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The Highlander

Thursday **June 3 2021** | Issue 493

INSIDE: BUILDING & RENOS SPECIAL SECTION PAGE 20

FREE



Steve Archibald, executive director of Camp Medeba, sits outside a summer camp cabin, available for families. *Photo by Sam Gillett.*

Camps prepare for uncertain summer

By Sam Gillett

Camp Medeba is getting ready for summer camp. Though camp this year – like last year – will look quite different.

Instead of groups of kids, families will be renting out the West Guilford camp's cabins and lodges. And any registered campers will be exploring Medeba's adventure activities as part of outdoor-only day camp groups.

While Premier Doug Ford announced on May 16 that summer camps across the province could open this summer, Medeba said business as usual wasn't a realistic option.

"If overnight camp was not going to be allowed – or even if it was – we determined that we better be safe than sorry," said Steve Archibald, executive director of Camp Medeba. "We decided that we better

do something for certain that we'll be able to do, rather than wait to be able to do something that might be able to happen."

Besides a 21-page draft document, there are currently no finalized health protocols and procedures for overnight camps in Ontario.

Since Medeba hosts about 225 kids each week during the summer, as well as many

Continued 'Challenging' on page 4

HHHS takes 'cautious approach' to recovery

By Lisa Gervais

The hospital board's top doctor said while the County is not completely out of the woods yet when it comes to the pandemic, "everyone is breathing slightly easier."

Dr. Steve Ferracuti, interim co-chief of staff for the Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS), spoke at the May 28 board meeting.

Discussing a drop in COVID-19 positive cases across the province, combined with increasing vaccination rates, Dr. Ferracuti said, "we are going to be continuing our cautious approach, retaining precautions in patient-facing activities but I think we're hoping that we can lighten up some of the barriers to a certain extent."

The doctor said they were relieved that the two County hospitals in Haliburton and Minden avoided having to take in critically-ill patients from other, larger, Ontario hospitals whose intensive care units were overwhelmed with COVID patients.

HHHS CEO Carolyn Plummer said there were only two transfers to a County hospital and both patients had now returned to their home communities.

Dr. Ferracuti said it was something they had "feared."

"The provincial modeling had predicted that this was almost a certainty to come to pass at every hospital with respect to ICU admissions and every hospital with respect to transfers to hospitals," he said.

Continued 'Residents' on page 2

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Residents say they're doing their part

Continued from page 1

"Very thankfully that has not occurred yet and hopefully the current numbers and the increasing vaccination rate will help us avoid that scenario for this pandemic completely."

Plummer said HHHS remains ready to assist and are prepared to receive patient transfers as needed to help their health system partners, while keeping a close eye on local numbers.

Speaking to County statistics, Dr. Ferracuti referenced assessment centre reports, saying although numbers are dropping locally, virtually all the positive cases in the County have been the UK variant.

During her board report, Plummer said HHHS is planning for reduced COVID-19 restrictions as the province recovers from the third pandemic wave - while remaining cautious. She outlined the province's roadmap to reopening expected to commence mid-June.

"Here at HHHS, we are taking a very cautious approach to restrictions. At the moment, we're maintaining all of the restrictions that we've had in place over the past many months but we are starting to look at some triggers for when we may start to move some of those at least," she said.

For example, she referenced the separation between the hospitals and long-term care homes. She said they are monitoring staff vaccination rates to determine timing to remove restrictions. She said staff are looking forward to working with each other again.

However, she added, "There is still a lot of concern out there regarding where this pandemic has the potential to go." She said while trends are



Mary Gilbert, Steven Gilbert and Kyrsten Dove give up a thumbs up after exiting the COVID vaccination clinic in Minden June 1. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

positive and they are starting to feel a bit of relief, they are aware of the new variants of concern, including the one that has emerged out of India, and its effect worldwide including a fourth wave in Japan.

Meanwhile, at the Minden COVID clinic June 1, Kyrsten Dove said she felt better after getting her first shot.

"I feel like I have protection," she said.

Steven Gilbert added he got a vaccine as his mother is immunocompromised and works in long term care. As a young child, he said he also dealt with lung issues.

"I feel a bit better that I am helping in some way."

Long-term care visits resume

As the numbers of COVID cases continues to decline, and vaccination rates increase, Plummer said restrictions have eased at Highland Wood and Hyland Crest long-term care homes.

She said general visitors are once again permitted for outdoor visits,

with some requirements.

"HHHS is pleased that our residents have the opportunity once again to connect in person with family and friends, as we recognize the important role that these visits play in the quality of life for our residents," Plummer said.

COVID takes toll on staff

Plummer said COVID continues to tax staff at HHHS.

She said the lockdown and stay-at-home order, while needed to flatten the curve, has been hard, particularly on workers who have children who are learning from home. She said limited daycare resources are exacerbating the situation.

She noted continuing challenges with staff vacancies, particularly nurses.

"Our staff have demonstrated an indescribable resiliency that is truly inspiring; there are no words to describe how incredibly grateful I am for all they have done and how truly proud I am to be part of the amazing HHHS team."



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Highlander news

County moves on service delivery

By Sam Gillett

County of Haliburton staff will assemble a working group to undertake a review of waste management practices.

They'll also research options aimed at greater efficiencies.

It was just one of several suggestions in a service delivery review follow-up report by CAO Mike Rutter to a May 26 council meeting.

Rutter said the waste management working group will report back to council before the end of the year.

The future of landfills and transfer stations was just one item in a comprehensive report tabled by Rutter addressing next steps in the review.

Consultant StrategyCorp identified waste services as one of 12 high-priority initiatives for efficiencies in its final report released in November 2020. It said there were opportunities "to meet the needs of residents at a lower cost for communities."

It suggested coordinating approaches to large waste policy and operational challenges with potential direct savings of \$25,000. It also said Dysart and Highlands East could trim \$25,000 each via a shared services agreement for Mumford Road and Harcourt landfills.

StrategyCorp also called for standardized waste policies.

"I'd really like to take waste management up to the County," Coun. Pat Kennedy said. "If we had a little more volume with our neighbours, we might be able to get a better contracted price."

"It's an issue that urgently needs to be addressed," said Coun. Cecil Ryall. "Eventually we can only shove so much stuff under the rug."

Multiple councillors were enthusiastic about waste management streamlining – and exploring new technology that could allow incineration.

Warden Liz Danielsen said a goal of any work on waste management systems should aim to reduce confusion about where and how to get



The County of Haliburton is continuing to review possible changes to service delivery across all four municipalities. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

rid of waste.

"I see this as one of the more complicated issues we're looking at," Danielsen said.

Rutter also tackled fire, coordinated building, septic, and bylaw service efficiencies in his report.

While fire services across the County already collaborate extensively, Rutter said County staff will coordinate with fire chiefs to better understand possible needs for fire training and equipment sharing.

Haliburton's CAOs suggested that building, septic and bylaw services are a top priority as a growing population means a flurry of building activity in the Highlands.

"This is one area where we hear a level of urgency, because of how busy our community has become," Rutter said.

The StrategyCorp report outlines multiple ideas to tackle planning and bylaw: integrating municipal operations or centralizing them.

Rutter said County staff will consult with lower-tier municipal departments and come back with recommendations.

Many suggestions from the report, Rutter said, rely on the County integrating the way all four lower-tier municipalities get materials and services, or centralized procurement.

For example, road construction, engineering and maintenance would require a collaborative budget-making process across the County's

municipalities.

"The goal would be to determine which projects are key to start on before 2022 budgeting begins," Rutter said.

Many other processes which the report outlined, such as shared IT services, are already underway, Rutter said.

StrategyCorp also suggested hiring an economic development officer and County council has already approved that position and a job posting is currently in circulation.

Since the report's suggestions cover nearly all areas of County operations, making changes and streamlining services across all four municipalities means a lot of work.

Danielsen said council should focus on completing the steps outlined by Rutter and StrategyCorp in a sustainable and measured way.

"Some of this work will take longer than others," said Danielsen. "We just want to be making slow and steady progress."

StrategyCorp estimated the County could save \$900,000 in annual operating costs and \$200,000 if staffing procedures were centralized and streamlined. After receiving the report, County council directed Rutter to report on timelines for each suggestion.

For the report from the county's CAOs, visit haliburtoncounty.ca/council

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MINDEN HILLS NEWS

Money for accessibility improvements

Minden Hills said May 31 it has received infrastructure funding for accessibility improvements.

The township said it is partnering with the federal and provincial governments through the community, culture, recreation stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) to rehabilitate four community facilities with accessibility improvements.

The \$897,000 commitment will be used at the Minden Library and Cultural Centre to upgrade existing retaining walls, stairs, ramps, sidewalk and platforms and replace guardrails and handrails.

There will also be work at the Lochlin and Irondale community centres, replacing existing ramps and installing automatic doors.

The Minden Curling Club will also get accessibility improvements to the entrance to that building.

The federal investment is \$358,800, the provincial funding \$298,970, and the municipal contribution \$239,230.

The accessibility improvements are expected to take place over 2022 and 2023.

Septic reinspection sessions for Minden Hills residents

WSP Canada Inc. will be holding two upcoming virtual information sessions to educate homeowners about Minden's new septic reinspection program.

They will be held on Thursday, June 3 from 7-9 p.m. or Saturday, June 5 from 1-3 p.m.

The township said there is a maximum of 250 attendees for each session.

If you are unable to access the first session, they ask you to plan to attend the second. The information from the sessions will be made available for viewing afterwards.

People can join online at global.gotomeeting.com/join/190811421, by telephone 647-497-9373 using access code 190-811-421. Follow the prompts and select # when asked for an audio code. Enter *6 to mute and/or unmute.

The township said if you call into the meeting, you will not be able to view the presentation. If joining online, you may need to download the GoToMeeting App.

For further information, contact WSP Canada Inc. at 289-984-0448 or mh.info@wsp.com. (Minden Hills news compiled by Lisa Gervais)

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- Pat Williams, Eagle Lake



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Challenging year for Medeba, Wanakita

Continued from page 1

school and church retreats during the year, the camp needs time to plan and prepare programs and registration. Archibald said that his team decided re-hiring staff, training, and firming up COVID-19 protocols would be too much to do before camp begins.

Not to mention that Medeba's summer programs are usually full by the beginning of May.

"We were sad, and it was a difficult decision," said Archibald. "There's nothing else like overnight camp – the things you experience. It's an incredible experience in their lives."

But family camp, and an extended day camp program, will take centre stage.

Families will have the chance to do activities like archery, swimming and mountain biking. There will be a take-out food service from the dining hall and Medeba's staff are working to prepare picnic tables and barbecues for each cabin.

So far, Archibald says the summer is looking promising: their day camp is booking fast and one-third of the cabins are booked for the summer.

"We're just thrilled we can do something," said Archibald. "This has been great from that perspective."

Camp Wanakita, on Koshlong Lake, also decided to cancel overnight camp.

"We need quite a bit of runway time," said Andy Gruppe, Wanakita's general manager. "There's a lot of things we need to start planning for much early in the year."

He said Wanakita was in the process of onboarding summer staff for this season – they usually hire about 200 seasonal workers – but uncertainty about COVID restrictions made that impossible.

"The staff needed to know if they had jobs or if they needed to make the call if we were going to be able to operate," said Gruppe.

Both Archibald and Gruppe said that the draft guidance protocols for summer camps look effective. Those include cohorting, masking, and a safety plan each camp must submit to their health authorities.

But to put those rules in place last minute, "wasn't something that we could necessarily do," said Gruppe.

Now, families can come for a physically distanced "Wanakita Family Lodge" where families stay and play in their own groups.

It's been a difficult year financially for both Wanakita and Medeba. Archibald said that without school groups and other year around guests, as well as no overnight camp, they've lost an average of \$100,000 a

month in revenue.

But the camp's extended community has pitched in: he says a community fundraiser has raised over \$400,000 to bridge the "COVID divide."

Hockey camp a go

While most large camps have made the choice to halt overnight camp this summer, certain smaller camps like Camp Hockey Haven, on Kashagawigamog Lake, are able to pivot quicker to new health guidance if it arises.

"We're smaller, it's easily adaptable for us," said Troy Binnie, owner of the sports development camp.

While he said not knowing what would be allowed for so long was frustrating, he understands how the spike in COVID cases in April caused indecision.

"Things were getting out of control," he said.

Camp Hockey Haven will enforce cohorting – grouping campers together for their whole stay – as well as masking and distancing.

"I think the kids have had a lousy year: physically, mentally," said Binnie. "All they've been told is 'you can't do this; you can't do that.'"

"The benefit outweighs the risk," he said.

Nation-wide, experts are sounding the alarm over the impact COVID-19 has had on children's mental health. In a recent Study by SickKids, 70 per cent of children surveyed reported a drastic dip in mental health over the past year.

Just like Archibald and Gruppe, Binnie said doing camp – even if it will look different this year – gives kids a shot at some sort of normalcy.

"It's getting away from your parents, getting away from video screens, getting away from the news and just being a kid," said Binnie.

In an emailed statement, the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, outlined how camps will be permitted to reopen in stages: step 1 would see day camps opening on June 14. Step 2 would allow overnight camps to reopen in early July.

"Upon opening, day camps and overnight camps would have to follow certain rules and requirements to prevent COVID-19," wrote Bernie Mayer, the unit's health protection manager. "The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit is currently working with local recreational camps to outline what is required."

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Managing water levels a 'giant balancing act'

By Sam Gillett

After receiving 25 per cent of May's average rainfall, experts and politicians are calling for patience as water levels in the Gull River Watershed remain worryingly low.

Without substantial rainfall for weeks, as well as minimal snowmelt, reservoir lakes such as Kennis Lake are experiencing lower than normal late spring water levels.

In order to preserve the health of those reservoirs, flow through lakes without dams or weirs such as Pine Lake, Beech Lake, and Grass Lake are drying up.

However, the low water levels aren't due to mismanagement by the Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW), said Ted Spence of the Coalition for Equitable Water Flow (CEWF).

"It's totally based on climate change and climate variability, and the fact that we've had so little rain fall," Spence said. Spence and the CEWF has been working with the TSW for more than 10 years to increase the health of the watershed's lakes and rivers. "To see those very large reservoirs at the top of the Gull not full this year: it's pretty extreme," he said.

Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt is also worried. She's been monitoring lake levels and how the TSW chooses to release and hold back water throughout the watershed.

"If Trent-Severn Waterway were to release the water, they'd be taking a great risk ..."

Moffatt said. She added it's because warmer and dryer weather is on the way with minimal rain in the forecast. She said water released from the reservoir lakes might not be refilled. While the TSW released more water for the May long weekend, rain is the key ingredient to normal levels.

"It's a giant balancing act," said Moffatt. However, that balance, between the health of rivers and lakes throughout the system and the TSW itself, is frustrating for the thousands who live on nearly-dry rivers and lakes. The TSW opened its boating season May 28, including for the Rideau Canal.

"People are frustrated that our lifestyle and economy here are sacrificed for people in the south," Moffatt said. "This is an old, complex, and complicated system."

Spence agreed. According to his communication and work with the TSW, "It is true that their commitment is to open the canal and keep it operating," he said. But he clarified that if the TSW opened up the reservoir lakes to fill up flow through lakes, cottagers could see worse conditions in the dry months of July and August.

"Everybody would like to see enough water in the system," said Spence. "But I think it's not only in the interests of the TSW to have the reservoirs full: it's also in the interests of all the cottagers."

The TSW operates dams throughout the system – allowing drainage from lakes or stopping water flow.



This river flowing into Pine Lake is experiencing low levels. Photo by Sam Gillett.

Concern over waterfowl

Margot Roberts, who lives on a river near Pine Lake, said she's never seen such worrying water levels.

"Usually [the river] is really moving – it's a good 30 or 40 feet across to the neighbour's yard across the river," said Roberts. "Now, if I had a good pair of boots I could walk over it."

That also means that Roberts, an active volunteer with Birds Canada, can't kayak to complete the annual Loon survey. Even more concerning, she said, is if the water is released too quickly, it could wash away

Loon nests.

"I thought it would be fun to live on a river," said Roberts. "Little did I realize the up and down of a river."

Moffatt said she understand resident's frustration – and how much the low water levels affect day-to-day life: but the issue is widespread.

"It's not just us – it's not that Haliburton County is being ignored by the Trent-Severn Waterway," Moffatt said. "They are doing what they can; the problem is there's not much they can do." The TSW did not respond to *Highlander* questions before press time.

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County's books get clean bill of health

By Sam Gillett

The County's accounting practices are in tip-top shape, according to an independent audit of expenditures, revenues and assets.

On May 26, council approved the 2020 financial audit, completed by KPMG.

The yearly audit found no irregularities in the county's accounting and reporting practices.

"This is about as clean as it gets," said KPMG's Oscar Poloni, who presented the report. The audit process also highlights any problems with how money is spent, received, and transferred by the County.

"There's nothing that we've seen that enhances your risk or is cause for concern," Poloni told councillors.

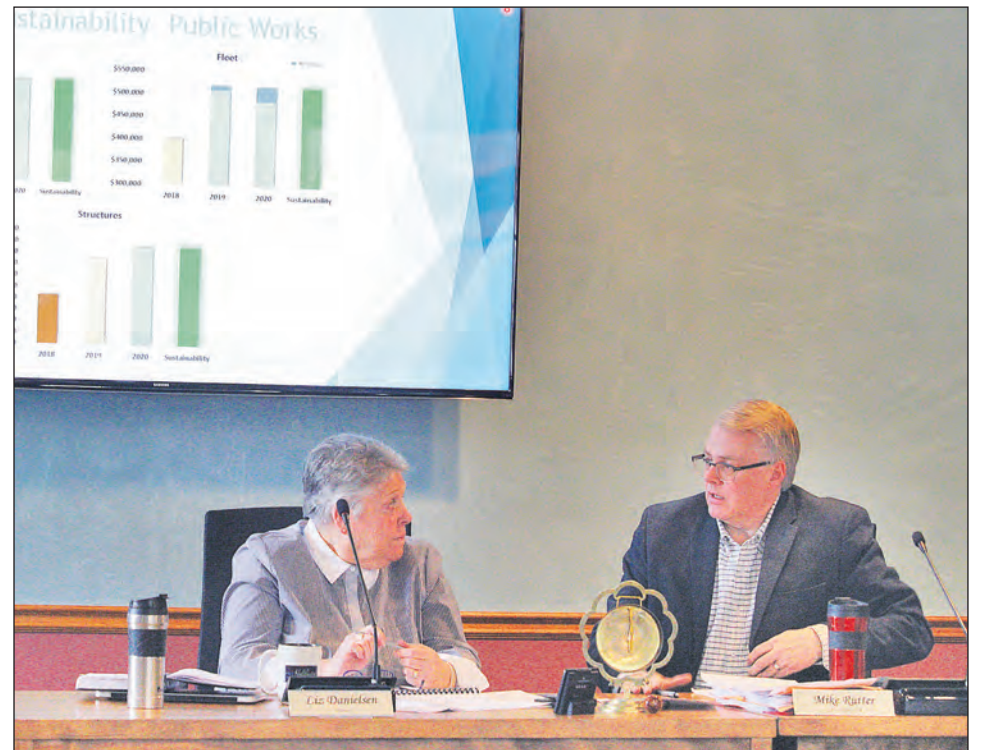
COVID-19-related grants and expenditures account for some reporting irregularities: health services operating costs increased by \$425,000 from 2020. That's in part due to wage and staffing changes, as well as equipment needed to prepare and handle COVID-19. The operating cost increase is covered by federally administered Safe Restart funding as well as funding from Haliburton Highlands Health Services.

The audit reports that salaries and bonuses for County of Haliburton staff increased by \$110,000. That's in part due to increased pandemic pay, as well as a shift towards full-time employees rather than seasonal workers.

KPMG found no issues in the way the County handled pandemic-related procedural changes or grants.

"There's nothing we've seen that would cause concern to County council," Poloni said.

Capital assets – money spent on roads, vehicles and everything else the County owns – increased by \$4.89 million in 2020.



Warden Liz Danielsen and CAO Mike Rutter during a past budget deliberation. *File.*

These projects included fixing multiple road surfaces, and bridge repairs at Hawk Lake and Eagle Lake. Four new vehicles, library materials and financial software were also included in 2020's capital additions.

Municipal long-term debt, used to finance capital projects, has increased by \$2.88 million primarily due to road refurbishment projects. The County is paying 1.38 per cent interest, which is "fairly low" according to Poloni.

Unspent funds for capital projects accounted for a \$3.05 million cash and investment balance at the end of 2020.

According to the KPMG audit, the County's investments are low risk – with

\$84,000 in investment returns in 2020.

"What we've seen with the County is very consistent with what we've seen to be best practice, as far as investing advice."

County Warden Liz Danielsen said she was happy with the audit's conclusion.

"It's always music to a County's ears when we hear 'it doesn't get any better than this'," Danielsen said.

County council members also directed CAO Mike Rutter to report back on a possible audit of the County's reserve funds. That would summarize best practices and possibilities for County funds earmarked for specific future projects.

For the full report, visit haliburton.ca/council

ALONQUIN HIGHLANDS NEWS

Zoning bylaw review

Algonquin Highlands council began looking at potential amendments to its zoning bylaw during a special council meeting May 25.

The changes cover a number of areas, including homesteading practices.

Consultant Rick Hunter of Planscape presented along with planner Sean O'Callaghan.

Staff are hoping to have a draft for a virtual open house in July. They are gearing up for a virtual public meeting at the end of August or early September, and it's hoped the amendments can be adopted some time later in 2021.

See the full report on the Algonquin Highlands' website under the agenda for the special council meeting of May 25, 2021.

Short-term rentals moved up

Algonquin Highlands gave the green light to the County of Haliburton handling the short-term rental portfolio going forward at

its May 20 meeting.

The township had been in the process of doing a survey to start its community input process but has now stopped.

Mayor Carol Moffatt said it made sense for it to be handled at the County level. She said townships were at various stages but "a patchwork effort makes no sense."

Deputy mayor Liz Danielsen, who is County warden, agreed, saying "we all have the same problems. It is the most appropriate thing for us to have a policy established, decisions, all doing the same thing rather than creating confusion."

Coun. Lisa Barry agreed as did Coun. Julia Shortreed who noted some lakes are shared by municipalities.

Ask for firearms ban at pit

Councillors agreed to write a letter to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, asking for a firearms ban in Livingstone Pit on Laurel Road.

The pit, which is on Crown Land, has been used by campers and ATVs for years.

People also shoot guns at the site.

However, Coun. Jennifer Dailloux said while it appears the pit is bordered by forest, the road is only about 10 metres away and is used by walkers and cyclists.

She said people have been using it when firearms have been discharged and neighbours are worried about personal safety.

Moffatt said AH made a delegation to the province in 2019, which was "disappointing" and did not get a response for the Rural Ontario Municipal Association conference in January. However, she said she's since learned the MNRF has spoken to concerned citizens and is trying to educate people who use the site.

Dailloux said she is worried about a deluge of campers this summer since most campsites are already booked and people will be looking for somewhere to go.

She and Moffatt said while the MNRF plans look good on paper, they don't appear to go far enough.

Council passed a resolution to send a letter to the ministry asking for a firearms ban. *(Algonquin Highlands news compiled by Lisa Gervais)*

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The new S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena and Community Centre. *File.*

Council wants arena loan cemented soon

By Lisa Gervais

With interest rates rising, councillors asked staff to finalize their loan with Infrastructure Ontario for the new S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena and Community Centre during a meeting May 27.

The discussion came during a first quarter financial report by director of finance and treasurer Lorrie Blanchard.

Mayor Brent Devolin asked, “how close are we to being able to lock that in as we continue to be in historic lows (interest rates)?”

Blanchard said they were waiting as there are still outstanding arena items they’d like to include in the debenture, such as the snack bar, equipment not covered by an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant, and a mobile stage.

She added they are awaiting some invoices but it could be cut off at some point. At that juncture, she said it would take six weeks to convert the construction loan to a debenture.

She conceded that interest rates “have popped up a little bit” from preparations for the 2021 budget.

For example, when looking at a 25-year debenture, the interest rate had been 2.31 per cent, a figure that had risen to 3.02 per cent as of last week. For a 30-year

debenture it had climbed to 3.18 per cent from 2.25 per cent.

Devolin suggested a staff report come back for the June meeting to decide on timing “if we feel that interest rate creep may cost us more in the long run.”

But Coun. Bob Carter suggested they should not wait until the June meeting.

“I don’t think there’s any expectation that interest rates are going to go down right now ... and so I am a little bit concerned with us not shutting it down right now,” he said.

He said that if there are extra expenses, they could take out a second debenture later or finance internally.

“I think we should start the process now.”

Devolin said Blanchard’s news about interest rate increases “added fuel to it.”

Coun. Jean Neville agreed, saying staff should start the debenture process now and not wait.

Coun. Jennifer Hughey predicted interest rates will continue to go up and concurred with starting the process now.

Devolin suggested staff “bundle up as much as you can today” on project costs and begin the process of converting the construction loan to a debenture.

The arena project is worth about \$12.75 million.

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Editorial opinion

TheHighlander

Published by The Highlander Newspaper Limited

OUR MISSION

To tell the story of Haliburton County each week.

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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A new face at The Highlander

After a whirlwind year of shutdowns, travel restrictions and far too much Netflix, I'm excited to jump into life as a *Highlander* reporter.

I'm thrilled to live in one of the most (in my opinion) beautiful spots in our fine country (and an added bonus to that, is to have an office just down the street from fish and chips, fresh coffee and a scenic waterfront).

Each day, I'll be chatting with council members from across Haliburton County, interviewing arts groups, chasing down breaking news, and keeping an ear to the ground for good stories to share.

Apart from reporting for *The Highlander*, I plan to spend my time exploring the lakes, trails and forests of the County.

As a mountain biker, avid illustrator and (aspiring) watercolourist, I'm intent

on getting lost in the best way possible – hopefully to find myself at one of the region's local breweries or bakeries. I also never miss a Tottenham Hotspurs soccer match and spend far too much time and money on my motocross bike, which I'll be riding on tracks around Ontario when time and COVID restrictions allow.

I grew up just outside of Orillia and spent my university days at the University of King's College in Halifax. While I spent a bit too much time doodling during lectures, I focused on news reporting and audio journalism.

During the past year, I worked in marketing and in Barrie at a community news startup: at *The Highlander*, I'll be stepping into the reporting shoes of Joseph Quigley.

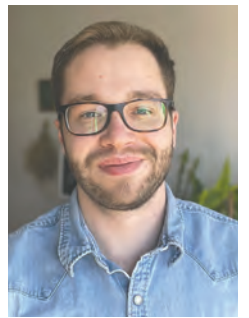
Before I took on the role, I admired how

much care and precision Joseph brought to his coverage of the community. My goal is to do the same.

I also want to learn from you: about what matters to you, what changes you want to see in your County and how decisions by your local governments affect your day-to-day life.

Say hi if you see me perusing the farmers market, tapping on my keyboard at a coffee shop or getting (just a little) lost in Haliburton Forest.

I'm honoured to get the chance to share the stories of Haliburton County.



By Sam Gillett

COVID CORNER Calling all teenagers

Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is approved for children 12 to 15. Thanks to 2,260 volunteers aged 12-15, the Pfizer vaccine is deemed "safe and strongly protective in kids as young as 12." In this U.S. study, the volunteers were randomly divided into two groups, 1,131 participants who received the vaccine, and 1,129 who received a saline placebo. Pfizer reported preliminary data showing no cases of COVID-19 among the fully-vaccinated adolescents compared to 18 cases among those given dummy shots, demonstrating 100 per cent prevention of infection. The study will continue to track participants for two years, collecting data about long-term immunity and safety.

The researchers reported "robust antibody responses" in the adolescents studied. Because kids' immune systems are highly active (strong) compared to adults, they may experience a slightly higher incidence of minor effects. Mostly, they reported fever, chills, fatigue, headache, sore arm, particularly after their second dose. Side effects mean the immune system is functioning well and responding to the vaccines, building immunity. They resolve in one to two days.

We need kids to do these trials so that kids can get protected. In fact, many kids have been asking why they were not included in the testing for COVID-19 immunizations. It's because most children experience milder cases of COVID-19, so they weren't

prioritized in international vaccine trials. But kids do get sick and they can pass on the virus even without symptoms. More than 163,000 Canadians aged 19 or younger have been infected with COVID-19. Children represent about 13 per cent of COVID-19 cases documented in the U.S. and at least 268 have died from COVID-19 in the U.S. and 13,500 hospitalized (American Academy of Pediatrics). That's more than die from the flu each year.

A community is not immune until families can safely spend time together, grandparents can hug their grandkids, schools can function normally. With variants circulating, the impetus to vaccinate children now is strong. In homes with immunocompromised individuals, it is critical.

We are seeing strained mental health in youth. Young people want to be with their friends and hang out. Kids vaccinated means schools can stop opening and shutting - a cycle of uncertainty, unpredictability, loss of routine - very hard on children and teaching staff alike.

In Singapore, where a massive rollout of more than 400,000 student vaccinations started June 1, students under 18 years require parental or guardian consent to get immunized. In Ontario, health unit regions dictate whether young people require adult approval. No consent is required for youth in Toronto, and in that city, by May 27, 37 per cent of 16-19 year-olds had their first vaccine.

Trent University announced students must be vaccinated to live in residence at Peterborough and Durham GTA campuses (some exemptions). Mandating vaccines will safely allow near-full occupancy of residences. Western also requires vaccination for students in residence.

There are roughly 24,103,276 Canadians vaccinated out of a total population of 37,966,429 (about 64 per cent). According to Stats Can, there are 2,100,865 Canadian youth aged 15-19, and 2,072,100 between 10-14 years. Combined, that's about 11 per cent of this country's population. For unvaccinated individuals the risk of COVID-19 hasn't changed. The pandemic isn't over until we are all protected from personal infection, or from unwittingly spreading COVID. The best way to protect yourself and others is to get vaccinated as soon as possible. The CDC recommends vaccinating everyone 12 and older.

Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team will run a Pfizer clinic on June 23 from 3 - 7 p.m. targeting youth aged 12 and up. 150 doses are confirmed and ordered. Call 705-457-1212 ext 6. Young people can also book a vaccine through the Ontario COVID-19 online booking system or at a pharmacy.



By Dr. Nell Thomas

HAVE AN OPINION?

Send your letters to
editor@thehighlander.ca



Editorial opinion

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Tammy Nash saw this mom and baby bear crossing a quiet side road in Algonquin Highlands.

LETTERS

Read you later

Dear editor,

(Re. Joseph Quigley's farewell column, *The Highlander*, May 27.)

You wrote, "As a culture, we are bad at saying 'good-bye'."

I think you might be the exception that proves the rule.

You wrote a lovely farewell but for me and for others I know up here, it's not 'good-bye' but 'read you later'.

We also live in Newmarket and are curious as to where we might continue to follow your writing.

Thank you for your contributions to *The Highlander* and for some of us, we look forward to reading more from you in the future.

Frances and Donald Hill
Newmarket

Taking civic liberties too far

Dear editor,

(Re. John Galt's letter in the May 27 *Highlander*).

Mr. Galt is willing to sacrifice lives for his personal freedom.

Looser pandemic restrictions in the USA have led to three times the death rate, by population, as we have had.

Apparently, 50,000 more lives lost here

would be fine with him.

Perhaps, if he were living in London during the Blitz, he would have argued for the right to keep his lights on during the blackout.

Tom Needham
Haliburton

COVID lockdown and charter rights

Dear editor,

The simplistic comments (May 27) of J. Galt about "standing up for ... rights" in response to an earlier letter of Tom Needham that innocuously but rightfully questioned the recent local anti-lockdown march cannot go unchallenged, if only because it perpetuates the common misconception that Charter rights and freedoms are somehow absolute and sacrosanct. Not at all.

Whatever Charter rights or freedoms one has, none is absolute but always subject to limits that protect other rights or values. They can be subject to private rights or public laws. You may have a right of peaceful assembly but not in my backyard, not in the middle of an expressway and maybe not without the required municipal permit. You may have freedom of expression but not to slander someone, incite violence, or promote child pornography. You may have the right to freedom of religion but not if you bomb an

abortion clinic, spread hate propaganda or practice ritual human sacrifice. Freedom of mobility? Not if you are under arrest, serving jail time or subject to emergency health regulations.

The examples are legion, but the point is simple - no one can rely on a Charter right or freedom as licence to do whatever one wants, whenever or wherever one wants.

And then there is the rights' restriction inherent in the Charter itself, the "notwithstanding" clause, allowing governments to override or limit any Charter right by "such reasonable limits prescribed by law as can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society."

Current government emergency public health regulations would easily fall within the latter category. However legal, any protest against the COVID lockdowns as being unconstitutional or unjustified is as misguided as it is naive.

Garry Lamourie
Sharon Lake

Class action lawsuit against Vrbo, Airbnb?

Dear editor,

So, this is in regards to businesses such as Vrbo and Airbnb,

As I have such a property beside me like many other property owners in the province, this property has been rented out ever since the start of these pandemic

orders including stay-at-home orders with no regards for other property owners and putting undue burden on law enforcement to respond to complaints against these properties.

Since profit and greed seem to be the only thing that matters to these businesses, maybe a class action lawsuit against these businesses for the undue stress and quality of life they put on neighbouring property owners is something to consider.

Gordon Ryckman
Minden Hills

Thanks for the tribute

Dear editor,

Many thanks indeed for the article in this past week's issue of *The Highlander*. (Brogden 'exemplified healthy lifestyle')

In the photo, the dedication plaque to Margaret and myself is clearly visible. On both benches erected at the Frost Centre, the original plastic plaques have been "cooked" by exposure to the sun. We have been able to replace them this past spring with much more durable bronze plaques with identical wording.

Later this year, probably August when both COVID restrictions and mosquitoes are absent, we plan to have a group hike around the Frost Centre hiking trails. More details about this will come later.

Peter Brogden
Algonquin Highlands



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Highlander business

Living a foodie's charcuterie dream

By Lisa Gervais

The pandemic has allowed Sandra Slauenwhite-Box time to focus and bring something that has always been a dream to reality.

June 2021 marks the seventh-month anniversary of her new business, Prosciutto & Brie Charcuterie.

A self-described "lifelong foodie," Slauenwhite-Box loves to dine out, cook, be creative and make beautiful and delicious food.

"I wanted to offer our community a gourmet product that is the perfect sensory combination of visual beauty and exquisite taste," she said.

Prosciutto & Brie Charcuterie is a specialty catering company that offers gourmet grazing boxes, charcuterie boards and grazing tables with options ranging from traditional charcuterie, to themed boxes for special occasions.

The boxes come in a variety of sizes and can add a special touch for any occasion including holidays, weddings, birthdays, date nights, virtual parties, business meetings, as a thank you, bridal showers or anything really, Slauenwhite-Box added.

She hand picks each item in each box, scouring the highest quality ingredients internationally and partnering locally whenever possible. For her, every bite is important and presentation as important as taste.

She said the new business has been well-received with "amazing and encouraging feedback." There have also been continuous requests to cater weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, holidays and virtual parties.

She said she is looking forward to summer "and continuing putting forward our best visual culinary experience whether it's for a larger catered event or for one person's enjoyment at home."

While COVID-19 gave her the time and space to follow her heart's business desires, Slauenwhite-Box said that despite the lockdowns and restrictions, "food is still one of the pleasures everyone can enjoy from the comfort of their homes."

She said they have had businesses order individual sized boxes for their staff to have them open at home with a bottle of wine and host virtual staff parties. She added friends and families have also organized virtual charcuterie parties.

"People have adapted and been very creative with finding ways to gather around food and come together while still following the new rules."

"I hope through my new charcuterie business, I can bring joy through food during difficult times and join people together in creative new ways."

Slauenwhite-Box added, "The Haliburton Highlands is a beautiful environment and I have been fortunate to live, work, volunteer and play here for over 14 years. The community is made up of wonderful



Sandra Slauenwhite-Box launched Prosciutto & Brie Charcuterie. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

people and businesses and Prosciutto & Brie Charcuterie strives to be a part of that and to enrich the County with a gourmet

specialty food service."

Find her at prosciuttoandbriecharcuterie.ca, Instagram - [prosciuttoandbrie](https://www.instagram.com/prosciuttoandbrie); and Facebook - Prosciutto & Brie Charcuterie.

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for Canada Day Long Weekend

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Highlander business



COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING APPLICATION FOR MINOR VARIANCE. THIS MEETING WILL BE HEARD AS AN ELECTRONIC HEARING BY WAY OF A VIRTUAL MEETING

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Committee of Adjustment of the Township of Minden Hills will hold a Public Hearing on:

DATE: MONDAY, June 14, 2021

TIME: 10:30 AM

LOCATION: Due to the physical distancing requirements imposed as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will be held as an electronic hearing by way of a teleconference call. To participate:

Join the meeting by telephone by dialing either: 1-647-374-4685 OR 1-647-558-0588
Enter Meeting ID 995 0238 0822 and Passcode: 443187
Join the meeting using a computer or smart phone at:
<https://zoom.us/j/99502380822?pwd=eXRXNVduamtWbzB0T0F1aWF5MVdkdz09>
Members of the public are welcome to watch the Committee of Adjustment meeting by joining
YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/qedMuHX1tAc>

to consider minor variance applications **PLMV2020034**, **PLMV2021022**, **PLMV2021034** and **PLMV2021035**. The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to consider the proposed Minor Variances to the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law pursuant to Section 45 of the Planning Act. The minor variance applications being considered are listed below:

PLMV2020034 - Part of Lot 9, Concession 1, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as 1008 Kitty Cat Lane; and located on Canning Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the reconstruction of the existing 190.7 sq.m. (2,052.7 sq.ft.) single storey dwelling, inclusive of the attached open deck with a new 213.9 sq.m. (2,302.4 sq.ft.) two storey dwelling and attached open deck, and having a walkout basement. The variance sought would allow for a reduction in the required 23 m (75'6") setback from the High Water Mark to 16.06 m (52'8") to an open deck and 19.1 m (62'8") to a dwelling and increasing the height from 5.49 m (18') to 10.5 m (34'5") whereas otherwise an increase in height of no more than 1.2 m (3'11") for a non-complying building is permitted.



PLMV2021022 - Part of Lot 27, Concession 5, Geographic Township of Lutterworth; municipally known as 8700 Highway 35; and located on Moore Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of an addition measuring 53.5 sq.m. (576 sq.ft.) to the existing 80.3 sq.m. (864 sq.ft.), non-complying, dwelling. The variance sought would allow for a 67% increase in size whereas 25% is otherwise the maximum permitted for a non-complying dwelling located 19.8 m (65') from the High Water Mark.



PLMV2021034 - Part of Lot 23, Concession 7, Geographic Township of Lutterworth; municipally known as 1092 Leary's Lane; and located on Gull Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of two (2) additions and a screened porch have a total ground floor area of 195.5 sq.m. (2,104 sq.ft.) together with two (2) open decks having a total ground floor area of 36.2 sq.m. (390 sq.ft.). The variance sought would allow for an 88.5% increase in size for a non-complying building whereas 25% is otherwise the maximum permitted and would further allow for a reduction in the required 23 m (75'6") setback from the High Water Mark (HWM) of 20.6 m (67'7") to the screened porch and 22.5 m (73'9") and 22.7 m (74'4") to each of the open decks, respectively. Each of the additions would exceed the 23 m (75'6") setback to the HWM.



PLMV2021035 - Part of Lot 1, Concession 5, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as 1083 Boyd Road; and located on Brady Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a 57.6 sq.m. (620 sq.ft.) addition, 14.5 sq.m. (156 sq.ft.) screened porch and 46.3 sq.m. (498 sq.ft.) attached open deck to an existing non-complying dwelling. The variance sought would allow for a 50.7% increase in size for a non-complying building where as 25% is otherwise the maximum permitted and would further allow for a reduction in the required 23 m (75'6") setback from the High Water Mark (HWM) of 19.6 m (64'2") to the addition, 16.6 m (54'5") to the screened porch and 16.2 m (53'2") to the open deck.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION regarding these applications are available online at www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom. Copies of the complete applications will be available for public inspection at the Township of Minden Hills Building and Planning Department by appointment only.

HAVE YOUR SAY: Input on the above noted applications is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Township. If you do not attend the public meeting, it may proceed in your absence and, except as otherwise provided in The Planning Act, you will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceedings.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS: To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision, please contact the undersigned or e-mail adougherty@mindenhills.ca.

ANY PERSON OR AGENCY WHO IS OF THE OPINION THAT HOLDING THE HEARING AS AN ELECTRONIC HEARING IS LIKELY TO CAUSE THEM SIGNIFICANT PREJUDICE, may make a submission to the undersigned, and if the Committee is satisfied that holding the hearing as an electronic hearing is likely to cause the party significant prejudice then the hearing will be re-scheduled as an oral hearing.

Interested parties are encouraged to join 15 minutes ahead of the scheduled start time. For additional information on participating in an electronic hearing visit: www.tinyurl.com/yyctaqa0

If you are interested in participating in the hearing you are encouraged to contact the undersigned prior to the meeting date with any questions you may have and/or to provide any material for the Committee's consideration at the hearing.

ACCESSIBILITY: The Township of Minden Hills is committed to providing services as set out in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. If you have accessibility needs and require alternative formats or other accommodations, please contact the undersigned.

PRIVACY DISCLOSURE: As one of the purposes of the Planning Act is to provide for planning processes that are open and accessible, all written submissions, documents, correspondence, e-mails or other communications (including your name and address) form part of the public record and may be disclosed/made available by the Township as deemed appropriate, including anyone requesting such information. Please note that by submitting any of this information, you are providing the Township with your consent to use and disclose this information as part of the planning process.

For more information about this matter contact adougherty@mindenhills.ca.

Amanda Dougherty
 Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment
 P.O. Box 359, 7 Milne Street, Minden ON, K0M 2K0

Please note: paper submitted to the Township is being held for three (3) days before opening. If providing comment, please consider making an electronic submission to the e-mail address above, or, make specific reference to the Application Number on the outside of the envelope.



NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING A PROPOSED OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT AND ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

1083 BONIS LANE (PLOZA2021003)

TAKE NOTICE that the Township of Minden Hills has received a complete application to amend the Township's Official Plan & Zoning By-law. The site specific amendments apply to property located at 1083 Bonis Lane (see Key Map below).



PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The subject property is presently zoned a site-specific Shoreline Residential Exception Forty-four (SR-44) and is located within the Special Policy Waterfront Four designation of the Township's Official Plan both of which permit the two existing dwellings situated on the one lot subject to the current application. The proposed amendments would remove the provisions which allow for two dwellings on one property in order to facilitate a proposed severance of the lot legally dividing the two dwellings onto separate lots measuring 0.11 ha. (0.27 ac.) in area with 30.5m. (100') of frontage; and, 0.29 ha. (0.72 ac.) in size with 79m. (260') of frontage.

AND TAKE NOTICE that the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting, as required under the Planning Act. The Public Meeting is an opportunity for Council to hear and consider comments related to the proposed amendments. Any member of the public may speak in favour, or opposition to, the proposed amendments during the Public Meeting.

DATE AND LOCATION OF PUBLIC MEETING - PLOZA2020049

Date: THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: This will be held as a virtual meeting

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO WATCH THE MEETING can do so by joining the live-stream link, available on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/zzPmFrGCC-0>

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO PARTICIPATE AND MAKE COMMENT/SPEAK AT THE MEETING regarding the changes to the proposed amendments are encouraged to pre-register by emailing admin@mindenhills.ca by **4:00 PM Wednesday, June 23rd**. You may also attend the meeting and register the morning of June 24th **before 8:30 AM**. Participants registering after 8:30 AM will not be permitted into the public meeting.

Once registered, participants will automatically be placed into a holding room and brought into the meeting as permitted by the Chair.

To attend the Zoom virtual meeting via Web, type www.zoom.us/join in to your browser or attend by dialing the number below:

Telephone: 1-647-374-4685 or 1-647- 558-0588

Meeting ID: 968 9948 2298

Passcode: 637211

PLEASE NOTE: 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 the township website at: www.mindenhills.ca/council.

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION regarding the proposed Amendment is available to the public for inspection at the Municipal Office located at 7 Milne Street by appointment or at such time as the Township offices re-open and is available online at www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom. For more information about this matter, including information about preserving your appeal rights, contact the undersigned at adougherty@mindenhills.ca or by phone at 705-742-2297 ext. 278.

ANY PERSON may attend the public meeting and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments.

IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills before the official plan amendment is adopted or the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal

IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submissions to the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills before the official plan amendment is adopted or the by-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

IF YOU WISH TO BE NOTIFIED of the decision of the Township of Minden Hills in respect to the proposed official plan amendment and zoning by-law amendment, you must submit a written request to the Township of Minden Hills. For more information about this matter, including information about preserving your appeal rights, contact the undersigned at adougherty@mindenhills.ca.

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DATED this 2nd day of June, 2021
 Amanda Dougherty, Planning Consultant
 7 Milne Street, P.O. Box 359
 Minden, ON. K0M 2K0

Please note: paper submitted to the Township is being held for three (3) days before opening. If providing comment, please consider making an electronic submission to the e-mail address above, or, make specific reference to the Application Number on the outside of the envelope.

Highlander education

Parents show preference for in-school learning

By Kirk Winter

Parents, students and staff of the Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) have been promised they'll be told what the 2021-22 school year will look like come June 8.

Director of education, Wes Hahn, made the pledge at a May 25 board meeting.

Hahn said he wants everyone to know sooner rather than later what will be going on regarding instructional models in September.

"There are still a lot of moving parts and we are doing the best we can," Hahn said. "We don't want to be scrambling that last week of August like we were last year. The only thing that might affect our June decisions is the ministry has promised a key update in mid-August that we might need to pivot from depending upon what they say."

"We want to have kids back in school," Hahn added. But we want to do it when it is right and safe and when the medical officers of health have approved that move."

Families were asked to make a choice about in-person or virtual learning as of June 1. With those numbers, the board will have a better idea of where students are going to be.

Hahn said, "We can't build anything concrete without those numbers. Staffing and budget are going to be so tight this year."

He told trustees that an overwhelming number of parents have so far chosen in-school learning for their children but that all options are being looked at for delivering virtual learning, including a partnership with the board's Virtual Learning Centre (VLC).

"For elementary learn at home, the numbers just aren't there," Hahn said. "The numbers committed at secondary are very low also."

Hahn said there's still significant instability regarding what September will look like because of issues around the vaccine roll-out and how many students between the ages of 12 and 17 choose to get vaccinated after they became eligible May 31.

"Vaccines are moving along quite well," Hahn said. "They will have a definite impact on school opening in September."

The director said high schools will open in September with cohorted classes utilizing either octomesters or quadesters [studying one or two subjects at a time], and he expects direction from the ministry on which model the province would prefer. The board is also surveying its secondary leadership teams to see if they have a preference. At elementary, little change in the structure of a student's day is expected.

Masks are expected to be mandatory, along with the enhanced cleaning protocols that were seen right across the board this year.

Trustee Louise Clodd asked Hahn if they are considering a hybrid form of delivery next year that would have a teacher instructing students in and out of class.

"We are not considering a hybrid model for next year," Hahn said.

"It is not our preferred model and we think we have other options like teaming with VLC."

The province announced June 2 students will not be returning to in-person classes this spring or summer.



Student vaccine roll-out will affect planning. *Unsplash.*

Fleming opening to expand summer horizons

By Joseph Quigley

Artist Rhonda Payne said she is looking forward to returning to Haliburton this summer to both teach and learn art.

The Toronto-based painter missed summer courses at the Haliburton School of Arts + Design last year after 14 years of attending. Fleming College suspended programs in 2020 due to the pandemic, but one year later, the college is offering more than 80 courses and workshops again starting June 28 until Aug. 13.

"It's a real thrill," Payne said. "We've all really missed it. I missed it terribly."

The courses each last about one week, with daylong workshops also on offer. Programming includes a wide range of artistic fields, including drawing, blacksmithing, jewellery, pottery, photography and more.

The course offerings are about 25-50 per cent fewer than usual, according to vice president of academic experience Linda Poirier. She said this is due to protocols and the college opting not to use the space at local grade schools, as it would in a typical year.

Nonetheless, Poirier said Fleming is eager

to offer summer lessons again and has had experience delivering lessons safely throughout the pandemic.

"It actually feels fantastic," she said. "The utmost importance to Fleming is that everybody is safe. We're excited to be able to once again open our doors."

Protocols include safe work plans for every space at the facility, with personal protective equipment and limits on the number of people. Those entering the facility will also be pre-screened and only registered students and staff will be allowed to enter.

Payne said she does not have safety concerns, adding classes are separate. However, she said she might miss the opportunity to walk around and see what others are working on.

But Poirier said there will be common areas to allow for some interactions, though with masks required.

"We're trying to create space that can be casual space for our students," she said. "We also want to feel welcoming to all of the students, so they're relaxed and having the experience they hope to be having."

Payne said although artists have been able to do online interactions and lessons



The Haliburton School of Art + Design is offering summer courses again after a year hiatus. *Photo by Joseph Quigley.*

throughout the pandemic, it is not the same as doing it in person.

"This is an opportunity to really immerse yourself in an environment that's creative,

that builds the creative in you," Payne said. "You can just expand your horizons."

Registration information is available by contacting askus@hsad.ca.

Highlander health

THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS IN SEASON, EVERY SEASON

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING A PROPOSED OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT AND ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

1083 BONIS LANE (PLOZA2021003)

TAKE NOTICE that the Township of Minden Hills has received a complete application to amend the Township's Official Plan & Zoning By-law. The site specific amendments apply to property located at 1083 Bonis Lane (see Key Map below).

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The subject property is presently zoned a site-specific Shoreline Residential Exception Forty-four (SR-44) and is located within the Special Policy Waterfront Four designation of the Township's Official Plan both of which permit the two existing dwellings situated on the one lot subject to the current application. The proposed amendments would remove the provisions which allow for two dwellings on one property in order to facilitate a proposed severance of the lot legally dividing the two dwellings onto separate lots measuring 0.11 ha. (0.27 ac.) in area with 30.5m. (100') of frontage; and, 0.29 ha. (0.72 ac.) in size with 79m. (260') of frontage.

AND TAKE NOTICE that the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting, as required under the Planning Act. The Public Meeting is an opportunity for Council to hear and consider comments related to the proposed amendments. Any member of the public may speak in favour, or opposition to, the proposed amendments during the Public Meeting.

DATE AND LOCATION OF PUBLIC MEETING – PLOZA2020049

Date: THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021
Time: 9:00 AM
Location: This will be held as a virtual meeting

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO WATCH THE MEETING can do so by joining the live-stream link, available on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/zzPmFrGCC-0>

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO PARTICIPATE AND MAKE COMMENT/SPEAK AT THE MEETING regarding the changes to the proposed amendments are encouraged to pre-register by emailing admin@mindenhills.ca by **4:00 PM Wednesday, June 23rd**. You may also attend the meeting and register the morning of June 24th **before 8:30 AM**. Participants registering after 8:30 AM will not be permitted into the public meeting.

Once registered, participants will automatically be placed into a holding room and brought into the meeting as permitted by the Chair.

To attend the Zoom virtual meeting via Web, type www.zoom.us/join in to your browser or attend by dialing the number below:

Telephone: 1-647-374-4685 or 1-647- 558-0588
Meeting ID: 968 9948 2298
Passcode: 637211

PLEASE NOTE: 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 the township website at: www.mindenhills.ca/council.

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION regarding the proposed Amendment is available to the public for inspection at the Municipal Office located at 7 Milne Street by appointment or at such time as the Township offices re-open and is available online at www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom. For more information about this matter, including information about preserving your appeal rights, contact the undersigned at adougherty@mindenhills.ca or by phone at 705-742-2297 ext. 278.

ANY PERSON may attend the public meeting and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments.

IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills before the official plan amendment is adopted or the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal

IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submissions to the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills before the official plan amendment is adopted or the by-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

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DATED this 2nd day of June, 2021
Amanda Dougherty, Planning Consultant
7 Milne Street, P.O. Box 359
Minden, ON. K0M 2K0

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25th Annual General Meeting of Haliburton Highlands Health Services Corporation

Thursday, June 24, 2021
2:00 p.m.

Meeting Agenda

Business of the Corporation: Reports of the CEO and Board, Chief of Staff, Auditor, Foundation, Nominating Committee, Election of Directors, and Appointment of Auditors

Due to the limitations on public gatherings mandated by the government of Ontario as a result of the COVID-19 global pandemic, the 25th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Corporation (HHHS) will be held as a virtual meeting conducted through the Zoom application. In order to participate, Corporation members and members of the public who wish to attend will require an invitation, which will provide further information on how to participate.

For further information or to arrange for an invitation, please contact:

Marlene Vieira
HHHS Administration Office
Phone: 705-457-2527
Email: mvieira@hhhs.ca



HAVE AN OPINION?

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

Highlander health

Long-term care coalition gets letter of support from HHHS

By Lisa Gervais

The Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) board issued a letter of support for the Haliburton-City of Kawartha Lakes Long-Term Care Coalition, but fell short of calling for an end to for-profit homes during its meeting May 27.

Coalition member, Trina West, who is chair of the Highland Wood family council, made the request on behalf of committee co-chair Bonnie Roe.

CEO Carolyn Plummer said the board agreed to issue a letter of support and pass a motion.

The letter of support reads, "HHHS shares the coalition's overarching goal of enhancing quality of care and living requirements for all LTC residents. Like you, we recognize that increased funding and higher staffing levels for long-term care homes are needed to realize this goal."

However, in regards to the coalition's specific calls for amendments to the Canada Health Act and the discontinuation of for-profit involvement in long-term care delivery, the letter states, "we respectfully cannot take a position on these matters."

The letter goes on to say, "We do recognize that advocacy plays an important role in influencing change and we applaud your efforts to improve the quality of care and living environment for all long-term care residents."

Plummer also touched on the recently-released Long-term Care (LTC) Commission report. She told the board it contains 85 recommendations with a focus on pandemic preparedness, LTC funding, regulation, oversight, and support needed to enhance quality of care and quality of life for LTC residents.

"Like many others, HHHS has been advocating for several years for improvements to the long-term care sector; it is good to see this advocacy come to fruition, and we are hopeful that this report will form the basis for meaningful change," Plummer said.

She added that HHHS has reviewed the recommendations, and made note of the ones specifically directed to LTC licensees and/or that will impact LTC licensees.

"I am very pleased to see that many of the recommendations specific to LTC homes are already in place at Hyland Crest and Highland Wood - and I am incredibly proud of our dedicated team and the work they do every day to help provide the best possible quality of care and quality of life for our residents," Plummer said.

There are, however, some areas highlighted in the recommendations that will require additional work, and in many cases, additional funding, the CEO added.

"We have begun working on an analysis to identify gaps as well as needed resources; once the analysis is complete, HHHS will establish a

preliminary plan for addressing gaps with our two LTC homes."

She also referenced the Auditor General report on pandemic readiness and response in LTC, which contained 16 recommendations with 55 action items.

"HHHS will take into consideration the Auditor General's recommendations when reviewing the LTC Commission's report and recommendations, and as plans are developed to address identified gaps," she said.

The Haliburton-City of Kawartha Lakes Long-Term Care Coalition has a petition circulating in the communities it represents. The petition calls upon local signatories to support measures prescribed by local residents, the Registered Nursing Association of Ontario, and the province's COVID-19 Commission including:

- ensuring four hours of direct care per resident per day;
- increasing infection prevention and health care expertise;
- improving working conditions;
- reinstating thorough inspections with consistent enforcement;
- changing nursing home culture to being more resident-centred, family/caregiver-centered, and rights-based; and
- taking the profit motive out of long-term care, moving taxpayer money from private shareholders to investing in public care.

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"The reality of man is his thought not his material body Bahauallah."

To speak with a Bahai in our area please call: Haliburton, Helen, 705-457-1999, Minden, George and Kathie 705-286-3378, West Guilford/ Kennisis, Pat and Peter 1-416-606-9657, Eagle Lake / Fort Irwin Gord and Kathryn 705-754-0939 or contact www.bahai.org.

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Lions donate new tablets for seniors



The Haliburton Lions Club partnered with the Angus Glen Lions Club to acquire tablets to give to seniors in long-term care homes. Angus Glen's project was supported by a Horizons for Seniors Program Grant. It allowed them to match one-for-one the tablets purchased by another Lions Club. The Haliburton Lions bought five tablets and Angus Glen Lions Club matched that with five of its own. They were recently given to Highland Wood, Hyland Crest and Extendicare Haliburton. The tablets enable residents to chat with loved ones and provide families assurance and comfort that they're safe and sound. Seniors can also use the tablets to play music, access information and play games. (Lisa Gervais)

Lion Gerald Hadley presented six new tablets to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services for Highland Wood and Hyland Crest. Photo submitted.

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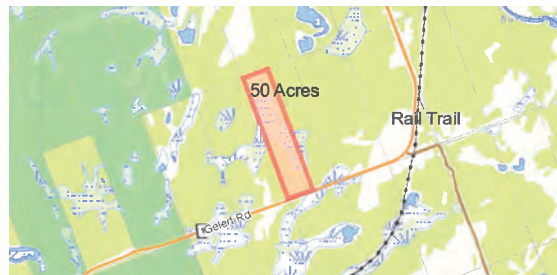
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Highlander environment

Environmentalists fight watershed threats

By Joseph Quigley

Biologist Katie Paroschy used a hand-drawn diagram recently to illustrate the many stressors impacting local lakes.

Paroschy presented at an online Enviro-Café for Environment Haliburton! She was invited to discuss the intersection of threats to watershed health. Whether climate change, salt, calcium decline, vegetation removal, herbicides, or industry, Paroschy told 70 attendees the factors can amplify each other to create problems.

However, the project manager for Zygotera Consulting and Permit Management – a new local environmental consulting firm – offered plenty of ways for people to address those issues. She suggested supporting research, advocating to governments, or taking measures on private property.

“Lake health and watershed health is confusing. It’s multi-faceted,” Paroschy said. “But that doesn’t mean you can’t do anything about it. You have the power to help, and together, we can make a difference.”

Paroschy’s presentation went over each lake stressor in detail. She discussed how winter road salt is contaminating lakes, the negative impacts of pesticides and herbicides and the harm of reducing natural vegetation along shorelines. She said the factors add up – amplified by climate change – and cause harm, such as by reducing fish or increasing algae blooms.

Federation of Ontario Cottagers Associations assistant lake stewardship coordinator Liz Favot, during a question-and-answer session, said it is important to examine the interactions between different harms.

“Often, I think just by necessity, some of these stressors are kind of siloed,” Favot said. “But they definitely interact with each other.”

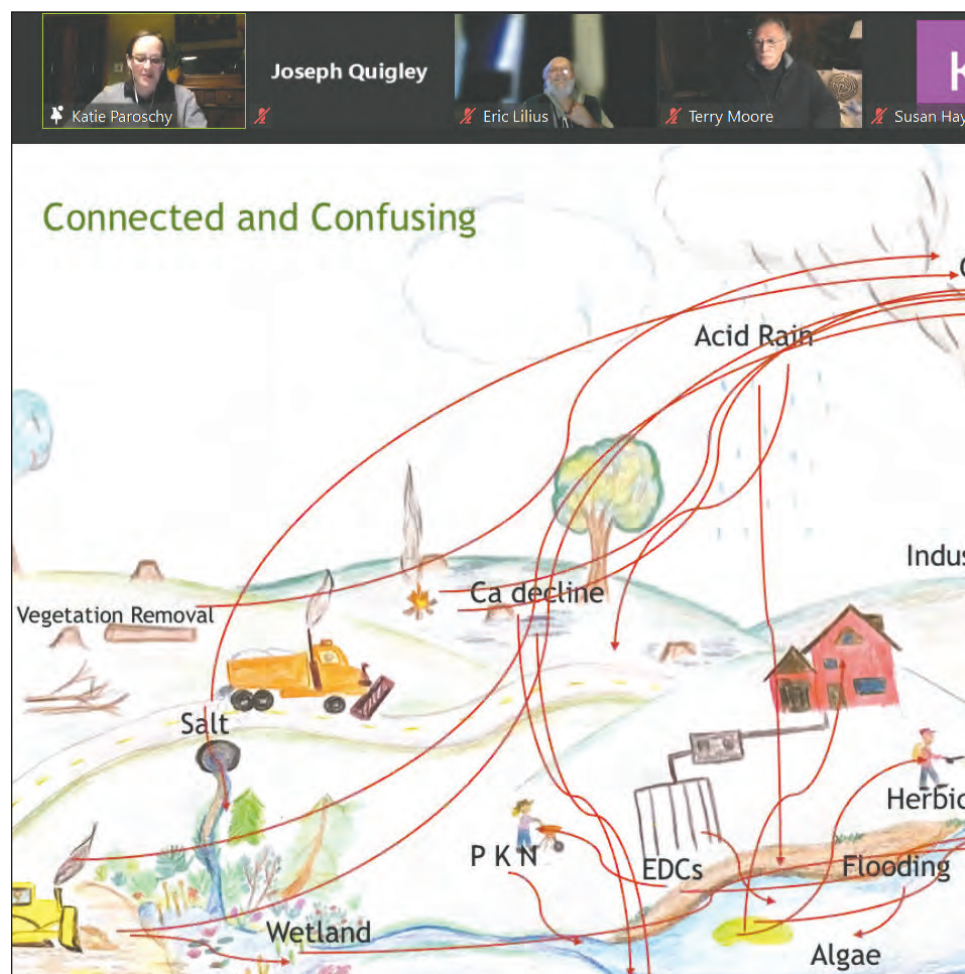
Paroschy suggested keeping natural vegetation intact. She said even though people have different viewpoints, there should be widespread agreement about the importance of water.

“Encourage other lake users to get them to explore the lake,” she said. “Eventually, everybody will hopefully be doing more to decrease these stressors.”

“Join and support your local lake associations,” Minden Hills Coun. Bob Carter added. “Who are sampling and monitoring water quality as well as influencing government.”

Paroschy said there are also plenty of local scientists examining the issues who are worth supporting. But she said it is vital to support plant life and that “nature knows best.”

“We’re in a time where we can’t hug the people we care about, but you know, you can hug a tree,” she said. “Get outside and thank a plant, because we wouldn’t exist without them.”



Biologist Katie Paroschy presented a hand-drawn diagram of lake stressors at an Environment Haliburton! event with more than 70 attendees. Photo by Joseph Quigley.



Untitled, oil on canvas, 48"x 60", 2021.

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Highlander environment



Students Dylan Forgie and Deanna Panitz at a past U-Links Celebration of Research. *File*

U-Links keeping an eye on woodlands, waterways

By Lisa Gervais

U-Links is launching a Woodlands and Waterways EcoWatch Program (WWEW) this spring.

Spokesperson Amanda Duncombe-Lee said it's a collaboration of U-Links, Trent University, Fleming College, lake associations, lake stewards, the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust and citizen scientists to monitor the health of waterways and woodlands in our region.

"The program utilizes the resources and knowledge of Trent University and Sir Sandford Fleming College to assist community organizations monitor the long-term health of the forests and lakes of Haliburton County and the surrounding region," she said.

The program is an expansion of the original Community Benthos Biomonitoring Pilot project that originated in 2019 with

the support of funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Trent University and the Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC).

In 2020, with financial support from HCDC, the Kenneth Molson Foundation, the Great Lakes Local Action Fund, and several participating local lake associations including Lake Kashagawigamog Organization, Gull Lake Property Owners' Association, Kawagama Lake Cottagers' Association, and Halls & Hawk Lake Property Owners' Association, the program was able to expand to serve an additional 11 lakes, as well as incorporate a framework for citizen science water monitoring and terrestrial biomonitoring.

"This initiative is invaluable and timely, as our lakes and forests continue to face ever-increasing pressures from climate change and development," Duncombe-Lee said.

U-Links, a program of the Haliburton

County Community Co-operative, is one of the only rural independent community-based research centres in North America. It is a unique model in which the community comes first in defining its research needs. U-Links staff help organizations define their research questions, finds the students and faculty to undertake the research, facilitates the relationship between students and the host organizations, provides mentoring for the students and makes the research findings available to the community, she added.

If you are involved with a lake association that would be interested in participating in benthosbiomonitoring, visit their website to download their host primer PDF at wwew.ca/info-for-hosts and contact their WWEW program coordinator, Brendan Martin, at bmartin@ulinks.ca to find out more about the program or discuss a similar research project idea.

If you are part of a property owners association, a municipality or an environmental organization interested in participating in terrestrial biomonitoring, contact Martin.

Duncombe-Lee also put out a call for financial help.

"Over the past two years we have received in-kind and financial support to do the groundwork required to create this program and undertake the first two years of data collection and analysis."

"We need continued support from the community to continue to support local research needs and to keep the WWEW program running and to help it grow."

If you are interested in supporting the program, contact Daniela Pagliaro, U-Links' administrative and logistics coordinator at admin@ulinks.ca.



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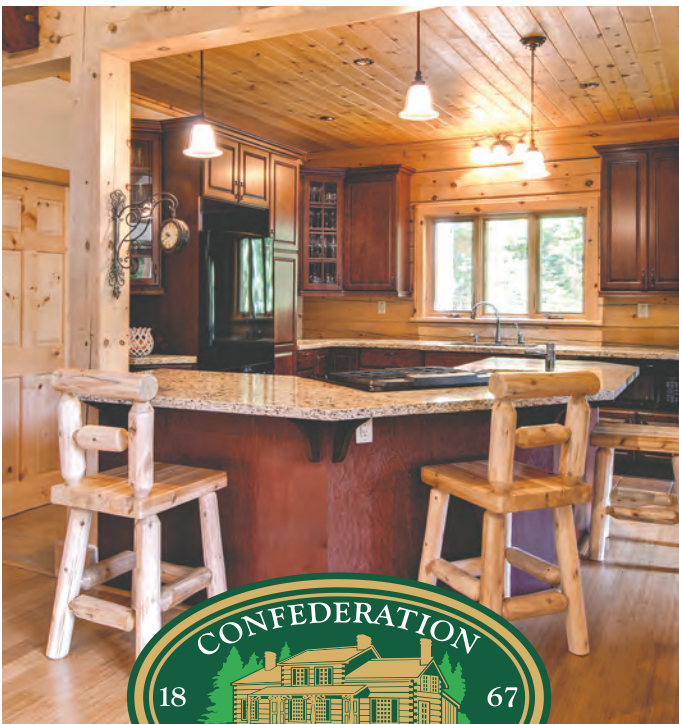


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People are renovating homes for their future needs. *Unsplash*

Renovate for universal use

By Lisa Harrison

Are you living in your forever home, or planning to make your seasonal home the last stop? Will that dwelling remain fully accessible as you age in place? If not, it may be time to consider a universal design renovation.

Universal design enables maximum access to all areas and functionality of the dwelling throughout the human lifecycle, including birth, potential accident or illness, and aging in place. It ensures that your renovation dollars are being spent in the most practical and beneficial way possible for your life in this dwelling and the lives of those who follow.

This approach to both building and renovation is especially important in regions such as Haliburton County, where so many baby boomers have been retiring and so many empty nesters are thinking of retiring. According to Statistics Canada's 2016 Census, approximately 33 per cent of the County's permanent population was age 65 and older. Back that up to age 50 and older, and it jumped to 63 per cent.

Universal design has been losing the stigma of function overwhelming

form. As the years pass, accessibility options have become more refined. According to the non-profit SAFERhome Society in British Columbia, these homes look better, work better and are worth more on the market.

Think wider doorways, hallways and stairways that contribute to that all-important sense of open concept living. Consider that, as SAFERhome notes, universal design meets the needs of the largest buyer group while offering a stylish, more livable environment for people at any age or in any walk of life. Such a home can be easily adapted to the changing needs of anyone who lives there.

Universal design renovations also increase the number of potential buyers and renters for the dwelling.

The SAFERhome Society's SAFERhome Standards website features a 15-point checklist with directions for basic structural, design, electrical, telecom and plumbing practices when building or renovating.

These include making all exterior thresholds flush, making all hallways a minimum of 40 inches wide (ideally 42 inches), reinforcing washroom

walls for future grab bars, and leaving an allowance for an elevator in stacked closets or building all staircases with a minimum width of 42 inches to allow for stair climber machines.

Electrical and telecom installation practices include positioning all electrical switches at 42 inches to the centre of the electrical box from the finished floor and returning all coaxial cable and telephone runs to one central area for smart control. Plumbing installation practices include particular positioning of all shower and tub controls.

Other options abound, such as installing an oven with doors that swing out rather than pull out, an adjustable-height sink controlled electronically, a high cabinet kick plate that elevates the dishwasher, and lever handles in place of round doorknobs.

If you are considering aging in place, check out the federal government's planning checklist at canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/seniors/forum/aging-checklist.html.

For the SAFERhomes Standards 15-point "how to" checklist, visit saferhomestandards.com.

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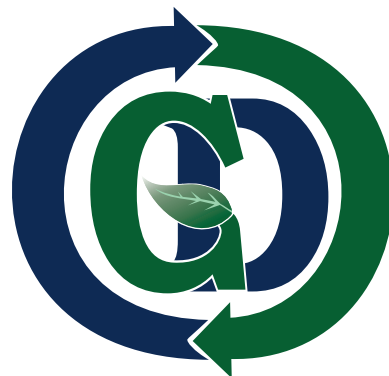
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Zen and the art of natural plastering

By Lisa Harrison

If you've chosen to build or renovate using natural plasters, get ready to enjoy the extended health benefits for you and the environment.

"Natural plasters can provide extraordinary comfort," said Sebastian Renel, owner of Beyond Plasters in Minden Hills and a master craftsman in the art.

"They can create a close connection to the natural world with calming and healing effects. They can help regulate temperature and humidity in homes. They create harmonious spaces and eliminate toxins from our indoor spaces."

After studying science and fine arts in university, Renel trained as a master craftsman in Japan and holds his certification in Sustainable Building Design and Construction from Fleming College. He is currently partnering with U-Links Centre for Community-Based Research in Minden to further study the benefits of clays and limes in natural plasters.

Renel said the earthen materials used in natural plasters have been among the most popular choices for shelters for "virtually all of human history."

"Even today, approximately half of the world's people inhabit shelters

fashioned from clay-rich dirt harvested from the Earth's crust."

Natural plaster applications are increasing in popularity due to the benefits listed and several more, according to Renel.

For example, clay plasters can screen electromagnetic radiation from computers, televisions and other home appliances. Clay releases negative ions, increasing the freshness of the air in the home. Earthen floors literally help owners feel more grounded, and adding radiant heat provides the ultimate in comfort.

Natural plasters have a very low carbon footprint. Lime will also reabsorb the carbon dioxide it has released during its manufacturing process, which technically makes it a carbon-neutral material. Sourcing materials in Ontario is "very feasible" and sometimes on-site clays can be used.

Applications for natural plasters also include exterior surfaces, ovens, new fireplaces, fireplace remodelling and feature walls, including frescos.

"Mixing and applying natural plasters is a bit like cooking – there are an infinite number of recipes possible," said Renel.

The most popular – a skim coat over existing drywall – can be smooth and

highly polished and "provide a very Zen feel." Bulkier coats can go on up to one inch thick and provide more texture for a rustic look. Tadelakt plaster is highly water-resistant and can be used for showers, cabinets and backsplashes.

"All these finishes can be customized with natural pigments or finished with natural oils that improve durability," said Renel. "Fibres such as straw or cattails ... help with tensile strength and sometimes create a desirable effect on the surface. If you can imagine it, it can be done."

In addition to drywall, natural plasters can be applied over wood lath, straw bales, masonry walls and more. The process can vary depending on the scope of the project, thickness of plaster and desired finish or texture. Overall prices range from \$6 to \$40 per sq. ft.

Renel noted the process can take more time than traditional surfacing, especially for floors, since drying time is required between layers. However, he added, "the qualities of the finished surfaces are far superior compared to some of the conventional paints and other synthetic materials."

"In other words, the finished product is well worth the investment."





Examples of different plastering techniques. Submitted by Beyond Plasters.

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What's on

Folk Society to host Canada-wide online concert

By Sam Gillett

Live music might still be hard to come by in 2021, but one local group is bringing a country-wide concert to the laptops of Haliburton County music lovers.

The Haliburton County Folk Society is hosting Songs from Coast to Coast, a concert featuring three musicians from across Canada.

Coco Love Alcorn, Ian Sherwood and JUNO award-winner Helen Austin will all tune in via Zoom to share songs and stories on June 5 at 7 p.m.

Concert organizer Don Gage said, "This show is one that we would not likely see live and in person in Haliburton due to costs, scheduling and logistics of bringing three musicians from across Canada together."

All three are accomplished musicians: Austin is a JUNO-award winner, Sherwood received the Canadian Folk Music Award for Contemporary Singer, and Love Alcorn has gained a large fanbase opening for the likes of Chantal Kreviazuk, Ani DiFranco and Burton Cummings.

The concert will provide each musician a chance to share original songs, chat about song-writing and interact with the other performers – all via their Zoom broadcasts.

Folk Society president Walt Tose said in a press release, "We are very pleased to be able to bring music to this community in these difficult times thanks to a group of dedicated volunteers, community partners,



Coco Love Alcorn, Helen Austin and Ian Sherwood will join the Haliburton County Folk Society for a virtual concert June 5. Photo submitted by the Haliburton County Folk Society.

and a faithful and growing audience."

The Folk Society has hosted six virtual open stages, two live concerts and seven live-streamed concerts with 11 different local artists during the COVID-19 pandemic, with volunteers experimenting with new event styles along the way.

The upcoming cross-Canada Zoom performance is the "big leagues," said Haliburton County Folk Society marketing manager Barrie Martin. While internet

speeds and technology posed challenges for volunteers coordinating the shows, the society has gradually gained expertise in handling online productions.

"We did a bit of a field test, and that prepared us to bring in these folks from across Canada. We're looking forward to making something similar happen on June 5."

While COVID-19 has meant major shifts in how the Folk Society shares live music

around the County, Martin said, "We're hopeful that we'll be continuing to offer live performances one way or the other – hopefully in person."

The June 5 concert is only available on Zoom with members of the Haliburton Folk Society receiving free access. Single-event tickets to the online show are available at the society's website at haliburtonfolk.com

INFORMATION PAGE

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A Message from the Fire Department

If you smoke, put it out. All the way. Every time. Every year, almost 1,000 smokers and non-smokers are killed in home fires caused by cigarettes and other smoking materials, making this the #1 cause of home fire deaths. Most fires caused by smoking materials start on beds or furniture, or in the trash. Fires caused by cigarettes and other smoking materials are preventable.

You can make a difference...

- If you smoke, smoke outside. Most home fires caused by smoking materials start inside the home. When you smoke outside, discard cigarettes and ashes in an un-burnable (and non-melting) container filled with sand and never throw cigarettes on the ground.
- Wherever you smoke, use deep, sturdy ashtrays with a wide, stable base that are difficult to tip over and set ashtrays on something sturdy and difficult to ignite, such as a table.
- Make sure cigarettes and ashes are out before throwing them in the trash can. Soak cigarette butts and ashes in water before throwing them away. Never toss hot cigarette butts or ashes in the trash.
- Check for butts. Chairs and sofas can catch fire fast and burn fast. Don't set ashtrays on them.
- Never smoke in bed! To prevent a deadly fire, put your cigarette out before you go to bed.
- Never smoke where oxygen is used (even if it is turned off). Oxygen can be explosive and makes fire burn hotter and faster.
- Fire-safe cigarettes are less likely to cause a fire. These cigarettes have banded paper that can slow the burn of a cigarette that isn't being used.
- Don't throw your cigarette butts out the vehicle windows.

Alternate Household Hazardous Waste Event

A household hazardous waste event will be hosted at the Scotch Line Landfill on Saturday, June 26th from 8am – 11:30am. 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.

Weekday Household Hazardous Waste Event

Are you retired? Work weekends? Have some time off? Join us Friday, June 25th at the Minden Fairgrounds between 9am – 3pm for a weekday 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.

A Message from Community Services

The Minden Skate Park, shuffleboard court and baseball fields are now open to the public. The Minden tennis courts will reopen when resurfacing is complete. When enjoying these outdoor spaces, please maintain a physical distance of 2 metres from others not in your household, and wear a face covering or mask. All public washrooms have also reopened.

Request for Tender

RFT #RDS 21-07 – Replacement of the Sedgwick Bridge

The Township of Minden Hills is seeking qualified bids to replace the Sedgwick Road Bridge. Respondents are required to conduct a site visit to familiarize themselves with the work. A non-mandatory site meeting is scheduled for Friday June 4 at 10:00 am at Sedgwick Bridge on Sedgwick Road in Gelert, Ontario.

Visit www.mindenhills.ca/tenders to view the tender document and supporting material. Deadline for submissions is June 14, 2021 by 12:00 noon.

Request for Proposal

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 website: www.mindenhills.ca.

Visit www.mindenhills.ca/tenders/ to view the proposal document. Deadline for submissions is June 11, 2021 by 12:00 noon.

(Virtual) Council Meetings

Council 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 are:

June 10 – Regular Council Meeting
June 24 – Regular Council 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 www.mindenhills.ca/council/.

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

What's on



The Highland Yard usually sees hundreds of runners hitting the streets of Haliburton County to raise money for affordable housing initiatives. Pictured is Jack Russel. *File.*

Highland Yard running virtually for 2021

By Sam Gillett

Registration for the annual Highland Yard charity run is now open.

While participants won't be gathering in person, they'll still be able to complete a race and raise money for affordable housing in Haliburton County.

Participants have the option of a 2k, 5k and 10k run or walk. A "freestyle" option is open to anyone who wants to participate however they like: whether it's laps around a living-room or backyard sprints.

There's also a chance to dive into local

history with the original Heineken Yard race distance run from 1971. It's 7.3 km from Camp Onondaga to the Rockcliffe in Minden.

Last year, the virtual event raised \$25,000 which was donated to Places for People, a not-for-profit focused on Haliburton County's affordable housing shortage. That's the highest amount raised to date.

"I think people may have felt more willing to donate, maybe they had more money to donate since they weren't travelling," said Jack Russel, the race director and past board member of Places for People.

"It's also more convenient," said Russel. "People could define their own activity – I think people enjoyed that."

No matter what kind of race you run, each registrant gets a pair of Highland Yard socks, and a chance to win a locally-made mug for every \$50 raised.

Since 2012, Highland Yard participants have raised more than \$140,000 for Places for People. Those funds help the organization to buy, renovate and secure housing for people who need it.

"It's also given Places for People a chance to move in a different direction now, where

we're looking for multi-unit builds – not just homes," said Russel. "Now we're just going to go big; put in more units, provide more housing."

Registration for the Highland Yard opened June 1 and participants must complete their chosen distance or race style by Aug. 1.

In a year where Canadians have been told to stay home, Russel said the Highland Yard's mission is even more urgent.

"Some people don't have a home to stay in," he said.

You can register for the run at highlandyard.ca

Minden artisan's market to make return this month

By Lisa Gervais

The Minden artisan's market will be resuming this year after a pandemic hiatus in 2020.

Township of Minden Hills community development coordinator, Elisha Weiss, said the first market will be held June 19, running to Thanksgiving weekend.

She said it will be at the fairgrounds beside the farmers' market.

"We will have a limited number of vendors each week (maximum of 10) and there will be COVID protocols in place like a defined entrance and exit, one way travel through the market, social distancing etc.," she said.

Sara Michelle of Nyx Art Studio is one of the vendors who was unhappy when

the markets were not allowed to open last summer. She plans to be there for this summer and into the fall.

She told *The Highlander* she's excited about returning.

"It will be so amazing to get back to work and what we as vendors love doing. We need this market back in the community and I've been getting such amazing feedback from all of my followers that are so excited to have the market back as well."

She said it will be good for the community's mental health and well-being to be able to interact in a safe environment.

"We all need to get back to some kind of normalcy and these outdoor markets may be the first step. It's been a long 15 months for us all and it's time to bring some joy and social interaction back to people's lives."



An image from a past market. *File photo.*



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- **TFT, Food Service Coordinator vacancy to work at Kinark Outdoor Centre in Minden, ON**
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- **TFT, Administrator- Social Media Content Manager to work at Kinark Outdoor Centre in Minden, ON**
- **Hours and pay:** Hours and pay: 35hrs/week at \$18/hr + 4% vacation pay
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Visit our website at: www.algonquinhighlands.ca for the full job description.

Please submit your resume and cover letter by **3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 23, 2021** to:

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OBITUARIES



Sigrid "Siggi" Debes (nee Schaefer) (Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully at Haliburton Hospital on May 25, 2021 in her 83rd year. Much loved wife of Herbert Debes for over 63 years. Loving mother of Karen, Cathy, Glenn and Jennifer. Fondly remembered by her ten grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Your inspiring smile, your Joie de vivre, and above all your love for family and faith will be forever treasured.

Your children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, community, congregation and your loving husband of 63 years will all sorely miss you. You left us in style, lipstick, earrings and a smile...we are so proud of you. A life time of memories will sustain us.

Isaiah 41:13 "For I, Jehovah your God, am grasping your right hand, The one saying to you..."Do not be afraid. I will help you".

Private Graveside Service

A Private Graveside Service will take place at a later date. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation - Highland Wood 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.



Carla Watson

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre on Saturday May 29, 2021 in her 66th year. Beloved partner and best friend of Jack Greavette. Loving mother of Kandace, Krista & Tanya. Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Jordan, Kennedy, Avery, Cody, Jace, Emma, Matisyn, William, Jocelyn, Thomas, Daniel, Keith, and Kyle. Great Grand Mother to Finn, Eli, Memphis, Brantley, and Jacelyn. Dear sister of Albert "Bert", John, Pat (Dennis), Janet (Chris) and Richard (Nukhet). Also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews.

Visitation & Private Funeral Service

Friends are invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario on Thursday June 3, 2021 by appointment only. Please RSVP below. Masks must be worn. A Private Funeral Service will follow on Friday afternoon, June 4, 2021 at 2 o'clock. To join the service virtually, click the following link ten minutes prior to service time <https://join.skype.com/nmo5yCHYhhHu> Interment later at Essonville Cemetery. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #129 would be appreciated by the family.



NOTICE



Notice of Procedural By-Law Amendments

As per Policy No. 24 – Public Notice Policy, notice is hereby being provided that Dysart et al Council, at their regular meeting to be held on June 22, 2021, will be amending the Procedural By-Law to update groups/organizations represented on Cultural Resources Committee, agenda items on Council and Committee of the Whole, and electronic meeting procedures.

Notice of Naming of all Public/Private Roads

Take notice that pursuant to the Municipal Act 2001, c.25, as amended, the Dysart et al Council, at their regular meeting to be held on June 22, 2021 will be considering a by-law to name all public and private roads, as required, to accommodate the following road additions:

Lake House Lane
Maple Rock Trail
Stohart Creek Road

Mallory Bishop, Municipal Clerk

IN MEMORY

Lorraine Semple would like to extend her deepest gratitude to the staff at Hyland Crest Long Term Care for the extraordinary kindness and care given to her late husband Keith Semple. Keith was a resident at Hyland Crest for 5 years and during that time, he was treated with love, compassion and given endless support. To say that the care given to him was exemplary is an understatement, and in his final weeks of life, that same care was also extended to Lorraine. Keith was treated with the care, gentleness and respect that we all hope to receive in life. A special thank you to all of the nursing, PSW and administrative staff who were incredibly supportive throughout his palliative care.

Keith Semple
July 26th, 1941-April 29, 2021

In Loving Memory of
IRENE BAILEY & CLARK BAILEY
(2016) (1990)

Sunshine passes, shadows fall,
Love's remembrance outlasts all;
And although the years be many or few,
They are filled with remembrance of you.

*Always remembered by Cec,
Pearl, Bob and family*

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1	R	E	C	A	S	T		7	P	O	M		10	H	G	T	13
14	E	N	O	R	M	E		15	E	S	O		16	T	E	R	I
17	A	L	L	D	A	Y		18	D	R	P	E	P	P	E	R	
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22	C	O	U	N	T		24	C	H	O	C	U	L		25	A	
26	C	U	R	T	S	E	Y				27	P	A	B	S		29
30	I	N	F		31	E	L	S		32	I	E			34	I	C
	35	C	A	P	T	A	I	N	M	37	O	R	G	A	N		
	39	E	S	O			40	O	D	I	L	E		41	R	U	42
	43	S	T	R	A	P		46	N	A	P	P	E	R	S		
			48	C	H	E	F	B	O	Y	A	R	D	E	E		
51	A	B	53		54	O	N	O	U	R		55	Y	A	Y		
56	M	R	M	57	U	S	C	L	E		58	W	I	N	C	59	60
61	F	O	U	N	T	A	I	N			62	I	N	C	A	P	S
63	M	S	G	S		64	P	O	O		65	I	G	E	T	I	T

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		4		1			8	

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS								
7	2	5	3	1	4	6	9	8
8	1	3	2	6	9	5	7	4
4	9	6	5	8	7	2	1	3
9	8	1	4	5	6	3	2	7
6	5	7	1	2	3	8	4	9
2	3	4	7	9	8	1	6	5
3	6	9	8	4	2	7	5	1
5	4	8	6	7	1	9	3	2
1	7	2	9	3	5	4	8	6

1	D	A	B	S		5	C	O	I	F		9	Y	E	S	12	N			
14	E	S	A	U		15	B	O	L	O		16	A	S	K	I				
17	V	I	C	S		18	C	H	E	R		19	R	Y	P	I	C			
20	O	N	H	I	21	S			22	D	U	O			23	M	O			
24	T	I	M	E	I	25	M	M	E	M	O	27	R	I	A	L				
29	E	N	A		30	P	O	E				31	M	E	N	S	A			
32	E	E	N	33	Y		34	J	E	35	D	36		37	L	E	K	S		
				38	P	H	O	T	O	S	40	H	O	P						
				41	S	E	R	A		43	S	O	Y	A		44	T	U	F	
				48	O	P	E	L	49	S		50	O	W	51	N		52	N	E
				53	F	I	S	F	O	54	55	F	U	G	I	56	T	I	V	
57	M	T	S				58	N	I	L			59	T	O	T	E			
60	A	T	O	61	M	62	E			63	A	N			65	S	A	R		
66	N	O	D	U	H				67	T	I	N	A			68	E	R	E	
69	O	P	E	D	S				70	S	N	A	P			71	A	D	D	

A Sense of Entitlement

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

Across

- 1 Fling the fishing line again
7 Juice brand whose middle letter is a heart
10 Channel for interior decorators
14 Vast, in verse
15 Understood by a select few
17 From sunup to sundown
18 "Entitled" soft drink brand
19 Above, to a bard
20 Fussy fuddy-duddy
21 CPP recipients
22 "Entitled" kid's cereal brand
26 Girl's respectful bow
27 "Blue Ribbon" beer maker
30 Foot soldiers: Abbr.
31 Borden milk spokesperson
34 Cold comfort for an achy athlete
35 "Entitled" rum brand
39 "___ Beso" (Paul Anka hit)
40 "Swan Lake" maiden
41 ___ the wrong way (irk)
43 Subway loop?
46 Day dreamers?
48 "Entitled" canned pasta brand
51 Tight spots for body builders
54 ___ own (just us)
55 "We did it!!"
56 "Entitled" oven cleaner brand
58 Was visibly hurt, in a way
61 Centre of a square, maybe
62 LIKE THIS
63 They're left "after the beep": Abbr.
64 Nanki-___ (character in "The Mikado")
65 "All right already!"

Down

- 1 Singer Chris or actor Stephen
2 Big picture?: Abbr.
3 Unlikely to run in the wash

- 4 Avid
5 Reitmans clothing line
6 Miss Pym's creator Josephine
7 Spanish equivalent of Peter
8 Foolish courtier in "Hamlet"
9 Finishes the last details
10 Phat, in the '50s
11 Assns.
12 Wedding cake layer
13 TV room dust collectors, today
16 Musk's electric car company
20 Chiro's colleague
22 201, in Ancient Rome
23 Jigger's 1.5
24 That, to Thérèse
25 "Take it easy, it's not ___ deal"
28 Cowardly lion, literally
29 Longtime prof's reward
32 Not Lib., P.C., N.D.P. or Green: Abbr.
33 Its relative major is G
36 Alternative to "boeuf" or "poulet"
37 Maker of a "micro-sculpting cream"
38 Making good on, as a loan
42 Mad cow disease, for short
44 Plenty (of)
45 Nib lid
47 Gambol at a horse show
49 Large-paged manuscript
50 Good, in Guadalajara
51 Radio switch
52 Warner ___ Studios
53 Annoyingly confident
57 Number ones, in Québec
58 Game system played on one's feet
59 Prefix with -dermal or -dural
60 "Spring ahead" setting: Abbr.

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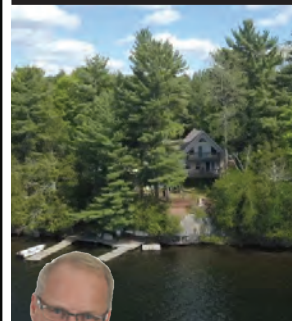
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\$699,900 BOB LAKE

- 4 season 3 bedroom cottage with landscaped lot
- 3 season bunkie with private deck for family/guests
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1238SANDPOINT.COM



\$1,749,000 DRAG LAKE

- 2 separately deeded parcels, 1.5 acres, close to town
- 3 bedroom, 3 season 1112 sq ft cottage with bunkie
- 297 feet frontage with hard golden rippled sand beach
- Natural rock retaining wall, stone walkways, ample parking
- 26' X 24' garage, haliburton room, stone waterfall/pond

TWELVEMILELAKE.COM



\$949,900 TWELVE MILE LAKE

- 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2810 sq ft home/cottage
- 1.78 ac lot, sunset views, sand waterfront, landscaped
- 4 car garage, shed, bunkie, firepit area, ample parking
- Stone fireplace, oak kitchen, extensive decking
- Master with double closets, ensuite and French doors



\$649,900 KUSHOG LAKE RD

- "WhistleWing" private 14 acres, 2400' + grass strip runway
- "Viceroy" 4 season, 1216 sq ft, 3 bedroom home
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- 1.5 acre, 190 ft clean rock & sand shoreline
- 2500 sq ft living space, skylights, haliburton room
- Oversized detached double garage, 2 bunkies, shed
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- Open concept, 3 bedroom, 4 season, 1008 sq ft home/cottage
- 100 ft of clean weed free hard sand frontage steps away
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- Cathedral ceilings, floor to ceiling windows, lakeside deck
- Lakeside fire pit, ample parking, comes furnished

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- \$149,900 Drag Court, 0.66 ac., 150.9 ft fr.
- \$119,900 Mountain St. 1.03 ac., 200 ft fr.
- \$100,000 Norley Rd. 1.2 ac., 187 ft fr.
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Chris James*

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