

THE TINY COTTAGER

A GEORGIAN BAY PERSPECTIVE

Issue No. 54

Fall/Winter 2019-20

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by PAUL COWLEY, CARUSOE BAY

My message to you this fall must begin the same way it did last spring, with a continued focus on the threat to our precious water in the Alliston aquifer complex — scientifically proven to be possibly the purest water in the world.

The lessons learned from Dump Site 41 are seemingly short-lived and need to be aggressively revisited.

CRH (owner of the Teedon Gravel Pit) seeks to expand the existing pit operations northward into French's Hill — a primary recharge area for the aquifer. This application (also challenged by the township) is now proceeding to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT), a successor to the Ontario Municipal Board. CRH also seeks to renew a water taking permit that allows it to use millions of litres of water a day for aggregate washing. This threatens our aquifer. Governments at all levels have so far not acknowledged this threat, much less dealt with it.

Please read Dr. William Shotyk's letter to Simcoe Council on this, and Judith Grant's article on page 5. FoTTSA will be engaging legally in the LPAT hearings and we need all of your support to bring the appropriate level of attention to this threat to the aquifer.

Our record high water levels have begun easing off, but Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation continues to work with the International Joint Commission (IJC) and other Great Lakes organizations to bring about effective water management, which is currently badly lacking.

Another threat to our Great Lakes ecosystems and fisheries is the Grass Carp, which has been making its way into our waters. This highly destructive species decimates wetland grasses and native species' spawning areas; it must be eradicated. The Grass Carp poses a serious ecological and economic threat to our wetlands and native fisheries.

For an update on these topics, go to the GBGLF web site: www.georgianbaygreatlakesfoundation.com

Wishing you and your family a great Thanksgiving and winter.



Photo by JUDITH GRANT

One of many gravel-laden trucks that leave Teedon Pit daily

Why Scientist William Shotyk Urges a Moratorium on Aggregate Extraction in the Waverley Uplands

Excerpted from a letter written to Simcoe County by Dr. William Shotyk on December 5, 2018. His request for an opportunity to present his case was denied.

I am writing to express my profound concern regarding environmental impacts of aggregate extraction on our groundwater resources. I wish to propose a moratorium on expansion of aggregate extraction in the Waverley Uplands, until the impacts on groundwater flow systems are fully understood. Many if not most residents of Springwater, Tiny and Tay Townships depend on groundwater resources for their drinking water, and there are legitimate concerns about increasing impacts on water quality. It seems to me that the potential impacts of aggregate expansion on our groundwater resources are either being overlooked, or not carefully considered. At the same time, the value of our groundwater resources is being underestimated. I hereby request an opportunity to present my case to Simcoe County Council in person, in May of 2019.

Impacts of aggregate extraction on groundwater resources

The impacts of aggregate extraction on groundwater resources are well known to the scientific community. The following quotation is from a recent Canadian study, published in an international, peer-reviewed journal:

"The extraction of sand and gravel for construction purposes stands out as a major concern with respect to groundwater protection. Sand and gravel extraction activities commonly involve (1) the removal of vegetation and soil cover, (2) the modification of natural surface slopes, (3) a reduction in the unsaturated layer thickness, and (4) increased risks related to the spill of polluting substances during mechanical operations. As a result, groundwater quantity, quality and temperature can be impacted, along with dependent ecosystems" (Nadeau et al., 2015, p.536).

Studies have shown that sand and gravel pits can lead to increasing groundwater temperatures (Markle and Schincariol, 2007), groundwater pulses (Smerdon et al., 2012) and increasing trace metal concentrations in receiving waters (Bayram and Onsoy, 2015), to cite a few examples.

According to John Cherry, Emeritus Professor at the University of Guelph and author of the leading textbook on groundwater, the literature about groundwater

impacts from excessive disturbances generally shows that it is extremely difficult or technically / economically impossible to restore the groundwater to its original quality. Therefore, the prevention of adverse impacts is by far the most economically prudent strategy of managing these natural resources.

Natural filtration of water by soil

At this time, there are many unanswered scientific questions about the groundwater resources of Springwater, Tiny and Tay Townships. Our understanding of the Quaternary geology of the area is only now being studied in detail by the Ontario Geological Survey. We do know that the filtration of the groundwater takes place in the soils of the uplands. Some combination of plants, minerals and microorganism evolving together over thousands of years have created what amounts to a perfect water filtration system. Imagine these soils as a kind of organism, with all the parts of the system so intimately related that changing any one of them will bring on changes to the entire organism: those changes will, with time, impact the function and ultimately destroy the organism. Removing those soils to extract the aggregate simply removes the water filtration system. At the same time, aggregate extraction removes the water towers which give rise to our remarkable artesian flow systems.

Groundwater quality: trace metals


The remarkable quality of our groundwater resources has long been known to the residents who depend on it for drinking. From a scientific perspective, I have been testing these spring waters on and off for almost 30 years, first at my laboratory at the University of Berne (Switzerland), then at the University of Heidelberg (Germany), and now at the University of Alberta. Using metal-free, ultraclean research facilities at each of these universities, I have shown that these spring waters contain lower concentrations of trace metals such as lead (Pb) than ancient arctic ice (which I have also tested). The quality of the waters in these artesian springs has been documented in international, peer-reviewed scientific journals. In fact, these spring waters have become the "gold standard" that was

...continued on page 13 (Moratorium)

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FALL / WINTER EVENTS

OCTOBER

Huronian Museum Film Series, Wednesdays 4:30 pm and 7:30 pm, Galaxy Theatre Midland
<https://huroniamuseum.com/film-series/>

Pumpkinferno at Discovery Harbour, Evenings Thurs-Sun Oct. 3-20, all evenings Oct. 21-30 <http://www.discoveryharbour.on.ca/dh/en/SpecialEvents/index.htm>

Meet the Spirits, October 4, St. James on the Line Cemetery www.pencenmuseum.com

Tiny Township Farm Crawl, October 5 <https://www.tiny.ca/Pages/Local-Food-Project.aspx>

Showcase of Homes Tour, October 5, Midland, Penetanguishene <https://northsimcoe.bigbrothersbigsisisters.ca/event/showcase-homes-tour/>

The Bay Studio Tour, October 5-6 <http://www.thebaystudiotour.com>

Marsh by Moonlight, October 5, 12, 13, Wye Marsh <https://www.wyemarsh.com/fall-events>

Ontario Archaeological Society — Huronia Chapter, October 9, North Simcoe Recreation Centre, Midland <http://www.oashuroniachapter.com>

Elmvale Fall Fair, October 10-12, Elmvale Fairground <http://elmvalefallfair.com>

Images Studio Tour, Barrie/Orillia/Horseshoe Valley, October 11-14 <http://www.images-studio-tour.com>

Turkey Dinner, October 12, Wyevale United Church, 5 pm or 6:15 pm, tickets at Wyevale Jug City or 705-322-2858

Sainte-Marie among the Hurons Thanksgiving Harvest Festival and Arts & Crafts Show and Sale, October 12-13 <http://www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca/sm/en/SpecialEvents/index.htm>

Ghost Tours - S.S. Keewatin, October 17-26, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Port McNicholl <https://sskeewatin.com/events>

Health Fair, October 17, Askennonia, Midland <https://www.askennonia.com>

Fish Fry Fundraising Dinner, October 19, Penetanguishene Centennial Museum www.pencenmuseum.com

Art in the Marsh, October 26, Wye Marsh <https://www.wyemarsh.com/fall-events>

GBGH Gala: Fire and Ice, October 26, 7:30 pm, Midland Cultural Centre (MCC) <http://gbghf.ca/gala/>

Halloween Spooktacular, October 26, Penetanguishene Centennial Museum <http://www.pencenmuseum.com>

NOVEMBER

The Musical Legacy of Chicago, November 2, King's Wharf Theatre, Penetanguishene <http://www.draytonentertainment.com/>

Ontario Archaeological Society — Huronia Chapter, November 13, North Simcoe Recreation Centre, Midland <http://www.oashuroniachapter.com>

Moon Over Buffalo, November 15-30, MCC Huronia Players, Midland <http://www.huronplayers.ca>

Honour Our Veterans, November 19, Askennonia, Midland <https://www.askennonia.com/events>

Township of Tiny Noël au village & Tree Lighting, November 23, 3:00-7:00 pm, Lafontaine <http://www.tiny.ca> see Recreation/Special Events

First Light, November 21-23 and 28-30, December 5-7, Sainte-Marie among the Hurons, evenings 5:30 pm-9:00 pm <http://www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca/>

Wyevale Santa Claus Parade and Party, November 30, Wyevale United Church <http://www.tiny.ca> see Recreation/

NOVEMBER continued...

Midland Santa Claus Parade, November 30, 11:00 am <http://www.midland.ca>

DECEMBER

Hiking & cross-country skiing
<https://www.ontarioparks.com/park/awenda/activities>
<http://ski.mountainviewmidland.com>
<http://www.hardwoodskiandbike.ca/home-page-winter/>
<https://www.wyemarsh.com>

Downhill skiing and boarding
<http://www.horseshoeresort.com/ontario-winter-activities.htm>
<https://www.skisnowvalley.com>
<https://mountstlouis.com>
<https://www.bluemountain.ca/things-to-do/skiing-and-boarding>

Penetanguishene Festival of Lights, December 6 <http://www.penetanguishene.ca/>

Art in the Marsh, December 7, Wye Marsh <https://www.wyemarsh.com/fall-events>

Breakfast with Santa, December 14-15, Penetanguishene Centennial Museum <http://www.pencenmuseum.com>

JANUARY

Discovery Harbour Skate Trail, Penetanguishene Snowshoeing, Bannock Roasting, Animal Tracking, Wye Marsh <https://www.wyemarsh.com>

Annual Polar Bear Dip, January 1, Balm Beach, 12 noon <https://tinytownshipions.club>

Ontario Archaeological Society — Huronia Chapter, January 8, North Simcoe Recreation Centre, Midland <http://www.oashuroniachapter.com>

FEBRUARY

Tea and Strumpets, February 2-22, MCC Huronia Players, Midland <http://www.huronplayers.ca>

Township of Tiny Carnaval d'Hiver, February 8 <http://www.tiny.ca> see Recreation/Special Events

Ontario Archaeological Society — Huronia Chapter, February 12, North Simcoe Recreation Centre, Midland <http://www.oashuroniachapter.com>

Penetanguishene Winterama Festival, February 14-17 <http://www.penetanguishene.ca/>

Family Day Activities, February 17, Wye Marsh <https://www.wyemarsh.com/winter-events>

MARCH

Ontario Archaeological Society — Huronia Chapter, March 11, North Simcoe Recreation Centre, Midland <http://www.oashuroniachapter.com>

Winter Break Camp, Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre, Date TBD <https://www.wyemarsh.com>

APRIL

Ontario Archaeological Society — Huronia Chapter, April 8, North Simcoe Recreation Centre, Midland <http://www.oashuroniachapter.com>

Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival, April 25 <http://www.emsf.ca>

MAY

The Old Man & the Old Moon, May 1-16, MCC Huronia Players, Midland <http://www.huronplayers.ca>

Ontario Archaeological Society — Huronia Chapter, May 13, Location TBD <http://www.oashuroniachapter.com>

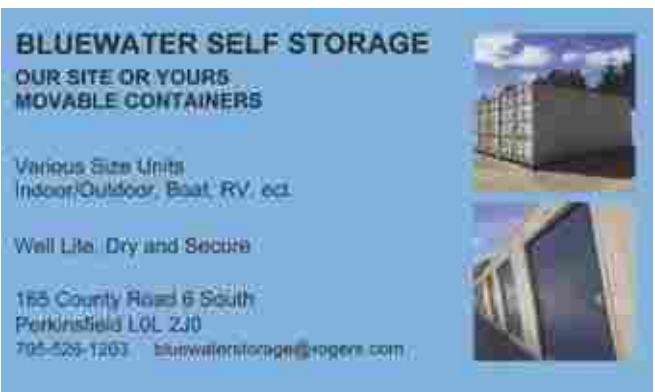
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All residents of Tiny can now take advantage of the FoTTSA discount program, which features a long list of local merchants. FoTTSA will be delighted to issue an annual discount card to anyone who makes a \$20 donation.

To see the list of participating merchants, visit www.tinycottager.org and click on "FoTTSA and you."

To make your donation, see "FoTTSA NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!" on page 5.

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Tiny's Farm Crawls Continue Drawing Crowds

by CINDY HASTINGS



Photo by CINDY HASTINGS

The first Tiny Township Farm Crawl of the year, which took place in August, continues the success of last year's inaugural event. The goal is to educate the public on the

importance of eating local produce and to support local farmers. Both participants and farmers had a fantastic day and gave glowing testimonials. This event has become so popular that this year's second farm crawl, on October 5, is sold out and has a lengthy waiting list.

This genuine farm experience helps people make a connection between what we eat and where it comes from. Farm Crawl participants gain a better understanding of the time and effort it takes to farm, which in turn gives them a deeper sense of what shopping local means.

During the August event, participants learned about the many different methods used to farm, from organic market gardening to high tech agribusiness. They toured the farms, met and spoke with farmers, watched demonstrations, and purchased locally grown and produced products. There were opportunities to pick veggies, taste yummy farm fresh food, and even visit with

friendly farm animals.

This event focused on the north part of our township. The October event will take place to the south and feature Wye Nursery, Double JB Feeds, Schober Farm, Barnell Sheep Farm, and Turnview Farm. We will also be hosting a variety of Tiny vendors during the lunch stop so participants can shop local. Lunch will be a pig roast from Schober Farms, along with a hearty seasonal vegetable soup.

If you don't have a chance to come this year, watch the township's communication channels for information about events in 2020. We are so proud of our farmers here in Tiny. Hopefully this experience grows for years to come.

Cindy Hastings is a member of the Township of Tiny Council and the township's Local Food Project. The Farm Crawl is an initiative of the Local Food Project. Find out more: www.tiny.ca/local-food-project

Business Success Stories Promote Investment in North Simcoe

by BRENT GRAHAM, FARLAIN LAKE



Music composer Marlon Gibbons is just one of the successful business people profiled.

September 10 marked the launch of "We Live It, You'll Love It!" — an Economic Development Corporation of North Simcoe (EDCNS) social media campaign that tells the stories of successful business people who have chosen to call North Simcoe home.

EDCNS is about growth, attraction and investment. We're sharing these successes through video on various social media channels: YouTube, Instagram and LinkedIn. Video is the communication vehicle of today and the approach we use to tell our stories.

Many of the individuals in our video interviews could have lived anywhere but chose to enjoy their success right here in "The Heart of Georgian Bay!"* The videos are being produced by North Simcoe filmmaker Nate Lacroix.

Marlon Gibbons is one person profiled in the series. Marlon is a successful music composer who has written the soundtracks for many popular TV shows, such as *The Bachelor*, *Temptation Island*, *American Idol*, and *Dancing with The Stars*. Marlon does business in Los Angeles, California, but chose North Simcoe as home. In our series he'll tell you why.

We will also introduce you to Stephen and Riina Makk, owners of Makk Design Inc. They design all kinds of electronic products for clients from North America to Asia. Makk Design Inc. is an engineering department for hire. The company is currently working on wearable technology, portable devices, LED lighting, wireless communications, and audio equipment. The video will tell you what keeps them here in the heart of Georgian Bay.

Through many more stories like these, we will show people enjoying themselves in North Simcoe: visiting, living and establishing their businesses.

How you can contribute

Subscribe to our EDCNS YouTube Channel to watch a new episode every Tuesday @ Two: www.youtube.com/channel/UC6GH7H8uacFzZ7MvevGnuA. Comment and share on all of your social media channels and web-

sites. Your participation will multiply our impact.

Since this program provides many benefits to North Simcoe, we are interested in having start-ups consider us as their home. If you know any entrepreneurs, or organizations who support them, please share this program with them.

Brent Graham is a member of EDCNS's Board of Directors. He has had a long and successful career in Canada's healthcare industry.

* "The Heart of Georgian Bay!" is a destination marketing organization for the municipalities of Midland, Penetanguishene, Tay, and Tiny.

Find out more: <http://gbay.ca>

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The Tiny Cottager is published each May/June and Sept./Oct. The Federation's members are associations of property owners in those parts of the Township of Tiny designated as "Shoreline" in the Township's Official Plan.

The Tiny Cottager is mailed to the permanent addresses of more than 10,600 Tiny Township property owners (including 7,200 in the shoreline areas of Tiny) and to businesses in the area. It reaches some 25,000 readers. Copyright is claimed on all original articles and on advertisement layout and design created by this publication.

The information contained in *The Tiny Cottager* has been provided by sources believed to be reliable. However, FoTTSA makes no guarantee as to the correctness or completeness of the information.

REPORT ON COUNCIL

Mayor: George Cornell

Deputy Mayor: Steffen Walma

Councillors: Cindy Hastings, Tony Mintoff, Gibb Wishart

WEDDINGS ON PUBLIC BEACHES:

In May, Council supported staff's recommendation that weddings not be scheduled or endorsed on public beaches.

WIND TURBINE BY-LAW/POLICY:

Staff consulted Sarah Hahn of Barriston LLP about the effectiveness of the newly adopted Township of Tiny Official Plan statement: "D.14.2 The Township is not a willing host for industrial wind turbines." Her review concluded that "the Township's current by-law is adequate in preventing wind farms in the Township."

ADDITIONAL GRANT MONEY PROJECTS:

The Township received \$1,034,508.00 additional funds through Gas Tax Refund and Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The many ways the money will be spent are detailed in PWR-021-19 (see Committee of the Whole Agenda for May 13, 2019).

BLUEWATER BEACH / RECREATION MASTER PLAN:

In response to a May 13 deputation from Frank Dunnigan on behalf of the Bluewater Community Action Group, Council discussed the boundaries of Bluewater Beach Park (the strip of beach from the edge of the dune park to Cleopatra) and noted that there is no change in this regard and that it is township property zoned Open Space. Also, Council still supports resolution 601-01 attachment C, to the effect that this beach strip will not become a Major Beach Park and that parking arrangements will protect the traditional use of the beach by Tiny Township residents.

REGIONAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW:

After the Town of Midland made its submission regarding the Regional Government Review, CAO Doug Luker reviewed it and, in Report CAO-018-19, declared that the "submission of the Town of Midland does not represent the position of Township of Tiny Council, nor is it consistent with the submission provided to the Provincial Advisors by the Township." He then made the following points:

- "The Township **does not support** municipal amalgamation as proposed in the report ...
- The Township of Tiny **does not support** the proposition that a specific critical mass/population is required or essential to the delivery of cost-effective services and programs at the municipal level.
- The Township of Tiny **will continue to explore and participate** in service and cost sharing opportunities with its municipal partners to find efficiencies wherever possible.
- The Township of Tiny **is very concerned** that forced amalgamation will result in increased tax rates to its residents through harmonization of operational and capital costs across municipal boundaries and area.
- The Township of Tiny **is opposed to any action** that would diminish local autonomy and decision making."

After considering the Report on May 27, 2019, the Committee of the Whole authorized Mayor Cornell and CAO Luker to consult with Penetanguishene and Tay regarding a joint submission. [This was done in June.]

NITRATE FERTILIZER IN LAFONTAINE/GEORGIAN SANDS AREA:

In June, Melissa Carruthers, the Township's Risk Management Official, presented a plan for dealing with elevated nitrate levels in the Lafontaine/Georgian Sands township wells. She recommended sending explanatory letters at the end of July to affected residents [270 were sent] in the wellhead protection area recommending that nitrate fertilizers not be used because of the elevated level of nitrates in township wells in that area. The letters would be followed by an explanatory open house session in August in the Lafontaine Community Centre about alternatives [it was held on August 24]. In 2020, inspections are to take place to assess compliance. A prohibition of the use of nitrate fertilizers will probably follow.

Council agreed with this approach, viewing it as a pilot project, which could be followed by a township wide prohibition of the use of nitrate fertilizers.



Water levels — some adjustment still required.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER AT 1445 CEDAR POINT ROAD:

Rogers proposes to install a 75-metre-tall steel lattice structure near the intersection of Cedar Point Road and North Shore Drive to remedy the minimal to no internet coverage in Cedar Point.

The tower would be erected on the southeast corner of 1445 Cedar Point Road. The location is 700 metres from the nearest residence. Area residents would be alerted to the installation by signs and the township's Tiny Connect system, and Rogers will call a meeting at which residents may ask questions and express concerns. If there is enough opposition to the height of the tower, it is possible to install two, less conspicuous, camouflaged, shorter towers to achieve the same coverage.

AWENDA PARK BLOCKADE:

On June 21 (National Indigenous Peoples Day), Johnny Hawk, a 34-year-old Christian Island resident, dropped trees across the main entrance to Awenda Park and set up camp to protest the Williams Treaty land claim settlement agreed upon by seven area First Nations including the Beausoleil First Nation. The Township received regular updates from the Southern Georgian Bay OPP and Ontario Parks. The blockade was lifted on July 28.

BROADBAND AND CELLULAR ACCESS:

In response to Treasury Report TR-006-19 regarding improving Broadband and Cellular Access in Tiny, staff was directed to prepare a Request for Expressions of Interest to Internet Service Providers, to apply for external funding, to contract out a project manager position, and, in due course, to submit a final report to Council.

SPEED LIMIT ALONG WESTERN SHORELINE OF TINY:

After Andrew Chomentowski told Council about the work of the Personal Watercraft Committee in the early years of this century and the resultant decision of the coastguard to set the distance for slow speeds at 300m (rather than 30m) out from the western shore of Tiny, FoTTSA surveyed its mailing list. Over 50% of 300 responses supported marker buoys. In July, Public Works recommended (with the support of Transport Canada and the OPP) that

- 2 signs be installed at each Beach Park with a Master Plan (including the public ramp at Jackson Park). The signs would present a map of the affected area and indicate the maximum speed as 10 km/hr within 300 meters of shore
- Township Social Media be used to inform the public of this requirement
- OPP do enforcement
- Transport Canada, rely on the OPP for enforcement and the Township for notification/signage

Council accepted the recommendation.

PROPOSED TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER:

Fontur International on behalf of Signum Wireless has been authorized to proceed with public consultations regarding the siting of a tower at 771 Champlain Road.

ROAD IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF TINY AND THE SARJEANT COMPANY:

In 2011 the Township and the Sarjeant Company entered into a road improvement agreement regarding French Road, which Sarjeant intended to use as a haul road for the operation of two licensed pits in Parts of Lots 78 and 79 Old Survey (south and east of the Teedon Pit), in Concession 1 of Tiny. The only user of the road would be Sarjeant since there are no dwellings on it. The improvements were not made, and the pits were not used.

In 2019, Sarjeant decided to make the pits operational and approached the Township about executing an Amending Agreement to the French Road Improvement Agreement so that it could bring the road up to haul road standard and gravel could be trucked out to County Road 27. Requirements for the haul road were updated. The public works department assumed that once the road had been brought up to standard, it would ensure that it met the required standard, and that it would examine the road a second time two years later to see if it still met the required standard. If it did, then French Road would be added to the township's road inventory for regular maintenance, the procedure followed for new subdivision roads.

In August, Councillor Mintoff recommended a different way to proceed. Since Sarjeant was the sole user of the road, he suggested that the Amending Agreement require Sarjeant to maintain the road to an appropriate standard throughout the period when it was needed as a haul road and then turn it over to the Township in good condition. The other members of Council decided to go ahead with the Amending Agreement as it stood. But then at the 9 September Regular Meeting of Council, they discussed the matter again, this time supporting Mintoff's idea. Public Works Report PWR-032-19 re: French Road Improvement Agreement – Amending Agreement was pulled from the August Report on the Committee of the Whole Meeting, the matter was reconsidered, and the decision taken to revisit the Amending Agreement to include a clause regarding the ongoing maintenance and care of the truck haul route by the Sarjeant Company.

We note that this road is the only control this municipality has over the Sarjeant gravel pits: the zoning is aggregate, the license to take gravel is in the hands of the province, and if washing of gravel is contemplated, the PTTW is also controlled by the province.

BALM BEACH FUN DAY:

On September 9, Diane Leblovic, Chair of the group that

... continued on page 13 (Report on Council)

Farlain Lake: From Dry to Drowning

by DOUG KIRK, WITH SUPPORT FROM BILL SWEENIE AND ELIZABETH DI CHIARA, FARLAIN LAKE



Photo by Peter Andrews



Photo by Peter Andrews

Over the past six years, the Tiny Township/Georgian Bay region of Ontario has experienced a dramatic cyclical shift in water levels from almost record lows to record highs. Farlain Lake, Tiny's largest inland lake, has experienced similar climatic conditions over the same period. A 3-foot rise in the lake level has taken it to its highest level in over 100 years. Most of our beach has disappeared and the 100- to 150-year-old trees surrounding the lake are dying due to waterlogged root systems. Clearly, the lake levels exceed anything experienced over the life of these trees.

Farlain Lake is located northwest of Penetang Harbour and southeast of Awenda Provincial Park. The owners of the approximately 200 lake front properties are worried on many fronts, including the death of old growth trees and shoreline vegetation, beach erosion, and the destruction of outbuildings and perhaps even cottages in low lying areas. Water has permeated structures and destroyed retaining walls built on or close to the original beach. Septic tanks, leaching beds and wells are also being compromised. Any increase in water levels will only exacerbate this situation, and could lead to a long-term decline in property value.

Unlike many other cottage country lakes, Farlain is a kettle lake, likely formed in the last post-glacial period. Kettle lakes are water-filled depressions left behind after partially buried ice blocks melt. These lakes are typically fed by groundwater. Farlain may have originally had an overland outflow to Second Lake and Georgian Bay, but in present times the lake levels have been maintained by evaporation, and possibly below-ground seepage primarily into Awenda Park.

The Farlain Lake Community Association is working with the township and the Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA) on both short and long-term solutions.

The association believes a long-term plan must focus on reducing the current amount of water and managing the levels going forward. We cannot rely on the hope that levels are cyclical. One option being considered involves constructing a gravity fed, self-regulating culvert drain at the north end of the lake. Excess water, after flowing through a short excavated channel, would flow into a kilometre-long natural watercourse into Awenda's Second Lake and perhaps ultimately into Georgian Bay. Controlled

flow rates would prevent the flooding of Second Lake.

At this point the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks is unwilling to provide authorization out of concern for the possible environmental impact on the park's existing ecosystem. A hydrogeology study has been proposed by the township, the SSEA and the Farlain Lake Community Association to help understand what's feasible. Any progress will require the continued support of the Council and staff at Tiny Township and the SSEA, and take both time and money.

In the short term, the FLCA is working with the township on an emergency water removal plan in the event that 2020 spring water levels exceed those of spring 2019. This may include obtaining a permit in advance that would allow water to be pumped from the lake.

The good news is that the hot summer's evaporation and possible below-ground seepage have dropped the lake levels to last fall's high point, and the FLCA will continue working diligently on both short- and long-term strategies to alleviate Farlain Lake's high water-level problems.

UPDATE on the Fight to Protect the World's Purest Water

by JUDITH GRANT, ADDISON BEACH



Photo by Judith Grant

In January 2018, CRH Canada Group Inc., owner of the Teedon Pit in Concession 1, sought a 10-year renewal of its Permit to Take Water from the provincial government. The permit allows the company to draw 1.6 million litres of water per day from a well, plus 5.2 million litres per day from a washing pond for up to 210 days a year. This January, the company also sought permission from the government to extend its pit north and it applied for a renewal of its license to excavate up to 600,000 tonnes of aggregate per year.

Right now, all aspects of the fight to protect the headwaters of the Alliston Aquifer complex, scientifically assessed to be possibly the cleanest water in the world, are inching forward very slowly.

To date, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MOECP) has made no decision regarding CRH Canada Group's application for a 10-year renewal of its Permit to Take Water. The ministry was deluged with comments. Meantime, pure water continues to be used for washing gravel.

CRH's application to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) for permission to expand the Teedon Pit northward into French's Hill is stalled, pending the hearing before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT). There have been two Prehearing Telephone Conferences since the one last December where individuals and groups indicated their interest in becoming parties (able to hire a lawyer, cross examine witnesses, present issues), participants (able to submit a statement for consideration by the Tribunal), or observers (able to attend the hearing but not take part). These teleconferences involved only the three parties (CRH, the Township of Tiny, and FoTTSA), as will the fourth telephone conference scheduled for November 21, 2019.

The April and July teleconferences have been necessary because CRH re-applied for a license to take gravel under the *Aggregate Resources Act* (ARA) in January in the hope that its two applications could be considered at the same hearing. The notice required under the ARA was

sent to interested agencies and members of the public, a number of whom raised concerns and objections before the end of the 45-day comment period in March. In July, CRH's representative revealed that the township had requested more information on traffic and that MNRF had asked for an additional survey on species and minor revisions to the site plan. CRH had undertaken to supply both kinds of information and was working to address other comments received. The fourth teleconference on November 21 is to deal with progress, and to schedule an in-person Prehearing Conference in the winter.

Meantime, the Friends of the Waverley Uplands, Aware Simcoe, women from the Beausoleil First Nation, and FoTTSA are mounting public awareness campaigns — preparing for a sign campaign, distributing petitions to be signed and presented by MPPs at the Ontario Legislature, supplying information to those who stop at the water kiosk on County Road 27 just north of Elmvalle to fill their bottles with what may well be the world's purest water. They are marching in the Elmvalle Fall Fair's parade and distributing information during the fair. The Beausoleil

women have been mounting a peaceful protest at midday on Fridays at the gates to the Teedon Pit on Darby Road, most recently on Friday, September 27 when they also participated in a water ceremony and when members of the Teedon Pit Community Liaison Committee were given a tour of the pit.

The three parties are preparing for the hearing (in 2020 or 2021) — putting together their cases, defining issues, hiring witnesses, acquiring the necessary documents, and, in the instance of FoTTSA, raising the very large amount of money needed to finance its efforts to protect the cleanest water in the world. This is where you can help. Please make a donation and note that it is for the Teedon Pit fight. Unless requested otherwise, all donors will be recognized on FoTTSA's website.

For an account of events until May of this year, see "FoTTSA Special Report: The Site 41 Aquifer Is at Risk Again" in the Spring/Summer 2019 Tiny Cottager www.tinycottager.org



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Is Another Gypsy Moth Infestation on the Horizon?

by SCOTT WILLIAMS, BLUEWATER BEACH

Anecdotal reports across Tiny Township indicate gypsy moths have laid egg masses on trees in many beach and inland properties. Egg masses contain from 100 to 1000 eggs in buff-coloured masses that look like sawdusty peanut butter. The eggs hatch in May.

Gypsy moth caterpillars are voracious eaters. The primary defoliator of deciduous trees (especially oaks) in North America, they will also attack conifers. Infestations can leave trees bare. If this happens in successive years, trees may not survive.

During an infestation, the caterpillars may also be a major nuisance for property owners. While the caterpillars feed in the branches above us, their droppings can create a mess below. Once they finish feeding, they crawl up the sides of homes and on outdoor decks and patio furniture in search of suitable spots to pupate. They're also a potential health hazard: exposure to gypsy moth hairs, silken threads, and shed skins can cause skin rashes and upper respiratory tract irritation in some people.

What FoTTSA is doing about it

In its efforts to assess the situation, FoTTSA has reached out to the Township of Tiny, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and other stakeholders for any information and insights. We're not alone in this. Community advocate Al Taylor was one of the first to raise the alarm. Several beaches have also come forward with concerns.

In 1990 and 1991, FoTTSA supplied information about the province's spraying program to combat a gypsy moth infestation. This time there is no provincial help. At this point, the ministry feels it's too early to say whether a spraying program would be appropriate for the 2020 season. FoTTSA will continue to monitor the situation.

What you need to know

The product used to control infestations is *Bacillus thuringiensis* subspecies *kurstaki* (Btk), registered under the trade name Foray 48B. Btk is a naturally occurring



Photo by bill.mcnee@wisconsin.gov

bacteria found in soil. Btk is not a chemical and has been sprayed successfully by Toronto, Mississauga, Oakville and Hamilton as recently as this year.

Btk produces a protein that is toxic only to the caterpillars of specific insect species. A caterpillar that ingests the bacteria usually dies within two to five days.

How to protect your property now

Inspect your property for egg masses. Include tree trunks, woodpiles, stone walls, lawn furniture, and vehicle wheel wells. Scrape the eggs into a container of soapy warm water and leave for at least 48 hours. They can survive temperatures 20 to 30 degrees below zero Fahrenheit.

Sources

- "The History of Gypsy Moth Control in the United States," *Biological Control News*, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Entomology; www.entomology.wisc.edu/mbcn/fea308.html
- "2019 Gypsy Moth Aerial Spray," Parks, Urban Forestry Branch, City of Toronto; https://www.toronto.ca/311/knowledgebase/_data/assets/pdf_file/0022/49441/GM-FAQ.pdf
- "Gypsy Moths," Mass Audubon, www.massaudubon.org/learn/nature-wildlife/insects-arachnids/nuisance-moths/gypsy-moths

Remembering WWI Soldiers from Tiny Who Never Returned

by BONNIE REYNOLDS

This year marks the 99th anniversary of the Soldiers' Monument in Waverley. Located just north of the intersection of Darby Road and Highway 93, it was erected in 1920 to honour soldiers from the Townships of Tiny, Tay, Flos and Medonte who had died in World War I. On each side of the main monument, below a statue of the Canadian soldier, is a plaque recording the names of the war dead from the township it faces.

Knowing what happened to the remains of those who perished in the war helps to understand the monument's significance.

After World War I, the government of Great Britain passed a law stating that all those killed in battle would remain in the country they died in. Cemeteries would be constructed and were designed somewhat like Edwardian gardens. The men would lie with their comrades; there would be no distinction of rank, all would be equal in death. The cemeteries would memorialize sacrifices and future generations would remember their legacy.

Many of those graves have never been visited by their families. Many had asked to have their loved ones' remains returned to Canada but this was not allowed. That is why local cenotaphs are so important. Family members and friends were able to read the names on the monument and remember those they lost. It likely brought some solace, knowing their loved ones will be remembered long after they were gone.

Have you ever wondered who from Tiny Township made the ultimate sacrifice? Below is a list of these men (boys really), their ages, where they were killed, and where they had grown up. All areas of Tiny were represented. In some cases, brothers died together.

- Corporal Percy Alexander Arnold (1895-1917), killed in France
- Private Arthur Henry Bailey (1896-1918), killed in England — from Wyevale
- Private Lorne Emerson Bell (1897-1918), killed in France — from Gibson
- Private Colonel Trywhitt Bell (1895-1918), killed in France — from Gibson (Lorne and Colonel Bell were brothers)
- Private Joseph Handsford Blackstock (1887-1917), killed in England — from Wyevale (there is an interesting tombstone in Wyevale Cemetery to remember Joseph; It resembles a tree stump with a helmet on it)



Photo by BONNIE REYNOLDS

Veterans at a Remembrance Day ceremony

- Private William Henry Braithwaite (1896-1917), killed in Belgium — from Lefave's Corners
- Private George Dusome (1899-1917), killed in Belgium — from Penetanguishene area
- Private Henry Milton Ellery (1896-1917), killed in Belgium — from Wyebridge
- Private William Andrew Foster (1873-1918), from near Midland — his grandson Don Foster owns Mountainview Ski Club
- Private Howard John Kemp (1896-1917), killed in France — from Wyebridge
- Private Peter Lacroix (1888-1918), killed in France — from Laurin
- Private Ernest Nelson Moore (1885-1917), killed in France — from Wyevale
- Private Albert Walker Sterrett (1895-1917), killed in France — from near Midland (a street in Midland is named after him)

In an emotional ceremony on November 11, 2018, family members gathered around the monument as a bell was rung 100 times, marking the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. These people had never met those for whom the bell tolled, but by touching the names etched on the monument showed respect and gratitude for their sacrifice.

For the 100th anniversary next year I am researching all of those listed on the monument. Many have only a first initial and surname, so more research is needed to determine the correct individual. As well, future research needs to be done on those who perished in World War II and the Korean War.

Bonnie Reynolds is a member of the Township of Tiny Heritage Committee. She is a past chair of the committee, and a passionate genealogist and local historian.

Ransomware: Stick'Em Up

by LYNNE ARCHIBALD,
NOTTAWAGA BEACH



Image by Michael Geiger on Unsplash

We used to worry about shadowy figures lurking in dark alleys, but we're quickly learning that the online world is full of thieves who wield ransomware as their weapon of choice. Ransomware is malicious software that locks you out of your own data unless you pay hackers a ransom. According to *Maclean's*, ransomware has become "the greatest threat to the digital networks on which the modern world depends. Hospitals, corporate giants, small businesses, cities and regular individuals have fallen victim to this expanding sub-genre of cybercrime."

Two characteristics make municipalities ideal victims for hackers: public data that need to be carefully guarded, and access to funds. This is what brought cybercrime to southern Georgian Bay.

In April 2018, the Town of Wasaga Beach's computer systems were hacked and held for ransom. According to a report by the town's treasurer, it took nearly seven weeks to recover from the attack. Town staff worked with computer experts to negotiate the return of the data, ultimately paying \$34,950. Then they had to build a new network, scrub the released data to ensure they were clean, reconfigure existing software programs, and install new software and hardware for enhanced security. An additional \$37,000 was paid to the computer consultants. The total cost, including staff overtime and productivity losses: \$250,000.

A few months later, the Town of Midland paid \$76,000 (eight bitcoins) to unknown hackers who had encrypted its servers and backups. Fortunately, following the Wasaga Beach attack Midland had purchased insurance for the rest of 2018 for just under \$7,500, with coverage for up to \$2 million. The insurer brought in expert negotiators who advised paying the initial ransom demand of

six bitcoins. In the end, Midland had to pay two more bitcoins in order to get all the encryption keys. Before the attack, the town had already been increasing security and was working on a plan to migrate their servers to the County of Simcoe. This has since become a priority.

In each case, the attack occurred on a weekend and the towns later went public with what had happened. Many businesses and individuals don't from embarrassment, but also because the transactions are untraceable — ransoms are paid in cryptocurrency, usually Bitcoin. Even when victims go public, the chances of catching the hacker are essentially zero. To date, the OPP has never laid a ransomware charge.

Here in Tiny, IT/Health and Safety Administrator Brenda Biggs reassured residents that "the township has over the past few years strengthened the security of township data and network systems due to the increase in ransomware and phishing scams by implementing the following measures: higher levels of email virus detection; strong virus protection for all devices located on the township's network; implementation of a full managed service strategy to provide IT expertise in the field of network management, strong backup procedures and protocols, security on all devices, and best practices and policies for all users to adhere to; and the purchase of cyber-insurance in the event of a ransomware attack."

Biggs confirmed that the township is confident with the above systems in place and that their number one focus is to ensure that the information belonging to the public and Tiny residents is kept secure and free from malicious predators.

How we can protect ourselves

The anti-virus software company Norton reports that 10 million Canadians were affected by cybercrime in 2017, which cost them a whopping \$1.8 billion. Each person lost an average of 10 hours of time dealing with the crime. The consumers most prone to cybercrime were Millennials, representing 42% of all victims.*

Ransomware is usually delivered via phishing emails: a fake alert that tries to get you to click on a link or open an attachment immediately, or an imposter email crafted to resemble correspondence sent out by banks, credit card companies and other organizations that seek confidential information, such as credit card numbers, account numbers, and passwords. Hackers also look for security holes in software that has not been updated using what they call "exploit kits."

Most experts recommend multiple layers of protection:

- **Back up your information regularly**, protect your backups with security software, store them on different servers, and/or store them offline. Consider using a cloud service. Backing up data removes a hacker's leverage over you. If you can afford to lose what is on your computer, you don't have to pay the ransom.
- **Always keep your security software, operating system and other software up to date.** Software updates will frequently include patches for newly discovered security vulnerabilities before they can be exploited.
- **Never open links or attachments unless you are 100% certain** about what they are and where they came from.
- **Use strong passwords**, and don't use the same password on more than one site.

*2017 Norton Cyber Security Insights Report:
<https://www.symantec.com/content/dam/symantec/docs/about/2017-ncsir-global-comparison-canada-en.pdf>

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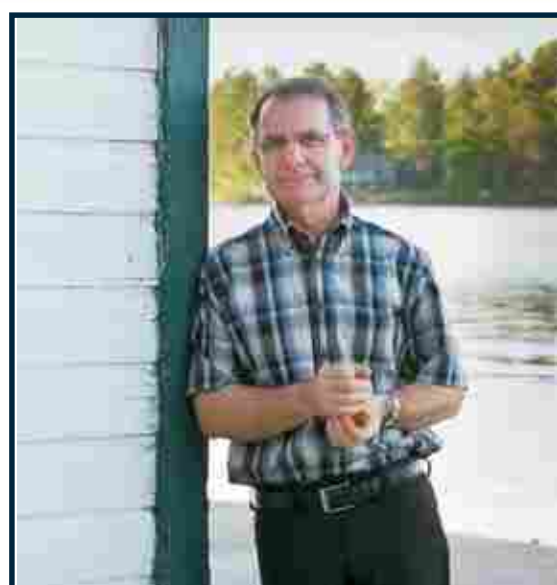
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As the 5th generation of my family to make its livelihood here in Simcoe North, I have a special appreciation for the natural beauty and the need for environmental protection of our Georgian Bay home. The quality of our local environment impacts our lives and we need to support the important work that is being done across the country by Canadians acting as stewards of our environment.

I am proud to support **A Real Plan to Protect Our Environment (ARealPlan.ca)**, a plan that will conserve our environment for future generations, protect our children from the effects of climate change, and make a real impact on global emissions reduction. Our plan balances the need for Canada to join in the fight against climate change by lowering emissions, with our core promise of leaving more money in Canadians' pockets and letting them get ahead.

A Real Plan to Protect Our Environment is built on three guiding principles: (1) Green Technology, Not Taxes. (2) A Cleaner and Greener Natural Environment. (3) Taking the Climate Change Fight Global

In Touch with Simcoe North

The quality of our local environment greatly impacts our lives and Canadians care deeply about what happens in their own backyard. A Conservative government led by Andrew Scheer will support the protection of significant watersheds including the Great Lakes, and will restore the Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund. There is no question our country's recycling must improve. We will work with provinces and territories to reduce waste and to increase the recovery of clean energy products and other valuable by-products from existing waste. We must have strong environmental laws in place and our plan will make sure that those laws are enforced.

With your support on October 21, I look forward to continuing this important work together.

www.BruceStanton2019.ca



Authorized by the Official Agent for Bruce Stanton

FoTTSA SPECIAL REPORT:

Your Guide to the 2019 Federal Election

The upcoming federal election takes place on October 21. To help Simcoe North voters make an informed decision, we invited candidates to answer seven questions. Their responses appear below. For information on how and where to vote, visit the Elections Canada website: www.elections.ca



Bruce Stanton,
Conservative Party
of Canada
(incumbent)



Gerry Hawes,
Liberal Party
of Canada



Stephen T. Makk,
People's Party
of Canada

1. What personal experience and traits would serve you well as an elected member of parliament?

In the years since I was first elected to be your MP, I have used a customer service approach, learned from years of experience in our family's tourism business, to help resolve constituent problems, attract record federal investments, and provide services to the people of Simcoe North. My guiding principles around public policy are found in the Conservative traditions of fostering free markets, innovation, and private enterprise; upholding crucial public institutions and investments that underpin Canada's integrated, diverse social well-being.

As a bilingual, lifelong resident of this area and long-time executive assistant to former Liberal MP Paul DeVillers, I am in tune with the people of Simcoe North. As an accomplished public policy professional and senior government advisor, I know how to navigate bureaucracy, open doors, and get things done. I am a hard-working leader who values fairness, equity and inclusion, and enjoys working with people from all walks of life.

My education and experience as a professional engineer have taught me how to understand and solve problems. I will make sure that I completely understand the nature of an issue or problem before jumping to solutions. I will be careful to exclude emotion from my decision-making process while acknowledging the emotions of others as relevant information. Good decisions require collaboration with peers and, most of all, the input of those affected. I am an "ideas person" who values open-mindedness.

2. What would be your personal top priority as an elected representative of your party?

Our top priority will be on affordability and helping people in Simcoe North to have more of their own money — so they can get ahead, not just get by. Under the Liberal government, spending grew vastly beyond what they promised, deficits grew and there is no likelihood this would change if they were elected again. We will balance the budget and ensure that programs and services of the government are within our means as a country, and do so without raising taxes.

My top personal priority will be providing strong, inclusive, and effective representation in Ottawa that Simcoe North currently lacks. The policy matters closest to my heart include more effective democracy through a ranked ballot, strong action on climate change and the environment, social and economic equity, affordable housing, smart community and rural economic development, supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs, improving circumstances for seniors, better future pathways for young people, healthy people and communities, and providing great constituency service.

To expand and defend the individual freedoms of Canadians. I am concerned about the erosion of individual freedom and responsibility by government intrusion into all aspects of our lives. The government, the media it funds, and the education systems it controls, are telling the people how to think, behave and believe. For example, polls show that the majority of Canadians are concerned about immigration levels but instead of listening to citizens, there is mob condemnation and silencing of heterodox ideas.

3. What three federal issues do you feel are most important for constituents in Tiny Township?

I believe residents of Tiny Township share concerns similar to all constituents across our riding. Tax and financial policies that impact affordability; environmental policies, particularly in respect to climate change; and healthcare (though not directly a federal issue) top the list of public policy concerns. On each of these priorities, our party is forwarding concrete, practical measures that will address them and make a positive difference for Canadians on each front.

Access to quality and affordable broadband Internet is an important concern that requires much stronger advocacy from our local Member of Parliament. Climate change, and the state of our natural environment, which is important to our local economy and well-being, require vigilant protection, and we need to find sustainable alternatives for consumer packaging. Conservative cuts to services we depend upon, including withdrawal of support for a francophone university, is also an important concern.

This question's wording is excellent. Top-of mind issues of many voters, such as health care, housing, regulation of industry, and education, are not primarily federal matters. They are provincial, under our constitution. I offer three over-arching issues that cover most of the more specific issues on constituents' minds:

- the economy
- personal freedom
- Canadian values, culture and identity

4. What does your party see as the top health care issue facing Canadians, and what solution is the party proposing?

The most common healthcare worry is the capacity of long-term care and related services of homecare. Though the provincial governments have the lead role in these matters, the federal government provides vital funding with annual increases the provincial health ministries can depend on. A Conservative government led by Andrew Scheer will ensure these annual increases are at least 3%. We will maintain the federal government's role in health, social science and humanities research, as well as public health coordination that supports provincial counterparts.

The Liberal government has taken a foundational step toward developing a much-needed universal pharmacare program in Canada with the report *A Prescription for Canada: Achieving Pharmacare for All*. Pharmacare is a high priority among Canadians and one that I wholeheartedly support. The Liberals have a long track record of developing our health care system, and I believe that Canadians want a government that is seized with improving, updating and innovating this central tenet of our social safety net.

The top health care issue is access to services, with quality a close second. The People's Party will improve these by getting the federal government out of health care, which is squarely under provincial jurisdiction. We would end health transfers and their associated bureaucracy, but instead give up GST points to the provinces to manage directly. We would repeal or modify the *Canada Health Act* and join all 33 other OECD nations by ending the government monopoly on delivering healthcare.

5. If your party forms a government, what will you do in your first 100 days in office to address the growing climate crisis?

Andrew Scheer's Action Plan contains 55 achievable steps to environmental protection. We will focus on green technology, not taxes. A Green Homes Tax credit to provide a 20% refundable tax credit for home improvements that reduce GHG emissions. We'll reinstate funding for wetlands, watersheds, fisheries conservation, and to protect our waterways. We'll export green energy technologies and reduce plastic waste by harmonizing and improving recycling standards across the country. We will restore funding for the Lake Simcoe Clean-up Fund.

I support the actions the Liberal government has taken in its first term to address climate change but believe that much more needs to be done and must be done faster. As the new Member of Parliament for Simcoe North I would advocate for substantially greater action to reduce our carbon emissions and develop energy alternatives, thus creating new, sustainable economic opportunities. Canada has an important responsibility to do its share to address the climate crisis and show international leadership.

The PPC considers climate an important matter, but not a "crisis" or "emergency". We will eliminate the carbon tax because we consider it ineffective and believe that the government should not use punishment of citizens as a tool, no matter how noble the aim. We will support healthy scientific debate on how climate affects Canada and mitigate any adverse effects mostly through prudent investment in infrastructure. We will not forget pollution of land and water. Climate isn't the only concern.

6. What will you do to support a vibrant economy in our area?

A vibrant local economy needs lower taxes, predictable and competitive regulations, as well as public investments in infrastructure, transport and communications. We would continue investments to improve access to broadband and fibre-optic internet access in underserved pockets of our riding. We'll help farmers, producers and exporters get their products to Canadian markets by removing trade barriers between provinces. We'll bring stability to our trade relationship with the US while continuing to secure larger markets for exporters internationally.

Our economy has experienced substantial transformation and continues to change, and we need a new Member of Parliament who understands these changes and how they can be harnessed to benefit local businesses and workers. With over \$300 million in new funding for Ontario regional development agencies, and a \$1.7 billion rural broadband fund, our Liberal Government has a strong track record of supporting vibrant communities across the country. I look forward to leveraging these investments in Simcoe North.

The PPC will stimulate the economy by getting government off everybody's back. We would stick to the basics and get them right. By simplifying and reducing income taxes, eliminating the carbon and capital gains taxes, lowering business taxes to 10% and simplifying or eliminating regulations wherever possible, we will create space for Canada's entrepreneurs and workers to flourish. They know better what they need to do than any government possibly can. When government is pushed back, you can move forward.

7. Why should more indigenous people participate in federal elections, and what are you doing to increase their participation in this election?

On Simcoe North's two First Nations reserves, voter turn-out in 2015 was 66%, just below the 68.5% national average. It is heartening that indigenous people in our area are as engaged as their non-Indigenous counterparts. I've chosen to use events, such as our recent BBQ Meet & Greet on Christian Island, to meet community members and discuss their concerns on federal issues. I regularly attend community gatherings and I am always pleased to accept meeting invitations with Chiefs & Councils.

The Liberal government has taken more action than any previous government to resolve inequities and honour the rights of Indigenous peoples. I am proud of this record, but much more work remains. I feel that improving the relationships between Indigenous peoples and Canada is the single most important thing that can be done to encourage greater participation in federal elections. I am very committed to contributing to this effort as the new Member of Parliament for Simcoe North.

Indigenous people ought to be particularly interested in federal elections because the federal government has more responsibilities toward First Nations than to other Canadians. Its role for First Nations includes matters normally covered by provincial or municipal governments. I expect Indigenous people can be apathetic or feel disconnected from the political process for exactly the same reasons as other Canadians. I will bring the People's Party message of freedom and strength to all who are open to hearing it.



Angelique Belcourt,
New Democratic Party

I've been fortunate to gain experience within a variety of realms. I am completing my Masters in Community Development and was mentored by the Daughters of the Vote in April. I've worked as an Indigenous addictions counsellor and case manager, where I encountered the systemic social and economic barriers facing individuals in all walks of life. This evoked my passion for institutional change that would give everyone access to a government that recognizes their value and invests in their well-being.

Change is possible, the future is bright, and there can be demonstrable improvements for the future facing residents of both the rural and populated areas of Simcoe-North. Building strong and reliable relationships with my constituents and fostering community development are my ultimate goals.

Affordable housing: while attention has been paid to developing upscale, single family housing, little attention has been paid to jump-starting senior and rent-to-income based housing. Groundwater resources: how many residents have problems with wells and aquifer capacity? Canada sells the world's greatest reserve of clean water to the lowest bidders. We need to balance industry's water needs with people's right to unlimited clean water. Accessibility to broadband Internet everywhere in Tiny Township. This has been neglected for too long.

The NDP will introduce "Head to Toe" health, including universal prescription drug coverage regardless of your age, health status or income, and access to dental care, mental health care, hearing care and vision care. We often hear how youth deserve this, seniors deserve this, the underprivileged deserve this. All Canadians deserve this. With free or co-pay prescriptions people can avoid hospital care resulting from reduced dosages or not filling prescriptions because of cost. This is practical data from the CMA.

The NDP will assist in removing the government's role in subsidizing the fossil fuel industry. \$3.5 billion is spent annually by Canada propping up an industry that consistently shows boom level profits, but for other countries. We should be in the position to follow countries like Norway, where access to natural resources and the private profits they generate come with a hefty payback for its citizens. A surplus of revenues is possible if we simply start thinking differently. And, finally get clean water to all Canadians.

Our riding is founded on agriculture, small business, and healthcare. The NDP Food Strategy will address regional priorities by investing in agricultural communities. Small businesses will benefit from Pharmacare and extended health benefit plans, reducing out-of-pocket costs. Small-business tax cuts are possible when we rearrange our economic priorities. We will work with other jurisdictions on wait times and access to primary care. In this riding, an NDP government will aggressively recruit, work with, and retain the health professionals Canadians need.

As a Métis person, I recognize the importance of having Indigenous voices heard and how often the federal government fails at this. My Indigenous background holds me accountable to walk in a good way in all my relationships and fulfill community obligations as a steward of this land. The community can count on me to advocate for everyday needs, and value my relationship with them. I will listen to constituents, speak with them, and ensure our collective voice is heard.



Valerie Powell,
Green Party
of Canada

My strengths are commitment, persistence, and energy, with experience collaborating on many boards and committees. I have both an analytical and creative mind, so I will demand facts but also welcome innovation. I bring my experience in public speaking and debates and as a radio journalist. My health care experience will be my specialty in government

The priority at this time is to address the climate crisis. As Seniors Critic it would be to ensure that all communities work towards becoming age friendly, and that we put in place a well-funded national dementia strategy and a proportional voting system.

- 1) The threat to the aquifers** — our water — by increased aggregate extraction;
- 2) Financial security, which includes affordable housing and green energy jobs; and**
- 3) Accessible and inclusive health** and mental health care for all, which includes pharmacare.

The immediate crisis is opioid use; the coming crisis is climate change-related health threats. To address the opioid epidemic of over 10,000 overdose deaths in two years, the Green Party would decriminalize drug possession and focus the resources on prevention, community supports, and mental health and addictions. A longer-term climate strategy would include training health care professionals to understand and mitigate climate change health care threats. Older adults and children may be affected at higher rates from prolonged heat waves.

I will demand and vote for parties to work together on a Canadian climate change strategy. The Green Party has a 20-step Climate Action Plan called Mission: Possible. All parties can work together to avoid the imminent tipping point and become carbon neutral before 2050. Invest in a green energy economy to retrofit all buildings, improve public transit and move to an electric vehicle society with a clean electricity grid. We must consult with Indigenous leaders on all environmental issues.

The Green Party Platform has a section on transitioning to a green economy. I would listen to local employers and workers to develop a transition plan for Simcoe North. We can create a future in sustainable agriculture and tourism, and with high speed broadband Internet allow more people to study and work from home. We have colleges and universities that could train people to address the transition to a renewable energy economy and become world leaders in their fields.

Greens will support Indigenous peoples' work towards self-determination. Canada has a legal obligation to reconcile. Greens endorse the comprehensive agenda prepared by the Assembly of First Nations for this 2019 election. My personal interest is in cultural healing and improving health and wellness for First Nations, Métis and Inuit. It is a travesty that communities in Canada do not have drinkable water.

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Tiny's Climate Change Action Plan

by VICTORIA ERVICK

Climate change is widely recognized as the most urgent problem facing humanity. We know that human activity is warming the Earth, and we know that we have both the knowledge and resources to correct the climate crisis. But did you know that Sustainable Severn Sound is working with local municipalities to mitigate climate change?

Last year in collaboration with seven municipalities, Sustainable Severn Sound released the area's first Local Climate Change Action Plan*. This plan filled an existing gap within area municipalities, and provided a framework to develop individual climate change action plans for each municipality committed to the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program. The PCP program is a national network of municipal governments that are committed to addressing climate change through the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Joining this program in January 2018, Tiny has achieved milestones 1, 2 and 3 out of a 5-milestone framework.

On April 30, 2019, the Township of Tiny approved Sustainable Severn Sound's recommendation to adopt a township administration GHG reduction target of 30% fewer tonnes of CO2 equivalent below 2015 levels by 2028, and a community target of 6%. Some other highlights in the plan include:

- sources of GHG emissions in the community sector — 56% transportation, 32% residential, 10% waste, and 2% commercial and institutional
- sources in the administrative sector — 76% fleet, 19% building and facilities, 4% water and wastewater infrastructure, and 1% solid waste
- 14 actions to reduce GHG emissions that would help the township meet its 6% community and 30% administrative emission targets

The township itself has already implemented a number of actions that are helping to reduce administrative GHG emissions. In 2015, Tiny upgraded 390 streetlights to light-emitting diodes (LEDs), reducing their energy consumption by an estimated 70%. The township was also the first municipality to join Ontario's Blue Communities Project, which phased out the sale of bottled water in municipal facilities. Moving forward and with guidance from Sustainable Severn Sound, the township will continue to look for opportunities to reduce administrative GHGs and encourages residents to do the same.

What we do today can significantly affect the sustainability of our environment and communities. Making a conscious effort to conserve energy and rely less on fossil

fuels reduces GHG emissions and contributes to a healthier economy and environment for future generations.

Victoria Ervick is Sustainable Severn Sound's Climate Change Coordinator; 705-526-1371 x 111. To read more about the work that Sustainable Severn Sound is doing, visit www.sustainablesevernound.ca

*www.sustainablesevernound.ca/cli-mate-change/local-climate-change-action-plan/

7 Ways to Reduce GHGs from Driving

- 1. Drive less.** Avoid emitting GHGs by combining errands to make fewer trips. Better still, walk or ride your bike, carpool, and use public transportation where available.
- 2. Drive a low carbon vehicle.** When purchasing your next vehicle, choose one with a high kilometres-per-litre rating. Electric cars emit no CO2 if charged with clean electricity, such as solar.
- 3. Don't buy a minivan or SUV** if you only occasionally need the extra space.
- 4. Avoid roof-top boxes,** which increase drag and decrease fuel economy. Instead, get a hitch-mounted cargo rack.
- 5. Adapt your driving style.** Speeding and unnecessary acceleration reduce mileage by up to 33%, waste gas and money, and increase your carbon footprint. Use cruise control on long drives.
- 6. Keep your vehicle tuned.** Properly inflated tires improve gas mileage by up to 3%. Use the correct grade of motor oil, and keep your engine tuned. Some maintenance fixes, like correcting faulty oxygen sensors, can increase fuel efficiency by up to 40%. Remove excess weight from your car.
- 7. Avoid traffic.** Being stuck in traffic wastes gas and creates CO2. Use traffic websites and apps to find a better route.

Adapted from *Carbon Offsets To Alleviate Poverty (COTAP)*. Check out other GHG-saving tips a <https://cotap.org>

Bell Weather

by AL TAYLOR, KINGSWOOD ACRES



The most precise weather predictor ever is a brass ship's bell hanging in front of my cottage. All I have to do is look out my window and I have an up-to-the-minute prognosis. The accuracy is spot on every time.

Here are just a few examples:

- If bell is shiny, it's sunny
- If bell is dull, it's overcast
- If bell is wet, it's raining
- If bell is white, it's snowing
- If bell is icy and has icicles, it's freezing rain
- If bell is moving, it's windy
- If bell is warm, it's hot; if it's cool, it's chilly
- If bell can't be seen, it's dark
- If bell looks hazy, it's foggy

Well, you get the picture. There are 22 other variations and combinations that are also dead on. Oh, if bell is swinging wildly and gonging, head for safety.

If you don't have access to a bell you can hang a rock from a highly visible location. Be careful not to place it under an overhang. This zero cost solution will save you checking professional meteorologists who end up with entirely different forecasts, usually at Pearson Airport. This solution will likely put the weather channel out of business.

Photo by Al Taylor



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Protect Your Pets from These Tiny Township Predators

by IRENE WILSON, WENDAKE BEACH



Fishers are agile, fast and vicious.

In the summer months we've all seen notices stapled to hydro poles about lost pets. These notices are more commonly found in areas with rentals and visitors who may not be familiar with the township and bring their pets with them on vacation. However, none of us should feel complacent. Our area teems with wildlife that is less visible when there are higher levels of human traffic, but which still come out to hunt and feed. Our lovely forests, streams, fields and beaches are attractive habitats for predators, some of which you may not be aware of. Here are six to watch out for.

1. Coyotes live throughout the township and can be heard yipping and howling at night. Occasionally they may be spotted during the day. They look like large, scruffy grey dogs. The Eastern Coyote found in Ontario is larger due to interbreeding with wolves. They hunt in packs and prey on sheep, calves, deer, rabbits, rodents, and pets. Even a large dog should not be let out in the evening unattended or allowed to wander into forest areas alone.

2. Fishers are members of the weasel family with shiny brown and black fur, are less well known but have a reputation for being vicious. They are the only animal that preys on porcupines by attacking the face and neck, and then flipping them on their back to access the unprotected belly. Fishers are 3 to 4 feet long, including the tail. Females weigh 4-6 lbs; males, 8-13 lbs. They are agile and fast, have sharp fangs and long retractable claws, and are most active at dawn and dusk,

though I have spotted one during the day in a lightly wooded area of a Midland golf course. Garbage, pet food left outdoors, and small pets such as house cats will attract fishers.

3. Red foxes are a common sight and quite used to living near humans. I have seen them often trotting down the side of Tiny Beaches Road during quieter times of the year. They tend to prefer small rodents such as chipmunks, mice and squirrels, but have been known to attack a cat.

4. Great horned owls make their habitat throughout Ontario, are nocturnal hunters most active at dawn and dusk, but will occasionally hunt during the day and are not discriminating about what they eat. They prey on a large variety of animals, including mice, rabbits, fish and yes, the occasional house cat. They reside in forests but will hunt in swamps, fields and even over open water.

5. Raccoons are not known to hunt pets, but they have very sharp claws and teeth and will attack if threatened. City raccoons are much more acclimatized to living with humans than the resident population in Tiny.

6. Skunks are common throughout Tiny, and although they will not attack your pets they will spray if disturbed. Both skunks and raccoons are mainly nocturnal and attracted by garbage or compost.

Keep your pets indoors at night. If walking near a forest or treed area, keep them on a leash and supervised so that they do not attract or disturb our resident wildlife.

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... continued from page 4 (Report on Council)

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

... continued from page 1 (Moratorium)

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 Nish101.3, 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

May 11, 2019: Beach Reps Meet for First Presidents' Roundtable

by MATT DUCHARME, THUNDER BEACH

What happens when 21 beach representatives from 17 beaches get together on a Saturday morning in May?

In the first of what is hoped will be an ongoing series of meetings, beach representatives introduced themselves and spoke about their beach association/community. Our long-term goal is to identify common issues and solutions, share best practices, and create a support network.

We each shared information on our association regarding the number of members/non-members, membership fees, and one challenge the association is facing. Common challenges were poor internet access, high water, erosion, parking, and dealing with invasive species, especially Phragmites. We heard success stories on combatting Phragmites... an example of one beach community helping another.

We were made aware of some issues that should concern all of us and our associations: environmental damage to Pennorth and beaches farther south from the Tiny Island Causeway, expansion of the Teedon gravel pit and its potential impact on water quality, and the possibility of a province-led amalgamation of communities in Simcoe County. We all learned and were able to take these issues back to our members.*

Thank you to FoTTSA for organizing and chairing the meeting. We ran out of time and did not get to other top-

ics, including volunteers, beach access points and short-term rentals. It was decided that we will all meet again very soon.

Who Attended the First Presidents Roundtable

Participating beaches include the following:

- Addison**
- Ardmore
- Bluewater Dunes
- Bluewater Georgina Wendake
- Carusoe Bay
- Cawaja
- Deanlea
- Edmor Georgian Heights
- Farlain Lake
- Georgian Highlands
- Kingswood Acres**
- Nottawaga
- Pennorth
- Rowntree**
- Thunder
- Wahnekewening
- Woodland

* Find out more about these issues at www.tinycottager.org

** Participated by conference call



Culture Knows No Borders

by CINDY HASTINGS

When Midland first began its journey to create a cultural plan in 2013, the municipality quickly learned two things: North Simcoe has a wealth of history and creative talent, and culture does not end at municipal borders. Fast forward to 2019 and the formation of the Cultural Alliance in the Heart of Georgian Bay.

This new alliance is a partnership among Beausoleil First Nation, the towns of Midland and Penetanguishene and townships of Tay and Tiny. It is an exciting and unique opportunity for us to work and learn together to advance culture in our area. We are not aware of another undertaking of its kind.

As a group we will focus on supporting the creative talent in our area and enhancing the quality of cultural experiences for our residents. We also recognize that culture can be an economic driver for North Simcoe that is compatible with the rural nature of our communities.

Each municipality has committed \$10,000 towards this initiative on a one-year trial basis. There is either a council or staff representative from each community on the committee. The remaining six positions will be citizens at large. We are also fortunate to have Karen Mealing, Midland's cultural development coordinator, as a staff resource and ex-officio member. Karen is a visual artist, former Director of Quest Art, and a passionate advocate for artists.

Even when we were still working on the committee composition, we felt it was important to hit the ground running this fall with a few great initiatives. This summer, the Ontario Musicians Co-operative Inc.'s emerging artists program provided young musicians in Simcoe County with regular music industry training and skill development, and performance and artist development opportunities. They performed in community festivals and events. One of our young Tiny residents, Jackson Beer, was chosen to participate in this year's program. We look forward to seeing more of our young artists involved and performing at our local events next summer.

Artrepreneur is another program that helps creative people develop the business skills they need to turn their passion into a business. This multi-week program is supported in partnership with the County of Simcoe, York Region Arts Council and North Simcoe Community Futures Development Corporation.

#30DaysofCulture encourages residents of the five communities to participate in a cultural activity each day and to share on social media to win prizes. Our goal is to have residents realize that by taking a walk on a trail, woodworking, taking photos or listening to live music, they are experiencing culture.

We're just getting started! Check out our website for future activities initiated by our committee, and for the many other cultural pursuits available in our area: www.culturealliance.ca. Also, follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @CultureGBay.

Cindy Hastings is a member of the Township of Tiny Council and the Culture Alliance Committee.

Mayor's Golf Tournament Triumphs Over the Elements

by ANDREW CHOMENTOWSKI, CAWAJA BEACH



Photo by Andrew Chomentowski

Township of Tiny Deputy Mayor Steffen Walma, far left, and Mayor George Cornell, centre right, present a cheque to Tay Township, winner of the event's tournament within a tournament. The winnings are being donated to a food bank in Tay Township.

Wind, thunder, lightning, rain and paraskevidekatriaphobia (fear of Friday the 13th) had no effect on the enthusiasm and generosity of the 125 golfers, 55 dinner guests, and sponsors who participated in this year's Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament and Dinner, which took place on September 13 at Brooklea Golf & Country Club. At the end of the night a cheque was displayed in the amount of \$54,500, exceeding the golf committee's target by \$4,500 dollars. Including this year's proceeds, the event has donated \$250,000 to 46 local charities since 2015.

Part of the day's proceeds came from an online auction. Among the highlights was a Scotiabank Arena box suite (12 people) for a Raptors game, valued at \$10,000 and donated by The Remington Group. Bidding started about two weeks before the tournament and terminated during the dinner.

Committee Chair and Deputy Mayor Steffen Walma championed a number of new features, including a Council Charity Challenge. Six local municipalities — Clearview, Essa, Wasaga, Springwater, Simcoe County and Tay — took part in a tournament within the tournament. Tay Township was the winner. The prize, a \$1,000 donation to the charity of Tay's choosing, was designated to the St. Vincent De Paul, St. Mary's Conference, a local food bank.

Friday the 13th ended up being a lucky day for 18 charities. In addition to the food bank donation, \$54,500 will be distributed to the following organizations: Angels with Backpacks, Boys & Girls Club, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Community Reach, Chigamik, Crimestoppers, Georgian Bay General Hospital, Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre, Huronia Community Foundation, Huronia Senior Care — Wheels 4 Wheels, MTM Conservation, Quest Art, Scientists in School, Sistema Huronia, Township of Tiny Bursary Program, We Are the Villagers, and Wendat Community Programs.

FoTSA has been a proud sponsor of the event for five years. In 2018, we were designated the event's Founding Sponsor.

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Township of Tiny Fall & Winter Events

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Nov. 23, 2019: Noël au Village

Nov. 30, 2019: Wyevale Santa Claus Parade & Party

Jan. 1, 2020: Tiny Township Lions Club Polar Bear Dip

Feb. 8, 2020: Winter Carnaval D'Hiver

Visit www.tiny.ca for more information.



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