





TheHighlander

Thursday May 20 2021 | Issue 491

INSIDE: HOME IN THE HIGHLANDS & THE HIGHLANDER HANDBOOK

FREE



Rentals continue lockdown defiance

By Joseph Quigley

More than one year into the pandemic, All-Season Cottage Rentals owner J.T. Lowes said he still sees problems in how some owners of short-term rentals are behaving.

Professional agencies under the umbrella of the Ontario Cottage Rental Managers Association (OCRMA) have shut down their businesses since Ontario's most recent stay-at-home order April 8. The rules state only people in need of housing can get rentals.

But Lowes said there are plenty of property owners carrying on unabated through platforms such as Airbnb. He said he notified police of an alleged rental on an Eagle Lake property April 23.

"The fact that this was going on during

the province-wide stay-at-home period really upset me," Lowes said. "It is not fair that we had to cancel all bookings while others were still renting with impunity, not to mention the potential health and safety consequences."

Lowes and other agencies spoke of similar issues with people defying orders during

Continued 'Code' on page 2

McKechnie remembers Leafs vs Habs

By Lisa Gervais

The last time the Toronto Maple Leafs and Montreal Canadiens squared off in the NHL playoffs, Haliburton's Walt McKechnie was in the blue and white for the Buds.

It was the spring of 1979 - 42 years ago - but McKechnie remembers it like it was vesterday.

The powerhouse Habs, with the likes of Ken Dryden, Guy Lafleur and Larry Robinson swept the Leafs in four games, with the last two quarter-final matches going into overtime.

McKechnie's Leafs were strong, "a tight team" coached by Roger Neilson with players such as Darryl Sittler, Lanny McDonald and Borje Salming.

"I just remember so much about it. It's still unreal to me," McKechnie said from his cottage May 18.

The 2021 version of the Toronto Maple Leafs play their first-round playoff match against the Montreal Canadiens tonight [May 20] at Scotiabank Arena in Hogtown.

In McKechnie's day, they played out of Maple Leaf Gardens and in Montreal, at the famed Forum.

"The whole city was just abuzz," McKechnie said. He said the memories still excite him and he is proud to have played in that last former original six tilt.

At the time, he said Toronto fans were crying out for a Stanley Cup. They hadn't seen Lord Stanley's mug hoisted since 1967 - a drought that now stands at 53 years.

"The atmosphere was incredible. I have no words to describe it," the

Continued 'Historic' on page 3



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'Code-of-conduct needed' for rentals

Continued from page 1

stay-at-home restrictions last year. Cottage Care Rentals co-owner Cheryl McCombe said it was difficult for her to cancel bookings for those eager to escape. But she added it was necessary and professional agencies want to be distinct from online hosting platforms.

"We don't want to bring harm to our communities," McCombe said.

Howard Hicks uses Airbnb to rent his cottage on some weekends, when allowed. He said he is aware of other renters flouting the rules, but he disagrees with the restrictions. He said cottage owners are still attending their properties, even though rules state they can only attend a secondary residence to manage it for less than 24 hours, or if staying more than two weeks.

"People are going to their cottages, so what's the difference?" Hicks said. "They're isolated. It's not an assembly."

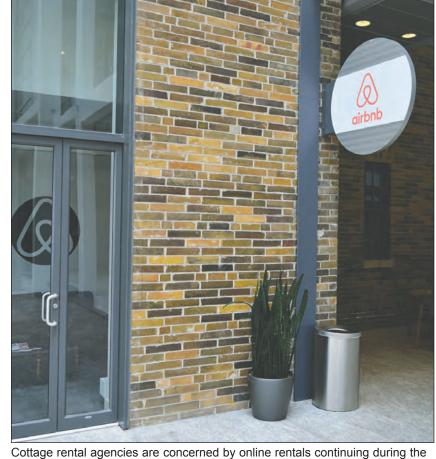
He said he expects traffic to come in for the May long weekend, even with the provincial stay-at-home order extended to June 2.

"Are we going to see nobody going to their cottages? I don't think so," Hicks said.

Haliburton Highlands OPP acting commander Sgt. Daniel Collings said the detachment receives a small number of COVID violation complaints daily but has only charged three individuals under the Reopening Ontario Act to date. One other person was charged with violating quarantine.

However, he did note Huntsville OPP responded to 20-25 ATV riders at a short-term rental facility north of Dorset earlier in May, eventually charging two organizers.

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pandemic. Photo via Flickr.

He said in absence of a complaint or other grounds, officers will not arbitrarily stop a person or check a dwelling. He said the influx of recreational property owners has posed a challenge.

"More and more seasonal properties are becoming Airbnb short-term rentals," Collings said. Lowes said there needs to be more enforcement, and the government needs to educate

He added it would help in the longterm if municipalities implemented a licencing system and code-ofconduct for short-term rentals. None of the County townships has yet to implement anything.

"Big fines need to be in place for those who break the rules," Lowes said. "This would go a long way in helping root out the few bad apples out there."







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Consultant hired to write new shoreline bylaw

By Joseph Quigley

The County of Haliburton has found a consultant that will take over the development of its controversial shoreline bylaw.

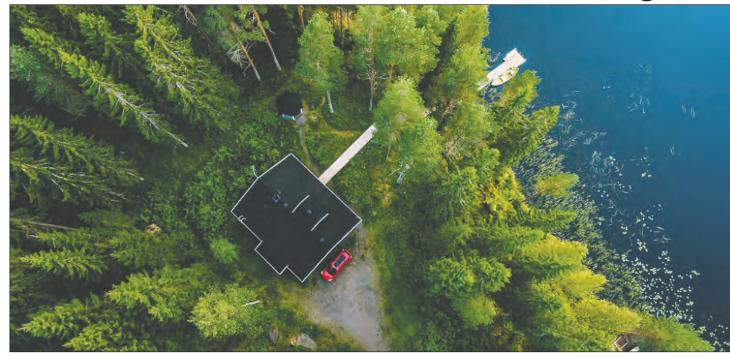
Council agreed May 12 to award Bracebridge-based Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Ltd. the contract after a request-for-proposals process. It will cost the County \$41,605 plus taxes, the middle price of three bids received.

The company will be tasked with a scientific literature review, a scan of other municipalities with shoreline protection legislation, and a public consultation. It will also produce a new draft bylaw for council to consider.

Coun. Andrea Roberts thanked staff for bringing the proposal forward.

"We should be proud. We've listened and we wanted to have an independent third-party consultant guide us through this process," Roberts said. "A year ago, at this time, we were really stuck with what to do next and I have a lot of faith in this process."

The County's draft bylaw has attracted pushback for more than a year. It would restrict development within 30 metres of shorelines, with some criticizing it as too far-reaching. But environmental groups and lake associations have pushed for new rules as important to protect lake health. The County opted to table the bylaw in January to hire a consultant.



Cottage rental agencies are concerned by online rentals continuing during the pandemic. File photo.

In terms of public consultation, the RFP said the proponent would provide a report about feedback. The public process would include themes of policy objectives, scientific research, permit management and compliance.

CAO Mike Rutter said council could still discuss and direct what the consultation will be like.

"We believe, again, from the team

perspective, there is all kinds of capacity to deliver a good product in a timely way," Rutter said.

He added although the work plan originally featured a June completion date, he was unsure if that could still be met. But he was confident staff could come "close."

The scientific literature review will include specific attention paid to setbacks from the high-water mark and minimum

recommended areas of naturalization.

The other proposed bids were \$27,900 and \$45,337. An evaluation team examined factors beyond price such as experience, methodology and schedule.

"I was really and truly impressed with the team of staff that were working on it," Warden Liz Danielsen, part of the evaluation group, said. "It was a good process."

Historic rivalry as Toronto and Montreal clash

Continued from page 1

McKecknie said.

He clearly remembers the night the Leafs were ousted 5-4 in overtime after a controversial penalty led to a Montreal power-play goal. Bob Myers made the call. Robinson scored and "Tiger [Williams] kind of lost it," the alumni said.

McKechnie was named third star of that game. Seeing Robinson in the tunnel, he said the 'Big Bird' told him that if Toronto had won the last two overtime games, they likely would have won the series.

Asked about the impact of having no fans in the stands due to COVID-19 protocols, McKechnie said it will be a factor but once the national anthem is played and the puck dropped, "something kicks in."

He was reluctant to make a prediction, saying you can't assume anything in hockey and what a team looks like on paper means nothing as on any given night since any team can win.

"[Montreal goalie Carey] Price is coming back. He can put a wall up that is unbelievable. If Toronto plays their game, they should win. But there isn't any series there that's easy," he said.

On Leafs' sniper and fellow centreman Austin Matthews winning the Rocket Richard trophy with 41 goals this season, McKechnie said, "he's the real day. This guy has talent. He and [Mitch] Marner, they are just so good together."

When he settles himself in front of the television May 20 with a bowl of popcorn, McKechnie will be excited to watch the Leafs - Habs series. The memories will come back, too.

"It was a great experience. I've been thinking a lot about it."



Walt McKechnie. File.



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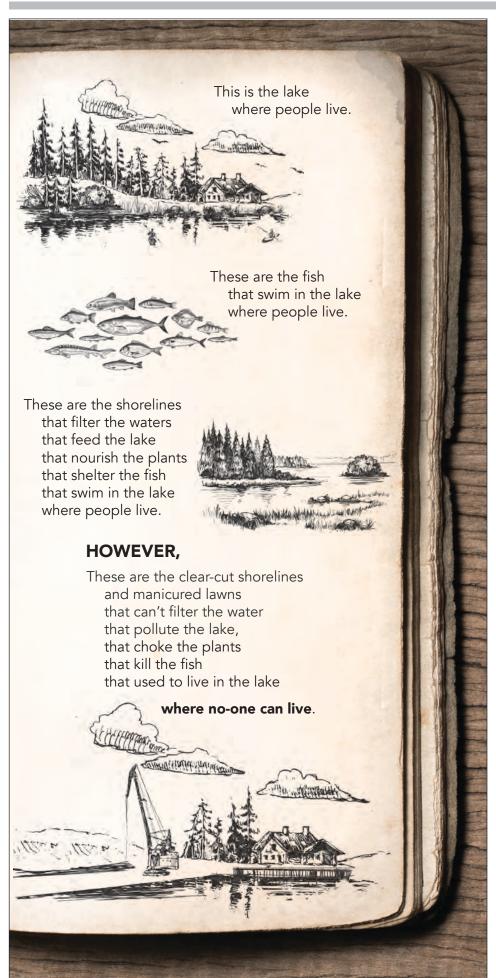


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Minden Hills council met May 13. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

Council approves new revised fees for public

By Lisa Gervais

Minden Hills council approved a series of new and revised fees, and some housekeeping changes, at its May 13 meeting.

Deputy clerk Vicki Bull said it was a start with more to come in future.

She said the alterations affected the fire, community services, and environmental departments.

"Community services will be one of those departments coming forward with proposed changes ... as the newly-developed [recreation] complex will require user fees for the fitness centre-gymnasium and various rentals," she said.

No members of the general public spoke out about the changes during a public meeting.

Fire chief Nelson Johnson said he wanted his department to be able to charge Ministry of Transportation fees for any time a fire truck has to go out and deal with unsafe buildings or conditions such as clandestine labs. He was referring to things such as illegal drug operations.

He said while rare, "I also don't think that it would be appropriate for using tax dollars to sit on scene for something that people should not be doing. This fee is just asking that we be able to charge for that ... recuperate our costs for sitting on scene for these types of incidents."

Director of public works, Travis Wilson, had a number of cost recovery items for the landfill that were already discussed at budget. Fee changes come into effect June 1.

"Any increase in costs or new costs is just to ensure either full or partial cost recovery," he said.

The fee for furniture is going to \$20 per unit, from \$10; approved contaminated soil

to \$30 from \$20; there's a new leaf waste tipping fee of \$2 per bag, a flat rate of \$15 per cubic yard for loose leaf and yard waste under one cubic yard and \$30 over one cubic yard. For corrugated cardboard, between one and three cubic yards will now cost \$7.75 per cubic yard and any volume greater than three cubic yards will not be accepted. The public will also now be charged if they lose their landfill access pass and for cottage kits and composters.

Deputy mayor Lisa Schell asked for clarification on the numbers of household clear plastic bags to be allowed. Wilson said it remained up to three bags a week, with a \$2 charge for any bags above the limit.

Coun. Pam Sayne also asked about shrink wrap for boats, and Wilson said the landfills are no longer accepting that item.

CAO Trisha McKibbin went over revised septic re-inspection fees, which she said had actually dropped from what was originally proposed.

Based on an information packet from WSP Canada, which is handling the file for Minden Hills, McKibbin said residents would pay \$220 and if using a third-party inspector, \$150. The program is expected to be launched in June. The revised price factors the HST being removed.

McKibbin also presented some procedural changes. For example, rather than having a committee of the whole meeting every month as well as a regular council meeting, there will be two regular council meetings aimed at making council more efficient. It also addressed virtual meetings in future.

"Currently correspondence, reports and agreements are viewed twice by council, once at the COTW meeting and then again at council," she noted.

The full changes can be seen on the council agenda for May 13.



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Businesses waiting for end of lockdown

By Joseph Quigley

The greens at Carnarvon Family Golf remain empty of patrons, even with sunny weather and the May long weekend approaching.

The Kent family is dutifully maintaining the grass, with nobody around to enjoy the driving range, three-par course, or miniputt. His family is left to wait for the end of the stay-at-home order, set for June 2, before it can reopen to the public.

It is a contrast to last year when golf courses were able to open in May. Owner Pennie Murray said the province keeping courses closed due to the pandemic does not make sense, and the loss of the May long weekend will sting.

"Many of my friends take on three and four jobs in the summer just to be able to get through the winter, and not having the long weekend will definitely hurt," Murray said. "It just doesn't make any sense to me that you can't get on a golf cart. You've got nothing but wilderness, and it's going to hurt the economy."

The stay-at-home order was scheduled to expire May 20, but the province extended it an additional two weeks past the May long weekend due to COVID-19 trends.

Golf courses across Ontario have clamoured for reopening since the province closed them April 17, along with other outdoor recreation spaces. Premier Doug Ford defended the decision May 13, citing concerns over carpooling and gatherings.

Murray said that does not make sense, and it is not something she has witnessed.

"It's ridiculous," Murray said. "Nobody is carpooling, and people aren't getting together."

The Ontario Medical Association said in a May 12 press release that although the province should extend the lockdown, outdoor recreational spaces should reopen, with rules to prevent gathering.

Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking agreed

"We know outside activity is safer than indoor activity and the risk of transmission when you're outside, and still socially distancing, and using masks, is much lower," she said. "I would like to see more outdoor activities available."

Other businesses are also feeling the impact of the lockdown and its two-week extension. But Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce executive director Amanda Conn said the community is

"A lot of businesses are not having the easiest time right now. We're all very, very aware of that," Conn said, adding she is impressed by businesses commitment to COVID-19 safety. "No one likes to hear about another lockdown, but we do want to keep the community safe."

Murray said she hopes she can reopen as quickly as possible.

"It's kind of a no-brainer," she said. "[Not being able to open], that'll hurt."



Carnarvon Family Golf owner Gary Kent is maintaining his course as he awaits the province allowing him to reopen it. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

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County tourism director Amanda Virtanen said the department has had success with a "hyperlocal" focus over the past year. File photo

COUNTY NEWS

County uniting on rental regulations

The County of Haliburton is considering taking on short-term rental regulations from its lower-tier townships.

Coun. Andrea Roberts brought the idea forward at the May 12 committee of the whole meeting. Councillors agreed to seek approval from their respective township councils about the idea.

Each of the four municipalities has considered regulations, but none has yet to implement anything. Roberts said it made sense to take it on at the County level.

"We're all in the same boat," Roberts said. "I would really like us to have something that's across the board, across the County. It just makes sense."

Coun. Brent Devolin agreed with Roberts, though added township planning discussions would be needed.

"To have one, uniform set of standards across the County, hallelujah. We should do it on a lot more fronts," Devolin said.

The discussion came about during a special section of the meeting dedicated to inter-municipal collaboration. The County added it following a services delivery review completed in November.

Culvert repairs

The County is spending more than \$481,377 to fix a Fishtail Lake Culvert on County Road 10.

A biennial structure inspection last year identified the culvert as needing replacement. Colborne-based Fidelity Engineering and Construction was awarded the contract after providing the cheapest bid.

Combined with guide rail work on Esson Lake Road along with engineering costs, the price tag comes to \$521,120 – approximately 22 per cent less than the \$669,000 budgeted, according to CAO Mike Rutter.

Hyperlocal tourism focus

The tourism department is experiencing "unprecedented" social and digital engagement, according to director Amanda Virtanen.

She reported on the department's activities over the past year. She said although the pandemic has limited reach, staff have successfully done a "hyperlocal" focus, encouraging residents to explore the areas close to them.

"We'll slowly open up our promotions to a wider audience when it is safe to do so," Virtanen said.

Coun. Carol Moffatt said the work is great, but added she has concerns about unintentionally attracting visitors who should not be travelling during the pandemic.

Virtanen said the department is only promoting things allowed under COVID-19 regulations, such as takeout or curbside service, without explicitly telling people to come to the area.

"We're doing the best we can and assume people are staying home," she said.

Library survey

The Haliburton County Public Library is conducting a user feedback survey.

The confidential survey asks about how often people visit the library and how they would rate different services.

The deadline for submissions is June 30 and participants will have a chance to win one of four \$25 gift cards to a local restaurant of choice. It is accessible at haliburtonlibrary.ca. (County of Haliburton news compiled by Joseph Quigley)

OPP & FIRE NEWS

Woman found dead in Loon Lake

Police said May 18 that no foul play is suspected in a fatality last week in the Highlands.

They said that on Wednesday, May 12, at approximately 3 p.m. members of the Haliburton Highlands detachment of the OPP were called to Loon Lake in response to a person in the water who appeared to be in distress.

They, along with Dysart Fire and Haliburton County EMS, located a 63-year-old woman with no vital signs.

She was transported to hospital where lifesaving measures were attempted, however, she was pronounced deceased in hospital.

Death investigation north of Bancroft

On Sunday, May 16, shortly after 6:30 p.m. members of the Bancroft detachment of the OPP responded to a report of an unoccupied boat circling on Mink Lake.

They, OPP helicopter and Hastings Highlands Fire conducted a search of the area but the individual, suspected to be a 68-year-old Ajax resident, could not be located. Bancroft OPP, OPP Underwater Search and Recovery Unit, OPP helicopter and an OPP Reconstructionist were all involved in the search.

Police had no updates as of press time for this week's *Highlander*.

Fire warning

Minden Hills fire chief Nelson Johnson issued a notice May 18 of a high fire status, requesting residents to limit outdoor burning.

He said: all fine, dead fuels ignite readily and fires start easily from most causes; unattended brush and campfires are likely to escape; fires spread rapidly and short distance spotting is common; high intensity burning may develop on slopes or in concentrations of fine fuels; fires may become serious and their control difficult unless they are attacked successfully while small.

Extreme caution must be used in any burning activities and burning permits and industrial activities may be restricted. Call before you burn. All fires must be enclosed and contained as well as ensuring your fire is out by soaking it, stirring it and soaking it again. The fire is out when it is cold to the touch. (Police and fire news compiled by Lisa Gervais)



OPP search for a missing Ajax resident May 16. Photo by Harrison Perkins.

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Editorial opinion

The**Highlander**

Published by The Highlander Newspaper Limited

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To be a source of information and inspiration through stories and ideas.

To report on issues, people and events important to the community.

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands.

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

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Audited Circulation 8,871 (Jan 1 - June 30, 2017) Canadian Media Circulation Audit - Canadian Community Newspapers Association

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Getting rid of the bad apples

With the Victoria Day long weekend looming, it's a good time to review the province's stay-at-home order for both seasonal residents and short-term rentals.

For those who may have missed it, the lockdown specifically states that people living outside of Haliburton County can come to their cottage to manage it for less than 24 hours or stay more than two weeks. There is nothing in the rules allowing anybody to come for the weekend.

However, we all know that cottagers will make their way to the Highlands for the May 24 weekend. After all, there is nothing to stop them. There won't be any OPP roadblocks or municipal bylaw officers making the rounds unless there are egregious acts, such as large gatherings.

While it is not our intention to start yet another 'us' versus 'them' war in the County, we can only implore those coming to follow COVID-19 protocols.

No doubt about it, they will be welcomed by gas stations, grocery stores, retail outlets, garden centres and eating establishments.

Economics will upstage public health. It's not a big surprise. Here in the Highlands, health has been actively competing with economics for months now. That's why local politicians have skated around the issue of cottagers coming during COVID.

This takes us to the short-term rental issue. and other online Under the rules, cottage owners cannot rent out their spaces for recreation, only emergency housing.

But we are hearing from cottage management companies that while they have cancelled bookings until June 2, those using online platforms such as Airbnb are breaking the rules. It is not a level playing

So, news that the County is considering taking on short-term rental regulations is welcome since the lower-tier municipalities have proven woefully inadequate in tackling the issue.

County councillors will go back to their respective councils to see if they're interested.

They should be. It's an idea that's time is long past.

Seasonal cottager owners have a case when they come since they are paying thousands of dollars in property taxes and most of them do follow the rules They care about the County, its physical health and its economic well-being.

Short-term renters are another kettle of fish. They don't have the long-term investment in our community and often don't share our values. As such, some of the people who rent to them on Airbnb

platforms need to be regulated.

More and more seasonal properties are becoming Airbnb short-term rentals.

As such, there needs to be more

enforcement and municipal government have to educate better about restrictions.

By Lisa Gervais

It would help if municipalities implemented a licencing system and codeof-conduct for short-term rentals.

There's nothing wrong with fining people. If they are renting incorrectly during a stayat-home order, fine them. If they are leasing to too many people than their septic system can support, fine them. If their guests are setting off fireworks in contravention of bylaws, fine them.

To seriously do anything about all of this, though, the County's politicians must ensure the support of OPP and budget for sufficient bylaw coverage on weeknights and weekends. Do this, and enforce regulations, and it will go a long way towards eliminating the few bad apples that are out there in cottage country.

COVID CORNER Yikes! Looking ahead ...

"Yikes!" That's what epidemiologist Dr. Larry Brilliant said when he cited a colleague's data for the Indian variant

It's also the attitude displayed by the officials in Singapore and Taiwan as they close schools and restaurants and stand at attention. Which is what we need to be doing in North America right now. And keeping our masks firmly in place.

COVID-19 variants sequenced by the Sanger Institute in England show B.1.617.2 is rapidly increasing – now almost 30 per cent of all sequenced cases in England and anticipated to be the dominant UK strain within days. It is identified in more than 40 countries now. The Indian variant is by far the most transmissible variant yet. It is estimated to be 2.4 times faster than the original strain. Estimates are theoretical, with complex interplay of factors, but the B.1.1.7 (UK) variant is about 60 per cent faster than the original Wuhan strain, and B.1.617.2 is 50-60 per cent faster than B.1.1.7. Singapore is struggling to contain the Indian variant and Vietnam has warned there are only "48 golden hours" to stop it once detected within your borders. These are two countries that have shown impeccable control of infection.

Epidemiologists are saying that if we rely only on vaccines and not on masks/ social distancing/preventing gatherings

(etc.), then even with 70 per cent of the population vaccinated, and even if vaccines are 97 per cent effective, we would only be able to stop the original slowest Wuhan strain. Remember that to stop spread, we need the rate of reproduction (R0, called "R nought," the number of people each infected person transmits to), to be less than one. The theoretical modelling done by epidemiologists shows that all scenarios with the Variants of Concern will remain with R0 greater than one unless additional safeguards are used.

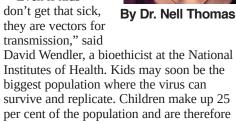
How effective are these public health interventions? The charts and graphs show that when enforced, in combination with vaccines, the R0 drops to 0.32, a reduction of 68 per cent transmission, using the same scenario of 70 per cent population vaccinated with a vaccine that has 97 per cent effectiveness.

Which is why infectious disease experts are urging border controls, increased testing, contact tracing, isolating positives, wearing masks and, yes, getting vaccinated. People are infectious as quickly as two days reported. from contact. There are 48 golden hours after detection of a case within a country, after which it is considered unstoppable.

The Indian strain is considered more likely to affect younger children. Pediatricians and researchers argue that it is essential to immunize kids against COVID-19,

both for their own protection as well as the protection of everyone else.

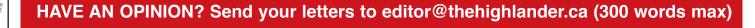
"Even if kids don't get that sick, they are vectors for transmission," said



Institutes of Health. Kids may soon be the biggest population where the virus can survive and replicate. Children make up 25 per cent of the population and are therefore a large group that can continue to transmit the virus and allow mutations to emerge, according to pediatric infectious disease experts. As with other illnesses, kids are vectors for transmission.

It is reassuring to have a large amount of data now showing how well vaccines work in children. Pfizer says its vaccine is 100 per cent effective at preventing COVID-19 in 12 to 15-year-olds and Moderna said its vaccine is 96 per cent effective in the same group. No serious adverse events are

Back to masks. To quote one infectious disease expert, "I will go mask-less indoors only when: (1) I am sure that everyone is vaccinated; (2) We guarantee that unvaxxed people are masked, and (3) The local rate of COVID is so low that even an unvaxxed person is very unlikely to have COVID.



Editorial opinion

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Tammy Nash took this moose photo in Algonquin Provincial Park.

LETTERS

What has EORN done?

Dear editor,

I am writing to you to hopefully get the ball rolling on many problems I have with the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN).

For years now our governments both federal and provincial have given millions of dollars to this organization with very little to show for it in the way of internet service in and around Haliburton.

For more than 10 years now, I have been asking our provincial and federal representatives for a plan to show us what and where EORN has been spending taxpayers' money. I have received zero response from anyone and as you might expect I and many of my friends would like some answers and I hope that this could come in the form of a forensic audit.

Millions and millions of dollars have been funneled to this organization without any accounting as to where it is being used. I noticed the mayor of Minden sporting a rather fashionable vest bearing the initials of EORN [in your paper] and I wonder if taxpayers are okay with this type of expenditure. Internet service has been

deemed a priority by our governments but no plan has ever been put into place or released to the public.

In my working life I had to produce a marketing plan complete with strategies for the upcoming year. All we get is an organization that takes millions of dollars from us and we haven't got a clue where it is going.

I personally reached a point where I started looking into Starlink service with Elon Musk and I am one of the very lucky people that has incredibly good internet thanks to him.

I shouldn't care about the internet for the rest of Haliburton but I do and so should everyone in our area. As I have stated, I have asked our members of parliament and EORN for a plan for many years now and not one word has been forthcoming. I leave it to you to judge what can be done.

Mike Germa Haliburton

(Editor's note: EORN did complete a \$175 million project in 2015 to improve internet coverage in the region, including fibre-optic connections at the Stanhope Airport. Another \$300 million project to improve cell coverage is now underway. Audited

financial statements are also on the EORN website.)

Rocks and ruts

Dear editor,

Here in the Highlands, we are so fortunate to be able to enjoy relative peace and quiet and a healthy lifestyle.

Two years ago, while cycling with a friend on the rail trail, I was reminded of this. The weather was perfect, the only sound was the birds singing, and many people were enjoying the day, walking, running and cycling. There were individuals and families, all out for a day of exercise and enjoying the beauty of the area.

I particularly enjoyed watching a group of toddlers riding along on their small bikes, off to look for frogs. As we rode along, I realized that these little ones probably would not be looking for all the boulders protruding through the surface, including the ones hidden in the shade of the trees — like the one that caused me to wake up in an ambulance with my dented helmet beside me. Hopefully they came through unscathed and didn't get caught up in the

ruts of deep sand either.

This spring and summer, I recommend that everyone enjoy the scenery, wildlife and birds along this beautiful trail but cyclists of all ages, watch for rocks and ruts.

Leona Carter Haliburton County

Anti-lockdown march

Dear editor,

I was disappointed to see young people marching against COVID precautions (*The Highlander*, May 13, 2021).

They may feel immune to the virus, but the statistics show us that risk of death from the virus doubles with each six years of age. Thus, as a 75-year-old, my risk is 200 times that of a 30-year-old.

Might I suggest that these young folks spend their time volunteering at one of the many hospitals in our province overwhelmed by COVID cases; PPE recommended.

Tom Needham Haliburton



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MINDEN HILLS NEWS

Plastic recycling contract awarded

Minden Hills, at its May 13 meeting, awarded the contract for removal of mixed, non-recyclable plastic from the Scotch Line landfill.

The winning bid was from Miller Waste Systems Inc. at slightly below \$119 per metric ton.

Director of public works Travis Wilson said the price is under budget. He estimated the cost at \$31,545 for the year, under the \$40,000 that was budgeted.

Miller outbid the only other tenderer, Mid Ontario Disposal.

Public can buy a seat in new arena

The public can purchase a seat at the new S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena, Minden's Community Centre fundraising advisory committee announced during their May 11 meeting.

The 294 seats are available at a cost of \$500 each, which will be acknowledged with a plague on the actual seat as well as a tax receipt.

Seats are eligible effective May 25. "We are so excited to finally launch this fundraising campaign," chair Jennifer Hughey said.

It's just one strategy to raise \$300,000 for the facility.

She said the 'take a seat donation' is being launched with a first-come, firstserved basis to be as fair as possible.

The committee's mandate is to raise funds for additional items for the recreation centre, including a new

scoreboard, banner cable and skate harness, a fireplace for a wall in the main lobby, benches for out front of the building and an exterior digital community sign.

On May 25, those interested in donating toward a seat are being asked to reach out only to Hughey at 705-854-1205 or jhughey@mindenhills.ca or Betty Mark at 705-286-4754.

"We look forward to the excitement of the launch and look forward to working with the community on these fundraising initiatives," Hughey said.

Guides, Scouts 'won't be left out in cold'

Minden Hills deputy mayor Lisa Schell addressed the issue of Scouts and Guides losing their hall to the new Haliburton County Huskies hockey club during the May 13 meeting.

Guide leader Carol Mowat, and others, took to social media after reading stories in local newspapers saying the Huskies would be renovating their hall for their use.

However, as of May 19, Mowat told The Highlander Guides and Scout leaders had met via Zoom with community services staff and were able to express their feelings. She added the two sides are beginning to work towards a solution. She said they have been offered temporary storage space upstairs in the community centre as well as possible meeting space there. While still "disappointed" she said there is at least movement.

Schell said while unfortunate how the story hit social media and media, the Scouts and Guides "have not been forgotten."

She said director of community services, Craig Belfry, was reaching out to all arena and community stakeholders and a meeting is scheduled for June.

"Minden Hills has every intention of working with all of the stakeholders," Schell said. "Nobody will be left out in the cold and we're doing our best to work around that."

Waste wizard app on way

Residents of Minden Hills will soon be able to use the Waste Wizard mobile app on their devices.

Wilson said the web app allows users to search proper disposal practices for various waste items, schedule reminders about events and reach out to the township for assistance.

Council gave the go-ahead at the meeting for the mayor and CAO to execute an agreement with the Township of Algonquin Highlands, which introduced the app.

Algonquin Highlands will continue to administer the agreement with provider, ReCollect, and the deal allows Minden Hills to participate in the delivery of the mobile app. It will cost the township \$1,285.38 a year, money already in the 2021 budget.

The web app can be found at mindenhills.ca/landfill.

Wilson said the app fits the township goal of improving waste diversion and waste reduction.

Mayor Brent Devolin called it "great news. You know me and mobile apps, I'm for it." (Minden Hills news compiled by Lisa Gervais)

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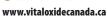
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The Municipality of Highlands East is currently seeking one (1) community-minded resident to represent the municipality on the Land Division Committee at the County of Haliburton.

Duties

The Land Division Committee is the approval authority for consent applications. In making decisions on severance applications, the Land Division Committee will apply the policies of the Provincial Policy Statement in effect, the County of Haliburton Official Plan and the specific policies of the local official plan within which the application to sever is located. The County of Haliburton Land Division Committee will ensure that all the applicable policies of both official plans are met.

The Land Division Committee will review applications for Validation Certificates, as well as consider local municipal zoning and comments provided by the local municipality in its decision making process.

Composition

The Land Division Committee shall be comprised of up to four (4) citizens one (1) representative from each of the four (4) municipalities.

Qualifications

In order to contribute effectively to the accomplishment of the Committee's objectives, qualifications for members should include skills, knowledge, experience and interest in community planning and sustainable development, including:

- An ability to represent a broad range of perspectives that reflect the diversity of the communities;
- An ability to set-aside personal interests for the benefit of the entire communities;

Land Division Committee is Looking for a Member

- An ability to contribute to meeting discussions in a positive, fair and unbiased manner:
- Good knowledge and understanding of community planning and development policies, guidelines, standards and approaches;
- Good knowledge of the communities and its social, economic, and environmental drivers:
- Current involvement, academic credentials or past experience in service provision or policy and/or program development in the fields of community planning, architecture, engineering, and/or landscape/urban design.

Members of the Land Division Committee shall be appointed for a four (4) year term that corresponds with the term of Council, expiring on November 30 of the year in which a municipal election is held, unless provided otherwise by a resolution of Council. This appointment would be for the duration of the 2019- 2022 term. Remuneration is on a per diem for each meeting attended as well as mileage if applicable.

Submission of Application:

Interested Individuals are encouraged to apply by submitting a copy of their resume and a cover letter to:

Shannon Hunter, CAO/Treasurer Municipality of Highlands East P. O. Box 295, 2249 Loop Road Wilberforce, ON KOL 3CO Or Email: shunter@highlandseast.ca

Deadline for submissions: May 31, 2021 by 4:00 pm

In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the information gathered will be used solely for candidate selection purposes only. For questions please direct to Shannon Hunter at the above contact information



Highlander business

Rapid COVID testing coming for businesses

By Joseph Quigley

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce is making COVID-19 rapid screening kits available to businesses throughout the County.

The chamber announced the initiative May 13, in partnership with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce. The COVID-19 Rapid Screening Initiative will offer free tests for small and medium-sized businesses starting later this month. The provincial and federal governments are providing the supply.

Executive director Amanda Conn said the program can reassure people as the province reopens.

"It's just one more tool in the toolkit to make sure we can reopen our economy as safely as possible," Conn said. "We're looking at any tools we can put in the hands of businesses that makes people feel safe and secure."

The test is a self-administered nasal swab, allowing employees to confirm whether they are negative for COVID-19. Conn said the chamber will provide enough kits to last for a couple of weeks, with employees testing once or twice per week. Anyone with a positive result would be asked to go to a testing centre and self-isolate. There is no specified end date for the program, with businesses able to order more.

Conn said the tests are designed for asymptomatic individuals, with anyone displaying symptoms urged to go to a testing centre.



Chamber executive director Amanda Conn with a rapid COVID-19 testing kit. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

Haliburton has seven active COVID-19 cases as of May 19. Conn said most tests should come back negative, but they can still be beneficial.

"It helps with that confidence that everyone is so eager to get back," she said. "Screening does not stop any of those public health measures, but it does help bring more confidence back to the community." Rhubarb restaurant owner Terri Matthews - who also serves on the chamber's board – said it should bring comfort to both customers and staff. She added it is something that could be promoted.

"It will help to give peace of mind to our customers and our staff," Matthews said. "It's something that I think is important, and I'm happy to let people know."

She added she hopes people get on board with it.

"I don't know why we all wouldn't want to try and keep each other healthy," Matthews said.

"We hope that through this program, we will be able to curb the spread and reopen our local economy safely," chamber president Andrea Strano said.

Those interested can log on at haliburtonchamber.com/rapidscreening to pre-order a two-week supply.

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Highlander business

Crazy? Maybe a little as new restaurant opens

By Joseph Quigley

Claudette Pitre said it is "kind of crazy" to be opening a restaurant during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The decision inspired her new venture's name, Poquito Loco, meaning "a little crazy" in Spanish. The Mexican takeout restaurant is set to open May 22 on Highland Street next to the Silver Maple Hotel.

"Encapsulates us, and the idea of doing it in the middle of a pandemic," Pitre said. "Just throwing caution to the wind."

The establishment will serve a full slate of Mexican cuisine, from tacos to burritos to quesadillas to rice bowls and platters.

The Pitre family does not hail from Mexico, but she said her many trips to that country inspired her. She said she even considered moving there but decided not to due to her young children.

"We love Mexico, we love Mexican food," she said. "Kind of been a thing in our house where I cook Mexican, and everybody comes over and everybody loves

Pitre said she decided on the businesses as the pandemic has curtailed her career in live entertainment management. Despite the challenges in the restaurant sector during the pandemic, she said she saw a niche she could fill.

"We felt it was something that was needed. Something different, something



Claudette Pitre is opening a new Mexican restaurant in downtown Haliburton May 22. Photo by Joseph Quigley

affordable, something that's easy. You just kind of grab it and go," Pitre said. "My personality doesn't allow me to sit at home. I need to be doing something. I need to be productive, and I need to be creative."

Pitre said she will utilize both Mexican and locally-based suppliers to provide a

variety of ingredients.

"We're trying to keep it as authentic as we can," she said. "But, also with options for people who maybe don't want the Mexican ingredients."

The restaurant is still readying for its opening, which was stalled from May 20 due to unforeseen delays. Still, Pitre said she is touched by the community support she has received so far and is excited to

"It's going to be fun; it's going to be good," Pitre said. "Everything is going to be fresh and delicious and different."

INFORMATION PAGE

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Household Hazardous Waste

The first household hazardous waste event is fast approaching!

Join us on Saturday, May 29th at the S.G. Nesbitt Arena between 8 am - 2 pm for an extended household hazardous waste event. Materials must be in labelled, non-leaking containers and must be from a household. Please bring your landfill ID card and remain in your vehicle at all times. Staff will unload your materials for you.

Employment Opportunities

We are currently accepting resumes for the following positions in the Roads Department:

- Equipment Operator (full time)
 - Equipment Operator (temporary full time)
 - · Labourer (short term)

Please visit our website at www.mindenhills.ca/employmentopportunities/ for more information.

(Virtual) Council Meetings

Council, Committee of the Whole and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference meetings, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted.

The schedule of upcoming meetings is: May 27 - Regular Council Meeting

June 10 - Committee of the Whole Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at

www.mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice.

We encourage those wishing to view the meeting to also download the agenda, as it will not be displayed during the streaming process.

Meeting agendas can be downloaded by visiting our website at mindenhills. ca/council.

Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

A Message from the Fire **Department**

How to Prevent a Car Fire

Have your car serviced regularly by a professionally trained mechanic. If you spot leaks or your car is not running properly, get it checked. A well-maintained car is less likely to have a fire.

If you must transport gasoline, transport only a small amount in a certified gas can that is sealed. Keep a window open for ventilation. Gas cans and propane cylinders should never be transported in the passenger compartment.

Never park a car where flammables, such as grass, are touching the catalytic converter.

Know the danger signs, which include cracked or loose wiring or electrical problems, including a fuse that blows more than once; oil or fluid leaks; oil cap not on securely; and rapid changes in fuel or fluid level or engine temperature.

Drive safely to avoid an accident.

Victoria Day Weekend

Minden Hills Council & Staff wish everyone a Safe and Happy Victoria Day Weekend.

Please enjoy the holiday responsibly and within the Provincial guidelines.

The Administration Offices and services will be CLOSED on Monday, May 24th.

Waste Sites - Holiday Monday Hours

Minden Hills Waste Sites will be operating on holiday Monday hours of operation on Monday, May 24th, 2021 in observance of Victoria Day.

Please visit mindenhills.ca/landfill for more information, or refer to the back of vour landfill card.

Daytime Burning & Fireworks Reminder

Reminder that you will need a burn permit for daytime burning and a fireworks permit for the ignition of fireworks from April 1st to October 31st.

Request for Proposals

RFP # ADM 21-02 Website **Design and Development**

The Township of Minden Hills is inviting qualified Respondents to submit proposals for the complete redesign of its existing corporate website (www.mindenhills.ca).

The deadline for submissions is June 11, 2021 by 12:00 noon.

RFP # RDS 21-06 Consulting & Engineering Services for Culvert Replacement -Shuyler's Island

The Township of Minden Hills is Engineering Firm to design, and administer the replacement of 1 to 3 culverts located along Shuyler's Island Causeway.

The deadline for submissions is May 26, 2021 by 12:00 noon.

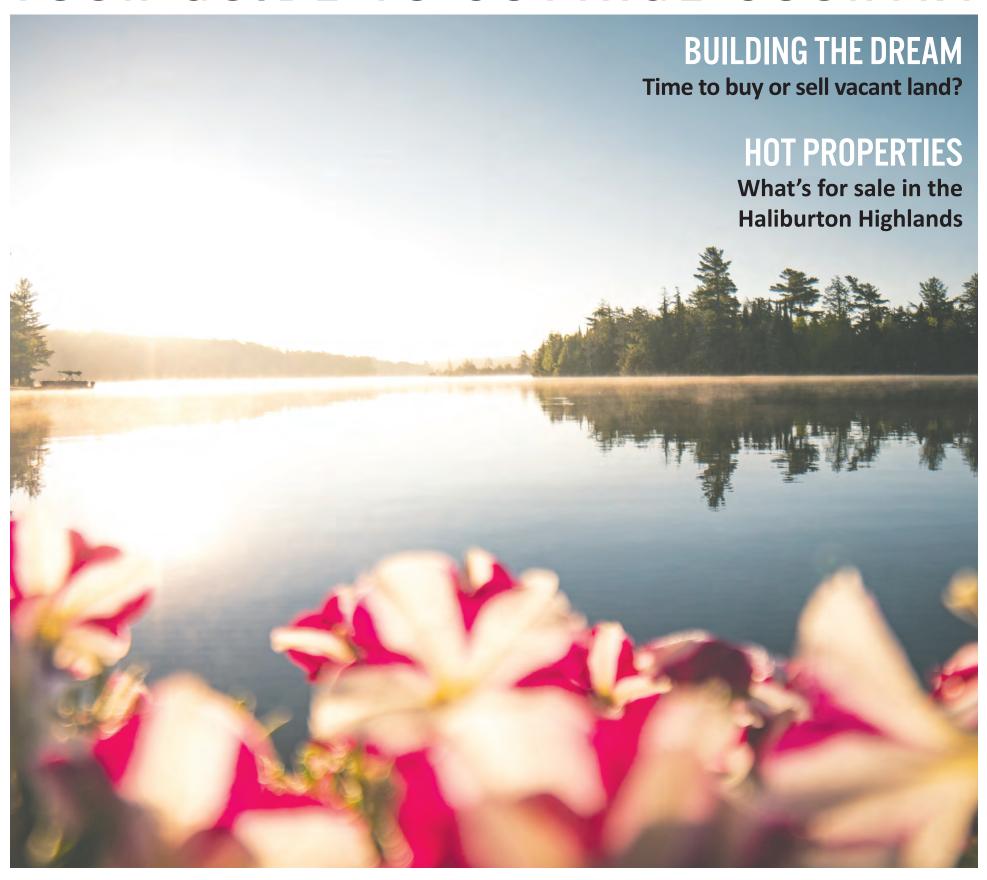
Visit www.mindenhills.ca/ tenders/ for more information on the above proposals and how to submit.

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BUILDING TH

A remarkable thing happened to **Haliburton County real estate last** year: sale values rocketed and took vacant lots with them. So is it time to sell, buy or build on vacant land?

BY LISA HARRISON

(Almost) no vacancy

Highlands property values have been rising for a few years, but the pandemic is driving historic growth.

"Waterfront is still the top seller in the County, but I would say there is more interest from buyers in the GTA who want to purchase vacant land and eventually build to move out of the city," says Jeff Strano, sales representative with Parish & Strano / RE/MAX Professionals North.

"Prices on vacant land are incredible and there is a real shortage of it to sell. I recently sold a 30-acre parcel ... for 65 per cent over the asking price."

Rich Kinsman, owner/president of Confederation Log & Timber Frame, says, "The pandemic has shown a lot of people that working from home is possible, so why not build yourself the home you've always wanted?'

For 2021, Strano foresees "a continuation of last year but even wilder. Properties are selling for prices so high that it makes no sense to local realtors. There is no doubt we are in a bubble right now; the question is, when will it be over?"

Banking on success

"Mortgage rates are at historical lows right now; however, interest rates to borrow on vacant land are higher and typically subject to larger down payments and these should be confirmed with the bank or lender prior to even starting to look at this type of property," advises Strano.

You'll have the costs of installing a driveway, well and septic system, and running hydro to the property, so you could be into \$100,000 even before you start building, he adds.

There may also be expenses for site preparation, drainage, permits, building plans, an architect, a structural engineer, landscaping

Plus, "[the] cost of materials has definitely increased during the pandemic," says Kinsman. "Dimensional lumber and plywood have doubled and even tripled in price."

When finalizing the budget, add a contingency

fund of 15 to 20 per cent to address any unforeseen circumstances, and consider more during the pandemic in case costs continue to increase.

Covering your assets

"Typically, if someone already has a homeowners' insurance policy ... liability is extended to vacant land that is owned by the insured for no extra premium," says Stefan Bjelis, broker with Vasey insurance Brokers.

Regardless, Bjelis advises land buyers to report their purchase to their insurers. When construction begins, get a separate policy known as a "building under construction" or "builders' risk" policy. Coverage can be based on the estimated value of the completed structure (contents are not automatically covered).

The advantage to that is, regardless of what point you are in in the construction phase, you're always going to have adequate coverage."

Legal ease

Sellers and buyers can both benefit from speaking to a lawyer before they sign anything.

"For sellers, it's an opportunity to ensure their titles are marketable and that any issues with the property can be corrected before closing, said Bram Lebo of Lebo Law.

"Buyers can learn more about zoning, easements, the history of the property and any restrictions. They can be assured of deeded access before they make a decision."

Lebo advises buyers to check the zoning for the types of structures and uses that are permitted, and the setbacks to determine if they can build what they want, where they want it.

Your realtor or a local lawyer should be able to tell you about any easements and whether the shore road allowance on a waterfront lot still belongs to the municipality, according to Lebo.

Also, "[in] cottage country, access to your property is often by private right-of-way; your lawyer can confirm if a property has legal, permanent access.'

Who ya gonna call?

Make it a local call when looking for the experts you need. Realty and construction operate differently in cottage country, so local realtors, contractors, insurers and lawyers are your best

When choosing the best contractor for your type of build, check with staff at your local building supply centre, who will know which contractors provide high-quality work and are reputable and reliable. Confirm the contractor has Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) coverage and liability insurance. Check references thoroughly. Get a signed contract before construction starts, outlining what will be built and when, and when payments will be advanced to the contractor, says Lebo.

The contract should also cover other issues, including liability for accidents, quality of materials, delays, changes and clean-up.

Timing is everything

"If this is your year to sell then contact a realtor who you trust ASAP and list your property today, "advises Strano.

"Traditionally there is always value in holding onto property long term, but it's hard to predict the future and a market like this one may not come back around in our lifetime."

As for buyers, Strano said, "Unless you absolutely need to buy a property or fall in love with one and can't live without it, wait. At some point the market will level off and there will be an opportunity to buy land without competing with a dozen other buyers and paying substantially above the asking price."

If you want to buy land this year regardless, get your finances in order and study the market first. Work with your realtor to find your dream lot with the least amount of travel and contact necessary. For custom builds, expect to wait at least two years for plans to be completed, permit acquired and your builder available to start.



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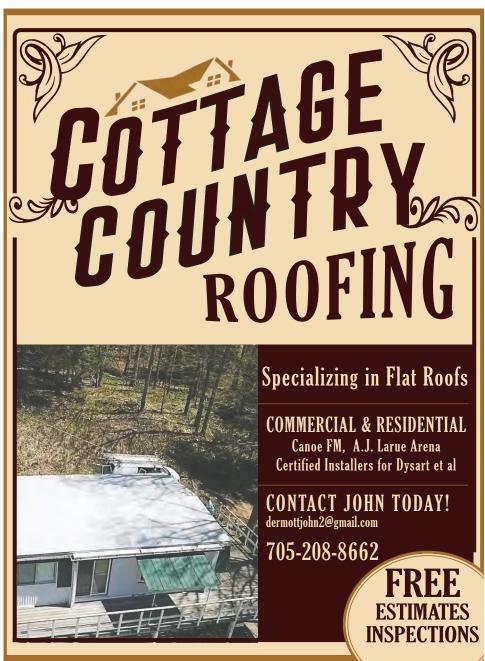
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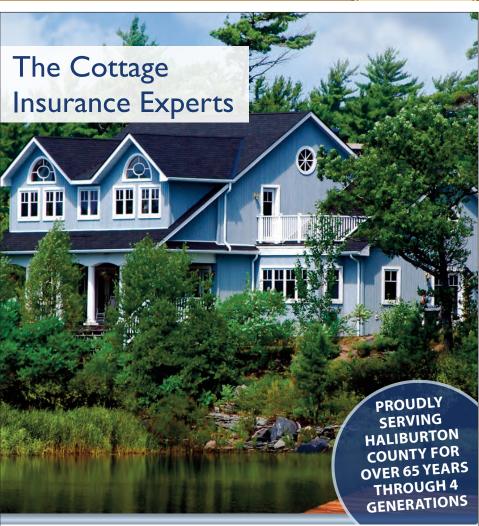




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COMMERCIAL

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Soyers Lake



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Beech River



Move in ready, work from home, peaceful waterfront property. Located at the widest point of Beech River, with calm water and beautiful west exposure. Cozy up to the stone wood burning fireplace, a stunning focal point of the great room. Enjoy the large, spacious kitchen with granite topped 10' island, 2 ovens, and 2 sinks, fit for filming all of your foodie creations! Large entrance. Patio doors off the great room access a wonderful patio with stone landscaping and view of the river and tall pines. Beautiful in all seasons. Energy efficient home and detached shop/ garage. There is a large loft above the double garage/ workshop. Start your new beginnings now! \$1,145,000

Haliburton Lake



This fully furnished 3-bedrm, 2 bath cottage is located on popular Haliburton Lake and is move in ready! Open concept kitchen and dining area. Ample storage space in kitchen, finished with wood cabinetry, stainless steel appliances and large island. Spacious living room with vaulted wood ceilings and unique stone surrounded woodstove. Loft is finished and is a great place for the young ones to escape to. Sand, rock shoreline with private docking system. \$685,000

Kennisis <u>I</u>ake



This 3-bdrm, 1 bath seasonal cottage is move in ready. Spacious kitchen with open concept to the dining area. Livingroom features beautiful pine ceiling and beams and ample natural lighting. Large boathouse / garage is great for storage. Enjoy the big lake views at the waters edge on your spacious sitting deck. Don't miss this great opportunity to get on Kennisis Lake \$680,000

Drag <u>Iak</u>e



Searching for a year-round cottage? This 3-bdrm, 1 bath back-split cottage is perfect. With 100 ft of frontage and stunning views this traditional cottage checks off all the boxes. Open concept kitchen, dining and living area feature vaulted pine ceilings. The lake front deck is a great space for BBQing and entertaining family and friends. Recent upgrades include renovated bathroom and fully winterizing the cottage. Private docking system and clean, calm waters make for summer enjoyment and is great for children. \$599,000

Contau Iake



Nature at it's best! This bright open concept 3-bdrm home features 223 ft of frontage on Contau Lake in a quiet bay. Southern exposure and pretty lake view. Main floor features one bedroom, large kitchen finished with pine cabinetry, island, and ample storage space. Bright dining area with pine flooring, ceilings, and walkout to lake front deck. Sunken living room with cozy woodstove. Master bedroom is located on the second level with jet tub. Many recent improvements, 4.17-acre lot provides good privacy. \$549,000

Negavnee <u>I</u>ake



A great project for the handyman in your family. 3-bdrm, 1 bath cottage with an open concept main floor. Walk-out to a large wrap around deck. 102 feet of frontage, private docking, and clean shoreline for excellent swimming. Unfinished walk-out basement. Drilled well and septic. Negaunee is a tranquil non-motorized lake. This is an estate sale being sold "as is where is" without representations or warranties from the seller. \$399,000

Bobcaygeon Road



It's the perfect 4-bdrm 2 bath year-round home conveniently located within walking distance to the town of Minden. This open concept home has many recent updates. Attached garage heated with propane heater and enclosed breezeway. Fully finished lower level. Beautiful. easilv maintained gardens. Bright and sunny level fenced in vard backs. This stunning home is a pleasure to show and a must to see. \$399,000

Victoria Street



Have you been searching for an in-town home? We have found you the perfect 3-bedroom home. Conveniently located to all amenities in Haliburton Village. Main floor features a spacious eat-in kitchen, living room with large window, master bedroom and a 4pc bath. Second level provides two spacious bedrooms with closets. Unfinished lower level. The large, covered deck and level yard are excellent for children of all ages. Workshop/ storage shed has ample space for the handyman in the family. Well and town sewers. This is a great opportunity for someone looking to purchase their first home or simply downsizing.

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80+ acre parcel with trails throughout just outside of Haliburton. Continue to use for hunting & tapping for syrup or build your dream home!



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HOT PROPERTIES



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Imagine the views over Little Kennisis Lake from this cottage nestled on top of Canadian Shield in one of the most favoured parts of the Haliburton Highlands! This architecturally-designed post-and-beam home features hardwood and travertine floors along with Douglas fir beams. The main floor is open concept with a floor-to-ceiling fireplace and a wrap-around patio. On the second level is the master bedroom, with an ensuite and its own sitting room and private balcony from which to drink in those lake views. Along with more bedrooms, there's a bonus loft area for the kids to hang out in, and in the fully-finished lower level is a pool table area, games room and bar leading to another wrap-around patio. Great for entertaining on summer nights! A water's-edge deck and large dock mean hours of fun and swimming. More info from Gloria Carnochan at kennisisredstone.com. \$1,499,000.

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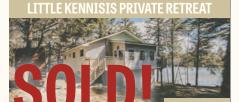


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- 3 Bdrm,1-4 Pc Bath, Den/Office, Lots Of Closets
- Living Room Kitchen/Dr Open Concept Spacious
- Lower Level 1/2 4 Ft Crawl & Rest Could Be Play Area
- Wood & Eb, Deep water, Deck, Firepit, Yr Rnd

IUNTSVILLE CONDO ON V



- Kit/D/R & LR open space, / Muskoka river view
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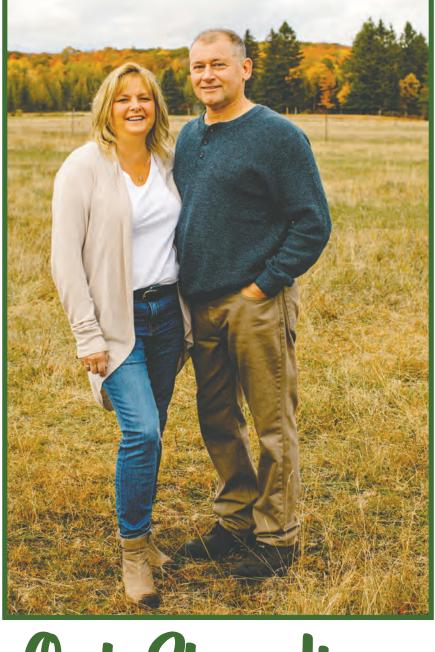
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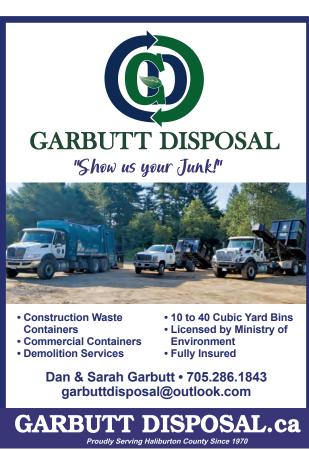
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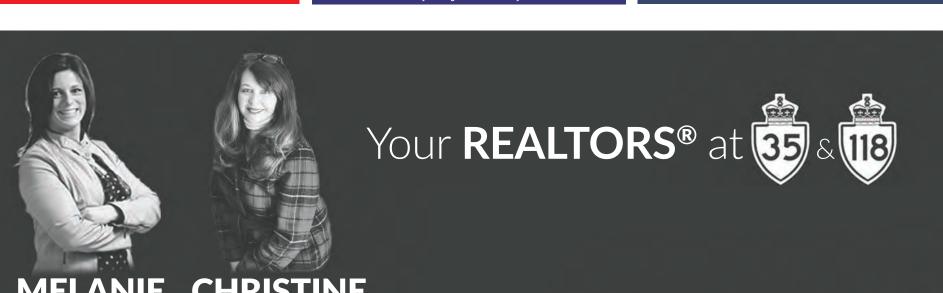
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1783 BURLYWOOD TRAIL 2.195,000



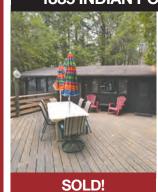
This magnificent home/cottage is equipped for immediate turnkey enjoyment. Walk down your gentle path that leads you to a sitting area to enjoy stunning panoramic views & magnificent sunsets on beautiful Haliburton Lake. Miles of boating, swimming & fishing on this 2 lake chain. Just minutes to Sir Sams Ski Resort & major snowmobile trails. Year round road.

1836 KUSHOG LAKE RD 1.890,000



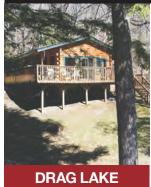
Every once in a while an exceptional property comes along and this is the one! Total privacy on this quiet sheltered bay on beautiful Kushog Lake! 860 ft. of clean sand & rock shoreline & 10.4 acres to roam & enjoy! There is a shallow sand entry for children & deeper water off the dock for swimming & fishing. Plus miles of boating on this 2 lake chain.

1885 INDIAN POINT RD 919.000



Perfect opportunity to begin your family cottage adventures? Enjoyed by same family for 60+ years. Two cedar Pan-abode cottages on one property! Escape all the elements while enjoying the evening sounds of the loons. Boathouse at water's edge for storage & a place where kids can play. Well stocked tool shed. 182 feet of clean sand & rock shoreline. Large lakeside deck/dock with sunny southern exposure creating spectacular big lake views of beautiful Drag Lake. Year round road access. Both cottages come furnished!

2009 INDIAN POINT RD 839,000



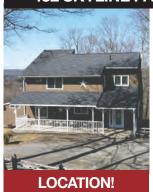
Cozy 4 Season log cottage on beautiful Drag Lake. 262 Feet of sand and rock shoreline & 1.3 Acres of ultimate privacy. Fully winterized on a year round road. Enjoy this cozy 3 Bedroom or 2 Bedrooms plus laundry/ utility room Home/Cottage. Woodstove for chilly evenings. Level entry lot to waterfront. Evening bonfires at your lakeside firepit will make family memories that will last a lifetime. Enjoy stunning sunsets from your lakeside deck/dock. Miles of boating, fishing & swimming on Drag & Spruce Lakes.

1212 WOODPECKER TRAIL 599,000



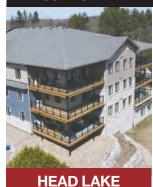
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132 SKYLINE PARK RD 579,000



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307-75 WALLINGS RD 549,900



Amazing waterfront location in the Village of Haliburton! Welcome Home to Wallings Way on Head Lake. Just steps from the water this one bedroom plus den unit offers an open concept kitchen/dining/living space and a private balcony to relax and enjoy the breeze. Two piece bath off the foyer, and 4 piece ensuite in the primary bedroom. Nothing to do but move in and enjoy! Indoor Parking, large community room, walking distance to all the amenities and Head Lake Park, Minutes to library, hospital, schools and health centre

9192 HIGHWAY 118 489,000



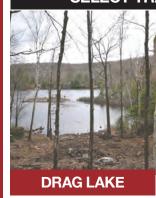
Opportunity knocks! Fantastic investment opportunity awaits at an ideal location close to the one of the highest traffic intersections in the county, Highway 118 and Highway 35 in the hamlet of Carnarvon, surrounded by popular cottage country lakes. Situated on 3.62 acres, this 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home would provide an income stream while a buyer developed the property for a new business. Don't miss out on this one of kind investment opportunity to live, work and play in the Highlands

SALVATORI TRAIL 199,000



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SELECT TRAIL 229,000



Vacant waterfront lot on Outlet Bay of Drag Lake. 150 Feet of frontage. Southern exposure. Driveway in. 1.6 Acres of privacy. This lot is close to where winter ploughing stops. Miles of boating on beautiful Drag and Spruce lakes.

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EVALUATION

Highlander education

Parents to decide on bricks or clicks for fall

By Kirk Winter

Haliburton County parents will be asked starting June 1 to select either brick and mortar learning or virtual learning for their children in the fall.

Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) director of education, Wes Hahn, told a May 11 board meeting that those decisions will go a long way to determine staffing and structures for 2021-2022.

"The ministry [of education] has clearly stated that they want kids registered in brick and mortar schools for September," Hahn said.

However, he added, "We believe there will be the parental demand for a Learn at Home option. Funding for Learn at Home will not be what it was this year. If parents select Learn at Home, they need to understand that kids will not be able to move back and forth like they did this year. We want to get staffing settled as soon as we can," the director said.

Trustee John Byrne asked what would be the minimum number of students required to offer the virtual elementary and secondary experience available this year.

"We know the number of students doing Learn at Home will be lower than this year. We will do the best with the money that we have," Hahn said.

Byrne also questioned the feasibility of parents making a decision before a possible fourth wave of COVID this summer. He asked if there would be flexibility for "We will have to take a look at that with

public health come summer," Hahn said. Haliburton area trustee Gary Brohman wanted to know how brick and mortar schools are going to operate in the fall and how they are going to be timetabled.

Hahn said, "There will be cohorting, although not as intensively as it is being done now. PPE usage and cleaning protocols will remain. We are expecting the octoblock or quadmester models [students study just one or two subjects at a time] to receive serious consideration again next fall."

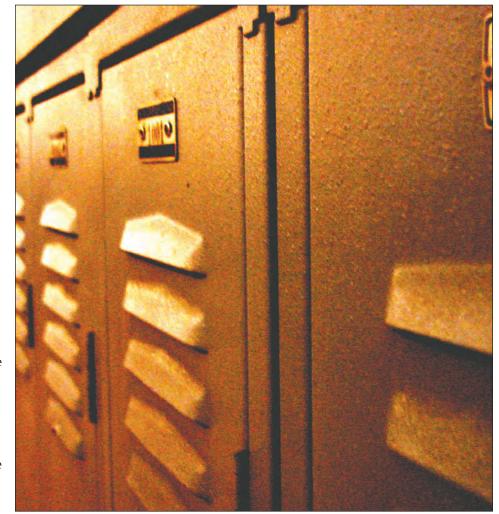
With regards to funding, the board now has its Grant for Student Needs (GSN) numbers, or how much it is getting per pupil, which will provide the bulk of the operating budget for the next school year but Hahn said he remains cautious.

"We are still working through the GSNs. It is very detailed this year because of the intertwining of COVID funding. There are a lot of complexities and decisions won't be made till later in May and June," he said.

Hahn also discussed vaccines and the impact they will have on educational planning over the next four months.

He said beginning May 6, all staff that come into direct contact with students were eligible to be vaccinated. By September, the board hopes all staff will be vaccinated.

"There is now the potential for students to be vaccinated. I think late August will look very different than where we are right now."



More students are expected to return to schools in the fall. Flickr.



MINDEN, NORLAND, KINMOUNT, GELERT, COBACONK AND SURROUNDING AREAS



Highlander health





Send your letters to editor@thehighlander.ca (300 words)



Haliburton Highlands Health Services' Shelley VanLieshout (left) and Samantha MacLennan on the first day of a new virtual primary care clinic. *Photo submitted*.

Virtual clinic bridges patients and doctors

By Joseph Quigley

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) opened its virtual primary care clinic May 17 to help serve people without family doctors.

The clinic provides access to a regular doctor remotely through an Ontario Telemedicine Network video session. A nurse will assist in person to monitor the patient. The clinic will open two days a week in Minden and is available to anyone who lacks a family doctor living in Haliburton County.

HHHS vice president of community programs Stephanie MacLaren said it helps address the lack of primary care available in Haliburton.

"Primary capacity, in our community, similar to other, small, rural, communities, has been challenged," MacLaren said. "We have more of a demand for primary care than we have supply."

Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team executive director Kimberley Robinson said their waitlist for a doctor is approximately 1,000 people. Patients are taken based on the date of their request, with the list now at people who submitted in 2017.

The model began about five years ago, according to Virtual Family Physician Network director Sam Berman. He said it has run successfully in Midland, Campbellford, Peterborough and Smiths Falls, providing a stopgap as communities recruit doctors.

He said primary care is a fundamental

human right, and telemedicine was a way to provide that more widely.

It helps "communities right across central Ontario, almost all of which have shortages of family physicians," Berman said. "We provide a full range of services a family doctor is supposed to provide."

Berman said ideally, a municipality recruits enough doctors, so it is not needed anymore. The County of Haliburton is trying to address that, hiring a full-time physician recruiter who helped bring two new ER doctors in 2020.

But in the meantime, doctors will see the same patients regularly. Berman added they will coordinate with local health resources. Doctors are also encouraged to visit their communities for a week or two to meet patients.

"We don't see this with other models of virtual primary care, and that is his absolute commitment to collaborating with local family physicians," MacLaren said. "His goal is to work himself out of a job."

There are limitations, such as not treating infants, but Berman said the accompanying nurse is there to help with most things.

"We can probably do 85 per cent of what a family doctor could do if they were there in person," Berman said.

The clinic will be open for two half-days per week by appointment only, Monday and Wednesday, though MacLaren said that could change based on demand. Appointments can be booked by contacting 705-457-2941 ext. 2294.

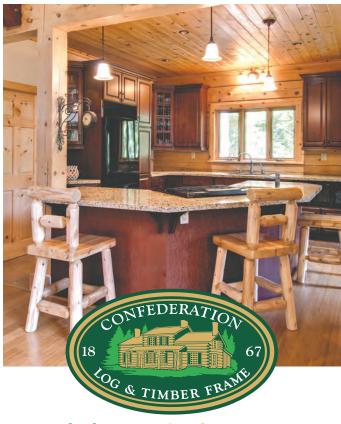
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Highlander arts



Folk tunes through Zoom

The Haliburton County Folk Society hosted a free virtual song circle May 15. More than 50 people attended a Zoom call where local performers Thom Lambert, Albert Saxby and Jim Love sang. The folk society is continuing to offer live entertainment amidst the pandemic, with its next show set for June 5.

Above: Albert Saxby performs from his home during the show. Photo submitted.

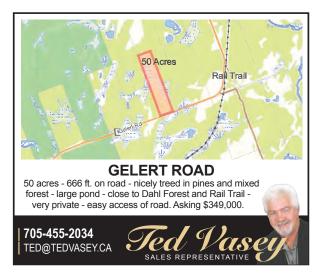






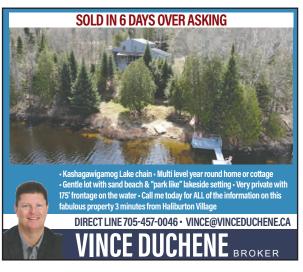


















ACTIVE L///////

Fitness experts go online to connect

By Joseph Quigley

Kathy Carey decided to shift her focus when the COVID-19 pandemic sidelined her fitness business one year ago.

She has taught classes for 36 years, most recently out of the Blue Sky Studio. But with the health restrictions limiting class sizes, she opted to halt classes and focus more on herself using a Peloton bike, an exercise company that offers online workout sessions.

Carey said she is motivated by group fitness settings – and that finding a remote option has been a boon for her in the pandemic.

"I call it my COVID saviour," Carey said. "You don't see people, but you feel the same sort of connection. It's very motivating ... You have to find what works for you and you need a support system."

The pandemic and repeated shutdowns have pushed the fitness world online, with more people turning toward remote learning. Gyms have frequently been closed or limited during the province's three shutdowns, leaving people stuck at home for fitness.

Haliburton Yoga is a provider that transitioned online – something owner Lynda Shadbolt said she intends to continue after the pandemic. She said despite the hurdles, it has been a successful venture and allowed her to attract students from a wide range of places.

"It keeps me motivated because if I didn't have people to teach and plan for, I wouldn't do it," Shadbolt said. "I need the community; I need the connection."

Carey said there are plenty of online programs out there for people to keep fit in the latest shutdown and beyond. She said fitness is important to help both mental and physical wellbeing, but it can be difficult for people to get started in the current environment.

"The biggest problem is that people that have done nothing in so far as exercise," she said. "Fear can be paralyzing, and it can be physically

so hurtful and mentally hurtful ... Do things, small goals and if you don't have a bike or a treadmill and don't have any money to invest in fitness, go out and walk. Get out the door."

Shadbolt said Haliburtonians benefit from all the outdoor space that exists in the area

"We are so lucky to live where we are. We have fresh air," Shadbolt said. "If nothing else, just get outside."

But the yoga instructor said there are also strong health benefits to finding an online group to work with.

"That is so important to our wellbeing because I think people are feeling cut off," Shadbolt said. "Having a practice of learning to stay in the present moment is, I think, really essential, because our minds can take us down so many negative things right now and that's really not helpful."

"No one is going to do it for us, and we all have to find that motivation," Carey said. "Whatever it is, you just try to start gradually and make it achievable.'







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Dysart Landfills

Valid Dysart et al Landfill Identification User Cards must be presented to landfill attendants.

	Haliburton	Harcourt	Kennisis Lake	West Bay	West Guilford
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Mon	Closed	9 to 1	Closed	Closed	8 to 5
Tues	Closed	9 to 1	Closed	Closed	8 to 5
Wed	8 to 5	Closed	10 to 5	10 to 5	Closed
Thu	8 to 5	Closed	10 to 5	Closed	Closed
Fri	8 to 5	8 to 5	10 to 5	Closed	8 to 5
Sat	8 to 5	10 to 5	10 to 5	10 to 5	8 to 5
Sun	11 to 7	11 to 7	11 to 7	11 to 7	11 to 7
Holiday Mon	11 to 7	11 to 7	11 to 7	11 to 7	11 to 7
1	WINTER H	OURS (O	ctober 1 t	o April 30))
Mon	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	8 to 5
Tue	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	8 to 5
Wed	8 to 5	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Thu	8 to 5	9 to 2	10 to 5	10 to 5	Closed
Fri	8 to 5	Closed	Closed	Closed	8 to 5
Sat	8 to 5	Closed	Closed	Closed	8 to 5
Sun	10 to 5	12 to 5	10 to 5	10 to 5	10 to 5
Holiday Mon	10 to 5	12 to 5	10 to 5	10 to 5	10 to 5







WANTED

WANTED ANTIQUES

Furniture, advertising signs, gold, silver or costume jewellery, wrist & pocket watches, old coins, sterling silver, tea cups & china, military items & paintings, Anything old etc.

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Nanny needed - Our family is looking for a caring, responsible, outgoing, and outdoorsy nanny to care for our two girls (1 & 3 years old). The part-time position is two to three days a week between Monday and Friday. Some flexibility for days and times. To reply, please contact 519-242-6021 or email resume to jessicaruthgood@gmail.com

Maple Avenue Tap & Grill is looking for an experienced waitress with experience in prep work. Must be able to work all shifts, including week-ends. Drop off resume Wednesday to Sunday after 11 a.m. or call Bonnie / Andy at 705-457-1100 or 705-306-0964.

Camp White Pine is seeking Cleaning and Laundry Staff. Up to 5 months of work available, May – September. Earn up to \$23/ hour. Email info@campwhitepine.com or call 416-322-6250

Trading Bay Dining in Dorset is HIRING! Looking for Bartenders, Servers, Food Preparation workers, Line Cook / Prep Cook. F/T & P/T positions available. Send resume to krista@tradingbaydining.com

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The Corporation of the County of Haliburton Requires Seasonal Flagperson/Labourer(s)

The successful applicant(s) will have experience in traffic control and be able to perform heavy manual labour duties in an outside environment.

The hourly rate for this unionized CUPE position is \$17.65.

Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to abull@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than May 24, 2021.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.



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We are looking for a part-time **CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY AIDE**

Must be able to plan interesting and engaging activities for children ages 2-6 both in-person and virtual.

Must also have experience working with children in a child development capacity to model positive parenting skills. You will work as part of a team for two half-days per week plus planning time.

For a detailed job description visit www.sirch.on.ca/ category/help-wanted/

Send resume and cover letter to info@sirch.on.ca



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SUMMER JOB OPPORTUNITIES

SIRCH Community Services is a charitable organization in Haliburton County with a variety of programs and social enterprises that contribute to community health. Come join our team:

- School's Cool Instructors
- SIRCH Bistro Assistant
- Social Media Assistant
- Thrift Warehouse Retail Assistants Haliburton & Bancroft

For complete job descriptions please visit our website: www.sirch.on.ca/category/help-wanted To apply, please send your cover letter and resume to info@sirch.on.ca



Municipality of Dysart et al Employment Opportunity

We are seeking a full time permanent Building Inspector. Our team consists of a CBO, Permit Clerk, and two Building Inspectors. As one of two building inspectors, your main tasks would include the typical plans review and inspection (includes plumbing and sewage systems) functions, and responding to inquiries.

Familiarity with CityView or similar permit software program, Portal system and Electronic Inspections would be an asset. Preference will be given to candidates with minimum Provincial Qualifications in House, Plumbing, On-Site Sewage Systems and HVAC. Two years of experience in a related field, proven customer service ability are required. You also must enjoy driving around our scenic cottage country.

The detailed job description for this position can be found on our website at https://dysartetal.ca on the Careers page. The 2021 annual salary range for this position is \$61,582 to \$72,042 and includes a comprehensive pension and benefits package.

Interested applicants must submit their resumes to lcasey@dysartetal.ca, indicating Building Inspector 2021 as the subject line, no later than 4:30 pm on Thursday, May 27th, 2021.



Dysart et al Employment Opportunity

Finance Department
PROCUREMENT AND
GRANTS COORDINATOR

The Municipality of Dysart et al is seeking a remarkable individual to join our finance team in the role of Procurement and Grants Coordinator.

A detailed job description is available at https://www.dysartetal.ca/en/municipal-government/careers.aspx for your review.

Interested applicants may submit their resume and cover letter to Laura Casey at Icasey@dysartetal.ca, and indicate Procurement and Grants Coordinator as the subject.

Applications must be submitted via email and may be accepted until 4:30 pm on Monday May 31, 2021.

We thank all of those who apply, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Accommodations for applicants with disabilities will be provided upon request. The Municipality of Dysart et al is an equal opportunity employer. Personal information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used only for employment purposes.

BOARD MEMBERS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS OPPORTUNITY

Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth and Parents, provides a broad range of services including mental health, child development, youth justice and the Haliburton County Youth Wellness Hub.

We are currently recruiting volunteer board members and are interested in recruiting people that identify as First Nations, Metis or Inuit, and/or have leadership, financial, legal, governance, executive and/or IT skills.

For more information, please visit our website: https://www.pointintime.ca/opportunities/volunteers/

HELP WANTED



PART-TIME CABIN CLEANERS

Seeking adventurous part-time cleaners for tiny off-grid cabins (160 sq/ft) around Kennisis & Redstone Lake area. Starting in June. Must be available for 2-4 shifts a week. Reliable vehicle required. \$50/per cabin clean. Cleaners will be provided with all cleaning supplies.

Visit cabinscape.com/jobs for full details & to apply.



Haliburton Highlands Health Services promotes wellness and provides access to essential, high quality health services in the communities of Haliburton and Minden. We have a variety of full-time and part-time positions available for nurses in the following settings: Hospital—Acute and Emergency Care and Long Term Care

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HHHS - Highland Wood LTC- 30 bed home in Haliburton is seeking a licensed hair stylist.

The successful candidate will provide services as needed on a weekly basis to a predominantly senior population.

This position is temporary for the course of the COVID-19 pandemic. The candidate will not be permitted to offer their services in any other long term care/medical facilities until fully vaccinated. Services will be billed by the candidate to HHHS as a contract worker. Independent insurance is required.

Interested applicants are invited to send a resume and list of quoted services including pricing to Tori Miscio, Interim Director of Care, tmiscio@hhhs.ca



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CHEF and FOOD SERVICES TRAINER WANTED

SIRCH Community Services, a charitable organization in Haliburton, has a year-round food services training program, a Community Kitchen that prepares and gives out free, nutritious meals, and a Bistro that is open to the public to give trainees practice in cooking and serving exemplary food. We are looking for a Chef with experience creating nutritious food who would love to mentor others and provide practical training to adult students. You would be working with our Kitchen Coordinator and other cooks, bakers, and trainees on site in Haliburton. It is a full time permanent position.

Send a cover letter and resume to Gena Robertson, Executive Director, SIRCH Community Services. info@sirch.on.ca. For further information call 705-457-1742 or go to www.sirch.on.ca



Township of Algonquin Highlands NOTICE – SPECIAL MEETING of COUNCIL

NOTE: As a result of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak, as well as the requirements for social distancing, Council Meetings will be conducted electronically via web conference until further notice.

TAKE NOTICE that there will be a Special Meeting of Council on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. conducted electronically via web conference.

The purpose of the Special Meeting will be for Council to discuss updates to the Comprehensive Zoning By-law.

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link. The live-stream link can be found in the Special Meeting Notice posted on the Township's website under the News and Notices at www.algonquinhighlands.ca

Dated this 19th day of May, 2021.

Dawn Newhook Municipal Clerk Township of Algonquin Highlands 1123 North Shore Rd. Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1 T: 705-489-2379 Ext. 333 E: dnewhook@algonquinhighlands.ca



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at 705-457-2132 ex 2246 or email housekeeping@ymcahbb.ca



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OBITUARIES



Margaret Brogden

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully at Highland Wood LTC in Haliburton on Monday afternoon, May 17, 2021 in her 86th year. Beloved wife of Peter Brogden. Loving mother of Ian (Elaine) and Jim (Jennifer). Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Claire, Jay, Sequoia, Everett. Predeceased by brothers John, Stanley and Arnold. Also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Margaret

worked as a Home Economics Teacher, and latterly an Accounting Clerk in a Law Firm in Toronto. She enjoyed hiking, exploring, tennis, cross country skiing and badminton. She will be remembered for her enthusiastic humour and nature and most of all for being mom.

Private Celebration Of Life

A Private Celebration Of Life will take place. As an expression of sympathy, donations to Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been

entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.



Raymond Gurr

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully at Haliburton Hospital on Monday evening, May 17, 2021 in his 85th year. Beloved husband of Roxy Gurr (nee West) for over 67 years. Loving father of Allan, Greg, Paulette and Raymond Jr. Fondly remembered by his six grandchildren and by his two great grandchildren. Predeceased by his brother David and his sister Evelyn. Also

remembered by many nieces and nephews. Raymond worked as a Tool & Die Maker in the Construction Industry for many years. He enjoyed oil painting, fishing and hunting.

Private Celebration Of Life

A Private Celebration Of Life will take place. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

WANTED

The Rockcliffe is coming!

Wanted: all stories and shared memories from your time spent at The Rockcliffe. Pictures, merchandise and memorabilia welcome as well! Please share your memories with us at info@therockcliffe.ca and follow along on Instagram @therockcliffeminden as we bring back the legend that is The Rockcliffe.

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SOLUTIONS FOR MAY 20

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TheHighlander

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HOCKEY



HUSKIES BECOME A BILLET FAMILY

The Haliburton County Huskies Billet Family Program plays a significant role in the team's success.

Billet families really do become second families for the players, building lasting relationships and memories that last a lifetime.

Billeting families will be financially compensated and also will receive two season tickets per home game.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a billet family, please reach out to Jess Jackson at huskieshousing@hotmail.com

VISIT HUSKIESHOCKEY.CA

Highlander puzzles

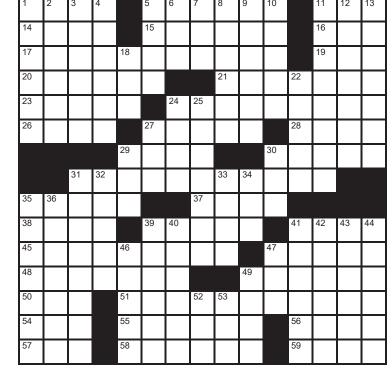


The Painful Truth

Across

- 1 Small amount
- "The truth is ..."
- 11 Short dog, for short
- Receipt in a "dépanneur"
- Bread that's not buttered?
- 16 Gretel's grandfather
- Beginning of a remark that is painfully true
- Corp. ending, maybe
- Moneybags who carries a lot of weight
- 21 Pied Piper's place
- Eye parts containing the iris
- 24 Part 2 of the remark
- ___-to (shed)
- 27 Seven-layer-dip ingredient
- "When ___ One-and-Twenty": A.E. Housman
- 29 Caesar dressing ingredient?
- London lock-ups
- Part 3 of the remark
- 35 Steak with a built-in dog treat
- "Canadian Mint" and "Disco Fever" record co.
- Belonging to that "homme"
- Throat-clearing sounds
- Study of the body: Abbr.
- Part 4 of the remark
- Like ___ out of water
- 47 EIRC ___ Out or wa
- 48 Escapee's aim
- Bit of Christmas tinsel, supposedly
- Ending with hatch or quack
- End of the remark
- Part of 35-Across, spelled out
- "___ of the North" (early film on Canada's Inuit)
- Talk like a drunk or a racist
- Many Kijiji listings
- Gathers information bit by bit
- Actors Knight and Danson

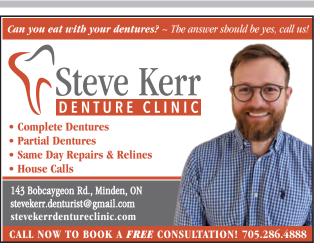
by Barbara Olson © ClassiCanadian Crosswords



Down

- 1 Like the Dodger in "Oliver!"
- 2 Deserve a treat, maybe
- Ingredient not found in a Long Island drink bearing its name
- Fellow from Florence, say
- Tag player's words, maybe
- Fédéraliste's referendum vote
- 7 Pocket watch chain
- 8 Hilo hellos
- "Only in ____, you say? Pity..." (Red Rose Tea slogan)
- Crux of many crosswords
- 11 Amphibian that'll croak when it's older?
- Kind of eye-tricking illusion
- Affliction of a rabid dog
- Is down with
- 22 Perrier shelfmate in a store
- 24 Bad bird in "Aladdin"
- 25 Work shirker
- 27 Spanish shiner
- 29 III, in today's Roma
- 30 Anne's Avonlea beau. for short

- Bespectacled one's moniker
- Cat-___-tails
- "Don't look ___!" ("I didn't do it!")
- Your: Fr.
- 35 Lustrous wedding gown fabric
- Like the last line on an eye chart, for many
- Lacking a musical key
- Treating with compassion
- "There's ___ time for everything"
- Actress Kidman
- Equally noisy
- Hubby's "old lady'
- 46 Checking for minors, in a way
- Cry from "Cathy" of the comics
- Peeves
- Too late to resuscitate in the E.R.
- Get an ___ (pass with flying colours)

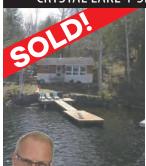


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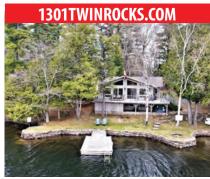
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