



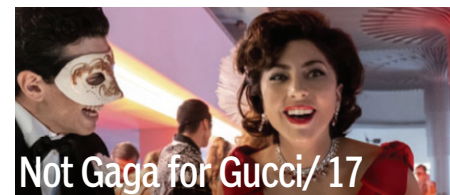
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YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION

THUNDER BAY SOURCE



Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol.18 No. 47

Thursday, December 2, 2021

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Four-time world champion Kurt Browning visits Thunder Bay to spend the day with local figure skating community/20



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Kurt Browning was a beloved athlete in the 1980s, when he won world championships in 1989, 1990, 1991 and 1993. He also skated in the Olympics in 1988, 1992 and 1994.

ᐭᐭ° ᐃᐱᑯᐢᐸᐣᓄᐰᓂᐱ | Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin

Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin is the Tikinagan service model. In Ojibway/Oji-Cree, Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin means, “Everyone working together to raise our children.” It is a system of protecting and caring for children and supporting families that has been designed and is delivered by First Nations people in our 30 communities.

Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin represents the culmination of more than 35 years of work to develop a culturally appropriate response to children and families who are in need of help in the First Nation communities. In developing Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin, we have sought to be true to the original vision that the Chiefs and Elders had when Tikinagan was created.

Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin is designed to respect the inherent authority of First Nations to care for our own children. It acknowledges that our First Nation mandate supersedes provincial legislation and that our ultimate goal is the pursuit of complete First Nation jurisdiction over our own child welfare services. Until this goal can be achieved, Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin is designed to ensure that Tikinagan provides services in accordance with provincial legislation, regulations and standards.

Learn more about Tikinagan's service model, foster parenting, employment opportunities, and more on our website tikinagan.org and follow us on social media to keep up-to-date with Tikinagan news.



Tikinagan

Child & Family Services

tikenagan.org



Do homework before travel

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Canada Border Services Agency is ramping up for an expected surge in travelers looking to cross into Canada.

As of Tuesday, fully vaccinated Canadians were able to make out-of-country trips of less than 72 hours in duration without the need to provide a molecular COVID-19 test to re-enter Canada without having to quarantine for 14 days.

The move came weeks after the United States reopened its land and water borders to fully vaccinated travelers, the decision coming 20 months after Canada and the U.S. closed the borders between the two countries.

Charles Fischer, a CBSA representative at the Pigeon River border crossing, said traffic heading north into Canada from Minnesota is currently at three to six per cent of normal travel levels for this time of year, when thousands flock south to take advantage of Black Friday deals.

While the need for a PCR test has been lifted for day trips and short jaunts less than 72 hours, returning Canadians are still required to present their vaccination status when re-entering the country, and must upload any required information, including proof of vaccination, through the ArriveCan app.

Do your homework, Fischer cautioned.

First and foremost, ensure your information is uploaded to the ArriveCan App within 72 hours of returning to Canada.

“That needs to be done before you get to the border. It’s a requirement. If you show up and you haven’t submitted your information into ArriveCan, you can be put into quarantine for 14 days. If you’re put into quarantine at the border, you’re legally obligated to carry that quarantine out.”

Failing to do so could result in a fine of up to \$750,000 and/or up to six months behind bars.

Non-vaccinated and partially vaccinated Canadians who might slip through the U.S. screening protocols – the Americans are not expected to ask every traveller for proof of vaccination – will automatically have to quarantine for 14 days.

Fischer said travellers should also be prepared for longer wait times at the border, noting a 60-second screening from pre-COVID times could take up to



Lines are expected to be long at Pigeon River.

three minutes. An expected rush at the border, particularly in Thunder Bay where thousands of parcels are being held at Ryden’s Border Store, will also likely mean longer lines.

Some returning travellers could also be randomly selected to do a mandatory take-home COVID-19 test. Foreign travellers, those not considered citizens, permanent residents or people registered under the Indian Act, must still present a negative PCR test to be permitted entry into Canada, regardless of length of stay.

Dr. Janet DeMille, medical officer of health at the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, asked local residents to use caution if they decide to cross in to the United States, particularly Minnesota, which on Monday had the sixth-highest per-100,000 case count in the country, at 61, trailing only Michigan. Cook County is only averaging 1.6 cases per day, according to the *New York Times*.

“You need to be careful if you go to Minnesota,” DeMille said. “We know all the measures to take to reduce the risk of getting COVID. Minnesota does have really high rates right now ... You can only go if you’re fully vaccinated, so that’s really good. Wear a mask, maintain two metres of distance and be outside as much as you can.”

Fischer reminded travellers that the 72-hour window is firm – no exceptions.

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Christmas Cheer helps families

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Christmas Cheer will look a little different in 2021.

With COVID-19 protocols still in place, and the Thunder Bay District Health Unit's vaccination clinic filling up their usual space at the Canadian Lakehead Exhibition's Coliseum building, the organization has moved across the parking lot and will be handing out hampers on Dec. 14 and Dec. 15 at the Heritage building.

Joleene Kemp said the need has never gone down, in all the years she's been involved with the Christmas Cheer campaign.

In this sense, this year will be no different.

"Unfortunately the need does not go down. We sort of took a step back and watched what happened in Year 2 of COVID. There are

more people accessing food banks. There are more families who are going to a place like the Dew Drop Inn or Grace Place to eat a hot meal," Kemp said.

"We're not sure what our numbers are going to be like. We have absolutely no idea. A lot of people are not back to work full time and many people are making minimum wage and no benefits, so people are having to make choices."

Kemp said she's hopeful being able to access Christmas Cheer, which provides a hamper full of food, a week's worth of groceries, as well as toys and gifts for children through the Toys for Tots program, will help remove a few of those hard decisions.

Families shouldn't have to choose between paying rent or utilities or buying gifts and being able to cook

turkey dinner with all the fixings on Christmas Day, Kemp said.

"Many of these families go every month and pick up a hamper," she said. "But think of the month of December. How do you think those families feel? Team Red wants to give those families a hamper with a week's worth of groceries and gifts for their children so they don't have to think about it."

"We take the pressure off them because in a food bank, they can only access it once a month. When they pick up their hamper for December, that doesn't take into account what they're going to need to celebrate Christmas. What we do is we give them that opportunity to breathe and to put those smiles on their children's faces. That's the most important thing we can do."



Christmas Cheer's Joleene Kemp.

Kemp said they raised about \$160,000 last year and their goal in 2021 is to raise enough money to

cover the costs of putting the program on. If there's any extra, that's just a bonus.

Donations can be made online at www.thunderbaychristmascheer.com, in person at any Scotiabank branch in Thunder Bay, by mail at P.O. Box 10287, Thunder Bay, Ont., P7B 6T7, or by texting CHEER to 344-8229 during the month of December.

Starting at 6 a.m. on Dec. 9, through 6 p.m. on Dec. 10, Acadia Broadcasting will be hosting the 36 Hours of Cheer with a pop-up outside their 200 Park Avenue offices from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

Registered south-side residents can pick up their hampers on Dec. 14 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., with north-side residents getting their chance on Dec. 15. All pick-ups will be at the Heritage building.



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Dr. Janet DeMille of the Thunder Bay District Health Unit says it's never been clearer why vaccinations are needed for youth five to 11.

Youth vaccines could cut cases

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The head of the Thunder Bay District Health Unit says the arrival of vaccinations for children aged five to 11 could help alleviate outbreaks in local elementary schools.

Dr. Janet DeMille says the roll-out, which began last Friday, will help add another layer of protection in classrooms, where heretofore students have been largely reliant on COVID-19 precautionary measures such as masking, and where possible, physical distancing.

It's never been clearer why youth vaccinations are needed.

There's currently an outbreak declared at St. Martin School, where as many as 22 people have been diagnosed with COVID-19. An outbreak was also declared at St. Ignatius, and several other schools have had at least one case recently.

"Most people in elementary (schools), the kids, haven't really had an opportunity to be immunized. What we saw recently with this outbreak of the Delta variant, is that it can spread very quickly and impact schooling for a large number of people," DeMille said.

The approval came from Health Canada last Friday and DeMille said they already had much of what they needed to roll out the youth vaccines in seven short days - including a rush on appointments, though some remain available next week.

There could be a significant impact, she added.

"It is ultimately exciting that that fairly large group of people, five to 11-year-olds, now have the opportunity to be immunized, which is actually going to

protect them. We know that kids generally do OK with COVID-19, but there are still some serious outcomes, including some that are particular for kids," DeMille said.

"Being able to have that protection, it will also protect their families, because that child will now be less likely to bring it home and spread it amongst their family members. The (vaccines) contribute broadly to reducing the spread of COVID in the community. But a very important point is when the rate of immunization at a school goes up, they'll see less spread of the virus in that setting."





The uptake from parents has been phenomenal, DeMille said, though that's not all that surprising. They key will be to see if it's sustainable.

"Anytime we've opened up eligibility, there's always people who are pretty keen and eager and will be the first to be at our door and booking," she said. "This morning it was over 2,000 people who booked through our clinics, either here or in the district communities where we're running (clinics)."

"As well we know that age group is also eligible to go to pharmacies and primary care, and we have other partners, including our Indigenous partners, that are going to be doing their own clinics."

At present, full vaccination is required in Canada for most commercial travel and to take part in a host of leisure activities - including indoor dining, fitness centres and movie theatres. Schools are exempt, but DeMille pointed out that when outbreaks happen, the fully vaccinated generally get to remain in class, while the unvaccinated are sent home to isolate and learn remotely.

THIS WEEK'S WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			
A mix of sun and clouds	A few flurries	A mix of Sun and Clouds	A mix of Sun and Clouds
Precipitation: 40% HIGH 0 LOW -12	Precipitation: 30% HIGH -4 LOW -6	Precipitation: 30% HIGH -5 LOW -11	Precipitation: 40% HIGH -5 LOW -11

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EDITORIAL

Get your shot

Thunder Bay is right back in the thick of a COVID-19 mess.

Luckily, the vast majority are vaccinated.

But things are headed in the wrong direction. Not that it's surprising, it tends to happen when colder weather arrives.

On Monday, the health unit, reporting the past three days, announced 40 new cases, bringing the active count to 93. That's as high as it's been since last April, when the city was exiting its worst period to date.

Let's not get back there.

If you're not vaccinated, now's the time. There's no reason not to get your shot. The science shows those who are vaccinated are far less likely to get really sick should they get COVID-19. You're also less likely to get it and spread it to loved ones, friends or colleagues at work.

Our economy can't take another lockdown. The province is doing its best to avoid one. But Premier Doug Ford and Health Minister Christine Elliott won't be afraid to pull the emergency brake — and impose even more restrictions on the non-vaccinated. It's time to stop with the excuses and get the jab.

Stop the insanity To the editor:

I went for a walk the other day; Friendship Gardens is my usual destination.

A garbage can which has been overflowing for a week was still there, in its obscene glory. Looking at the green bags on the ground it reminded me that the city was a mess.

I have tried different avenues to fix things. I have emailed my councillor and mayor; They usually send me to the manager in charge.

I once asked for the budget for the Friendship Gardens but I was not sent the budget.

You would think that a specific park would have a budget allocation.

There is no accountability in our city.

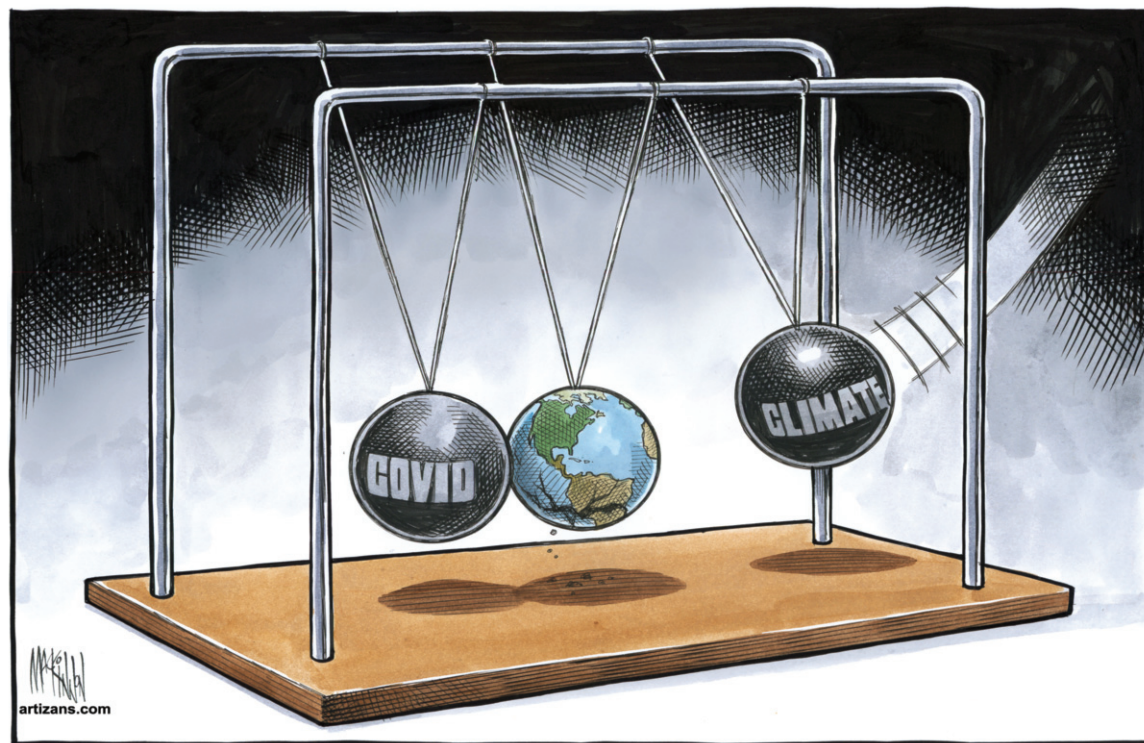
When the taxpayers of Northwood got pinhole water leaks caused by the sodium hydroxide added to our water; did they get honest answers from anybody on council?

I doubt it.

Do you think that one of their hired consultants has been held to task for this? No.

What is the budget for consult-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



ants, \$3 million or \$4 million? Yes that number might be an exaggeration but no numbers would be supplied if I asked anyways.

We have another, then another, and another tax increase coming.

No ideas will be forthcoming to

relieve the tax burden.

Here is an idea. Don't spend three days arguing about the political correctness of the word "rodeo".

I could fill a book with what is wrong, but things won't change.

Maybe if I am the Councillor of

Northwood.

We only have one more year of this to go. Then you will have a chance to vote someone else in.

Bill Dell
Northwood

Me, You and the Lady with the Big Head

You Are Eating An Orange. You Are Naked by Sheung-King was short-listed for the 2021 Governor General's Literary Award for fiction. It's a short, punchy, episodic semi-autobiographical novel about a young translator who travels around the world with his female companion, only identified as 'You'.

The narrator is 'Me'. The sparse, economic writing style reads like notes for a diary or journal.

Like the author, 'Me' grew up in Hong Kong and lives in Toronto. He travels with his unnamed lover to Hong Kong, Macau, Prague and Tokyo. There are two dialogues going on: one between 'Me' and 'You' and the other between 'Me'

and the reader. It is, in part, a search for ethnic identity. It is also the story of a relationship as the couple entertain each other with comic and enigmatic folk tales in restaurants and hotel rooms.

They seem to be testing or challenging each other with their verbal dexterity and philosophical questions. Their relationship is fragile and made more tenuous by her unexplained disappearances. Reading this book feels very intimate, like you are reading the couple's love letters to each other. It's themes of memory

and longing challenge Western ideas and Orientalism.

There are many cultural references from the surrealism of Haruki Murakami to the evocative narratives of Wong Kar-Wei. It is a lyrical first novel, quite unique and, marks the arrival of a bold new voice. This can be said both of the 'Me' in the novel and of Sheung-King himself.

Glorious Frazzled Beings by Angelique Lalonde was on the Scotiabank Giller Prize 2021 shortlist. In this astounding collection of

human and more than human worlds come together in places we call home.

The Lady With The Big Head, a somewhat ghost, tends the family garden. Carmen finds an old town in the woods behind her house one day. Malarkey has a boyfriend who descends deeper and deeper into an alien world he has created.

In the wake of her elderly mother's tragic death, a daughter tries to make sense of the online dating profile she left behind. A mother encounters a leopard in the bathroom and beats it to within an inch of its life. The half dead animal remains on the floor while the family try to carry on their lives around it.

A woman gets a secret goat and has to create another false secret world for her family so that she can get on with her goat tending. Deep in the mountains, a shape shifting mother must sift through the complexities of love when one boy is born with a beautiful set of fox ears and another is not.

A man named Pooka unravels his inherited suffering to find new ways to weave stories of home. A woman reluctantly kills a moose who reminds her of Puff the Magic Dragon.

And then there are The Teeny Ghost People and Their Garments. These magical realism stories transport us into another realm.



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Anxiety growing over environment

By JR Shermack – TB Source

Canadians spend a lot of time talking about the weather and for many generations this has been a relatively safe and uncontroversial topic for conversation.

Even total strangers are comfortable with classic Canadian ice breakers like, “Cold enough for you?” or “Hot enough for you?” or even, “Wet enough for you?”

These simple questions have taken a very serious turn lately due to severe weather phenomena like the polar vortex, drought and wildfires, floods and mudslides.

The jargon has changed suddenly and dramatically in response to the devastating rainfall and flood damage on Canada’s east and west coasts over the past two weeks.

Canadians have seen the shocking effects of a new meteorological event called atmospheric rivers which have forced hundreds of British Columbia residents from their homes.

The term “atmospheric river” was first used in 1998 to describe long, large streams of water vapor travel-

ling through the sky.

They can stretch up to 1,600 kilometres long and 640 kilometres wide and they are getting bigger, stronger and more damaging as the planet warms.

These airborne rivers originate in the tropical ocean near the equator and some carry large masses of warm air and water to the west coast of North America.

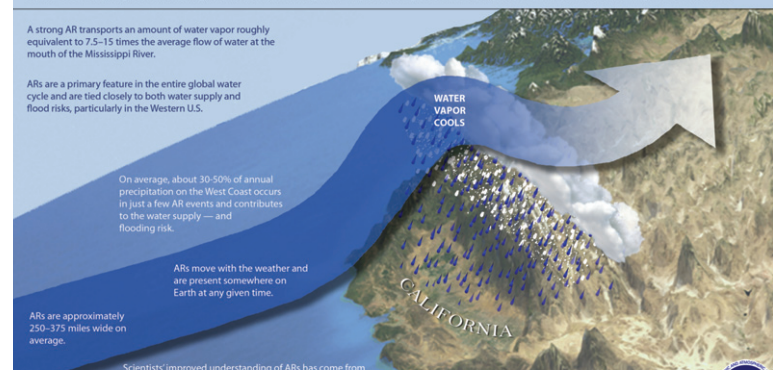
When they move in from the ocean and climb the coastal mountains of B.C. the water vapour condenses and a month’s worth of rain or snow can drop in just days.

As the average global temperature rises atmospheric rivers carry more water vapor and when they make landfall they cause more widespread damage and destruction.

This is happening on Canada’s west coast right now – the situation is compounded by the severe wildfires that laid bare the forest floor, resulting in unstoppable landslides.

As I write this the crisis continues to fall in B.C. with more heavy rain expected – flood warnings are in effect and evacuation orders have been issued.

An atmospheric river (AR) is a flowing column of condensed water vapor in the atmosphere responsible for producing significant levels of rain and snow, especially in the Western United States. When ARs move inland and sweep over the mountains, the water vapor rises and cools to create heavy precipitation. Though many ARs are weak systems that simply provide beneficial rain or snow, some of the larger, more powerful ARs can create extreme rainfall and floods capable of disrupting travel, inducing mudslides and causing catastrophic damage to life and property. Visit www.research.noaa.gov to learn more.



Atmospheric rivers produce significant levels of rain and snow. (NOAA graphic)

Abbotsford is bracing for an estimated 220 millimetres of rain over five days as atmospheric rivers continue to flow into B.C. and over the Rockies.

All things considered this brings another descriptive phrase to mind, The Perfect Storm, an increasingly familiar term among Canadians on both coasts.

According to the Oxford English Dictionary the words and phrases we now use when we talk about the

weather are becoming more urgent and alarming.

The dilemma of displaced families is difficult to put into words but the Oxford English Dictionary has documented an overall increase in climate related language.

The term climate change goes all the way back to 1854 when it was first used in a magazine article about whether human activity could actually affect the climate.

The Greenhouse Effect became a

buzz phrase in the 1980s and was soon joined by global warming (now global heating) with climate change also being used more frequently.

Those who are forced to abandon their homes in response to extreme weather events or rising sea levels are referred to as climate refugees.

One estimate predicts that by 2050, 216 million people will be forced to relocate by the effects of climate change – the planet is no longer just warming, it is heating.

There is an alarming rise in eco-anxiety, the feeling of unease and apprehension about harm to the environment and the effects of climate change.

On the bright side the Oxford Dictionary update also reflected an increase in solution words and phrases like renewable energy, phasing out, divestment and transition.

Climate change changes everything including the language we use and the conversations we need to have. Hopefully the new weather words we learn over the next year will reflect a more positive outlook.

what's happening
in and around...

The Bay

To submit an event, email ldunick@dougallmedia.com.
Please include details about the event, including any cost

December 2-4

Footloose the Musical

The iconic '80s movie hits the stage at the Paramount Theatre, telling the story of Ren and his mother, who move from Chicago to a small farming town, where dancing has been banned by the local preacher. His daughter, however, sets her eyes on Ren and her roughneck boyfriend isn't happy and tries to sully Ren's reputation. Featuring an Oscar- and Tony-nominated soundtrack, Footloose the Musical stays true to its movie roots. Full vaccination is required. Tickets are 16.93 and available at eventbrite.ca.

December 4-5

South Neebing Holiday Market

Just in time for the Christmas season, it's two days of different local vendors, a chance to get that last-minute holiday shopping in. Full vaccination required and masks are mandatory From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the South Neebing Community

Centre at 1841 Mountain Road.

December 4

Parade of Lights

After a one-year hiatus, this holiday favourite is back. Starting on Main Street, the parade will journey along Memorial Avenue and back along Fort William Road, ending at Water Street, including a sensory friendly section along the latter stretch. The parade begins at 7 p.m. Please observe COVID-19 safety measures when gathered to watch.

December 17

Daylin James in concert

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church will be hosting an Elvis concert starring Daylin James on Fri. December 17, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at Calicos Coffeehouse, Marv Chony Jewellers, and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church office. Phone 622-4273 for more information.



The Parade of Lights is a holiday favourite (FILE)

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.

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Wet'suwet'en march draws 100

By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

Close to a hundred Thunder Bay residents joined a Wet'suwet'en solidarity rally Saturday, expressing support for hereditary chiefs in their fight against a pipeline that would transport natural gas through their unceded territory.

The group rallied at Waverley Park before marching to the waterfront, with participants calling the issue part of a larger fight for Indigenous self-determination and climate justice that resonates strongly in Thunder Bay.

"We are against what the RCMP and others are doing to the people over there," said elder Ma-Nee Chacaby, who spoke at the event. "That's their land and their water –

they're protecting their place. I would do the same thing for Thunder Bay."

"We have to work together and help each other, it doesn't matter how many thousand miles away that person is. For me, I'm Indigenous, they're Indigenous, and they're in their land. We've lost enough already, we don't have to lose more land."

Marchers joined thousands across the country who have participated in solidarity actions after dozens of land defenders were arrested by the RCMP in recent weeks, some at gunpoint, along with journalists and others.

Land defenders occupied a work site in September, attempting to block construction of the CGL

pipeline that would transport fracked natural gas to a liquefied natural gas terminal on B.C.'s coast, for transport to Asian markets.

The multi-billion dollar project would run for 670 kilometres from northeastern B.C. to the coast, crossing hundreds of waterways.

That includes a plan to drill underneath the untouched Wedzin Kwa river in unceded Wet'suwet'en territory.

While 20 elected band councils, including Wet'suwet'en First Nations, have inked deals allowing construction to go ahead, the hereditary chiefs haven't signed on.

The 1997 Supreme Court decision in Delgamuukw vs. British Columbia affirmed recognition of traditional Wet'suwet'en law, which includes



About 100 marched on Saturday afternoon.

the hereditary chief system, on its unceded lands.

While some observers say that

gives legal heft to the hereditary chiefs' opposition, it hasn't stopped the RCMP from enforcing civil injunctions granted to CGL to arrest protesters and remove barricades several times since 2019.

Saturday's rally is the latest in a string of local actions in solidarity with Wet'suwet'en hereditary chiefs.

For marcher Olivia Heppner, joining in the fight from half a continent away is a matter of taking responsibility for the actions of a government that claims to represent her.

"I think it's important to stand with the rights of all people, especially Indigenous people, who have been so utterly screwed over by the Canadian government for centuries," she said.

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Verdict in murder expected early 2022

Patrick O'Keese charged in the 2018 killing of Brayden Moonias, 18

By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

The verdict in the second-degree murder trial against Patrick O'Keese for his alleged role in the 2017 death of 18-year-old Brayden Moonias will be handed down early next year.

A date has been set for Feb. 22, 2022 for Justice Tracey Nieckarz to deliver her verdict following the eight-day trial that was held in October.

O'Keese was first charged with second-degree murder in Sept. 2017 following an investigation by the Thunder Bay Police Service into the death of Moonias, whose body was discovered on a beach in the Marina Park area near McVicar Creek on the morning of Aug. 6, 2017.

A post-mortem examination revealed that Moonias's death was multifactorial and included blunt impact trauma to the head and neck, mechanical airway obstruction, and acute ethanol and cocaine toxicity.

Throughout the course of the trial, the Crown called several witnesses, including police investigators, forensic experts, as well as two individuals who saw O'Keese the day before Moonias's body was discovered, as well as later that night, where he was described as being agitated and observed with blood on his face.

Defence council David Matthews did not call any evidence but argued that all the evidence presented by the Crown was circumstantial and based on speculation.

O'Keese was also charged with two counts of breaching a recognizance order by being out past curfew and not refraining from purchasing, possessing, or consuming alcohol. He has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

O'Keese was also charged with aggravated assault from the night of Aug. 5, 2017, which will be heard as a separate charge before the courts.

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD NOTICE

Enbridge Gas Inc. has applied to renew its natural gas franchise agreement with the Municipality of Oliver Paipooonge.

Learn more. Have your say.

Enbridge Gas Inc. has applied to the Ontario Energy Board for:

- 1. An order approving the renewal of a natural gas franchise agreement with the Municipality of Oliver Paipooonge which would grant to Enbridge Gas Inc. the right to construct, operate and add to the natural gas distribution system and to distribute, store and transmit natural gas within the Municipality of Oliver Paipooonge for a period of 20 years.**
- 2. An order directing and declaring that the assent of the municipal electors of the Municipality of Oliver Paipooonge is not required in relation to the natural gas franchise agreement.**

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) will hold a public hearing to consider Enbridge Gas's application. At the end of this hearing, the OEB will decide whether to grant Enbridge Gas's requests.

The OEB is an independent and impartial public agency. We make decisions that serve the public interest. Our goal is to promote a financially viable and efficient energy sector that provides you with reliable energy services at a reasonable cost.

CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

In order to construct any works to distribute natural gas in Ontario, a person must comply with the requirements of the *Municipal Franchises Act* (Act). This Act requires that a person that intends to construct any works to supply natural gas within a municipality must first receive approval from the OEB, in the form of a certificate of public convenience and necessity (certificate). Where the OEB has issued a certificate for an area within which there is currently no natural gas distribution service, another person can apply for a certificate to construct works to supply that area.

BE INFORMED AND HAVE YOUR SAY

You have the right to information regarding this application and to be involved in the process.

- You can review the application filed by Enbridge Gas on the OEB's website now
- You can file a letter with your comments, which will be considered during the hearing
- You can become an active participant (called an intervenor). Apply by **December 13, 2021** or the hearing will go ahead without you and you will not receive any further notice of the proceeding
- At the end of the process, you can review the OEB's decision and its reasons on our website

The OEB does not intend to provide for an award of costs for this hearing.

LEARN MORE

Our file number for this case is **EB-2021-0297**. To learn more about this hearing, find instructions on how to file a letter with your comments or become an intervenor, or to access any document related to this case, please enter the file number **EB-2021-0297** on the OEB website: www.oeb.ca/participate. You can also phone our Public Information Centre at 1-877-632-2727 with any questions.

ORAL VS. WRITTEN HEARINGS

There are two types of OEB hearings– oral and written. The OEB intends to proceed with this application by way of a written hearing. If you think an oral hearing is needed, you can write to the OEB to explain why by **December 13, 2021**.

PRIVACY

If you write a letter of comment, your name and the content of your letter will be put on the public record and the OEB website. However, your personal telephone number, home address and e-mail address will be removed. If you are a business, all your information will remain public. If you apply to become an intervenor, all information will be public.

This hearing will be held under section 9(3) and 9(4) of the Municipal Franchises Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.55.



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CHLOE KANIUSIS
August 15, 1984
November 21, 2014

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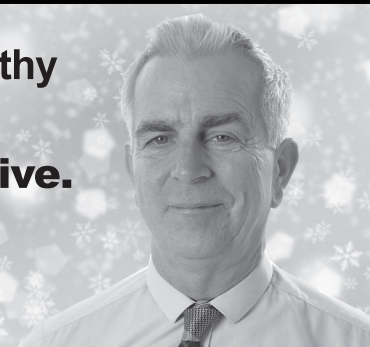
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to have a safe and
happy holiday.**



A pellet grill is a tasty and affordable way to smoke your own turkey, as well as other meats. (theonlinegrill.com)

Smoking turkey

The affordability and availability of pellet grills and large capacity smokers has made it much easier for people to get into the smoke game without laying out a ton of capital and possibly wasting a ton of food.

While using these new machines can be in many ways fool proof, it can also be one of those skills that is easy to learn but very hard to master.

The first step in smoking a turkey is the brine, the foundation of your flavouring agents. We all know a simple brine, basic salt/sugar water. It will be about half-cup of salt (one cup if using Kosher) and half-cup sugar per 1 gallon (3.8L) of brining liquid. Then you bring it to a full, rolling boil, for approximately five minutes and then cool down completely (40 degrees Fahrenheit or below). When this process is finished a raw egg should float in the cooled brine.

Now, that's a boring old brine, no one wants a boring turkey for Christmas. How do we make it a little punchier? Take your brine to the next level by replacing some or all the water with juices, liquors, vinegar, beer, wine, or chicken stock. For instance, adding bourbon can increase the smokey notes, while a southern comfort with some cherry juice will add fruity and cinnamon flavours. You can also replace your sugar with honey or maple syrup, but for a real earthy flavour add a little bit of molasses to your brine.

Alternatively (or additionally) you can also add herbs, spices, garlic, or fruits to your

water brine. Sage and Thyme are reliable and familiar but will probably be making an appearance later. Bay leaves, peppercorns, celery, carrots, and onions are also fine choices. When it comes to these flavouring agents its usually a good rule of thumb for one piece (whole apple, onion, etc) per gallon of finished brine.

Once your brine is complete, you need to completely submerge your turkey and keep refrigerated for approximately one hour per pound. Depending on your bird and timing, this may take all night.

When getting ready to smoke your turkey, the point is to allow the turkey to breathe, to get the smoke all around it. So, after removing it from the brine, and patting dry, you shouldn't stuff, or truss your turkey, you also shouldn't use a roasting pan if you

can help it. A roasting pan will diffuse the heat and smoke and keep it under your bird. Rub you're the meat down with a mix of oil, and your favourite poultry seasonings.

An eight-pound turkey will take approximately 4.5 hours at 325 C. Use a meat thermometer to monitor your turkey and cook until the breast meat and the meat between the breast and thigh are all over 165 C internally. Let your turkey rest for about 15 minutes. Then carve it up!

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



Derek Lankinen
Here's Cooking at You Kid



Backyard rink Canadian rite

Wayne Gretzky, the greatest hockey player of all time, learned to skate on a backyard rink built by his father in Brantford, Ontario. Right here in Thunder Bay, the NHL's Staal brothers also spent a great deal of time in their backyard rink, which was built by their father.

All across Canada, the backyard rink continues to be a part of the good life we live. It has become part of our winter, part of our culture. On any given evening in northern Ontario, as snowflakes fall from the sky, the sound of skates cutting the ice pierces the air and shouts of joy can be heard throughout the neighbourhood as imaginary Stanley Cup-winning goals are scored over and over.

For some insight on everything involved in creating and maintain a backyard rink, I reached out to Michel Caza, a Thunder Bay resident who first built a rink for his three children in 2009. He has continued the tradition each year since.

Caza says that "recognizing hockey as part of the social fabric in Thunder Bay, I wanted my kids to develop the skills necessary to play, to be part of a team, and to develop relationships." Outdoor rinks abound in Thunder Bay. For Caza, his earliest childhood rink was near Chippewa Park where he spent a lot of time there skating and playing hockey with friends.

When he was about 12 years old, he cleared a rink on a nearby beaver pond and cut holes in the ice, using a bucket for flooding. "For me, there was a real sense of accomplishment in creating a smooth surface to glide on. That still carries on with me today."

Caza will start watching the forecast in October and will begin by placing a tarp on the lawn to hold the water and control the amount lost during flooding. The rink boards come next and hold the tarp in place.

Typically, consistent temperatures below zero with overnight lows of -10C are required to make quality ice. His rink has been ready to go as early as the second week of November, but the extended warmth this year had post-



Backyard rinks are an annual tradition in Canada.

poned flooding until very recently.

For Caza's 24-foot by 48-foot rink, it usually takes about four hours to set the tarp and boards and another 20 hours of flooding. He will start with short, one- to two-hour floods until the base of the boards is sealed, then move on to longer flooding sessions. Caza keeps the flooding process simple. He uses cold water from a hose to fill and resurface the rink, and is systematic on how he floods, going from side to side, covering a foot or two at a time. The colder it is, the

quicker the water freezes so you have to find a pace that suits the temperature.

For Michel Caza, the work involved in making the rink each year is not a chore. "It is a labour of love being outside and resurfacing the rink. My thrill is seeing kids use it and have fun. I have taught all my kids to skate on this rink, and it will be tough to let it go one day."

For the first time this year, Michel's son Christian was able to help out in bolting the boards together and securing the tarp. "It is a tradition I hope that he will carry on with his family" says Michel, acknowledging that backyard rinks provide an amazing opportunity for the whole family to be outside, staying active and having plenty of fun together.



Keith Ailey

the GOOD LIFE

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Toys for Tots collects money to buy gifts for children in need at Christmas.

Toys for Tots back

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Paul Penna said he was worried last year. As usual, the Thunder Bay Professional Firefighters set up shop at Intercity Shopping Centre, collecting money for the annual Toys for Tots campaign.

Penna said he had no idea what to expect, the city a year ago in the midst of a COVID-19 surge that made many wary of venturing into crowded malls.

The response flooded him, the fundraising campaign collecting \$144,000.

Clearly the Thunder Bay public continues to see the importance of giving children a present to wake up to on Christmas morning, something they might not receive if Toys for Tots wasn't in place.

"The need just seems to get bigger every year," Penna said. "There are more children living in less fortunate circumstances and for us to be able to make a difference in so many of those children's lives every year – well we do it with the help of Thunder Bay, of course."

It's a tradition firefighters look forward to year after year, volunteering their time to collect donations at Intercity Shopping Centre, their way of helping ensure no child goes without each holiday season.

Last year, 3,950 children benefited from the program. No donation is too big or too small, Penna said.

"Every donation, big or small, can make a difference in a child's life this Christmas. Thunder Bay Firefighters hope to be among Santa's biggest helpers, so children can receive a gift this December," Penna said.

"Supporting the local community is important to us. Help the Thunder Bay Professional Firefighters Association give a Christmas every child deserves."

One hundred per cent of all proceeds collected go to children in need, Penna added.

To donate, there are a number of options, including on online portal at www.tbaytoysfortots.ca. The temporary fire station at Intercity Shopping Centre can be found adjacent to the food court, or donations can be made at any TD Bank branch location in Thunder Bay.

"Our guys will be standing there for most of the mall hours. People can come donate and we have a debit machine, so we accept bank cards as well as Visa or MasterCard – or cash," Penna said. "And we'll submit tax receipts to people."

Festive RIDE program begins

By Justin Hardy – TB Source

Last year Thunder Bay saw a record-breaking volume of impaired driving incidents, and police are afraid that that may not be an anomaly, but instead a sad new normal for the city.

That's according to updated statistics from the Thunder Bay Police Service's Traffic Unit, which show the number of impaired driving charges laid by officers in 2021 is nearly on pace to repeat 2020's record-breaking year.

In 2020, TBPS officers laid 299 charges related to impaired driving incidents, 95 more than the 204 recorded in 2019.

As of Nov. 24 of this year, police

had laid 220 charges related to impaired driving.

Of the 220 charges laid, 102 have been drivers impaired by drug and eight involved impaired motorists who refused to provide breath samples.

By Nov. 24 of 2020, police had recorded 112 impaired by drug incidents. In 2019 that number was 29.

"In Thunder Bay we're almost 50/50, we're higher in the province for impaired by drug drivers unfortunately, but in Thunder Bay we see an almost 50/50 split of impaired by drug versus impaired by alcohol," said Sal Carchidi, acting sergeant with the TBPS Traffic Unit.

"In relation to the drugs, I think the opioid crisis obviously extends



Police throughout the region will be out in full force over the holiday season. (Justin Hardy)

to that. The people addicted to these drugs need to traverse and unfortunately they don't choose

the safe means of doing so. So their addiction clouds their judgment and allows them to drive."

The TBPS Traffic Unit revealed these new statistics during the 2021 Festive RIDE official media launch which was held on Nov. 26. The event featured the season's first Festive RIDE spot check and included members of the OPP and the Anishinabek Police service.

Police would like to remind the public that officers have the tools and training to detect and arrest impaired drivers including approved screening devices and approved drug screening equipment.

Police are trained in detecting impaired driving, administering sobriety tests for both alcohol and drugs, as well as court-recognized drug recognition experts to determine impairment.

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December is the Christmas month

Brown November gives way to the Yuletide season

Just as with Halloween wherein my daughter declared the entire month of October to be dedicated to “Samhain (Halloween), so too December for her is the Christmas month for the entire month!

Well, looking around I think some folks started the celebration in November anxious to get through the drearies of brown November.

And brown November was, sometimes frigid, often hovering around the zero celsius mark during the day.

We had snow, usually mere dustings a lot of which still lyeth

upon the ground in patches.

November is a great time for getting firewood that doesn't need seasoning like standing-dead balsam, spruce, and tamarack all of which we have on our property. On our ambles, nay, saunters we laughingly call a walk, my wife,

Laura, and I timber cruise looking for such ready-to-burn specimens.

All I have to do is get out there with chainsaw and quad, fell the suckers, buck them into fireplace-sized pieces, split those pieces that need it, and viola! Stack most and carry some to drop into the fire box beside the fireplace.

The other wood ready to burn is poplar.

Sunday afternoon, we headed onto the main trail where our tree-spotting had located a tall,

dead poplar with almost all of the bark removed.

Aha! Bark removed usually means good, solid wood for the basement boiler.

Unusually (I'm not a skilled lumberjack), I managed to drop the tree right where I wanted.

When I looked up I saw that the falling tree narrowly missed two aspiring white pine saplings (my favourite tree).

Whew!

Bucked pieces of poplar all fit onto the cart being towed behind the quad and amazingly, none fell off as quad, cart, and lumberjack Fred bounced down the trail and on to Casa Jones where the splitter is located.

Didn't take long to split the pieces and as I continued, Laura loaded the wheelbarrow and threw the newly-split pieces into the basement.

We still had about three cords of seasoned birch so we added a

couple of wheelbarrows at that too.

And while poplar doesn't deliver nearly the BTU's (heat) as birch or black ash that doesn't deliver nearly the BTU's as hardwoods such as oak or maple which we don't have up here, beggars can't be choosers so poplar will have to do. At least Casa Jones will be warm this winter.

But this past week has been topsy-turvey for us. We've been living in this house for twenty-one years. The floors, especially the entrance leading into the dining/kitchen area has undergone severe punishment from dogs claws, farmer boots (too lazy or in a hurry to remove).

Laura hired an amazingly handy gent not only with all things mechanical but re-doing floors as well.

Thus, we moved into our live-in basement. Not a hardship really except for cooking anything not

involving a microwave.

The pooches eventually got used to the fact that we no longer entered our 'hoosie' via the front door. Result?

The floors are gorgeous. They look brand new.

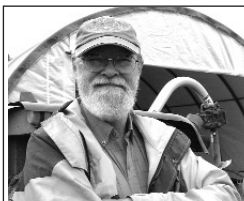
We've been able to move back upstairs which was truly a blessing. Next year we re-do the wooden basement floors.

Now December. Snow is promised.

On Saturday afternoon on one of our ambles in the 'back 40', we found a likely candidate for a Christmas tree. Don't want to get it too soon since we don't want all the needles to fall off before The Day.

And as I mentioned, not only does Daughter Beth want December to be an entire month celebrating Christmas, but she expects serious snow beginning Dec. 1.

Hear that Ol' man Winter?



Fred Jones

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3. Return your filled wish bag **BY MONDAY, DECEMBER 6th.**

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House of Gucci comes up short

House of Gucci (SilverCity) has guilty pleasure written all over it. A re-visiting of a scandalous true story about a famous family undone by treachery and betrayal leading to lurid murder decades ago set against the backdrop of wealth, privilege and high fashion certainly seems tantalizing.

Trailers suggest a taut dark thriller or campy melodrama or maybe a little of both. Alas, "Gucci" disappoints on all counts.

It's 1978. Working-class gal Patrizia Reggiani (Lady Gaga) meets stiff student lawyer, Maurizio Gucci (Adam Driver.) Sparks fly. Maurizio's father Rodolfo (Jeremy Irons) disapproves of Patrizia as a lowly gold-digger with possible mob connections. Maurizio marries her anyway. Rodolfo disowns his son. Soon after, Rodolfo dies.

Socially awkward Maurizio surprisingly blends in with the working class boys in the trucking business owned by Patrizia's father. But Maurizio's uncle Adolfo (Al Pacino) cajoles the newlyweds to move to New York so Maurizio can take his dad's spot to help the ailing family business.

Patrizia soon sees Adolfo and his doofus son, would-be designer Paolo (Jared Leto) as liabilities. (Whiny Leto gleefully chews the scenery under buckets of unflattering make-up.) Patrizia schemes to divide and conquer.



Marty Mascarín
MOVIE TALK

Moves on

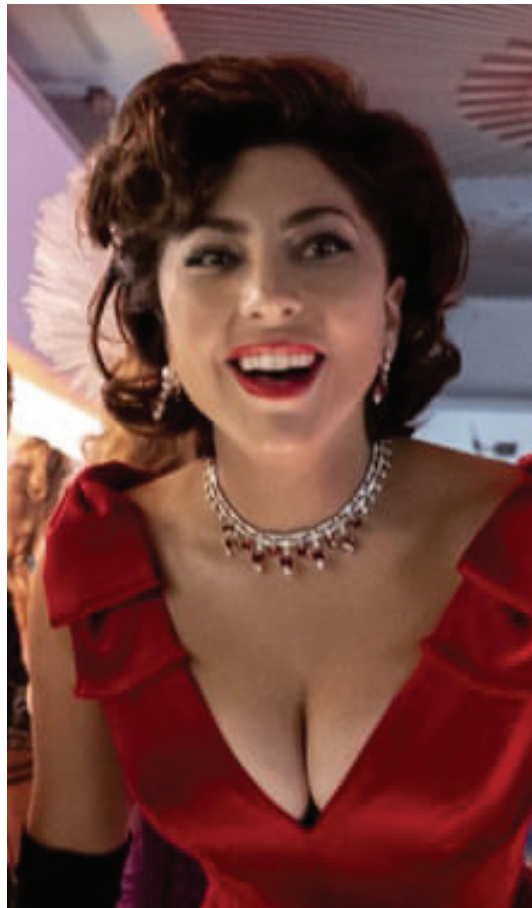
Maurizio ascends thanks to Patrizia's machinations, supported by Patrizia's TV psychic advisor, Pina (Salma Hayek). But eventually Maurizio tires of Patrizia's pushiness and dumps her. Maurizio is murdered in 1995. Requisite parties face the judicial music.

A juicy Machiavellian story like this should properly flesh out the rogues' gallery. However, a cohesive narrative augmented by some self-aware wit is found wanting in the patchy script by Becky Johnston and Roberto Bentivegno.

Patrizia's narration could have comically revealed the devious thought processes of a sly working class outsider determinedly manipulating a clueless rich family. Such satirical opportunities go unrealized.

Spotty characterization also undermines Adam Driver's Maurizio. While we see him evolve from earnest law student to working class Joe to ambitious executive to indulgent wastrel, his character is a dial tone. As a consequence, the film's key relationship involving Maurizio and Patrizia fizzles.

The movie also fails to define what made Gucci great. Brothers Rodolfo and Adolfo come off as



Lady Gaga stars in *House of Gucci*, a film that could have an enjoyable romp, but is more of an off-the-hook knock-off.

aging dry rot. There's no illustration of the company as a creative fashion force. Ridley Scott's ("The Last Duel") direction is curiously unfocused in a nearly three hour slog.

Poor writing

The film's glitzy, slick trailers (which tell the story better than the movie) highlights the cast's Oscar pedigree, as if this movie is similarly worthy. Past glories don't count. Art direction and costuming may get considerations. The locations are lavish.

The filmmakers could have also posted a warning: "Italian accents at risk."

The cast's Radio Free Europe tongues don't exactly engender authenticity.

In the trailer, an echoing Blondie track hints at glory days long since faded. Little glory is found here.

What could have been an enjoyable romp about the foibles of the rich and famous is a ho-hum off-the-rack knock-off.

Medical partners

By TB Source staff

A new partnership gives Lakehead University students facing challenges getting into medical school the chance to study medicine in a tropical location.

Lakehead and the Trinity Medical Sciences University – located on the Caribbean island of St. Vincent – say the collaboration provides LU students a unique opportunity for global education and a competitive advantage.

Along with a waived application fee and scholarships available exclusively to Lakehead students, Trinity offers a streamlined admissions process that grants conditional acceptance to applicants that meet its requirements.

This will significantly decrease the

amount of time and effort it usually takes to complete and process medical school applications.

Lakehead officials say Trinity reached out to them, and that the agreement has nothing to do with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine's decision this year to become a stand-alone university and grant its own degrees.

NOSM will maintain a physical presence at LU where it leases space.

"I don't see any connection at all, frankly," said vice-provost international James Aldridge.

"There's 10 or more times as many applicants to medical schools in Ontario, including NOSM, as there are spaces available. It's not the kind of student who would be going to NOSM who would be interested in going to school in the Caribbean."



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Vaccine mandates hit Hollywood

It began simply enough. A woman walked into the night, leaving her husband and newborn child. An ex-husband suddenly left to rebuild Haiti. Then an NCIS agent moved to Alaska. A rookie cop was executed by a drug cartel. And three staff members departed the E.D. on *Chicago Med*.

One by one, characters have been disappearing from popular shows without warning. Poof. Gone.

Of course, there were reasons. Some had babies. (Quarantine's good for that.) Another just turned 70. (So playing an active federal agent is just ridiculous.)

But some disappeared for the

same reason people are disappearing from jobs in other industries.

While putting on a mask is an annoyance for some, it's impossible for working actors unless the scene actually requires it. So many favour vaccination requirements on-set to keep everyone safe.

Sean Penn, who founded Community Organized Relief Effort (CORE), supplied COVID-19 testing and vaccine distribution

across Los Angeles County. So it's no surprise that this summer, Penn walked off the set of his upcoming movie, demanding that everyone in the crew be vaccinated.

Meanwhile, another Hollywood set was shut down because one of the production's unvaccinated stars tested positive. That delay was said to cost the studio nearly \$6 million.

Consequently, the various Hollywood unions developed a "COVID-19 Safety Agreement." It allowed producers to decide whether those working in Zone A – main actors who cannot wear a mask because of storylines as well as key crew members – had to be vaccinated. It protects the cast. But it's also making people disappear.

Child actors have all-but vanished from most sets due to the initial lack of a vaccine for those under 12.

The adults have options. But daytime soap star Steve Burton, who played Jason Morgan on *General Hospital* for 30 years,

announced that he had been fired over the show's vaccine requirement. Of course, he failed to mention that he'd also tested positive.

911 star, Rockmond Dunbar left after his application for religious and medical exemption was denied. And producers chose not to pick up Emilio Estevez's option for Season 2 of *The Mighty Ducks: Game Changers* because he disagreed with the show's vaccine requirements. (Seriously, *Mighty Ducks* without Emilio Estevez?)

In response, many of their vaccinated co-stars are publicly understanding and diplomatic about their choice. (Never know who you'll work with in the future.) Some, however, have been less tactful. *Mandalorian* and *Better Call*

Saul actor, Giancarlo Esposito said "If you don't want to vaccinate, go to a small island and sequester yourself. [Otherwise] you're saying '@#*& you' to all you other human beings."

And the king of Hollywood's moral code, George Clooney, has been equally direct.

"Every generation in our country for more than a lifetime has been asked to sacrifice something for the safety of their fellow man ... All that anyone's being asked here is to get a shot in the arm and put on a mask. Grow up."

So as more sets adopt vaccine mandates, be prepared to say goodbye to more of your favourite characters. After all, "growing up" is unlikely in Hollywood's land of make believe.



Fiona Gardiner

FI TV

December 6

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December 6, 1989

14 women killed & 10 others injured at
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**YEAR END
APPEAL**



Artist Ryan Newman's work can be found on traffic signal boxes near Lakehead University and the hospital, and at James and Arthur streets. (Justin Hardy)

Signal boxes get new look

Leith Dunlick – TB Source

Thunder Bay intersections are about to get a whole lot more colourful.

The first in a series of a dozen vinyl-wrapped traffic signal boxes have been unveiled, one on the city's south side, the other on the north side.

The artwork has been designed by local artists, including Ryan Newman's whose Makwa (Bear) and Floral, are on display at the intersections of Oliver Road and Sanders Drive and Arthur and James streets.

The work of five additional artists—

Jordan Danielsson, Natalie Hotson, Rebecca Knight, Vicki Nerion and boy Roland—is expected to be put on display next year, the city promising to showcase the art in high-traffic locations, including some along the city's designated image routes.

"The graphic vinyl wraps contribute to the vitality and attractiveness of the streetscape by beautifying city infrastructure, adding colour and a unique story to each intersection," said Louisa Costanzo, supervisor of cultural development and events, in a release issued last week.

Signal boxes are located near pedestrian walkways at controlled intersections and are typically plain solid-colour metal.

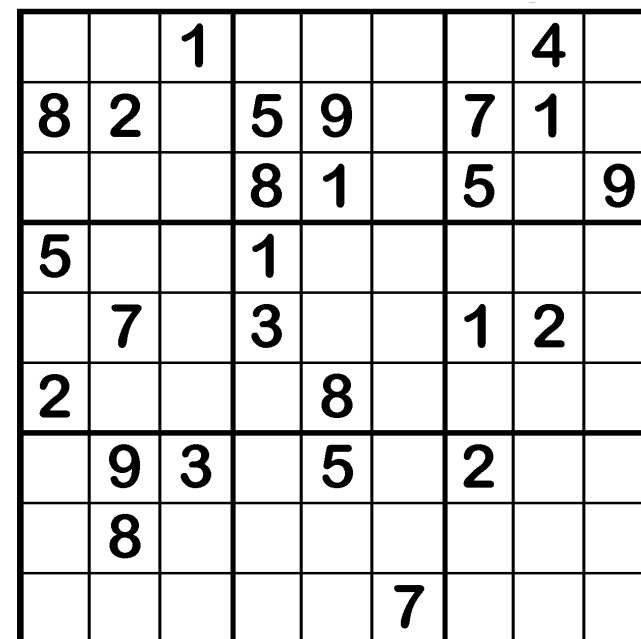
When all the artwork has been installed, the plan is to include the signal boxes in a new tour on the Thunder Bay Tours app, which is available for download in both the Apple iTunes and Google Play stores.

The project was funded through the Clean, Green and Beautiful committee's emerging projects fund and is a collaboration between the public art committee and the recreation, culture and engineering division.

ENIGMA™ CRYPTOGRAM

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

"WU VF FBFQIW AMUQ WSF IGYKUH
EKWS ESKZS UWSFMY GMF
WUMQFHWFL, KY WSF UHON IOFGYKHP
YUOKWCLF." — RUYFIS GLLKYUH



ACROSS

- 1 Broad structural basin
- 5 Prayer beads
- 9 Island
- 12 In the same place (Lat.)
- 13 Above
- 14 Cheer
- 15 Verdi opera
- 16 Shortly
- 17 Nat'l Security Agency (abbr.)
- 18 Drunk driving (abbr.)
- 20 House (Fr.)
- 22 Article
- 25 Atl. Coast Conference (abbr.)
- 27 Explosive letters
- 28 King
- 29 Wound mark
- 31 Dull color
- 34 Dance company (abbr.)
- 35 Immature insect
- 37 Antiaircraft artillery (abbr.)
- 38 Lake
- 40 Television channel
- 41 Peeve
- 42 According to (2 words)
- 44 Atomic Energy Commission (abbr.)
- 45 Born
- 46 Enlarge
- 49 Body of water
- 51 Small (Scot.)
- 52 Ireland
- 54 Wildly talk
- 58 Insult
- 59 Pain
- 60 Nurse shark
- 61 Ibsen character
- 62 Grass
- 63 Us dam

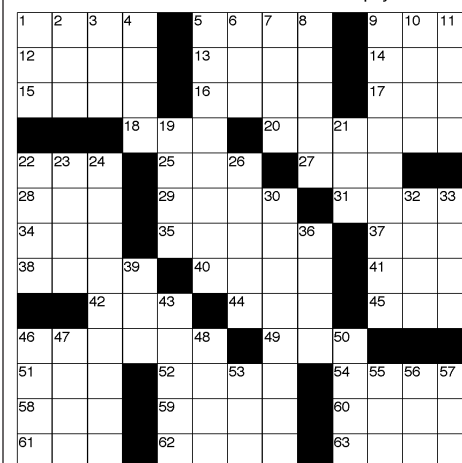
DOWN

- 1 Aunt (Sp.)
- 2 Mother of

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

PORC GRUB ABM
ACEA RAVE MIA
SHIP ABOUT LEI
RAT LIZARD
TAHITI ADE
AME ANA EARED
HORN GIE LAVA
ASSAM NMI NEF
SOO BASALT
SCHOOL ALE
AAAL IAR MAIL
BRA AGAG EASE
EBB HOLO LAET

- 3 Hezekiah
- 4 Top
- 5 exclamation
- 6 P.I. volcano
- 7 Emerge
- 8 Yearly church payment
- 9 Pressure
- 10 And
- 11 Birth a lamb
- 19 Stinging insect
- 21 Indiana (abbr.)
- 22 Trolley
- 23 Daughter of Zeus
- 24 Insert (2 words)
- 26 Rom. box
- 30 Colza
- 32 Berne's river
- 33 Roast
- 36 Noun-forming (suf.)
- 39 Guido's note (2 words)
- 43 Almost
- 46 Grape disease
- 47 Christmas (abbr.)
- 48 Gaming cubes
- 50 Ship of the Argonauts
- 53 Fluidity unit
- 55 Amer. Automobile Assn. (abbr.)
- 56 Ultimate degree
- 57 To (Scot.)



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Happy New Year.

Browning still teaching

By Leith Dunick -TB Source

Kurt Browning was crowned the world's best male figure skater on four separate occasions.

Three times he went to the Olympics, not once winning a medal.

The Alberta native understands the highs and lows of a sport famous for taking a toll on its athletes, one of the reasons he journeys to rinks across the country each year, passing on his knowledge to a generation of skaters who weren't even born when Browning, now 55, was winning world titles.

Browning was in Thunder Bay last week, where he held a series of sessions with skaters from the Thunder Bay Figure Skating Club, the Fort William Skating Club and

throughout the region.

Beyond the chance to give back and help young skaters improve their skills on the ice, the sport also provides plenty of life lessons that can be beneficial off the ice, Browning said.

"I feel like the whole sport has given me my whole life. This is who I was when I was a little kid. It's who I am still and I don't see an end in sight. I'm in love with the sport and I'm in love with what it does for kids because the short version is life isn't always fair and sometimes when you're judged by humans, you don't get the result you want," Browning said.

"There's a lot of falling. A lot of determination is created with this sport. The joke is if you can stand at centre ice, waiting for music in

something your mom made you, that's going to make you pretty tough. So I have a lot of fun giving life lessons to the kids as well as the skating lessons. I think they should go hand in hand."

Browning, who was inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame in 1994 and the Skate Canada Hall of Fame six years later, admitted part of the reason he makes the treks to outposts like Thunder Bay – he drove here – is to inspire young athletes to stick with figure skating.

"My goal is to come to communities and make sure the kids fall in love with skating a little bit more, that they like themselves. It's really about self-worth. I can critique all day. I can pick and choose from the very best skaters in the world and

tell them what they're doing wrong," Browning said.

"The hard part is building them up as people. I think that's the most important part of my seminars, to get them to want to come back to the rink the next day."

The kids might not have seen Browning skate in his prime, but loved learning from a Canadian legend.

"It was really nice to be able to learn from him," said Samantha Halliday.

"Yeah, it was really fun. He has so much experience, so it was really cool to learn from someone like him," said teen Carsyn Ongaro.

Wyatt Bourgeois had fun too.

"It was nice to get his input on some of our things," he said.



Kurt Browning visited Thunder Bay last week.



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Fighting Walleye win again

It was an overtime win 49 hours in the making. Kyle Lamoureux scored with 28 seconds left to go in the extra frame on Saturday night, delivering the Kam River Fighting Walleye a 2-1 win over the Thunder Bay North Stars, the completion of a game halted midway through the second period on Friday when Thunder Bay's Pier-Luc Bellard crashed head first into the NorWest Arena boards.

Kam River led 1-0 at the time, on an Alex Enegren tally.

"That one felt weird. It was hard to get your mind back into it right away, but within a snap it just kind of felt like a normal game again, after that first shift," said Lamoureux, a Winnipeg-born defenceman who started the season with the Carleton Place Canadians and had yet to score in 10 appearances with the Fighting Walleye.

"Starting in the D zone, don't ask me about that. But getting right into it, it felt pretty good."

Kam River started the night with a 1-0 lead and 9:02 left on the second-period clock and neither team found the back of the net by the time the buzzer sounded to end the frame.

Stars captain Hunter Foreshew didn't need much time to pot the equalizer in the third, ending Austin Madge's shutout bid just 91 seconds after the opening puck drop, the lone goal of the period.

Both teams had their chances to end things in



Kam River's Kyle Lamoureux (right) battles Thunder Bay's Kyler Belluz on Sunday night, a completion of Friday's game.

regulation, none better than Fighting Walleye forward Christian Veneruzzo, who slipped between a pair of Thunder Bay defenders late in the period and marched in alone on goaltender Jordan Smith.

Smith, the wily veteran, stood his ground, foiling Veneruzzo's backhand attempt.

It appeared the game was headed for a

shootout as the final minute of overtime arrived, but Lamoureux had other ideas.

"I was real tired. It's been quite the three days, so going out there I was just trying to keep it simple. (Enegren) set me up with the easiest goal of my life, I think. I just made it look pretty," Lamoureux said.

"I think that was such a test for our team."

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MBB team turning it around

When the OUA men's basketball season opened, the Lakehead Thunderwolves were just outside the national top 10.

Not bad for a team that lost OUA all-star Isaiah Traylor to graduation and shot-blocker extraordinaire Lock Lam, who left, I'm told, for academic reasons.

They opened with a win against McMaster, but then were humbled the following night and dropped four in a row before finally beating Laurier on the road.

It looks like they're back on track.

Last Friday the Thunderwolves dropped a three-point decision to the No. 10 Western Mustangs, then

followed it up with a thrilling 110-109 win the following night to close out the pre-Christmas section of their schedule.

Laoui Msambya, the Wolves second-year guard, scored the game-tying bucket to send the game to overtime, then hit a buzzer-beating lay-up to earn LU the one-point.

Msambya's energy is going to be key to any success the Thunderwolves (3-5) have in the

second half.

So too is **Michael Okafor**.

The Toronto native, an NCAA transfer, has shown flashes of brilliance in his team's opening eight games, but has to learn to stay out of

foul trouble. He's not much good to coach **Ryan Thomson** when he's sitting on the bench.

The key going forward will be picking things up on the defensive end. The Wolves are allowing more than 90 points an outing, which puts tremendous pressure on the offence to hit every shot.

High-scoring shootouts are fun, but unless Okafor or someone else steps up, it'll be buckets by committee and that's always hit or miss.

On the women's side, coach **Jon Kreiner** has some real issues.

All-star guard **Sofia Lluch** is no longer with the team, at least for now, and while Kreiner expressed hope she'll be back after the break, and gave no explanation why the

Spanish import was not at the CJ Sanders Fieldhouse last weekend, it remains to be seen.

Without Lluch on the court, this team isn't going anywhere. At 1-7 heading into the break and plagued by injuries, the Thunderwolves are in a heap of trouble these days.

Kaylah Lewis and **Paula Lopez** are sidelined and Kreiner hopes to have both back.

August Ricketts, who hasn't played in four seasons, stepped back onto the court recently and has fared well in reduced minutes, but it's going to take time for her to get her basketball legs back under her.

Rookies **Ally Burke**, **Eva Guillera** and **Alexia Giroux** have shown signs of stardom, but also make freshman mistakes on a nightly basis.

A big shoutout to senior guard

Tiffany Reynolds, as hard a worker as I've seen.

Krista McCarville gave it a good run, but it will be Jennifer Jones representing Canada, for the second time, at the Olympic Games.

McCarville fell 8-3 in the semifinals to Jones, but it looks like she'll be in the hunt for a first Scotties Tournament of Hearts title on home ice early next year.

It sounds like Thunder Bay North Stars forward **Pier-Luc Bellard** is going to be OK. He crashed head-first into the NorWest Arena boards last Friday. The game was halted and resumed on Sunday. **Raj Sangha** is no longer with the Stars.



Leith Dunick
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