: Works at Lakehead Monuments, volunteers in curling and soccer communities

Priorities: Transparency, working with private sector, lowering crime rates.

Turf facility: Yes, but public-private deal

Quote: "Two of the things I really think need to be looked at are accountability, and we need to have transparency when we're dealing with the public. I think sometimes people get into those chairs and they forget all about the people that elected them."



MATTHEW VILLELLA

Experience: Educator at Confederation College, serves on Sister Cities committee

Priorities: Infrastructure, guns and gangs issue.

Turf facility: Yes, but doesn't need to be a \$46-million build at this time.

Quote: "We drive the roads and we hit the pot holes and cars are getting destroyed. We need to increase our tax base. We can't tap our residents (any more). So we need to bring in businesses to our community to increase our tax base."



Stephanie Danylko says she's uncensored in her honesty and said she wants to address crime and mental illness. (Leith Dunick)

Danylko always speaks her mind

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Stephanie Danylko promises to bring fairness, change, sustainability and transparency to city hall if she's elected to represent McKellar Ward on Oct. 24.

Uncensored in her honesty, the first-time candidate says politicians of the past have rarely been the answer for which people are searching. Those answers usually come from the grassroots, with community-driven ideas better serving the public than those dictated from above.

Danylko said she was inspired to run after realizing no one had yet put their name forward in McKellar, and that was concerning.

"Was there no one that cares, that wants to put themselves forward? I need to tell you, I'm not political whatsoever. But community is extremely important to me and I felt this fear and nervousness inside and I just knew I had to step up," she said.

"I was actually the first person who signed up for the ward."

Three others would follow, but Danylko believes her honesty and integrity help set her apart from the rest of the pack.

A union steward in her workplace who advocated for human rights at work and in the community, Danylko said she started hosting community pot luck dinners late in the pandemic, opening her doors to anyone who wanted to join in.

She also hosted community walks.

Looking at the ward, Danylko says her top issue is to work toward addressing mental illness and crime.

"And it's not just in my ward, it's everywhere. I feel it's important to be planting the seed that the people's voice is really important. A lot of people have the idea that I'm going to elect that person, and that person is the leader," she said.

"But the thing is, every single one of us is the voice. Every single one of us is a leader. We just need to stand up in our own integrity, in our authority, and we need to speak up. It's a good idea to be uncensored in our honesty."

Danylko is concerned that Thunder Bay is not united, that there's too much divisiveness and danger in the community.

"I grew up in a time when you got off the school bus and you met the kids in the park and you played. And it was safe. Now at this point, that's not the case anymore, and we need to address that. People are scared and they don't know their neighbours anymore and people just stay inside," she said.

Turning to the proposed indoor turf facility, Danylko said it's an important project, but before it goes ahead, the people of the community should have a say.

"This isn't just about one exclusive group being soccer," she said. "Soccer is very important, but what about everyone else. What about these other sports?"

"And then we have to ask ourselves, [are] a lot of low-income families going to be able to afford to go there? You might only be able to send your child there once or twice a year. I find that's exclusive and not inclusive, and we really need to address that."

Judge rules against long-term offender assessment

By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

A judge has ruled a man convicted of manslaughter in the death of Braiden Jacob who also pleaded guilty to aggravated assault for an attack at the Thunder Bay District Jail that sent another inmate to hospital should not undergo an assessment for a dangerous or long-term offender designation.

Jonathan Yellowhead, 26, appeared before Justice Danial Newton in court on Monday for a ruling on a motion submitted by the Crown last spring.

The assessment application was submitted as part of sentencing following Yellowhead pleading guilty to aggravated assault for his role in an attack on an inmate that took place at the Thunder Bay District Jail 2019.

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OCTOBER
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2 SAFETY

Clint Harris will push hard for urgent resources to tackle gangs, guns, human trafficking, and homelessness across the city. For Clint, this also means holding Provincial and Federal governments accountable for dealing with the outside gang activity terrorizing our streets and families.

3 LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Clint Harris wants to restore local pride in our neighbourhoods. It means better maintaining and fixing the crumbling roads, sidewalks, buildings, and parks that already exist. Most importantly, it means getting rid of archaic zoning by-laws so that Thunder Bay's neighbourhoods can grow and evolve to meet the needs of residents and businesses.

4 AFFORDABILITY

Clint knows it's crucial for the next Council to tighten its purse strings and reduce the spending burden on taxpayers. He promises to fight for no municipal tax increases in 2023 and to find new ways to better balance costs.

5 GROWING THUNDER BAY

As Mayor of Thunder Bay, Clint will work hard to restore Thunder Bay's relationships and reputation locally, provincially and nationally. By taking better care of local people and infrastructure, Thunder Bay can become a safer, healthier, and more affordable place to live, work and do business.

ON OCTOBER 24, VOTE FOR SINCERE LEADERSHIP. CLINTHARRISFORMAYOR.CA

Hamilton keys on infrastructure

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Brian Hamilton has never been afraid to march into the trenches.

He's volunteered at Evergreen: A United Neighbourhood serving as a mentor to neighbourhood youth and he's given his time to help the growing number of homeless people living in McKellar Ward, which he's represented for the past four years on city council.

There's still plenty of work to do, said Hamilton, explaining why he decided to put his name forward for a second term.

"There's the downtown revitalization projects in both cores. There are a lot of infrastructure projects that I personally want to see across the finish line, starting with Cameron Street. We just completed Wylie Street. We've rebuilt basically the entirety of the Dease Park neighbourhood," Hamilton said.

"So I want to make sure that these infrastructure investments continue and I want to make sure that council stays focused on building the infra-

structure of tomorrow.

"That means infrastructure that's more resilient to climate change and ultimately is going to service the needs of the future."

The issue on the minds of many of the voters Hamilton has been talking to is affordability, which also encompasses the city's addiction crisis, homelessness and lot of the social issues.

"They have a humongous impact on affordability and on taxes. That's something I know inside out, I took it very, very seriously. Since 2018 I've been out on the streets working with the people to understand the issues, working with organizations to make sure, first of all, that they feel supported, but that I understand the issue inside and out," Hamilton said.

"I'm the boots-on-the-ground candidate."

Hamilton said too often city councils of the past have looked at infrastructure needs in a non-holistic way. This needs to change, he said.



Brian Hamilton owns the Bean Fiend Cafe and has served one term on council. (Leith Dunick)

"We're not looking at what are we building today that we won't be able to build tomorrow. For example, we know Victoriaville is coming down. A lot of that work is un-costed for. A lot of that work we need to pay for and budget for. The waterfront district is getting rebuilt next year.

Those enhancements we want to do to the streetscape are going to be over and above our costs," Hamilton said.

"For my mind, even though the turf facility is a hot-button issue for a lot of people, and I want to make some moves there, I think we really have

to be mindful of our entire infrastructure needs portfolio. Part of that is the downtowns."

Hamilton also believes city council can have a major impact solving the crime and safety issues voters are concerned about.

Restructuring the bylaw division during the current term was a start, allowing for more bylaw officers to address complaints and free up police time.

"It was a critical step moving forward, but I really want to reiterate to the public that community safety is absolutely in the domain of the community," Hamilton said.

"Everybody has a role to play, whether it's from yard maintenance or what you can do to make your yard more beautiful. Engage in neighbourhood events. All those things that make a neighbourhood cohesive are ultimately in the domain of the public, and I think the public has to take a real look and if they want to define public safety, they're going to need to be a part of it."

Paras longtime community activist

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Over the years, Lori Paras has run a successful business and spent thousands of hours volunteering and fighting for the downtrodden as a community activist.

She's ready to take that experience to city hall, running as one of four candidates seeking the McKellar Ward seat.

Paras, who was 18th out of 26 candidates in the 2018 at-large race, said she's long had an interest in local politics and really got to know the issues in her last campaign four years ago. The political bug stayed with her.

"I didn't win that race, but I stayed involved in the community. I watched every council meeting over the past four years, except for about five. I'm a businesswoman. I've helped in the revitalization in the north side of the city and the south side of the city, which is what we're working on right now," Paras said.

"I'm a mother, I'm a grandmother, I'm a wife, I'm a community activist.



Lori Paras says she wants to be the voice for those who don't have a voice. (Leith Dunick)

What we tried to do during this campaign was let people know that I do more than community activities ... I feel like I'm a voice for those who don't have a voice. But I wanted them to see more of the business-woman side."

Among her efforts since 2018 was advocating to save Dease Pool, which ultimately failed, and she also spoke to council in deputations, asking them to postpone a planned \$46-million indoor turf facility.

"I'm in the yes column for an

indoor sports facility, but not when we were struggling through COVID and not at that price tag," Paras said.

There's no question crime, homelessness and addiction are the top two issues she's looking to solve should she be elected on Oct. 24.

They all go together, Paras said.

"That's top of the list for a lot of people. And second, of course, is infrastructure, the roads and plowing in the winter."

Being the McKellar Ward representatives means having to balance the needs of two distinctly different downtown cores.

Paras' restaurant was located in the north core, and she's proud of the revitalization taking place there, including a planned streetscape project on Red River Road.

"On the south side, yes it's been neglected. But I'm hearing that not only on the south side of the city, but I'm hearing it from north side businesses as well," she said. "They want to see the south side get its fair share. I've been with the Hub Bazaar

for eight years. It's slower. We've got to ensure Victoriaville gets the demolition that's needed and that Victoria Avenue East gets opened up.

"Then we can start on the revitalization then, having those components of political will, dollars and a great organization, say like DefSup, come and help us until we can reach that capacity."

Paras also wants to see revitalization efforts made at Kam River Park.

"You have to have that tourist attraction to draw people and so the Kam River Park is just a natural tourist attraction to be able to develop on the south side."

As for police, council has a role to let the police board know what it thinks police need, she said.

"And we need police on the street. We need community policing. Having that presence in the community is not just about arresting people, it's about getting to know community members and being proactive."

DesRochers says city missing out

Opportunities are being lost, says first-time candidate

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Brad DesRochers says he sees a lot of missed opportunities fall by the wayside in Thunder Bay.

He'd like to help the city land some of them, one of the main reasons he decided to put his name forward in Neebing Ward, looking to replace outgoing Coun. Cody Fraser, who decided to step aside after one term in office.

"There's a lot of potential that I feel that we're not capitalizing on, and I really think I'm in a position to seek some meaningful change in the city," DesRochers said.

As a civil engineer, he said he's big on infrastructure, an area that has him tremendously concerned looking at future expenses that will be needed.

"I look around and I see our infrastructure is crumbling and we really need to invest meaningfully in our infrastructure before

it becomes too late," he said.

"To facilitate this infrastructure improvement we need money. I think economic growth and development is a big [issue too], to really increase our tax base in order to pay for these improvements."

One piece of infrastructure on the minds of voters is the proposed indoor turf facility, which has an asking price of about \$46 million as presented most recently to council.

DesRochers said his wife plays indoor soccer, so he understands the need, the only time her league can find time being 10 p.m., which doesn't work for a teacher.

That said, he's not willing to break the bank.

"I think what was proposed isn't a viable solution. That price tag isn't something the city can digest right now. I think there are more economic alternatives, potentially private sector, to fill that service gap. But it's definitely a need that the city does have," DesRochers said.

Crime and safety is another topic being discussed at the door.

With a growing guns and gangs problem, residents of the city, even those in more rural Neebing Ward, aren't feeling safe.

DesRochers said Thunder Bay needs to take a proactive approach, rather than a reactive one.

"We definitely do need to invest in non-standard policing, try to eliminate or decrease the demand on our first responders and try to address the problem more at its roots rather than the first responders," he said.

When asked why voters should choose him above the other five candidates running in the ward, DesRochers said it's his unique perspective that sets him apart.

"I'm a very analytical thinker and I think it allows me to systematically look at a problem and come up with a unique and innovative solution," DesRochers said.

"With my background, I'm able to inform city council on some of the best aspects that may not be understood and some of the consequences to the problems that we have."



Brad DesRochers believes his analytical thinking skills will serve him well on council.

Video shows Indigenous man dragged

By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

A video depicting two Thunder Bay Police Service officers dragging an intoxicated Indigenous man into a cell was presented during the coroner's inquest into the deaths of Roland McKay and Don Mamakwa.

One of the officers depicted in the video said his actions were absolutely unacceptable but admitted it was a common practice in 2014.

"I think back then dragging people who were uncooperative was common place," said Const. Neal Soltys. "I think that's why I don't think many people were very shocked. Working as a police officer, you see things civilians don't see."

The video was presented to the jury on Monday, the fifth day of the inquest examining the circumstances surrounding the deaths of



The jail cell area at Thunder Bay Police headquarters on Balmoral Street. (Supplied photo)

McKay and Mamakwa.

Mamakwa, 44, of Kasabonika First Nation died on Aug. 3, 2014. McKay, 50, of Kitchenukemuncie First Nation

died on July 19, 2017. Both were in the custody of the Thunder Bay Police Service.

Thunder Bay police attempted to block the video from being

included in the inquest, with its legal counsel arguing it was irrelevant and outside of its scope.

Dr. David Cameron, presiding coroner for the inquest, disagreed in a March 2022 ruling, saying: "The question of whether racism, bias or stereotyping was a factor in Mr. Mamakwa's death should not be examined in a vacuum."

The surveillance video from inside the Thunder Bay Police Service headquarters booking room depicts the processing of Dino Kwandibens of Whitesand First Nation, who was arrested on the same day as Mamakwa on Aug. 2, 2014 for public intoxication.

Two officers can be seen dragging Kwandibens across the floor and trying to get him to sit up. Kwandibens appears unable to remain sitting up, and he is then dragged from the booking

room by his feet to the cells, hitting a garbage can near the door.

An officer can be heard saying: "Dino, stand up. Are you going to stand up or what? Walk like a man. You got drunk like a man so walk like a man."

Soltys, one of the officers seen dragging Kwandibens, testified that they were first dispatched to a North Cumberland Street area for reports of an intoxicated man. Fire crews were already on the scene and Soltys said they were conducting a medical assessment.

Kwandibens was conscious and walking on his own when taken into custody. Soltys said he attempted to contact the detox centre but no beds were available.

According to Soltys, Kwandibens said he wanted to go the hospital after learning no detox beds were available.

Tax hikes concern Halvorsen

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Debra Halvorsen counts being a small business owner as one of the many attributes and experiences that can benefit residents of Neebing Ward should she be elected to city council.

A grandmother of eight, Halvorsen said she didn't make the decision to run lightly, but after careful consideration and some prodding from family and friends, she realized joining the election race was something she was meant to do.

"Mostly because of the concerns of the rising taxes in Neebing Ward," she said. "We built our house more than 30 years ago in the Mountain Road area and within that time, our taxes have tripled, as well as the value of our house."

She's concerned that a looming MPAC reassessment, which hasn't happened since 2016, will only exacerbate the issue by setting higher valuation on people's homes.

MPAC concerns

If the tax rate isn't adjusted enough to reflect those new home values, residents could find themselves with a hefty tax increase.

"When they do reassess, if we don't keep the cost of services down, our taxes could rise significantly," Halvorsen said.

Drilling down to a ward-specific issue she's concerned about and wants to fix over the coming four-year term of city council, Halvorsen said infrastructure tops



Debra Halvorsen says she's concerned taxpayers won't be able to keep up if something isn't done to keep the tax rate down. (Leith Dunick)

her list.

"The roads in the Stanley Park area are in rough shape. Mountain Road doesn't have sidewalks and with the increase of houses being built, it's becoming more of a

safety issue with the children riding their bikes and walking on roads," Halvorsen said.

"Parkdale too only has one entrance, so that needs to be addressed with the number of

houses being built in that area."

Halvorsen says she would love to see an indoor turf facility built and added she recognizes big capital projects are sometimes necessary for the future of

Thunder Bay.

But taxpayer wallets are only so deep, she said.

"I would need to see more information about it and I'd have to see if it was feasible to work within the city budget and if we could possibly get other funding or grants for it," Halvorsen said.

Office experience

In addition to owning a business, Halvorsen has also worked at various office-related jobs over the course of her career, as well as serving on non-profit boards and committees.

"I do have experience chairing meetings and facilitating and organizing events. So I think these skills would be beneficial at the council table. Financial integrity is very important to me, and that's part of why I wanted to run, to help set the budget and the priorities of where money is being spent."

Crime and community safety is also important to her platform.

Halvorsen said she wants to see police establish more trust in the city.

But it's more than just boots on the ground, she said.

"I would like to see more bylaw officers and social service workers working in conjunction with police officers to free them up so they could actually focus on more crime. I also feel community safety could be a shared responsibility between programs like CrimeStoppers, Neighbourhood Watch and we used to have Block Parents."

Elect
Debra Halvorsen
 Neebing Ward Councillor



Committed & Caring

Elect
Matthew Vilella
 Councillor at Large



Johnsen focusing on ward trails

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Greg Johnsen said he's wanted to run for city council for some time, to advocate for people who might not otherwise have a voice.

With plenty of turnover expected in 2022 and an open seat in the Neebing Ward, the St. Patrick High School teacher figured there was no time like the present.

"I teach law, I teach philosophy and history at St. Pat's, and certainly it's a big difference talking about this material with high school students and actually walking the path, knocking on doors and engaging with residents," Johnsen said.

"But when I heard the outgoing councillor was giving up his post, so to speak, I thought now's the time to do it. It's always been a goal of mine. I'm passionate about the ward I live in, the area of the city I live in, and I'm really trying to see if we can get some of the things that other areas of the city have that we don't have."

Johnsen's list includes walking and

biking trails.

"My No. 1 mandate would be to get answers as to why areas like Boulevard [Lake] have fantastic playgrounds and fantastic walking routes and biking routes, and then you travel down the highway to our area of the city and we have very high property values, we pay a lot of property taxes ... and yet we're consistently left behind other areas of the city."

Johnsen said Neebing's playgrounds are old, bordering on decrepit. Meanwhile, Northwood got a brand new splash pad this year, which he fully supports, but still nothing for his ward.

"Neebing doesn't have a splash pad. There are no bike paths, there are no walking paths. The paths that are there are trampled over by residents to maintain them themselves," Johnsen said.

Johnsen is in favour of some sort of indoor turf facility, but doesn't think it's necessary to spend \$46 million to build one.



Greg Johnsen is a teacher at St. Patrick High School and wants to make a difference on council.

There are cheaper, better options out there, he said.

"There is money put aside by the city for it. I don't think it has to be a

Taj Mahal. It doesn't. I'd like to see it built in an existing building, retrofitting an area that is already up and active," he said. "I point to the

SkyDome. The Toronto Blue Jays didn't decide to build a brand new stadium, they decided to fix the one they have, and I think that's a good philosophy to have."

Crime and safety are also top of mind for voters in Neebing, Johnsen said. In fact, it's the No. 1 concern for many residents he spoke with during the campaign.

He hopes some of the recommendations put forward by an expert panel appointed to advise the Thunder Bay Police Services Board will help in that regard.

"I think we have to have some patience with the independent panel," he said. "They've got 50-something suggestions on what to do and ideas [of] what the new police chief should be and look like. It's a concern throughout our area of the province, and I think we also need to try to reach out to the federal government and certainly the province to find funding, to get some answers to get some help for this."

Kennedy brings youth perspective

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Shaun Kennedy wants to be the voice of youth on city council, bringing new ideas and a new perspective to city hall.

"City council needs a younger voice," he said, joking that in his mid-30s he's not super youthful, but would be well below the median age should he be elected on Oct. 24.

Politics, he said, has been in his blood most of his life.

"I've been passionate about this for years. My father was part of the public school board for a very long time and I've always been very interested in these kind of things. I think it's about time that a guy with some level-headed opinions finally steps forward and puts action to them," said Kennedy, a lifelong resident of Neebing Ward, where he's one of six hopefuls looking to take over the soon-to-be-vacated seat.

A graduate of Lakehead University who works in the agricultural sector working on capital projects that provide economic benefit to



Shaun Kennedy wants to keep an eye on new housing developments in Neebing. (Leith Dunick)

Thunder Bay, Kennedy said he wants to keep an eye on new developments happening in the ward.

"I know it's a concern for a lot of residents, particularly involving increases in traffic and public safety

in general. But I think if they're done right, if they're done with the community in mind, that it can be a great success."

Like many of his fellow candidates across the city, he believes the indoor turf facility, as proposed, is at an impasse and must be revamped in order to move forward.

"I don't think the community is quite behind something so opulent, and some would argue, needless," Kennedy said.

"In talking to the communities that have been so passionate about getting it off the ground, they've voiced their concerns that they just want a place to play. They don't need a cafeteria and a this and a that and a jumbotron," Kennedy said.

"They need a place to play so they can continue their community."

Crime is also a big topic he's hearing about as he knocks on doors throughout the region.

"I think we need to start looking at a more multi-pronged approach. It can't all be a fist pushing you down, there needs to be a hand there to

help you when you are down," Kennedy said.

"So I'd like to see either through Thunder Bay police, or through another means, lifelines sent out to people to help draw them out of bad times when they happen."

Knowing there will be plenty of new faces around the council table, it's going to be a learning curve for many as they try to learn the ropes.

Kennedy said his personality makes him a really good fit to fill the vacancy left by Cody Fraser's decision to not run for a second term.

"I'm a people person. I know there's going to be a lot of different opinions in the room and a lot of potential for some hard-headed viewpoints on something. But as a group, we have to be ready to work together and compromise where need be, to make sure for the good of the community we're getting things done.

"That's where I hope to shine the most."



Basil Lychowyd heads the CLE's annual fair.

Lychowyd: Needs over wants

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Basil Lychowyd has a laundry list of priorities he's eager to get to work on should he succeed Cody Fraser as the new city councillor for Neebing Ward.

From lobbying for economic development and increasing the tax base, to redoing and repairing roads and infrastructure long overdue for maintenance, to making the streets of Thunder Bay and his ward safe for people, to revisiting and removing red tape that makes things tough for businesses and homeowners, there's a lot he'd like to get done.

Lychowyd, best known as the chair of the Canadian Lakehead Exhibition's annual fair, which this year saw record crowds descend on the fairgrounds, said he's been encouraged to run by supporters

and believes his experience at the fair will transfer well to city hall.

"I have a lot of opportunities and solutions and values that I want to give back to the community," he said. "I get my oxygen talking to people and there are a lot of opportunities for us here in the city. The biggest two things I hear are the roads and the safety in our community."

He's also hearing about big-ticket items, like a proposed \$46-million indoor turf facility, which was shelved for the time being by the current term of council, but could return during the coming term in some shape or form.

"I certainly want it to be voted on, because you're playing with tax payers' money and whatever the outcome is, is going to be," Lychowyd said. "But there are also solutions at a different rate. It

doesn't have to be the Taj Mahal kind of thing."

Looking at roads, including those in Neebing, Lychowyd says he's walked around enough to know a lot of effort still needs to happen to bring them up to standard from one part of the city to the other. It's especially troubling in Neebing.

"I've got a picture on my telephone from when it rained the last time. I can put a canoe from my house to Arthur Street. The ditches are full. We don't have the drainage that we should have. We also have to rely on calling the city to open it up," Lychowyd said.

"There must be better materials to use in the roads. We should have a plan that when we deliver an area, there should be a plan. It's like changing the oil in your car or a filter in your furnace. You've got

to do that or it's just going to fall apart. Every area is different, but it's under the road what's important and I think that's what we should be looking at."

When it comes to spending, Lychowyd wants to take a pragmatic approach.

"I call it the wants and needs. What do we need right now? The wants? Yeah, it's nice to have this and this and this. But where are we going to find the money? Let's say the police station. There's a cost involved. I'm not saying we don't need it, but when I look around, what we have around Thunder Bay, and I drive around down Arthur Street, there's an empty courthouse there. For a couple of million dollars we could retrofit that and have another unit there. Let's use the land that we have."

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Won promises to be a leader

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Yuk-Sem Won is no stranger to the political process.

A two-time federal election candidate for the NDP, Won this fall is seeking to become the Neebing councillor at city hall, saying her previous political experience has taught her a lot about the issues of those living in the ward – not to mention collaborations with community leaders over the past five years – that could serve her well on council.

“I think our city needs that kind of leadership and experience,” she said. “Especially with a lot of new faces coming onto council. [Voters] are going to look for people that have that trust, that ability to build connections and bring them that information, and that’s what I’m offering.”

Won’s No. 1 concern for the ward is to do something about the amount of traffic, improving the infrastructure in Neebing and making it a



Yuk-Sem Won has run federally twice for the NDP in Thunder Bay-Rainy River. (Leith Dunick)

much more walkable community.

“There are so many families in Neebing Ward that are just looking for safe places to walk, to play with their kids, to have their kids go to the community centres and whatnot. So definitely the infrastructure and the

roads are No. 1 on my list,” she said.

A labour law litigator and instructor at Confederation College, Won says she’s been volunteering in the community for the past 30 years and has experience with organizations such as the Thunder Bay

District Labour Council, the Thunder Bay Business Women’s Network, Accueil francophone, the Thunder Bay Chinese-Canadian Association and the Orange Abinoojiinh Movement.

“I have never been able to just wait for change to happen, but choose to invest time and energy to be a part of the change I want to see,” she says on her official campaign biography at thunderbayvotes.ca.

“This is the foundation of my community leadership and interest in politics.”

Won says community spaces and community organizations are at the heart of Northern Ontario, but building these spaces, such as the controversial indoor turf facility proposed during the last term of council, shouldn’t come at the expense of her grandchildren’s taxes.

“What we need to do is look at a modest proposal that gets the needs met without going over and above that would over-tax and burden all

of our families. In the North, we’re used to getting things done so it’s accessible... without being the No. 1 most beautiful place in Canada,” Won said.

The first-time municipal candidate said there is no easy solution to fixing the social issues that plague the city and her ward, but it starts with finding ways to combat addiction and poverty, and building supports for people moving into the community.

That’s where council can best try to solve the problem, she said.

“When you tackle those root problems, that’s how all the rest will come to play, including safety and police and things like that. To be able to invest and collaborate with community groups, see what’s out there for people and make sure we’re investing some of the tax dollars toward the programs, such as the Shelter House and the food programs, I think is going to be key to address a lot of those social issues.”

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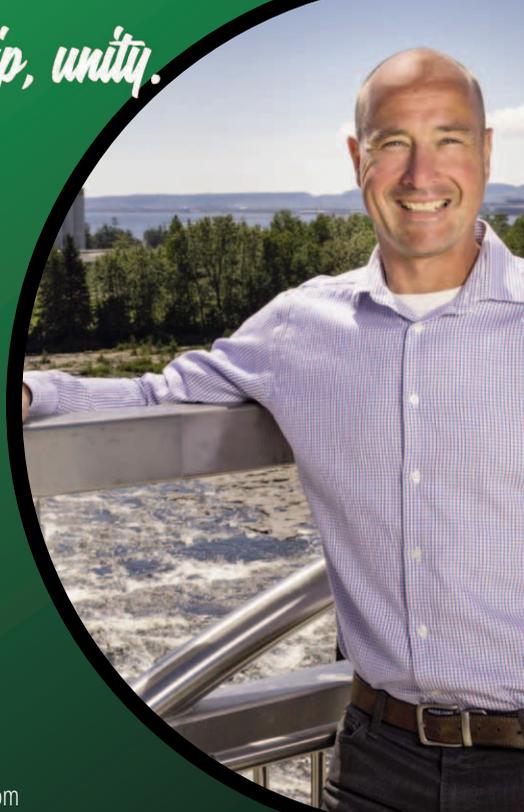
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Hope Classic returns for 25th anniversary year

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

When the first Bearskin Airlines Hope Classic was staged in 1997, organizers Linda Buchan and Susan Childs, among others, thought it was a one-year deal.

Little did anyone realize it would still be going strong 25 years later, having raised more than \$3.4 million for cancer research and treatment, most notably supporting the centre named for Buchan, who died of the disease in 2002.

Childs, who is stepping down as

chair after helping lead the way for the past 25 years, said she's proud of how much of an impact the three-day event has each year.

"I would say this has to be the most gratifying event that I have ever worked on. It's a community event. The women are the ones that raise the money and the sponsors are the ones that provide the money and the prizes to put on the event," Childs said.

"It's over 200 women having fun, renewing friendships, laughing, curling and we're almost like a big

family. It's phenomenal. Some of the people you only see once a year. Many of the curlers only curl in this event. They're not curlers. It's not about the curling, it's about the camaraderie and the friendship."

Looking back over a quarter of a century, Childs said it was too tough to pin down one memory that stands out above the rest.

There was the time that Cliff Friesen, then the owner of Bearskin Airlines, announced unknown to organizers that their one-year bonspiel was going to happen over

and over again. There was another year they raised \$210,000.

"That blew everybody away," Childs said.

"There was the year we named the Linda Buchan Centre in 2006. They're all phenomenal and there's always been something each year that sticks in your mind."

Glenn Craig, president and CEO at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation, says anniversaries like the Hope Classic's in 2022 are a chance to look back and reflect on where things were when it

started, and where they've progressed to, today.

"We don't take for granted incremental changes, but where we were 25 years ago to where we are today, we're not even in the same galaxy. We're light years ahead of where we're at," he said. "Not only in terms of the equipment we have, but the systems and the processes and the coordination of the efforts."

This year's Bearskin Airlines Hope Classic will take place from Oct. 21 to Oct. 23 at the Fort William Curling Club.

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It's my 1-year anniversary

This column marks 52 times my thoughts have appeared in the *Thunder Bay Source*.

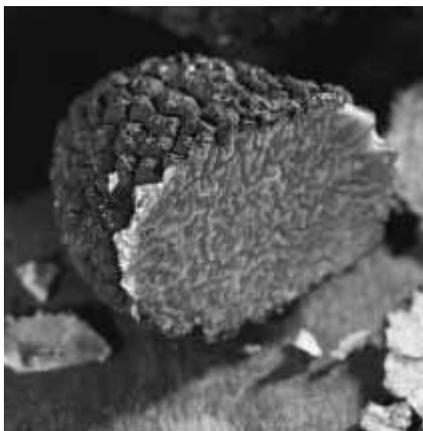
On the whole, it has been very well received. Usually, the best received articles are the ones where I talk about experiences in my career and inevitably, my self-deprecating humour comes out (or escapes).

Today we are going to talk about an oft-discussed ingredient, but one that is rarely found in the typical home cooks kitchen. I am of course talking about the truffle. Truffles will often find themselves used as buzzwords on cooking shows both scripted and non-scripted because of the instant reaction the public would have. You may not have ever had a truffle or even smelled one. However, even the most food ignorant person will recognize it is special and very expensive.

For the most bang for the truffle dollar you often find them in pastas and risottos so the flavours can permeate the entire dish. Truffles are typically found underground at the roots of trees in damp forests. Nowadays truffle hunters use specially trained dogs to sniff out the truffles. Back in the day, truffle hunters used to use pigs to find them however if you weren't fast enough the pig would eat most of the truffles they would find.

Truffle hunters would develop a strong bond with their chosen animal. This dynamic is intrinsically explored in the Nicolas Cage led film *Pig* which has no business being as good a movie as it is.

Some cooks will opt to use truffle oil to infuse the flavour into certain dishes or sauces. As the name suggests you would assume this is somehow a truffle infused oil which would be much more affordable than fresh truffles and be able to be used in a more versatile way. However, as I am sure you won't be at all surprised, truffle oil doesn't even use real truffles to be created. It is an artificially created truffle-like product. I know, someone in the food business is a liar. Seems like something you shouldn't



Truffles are hard to find and spoil quickly. ever be surprised by.

The flavours and oils in truffles are quite volatile, wherein when heated they evaporate very quickly so you will often find them either added at the end of the cooking process or even just shredded or sliced fresh on top. Because the smell and taste can be overwhelming, you will find most chefs use their truffles very sparingly. Although their flavor and aroma differ according to variety, overall truffles have a musky, oaky, nutty, earthy flavor. Black truffles are associated with underlying bitter chocolatey notes, while white truffles are slightly more pungent, with flavor and aroma that can resemble garlic or shallots. They have a firm, compact, spongy texture.

Why do they cost so much? Well, they are hard to find, hard to ship and they spoil usually about five days after they are harvested so it's difficult to get full use of them. There are a couple guys in Thunder Bay who have been known to be able to find them locally however, not always consistently.

Derek Lankinen is an award-winning chef, author, and restaurateur. He is the Owner/Operator of Beefcake's Burger Factory with two locations in Westfort and Current River and Co-Owner of Elite Beef, Brick and Mortar Food Co. and Eat Loco Tacos.



Derek Lankinen
Here's Cooking at You Kid

Drivers ignoring bus lights

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

At least eight motorists a day, on average, are ignoring flashing red lights on school buses in Thunder Bay.

It's an alarming number, say bus drivers and police, and it's only a matter of time before tragedy strikes and a child is badly hurt or killed.

Since the start of the new school year, including 18 new incidents that occurred last Thursday, 212 drivers have been reported for ignoring the flashing red lights, which motorists are legally required to stop for until students are safely off the street and out of harm's way.

The risk of a \$490 fine and six demerit points on their licence doesn't seem to be enough of a deterrent to drivers, whose failure-to-stop rate has doubled over last year's average.

It's got to end, said acting traffic Sgt. Tom Anderson.

"I would like to think that it's obvious to folks that when there's a school bus stopped and the red lights are flashing, they'll just stop," Anderson said. "But for some reason, whether people are distracted or not paying attention or are unaware... it seems to be an issue."

Police can only do so much to get messaging out to the public. After that, it's on motorists to obey the law.

Anderson added a fine can also be levied against the owner of the vehicle, even if the driver can't be identified.

Driver Tom Saarimaki is doing his best to track



More than 200 motorists have failed to stop for bus lights.

the information, saying he's had 43 incidents already this year, with school barely over a month in.

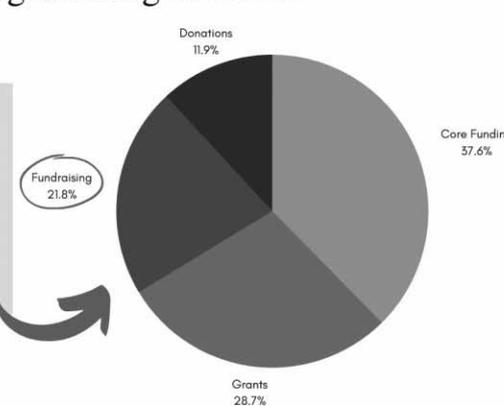
"Luckily all the ones I had, all my students are getting off on the right-hand side of the bus, but one day somebody is going to come on the right-hand side or even rear-end the bus when we're stopped because people are just not paying attention," Saarimaki.

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October an unbeatable month

There are many who believe Autumn is the best season of the year. Springtime may bring warmth and longer days to enjoy the first open water fishing of the year. Summer will offer us camping and plenty of time on those beautiful lakes that surround us. Winter always gives us unique and exciting outdoor activities like skiing and fat biking. Yet, for those of us who love everything about the outdoors, it is autumn that really makes our hearts flutter.

October means moderate precipitation and comfortable temperatures. Pair this weather with a clear blue sky and a gorgeous landscape characterized by bright yellow leaves contrasting against dark conifers, and you have an unbeatable combo. The mosquitos and blackflies are long gone and our lawns are no longer growing out of control. The threat of having to shovel snow is a way off and there is still enough daylight for a few hours of fun after work.

Considering how wonderful it is to be outside right now, I have



Keith Ailey
the GOOD LIFE

compiled a list of my favourite things to do in October. For those who love outdoor adventures, my hope is that you find some inspiration in this list:

1. Hunt some grouse. Ruffed grouse, often called “partridge” in these parts, have been plentiful since the season opened in mid-September. Harvesting a few birds for dinner is delicious, healthy, and immensely satisfying.

2. Travel. Travel is always awesome, but after being grounded the last few years, it is good to move around again. Even a day trip to Grand Marais seems like a treat right now.

3. Finish a few projects at camp. While I refer to camp as my “summer job” the projects tend to become a bit more urgent as winter closes in. Completing them before snow covers everything is always rewarding.

4. Embrace the darkness. The earlier sunsets provide us an opportunity to hit the mountain bike trails of Shuniah Mines in the early

evening, just after dark. Using lights on our helmets and handlebars, the experience is exciting and completely unique from normal riding in daylight hours.

5. Chop some firewood. Swinging the ax is a good workout and a great stress reliever. Right now is a great time to refresh the stacks of birch and black ash for those wonderful winter fires that will heat our homes and camps throughout the next few months.

6. Enjoy some sauna time. I'm not Finnish but I certainly enjoy a hot sauna on a cool fall evening. Bonus marks for that exhilarating hot-to-cold jolt you get from jumping in the icy lake when the sauna gets too hot.

7. Get lost. Well, not too lost, but I love to explore new and distant roads on my gravel bike every fall. Being away from traffic feels great and being out of cell range adds an element of risk and excitement.

Autumn really does present us with a lot of opportunities for adventure at the most beautiful and comfortable time of the year. Whatever your favourite seasonal activities are, I imagine you'll find a lot to love when you head outside.



The sage grouse is found in Alberta, but other species are found all over North America

Weekend brings a snowy harvest session

Sunday afternoon saw me and The Gardener - my wife, Laura - in the vegetable garden harvesting all of the remaining carrots, turnips, beets, and cabbages. We were undertaking this task with a mix of drizzle, then rain, then large-flaked snow. What fun.

My job was to fire up my aged tractor and fetch gravel to be shoveled into plastic bins into which the carrots would be layered with each layer covered with the gravel.

Sand would have been optimal but, alas, all we had was pit-grade gravel. While carefully laying the carrots on top of the dirt, I picked out the largest stones and threw them away.

Then we wheeled the bin that had been set in a wheelbarrow to the barn and deposited in one of the barely heated rooms in the barn. I hope that the gravel works although it tends to be dampers than sand. Don't want to open a bin mid-January to discover rotted carrots.

Wish us luck.

Not all of the carrots were stored in bins. There were a couple of large mutants - three legged, split, or in a couple of examples, a smaller carrot having grown around a larger one. Those edibles were brought into Casa Jones, washed, and put in the veggie drawers of the basement refrigerator. We did the same procedure for the turnips, beets, and cabbages.

One of the turnips is huge. I lifted it up by the root and immediately the biblical story of Samson and his jawbone of an ass with which he killed a thousand enemy soldiers popped into my noggin.

Don't think that a massive turnip would last long enough to dispatch more than one enemy soldier.

We leave the parsnips in the ground and only dig them out when

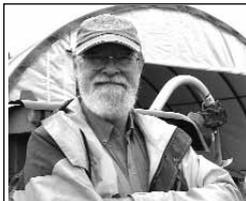
required. Damn hard to harvest too. They don't freeze when left in the ground for some reason. There are still leeks and Jerusalem artichokes to dig up.

The artichokes are a weed. Laura planted a small patch that tripled in size. She had already harvested all of the onions that have been drying on shelves in our screen porch.

All of the garlic has also been collected (actually one of the first crops to be brought inside). And all of the tomatoes and squash gourds were brought inside a couple of weeks ago along with the

potatoes.

We have lots of squash to eat and lots of bags of frozen tomatoes to haul out of the freezer over the winter. The cabbages grew to a tremendous size this summer. I



Fred Jones
RURAL ROOTS

plucked a green one on Saturday that I'm sure would rank up there in the *Guinness Book of Records*.

I figure that even steaming a full pot to feed the four of us, it would take four meals to deal with this monster.

And there are still more including several decent-sized red cabbages. I love coleslaw so red and green cabbage together with our carrots makes for a great 'slaw.

Of course, Laura is preparing the permanent beds for the next planting season. There are four “permanent” beds, beds that contain the same crop year after year.

The garlic for next year she planted several weeks ago and covered with old hay. Laura also planted onions as an experiment to see if they would over-winter.

When we first made the garden, we brought raspberry canes from our old property across the road but they, too, are a weed and encroached

into the rest of the garden so we moved them to a ditch at the rear of the garden. But unfortunately, the agile deer discovered them too even with five-foot high fencing.

Now Laura dug them up and moved them into a permanent bed so that we can cover them to prevent any future decimating raids by Bambi. Laura planted a couple of strawberry plants this past spring and they have spread to completely take over the sixteen by four bed. So, they stay.

As I have mentioned before, this year's vegetable garden has been the most prolific in all the years we've been gardening on this property. It takes a lot of effort, but Laura is rarely happier than getting her hands in honest dirt and we are the beneficiaries thereof.

The snow didn't last of course but seeing those huge flakes streaming past our heads gave us a chilly taste of what is to come.

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Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations and proverbs from around the world. Each letter stands for another letter. Hint: "E" = "H"

"JX ZBDRJDY EBY IJFESY XMN IEBV
JF NJHEV, VESC ZJHEV EBPS EBY JV
TMDH BHM."

— IJTTJBZ EBATJVV

Amsterdam a misfire

Amsterdam (SilverCity) David O. Russell's (*Silver Linings Playbook*, *American Hustle*) latest opus is a deadpan mystery/comedy, treading heavily on the "quirky" factor. However, it soon becomes apparent in *Amsterdam* that quirky for quirkiness sake wears thin quickly.

Amsterdam is over-stuffed with an all-star cast awash in a dense plot. The wacky goings-on are meant to be hilarious but the funny bone tingles only sporadically.

It's New York, 1933. Christian Bale is a frizzy-haired, glass-eyed, accented doctor who patches up WW I veterans including his war buddy, an attorney, John David Washington. They're asked to investigate the mysterious death of their commanding officer by his daughter, Taylor Swift. The set-up seems promising.

They stumble upon Margot Robbie, who was their nurse, pal, and Washington's flame in post-war Amsterdam until she mysteriously disappeared. (Robbie collected shrapnel extracted from her patients to create art, typical of the film's many weird character quirks.) We get a flashback to their idyllic, bohemian time together.

But once our heroes get falsely accused of murder, the story gets mired in oddball tangents involving a pair of squabbling detectives (Matthias Schoenaerts, Alessandro Nivola), two spies masquerading as birdwatchers (Mike Myers, Michael Shannon), a weird wealthy couple (Rami Malek, Anya Taylor-Joy), a murderous thug (unrecognizable Timothy Olyphant) and a defiant army general (Robert De Niro) whose real-life character turns out to be a key figure in the plot. White supremacists and sterilization clinics add to the mix.

The mystery is loosely based on a true story involving a corporate-backed Fascist attempt to overthrow the US government, evidenced by archival footage at the film's conclusion. This is Russell's hint that history could repeat itself. However, it



Christian Bale (from left), Margot Robbie and John David Washington star in *Amsterdam*.

takes forever for Russell to explore this area.

The movie uses Bale's replacement eyeball from the war as a running gag, popping loose whenever Bale gets popped or stumbles. He's also prone to pratfalls due to his experimental pain-relief pills.

Some of the aforementioned characters have a direct bearing on the plot while others are star-powered window dressing distractions or, as in Chris Rock's case, comedically representing the Black experience. Character tics and plot lines aren't nearly as funny or engaging as Russell intended, as he doubles as screenwriter. Some throwaway lines and the odd moment do merit a giggle.

The cast is clearly charismatic and watchable but various key relationships, including the romance between Washington and Robbie, Robbie's relationship with Malek and Taylor-Joy, unhappily married Bale tempted by alluring Zoe Saldana, and even the friendship among Bale, Washington and Robbie—are either unconvincing or are sidelined by the protracted plot.

The ambitiously interconnected plot points ultimately bogs down the whole enterprise. On the plus side, the production design and costing are excellent. At the end, there are sentimental voice-overs by our principals. Robbie's Valerie says something to the effect: "Love is good—it provides clarity." Pity Mr. Russell couldn't provide similar clarity in this script.



Marty Mascarín
MOVIE TALK

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ACROSS

- MGM lion
- Indian intoxicant
- Heddles of a loom
- Amer. Cancer Society (abbr.)
- Hall (Ger.)
- Hodgepodge
- Atl. Coast Conference (abbr.)
- Sauterne (2 words)
- Reimbursed
- Swelling
- Science class
- Fur seal
- Clear
- Lady (Sp.)
- Axilla
- Magpie
- Big apple (abbr.)
- Medicinal bark
- Gird
- Opponent

DOWN

- Eucalyptus secretion
- Geological epoch
- Sway
- Compass direction
- Us dam
- Servant
- High (Lat.)
- Craven
- Lion of God

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

R	A	S	P	N	B	C	M	A	A	M	
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10 Own (Scot.)
11 One of the Three Stooges
17 Flightless bird
19 Arabic letter
22 Hair knot
24 Asylum
25 Starch
26 Flavor

27 Walk
28 N. Carolina college
29 Fr. business abbreviation
30 Khan
31 Duke (Fr.)
35 Aunt (Sp.)
38 Ruminant's stomach
40 False hair
42 Besides
45 Be sullen
46 Concert halls
47 Fr. singer
49 Clergyman
50 Chief
51 Admiral (abbr.)
52 Inlet
53 Social affair
54 Harem room

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Monster Madness a huge hit

Sold-out show brings in large crowds of fans to Speedway

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Monster Madness usually happens on Oct. 31, but it came a couple of weeks early at the Thunder City Speedway.

Day 2 of the two-day monster truck and freestyle motocross event drew thousands of fans to the track on Sunday.

Fans on hand had the chance to get up close and personal with drivers like Lion's Head, Ont.'s Kristal Carey, one of the few female monster truck drivers in the country, a self-described thrill seeker who said the sport was right up her alley

Career change

"It's not what I thought I would be doing, but the opportunity came up and I was asked if I wanted to do this and I said, 'Yes I do.' So I jump in the driver seat and go."

Carey said she and her husband already had one monster truck,



Anger Management was one of six monster trucks competing at the Speedway. (Leith Dunick)

Train Wreck, on the circuit, and since the trailer fit two trucks, they decided to add another, Sabotage,

to their collection.

"We thought we'd build a second one to take on the road, so we built

this one and launched it for the first time last year. We've been running with it ever since," Carey said.

It's an event that draws fans of all ages and from all walks of life.

It's hard to pinpoint exactly why, she said.

"I think it's just the loudness and the sheer size of them, just the capability of what these trucks can do for being such a heavy piece of machinery. And it's just a family-friendly event that people can come to," Carey said.

Bryson Fortier couldn't wait to see Carey and the rest of the drivers in action.

"I just want to see the jumps and I want to see the flips," the nine-year-old said, crossing his fingers the rain would hold off and allow the motocross riders to perform their death-defying aerial acrobatics, flying off ramps, flipping upside down in mid-air, yet able to land on the fly and maintain their balance on the ground.

The trucks are pretty cool too, said his friend, Max Drabit.

"I want to see the trucks and some triple backflips, he said.

Bryson's little brother, Easton, was also thrilled to be at the track.

"I really like the monster trucks and it's my first time," he said.

"They're cool because they're tall."

Both days of Monster Madness sold out, a great sign said track general manager Rick Simpson, only too happy to welcome the event to the track, in its first full year of operation.

Great response

"It's kind of nice to have Monster Madness come here. The city has been looking for something like this for a lot of years and we have the facility to hold something like this now. It shows, with two sold-out shows what the city has been starving for," Simpson said.

"It's an unbelievable event. They have six monster trucks that are trucked here and it's a great family event for the kids that want to come and watch big trucks crush cars. That's the excitement, and the guys on the motorcycles are unbelievable."

Simpson said this year's success makes it likely Monster Madness will be invited back, though it will likely take two or three years, he said.

He added there could be a snow-cross event scheduled for Thunder City Speedway in February.

Falcons upset undefeated Fighting Saints

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The Saint Patrick Fighting Saints are undefeated no more.

The undermanned senior squad, cut down by a bug that left several key players on the sidelines, squandered a 17-6 lead on home turf on Friday afternoon and were handed their first loss of the season by a St. Ignatius Falcon squad looking for retribution after losing to the senior Saints in the season opener.

Lucas Dupuis had a pair of rushing touchdowns for the Falcons (3-2) and Michael Danchuk ran for one and threw for another to lead St. Ignatius to the comeback win.

"Our team really clicked today," said Dupuis. "We were practising

all week for this."

"It feels amazing. Coming back, after they beat us on our home field and we came back and beat them on their home field, it just feels amazing."

Dupuis' first score came at the halfway point of the third, a one-yard run, set up by a facemask call against the Saints that deposited the football on the St. Patrick one-yard line, closing the gap from 17-6 to 17-12, the two point conversion unsuccessful.

His second, in the final minute of the fourth, ensured the Falcons could start the celebration, putting them up two scores.

It was also from one yard out.

Dupuis said the game had a playoff atmosphere and he's

hoping they get a chance to win a rubber match with more than just bragging rights on the line.

"Right to the finals," he said. "And we're going to come back and beat them."

It was Danchuk who finally got the Falcons on the board in the second quarter, after the Saints had built a 10-point lead, thanks to a 63-yard touchdown run by St. Patrick's star running back Manerplaw Winning midway through the second.

The Falcons quarterback capped an 84-yard drive with a 10-yard toss to receiver Harry Tsekouras, the touchdown coming with just 47 seconds left in the half.

The second half was all St. Ignatius.

OK, maybe not the first two minutes.

Up 10-6, it was more Winning magic, who hauled in a pass from QB Iene Auger and raced 65 yards down the field for his second major of the afternoon.

The Falcons responded on their next drive, marching 83 yards down the field, Dupuis capping things off with his first of two scores.

Tyler Robertson gave St. Ignatius their first lead of the game on the Falcons next possession, barrelling in from four yards out, the missed two-point convert giving his team a slim 18-17 lead.

Winning had a chance to push the Saints back on top early in the fourth, but his 18-yard field goal

attempt went wide left and the Saints settled for the rouge and an 18-18 deadlock.

St. Ignatius got the ball back on their own 35 and thanks to a pair of double digit runs by Angelo Marino, including a 20-yard scamper to the Saints one-yard-line, Danchuk marched in for the touchdown, the Falcons taking the lead for good.

"We didn't let it get to us. We practised hard all week and it finally turned out to be something we wanted all year," Danchuk said.

"It was nice to come off being 2-2 and beat an undefeated team and hopefully we're going to see them again in the final. We don't want to think too far ahead, but it was definitely a great week of practice and

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