



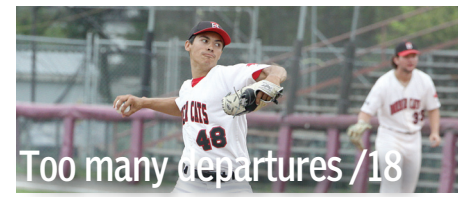
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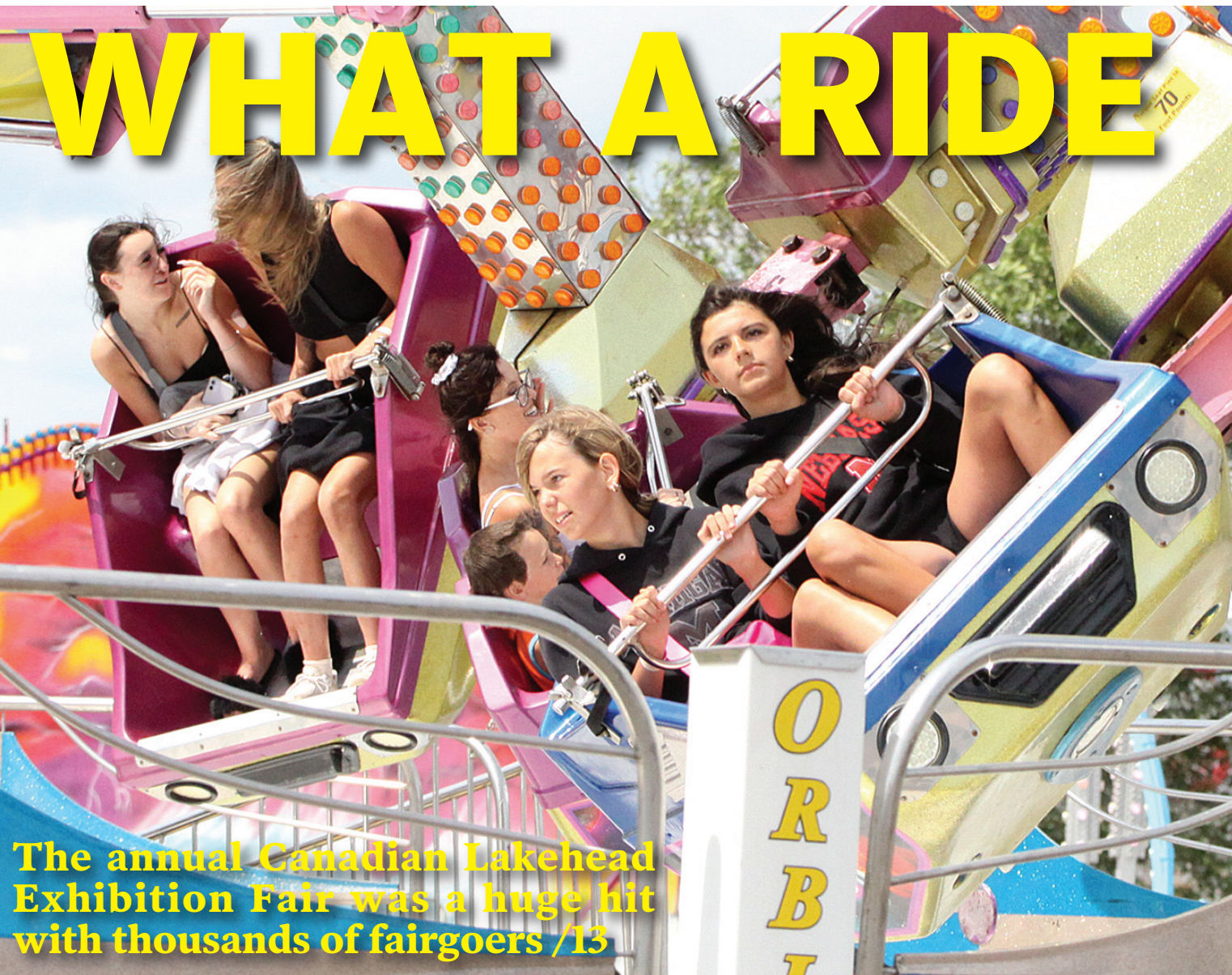
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Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol. 22 No. 33

Thursday, August 15, 2024

# WHAT A RIDE



The annual Canadian Lakehead Exhibition Fair was a huge hit with thousands of fairgoers /13

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The rides are always the biggest hit at the CLE's annual fair, which ran from last Wednesday through last Sunday at the fairgrounds. (Leith Dunick)



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# Tikinagan

Child & Family Services

## What is the meaning of ᑲᑲᑦᑎᑦᑎ ᑲᑲᑦᑎᑦᑎ ᑲᑲᑦᑎᑦᑎ 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.”

For more information, go to [TIKINAGAN.ORG](http://TIKINAGAN.ORG)

# Encampment guidelines kept

## Council agrees with admin's five-metre rule from trails, parking lots, sidewalks and bridges

By Olivia Browning - TB Source

At Monday's meeting council chose to maintain the five-metre distance from encampments that was recommended by administration.

This includes not having encampments within five metres of any trail, sidewalk, parking lot, or bridge, including pedestrian access points to those areas and structures.

All councillors voted in favour of keeping the five-metre distance except Coun. Dominic Pasqualino and Coun. Albert Aiello.

Administration stated in its report that increasing the distance to 10 metres may have the unintended consequence of pushing encampments further into public spaces. This shift could also lead to increased conflicts between encampment residents and non-encampment residents.

After the meeting, Rilee Willianen, a policy and research analyst with the city, said there are a couple of issues they considered.

"One of those things being that if you remove the distance from sidewalks and trails and you increase it, you run the risk of two potential scenarios happening.

"One is that people will move into more open green spaces which tend to be in residential areas, or people will go into more bushy areas and that's a concern for emergency services access.

"In both of those scenarios, you're pushing folks away from the supports and services that they need."

### Too far

The report said increasing the distance to 10 metres would push encampments further from vital services such as health care, food distribution, and social services. Increasing the distance to 10 metres could also complicate emergency services' access to encampments.

"Ensuring a reasonable proximity is crucial for efficient and effective response times, directly impacting the safety and wellbeing of individuals living in encampments," the report said.



At-large Coun. Trevor Giertuga wanted more space between encampments and public access areas.

Coun. Trevor Giertuga received council's support for a referral to explore increasing the guideline from five metres to 10 metres at the July 15 meeting. In an interview after the meeting, he said he will continue to keep an eye on this matter.

### Keep the access

"We've heard there might be some concern with emergency services and access. I have assurances from the senior manager that this is something that will be up for ongoing review and it's something I can bring up again if we find that that it's becoming an issue.

"I'm not prepared to wait that long. Especially for the people in certain areas," he said.

Some people have been dealing with this issue for three or four years, he said.

"We've been trying to find a resolution for everyone that's going to be beneficial."

Giertuga said designated sites are something they need to investigate.

"Things can be regulated a lot better. You can have showers, you can have food, shelter. "We can't just have people pulling up shop anywhere, right?"

Giertuga said they need help from the provincial and federal governments.

"Housing isn't a Thunder Bay issue. It's a provincial issue."

# WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<b>Rain</b>	<b>Rain</b>	<b>Mostly Cloudy</b>	<b>Partly Cloudy</b>
Precipitation: <b>80%</b> HIGH <b>23</b> LOW <b>16</b>	Precipitation: <b>80%</b> HIGH <b>22</b> LOW <b>15</b>	Precipitation: <b>30%</b> HIGH <b>26</b> LOW <b>15</b>	Precipitation: <b>20%</b> HIGH <b>26</b> LOW <b>14</b>





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# Ford promising millions for jobs

By Austin Campbell – Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The province is putting millions of dollars to train more people for jobs in the trades, specifically in Northwestern Ontario.

Premier Doug Ford and David Piccini, minister of labour, immigration, training and skills development, made an appearance in Thunder Bay at Ironworkers Local 759.

The pair announced the province's nearly \$17 million investment through the Skills Development Fund to train over 36,000 workers in the mining, construction, energy and forestry sectors.

Ford said he was thrilled to be back in Thunder Bay and even more thrilled about what this announcement means for communities in the North.

"These investments will help train thousands of workers throughout Northern Ontario – for better jobs that deliver better, bigger paycheques. . . It will help build the homes, hospitals, schools, highways, and other critical infrastructure that the region needs.

"It will help attract new investments and spur economic growth here in Thunder Bay and throughout the north. It's another important step as we work together to unlock Northern Ontario's tremendous economic potential," he said.

"I always say we can't build infrastructure, and we can't attract investments if we don't have the workers."

The announcement includes the construction of new training facilities for Science North, Sheet Metal Workers Union Local 397, and Ironworkers Local 759.

This funding also aims to boost training and accessibility for First Nations in the region, with \$1 million going to Keewaytinook Okimakinak for training in carpentry and other building trades.

Close to \$10 million is being invested to Agnico Eagle Mines Limited to train people for careers in mining in partnership with Matachewan, Taykwa Tagamou, and Moose Cree First Nations.

Finally, \$580,000 has been dedicated to the Northern Centre for Advanced Technology (NORCAT) to deliver training programs focused on skills and safety knowledge across the forestry, mining, exploration and energy development sectors as well.

Piccini said the funding is ultimately about developing a robust workforce that can withstand changes in the Canadian economy and "look to where the puck is going."

"NORCAT is doing it in Terrace Bay right



Premier Doug Ford visited the city last Friday.

now with their Action Centre and we're keen to ensure our workforce is nimble and go from job-to-job. There are so many of them that are needed," he said.

He also responded to recent fluctuations in the market for lithium and whether or not the province is concerned about how that could affect the EV supply chain.

"There's always ebbs and flows in markets, but I think that when you look to the estimated supply and some exploratory work that's going on ... Agnico Eagle - \$2.2 billion they're investing just in exploratory work and two potential mine sites. I don't want to be dependent on China for nickel.

"China's cornering the market when it comes to a number of rare earth minerals, and we have an imperative. It's all connected – we need the federal government. I applaud our collective work for de-carbonization but you can't make the process so long that we actually miss out on the opportunity."

He reiterated the provincial government is working with First Nations communities and leaders to realize a collective vision of economic prosperity.

"We're working together to make sure that those workers have the skillsets for the jobs of tomorrow, be it in mining, be it in forestry.

"We're very confident that, regardless, we're going to need these critical minerals for a variety of functions from the U.S. military to electric vehicles to the tradesmen and women and ironworkers for the power production we need," he said.

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# Transit driver accused of racism

Witness alleges driver told Indigenous man to 'Go jump in the river.'

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Thunder Bay's city manager says he's aware of allegations of racism levelled at a Thunder Bay Transit driver, adding the alleged incident is under investigation.

According to a recent Facebook post, a Transit driver refused to let elderly Indigenous passengers off at their stop, and when the son of the couple in question reacted, the driver allegedly told the young man to 'Go jump in the river.'

In a release issued late Monday night, city manager John Collin said an investigation is under way.

"We are committed to fostering a welcoming, safe and inclusive transit service for all employees, passengers and the general public," Collin said. "We thank those who've come forward to share their concerns. Be assured this matter is being thoroughly investigated and addressed."

There have been a number of deaths and



The City of Thunder Bay says it is investigating allegations that a Thunder Bay Transit driver acted in a racist manner toward Indigenous passengers. (FILE)

other close calls involving Indigenous men and women around Thunder Bay water ways in recent years.

The release went on to say no interviews would be granted at this time.

According to the Facebook post, the

alleged incident took place between 5:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. on the Memorial to County Fair route on Aug. 5.



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# Condo recycling headaches

By Olivia Browning - TB Source

As city residents continue to get used to the new recycling bins, apartment and condo buildings are still trying to determine the best course of action.

John Janssen, manager of maintenance and works for Synergy Property Management Solutions, said it has been a nightmare.

Janssen said they are concerned about the end user and trying to make it as seamless as possible for them.

"The end user is usually the one to suffer the most because you have older people who don't have the strength in their upper body to even lift the lid.

"We've even had an incident where someone has fallen backwards after putting something in one of the bins, and injured themselves."

Janssen said they were given the option of carts, which were distributed to residential homes, or large bins, however the buildings were not designed with those facilities in place.

"With the limitations of the GFL — they have tried to accommodate as best as they can. But with only two options of carts or bins, in



City residents have been using the new recycling carts since July 1, but some apartment and condo owners are up in arms. Some cases neither of them work," he said.

Janssen said his office has been flooded with calls from people unhappy about the situation. In a lot of cases it's well beyond their control.

"It's been rough for everybody. I think it's something that was imposed without really

getting in touch with people at the ground level."

Janssen said they're at about a 50-per-cent margin now where there is adequate space for recycling.

For example, one of the buildings has 60

units and only eight recycling bins.

"As time goes on, we're trying to iron out the wrinkles. We thought we would be done with this by the end of July, but it seems to be an ongoing issue.

"I wish everything would have been planned out better. I wish there were other options. It appears that some of the properties where we thought we had things settled are now running into issues."

Moving to a private company for recycling in places where it's not an option to have carts or bins is an idea that's being "kicked around" by corporations, he said.

"This is just overwhelming. Without meeting with people who would have to deal with this and just implementing it, seems like the wrong way of going about it to me. I think it could have been planned out a little better," Janssen said, adding that they've been working closely with GFL to find solutions.

Circular Materials responded with a statement via email.

"Circular Materials is pleased to report that the transition to wheeled recycling carts in Thunder Bay has been progressing well . . . We are committed to ensuring a seamless transition for all Thunder Bay residents.



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EDITORIAL

## Housing crunch

The city's homeless situation isn't going to magically go away.

It requires a nuanced approach from all levels of government.

What it doesn't need are politicians and residents trying to pass the buck to someone else.

These are human beings we're talking about, people who are down on their luck or facing mental health challenges — with a grievous lack of mental health supports available in Canada.

Thunder Bay, like hundreds of communities throughout North America, needs more affordable housing.

It must be the cornerstone of any development projects approved going forward.

The province has to come up with a plan to address the lack of mental health care available in Ontario, and the federal government can look at rules limiting foreign ownership of housing, tamping down immigration levels to lessen the stress on the availability of existing housing stock. Increasing the housing accelerator fund would also be a good idea.

Together, it's a problem we can solve, but we have to have the will.

## Homeless and still human

To the editor:

Homeless people need help why is the city hiding from this?

I have been homeless six years and can't get any help,

The list for housing is a joke.

This could happen to anyone.

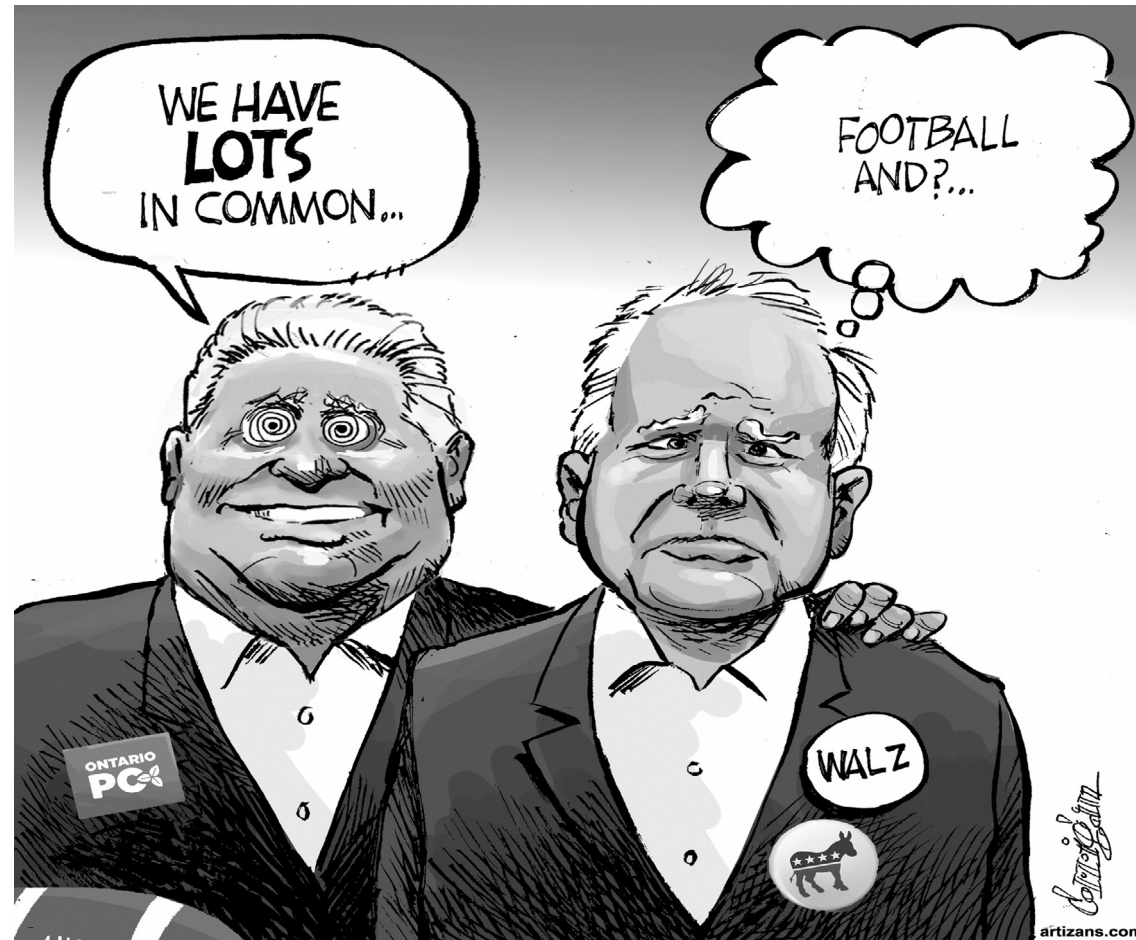
I never thought it happen to me and it's a very hard life,

Think about the winter time here as well. It's very cold and the food prices? Wow, right?

We are not all bad people. We make mistakes, but to hate people for this is not right at all. I can tell you a lot things that happened to me in these last six years and you all be in shock.

James Dickson,  
Thunder Bay

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



# Barclay's Take Your Breath Away shines

*Take Your Breath Away* by Linwood Barclay features a play called *The Casual Librarian*, 'a comedic farce', and a shopping mall - TrumbullGate - that is going out of business. That all sounds familiar.

'There's hundreds of dying malls across the country. Victims of online shopping, the loss of anchor stores that've gone bust, and then you throw in a pandemic on top of that. Malls can't cut it.'

When ex provincial premier Kathleen Wynne - who described herself as 'a recovering politician' - interviewed Linwood Barclay at the Toronto International Festival of Authors, he

explained how he came up with the plots of his novels.

First he conjures up an impossible premise - in this case a missing woman who has suddenly returned under mysterious circumstances - and then he figures out a logical explanation.

One weekend while Andrew Mason was on a fishing trip his wife, Brie, vanished without a trace. Most everyone assumed Andy had gotten away with murder - it's always the husband isn't it? - but the police could never build a strong case against him.

For a while Andy hit rock bottom - he drank too much to numb the pain, was aban-

doned by all his friends save one, nearly lost his business, and became a pariah in the place he once called home.

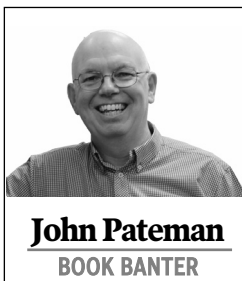
Now, six years later, Andy has finally put his life back together. He sold the house he once shared with Brie and moved away. To tell the truth, he wasn't sad to hear that the old place was razed and a new house was built on the site. He's settled down with a new partner, Jayne, and life is good.

But Andy's peaceful world is about to shatter. One day, a woman shows up at his old address screaming 'Where's my house? What's happened to my house?' And then, just as suddenly as she appeared, the woman - who bears a striking resemblance to Brie - is gone. The police are notified and old questions - and dark suspicions - resurface.

Could Brie really be alive after all these years? If so, where has she been? It soon becomes clear that Andy's future and the lives of those closest to him depend on discovering what exactly is going on. The trick will be whether he can stay alive long enough to unearth the answer.

This novel has all the twists and turns of a classic psychological thriller which keeps you guessing right up to the final page. But there's no mystery about what happens to the mall:

'TrumbullGate was typical of hundreds of malls across the country. Victims of online shopping, the collapse of anchor stores and, more recently, the pandemic, which forced millions of people to alter their retail habits.' Enough said.



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# Cruisers say the sea's the limit

By JR Shermack - For TB Source

Human history includes stories of adventure on the high seas by explorers in wooden ships and although those swashbuckling days are long gone, the lure of the sea remains.

Vacation season is well under way and it appears that fewer people than ever are planning to spend theirs on dry land this year.

The global vacation market is valued at \$2 trillion as affluent tourism consumers look for new (and expensive) ways to contribute to this very lucrative jackpot.

The quest for an ultimate holiday experience is leading many vacationers to spend large sums travelling the world's oceans aboard luxury cruise ships.

The industry is enjoying a resurgence lately and robust growth is erasing the downturn and devastation caused by the covid pandemic.

An estimated 35.7 million passengers are expected to embark in 2024 and major cruise lines are poised to cater to their clients' extravagant nautical needs.

In response to the growing number of cruise ship passengers the service offerings have been enhanced with special cruises sailing to private islands and resorts.

For example, Royal Caribbean delivers

passengers to its private island, Perfect Day at CocoCay, where over three million guests are expected to stay in 2024.

Cruise ship operators hope to attract more first-time passengers away from their traditional land-based vacations - 'new-to-cruise' bookings are up 30 per cent over last year.

In anticipation of good things to come, huge new mega ships are being built to accommodate an entire new generation of sea cruisers.

The largest in the world right now is Royal Caribbean's *Icon of the Seas*, a 1,200-foot long behemoth of a ship with a maximum capacity of 7,600 passengers and 2,350 crew.

To put that in perspective, the *Titanic* which was 882 feet long and could carry a maximum of 3,457 people (passengers and crew), is dwarfed by modern ships.

But unlike the *Titanic*, the *Icon of the Seas* completed her successful maiden voyage in January, 2024, sailing out of Miami.

The popularity of ocean travel is partially due to a demographic shift from the traditional baby boomer cruisers to a younger millennial generation.

This group comprised half of Royal Caribbean customers in the first quarter of 2024 and when asked, 73 per cent of millennials and Gen X travellers would consider a cruise vacation.



The *Icon of the Seas*, the world's largest cruise ship.

This is a reflection of increasingly affluent Millennial consumers booking adventures on the high seas and able to pay the price.

Of course the growing demand is driving up prices and accordingly, Carnival Cruise Line reported a 17 per cent increase in onboard revenue in the first quarter.

Nobody said it was going to be a cheap vacation but interestingly enough, ocean cruises often work out to be cheaper than traditional, also costly, land-based vacations.

In an interesting twist many seniors have chosen permanent residence on a cruise ship as a retirement option - considering the level of service it may be cheaper than living on land.

Or consider the case of Mario Salcedo, a 47-year-old American businessman who first boarded a cruise ship in the year 2000 and has been living on the high seas ever since.

He conducts international business onboard from his private stateroom and enjoys all the amenities of a luxury cruise without cooking, cleaning or taking out the garbage.

Considering the relentless rise of ocean levels flooding our coastlines perhaps living aboard a ship on the ocean will become a serious housing option in the future.

There appears to be no technical limit to the size of cruise ships other than finding a suitable place to park them so for the foreseeable future 'the sea's the limit'.

All aboard.

what's happening  
in and around...

## The Bay

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Please include details about the event, including any cost

### August 17

#### CLLS Lighthouse Carnival

A days worth of activities on a lighthouse island east of Silver Islet. The annual event takes place at Porphyry Island with charters leaving at 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. from Silver Islet.

Upon arrival after a 20-minute ride, visitors are greeted with an orientation to the day and the events.

There will be historic tours of the Lighthouse, Ecology & Self-Guided tours. Meet the artist-in-residence and host keeper plus participate in Painting Superior.

Enjoy a fish and chips meal. Departure is around 4:30 pm.

Tickets are also available without charter transportation. Tickets are \$160 with the charter, \$80 without.

### August 17

#### Westfort Street Fair

The annual Westfort Street Fair takes place on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

There's plenty to do for everyone in the family, from arts and heritage displays to fun and tasty food for people of all ages.

It's also a chance to see what the businesses along Frederica Street West have to offer.

Admission is free for everyone.

### August 17

#### Ukrainian Matrix

This community-led exhibit showcases physical expressions of Ukrainian culture and traditions, and highlights their roots. Alongside the exhibit will be a variety of programming reflecting different aspects of Ukrainian culture.

The event takes place at the Thunder Bay Museum from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday.

### August 16

#### East End Walking Tour

Learn the answers as you walk through one of the most historic parts

of the city and explore the progression and dynamic change of the last 300 years.

The tour is approximately 1.5km and should last about 90 minutes.

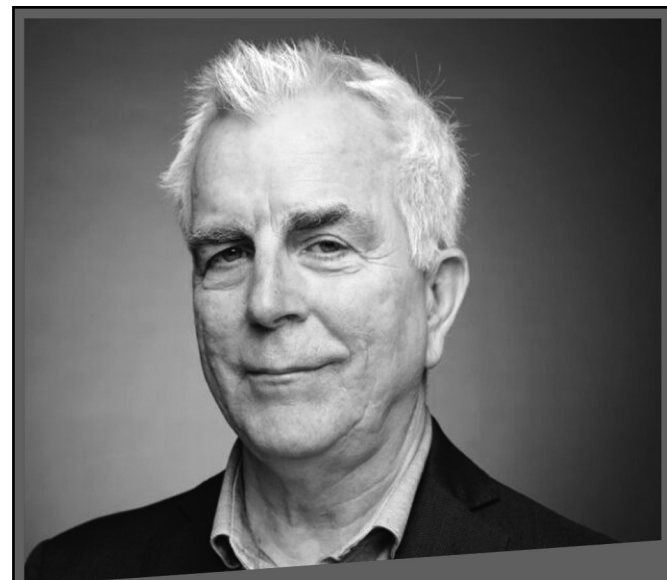
Earpieces will be provided to all participants for optimal hearing purposes.

The Historical Walking Tours will operate weather permitting, we encourage you to dress appropriately. In instances of inclement weather, we will do our best to reschedule the walking tour. If we are unable to reschedule the tour or you cannot join us at the later date we will be offering full refunds.

These tours welcome participants of all ages, but some of the content may not be suitable for small children. Parental discretion is advised.

The starting Location is at the corner of McNaughton and McTavish streets. The walk begins at 11 a.m. and concludes at 12:15 p.m.

Phone 807-623-0801 for information.



**Marcus Powlowski, MP**  
*Thunder Bay-Rainy River*

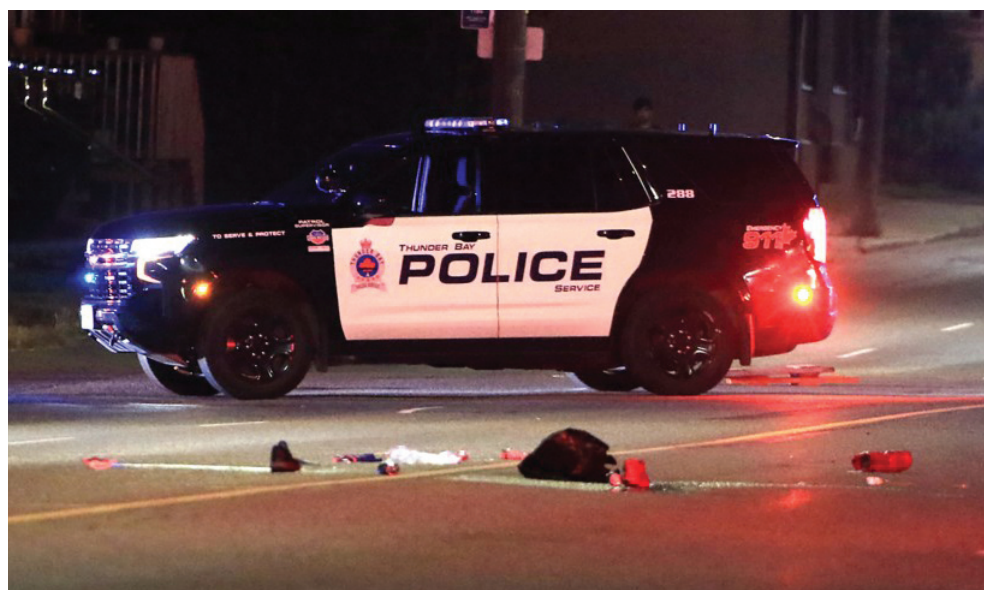
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Thunder Bay Police are investigating an incident that sent two pedestrians to hospital on Monday night.

## Pedestrians struck in an alleged hit-and-run

Incident occurred on Cumberland on Monday night

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Thunder Bay Police have closed a section of Cumberland Street after two pedestrians were struck in what appears to be a hit-and-run incident.

According to a witness who arrived on scene shortly after the late Monday evening incident, an SUV collided with the pedestrians and then drove off before police

arrived on scene.

As of press time, there was no indication yet from police on the severity of any injuries.

Debris, including a backpack, remained scattered on the asphalt, while police conducted their investigation.

The witness said he stopped to provide assistance to the victims while waiting for emergency crews to arrive on scene.

## Simpson Street work begins

Three-month closure likely, according to city official

By Katie Nicholls - Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Work on Simpson Street is expected to start by the end of this week.

Brian Newman is the project engineer of the \$3-million upgrade on the city's south side.

The work will be done to the section of Simpson Street from Charry's Corner to Dease Street.

"We're basically redoing the underground work, the sewer water, and moving some old storm sewers, adding catch basins and some new sections as well," he said.

"We're also removing all the ash trees on the street, just in preparation for all the same ash borer."

"We are excavating the street — pretty much fully replacing the water and sanitary drains ... also doing some touch-up concrete work along the sidewalks and curb and gutter, and new street lighting as well."

Newman said crews are trying to get the Dease and Mackenzie streets intersection paved over the next couple of days since it will be a detour route.

"Motorists in the area should really avoid the area because there's lots of side streets to work off of and Simpson Street is going to be busy for the coming three to four months."

The plan as winter approaches is to complete a base layer of paving and finish that part of the project during next year's construction season, he said.

Businesses along the construction routes will be open and accessible, and there will be temporary transit stops established along the detour routes during construction.

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# Seasonal change comes in August

This is the month when serious seasonal changes take place getting ready for autumn.

Nights are generally getting cooler but daytime temperatures can still get into the mid to high twenties. The skies display more drama with high winds and scudding clouds (as they say).

I tend on weekday mornings to rise early at about 5:30 a.m.

I like to make coffee, prepare breakfast sandwiches for my two children who have to go to day jobs, feed our two pooches, and then sit in the quiet or listen to soft classical music until our son, Doug, gets up about 6:30 a.m. Two months ago it was turning light at 5:30 a.m.

Now it is dark at that time as is expected since we have been moving steadily away from the June Solstice.

The cooler temperatures in the morning and in the evenings means that we can delay bringing in the horses until the temperature reaches the point when the biting bugs come out to harass the equines. It also means that we turn them out of their stalls earlier as the evening gets cooler and them biting winged things retire for the night.

Roadside flora have also changed. Gone are the lupins. Now one sees Joe-Pye-Weed, tall with a flat purple/pinkish flower (they are growing like a crop beside the creek that flows under our dirt road, purple asters, and the yellow goldenrod appearing.

Fireweed is prevalent beside the road and a very thin, tall plant called Common Mullein, part of the Snapdragon family, growing in ditches that boasts a yellow flower from June to September.

This plant can get up to six feet in height.

Driving to our favourite lake for boating this past Sunday, I noticed many of the roadside leaves of low-lying plants have turned yellow.

Unless I'm mistaken this change should not occur until the end of August; but perhaps this change has taken place now because it was very hot with little rain for several weeks on end.

While we were on the lake, I observed the leaves of a couple of birch trees had also made the colour change to yellow. Again, due to heat and lack of rain?

Back home our ravens (whom I feed scraps) now have competition: crows. There are about four or five crows that have discovered where I put out the 'raven' food. This is new. Only once years ago did a "murder" of crows

show up at our farm. There is a long fence dividing the paddocks and the main yard. Interestingly at that time the crows stayed on the yard side of the fence while the ravens stayed on the paddock side. Now the ravens get first peck and then hang out on one of the paddock fences while the crows show up much later for what is left over.

The heat has however prompted our veggie garden to burst with goodies. Don't have to buy too many vegetables now. Over the course of this month we will be harvesting onions, carrots, turnips, beets, potatoes, to be stored in large bins with peat moss that we can dig into when we require one of the veggies. We are so blessed.

However, the dogs wanted out as per usual about 3 a.m. Sunday night. They often scamper barking in the direction of the vegetable garden. Perhaps they are chasing away any Bambis who've decided to raid the garden.

Not Sunday night. I saw them racing back and forth and eventually the distinct aroma of Pepi Le Pew wafted through our bedroom window.

Oh no! Battle stations! We managed to get Lily inside. Fortunately she hadn't been skunked but Sophie has received a full cannonade to her chest.

So, into the bathroom where my long-suffering wife rubbed Sophie liberally with Skunk Off, waited a while, towed her, and got me to put her in the screen porch with food and water for the rest of the night.

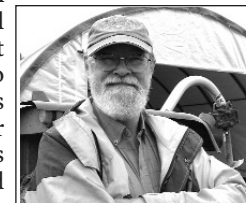
By morning she didn't smell so bad and we allowed her inside the house. But when they went back outside, both tore off to a spot at the south-west corner of the garden where in the tall grasses lay a bathtub that had been used for watering horses way-back-when.

Sophie was barking up a storm so I wandered over to check it out. Sure enough, a small Pepi was hunkered down inside the tub.

I managed to bribe the two dogs back into Casa Jones, grabbed Big Red, my ancient tractor, and proceeded to wrestle the tub into the bucket having first apologized to Pepi for disturbing a possible domicile. I observed that when I was able to get the tub into the bucket of the tractor, Pepi had vacated. Good!

So, another sign of the changing season: this is the time when animals like skunks begin to seek winter homes as is their nature.

Just not within the spraying range of our pooches, please.



**Fred Jones**

RURAL ROOTS

# Corn dogs beloved by most

The humble corn dog has been seemingly in the food mythos forever. In Canada, the Pogo (produced by Conagra foods) has been stuck in kids lunch bags and a staple in Canadian family homes for its quick cooking and affordability. Finding the origin of the corn dog has become quite the interesting proposition.

Cornbread-wrapped hot dogs have some ancestors among German immigrants in Texas, according to Chef Alton Brown; however, they likely didn't involve a stick, more closely resembling a deep fried croquette.

The Krusty Korn Sausage Pan, patented in the early 20th century, was meant to help people make cornbread-wrapped sausages at home, but they were baked.

In the late 1920s, Stanley Jenkins filed a patent for a "combined dipping, cooking, and article holding apparatus," used for deep-frying foods on a stick, including wieners; according to The Takeout, it doesn't seem like Jenkins used his invention for commercial gain and moreover he apparently didn't make a single dollar from his patent.

The corn dog can be referred to as many other names all across the world, in Australia, pluto pups or dippy dogs. In Oregon, the



Corn dogs have been a staple for nearly a century.

reigning king of the corn dog market is the "Pronto Pup".

Not satisfied with being relegated to hot dog shacks along the Oregon coastline, you can

find them since the 1940s at fairs and festivals all over Idaho, Tennessee and Minnesota.

The Oregon Encyclopedia notes that a columnist alluded to a "corn dog" at a Dallas restaurant in the late 1930s.

The Pronto Pup brand has now found itself franchised all over the United States, selling corn dogs in small and large restaurant operations.

A number of current corn dog vendors claim responsibility for the invention and/or popularization of the corn dog.

Carl and Neil Fletcher lay such a claim, having introduced their "Corny Dogs" at the State Fair of Texas sometime between 1938 and 1942.

Cozy Dog Drive-in, in Springfield, Illinois, claims to have been the first to serve corn dogs on sticks, on June 16, 1946.

Also in 1946, Dave Barham opened the first location of the famed Hot Dog on a Stick at Muscle Beach in Santa Monica, California. As with most things we talk about we have variants to discuss as well. One cheesy variation is prepared either with melted cheese

between the hot dog and the breading or by using a cheese-filled hot dog.

Another version is the "cornbrat" (or "corn brat"), which is a corn dog made with german bratwurst instead of a wiener or hot dog. Small corn dogs, known as "corn puppies", "mini corn dogs", or "corn dog nuggets", are a variation served in some restaurants, generally on the children's menu or at fast food establishments.

A breakfast version of the corn dog features a breakfast sausage in place of the hot dog, and pancake batter in place of the cornmeal.

This variation is commonly called a "pancake on a stick". It was formerly served by the drive-in restaurant Sonic, but it is now made by companies such as Jimmy Dean.

Regardless of the type, the enduring legacy of the corn dog seems to be here to stay for years upon years to come.

Derek Lankinen is an award-winning chef, author, and restaurateur. He is the Owner/Operator of Beefcake's Burger Factory with ONE location in Current River and is the Co-Owner of Elite Beef.



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★ **Friday, August 23rd, 2024**  
 Kidzone Theme: **GAME'S DAY** 11:00am - 8:00pm

★ **Saturday, August 24th, 2024**  
 Kidzone Theme: **DRESS-UP DAY** 11:00am - 8:00pm

★ **Sunday, August 24th, 2024**  
 Kidzone Theme: **SCIENCE FUN DAY** 11:00am - 8:00pm





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<b>JUN 27</b>	• Pushing Daisies • Throwback • UNDERCOVER	<b>JUL 25</b>	Guest performance tonight: Kickin' It Country with Lady T (Line Dancers)
<b>JUL 4</b>	• Rock Bottom • Boomtown • BLOOD RED MOON	<b>AUG 1</b>	• Southern Comfort • Junior & the Bifocals • JEAN-PAUL DEROOVER & THE BANDAID SOLUTION
<b>JUL 11</b>	• Mark Potvin & Mike Carlson • TBAY Pipes & Drums • Page 38 • HONEST HEART COLLECTIVE After Show: JB Band (Sports Bar)	<b>AUG 8</b>	• The Folk Souls • Mother of Wolves • HELLBOURNE
<b>JUL 18</b>	• Three Kord Killers • The Chain • THE BLOOD SHOTS	<b>AUG 15</b>	• The Thirsty Monks • Kaminari Wan Taiko Drummers • FIVE ALARM FUNK After Show: Dirty Mines (Sports Bar)
<b>AUG 22</b>		• Kim Commisso & Jim Hamilton • Rodney Brown • CCR BAND	
<b>AUG 29 FINAL SHOW - ONE HR EACH:</b> • RAZOR'S EDGE   HEADRUSH   URBAN HIP •			

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Warm weather will often cause some fish to dive to deeper depths to find cooler water on local lakes and rivers.

# Fishing in heat of the summer

Fishing in the heat of summer presents a couple unique challenges for the angler. First, many species of gamefish will head to deep water. Second, practicing catch and release can be tricky when the water is warm and there is less oxygen available for the fish.

It is no surprise that hot August days like the ones we have been experiencing will drive fish down deep. These summer heat waves will cause some fish, like trout, salmon and even walleye to head down to 40 feet and beyond because the water is cooler and the temperatures are typically more stable.

Unfortunately, if fish cannot find favourable temperatures in deeper water or near a cold spring or inflowing river, they will often adopt a negative feeding mood due to the stress caused by increasing water temperatures.

This may force them into a lethargic state where they hang tight to the bottom and become quite reluctant to bite. When this is the case, it is probably best that we are not catching them anyway, because warm water temperatures will greatly reduce the fish's chance of survival after being released.

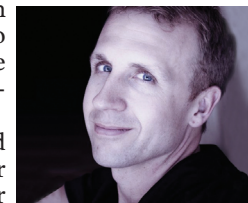
If your fishing trip happens to coincide with an extremely hot spell of weather and the water is noticeably warm to the touch, there are a couple key things to be mindful of when releasing fish. Keep the fight short, and try to land the fish quickly, before it becomes

exhausted. When you do bring the fish in, consider taking your photograph without even removing the fish from the water. This way, the fish is always circulating water through its mouth and out its gills and it cannot hurt itself by flopping around in the boat or on the river bank.

It is also important to have the proper tools, such as a net or glove and needle-nose pliers or hemostats ready so you can remove the hook quickly and cleanly. While doing this, remember to support the fish by holding it horizontally and with two hands. Place one just in front of the tail and the other just behind the head so the fish is kept in control and fully supported.

Finally, avoid contact with the fish's eyes and gills and resuscitate it facing into the current, or facing the direction the boat is moving, until it regains strength and can swim away on its own.

If the hot weather has given the fish in your favourite lake a serious case of lockjaw, the nice thing about Northwestern Ontario is that the weather is always changing. Likely, you will not have to wait too long for a cold front to roll through. When this happens, and the winds mix the cooler air back into the system, the action will pick up quickly and our released fish will have a much better chance of survival.



**Keith Ailey**  
the GOOD LIFE



Tens of thousands of fair goers turned out last week for the annual CLE Exhibition in Thunder Bay. (Leith Dunick)

# CLE fun for everyone

By Olivia Browning - TB Source

Thousands made their way to the CLE grounds for the last day of one of Northwestern Ontario's most popular summer events on Sunday.

CLE spokesperson Tracey Laroque said the weather didn't really dampen anyone's spirits.

"Considering that we've had a little bit of rain, I think our numbers are comparable to what they have been in the last couple of years. There are usually anywhere between 50 to 60,000 people who will come through these gates."

Laroque said the rides really draw people in, as well as the other attractions they have.

"I think it's a mix of everything. It's definitely the rides. When they first start pulling in a week ahead of time and people start seeing the Ferris wheel and the rides go up, that's really what's drawing everybody here.

"But of course, they're coming for the food, they're coming for the magician and the hypnotist and the entertainment at the end of the night.

On Sunday night, they had a Kiss tribute band on stage, which Laroque called the number one tribute band in Canada.

In addition to the rides, the carnival games, food, exhibits, vendors and main stage entertainment the buildings on the CLE grounds also had a lot going on.

"In the heritage building, there's all the animals, but there's also line dancing going on," she said.

Laroque said the event takes a lot of planning that starts sooner than you may think.

"Literally, we sit down with Select Shows and Canuck amusements here (Monday) to start planning for next year. It's a whole year's worth of planning and organizing and then it'll be shortly getting all the entertainment organized for the following year.

The excitement on Sunday was contagious as kids, teens, and adults rushed around to get on the zipper, ring of fire, g-force and other favourite rides for the last time.

Six-year-old Grace visited the CLE for the first time on Saturday and Sunday.

She loved the rides and said the corn dog she tried tasted awesome.

"I'm having a great time. The CLE is a good place to play and go on rides," she said.

Daniel Chabluk said the CLE has been great.

"I'm always partial to the sea ray every year but I just went on the g-force - and I'm still feeling it. The food's always great too. That's another big selling point for me.

"It's always fun. I come every year and it's great. Just seeing everybody get together and having fun, it's a family fair, so getting the family together and having a good time, it never gets old," he said.

## ENIGMA™ CRYPTOGRAM

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

"VQTGHUYTPUIG DSIQ PBV XIGJTRV ID  
PBV EIUM UE GI DSVVJIQ DIS PBV PSVV."  
- STXUGJSTGTPB PTRISV

7	4			1	5		3
	1				6	2	
2				3		1	
			7	4			
			8	1			
4			2		8		6
8		5		6			4
1	2				4		8

### ACROSS

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

### DOWN

- 1 Energy unit
- 2 Five-franc piece

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

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



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# Live From the Rock was huge hit in its 22nd year

By Olivia Browning - TB Source

Live From the Rock Folk Festival was a massive hit once again.

Elly Tose, artistic director for the event, said the turnout was great this year.

"It started off with some rain, unfortunately, but we have a pretty hardy group of people that come to the festival. They stuck it out through the rain, Friday and Saturday. (Sunday was) a beautiful sunny day and it's just been wonderful," she said.

Lots of people bought tickets in advance, Tose said.

"Because they made the commitment to be here, they packed their warm clothes and they packed their rain gear. They came into the campgrounds on Thursday night and I would say pretty much everybody stayed for the whole weekend."

Tose said they sold 520 weekend passes in advance.

"I don't know how many came through the gate and sometimes people will just come for

the day because we do sell day passes.

"So, I don't know the final numbers yet, but we know at least 500 people who are here for sure every day," she said.

Tose said it was wonderful to see the support from the community.

"It's the whole community that we do it for. The musicians are part of that community, the volunteers are part of that community and the sponsors, but the people that come to see all of this taking place, that's what it's for.

"It's to see the joy on their faces and the kids dancing and people meeting new people that they just sit down beside and become friends. We have people who've been coming back here to see what they call their 'away family,' because they came to the first festival and they've been coming every year to meet those people again."

Sometimes people think of folk music as traditional Irish music, Tose said.

"It's not just that. We did have that, but we also had a blues band here, we had a lot of singer songwriters. We had a fantastic trio

who sing incredible three-part harmony.

"We've had a little bit of everything," she said.

Tose said there were many other things going on for people to check out.

"We have an artisan village this year with 18 different artisans. It's all handmade. That's just a whole separate village of people selling their wares.

"We also have food vendors and they're all local. It's great to have that support of the local economy. We have a children's area. They do face painting and all kinds of games all during the weekend."

Ian Tamblyn performed at the festival and it was not his first time.

"I grew up in Thunder Bay. This is a kind of a spiritual place for me, particularly the north shore of Superior. It's good to remember where you come from, you never really leave," he said.

The crowd made it extra special.

"It warms my heart. It means a lot to me."



Ian Tamblyn performs at Live From the Rock.



## PUBLIC NOTICE MTO Contract 2023-6012 Notification of Lane Closure

Please be advised that K.A. Vanderzwaag Construction (on behalf of MTO) is completing Bridge Rehabilitation work on Highway 11/17 Eastbound at the Current River Bridge (aka. Cst. John S. Kuszner Memorial Bridge). Work has already begun and will be completed in the Fall of 2024.

Within the construction zone, traffic will be reduced to a single lane with a reduced speed limit of 70 km/hr. The off-ramp to Hodder Ave & Copenhagen Rd will remain open.

Occasional delays may result from this but are necessary to protect the safety of construction personnel and the traveling public.

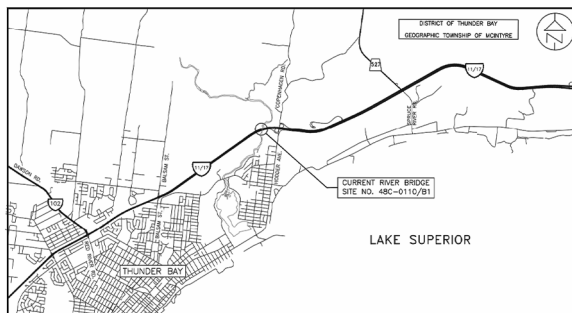
The section of the Trans Canada Trail that runs beneath the bridge will be closed from June 17 to August 21, 2024.

**PLEASE DRIVE WITH CAUTION AND  
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**Any questions or concerns  
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Email: dustyn@kavc.net

4K Engineers Ltd.  
Harman Sidhu  
Contract Administrator  
Cell: (519) 992-0184  
Email: h.sidhu@4kengineers.ca



# Magnus Theatre unveils its new season schedule

By Gary Rinne - TB Source

Fans of live theatre will be treated to four productions at Magnus Theatre during the upcoming season.

Magnus has released this year's lineup in conjunction with an offer of season subscriptions, which went on sale Monday.

The first play on the schedule is *Gaslight*, based on the 1938 melodrama by British playwright Patrick Hamilton.

It opens on Sept. 26 and will run through Oct. 12.

The musical *Elf* will be performed Nov. 8 to Dec. 21.

In the new year, Magnus will produce a comedy, Mark Crawford's *The New Canadian Curling Club*, with performances scheduled for Feb. 20 to March 8.

The season winds up in April with *Women of the Fur Trade*, a historical satire by Frances Koncan.

Magnus's Flexi-Four pass goes on sale next week, while single-play tickets will be available the following week.

Northwestern Ontario's only professional theatre company typically produces six plays



Magnus' new season begins on Sept. 26. (Gary Rinne)

each season, but because of ongoing construction for the Next Stage project, it's only putting on four for the second year in a row.

Construction is now expected to be completed sometime this fall.

# A diamond jubilee curtain call

By Linda Maehans - TB Source

They've been waiting for you. Seventy-five years now, and goin' strong. Even if a limelight-on-stage isn't your true calling (though it very well could be), this city's longest-lived amateur theatrical troupe wants to meet you in person. In fact, Cambrian Players' catch-all slogan "Theatre For The Love Of It" could not be a more sincere and to the point invitation to join.

The launch of Cambrian's diamond jubilee season in our community kicks off with a special Open House next week: everyone is welcome. Drop in at their historical "new" home on Spring Street for a trip down memory lane; and maybe enter that lane-of-creativity you've always known you should be on.

Spring Street. Has a good vibe, doesn't it. I say this because until this past decade Cambrian Players did not have their own home, their playhouse, so to speak. They performed on "borrowed" stages, with someone else's infrastructure and sound-lighting-props technology. Bet they sure learned a thing or two along the way. Yet way before Spring Street the Players built and painted their props; sewed, acquired, accumulated a royal wardrobe of costumes. They



Cambrian Players' new theatre will kick off next week with a special open house event on Aug. 21 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

rehearsed into the wee hours. They pinned up posters; drew packed audiences.

"Theatre for the love of it" is still going strong three-quarters of a century because of its audiences, too. Why not get involved?

"Oh this takes me back," notes the Open House chairman Don McMahon. "I'm not originally from here. The first play I attended, probably in 93-94, was "Jitters". Loved it. Then a class-mate of mine (who was a Cambrian

Player) asked if I'd like to volunteer; prioritizing school, I didn't actually step forward to audition (for their production of God's Favourite) until the winter of 95-96. I got the part, and," Don smiles, "no looking back ever since.

I've done acting; some stage management; props; a bit of sound - most of it in sets and props."

Alumni further back, you know who you are, can travel-in-time today, 2024, and maybe inspire a whole new wave of enthusiasts for everything and everyone it takes to produce quality live theatre-on-stage. Cambrian Players are no amateurs when it comes to talent.

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# Lobster reaches city

By Gary Rinne – TB Source

A travelling stuffed lobster toy from Prince Edward Island has managed to hitch rides all the way to Thunder Bay, but is still only halfway to its destination.

Over the past few weeks, he's become pretty famous.

Nicknamed Lucky, the plush toy travelling in an authentic lobster trap has been journeying westward since early July thanks to the goodness of strangers who've found room in their vehicles to take it a little farther down the road each time.

After owners Chris and Karen McCallum of Okotoks, Alta. were gifted the trap by a lobster fisherman when they were in PEI for a family event this spring, they bought the stuffed lobster and placed an AirTag inside it to keep track of its whereabouts.

They were flying back home, so it wasn't practical to take the trap with them.

"Chris's parents' roots are in Prince Edward Island, so we wanted a piece of the east for our home in the west. That was the reason we wanted this lobster trap," Karen McCallum explained Monday in an interview.

But it took awhile for Lucky to leave the island.

"We had this thing sitting outside of a cute



Lucky the Lobster is on its way to Okotoks, Alta.

little boutique hotel in Charlottetown for two-and-a-half months, and it wasn't until, goodness, early July, that it was taken to Moncton. It was at that point we thought, 'OK, maybe something's going to happen here,' " Chris McCallum recalled.

"Someone saw it, and created a TikTok video about it, and that's when it exploded. Our belief was as soon as it got moving, and we got a little traction, then it would be a fun thing."

Since the couple started a TikTok account about Lucky's journey on July 17, it's captured over 20,000 followers.

# Borderlands a bumpy voyage

Movies based on popular video games, like Eli Roth's *Borderlands* (SilverCity), simply do not have a great track record. Advance notices have been excoriating. Given the morbid curiosity that normally arises when passing a potential car wreck, we were driven to check it out—despite the added admission cost of the CLE.

The plot has a notorious, shoot-first bounty hunter, Lilith (Cate Blanchett, Oscar winner for *Tar*) being hired by Atlas, (Edgar Ramirez) a powerful interstellar magnate to retrieve his daughter, rabbit-ear wearing Tiny Tina (Ariana Greenblatt) who's been kidnapped somewhere on the planet Pandora. Atlas can't trust his own minions to find her.

Lilith is loathe to return to Pandora, a post-apocalyptic barren wasteland comprised of desecrated buildings and vehicles populated by marauding thugs and monsters, a place of bad memories.

Lilith quickly finds that smarmy, Teddy-bear bomb-tossing Tina has been swiped from her kidnappers by Roland (Kevin Hart), a mercenary and Krieg, a masked hulk (Florian Munteanu). They barely meet before they all come under fire from some baddies, cramming into Roland's armoured vehicle, along with Claptrap (Jack Black) a nattering robot programmed to assist Lilith, creating a hasty, unlikely alliance.

They change course from returning Tina to a dad she despises to seeking the Vault, a subterranean containment of technological power that can control the galaxy. The Vault is coveted by virtually every pirate on the planet, including Atlas. Turns out, Tina is the key to accessing the Vault.

They are aided in their search by Tannis (Jamie Lee Curtis), an eccentric scientist who has a shared history with Lilith. An army of masked 'psychos' stand in their way.

*Borderlands* is a mash-up of *Guardians of the Galaxy* and *Mad Max* with touches of *Star Wars* and various other post-apocalyptic space fantasies, seriously minus any dramatic inspiration.

The film's undermined by a tattered script clinging too closely to the video game premise, more concerned with generic action, all coming at the expense of character interplay and motivation. With a little



*Borderlands* has its moments, but falls a little bit short.

effort, characters should be able to distinguish themselves, creating tangible relationships, earning some viewer empathy. No such luck here.

Blanchett relishes playing up the fire-haired, gun-blasting swaggering anti-hero, but she can carry the thing so far. Hart is a one-note straight man. Black's agitated hybrid of R2-D2 and C-P30 is negligible. Oscar winner Curtis, Greenblatt and Munteanu have only fleeting moments.

Where's style and originality? Even the bare bones plot becomes confusing, unredeemed by a twist in the last act. The most basic of details is left wanting. A \$120 million film should not be saddled with the script creating more questions

than answers.

A screenwriter using a pseudonym, another director brought in to do re-shoots and a bored star (Blanchett) seeking relief from the pandemic (that's how long this has been sitting around) are hardly ingredients for success.

*Borderlands* is not as horrible as its ratings suggest but it sure comes close.

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**Marty Mascarini**  
MOVIE TALK





The Thunder Bay North Stars and Kam River Fighting Walleye will play eight times this season. (FILE)

# SIJHL starting Stars on road

## Thunder Bay to open with eight straight road contests

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The Thunder Bay North Stars will hit the road for eight straight games to start the 2024-25 Superior International Junior Hockey League season.

The Stars open on Sept. 13 on the road against the defending champion Sioux Lookout Bombers, the first of two games the two teams will play on opening weekend.

The following weekend Thunder Bay travels to Ironwood, Mich., to take on the newly relocated Lumberjacks.

Two-game sets in Red Lake and Kenora follow before the North Stars finally hit the Fort William Gardens ice on Oct. 11, when they'll host the Kam River Fighting Walleye to open a home-and-home series against last year's regular season champions.

The North Stars will also be displaced for three weeks in February, when the Scotties Tournament of Hearts makes its way back to Fort William Gardens, though the team will only play four games on the road during

that stretch.

Kam River opens the season at home on Sept. 14 and Sept. 15 against the Dryden Ice Dogs, and play eight of their first 11 games away from the friendly confines of Norwest Arena.

Kam River has shifted its start times this season to 7:05 p.m. from 7:45 p.m.

Dryden's first home game is Sept. 20 against Sioux Lookout at the Dryden Memorial Arena.

Fort Frances opens at home on Sept. 13 against the Islanders, whose home opener comes one week later against the Fighting Walleye.

The Islanders will play 10 of 11 games at home between Sept. 20 and Oct. 25.

Red Lake will provide the opposition for the Lumberjacks Sept. 13 debut in their new hometown, and open at home on Sept. 20 against Fort Frances.

Teams will play a 50-game schedule, seven games against each opponent and one extra against a designate rival.

# League OK's move to Ironwood, Michigan

## Lumberjacks spent the past five years in Spooner, Wisconsin

By Leith Dunick -TB Source

Road trips in the Superior International Junior Hockey League just got a little bit longer.

The league on Wednesday announced it had approved the relocation of the Wisconsin Lumberjacks from Spooner, Wisc. to Ironwood Mich.

The move got unanimous support from the league's board of governors.

It's the first official move under the leadership of newly appointed SIJHL commissioner, Dean Thibodeau.

"On behalf of the SIJHL Board of Governors we are extremely pleased with the relocation of the Lumberjacks organization to the Ironwood, Michigan market," Thibodeau said in a release.

Ironwood is located about 483 kilometres

from Thunder Bay, on the western border with Wisconsin on Michigan's upper peninsula.

Spooner, the Lumberjacks' former home, is about 430 kilometres from Thunder Bay and about 120 kilometres south of Superior, Wisc.

Doug Lein II, the owner and governor of the Lumberjacks, said they're looking forward to playing out of the Pat O'Donnell Civic Centre, the team's new home.

"The arena management and staff along with the city of Ironwood have been fantastic, and we are looking forward to working closely with their minor hockey teams and becoming involved in community events throughout the year," Lein said in a release.

The team needed the approval of USA Hockey in order to make the move.

No reason for the move was given.

The Lumberjacks joined the league in 2019 and spent most of their time in Spooner, though the team did play games in Rice Lake, Wisc. and Hayward, Wisc. last season.

Both of Wisconsin's 2024 playoff games were played in Rice Lake.

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Max Ramirez IV was one of the top pitchers in the Northwoods League and was named to the all-star team.

# Cats enjoyed a strong season

There was a lot to like about the Thunder Bay Border Cats season.

For starters, they were competitive from start to finish and wound up with a 36-35 overall record.

It's unfortunate they weren't able to claim one of the two playoff spots in the Northwoods League's Great Plains East Division, but that's baseball.

However, that said, it was disappointing to see how many players up and left the team down the stretch.

I guess that's my biggest issue with the league.

Yeah, these are just kids who miss home and have college commitments. But if you're going to sign up to play in a summer league, at the very least you should stick it out until the end.

Watching good players like Cole Ketzner and Jackson Cooke depart with a week or so to go and the team in the thick of a playoff race is disheartening for fans.

I talked to interim manager Bob DeNucci after a loss last week and he said they knew the last week of the season wasn't going to be pretty, with everyone taking off.

That's not really fair to the fans - and the team averaged 1,124 a night, up 32 over last year - who came out to support the team all season long.

If a player is injured, that's one thing. I certainly don't want to see anyone jeopardize their future in the game. And I understand the pitching game has changed over the past decade or so, with college teams over-protective of individual arms.

I'll never understand an at-bat limit, though.

Speaking of the Cats, Max Ramirez IV was named to the postseason all-star team.

It was a well-deserved honour.

Ramirez was tied for fourth in the league with six wins and produced a sparkling 1.93 ERA over 37.1 innings.

He's not the biggest pitcher in the world, but he more than held his own in the Northwoods League, and, as a nod to my comments above, he stuck around to the bitter end.

□□□

Had a chance to see Brice Turang live and in person last Friday night in Milwaukee.

He's continued to impress this season. I had initially written him off as a good-field, no-hit kinda guy, but he's put up a .257 average with seven homeruns and 33 stolen bases for the

Brewers in his sophomore season.

He's also only made three errors in 109 appearances at second base for Milwaukee.

Turang was a member of the gold-medal-winning U.S.A. team that won the 2017 U18 Baseball World Cup in Thunder Bay.

Turang homered on Friday night at American Family Field against Elly de la Cruz and the Cincinnati Reds.

□□□

Didn't watch a lot of the Olympics, but I did manage to catch Summer McIntosh winning the 200-metre individual medley while I was on vacation.

I had to laugh. My seven-year-old, Nolan, turned to us, after cheering her to victory, and asked, "Is that at the Complex?"

□□□

Canada had an impressive showing in Paris, winning nine gold medals and made 27 trips to the podium, adding seven silvers and 11 bronzes to their count.

That's three more medals and two more golds than Canada won in Tokyo in 2021 at the 2020 Games.

While McIntosh was expected to do well, there was a little more uncertainty surrounding the Canadian track team.

Coming into the Olympics, Canada's 4x100 men's relay team had one top-25 performance this year, and yet, there they were atop the podium in Paris, edging out South Africa by seven-one-hundredths of a second to claim gold.



**Leith Dunick**

SPORTS SHORTS

For Aaron Brown, Andre De Grasse, and Brendon Rodney, it was their third medal in three Olympics. The trio claimed bronze in 2016 and silver three years ago. Jerome Blake also won silver in 2021.

It just goes to show that great athletes peak at the right time.

I was a little surprised at the fact the United States hasn't been on the podium in the event since winning silver in Athens in 2004.

□□□

I may owe an apology to the Jays Vladimir Guerrero. He was not having a great season earlier in the year, and the team still isn't, but he's been on fire. He just ended a 22-game hitting streak, and over the last 30 days he's hitting a remarkable .449, with 10 home runs and 22 RBI, striking out just nine times in 89 at bats. He's now fourth in the league in hitting at .319. The Jays better figure a contract out.

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