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Tbaytel Resolves Customer Issues Efficiently and Effectively

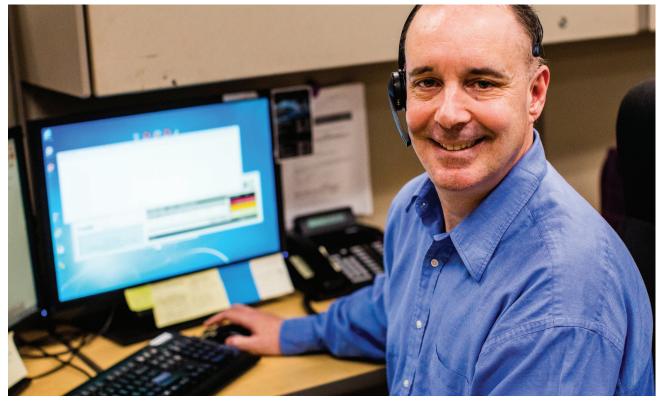
Meet Technical Support Technician Rob

By Janine Chiasson

While you're waiting for technical assistance from your telecom provider, it's hard not to wonder what goes on behind the scenes. Who will answer your call? Will they solve your problem? Where are they? With Northern Ontario's local provider, Tbaytel, you don't have to wonder. Tbaytel Technical Support is a team of local professionals working right here in Thunder Bay who strive to resolve customer issues the first time a call comes in.

As Rob, a Technical Support Technician born, raised, and educated in Thunder Bay, observes, "Our primary goal is to resolve customers' technical issues the first time they call because we appreciate that their time is valuable and they've called Technical Support, not because they want to, but because they need to."

Working at Tbaytel for four years, it's clear that Rob has the right blend of communication skills, technical know-how and empathy. Rob is ready with the tools needed to solve customer problems quickly and courteously including the comprehensive information management systems for all of Tbaytel's service and product lines, application-based platforms, mobile device job aid tools, and reams of digital information. But there's no tool more important than a positive attitude to turn a negative customer experience into a positive one. As Rob emphasizes, "A good



attitude is infectious. It creates a positive work environment, which creates positive outcomes for customers."

Despite the best tools and outlook, things can get busy and stressful. That's when Tbaytel's Service Excellence Coach can jump in to assist with call flow, provide feedback and get everyone back on track. Offering more ways for customers to get in touch helps too. Recognizing that customer frustration is highest during periods of high call volumes, Tbaytel now offers customers a call back option as well as the option to chat online with a technician.

"A good attitude is infectious. It creates a positive work environment which creates positive outcomes for customers."

Given the commitment and pride that the Technical Support team takes in their work, it's no surprise that Tbaytel outscores its major competitors at resolving issues efficiently and effectively. It's also no surprise that customers are very satisfied with the level of support they get. Rob takes pride that, "From an industry standpoint, our Net Promoter Score, which gauges customer overall satisfaction, is among the best in the business and we consistently rank in the mid-90th percentile for post call surveys."

Scores are high because Tbaytel takes customer needs seriously and makes education, training, and continuous improvement a high priority. Woven into the fabric of Thunder Bay and Northern Ontario, Tbaytel employees like Rob don't feel like they're just passing through – they are the faces and voices of Tbaytel and they're right here building rewarding careers.



HIGH 11 LOW 5

LOCALNEWS

New correctional facility approved

Replacement facility would hold as many as 325 inmates

there's a

need there, it

didn't mean

it was a slam

dunk."

BILL MAURO

THUNDER BAY By Matt Vis - TB Source

Following a riot, an escape, multiple in-custody deaths and years of calls for a new correctional facility, Ontario has finally committed to build a replacement to the Thunder Bay District Jail.

The provincial government announced Thursday funding has been approved for a 325-bed correctional facility that will replace the Thunder Bay District Jail and Thunder Bay Correctional Centre.

Thunder Bay-Atikokan MPP Bill Mauro said the replacement of the nearly century-old jail has been a major priority for both himself and Thunder Bay-Superior North MPP Michael Gravelle.

"The need is obvious. The challenge is, when it comes to infrastructure, there's always more need than resource," Mauro said. "Even though there's a need there, it didn't mean it was a slam dunk.'

Less than a week ago, Mauro said the lack of mention in the provincial budget for a new jail was not an indication the province had ruled out a new facility. The announcement on Thursday did not provide any specifics on location, capital cost or timelines for construction for the new jail.

Ontario Public Service Employees Union Local 708 president Shawn Bradshaw, who represents correctional officers at the Thunder Bay Correctional Centre, said a new facility could represent a major change in how inmates are treated while in custody.

"They're going to have the ability to have a lot of their rights that they've been pretty much denied based on our staffing models and antiquated facilities we're working in," Bradshaw said.

"They're entitled to 20-minute minimum of fresh air a day. Just sometimes because of safety issues at the jail or staffing levels they haven't been able to have that. They haven't had the opportunities to get outside. Visits are getting cancelled, programming is getting cancelled just because we don't have the staffing levels and

the jail doesn't have an appropriate space to provide any programming."

Timing right

The announcement of the funding approval comes on the same day of the release of an interim report by Independent Advisor on Corrections Reform Howard Sapers on the use of segregation throughout the provincial correctional system. Included in the report is the recommendation of the construction of a replacement to the Thunder Bay District Jail, to be operational within three to five years.

The report was commissioned late last year, after it was revealed by Ontario Human Rights Commissioner Renu Mandhane that inmate Adam Capay had spent more than 1,500 days in segregation at the Thunder Bay District Jail.

The Thunder Bay District Jail, which opened in 1928, is the fifth-oldest in Ontario and had an operating capacity of 120 inmates as of Jan. 24, 2017. The Thunder Bay Correctional Centre opened in 1965 and has an operating capacity of 124.

The proposed new correctional centre would have



HAS CONCERNS: Correctional officer Shawn Bradshaw says the new correctional facility still might not be large enough.

capacity for about 80 more inmates.

But Bradshaw said that might not be enough if the new Thunder Bay institution ends up playing a larger role in serving Northwestern Ontario.

"It's much like the regional hospital where it (could) become a hub," Bradshaw said.

"They built it based on what we need and then all of the sudden everybody is coming from all around. That's really what I see happening with Kenora being so over capacity, I see us taking a lot of their remands and the Fort (Frances) jail is frequently running at or above capacity.'

In the news

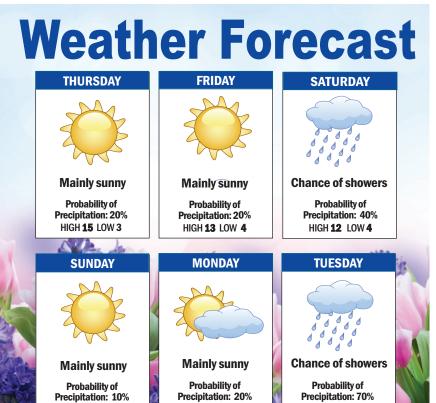
The Thunder Bay District Jail, in particular, has "Even though had a number of high-profile incidents which have prompted calls for a new facility.

The jail was the scene of a riot in December 2015 that led to a correctional officer being taken hostage for about 12 hours. The officer and three inmates were taken to hospital as a result of the disturbance, which was said to have involved about 70 inmates.

Following the riot, a number of politicians and union leaders have toured the jail including OPSEU president Smokey Thomas and NDP critic Jennifer French who were outspoken about the conditions they witnessed.

Last October a 48-year-old inmate escaped from the facility through a service entrance, a jailbreak correctional officers said would have been easily preventable with improved infrastructure.

As well, two coroner's inquests conducted in 2016 into the deaths of inmates at the jail resulted in recommendations calling on the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services to build a new facility.



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LOCALNEWS **Sailors recall Battle of the Atlantic**

MILITARY By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

Before he was even 20-years-old, Elmer Auld was taking part in one of the longest and most important battles of the Second World War, where he faced down two very different, but very formidable enemies.

"If you want a real miserable life, trying being on a corvette in the Second World War," Auld said. "We had two enemies, it was the subs and the ocean. It was just a terrible, rotten, miserable life. We are a lucky bunch to be here after all these years."

Auld was one of several Second World War veterans commemorating the Battle of the Atlantic in a ceremony on Sunday at HMCS Griffon.

The commemoration takes place on the first Sunday of May every year in ceremonies across the country.

The Battle of the Atlantic raged in the North Atlantic from 1939 to the end of the war in 1945, as young sailors braved the treacherous waters to supply the allied powers with vital supplies while fighting against the dreaded U-boats.

"It dawned on me more when I got out of the service what we did when we were in the service," said Ken MacKay, a petty



LOOK BACK: Sailors at HMCS Griffon commemorate the Battle of the Atlantic on Sunday.

officer with the Royal Canadian Navy during the Second World War. "I never realized what we were doing was so important until after the war was over."

MacKay enlisted when he was 20years-old and served on HMCS St. Thomas. In December 1944, the corvette engaged U-877 northwest of the Azores. The U-boat was badly damaged and sunk after its crew escaped.

"We saved every one of the crew," MacKay recalled. "My chum and I still correspond with the son of one of the men we saved in Germany."

"They still thank us," MacKay continued. "They sent me a postcard. The crew that we saved, they used to get together annually to celebrate the fact that they were all saved. In 1985 there were about two thirds of them still alive."

For HMCS Griffon Lt. Commander Robert Cooke, commemorating the Battle of the Atlantic not only helps keep stories like MacKay's alive, it also honours the sacrifice of the many young sailors who never made it back to shore.

"The idea is that we keep the memory alive and the sacrifices that were made during the Second World War," he said. "My dad and my uncle were both veterans of the Battle of the Atlantic. I have a lot of those stories from them. I always think of my dad and my uncle."

Cooke added that the longest battle of the war was also one of the most important, helping the allied powers survive the onslaught of the Nazi war machine, leading to the eventual invasion of Nazioccupied Europe and the end of the war.

"The Battle of the Atlantic wasn't just some small battle, it was an enormous battle," he said. "It lasted from 1939 right to 1945. The Canadian Navy expanded to over 110,000 men and women during those years and by the end of it we were the third largest navy in the world."

And Thunder Bay played a big role in the victory, with the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Company supplying minesweepers and corvettes to the Royal Canadian Navy and more than 2,200 sailors enlisted through the area.

At 17, Auld was one of the many to enlist and brave the perilous waters in a minesweeper.

"You realize what you're in for, that's for sure," Auld said. "It's a pretty scary operation when you're only a kid of 18, 19, or 20-years-old."

For both Auld and MacKay, now in their 90s, seeing the many young naval, air, and army cadets participating in the commemoration of the Battle of the Atlantic every year is always very meaningful.

"It's wonderful to have people recognize you," MacKay said. "I sometimes have people on the street come and speak to me and they appreciate what we've done."

"It's wonderful seeing all those kids like that," Auld added. "It's wonderful to see they are still carrying it on. We are a lucky bunch."



(Just one mile west of the Expressway off John St. Road)

LOCALNEWS

City to use reserves for projects

Council banking on Ottawa paying back the money

CITY HALL By Matt Vis - TB Source

Council has slashed one of the city's primary reserve funds by more than half, though they are counting on the federal government for it to be replenished.

More than \$15 million in contracts for six city infrastructure projects were awarded at Monday night's council meeting, including proceeding with all three stages of planned Northwood sewer improvements.

A push by Northwood ward Coun.

ead us online

Shelby Ch'ng to take \$735,000 from the stabilization reserve fund to restore the final part of the planned upgrades was unanimously supported by her colleagues.

Contract tenders for the total project came in about \$1 million over the allocated budget, with administration recommending delaying the extension of a relief line from McGill Crescent to Dalhousie Drive.

Ch'ng urged councillors that not going ahead with the complete scope of the project SHELBY CH'NG could increase liability for

the city and that stormwater management is a primary concern in her ward. "It's caused a lot of stress for a

number of homeowners in the city. I

understand there's work to be done and that it's more complex than originally estimated," Ch'ng said.

"While it's upsetting and unplanned to spend this money, council did vote to keep money in the stabilization reserve fund for these

> The reserve fund entered the meeting with a balance of \$7.7 million but was cut to \$3.2 million by the end of the night.

> In addition to paying for the third piece of the sewer

includes what is hoped will be a temporary appropriation from the city awaits the results of applications through Ottawa's Clean Water

The total amount of those funding applications is nearly \$3.8 million.

Dixon said the verdict on those funding applications is expected to be "coming shortly," which will determine whether the city needs to fill in all or a portion of their request.

"We expect to hear by the time we are making decisions around the beginning of construction," Dixon said. "Certainly, there will come a time when we need to make decisions to either carry forward projects into 2018 or to try to re-plan those with other funds this year. That time will come probably near the end of June."

With construction season looming, Coun. Frank Pullia found the timing of the process to be puzzling.

"It's a bit surprising this federal fund - while appreciated - we prioritized our projects to tap into this funding," Pullia said.

The other projects that got the greenlight include Crescent Avenue and Empress Avenue storm relief at \$2.1 million, sewer and watermain replacement work on Egan Street, Prospect Avenue, Munro Street, Carlton Street and Simpson Street at \$1.3 million, Court Street and Banning Street reconstruction for \$2.6 million and asphalt surface rehabilitation for about \$4.8 million.



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Northwood upgrades, each of the contracts

stabilization reserve fund while the

Wastewater Fund.

"If the money is approved, it will be replenished into the stabilization reserve," city treasurer Linda Evans said, adding that would bring the fund back up to about \$7.1 million.

Editorial

EDITORIAL

New jail is welcomed

News of a 325-inmate replacement facility for both the Thunder Bay District Jail and the Thunder Bay Correctional Centre is good to hear.

It would be even better if a few more details were known.

In making the announcement, MPP Bill Mauro was greated with cautious optimism by local corrections officials, who have been calling for a replacement for the District Jail for years.

After a riot and a successful escape, plus the situation that saw inmate Adam Capay held in solitary confinement for more than four years, it's about time.

However, other than its capacity, little is known about the new correctional centre.

Where will it be built? The District Jail's current location is far too small to house a proper-size penal institution. And, located next to a school, a better spot can be found.

How much will it cost? Untold millions, for sure, though the price is well worth the expense.

How long will it take for it to be built? The earliest estimates suggest anywhere between five and seven years.

While jails aren't supposed to be resorts for inmates, giving them some sense of well-being might just help them readjust to life on the outside when their sentences are up. A new facility might just accomplish this.

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Sewer open house

To the editor: would like to thank the constituents who have taken the time to meet with myself and administration to understand the ongoing work for Northwood storm sewers. You have been diligent in your understanding of the issues and lobbying for better storm water infrastructure.

I would also like to point out that while council has decided to invest into our city using Renew Thunder Bay and/or financing, these funds are unfortunately not available to be used for storm sewer management. There are rules for accessing funds and we need to be mindful of that and know what those rules entail.

While there are misconceptions and half-truths out there, I do invite anyone who is interested to a meeting previously set up with myself, administration and the Concerned Citizens of Northwood group to come and air personal concerns with how storm sewers are managed in Northwood. It's on May 24 at 4:30 p.m. in the McNaughton Room at city hall.

To access me, one can either call, send an email or attend a ward meeting or one of the various other informal meetings I hold through the year. This meeting is open to anyone who may have an interest in the ongoing storm sewer issues in Northwood.

I look forward to continuing the dialogue with those who choose to engage in the process.

Coun. Shelby Ch'ng, Northwood Ward

Response to criticism

To the editor:

Four years ago our government promised to bring the province's finances back to balance. The balanced budget we tabled last week represents the progress Ontarians have made together to ensure a stronger, healthier Ontario.

It's clear from his comments that Vic Fedeli doesn't have the facts about our budget and its positive impact on Northern Ontario.

Our government remains committed to full funding of the \$100 million Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation to help create jobs and grow the Northern economy. We also remain committed to the development of the Ring of Fire, including our commitment to invest up to \$1 billion in strategic transportation infrastructure in the Ring of Fire.

In addition to maintaining these commitments, funding of some of our most important programs at the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines saw an increase over last year. We are making travel safer and travel for health care more affordable





for Northern Ontarians. Northerners will benefit from substantial improvements in their roadways this summer as highway funding in this year's budget is almost \$650 million, up from \$540 million last year.

The change seen in this year's overall budget is due to the fact that the Ministry undertook \$100 million worth of one-time, unanticipated mine site rehabilitation last year to help protect the environment.

We also continue to expand the Northern Health Travel Program through a further \$10 million investment that will help northern patients with the costs associated with receiving care outside their communities.

Northern Ontarians will also benefit with an increase in funding of at least two per cent for hospitals in every community across Northern Ontario and free access to prescription drugs for everyone 24 years old and younger.

Budget 2017 delivers on our government's commitment to build a stronger, more prosperous Northern Ontario and it's about time that Mr. Fedeli shares facts with Northerners.

Bill Mauro, Minister of Northern Development and Mines

Response to Mauro

To the editor:

For the second year in a row, I've had to correct Bill Mauro, Minister of Northern Development and Mines, after the budget was released.

After reading his recent Letter to the Editor, it's clear he has not read the budget, once again. The Northern Ministry's budget this year is \$767 million. Not only is that \$70 million lower than last year, it's even lower than the \$804 million the Ministry had, back as far as 2014! So coming up with some "we had one-time money last year" excuse is just that — an excuse. The budget has been slashed again — the facts are the facts.

It doesn't come as a surprise that the Minister would be so confused when discussing the budget. Last year, the same Minister stood in the Legislature and stated "Recreational hunting and fishing licences are not increasing. Unequivocally." I stood up immediately and quoted from page 191 of the budget, which reads "Examples of the fees (to be raised) include fees charged for driver and vehicle licencing, camping, fishing and hunting licences, and event permits."

I would have hoped the Northern Minister would have actually read the budget, especially the sections that deal with the North.

With respect to the Ring of Fire, an infrastructure commitment was in the 2014 budget, then cut-and-pasted into the 2015 budget, and again copied and put into the 2016 budget. Sadly, there was NO mention of the Ring of Fire in this year's budget. Not one single word. It's apparent that unless we keep pushing for this huge project, the Liberal government will continue to ignore the North.

Vic Fedeli, ' MPP, Nipissing

New facility long overdue

To the editor:

The new correctional facility is the best news I've heard in a long time.

Hopefully, during the seven years it will take to build a new facility, they will come up with better solutions than incarcerating the mentally ill, those with acquired brain injury, the developmentally handicapped and people with concurrent disorders.

A new building doesn't solve all the issues but, it's a start.

Peggy Adams, Thunder Bay Via Facebook

Perspective

Leaders of the free world

Canada is in the running for the prestigious title

OPINION By J.R. Shermack **Special to TB Source**

n the New York Times, columnist Nicholas Kristoff declared that Canada is now the leader of the free world.

For decades the U.S. proudly claimed that crown but now they have lost the title.

In fact, recent revelations about American politicians suggest they have been accepting this honor under false pretenses for years.

Now that the U.S. administration is exposed as a complete sham, citizens of the world are nervously looking for a replacement.

Thanks for the offer Mr. Kristoff but before Canada accepts we need to know a little more about the job.

The "Leader of the Free World" designation was popularized during the Second World War when the Americans (aided by their allies) assumed the role.

They were never planning or expecting to relinquish the title.

During the Cold War the term came to be synonymous with America and the President as they advanced U.S. interests worldwide.

Some thought that the "free world" would include respect for human rights and support for governments chosen in fair elections.

Many were expecting an end to the threats of tyranny, oppression and brutality but our American friends chose a different direction. Their path led to today's

more rooms creating the

building you see here.

consensus that America just isn't that special anymore.

America is no longer a champion of freedom and democracy refugees are deported while other countries (including ours) welcome them gladly.

Canada, Germany and Norway now lead in global development and human rights while the U.S. is not included in those conversations.

The U.S. administration denies climate change and will forfeit the benefits enjoyed by the Chinese, world leaders in clean technology.

America's huge military power is no longer a criteria for world peace - the "might is right" policy is wrong

This leaves a vacancy in global politics and a huge void in world leadership - who will defend freedom and liberalism in the free world?

Mr. Kristoff thinks Canada is the natural choice and our Prime Minister is included in the package.

Some observers say he is too inexperienced and others are concerned about the size of his military, whatever that means.

Everybody knows it's not the size of the military that counts - how it is deployed is more important in the free world today.

M. Trudeau's credentials as a world leader go beyond good looks, charisma and his knack for charming unsuspecting Presidents.

He enjoys the advantage of a very robust economy, he proudly supports multiculturalism and

Canadians welcome the world's refugees.

You might say that Justin Trudeau has been preparing for this role his entire life and he is following up his father's work.

However, in spite of his obvious star power and his command of the worldwide media (including the U.S.) he is not the front runner.

That honor goes to Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany, also impressive although somewhat less charismatic.

She is a highly-educated scientist (Doctorate in Quantum Chemistry) who takes a firm stance against international bullying and bigotry.

Ms Merkel has been called the most powerful woman in the world and she appears to wield it fairly, compassionately and without fanfare.

She will soon ask German voters for a fourth term.

Great Britain could've been a contender but Theresa May is described as a "bloody difficult woman" who hates "citizens of the world".

That leaves one obvious scenario - the world's most powerful woman and the world's most charismatic man to lead the free world.

Canadians should be proud to be in the running.

The New York Times says it's not just the leadership but Canadians in general who have brought us here.

They think we're the nicest people in the free world.

FHUNDER BAY



AWARDED FOR SERVICE

A GREAT HONOUR Cpl. Andrew Biscardi, Cpl. Gabriel Green, Cpl. Allan Faykes, and Cpl. Ben Deley received their Special Service Medals from Lt. Col. David Ratz in a ceremony last Sunday.

HOW TO WRITE US:

etters 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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LOCALNEWS

IN BRIEF

Teen's body found in water

Police are investigating the death of a 17-year-old female found in the Neebing McIntrye Floodway.

The Thunder Bay Police Service responded to a call Sunday evening received by citizens who had located the body of Tammy Keeash in the water near the intersection of Redwood Avenue and Ford Street.

The criminal investigations branch has secured the scene. A post-mortem examination is scheduled for Thursday in Thunder Bay.

Keeash was last seen on Saturday night at about 6 p.m. in the 300 block of North Edward Street.

Anyone with any information about here whereabouts after that point, or information about seeing anyone in this area over the weekend is asked to call the police at 684-1200.

This investigation is ongoing.

Police probe death Ontario Provincial Police have made an arrest following a death in

Sandy Lake. On May 6, Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service responded to a call regarding a male in need of assistance outside a residence on River Road in Sandy Lake.

Officers responded and located 49-year-old Wilfred Fiddler from Sandy Lake First Nation in the ditch. He was transported by police to the Sandy Lake Nursing Station and was later pronounced dead.

A post-mortem examination has been scheduled to take place in Kenora on Monday.

Police arrested a 24-year-old man from Sandy Lake First Nation and charged him with aggravated assault.

He is being held in custody for a bail

hearing in Kenora on May 8. Police are continuing the investigation.

Anyone with information about this investigation is asked to contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122.

Dog cruelty alleged

A couple has been arrested on animal cruelty charges after police responded to a report of a group of neglected dogs living in a cabin.

In February, OPP officials began an investigation in a report of neglected dogs located at a cabin north of the Lower Flat Rapids area in Ginnogaming First Nation.

Police located 15 dogs at the cabin with various injuries and health problems. Among the 15, three were deceased.



KEEPING AN EYE ON THINGS: Thunder Bay Police keep a vigil in Chapples Park.



¹Offer pricing reflects \$15 discount per month for the first 2 months; monthly price increases by \$15 per month beginning in month 3. Monthly service fee includes rental cost of equipment. Packages subject to availability. Taxes apply. Offer valid until May 31, 2017 for new customers and is subject to change at any time. ²Actual speeds available may vary with your technical configuration, Internet traffic, server and other factors. Traffic Management policy applies. ³If installation requirements go beyond the scope of a basic installation, additional fees apply. Subject to site check, site check fee may apply. See dealer for details. ⁴\$9.99 per month applies for the first 3 months on the Xplornet Home Phone plan; regularly applicable pricing of \$19.99 begins in month 4. Xplornet 911 service operates differently than traditional 911. For Traffic Management Policies and 911 Terms and Limitation of Liability, see xplornet. com/legal. A router is required for multiple users. Xplornet[®] is a trademark of Xplornet Communications Inc. [©] 2017 Xplornet Communications Inc.



LOCALNEWS



TEMPORARY STAY: Kashechewan residents began arriving in Thunder Bay late last month ahead of potential flooding at home.

Evacuees head home

THUNDER BAY By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

Evacuees from a flood-prone northern community are expected to return on Friday, while 78 evacuees from Wawa were forced to travel to Thunder Bay first before making the trip home.

On Monday, 78 evacuees from Kashechewan First Nation arrived in Thunder Bay from Wawa by bus because hotel accommodations were no longer available

"The hotel availability in Wawa expired, so Thunder Bay committed to receive the evacuees from Wawa for the interim until they go back to Kashechewan hopefully sometime later this week," said Thunder Bay Fire Rescue deputy fire chief, Greg Hankkio.

The new evacuees brings the total number of Kashechewan residents in Thunder Bay to 148, with close to 50 arriving earlier in April.

"Things have been going really well," Hankkio said.

"It's been a cooperative effort and everyone has been working hard to make their stay as comfortable as possible and I'm sure they are all looking forward to going back home as soon as they can."

The evacuees may only have to wait less than a week to return home, as the risk of flooding on the Albany River near Kashechewan appears to have decreased.

"To the best of our knowledge, the threat of flooding is over and the chief of the community has asked to have his people repatriated, so they are making arrangements right now to begin the flights and start bringing the people back to their community," Hankkio said.

There was the hope that the 78 evacuees in Wawa could have returned directly home, but weather hampered flights. All evacuees are expected to return by Friday or Saturday.

"We've had some evacuations that have gone significantly longer," Hankkio said. "In this particular case, this was a precautionary evacuation so to the best of our knowledge there was no flooding in the community."

Do you have an opinion to share? E-mail the editor at ldunick@dougallmedia.com



TUES. MAY 16, 2017

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Victoria Inn Hotel & **Convention Centre** 555 Arthur St. W. Transit routes 4 & 14

WED., MAY 17, 2017 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Italian Cultural Centre 132 Algoma St. S. Transit routes 3M, 11, 13

INFORMATION SESSION:

The Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee invites the public to meet its members, learn about accessibility and provide feedback on barrier removal across City of Thunder Bay facilities and services.

- REFRESHMENTS & DOOR PRIZES -



LUKE ANDERSON, founder of StopGap, will be the keynote speaker at this year's event. Luke shares his experience living with a physical disability, how physical barriers prevent many people from accessing spaces that they desire, and the need for an inclusive society. StopGap is

an organization that builds temporary ramps with the help of volunteers to make local businesses more accessible.

TOWNEPLACE Luke's hotel accommodations graciously sponsored by TownePlace Suites by Marriott Thunder Bay

please email sgarner@thunderbay.ca or call Scott at 807.625.2240. Communication access real-time translation (CART) will be available on both dates.

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Gamble to run for mayor

Longtime city hall critic finished distant second in 2006 race

CITY HALL By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Jim Gamble is taking another crack at the mayor's chair.

The 63-year-old, who finished runner-up in 2006 in former mayor Lynn Peterson's landslide second mayoral election triumph, on Friday declared he's throwing his hat into the ring to run in 2018.

Gamble, a long-time critic of all things city hall, said council and the mayor have a disconnect with what's really going on in Thunder Bay, which is why he decided to run.

"They do not listen to the people," a nattily dressed Gamble said, unofficially launching his campaign from his smokefilled South Harold Street residence.

"They do not drive around and walk around this city the way I do, and see and record and report the things I've reported on."

Gamble pointed to the constant gridlock situation at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre as one



SEEKING A SEAT: Jim Gamble is the first to declare he'll seek the mayor's chair in 2018.

issue he'd like to address if he's elected mayor next year. "I will fix that," he said. Although the election is not scheduled until the fall of 2018, and nomination forms can't officially be signed and submitted until next May, Gamble said he decided to get a jump start on the race.

He plans to run a bare-bones campaign, making use of social media outlets, like Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat and YouTube to get his message across to the voting public.

Gamble said he also wants to address the growing problem of homelessness in Thunder Bay, calling the situation horrid.

"We have the mayor and city council sitting on this," he said. "I have complained about this for a number of years. When I ran against Lynn Peterson in 2006, I was fighting these same battles and no one listened to me.

"They don't do the right thing, they don't understand it. They haven't lived it. I have lived it all," said the father and grandfather of three, who also claimed during his campaign launch to know U.S. President Donald Trump.

Gamble is the first contestant to say he's running, though several others appear to be in full campaign mode. Mayor Keith Hobbs has said he won't seek a third term next year.

The next municipal election is scheduled for Oct. 22, 2018.



LOCALNEWS

Spring clean-up begins

THUNDER BAY By Leith Dunick — TB Source

Neighbourhoods around the city should start looking a little nicer between now and the end of the month.

The 21st annual Spring Up to Clean Up event kicked off on Thursday, with volunteers spreading throughout the Intercity area with trash bags and garbage pickers in hand, scouring the roadways and ditches for tossed aside litter.

Shannon Costigan, a co-ordinator for EcoSuperior's environmental programs, said it's the same thing every spring – as the snow melts the trash discarded during the fall and winter is left behind.

"The aesthetics leave a little bit to be desired. So we ask people in their neighbourhoods, people in the city, to get out and make their neighbourhoods beautiful in the spring."

With two dozen volunteers taking part in the inaugural clean-up day on Thursday, Costigan said it's great to see so many people showing off their civic pride.



FRESH LOOK: A volunteer cleans up a ditch.

She added EcoSuperior and the city do their best to ensure litter-prevention infrastructure, such as public garbage cans, are readily available throughout Thunder Bay.

"We hope that people use it to the best of their abilities, but if there are areas of the city that the public thinks needs attention, to let us know. We can help," Costigan said.

"Litter has some negative impacts on the environment, so the more we clean up, the healthier our community is. It's also really good for business."

Taking part in Spring Up to Clean Up is simple, she said. Sign-up is available on the EcoSuperior website, and the organization will provide clean-up kits to those interested in participating. There are also prizes available to those who help clean up.

Jason Sherband, the city's manager of solid waste and recycling services, called the campaign Thunder Bay's flagship litter program.

"We get roughly 10,000 volunteers every year – that's almost a tenth of the population of the city – tht comes out to clean up the city," he said. "And it's only growing. We're getting a lot more corporate sponsors coming on board and the whole civic pride thing is showing through."

Sherband said he'd like to see the effort continue throughout the year and not just in the springtime.

WSWB

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12 Thursday, May 11, 2017

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 $\begin{array}{c} \mbox{Wednesday, May 17th, 2017} \\ 7:00 - 8:00 \mbox{ pm} \\ \mbox{Cranton Wellness Centre } \bullet 3-701 \mbox{ Memorial Ave.} \\ \mbox{Call 343-7932} \end{array}$





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Low Back Pain. John had had severe low back pain following a very bad fall and 6 back surgeries. After 40 years of pain, he is now shoveling snow and cutting the grass in summer.

Neck Pain. We've had a number of women and men with chronic long lasting neck pain from accidents, injuries and car crashes recover very well and regain their well-being following laser therapy

Headaches and Migraines. Patients suffering with headaches will do almost anything for relief. Our laser therapy has helped dozens and dozens of people to reduce their headaches, both in severity and frequency of headaches.

Knee Pain. This joint is the largest joint in the body and is subject to the most wear and



tear. It is also the joint with the most pain and swelling and arthritis. We've helped so many knee problems both before surgery was necessary as well as post-surgery once the bandaging is off. Because we are using light energy, laser therapy is safe to use over staples, metal and plastic hardware in partial and complete joint replacements.

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome. Wrist and hand pain from injuries and over-use responds very well to laser therapy. The treatment numbers vary depending on the severity and how long the patient has suffered.

Plantar Fasciitis. Foot pain in the heel area worse on the first 5-10 steps in the morning really responds quickly to laser therapy. In addition, we also prescribe home exercises, stretches, dietary changes and topical gels that have proven effective in Europe for decades.

Shoulder Pain/ Rotator Cuff Injuries. We see many patients with chronic pain in the shoulder joint that hasn't been helped by other methods of treatment. Whether we are dealing with torn ligaments, muscle damage or joint arthritis, shoulder pains respond very well to laser therapy.

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Rob, our laser therapist, is a chiropractor and has over 3 years full time experience working with laser therapy. He is in attendance with our patients throughout the treatment and does not 'hook you up' and leave. Personal care and attendance as well as home guidance and coaching are provided during your treatment. He recently attended a meeting in Toronto for Theralase - the company we have used for 7 years- and was casually asked to do a presentation on our office procedures and results. Congratulations Rob.

For more information on how you can benefit from laser therapy, please attend our upcoming **Free Workshop on Wednesday May 17th from 7-8 pm.** Call 343 7932 to reserve a seat for you and your guest. All in attendance will be eligible for a free one on one consultation with our laser therapist.

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Tips on managing health conditions for active individuals

Energetic people with active lives shouldn't have to give up their passions once they are diagnosed with a health condition. And with the number of Canadians with diabetes on the rise — an estimated 3 million Canadians are living with the disease — it's important to know what lifestyle changes will keep you healthy and help maintain energy levels.

"For individuals living with a disease like diabetes, technology has really helped people stay on track and not interfere with the hobbies or sports a highly active person enjoys," explains Toronto endocrinologist Harpreet S. Bajaj, MD, MPH. "New and innovative tools can help people manage the disease and understand their blood sugar levels to stay on top of their game."

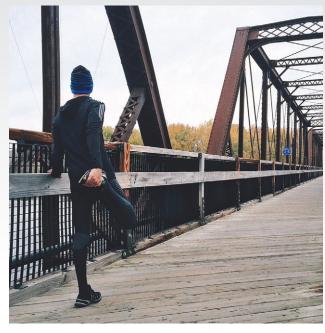
Here are some tips to help motivate and maximize daily activities to help meet your goals.

Incorporate energy management. Eating three balanced meals a day is crucial for everyone, but for active individuals it's also important to ensure that the largest portion will be vegetables or fruit mixed in with some lean protein.

Remember the 80-20 rule. Eat well at least 80 per cent of the time, but it's very important to leave some room for soul nourishment and favourite foods. A guilty snack can be allowed here and there.

Add balance. Activities like meditation and yoga are great for a balanced lifestyle and positive mental health, which can help active individuals stay focused and on track.

Be accurate. Taking care of your health can be challenging, but technology can help simplify the process. The Contour Next One meter and its app help make it easy for people with diabetes to use their smartphones to manage the condition. The



new meter also uses coloured lights to quickly indicate if a reading is too high, too low, or within target range, making results more accurate and better to understand. Find more information at www.contournextone.ca.

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Mulligan to benefit SOS

THUNDER BAY By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Shelter House has raised about 30 per cent of its \$200,000 target to ensure the Street Outreach Services program can operate yearround.

On Monday the homeless program got an added boost, revealing they'll be the recipient of money raised at this year's Mayor's Mulligan golf tournament, which is expected to help them pull in up to \$25,000 more than the \$59,000 already collected.

Gary Mack, Shelter House's executive director, called it welcome news.

"We are thrilled and very grateful to the mayor for making us the charity for the Mayor's Mulligan this year," Mack said.

In March, Shelter House officials said they would be forced to temporarily suspend the program as of April 1, 2017, promising to reinstate it in late fall when colder weather returns.

According to statistics provided by the organization at the time, the SOS program provided 4,923 rides and gave out 21,696 amenities, including blankets, coats, food and water, to those in need.

Mack said the program plays a vital role in the community.

"It helps homeless people that are in crisis," Mack said. "It responds 12 hours a day, from 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. People will phone SOS if they see someone that's in trouble, a homeless person and the SOS team will respond and take that person to the appropriate place.

"It might be the hospital. It might be back to the shelter. They also patrol areas where homeless people tend to congregate."

He shudders to think where the city's



PASSING THE TIME: A Shelter House resident plays cards on Monday morning.

homeless population – and particularly the most vulnerable of that subset – would be without the SOS program.

"That is the question," Mack said. "It is more taxing on other services, particularly police services and emergency services and hospital services."

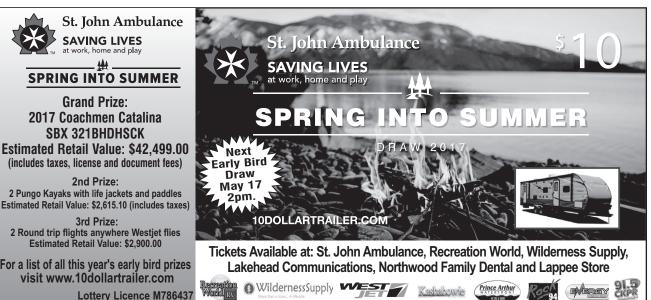
Mack said the goal is to have the program up and running as soon as possible, adding he's hopeful enough government and private-sector funding will be available to keep it active on an ongoing, permanent

e basis.

The Mayor's Mulligan tournament is scheduled for Aug. 25 at Chapples Golf Course.

Mayor Keith Hobbs said he was happy to lend his name to the cause.

"I can't think of a cause in Thunder Bay that needs it more at this time. The SOS program is a vital service in our community and I hope that others can also step up to ensure that SOS is back up and running as soon as possible," Hobbs said in a release.



TBLife

Cops for Cancer a success

Fundraiser on average brings in about \$20,000 each year for research

THUNDER BAY By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

For Catherine Tauro, who has seen friends and family lose the battle with cancer, and who works with people still fighting that battle every day, facing down an electric clipper was nothing to be scared about.

"This is my support to them, showing them that being without hair is not the end of the world and good for you for the fight and keep on going," she said.

Last Saturday, Tauro was one of more than 20 people who shaved their heads during the 21st annual Cops for Cancer fundraiser.

The annual fundraiser raises more than \$20,000 a year for Canadian Cancer Society Northwest, which is used primarily to support children fighting the disease.

"Cops for cancer is a really great event because it supports children with pediatric cancers," said Maria Cabral, Regional Manager of Canadian Cancer Society Northwest. "That is really important for us because in Thunder Bay, a lot of our children are going to Toronto for treatment if they are faced with cancer and the Canadian cancer society helps them out in terms of travel."

Bismuth



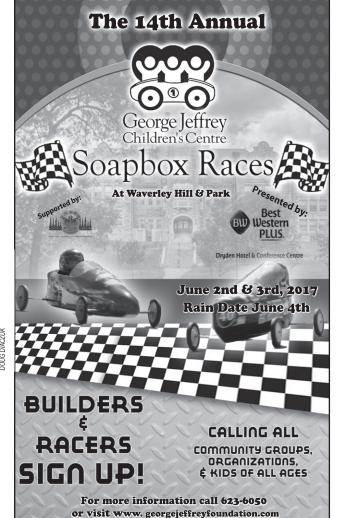
CLOSE SHAVE: Rene Rypkema (left) and Amanda Puukila (right) shave the heads of Thunder Bay Police Service const. Matt Sombrutski and his three-year-old son, Oliver during Cops for Cancer.

"We know that when you are faced with a cancer diagnosis in your family, especially when it's a child, it is very trying and parents need to be there to support their children," Cabral continued.

Cops for Cancer was first started by an Edmonton police officer in 1994 and has since grown to a nation-wide fundraiser. The Thunder Bay Police Association has been

involved with the annual event for the last 21 years and Cops for Cancer chair, Greg Stephenson, said it is an important cause to support because the services it funds are so crucial.

"We support it whole heartedly," he said. "For us it's giving back to the community and showing that we care and want to help out."



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Casa Jones fights green-bean battle

t was war. War had been declared by my daughter, Beth, against me. The weapons? String beans. The theater? The dining room table.

We were seated at supper. Son, Doug, sits to the left of me and Beth sits opposite him to my right. Wife, Laura is at one end of the dining room table and I command the other end.

The feast prepared by Laura consisted of breaded chicken, homemade French fries, and steamed beans both yellow and green, grown in our vegetable garden last summer.

I encourage convivial chatter during our meals together that are not as often as I would like due to schedules of children and wife. But it was Friday evening and a rare occasion when no one had any social appointments away from Casa Jones. I especially like it when my kids get on a roll with their unique senses of humour. Their mother is rarely the target of their quips. Sometimes they go at each other; often the bullseye is on me. I have to admit that many is the time when



I act as an agent provocateur. Why? I revel in their skill, their inventiveness, their imaginations, and as they get older, their expanding vocabularies. All good, mind you. They can hurl insults at me but I insist that these be grammatically correct insults.

So, the war.

I chanced to chomp down on one particularly juicy green bean. Immediately some of the juice squirted across the table and directly onto Beth. It was unintentional, an accident. It didn't matter. Surprise rippled about the dining table as all present had, just at that moment of liquid impact, been watching while chewing. Doug guffawed; Laura laughed; Beth gasped. Then we both sat staring at each other. I apologized but revenge had immediately replaced shock in Beth's narrowed eyes.

"Of course, you know this means war," she crowed with menace, paraphrasing the famous declaration of Bugs Bunny when his person has been assaulted. Whereupon she began to frantically chew her beans both yellow and green facing me in the hopes of a counter attack. Alas for her, the beans weren't loaded; they were all blanks, well, except the last one on her plate. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

So war had been declared. Having been the transgressor albeit inadvertently and without malice aforethought as they say, I sat calmly awaiting execution or, at least, for some bean juice to land my way.

Throughout this exchange, Douglas watched; and then he elected to side with his sister. So, he, too, began to chomp vigorously on his beans aiming in my direction. Tennyson's lines, more or less, crept into my head: "Cannon to the right of me, cannon to the left of me...Volley'd and thunder'd./ Into the jaws of death, into the mouth of hell Rode the Dad." Well, more like complacently 'sat' awaiting a successful counter-attack.

Eventually Beth did succeed with her last bean to squirt some juice in my general direction that landed on my hand. Triumph! "Hah! Vengeance is mine!" gloated the Beth!

But now 'the Dougster' turned traitor, betraying his sister and began attacking her. Realizing a balance of power had been upset with advantage to Douglas who still had beans on his plate, I donated the few remaining beans on my plate that I had not consumed, to my former assailant seated on my right so that she could muster some kind of defence.

She grabbed the beans and the battle continued, having shifted fronts.

Laura did not take part in this theater of war. She continued to peacefully enjoy her meal while observing the foray. Besides, she sits too far away to be a part of the engagement; and she was brought up not to play with her food. (So was I, but some kids never grow up.)

Ah, but at one point as both children's supply of bean/ammunition had been exhausted, Laura compromised her U. N. Neutral Observer position by suggesting that there were more beans in the pot. I accused her of aiding-and-abetting both sides, of war-mongering. But no, now that all of their ammunition had been consumed, literally, they both broke up laughing and a truce was declared. Only Beth had succeeded in her counter-attack on dear ol' Dad.

The gloating continued.

So another episode from the Jones Theater-of-the-Absurd (I love it) goes down in the family annals. As we were clearing away the plates, Laura piped up: "You certainly thought up a unique way to get our children to eat their greens, didn't you Dear?"

What? I'm innocent, I tell you, innocent.

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Thursday, May 11, 2017 17

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A WACKY MYSTERY: From left to right Alex Jecchinis, Ruth Currie, Jennifer Jones, Mari Lukkaroinen and Lauren Payette will be performing in Cambrian Player's latest production.

One wacky whodunit

Cambrian Players presents the Farndale Murder Mystery THEATRE

By Linda Maehans - TB Source

On the heels of their smash sold-out hit The Full Monty, this city's premiere amateur theatre troupe wraps up their season with another humdinger of a show.

How's this for a title? The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery. Farndale Murder Mystery for short. No, wait a moment. I believe the actual title is Murder at Checkmate Manor. "Important to be accurate, my dear.'

Thelma Greenwood also makes sure I know of her pedigree when it comes to beauty pageants. Selected as "Miss Farndale" for 14 years' running, I wonder at the depth and breadth of talent this decidedly attractive woman must possess. Cambrian's Lauren Payette slips into her role as Thelma Greenwood as smoothly as a fine silk glove, in whatever shade happens to be de rigueur on the London fashion scene just now.

"Why live theatre? I've just told you." She offers a tight smile. "I like to give the people a chance to enjoy my performances. And bring a bit of professionalism to what is, at times, a little less than a professional community theatre group. I'm sure you understand.

A natural? Why thank you, my dear! A hint about the murder? No, I couldn't possibly.

A coquettish pause. "Well, at least the author of the play this time was wise enough to give me the part of Ingénue. It is, after all, the role I was born to play!"

I murmur a polite affirmation; what else does one do in such circumstances.

In marvelous contrast to Thelma Greenwood, this guy knows what he says and says what he knows.

Cambrian Players' Alex Jecchinis as Gordon Pugh immediately brings a grin to one's face. Alex's role this time? He's stage manager. What else would this manon-cue possibly be?

"Me? I keeps the show rollin', don' I. I mean, I'm back-stage 'makin' sure the lights are firin', the sound's on time, the actors get to their on-stage spots on time, proper props in hand. Stuff like that. I makes sure it's all workin'." He winks, shrugs his shoulders. "Tickety-boo."

Gordon appears relaxed; he's well prepared for opening night. Little does Gordon know TG, or Theatre Ghost if you prefer, is waiting in the wings. To keep that timeless theatrical superstition alive: whatever can go wrong on opening night likely will!

Beverley Gravelle-MacLeod, directing this time, tells me why she chose a play with such a long title; why it read so well; and why her board of directors loved the idea.

"It's a fun, fun way to end our season. After all, laughter IS the best medicine. This show has shenanigans galore; I think the audience will be taken aback by everything they'll see going on (read: wrong), as we Cambrian Players poke fun at ourselves. When our board first read the script, so many priceless moments and memories were triggered from their own experiences. And yes, we take great pride in our professional production values." Her eyes, with smile to match, are twinkling.

Watch The Farndale Murder Mystery unravel at the Finlandia Hall on Bay Street. May 17-20; again May 24-27; all shows 8 p.m. Tickets at Fireweed, Calico Coffee Shop, Red Lion Smokehouse, Steepers, Thunder Pet (on Mountdale Avenue), and at the door.

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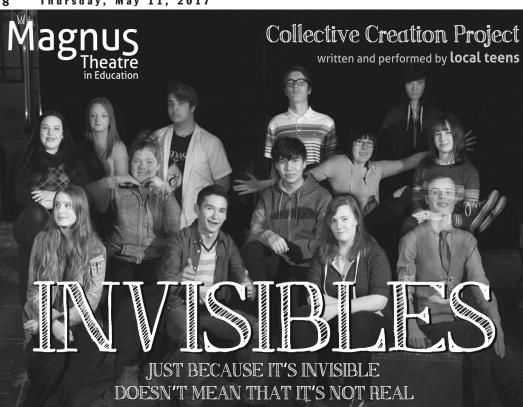




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IN THE **bay**



A QUICK TWIRL AROUND THE WORLD: The Parade of Nations was part of the opening ceremonies to kick off the 44th annual Folklore Festival at the Fort William Gardens.

Folklore Festival another success

THUNDER BAY By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

ustine Doughty has been living in Europe for the last 12 years, but luckily for her, a trip back to Thunder Bay couldn't have been timed better.

"We just happened to be in town so I was really lucky the timing worked out and I was able to come," she said.

Doughty was one of thousands to come out and take in all the cultures of the world during the 44th Annual Folklore Festival.

"This kind of cultural dynamic doesn't really exist where I live now," Doughty said.

The Folklore Festival kicked off on Saturday with the opening ceremonies that included a parade of nations.

"You are going to travel the world in 48 hours," said Jeanetty Jumah, chair of sponsorship and promotion for the Thunder Bay Folklore Festival.

"It's outstanding," Jumah continued. "If you were here for the opening ceremonies you saw the large crowds. If you went to the food court, you would see even more people packing all the tables. They started coming early and there were line-ups as the doors opened. We are looking at another great Folklore Festival.

The always popular event once again

included cultural performances by various dance organizations in the city, exhibitors, a kids area, and of course, 19 different food booths.

Sherri Rask, who was attending her very first Folklore Festival, said she wanted to bring her daughter to experience the cultural diversity of the city.

"It smells delicious and there are a lot of colours and it's been entertaining so far," she said. "We just watched the opening ceremonies."

"Our community right now is really diverse so it just brings our community closer together," Rask continued.

It was a little more nostalgic for Doughty, who used to come to the festival more than 12 years ago, but she said not much has changed.

"It's been really nostalgic," she said. "It was so long ago. The food is still just as good."

According to Doughty, who teaches in England, returning to the Folklore Festival after so much time away reminds her just how special an event like this is for the city.

"I think it's something really special about Thunder Bay," she said. "You don't really find this where I am in the rural areas. It's just really special to have so many different cultures in one place."

<u>IN THE **bay**</u>

What should you be offended by



ast week, after one hundred days of satirical commentary, Stephen Colbert let loose a profanity-laced rant about Donald Trump. Some viewers retaliated by demanding that CBS fire the talk show host.

In his defense, Colbert was responding to Trump's rude behaviour and insults directed at a CBS reporter during their one-on-one interview. Colbert's lack of presidential respect that caused the uproar. His outburst also included a particular phrase regarding the Commander-in-Chief and Vladimir Putin that was labelled "homophobic."

Oh Stephen. Again, in somewhat weaker defense, Colbert was not judging the goings-on between two consenting men, but Trump's relationship with his Russian dominant - sorry, counterpart.

However, Colbert's intent doesn't matter. People are offended about everything these days. Comedians can't make a joke without having a pre-prepared apology ready.

Apparently, we've forgotten one of comedy's purposes: to make a point, not a statement of fact.

In March during a late night visit

But it wasn't just to Jimmy Kimmel Live, Republican comedian Tim Allen commented on the largely liberal atmosphere in Hollywood, joking, "You'll get beat up if you don't believe what everybody believes. It's like '30s Germany."

> The Anne Frank Center for Mutual Respect wasn't amused. They called his statement a "deeply offensive characterization that trivializes the horrors imposed on Jews in Nazi Germany" and demanded an apology.

> But Allen was talking about Fascism - the dictatorial belief that only one political party is acceptable. Any opposition should be forcibly suppressed. And "30's Germany" was a fascist state controlling every aspect of every person's life. He was comparing

> > **WORD SEARCH**

that mentality to current Hollywood politics.

Meanwhile, Chris Pratt was recently skewered for suggesting that people turn up the volume on his Instagram video to get the full effect, instead of just reading the subtitles. He was attacked for being insensitive to those with hearing impairments.

People are offended by clothes, hairstyles, even restaurant menus. And most are completely innocent ... or at least, misconstrued. So how do we interact in this global village if every act is presumed to be a personal slight?

If I laugh about the Gay Nineties, am I homophobic? Or do you just not know your history?

If I offer you English muffins, Asian salad and French fries, am I culturally misappropriating foods? Or am I just doing the weekly cleanout of my refrigerator?

And if I don't shake your hand, am I racist? Or did I just blow a giant loogie and don't want to share my germs?

Or do I just not like you?

Certainly, social injustices must never be ignored. But the message loses its power if it's constantly misused against the most innocent and mistaken infractions.

The fact is I'll never get every word just right for you. And you'll never be able to see what's truly in my heart. It's a judgement call.

In the animal kingdom, those same judgements keep us from deciding to pet a grizzly. But at least with the bear, you know his intent. And he won't apologize for it either.

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There's a familiar face at the Thunder Bay Chill camp this week. Brandon Swartzendruber, the team's all-time leading scorer, is back after a one-year absence, 14 months a father and ready to try to lead the Premier Development Club beyond the opening round of the playoffs.

Club's all-time goal

There's still plenty left in the tank, said the Colorado native on Saturday, as the team kicked off training camp at Fort William Stadium, just a few veteran faces in sight and only four weeks to get ready for the start of regular season play.

"I just love it here," said the 32-yearold forward, who last played for the Chill in 2015.

"I hope I can just be a leader and an example and a goal-scorer, obviously - nothing different than in previous years."

Swartzendruber, whose offensive prowess powered the Chill to their lone PDL championship in 2008, is a welcome addition up front despite being 10 years older than his rookie campaign in 2007 said coach Gio Petraglio, who spent Saturday evening assessing the available talent on this year's squad.

After all, he did tie for the PDL lead with nine goals just two seasons ago.

"I think he's going to have one of his best seasons," Petraglia said, "because of the experience he got in those past years. It's going to help us. That's what we need up there and that's what we were probably missing last year."



Sports

Swartzendruber back with Chill

local sports news information coverage

RETURNS TO THE FOLD: Brandon Swartzendruber led the Thunder Bay Chill to the 2008 Premier Development League championship.

Petraglia said the return of Swartzendruber, along with midfielder Abraham Villon, a member of the Chill in 2012 and 2013, when they went to the PDL championship game, will be a key to the team's success in 2017

"We think that we needed some parts of the field to be more mature, and up top is one of those areas, just like in net," Petraglia said.

Oft-injured Sullivan Silva, one of the league's best when healthy,

welcomed Swartzendruber back with open arms.

The Brazilian, a former PDL most valuable player who scored 11 times last summer, including five in a fourgame stretch to earn player of the week honours, said the American striker has built a tremendous reputation as a PDL star, a role he hopes to help enhance this summer.

"He won a championship for the club and just having him back is going to be good, especially for me, because

I play beside him," Silva said.

"Two years ago, in the beginning, we were struggling a little bit. Then we kind of got better toward the end and ... we're going to take this preseason to work (together)."

Pitch marks: The Chill will play a pair of home exhibition games against the Winnipeg Lions on May 26 and May 27, and open the regular season on the road against WSA Winnipeg on June 3. Their home opener is June 9 against Des Moines.



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sports NEWS

Masters to play for T-Wolves

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

onathon Masters attempted to make the Lakehead Thunderwolves last fall as a walk-on.

He had to wait eight months, but he's finally been added to the roster.

The OUA men's hockey team on Monday announced the six-foot, 200pound Masters, who played this past season for the Thunder Bay North Stars, will join the team's blue-line this fall.

"I watched a lot of Thunderwolves games while I was growing up, and now I'll be on the ice as one of the pack," he said in a release issued by the team.

"It's a great opportunity and a challenge to play at the university level. I hope to contribute as a gritty defenceman who takes care of his own end, but also feels comfortable jumping into the play."

The 21-year-old began his junior career in 2012-13 with the North Stars and Sioux Lookout Flyers, playing six scoreless games.

He jumped to the Ontario Hockey League's Sudbury Wolves in 2014-15,

fickets On

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finishing the campaign with the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League's Gatineau Olympiques, combining for a goal and eight assists in 54 appearances.

Masters toiled one more season with the Olympiques, adding another nine points in 66 games, before returning for an over-age year with the North Stars in 2016-17, where he scored eight goals and collected 18 assists in 38 games.

31st Annual

CANADA DAY 2017

Thursday, May 11, 2017 21

TRY AGAIN: Jonathon Masters played a non-conference game with Lakehad last fall.

Lakehead hosts **10K road race**

RUNNING By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

he newest running event in Thunder Bay was in full stride, challenging athletes to a 10k course while also raising money for local runners and skiers.

On Sunday, the Lakehead University Thunderwolves Running Team and the National Team Development Centre hosted the inaugural 10K Road Race. Organizer, Nancy White, said the newest race fills a gap for the running community in the city.

"We decided to do a joint venture," White said. "There used to be a 10 k fresh air but it stopped about 10 years ago so we decided we wanted to start a new tradition.'

More than 60 runners participated in the race that also serves as a fundraiser for the Lakehead University Running Team and the NTDC.

"There is an elite aspect of it and a recreational aspect of it and that it becomes a lucrative fundraiser for both clubs," White said. "It's really hard to find those dollars in the community and these kids work really hard and we work really hard to get them to that top international position."

The course took the runners around the Lakehead University campus, on to the Confederation College campus, and back. Finishing in first place for the men was LU Running Team member, Trevor Zimak, who finished with a time of 32 minutes and 48 seconds.

"Given the conditions I'm kind of happy about it," Zimak said after the race. "Obviously, you always want to run faster, but it was super cold out there and the wind was blowing pretty hard, so it was a good effort."

Zimak added he was really impressed with the course, though it did offer its own set of challenges.

"There was a good variety of hills and straight stretches, but definitely one of the tougher courses I've run given all the hills," he said. Finishing first for the women was Kayla Gallo, a member of the LU Cross Country and Indoor Track team, with a time of 40 minutes and 48 seconds.

"I went in with no expectation," she said. "It was just to get a good effort out. On the way out, it was a little bit fast, but on the way back it was a little more challenging with the hills. It was a good mix, but overall I'm happy with my effort today."

Both Gallo and Zimak hope to see the race grow and after the success of the first year, White is confident the number of participants will continue to increase.

"Next year our goal is to be over 100 and then for every year just keep building up," she said. "There's no reason why eventually we can't get more than 300 runners here."

For Gallo, any new race is great for the running community, and not just for competitive athletes, but for anyone who wants to hit the track looking for a new personal best.

"Anytime there is a race it is an opportunity for runners in the community regardless of what training group you are from or what level you are at," she said. "Any additional running event in the community is great to get people out and active and supporting the sport."

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