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planned the Fun Day, introduced the team whose hard work, together with that of members of the Township staff, resulted in a successful event that attracted 2000-2200 people. Those who served on the citizen Organizing Committee are John Campbell, Don Chapman, Catherine Cowley, Chris Figgures, Carol Ladell, Diane Leblovic, Nick Leblovic, Carol Lombardi, Gino Lombardi, Doug Lorrigan, Muriel McVeigh and Fran Papadopoulos; township staff contributions came from the Recreation, Public Works, By-law, and Clerk's Departments. Combined with the proceeds from the 2018 Fun Day, the event brought in \$18,716.07. This sum is to be added to the revitalization grant of \$48, 072.93 and used to build a children's playground at Parkside Drive.

2020 STRATEGIC PLAN:

Updating the Township's Strategic Plan began in March and ended with approval of the update in September. At the end of the process, Council and staff set themselves 12 priority actions and strategies to accomplish in this term of office, namely:

- Providing exemplary Customer Service, Organizational Excellence and the Development of a Human Resource Strategy that emphasizes recruitment and retention
- Addressing the Infrastructure Deficit
- Advocating for an Internet & Cell Service Agreement
- Developing & Implementing an Asset Management Plan
- Building a New Town Hall
- Advocating for Affordable & Attainable Housing
- Building Environmental Resilience and Mitigating the Impacts of Climate Change
- Following through on Existing Priorities
- Enhancing the Township's Outdoor Recreational Attributes and Assets
- Securing a Policy Response from the Province on Septage
- Tourism – Promoting Local Art and Artisans
- A Better Transit System that includes a Tangible Link to the County Transit System

Details regarding the updated Strategic Plan are available in the September 9 Committee of the Whole Agenda, Section (F).

TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER:

CanACRE approached the Township with a proposal to erect a 35 metre tripole tower at 2 Winterset Avenue to service the Balm Beach area. After reviewing various aspects of the proposal, staff recommended that it proceed with the public consultation required by the Township's Telecommunication Policy.

GREAT LAKES WATERFRONT TRAIL:

According to the minutes of the Tiny Trails and Active Transportation Advisory Committee, "staff completed the tour and comments have been submitted. The map is anticipated to be complete in 2020 and will note washrooms available along the Tiny Trail."

END OF SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING:

According to the Committee of the Whole Agenda for September 30 (the meeting took place after this issue of the *Cottager* was laid out and sent to the printer), Tiny's Council and Staff discussed several important subjects – a report about the Town Hall Meeting on September 19th with its references to deputations made during AMO meetings in August, a report about changes to the Provincial Policy Statement that raises important issues, and a report about next steps regarding the building of a new municipal administrative building. We will report on these matters in the September Report on Council which will appear in due course on our website www.tinycottager.org

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used to show that bottled waters from around the world are all contaminated, either because of antimony (Sb) leaching from PET plastic containers, or lead leaching from glass bottles.

Groundwater quality: nutrients and organic contaminants

My report on nutrients and organic contaminants in these groundwaters was submitted to the Mayor of Simcoe County, the CAO, the Clerk and Councillors of Simcoe County, as well as the Chair and Members of the Site 41 Community Monitoring Committee, on June 30, 2009. I noted in that report that nitrate and phosphate were both below the limits of detection using state-of-the-art ion chromatography. Despite the sensitivity of the methods used at the laboratory in Switzerland for determining organic contaminants, none could be measured. In fact, none of the contaminants could even be detected.

Groundwater quality: chloride

Professor John Cherry considers chloride concentrations one of the best indicators of human impacts on groundwater. He defines "pristine" groundwater as having chloride concentrations less than 5 milligrams per litre (parts per million). When I showed him my chloride concentration data for the groundwaters of the Elmvale area (1

"The Best Radio Station Ever" Is Here in Tiny

by LYNNE ARCHIBALD, NOTTAWAGA BEACH



As you pull into the line for the ferry to Christian Island, roll down your window and turn off the car to wait, cool music drifts over from the building on your left. It's coming from a speaker mounted above the door of Nish101.3, the FM radio station on Christian Island. If you can't quite name the artist or the song, that's because "the Nish" proudly plays rare tracks, side Bs and independent artists. In the words of one listener from Lafontaine, "It's the best radio station ever!"

The story starts with Beausoleil First Nation and Doug Bingley. Beausoleil First Nation is an Ojibwe First Nation located mainly on Christian Island, also known as G'Chimissing. The on-reserve population is about 615. Its motto is Pride, Unity, Strength and Vision. "The Nish" comes from the word Anishinabe, which is loosely translated as first man, or Anishinabekwe, which is first woman.

Doug Bingley's parents had a cottage at Cedar Point, and he later bought his own cottage on Christian Island. As a young man obsessed with radio in the 1970s, Doug noticed a communication tower on the island and wondered if the island could have its own radio station. In his first CRTC license application for Rock 95 in Barrie, Doug suggested weekly indigenous programming on Sundays at 11 pm. That show, *Spirit Winds*, went on the air in 1988. Now called *The New Spirit Winds*, the show is still put together and hosted by First Nations presenters.

Doug hadn't forgotten about G'Chimissing. The island now had a small, unlicensed low power station, so when applying for a second CRTC license in 2001 for 107.5 KoolFM, Doug committed to developing a community radio station on the island, with a CRTC license, a transmitter, new equipment, and training from the Rock 95 team. The station took off.

As the years went by, the station had different hosts. Managers came and went as grants came and went. One of the greatest challenges facing small indigenous communities is the instability of short-term funding. In 2015, a DJ named Dave returned to G'Chimissing. Taken from the

island as a boy in the Sixties Scoop, Dave had worked for years as a DJ and in stage production, and he was ready to take on the morning show at the Nish. He started programming with his uniquely inspired musical sensibility. His grandfather was a musician who played the violin, and when Dave was very young he was exposed to a wide variety of music. He now brings that eclectic variety to his listeners: "People are so used to hearing the top 40, we do the flip side and say, 'See if you know this one!'" Dave estimates that he has over 1000 CDs, which form the core of Nish101.3's music library. New listeners quickly began tuning in.

Even though the CRTC has no indigenous programming requirements, Dave and his son and fellow host, Muddchild, like to play music by indigenous artists. Dave is always on the lookout for new music and welcomes demos from bands just starting out.

Many will remember hearing Rusty Cage on air. Rusty Cage was a key member of the Nish101.3 team and instrumental in growing its listener base, but her contract ended this past spring. For the past several years, the station has had a summer intern, but for the hours when there isn't funding for a host Dave and Muddchild pre-program stellar playlists. Attentive listeners will know that Dave does a weekday 6 am to 1 pm shift and Muddchild, a professional guitarist, does a 1 pm to 8 pm shift. As Doug Bingley says, "Muddchild likes to rock out!" Both hosts let the music do the talking most of the time, with short breaks for local news, event announcements and fundraising initiatives such as Chase the Ace and Radio Bingo.

Lafontaine resident Irene Albert is a fan of the station and finds it "a joy when the hosts talk because I want to hear what they have to say." Part of the Nish's mystique is that they often don't reveal what they are playing, so Irene uses the free app SoundHound to find out what's playing and expand her music knowledge. Irene believes the station brings the Beausoleil First Nation and the mainland communities closer together and hopes that, in the spirit of rock and roll, listeners will help the station finance an equipment upgrade, which would enable them to conduct on-air interviews and phone calls and reach a wider audience. According to station manager and Beausoleil First Nation communications officer Joseph Stup, the station can run ads and is actively seeking sponsors.

Many fans would like to find The Nish101.3 on "iHeartRADIO," but the challenge is a familiar one in Tiny Township: a lack of reliable highspeed Internet. Until high speed Internet enables the station to stream reliably 24/7, we will have to just stay within range. To find out more about Nish 101.3, visit www.chimissing.ca



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milligram per litre), he said that he has "never before seen cleaner groundwater anywhere on Earth". As the most cited groundwater scientist in the world, this is a profound statement and one well worth remembering.

Groundwater quality: radioactive fallout

Professor Ian Clark of the University of Ottawa is one of the world's leading experts on dating groundwater. His studies of the groundwaters of the Elmvale area have shown that many of the artesian flows (such as the one at the Elmvale water kiosk) are free from radioactive fallout (tritium) from the 1960s. The water in some of these artesian springs, therefore, is hundreds, if not thousands of years old: this makes the water more unique, and more precious.

The cleanest groundwater on Earth is worth protecting

When the scientific observations described above

are considered together, it can reasonably be argued that these are the cleanest natural waters on Earth. I have no doubt about their unique quality and inherent value. These artesian spring waters have supported the inhabitants of the region for millennia, and every effort should be made to protect them for future generations. It is difficult to understand how the short-term economic gain from aggregate extraction could be seen as being more important than the long-term environmental sustainability of managing our pristine groundwater resources. A changing global climate system will only increase the inherent value of these waters.

Sincerely,

William Shotyk, Ph.D, Dr. rer. nat. habil., P.Ag, FRSC,
President, Elmvale Foundation