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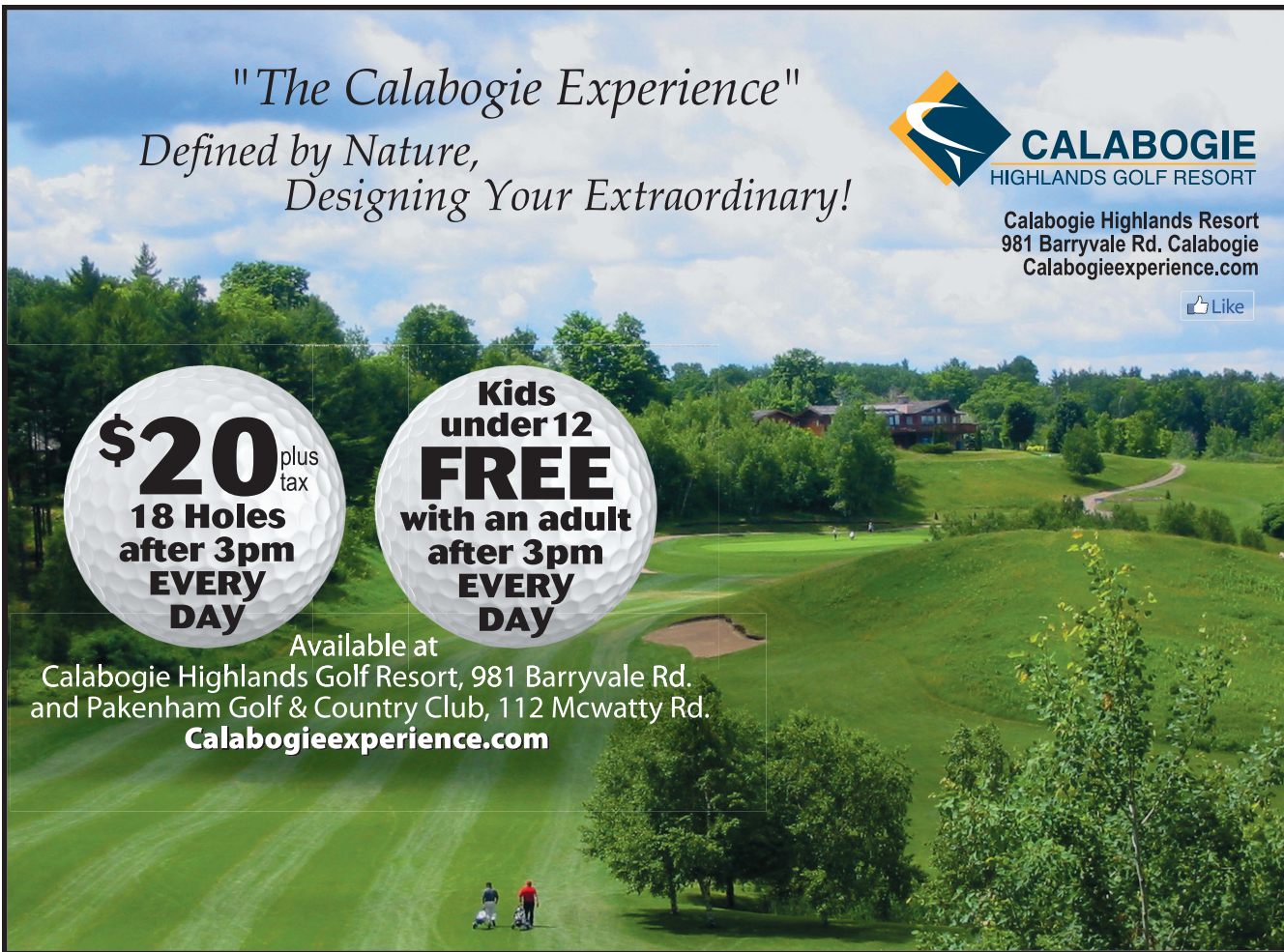
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THE MADAWASKA HIGHLANDER AUG. 19 TO SEPT. 30, 2015 EMBRACE THE PAST ~ ENCOURAGE THE FUTURE ~ ENJOY TODAY



The Madawaska Highlander

Aug-Sept
2015

FREE Vol.12 Issue 4
 (Next issue September 30)

Celebrating Cottage and Country Life in Madawaska & Addington Highlands of Eastern Ontario

Enjoy what's left of summer as we head into another beautiful autumn in the Madawaska Highlands and Addington Highlands.

Welcome!

...To a jam packed assortment of stories and information to carry you through to the end of this fabulous summer. Where did it go?

In this issue you will find three different approaches to Industrial Wind Turbine development in three bordering municipalities, along with numerous letters to the editor. If you find wind issues stressful, Susan Veale teaches us how Mindfulness helps us stay healthy in good times and bad. We added four pages to this issue to fit it all in without losing any of the fun stuff.

On the other hand, if adventure is what you seek, you will love Antonia Chatson's childhood memories of back yard camping. Raid! Don't miss Ernie Jukes' tale of strange mists along the Madawaska. Ghosts? Or follow along as Peter Chess explores the twists of fate for rock 'n' roll icon, Ersel Hickey in "Close, but no Cigar".

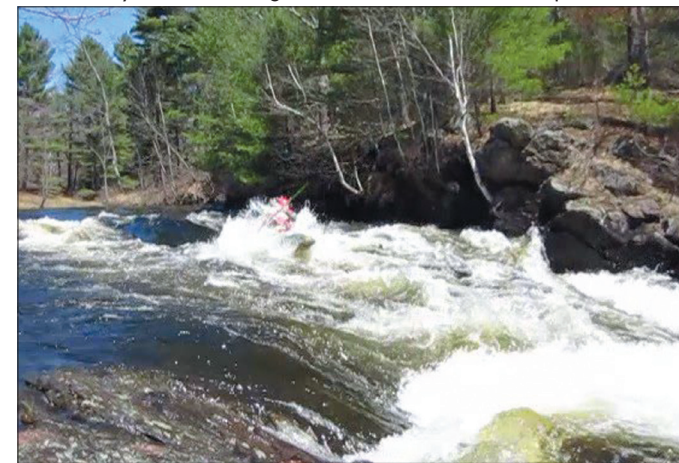
Whether wilderness camping is your style or you just like to walk in the woods, David Arama sums up what you need to know before venturing out.

We have all the exciting news from our dispatchers in the field and so much more. Garry Ferguson's Griffith & Matawatchan News broadens into musings and story telling. Find out what makes Calabogie such a happening place, with articles by Skippy Hale and an update on kid's soccer by M.J. (Mike) Pratt. And what else is fun? The Calabogie Library, indeed!

Enjoy...



A rare sighting of an elk along Highway 41 near Denbigh. Elk were reintroduced near Bancroft in 2001. Will their future be affected by road building for industrial wind development?



Used once again as transportation corridors for people, not logs, waterways have stories to tell. See "Strange Mists" Story Pg.13
 Photo by Steve Manders

"Keeping Country Life Simple"

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The Madawaska Highlander

The Madawaska Highlander
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**Next contribution deadline:
Sept. 19 for Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 publication
madawaskahighlander.ca**

Message from the editor:

Check the Events Calendar for events in your area. We print what you send in, so if your event is missing or incorrect, be sure to email updates.

Be sure to check the ads for important information, hours of operation, specials and ideas about things to do in the area. Tell them you saw it in the Madawaska Highlander!

We also maintain the matawatchan.ca website, which has a handy community calendar that is updated whenever new information arrives. The Tri-County area around Matawatchan, Griffith, Denbigh and Vennachar is the primary focus of the web site, but we do list events in Calabogie. Also check out www.greatermadawaska.com for events and information in Calabogie.

Our community paper depends on the community, so if you have something to offer that our readers would enjoy, please contact us to discuss.

CONTRIBUTORS THIS ISSUE

Thank you everyone!

We couldn't do this without our volunteer contributors and our advertisers. Thank you to the Denbigh-Griffith Lions Club for your support.

Garry Ferguson
Ernie Jukes
Skippy Hale
Sharon Shalla
Peter Chess
Howard Popkie
George Ross

Antonia Chatson
John Roxon
Jens Pindal
David Arama
M.J. (Mike) Pratt
Susan Veale
Antonia Chatson

Bill Beacham



The Walter cartoon series premieres in The Madawaska Highlander and is a collaboration between Jens Pindal and contributor John Roxon. Jens attended Sheraton College in Oakville and has been an animator working in the industry for 25 years.

<p>Century21 Eady Realty Inc. Brokerage 29 Raglan St. Renfrew 613-433-2254 www.vincentjohnston.com</p>	<p><i>My heart is in the Highlands. It's where my family comes from and where I like to be. I promise to do my best to ensure details are looked after and everyone is satisfied with the sale. You can trust me to list your home and help you find your dream property. New listings welcome!</i> - Vincent Johnston, Sales Representative</p>	<p>WATERFRONT DREAM HOME! 169 Sipolins, MLS 933072, \$499,900 Centennial Lake Water Front Home 161 ft. frontage 5 Bedroom, 2 Bath Detached Garage</p>	
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<p>CALABOGIE HIGHLANDS GOLF!</p>	<p>CALABOGIE HIGHLANDS GOLF!</p>	<p>AMAZING LAKE VIEW!</p>	<p>OWN BLUFF POINT!</p>
<p>177 Pheasant Run MLS 934436 \$415,000 Unique, Complete Granny Suite/ 2nd Living Space 4 bd, 2 bath Private Peaceful Lot</p>	<p>698 Barryvale Rd. Immaculate bungalow on the Highlands Course. Double attached garage with loft. Finished basement. MLS 955320 \$449,900</p>	<p>Modern custom built home on Calabogie Lake. Great ski chalet or rental property. Very High end finishes. Beautiful views! MLS 959142 899k</p>	<p>210 Bluff Point Calabogie Lake. Stunning sunsets. All day sunshine! 1.73 acre lot. Custom built, fully finished home. Perfect for B&B MLS 952436 \$999k</p>
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<p>74 Whipporwill Valley Lane on Calabogie Lake 2 Storey Cottage with Boathouse and dock. MLS 949757 \$399,900</p>	<p>38 Norway lake Rd. 5 acres. MLS 934474, \$544,900 Open concept. High-end finishes, Waterfront, Privacy, Highway nearby, Move in ready!</p>	<p>1848 Frontenac Rd. MLS 910288 \$159,900 Bungalow in Matawatchan, 1.24 acres, Detached garage, Open concept, Gorgeous sunroom!</p>	<p>150 Pheasant Run MLS 922255, \$339,900 Calabogie Highlands Golf Course, 3 bed, 2 bath Open concept, Detached garage, Deep lot, Amazing views. Includes deeded access to lake.</p>

LOCAL

The Ottawa Renewable Energy Co-operative is expanding, looking to raise \$1.7 million in its fourth offering. "It is OREC's desire that renewable energy generation in this region be owned by its community members."

Residents of Nation, ON reverse decision and no longer support wind turbine projects

South Dundas votes against motion to support plan for 24-36 more wind turbines.

Essex shuts down a windmill farm project, not willing to host additional IWTs

CANADA

Small lake in Northwest Territories will soon fall off cliff. Rising temperatures and rainfall have been blamed for melting permafrost, eroding soil that holds the lake on an upper plateau.

Dozens of participants have dropped out of the controversial National Energy Board review of Kinder Morgan's proposed Trans Mountain pipeline expansion, saying they can no longer support a "biased" and "unfair" process.

Ontario, Quebec Balk at Payment Plan For TransCanada's Energy East. The Quebec ministry says TransCanada must structure the projects to ensure that natural gas shippers do not wind up cross-subsidizing oil deliveries.

Trace amounts of cocaine, oxycodone and morphine, among other illicit and prescription drugs, have been detected in surface water in southern Ontario rivers, a new study says. Canadian lakes and rivers are contaminated with artificial sweeteners.

The government is proposing to add microbeads to the Canadian Environmental Protection Act's list of toxic substances and develop regulations to ban them in Canada.

People with no family physician are urged to register with Health Care Connect, a national program that identifies orphaned patients and links them with available physicians in their area. Call Health Care Connect Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1-800-445-1822.

Dean Del Mastro, who once served as Harper's parliamentary secretary, was sentenced to a month in jail and four months under house arrest for breaking campaign financing rules.

The second Indigenous Adoptee Gathering, is to be held at Rideau Hill Camp in Kemptville from Aug. 25 to 27. It is about healing - a safe place for adoptees to gather and share stories.

COUNTIES

The Ontario Ministry of Environment and Climate Change has advised the Renfrew County and District Health Unit that test results from water samples taken from Muskrat Lake confirmed the presence of blue-green algae in August.

Move away from OPP for policing unlikely to be feasible, says Frontenac County CAO committee. While the report is somewhat lacking in recommendations, it does present a solid case that policing has become very expensive.

New Renfrew County families can register their students online. School board sets up system to make signing up for a school easier. Go to www.rcdsb.on.ca and click on Registration

ONTARIO

Ontario wants wind turbines closer than 550m from homes: "new models are taller and quieter"

Request for proposals for Large renewable (wind, water, solar) power closes September 1st.

Managers of the proposed Ontario Registered Pension Plan won't be forced to invest the funds in provincial roads and transit projects or even in Ontario despite the plan being pitched as a source of capital for Ontario infrastructure projects.

Ontario first in North America to curb bee-killing neonicotinoid pesticides.

Wasps released in Ontario to fight emerald ash borer. The wasps do not have stingers and are around the size of a piece of sand.

Colony of 50,000 bees removed from Ontario home. Three years ago, Louise Dawe noticed honey dripping down the front of her house and a swarm of bees buzzing around her roof.

The pedestrian tunnel between the mainland shoreline and Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport (BBTCA) is now open. Moving sidewalks allow people to make the trip in minutes.

Alvin Fiddler wins Nishnawbe Aski Nation election. NAN will be realigned to better serve communities, newly elected grand chief says. The Nishnawbe Aski Nation represents 49 First Nations in the Treaty 9 and Treaty 5 areas of northern Ontario, with an overall population estimated around 45,000 people. It's headquarters are in Thunder Bay.

Enforcement efforts target American ginseng. Under the Endangered Species Act, it is illegal to harvest or trade in American ginseng, which grows in Central and Eastern Ontario.

Officials are warning vacationers to take precautions in Georgian Bay and the Bruce Peninsula, with six Massasauga Rattlesnake bites reported so far this year.

Uber faces class action lawsuit filed on behalf of Ontario taxi drivers. Suit seeks \$410M in damages and the closure of UberX service

A number of small Canadian towns and cities, like dozens in the U.S., are installing their own high-speed fibre-optic cables, or are benefiting as local companies do it. In Olds, Alta., some businesses were threatening to leave town because of its once sluggish internet.

WORLD

www.Urthecast.com and NASA bring you live, high definition video from the International Space Station. A viral YouTube video suggests the feed was shut down just as 3 UFO's were lifting off from the planet...

U.S. and Cuba Reopen Long-Closed Embassies

North Korea Is Creating Its Own Time Zone.

Japan restarted its first nuclear power plant under stricter safety standards that were introduced in July 2013 after the Fukushima disaster in 2011.

Japanese Emperor expresses "deep remorse" over its role in WWII, 70 years after surrender.

Facebook now used by half of world's online users

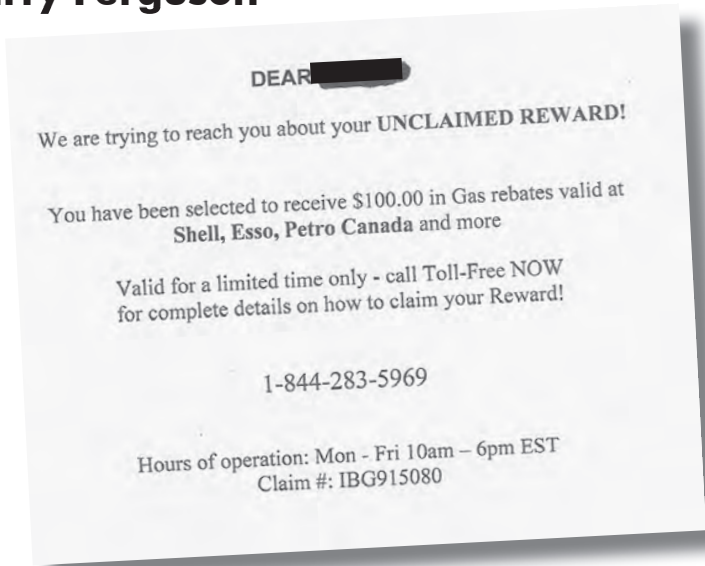
After 6 years of fast tracking the process to build grid-scale wind turbines, Maine State Senate voted down two bills to give residents more input into development of IWTs

Denmark abandons onshore wind farms due to public complaints, concentrating on offshore.

WikiLeaks Reveals CBC and Canada Post May Be Sold Under TPP Agreement.

 <p>-5523 (333-5523)</p>	<p>Pine Valley Restaurant & Variety Hwy 41 in Griffith, East of the Madawaska River</p>  <p><i>We'll see you there!</i></p>	<p>Live Music Monday & Thursday Nights</p> <p>Hours: Monday to Friday 6am - 8pm Saturdays 7am - 8pm Sundays 8am - 8pm FULL SERVICE DURING POWER OUTAGES</p>
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By Garry Ferguson



We took a little trip to Kanata on Wednesday, 29 July when the temperature was 32C and the humidity had redlined into the “stinking” zone. You probably don’t want to hear about it – especially if you’ve traveled **between Renfrew and Arnprior** lately – but I’ll tell you the sad story anyway.

On the trip to, we cheerfully endured a half hour delay though we never did determine a logical reason since there was no dig across the highway, but it could have been worse; and it was. Unlike a lot of folks who, without aircon, opted for the lesser of two evils and disembarked to bake in the sun rather than roast in their vehicles, we were fortunate. The only damage from that leg of the trip was to my wife’s nerves from my repeated remarks about how fortunate it was that I wasn’t on my way to work and just how lucky we were to have the “air.”

Since it was necessary to include the blistering streets of Renfrew on the return leg of our tour, we decided that any oversight, bad planning, bad luck or indifference that had caused such havoc would have been rectified by afternoon and that some nice sign swinger would beckon us on our merry way after an acceptable interruption. Not so. After 40 minutes, we had moved about two hundred meters. Unable to see the front of the line in the distance ahead – as well as behind by now – and with fuel and patience running low, we did a wheely and got to Renfrew by a circuitous route. The same wife went on the internet to see what kind of madness was afoot and found that someone considered the whole mess quite normal and warned of up to an hour’s delay (I hope whoever, wherever at least blushed when they wrote that) for the rest of the summer.

The moral of this tale of woe is.... I can’t think of one right now, **but be warned.** Drive around, fly over, travel during the night or at least check the situation before trying that stretch of road until it has cleared. After my vow of silence, a couple aspirin tablets and a good night’s sleep, my wife recovered.

1 – 844 – 283 – 5969. SCAM!!!

A local resident recently received this (see photo) piece of junk in the form of a postcard with proper address and proper business-like Canada Post stamp meter imprint on the front. The phone number should set off alarm bells in a recipients head – those like yours truly who’ve been punched too many times on the head may ignore those bells – but the resident responded out of curiosity. To verify an identity, the person, with no detected accent, on the other end asked for a **credit card number.** When informed that the resident had no such card, **the scammer** went through a list of retail-store cards. The challenge to send something in the mail was rejected and the deal fell apart.

Another local resident downloaded an ad that offered technical support for computers. Access to email was immediately blocked and anti virus software couldn’t detect the frig. When the HELP number was used, it was soon established that a fix would be carried out – for \$200. After the resident balked, **this scammer** was more cooperative and offered to do it for \$100. Needless to say, that deal too fell through. So; this time there is a moral to the tale: **“If it looks too good to be true, then it probably is.”** The one exception, of course, is **“The Madawaska Highlander.”**

Is there a chance that any of our readers looked up at the sky on the evening of July 31st and expected to see a **blue moon** even if the sky had been clear? If “no,” good! The one exception, as far as I know, was casual acquaintance who thought he did but, next morning, when he sobered up, he found that he had been gazing up at his new porch light.

I wouldn’t want to count the number of songs that have attempted to stretch our imaginations by equating a blue moon with a blue mood (or maybe visa versa) brought on by the loss of something like a girl/boyfriend, “old dawg” or pet rock. **At times the moon has appeared to be blue or even red** but this is merely due to airborne particles as a result of forest fires, volcanic eruptions or chain smokers.



Cliff Holloran and Brian Sutcliffe of the Griffith & Matawatchan Fish & Game Club presenting the Red Neck Golf trophy to Cindy Kelly Pittman on August 1.

There are two definitions of a blue moon in astronomy: both are a type of full moon. The first is **the third full moon in an astronomical season with four full moons versus three. The second full moon in a month with two full moons** has become accepted by some as another definition. There should be only one valid (the first) definition but some wit made a miscalculation in a US magazine and thought that any second full moon in a calendar month is called a blue moon. Seems folks went for it possibly because it was simple: wrong but simple. Even though his mistake was easily refuted, his wrong-headed definition is still kicking around.

The next “invalid” blue moon will fall on January 31, 2018. To see the classic version, look up on the evening of May 21, 2016. If you really do see a blue moon - either time, call for help. The number is 911.

Just when I think I have a handle on the activities of the **Denbigh Griffith Lions Club**, they surprise me with some new way to give a little boost to the community. The latest was the decision to subsidize a township-organized **swimming program** - August 10th to 21st - at **Snider’s Tent and Trailer Park.** I suppose I shouldn’t be too surprised: it was advertised in our July-August edition. They considered this an important project because of the dangers to junior non-swimmers living in this area of many waters. The cost to parents was \$10 per young’n and was open to all in the surrounding Denbigh, Vennachar or wherever area. The Lions covered the remainder of the costs which was substantial. While we’re still visualizing **Snider’s Park**, a reminder that the ongoing **50/50 ticket campaign will terminate on September 05** and the draw will take place there (at the house) on that evening. I’ve already planned a vacation to **Wilson** with my winnings.

Don’t forget to **SHOW up and SHINE** at the big car show, on **August 29**, to be held beside the Lions Hall. You can SHINE by buying some food and drink from a Lion and thus help to build up the Christmas (relax, there

are still plenty of shopping days left) fund. On September 04, the Friday before the last summer long weekend, the Cats will set up **toll roads in downtown Griffith and Denbigh.** I’m embarrassed when they catch me by surprise so I’ve already hidden a dime and a nickel in my van. Another fundraiser is the **7 p.m., Tuesday-night Bingo.** Fortunately, one has only to count to two in order to keep track of them since they’ll go on, every second week, forever. To enable other than the bingo-addicted to jump onto the fall schedule, the dates are September 01, 15 and 29.

To add to the excitement – at least for bargain hunters – of the Show and Shine, **the Nu2U shop** will not only open its doors but will fill the yard between the store and highway with items just waiting for that right “another person” to claim them as treasures.

Though I’m well aware that **Brian Sutcliffe** does a great job in keeping readers well informed as to the goings on in the **Fish and Game Club**, I do have to cut in on his territory to throw some praise in the direction of the F&G members who staged the **Pig Roast on Saturday, August 01.** Some club members of the fair-sex persuasion had prepared enough salads to fill buckets the size of milk pails. For you non farmers, that’s pretty big. This annual event is meant to be a thank-you-to-the-community type get together where the hungry are fed and the lonely find company – a whole field full of company as a matter of fact. It has been held every year at the **Seigneurie Holleran** along the Hutson Lake Road where Cliff and Patricia Holleran work for days to prepare the grounds for some sort of **weird golf tourney** designed to work up an appetite in attendees – I guess. I was afraid to ask but once heard that if there are rules, no one knows about them. There may be people out on that course yet but all who did return that day said it was a blast. Nice job F&Gers.

Anyone interested in the goings on at the **Matawatchan Hall** should



Friends enjoying the day at the Matawatchan Hall. It is the only public, indoor gathering place in Matawatchan. It's owned, run and supported by the community. Watch for events at www.matawatchan.ca

tune in on your computer (don't try this without a computer) to matawatchan.ca and call up (figuratively speaking) "events." There's a great little calendar-style monthly schedule posted that lists events for not only the hall, but for other organizations around the greater community including Denbigh and *Calabogie. You can find the dates and times for events pertaining to Wednesday-night ball, Northern Lights, Lions, NU2U hours and all the Hall Saturday events.

We've been dropping around to the Hall on the well-advertized, **flea-market Saturdays** and have come to the conclusion that you procrastinators out there who plan to have a garage/yard sale - someday - are missing a great opportunity. Good food is served which, as we all know, attracts Matawatchaners like flies to you-know-what, so there is always a good, ready-made crowd of prospective buyers looking to pounce on treasures you **might** have considered your trash. For a mere Sir Wilfred, you can get a spot in the shade, sit back with a coffee and wait for the money to roll in. If **you might have** considered correctly, and really do have trash, you'll, at least, have had a cheap outing with a lot of priceless socializing to boot.

**Note: Calabogie is a community either 60 or 65 k's - depending on which signs you read - downriver from Griffith.*

Well now that Halloween has come and gone, on August 1st - at least for the folks at the Camel Chute Campground, I wonder what they plan for an **encore**. Maybe Christmas in August. Since the real night of **soaped windows and overturned backhouses** will arrive long after folks have boarded up their summer habitat and hunkered down in cities for the winter, they like to rush the season and make sure that they get the kids out to trick or treat during camping season. Don't be surprised if you see Santa wandering around the Camp Grounds on some Saturday before it's "back to school" time.

Readers who travel between Matawatchan and Griffith - the other way counts too - can't help but notice **the vegetable garden in front of Edmond and Donna Kauffeldt's home**. I'll swear that in the time it takes to go for breakfast at the Pine Valley and return, every thing in the patch has grown by inches. Talk about green thumbs; all their fingers must be green. Their incredible garden got me to thinking back to a time when family gardens like theirs were vital.

When I was growing up in this area, everyone, whether farmer or not, depended on a "p'tatie" patch and a "veg'able" garden to supply the table during summer and to fill the cellars for winter. In spite of drought, cold and potato bugs, most gardens were lush and all land seemed fertile. Perhaps an abundance of available barnyard fertilizer helped. For many, an evening's entertainment would consist of splashing on some corrosive insect repellent - that stuff in the green can could almost knock birds out of the sky - and going out to hoe or pick potato bugs until dark. Weed pulling provided a double barreled slot to the entertainment schedule. After the glee of pulling out even their roots, the cursed intruders were carried to the pigpen where the evening's amusement could be capped off with an hour or so of wholesome family fun just swatting flies and listening to a couple porkers smack and chomp through a few armloads of pig weed and lambs' quarters.

Every house had a cool, dark cellar under it with sand-filled bins for roots and shelves for preserving jars, though many added to storage space with a root cellar in the side of a nearby hill. Some even used a deep potato pit to bury a supply to be uncovered when the frost was out of the ground the next spring. The old folk maintained that "pit p'taties" were so much sweeter than those stored in a cellar. Could be, but many old folk maintained a lot that I later found to be ... well, barnyard fertilizer. Cabbage was hung upside down or made into



Edmond and Donna Kauffeldt in front of their magnificent vegetable garden on the Matawatchan Road at the very distinctive flat area (rare in the Highlands).

sauerkraut, cucumbers were pickled in homemade vinegar (mmm), or in crocks full of salt brine (yuk). Berries were preserved with sugar. Apples were cut into small wedges, strung onto long lines of sewing thread and hung to dry. As a nasty little ankle-biter, I would raid my grandmother's lines of dried apples not realizing that, before cooking, they had to be washed to remove the fly crap. Served me right.

After my dim (maybe from all the ingested fly crap) little brain had finally absorbed the fact that the muther (yeast) Grandma said she had put into the old, oak vinegar barrel to ferment the late-run of maple sap had nothing to do with her own dear, departed mother, I would stand on a chair, lift the small round trap door and sniff the aroma until I would almost pass out. (talk about dim)

I know of a few successful gardens in the area - not as prominently displayed to the public as Edmond and Donna's - but in 2015 they are unusual enough to make me sit up and

take notice and to put me aminda ("to remind me of" for folks from away) another time in this place.



Garry Ferguson was born at Black Donald Mines. After graduating from the one-room Miller and Matawatchan schools and the two-room high

school in Denbigh, he joined the RCAF and the world of electronics. After 8 years, he became a civilian and worked in Montreal for the Navy. During this time he joined the Reserve Navy and trained at Cornwallis NS. In 1970, Garry joined Air Canada where he eventually dealt with flight simulators until retirement. He was asked to join the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires and spent six years in security at Toronto's Pearson Airport and Nav Canada's Air Traffic Control facilities. In 1960 he married Carol Pearsall and they had four children - now middle-aged adults. Carol and Garry live along Lake Centennial and try to keep up with the hectic local social scene.

FLOYD ENTERPRISES

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Children's Fun Day Planned for August 27th

By Sharon Shalla, Greater Madawaska Public Library



Adults and children had fun blowing bubbles at Greater Madawaska Public Library during the Children's Summer Program

Mark August 27th on your calendar! Come join us for fun and interactive play indoors and outside as we wind down our Children's Summer Program with a special Fun Day August 27th in honour of this year's Toronto Dominion Summer program theme, which is PLAY. Activities planned from 10:30 a.m. – noon include games, prizes, treats, book giveaways, and more. Younger children are invited to participate in the themed crafts, interactive stories and Early Literacy Centre indoors, while older children (ages 5 – 13) can burn off some energy at the outdoor games. Our summer student, Dylan, has been having a fun, and sometimes wet, time with the

outdoor group and he has certainly had his share of water balloons thrown at him this summer. The sound of laughter from children playing outside is great to hear! The program is free and open to all resident and visiting children. Recently both children and adults got outside to blow bubbles on a beautiful sunny day. You're never too old to blow bubbles!

We continue to offer our outreach delivery service to Griffith, Matawatchan, and The Mount St. Patrick Transfer Station. You can search our catalogue online and request items by email or by calling the library. If there's an item we don't have you can send us an interlibrary loan re-

quest and we'll order it in for you from another library. Delivery is done every Wednesday.

Our Summer Book Sale continues. Drop by and check out the selection of used fiction and nonfiction books. We've recently added some new items, so check it out...you just might find your next great read!

If you are interested in joining the library's book club, please contact us for more information. The Club meets at the library once per month.

The baby Book Bag program sponsored by the Calabogie Women's Institute is back this year. Children born between December 2014 and October 2015 will be presented with a lovely book bag and a free book. To register your child's name, please contact the library. We will be making the presentations in late October. If you don't have a library card yet...why not? It's free for residents and taxpayers of Greater Madawaska Township. Just bring in proof of your address in the township, such as a tax receipt, utility bill, Driver's License, etc. We can assign you a membership on the spot and you can check out items right away!

And last but not least, due to a recent resignation, we have a vacancy on our Library Board. If you reside in the township as a seasonal or permanent resident, and are interested in being a voting member of the board, please consider applying. You can fill out the online volunteer application found on the Municipality's website, or call the library for further details about obtaining a copy of the volunteer application. The Library Board meets 10 months of the year and meetings usually run about 90 minutes.

Recent Arrivals

Fiction

Ink and Bone: The great library by Rachel Caine
Don't Go Home by Carolyn Hart
Solitude Creek by Jeffrey Deaver
And The Birds Rained Down by Jocelyne Saucier
Up Ghost River: A Chief's journey through the turbulent waters of Native history by Edmund Metatawabin

Nonfiction

Sweet Paleo Gluten-free delights by Lea Hendry Valle
Black and Decker Guide to Tile
iPad for Dummies
Lonely Planet's best in Travel 2015
Home Again : Canadian football 1955 – 2014 by Frank Cosentino

Juvenile Literature

Lego Star Wars: Empire strikes back by Emma Grange
The Book With No Pictures by B.J. Novak
Sophie Peekaboo ABC: fun flaps by Dawn Sirett

DVDs

Alexander and the terrible, horrible, no good very bad day
Gone Girl

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Rediscovering Ersel Hickey Part 3, "Close but no Cigar"

By Peter Chess



Excited teen idols lining up for the Dick Clark Beech Nut Show, named after the sponsor, Beech-Nut gum.



Ersel's songs were recorded by a diverse group, from Jackie Wilson...



...to the Serendipity Singers...



...and The Beach Boys

On the strength of "Bluebirds" performance on the charts, Ersel was justified in believing there was no place to go but up. Not only did the record chart nationally but reached #1 in New York City, the music capital of the country. He had come so far his optimism knew no bounds. In May 1958 he appeared on "Dick Clark Beechnut Show" live from Philadelphia, the teen dance show that morphed into the phenomenally successful "American Bandstand". Within the following 18 months he appeared on "Bandstand" three times, gaining national exposure and becoming part of the fraternity of teen idols that came and went with astonishing speed...The "one hit wonders" as they came to be known. Ersel also became a member of the traveling revue style shows that toured the country, showcasing a half dozen or so of current hit makers, playing music halls, arenas, dance halls and every venue in between. Some of his tourmates included Dion and the Belmonts, The Champs, Jimmy Rodgers, Fabian, Bobby Vee, Bobby Rydell, Bobby Vinton and a host of others lost to the collective memory. There was nothing quite like performing live in front of a sea of sweaty, screaming, swooning teenage girls to make a guy feel invincible.

Within a year of "Bluebirds" release it was covered by Richie Valens, soon to die with Buddy Holly and "The Big Bopper" in a plane crash, and none other than our honorary "Canadian" king of rockabilly, "Rompin' Ronny Hawkins. Amidst all the glory, the accolades and the respect of his peers, Ersel remained blissfully unaware of the huge changes being plotted in the board rooms of the music industry and the television networks. Nor was he affected by politics or the civil rights movement which would change forever the direction of popular music. With huge sums of money at stake, the suits began to commodify the music. The primitive, twangy guitar playing, the flash and grease, the suggestive eroticism and danger of the early rockers was being sabotaged. The image created to replace it...to erase any traces of "Good Ole Boys" from the south and their underlying connection to "Race" music was that of a squeaky clean, short haired boy in a button down collar, chino pants, sporting hush puppies

and a blinding white "Ipana" smile. These new northern boys were collectively and sarcastically called "The Bobbys". With the defection of Elvis to Hollywood, the tragic deaths mentioned earlier and scandals regarding the immoral behaviour of some of the players in the early days...it did not take long to complete the transformation of the public image of the music. This new thing still bore the name of "Rock and Roll" but had none of the spirit.

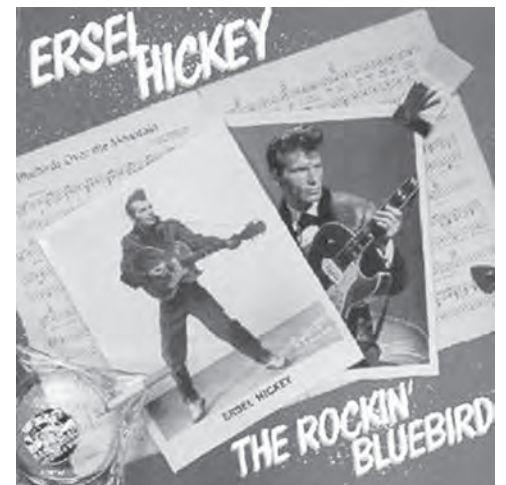
Under contract to Epic, Ersel continued to write and record, releasing "Lover's Land" in 1958 followed by "You Threw a Dart" in 1959, both of which failed to make any impact. Epic did not renew his two year contract and Ersel, without any hit singles was dropped from the tour companies and began to hang around the Brill Building in New York City where teams of songwriters were cranking out hits to satisfy a growing demand for pop music. In 1960, Ersel co wrote and recorded, for Kapp Records, a song titled "Stardust Becomes You" inspired by and composed on the same piano as the classic tune "Stardust" by Hoagy Carmichael. It too failed to sell but Ersel continued to plug away at song writing and hocking his songs to anyone who would give them a listen, with little success. He did, however write a song, "The Millionaire" which was recorded by the fantastic Jackie Wilson on the Apollo label which specialized in black recording artists. In 1964 his song "Don't Let The Rain Come Down" was an unlikely hit for "The Serendipity Singers", a popular "Folk" group that was part of the new wave of folk music catering to the college crowd and liberal, left leaning intellectuals who desired something more meaningful than the tepid teenage romance lyricism of pop music. Ironically, the song had been written several years earlier for his old buddy Jimmy Rodgers but was not deemed suitable by the record execs at Jimmy's label. No doubt surprised at it's rebirth and success he was very grateful for the royalty income the song provided.

So, through the early and mid 60's Ersel continued to write, eking out a living and hanging on to the hope he could write another big seller. There were no performing gigs available for old rockers like himself and yet, in an-

other strange twist of fate, the recording rights to his original hit, "Bluebirds over the Mountain" were purchased by Brian Wilson of the "Beach Boys". Really...those "Beach Boys", the originators of Surf Music which was sweeping the nation. Arbiters of a music so far removed from the origins of Ersel's song as to be almost laughable. They re recorded the song with their full on psychedelic guitar sound so as to make the song pretty well unrecognizable and put it on an album. as well as releasing it as a single. If you are interested, they also recorded a performance video of the song, which is available on You tube.

After this strange event, not much was heard about Ersel Hickey, although in the intervening years, no less than 15 artists recorded their own version of "Bluebirds". He retreated into semi retirement, living off his royalties and when he felt the urge, would pen another song, still dreaming of another crack at the big time. It wasn't until the mid 1990's when a young Rockabilly disciple named Brian Seltzer scored a #1 hit with "Stray Cat Boogie". His band "The Stray Cats" were superb, dressing like the originals and playing the music straight up with the stripped down guitar sound. The record connected with a younger audience as well as the demographic who were taken back in time to their glory days. It single handedly sparked a renewed interest in the genre and overnight a flurry of bands were put together as well as revival rockabilly festivals. For a brief period, the forgotten and obscure, found themselves once again with an opportunity to sing their songs in front of an adoring audience, both young and old alike. Ersel returned to his roots, thrilled to be asked to recreate the "Rockabilly" experience, travelling the country with some of the same guys he toured with back in the day, renewing old friendships and by all accounts having a blast. He even toured England and Europe with one of the shows, and in England, where rockabilly never really died, they were mobbed as if they were heroes, which to some, they really were.

It didn't last more than 18 months and just as quickly as it had come, it all retreated and ground to a halt, leaving Ersel with fond memories and little else, except a few more bucks to keep him afloat. On July 9 2004, Ersel was admitted to hospital for an operation on his bladder where doctors had discovered a cancerous tumor. On July 12 Ersel died from complications as a result of the operation. Although Ersel had married briefly back in the 60's, he left no children. But what of the picture itself, the photo that had immortalized Ersel where his musical career could not? In 1976 the picture graced the cover of "Rolling Stone" magazine's "History of Rock and Roll" special edition and in that moment Ersel became an icon. Shortly after the photo appeared, the copyright to the picture was purchased by Michael Ochs, one of America's leading musical archivists and collectors of popular music. His reference library is accessed by musical historians from around the globe, ensuring Ersel's image will never be forgotten. I would like to close the Ersel Hickey story with a quote from one of the finest and most respected musical scribes in the business, Peter Guralnick.



He says of the photo... Take a look at the improbably sculpted helmet of hair, the tommy gun guitar stance, the pleated pants, cocked leg, patent leather casual footwear and turned up collar.....guitar pick poised, background airbrushed out, every fold of clothing carefully arranged...what volumes it speaks of aspiration and style, fate and fantasy, revelation in artifice. It is, in effect, a self portrait of rock and roll."

Stay tuned...



Peter Chess immigrated to Canada from Leeds, England at the age of 9 weeks. The family settled into a converted barracks at the local airport near St. Catharines for a couple of years before moving into a wartime house. After serving in the Canadian Army Signal Corps, Peter restored antique furniture in St. Catharines, which is where he met his wife Gitte, her daughters Sheri and Belinda. They now live in Matawatchan and have two granddaughters, Emma and Natalie. Peter is a member of The Pickled Chickens String Band.

Night Raiders
By Antonia Chatson

I was ten years old. Although I did not mind being by myself most of the time, I began to yearn for some company. So my mother decided to ask a friend of mine, Susan, to spend a week with me at the farm. Of course we had to assert our independence for we did not want to be tied down to a life with the old folks at the farmhouse. To this end, my mother bought me a small green pup tent. Susan and I decided that our tenting home would be a small copse of poplar trees on the other side of the drainage ditch. A large tree had fallen there some time ago which provided us with good seating accommodation while we were eating out meals. Six feet in front of that we made a fireplace with a ring of medium sized stones. Kitty cornered to that and the fallen tree we pitched our tent and opposite that we hung a small clothesline. At that particular juncture which was closest to us, there was a small pool from which we dipped water for washing ourselves and the dishes, after we had strained out the minnows and tadpoles. Our drinking water, we always obtained from the well at the house.

From our campground, towards the creek, there was a small area of luxurious marsh grass. I decided to pull some of it up. It revealed the most beautiful of dark, black, rich loam. I pulled up some more, dug up the patch and planted a small garden there. I can't remember all that I did plant there except for radishes, which did remarkably well. In fact, I have never yet been able to grow radishes anywhere like I did on that little plot.

A short way off was a patch of wild flowers which bloomed late in the spring. The ground was covered with small white flowers that my mother called wood anemones. As she did not spell it out, I was convinced for years that their botanical name was "wooden enemies", which I thought rather a strange name for a flower.

We loved to gather small twigs with which to start our fire and other larger pieces to put on once it got going, if it got going. We had brought a saw with



The adventure of living with my 10 year old friend in a pup tent in a copse of trees at home got a little tired after a while.



Beautiful scenery filled with pretty plants that I thought were called "Wooden Enemies" just didn't offer enough adventure.

us and one of us would put a long piece of wood across our seating accommodation and hold it in position while the other sawed off smaller lengths. As the piece of wood was not held firmly as in a sawhorse, it moved about considerably regardless of how hard the holding of it was. This necessitated large volumes of diatribe from the person who did the cutting. And we loved to cook our meals over the fire. Breakfast consisted of porridge, but as time went on we tended more towards shredded wheat. Yes, reader, you are correct, we opted for the easiest route. We also had lukewarm tea and toast of hues varying from pale beige to dark black! Lunch consisted of warmed up tinned beans on toast of varying dark shades and supper consisted of warmed up tin of peas and burnt roast potatoes. This was followed by a scalding cup of coffee with evaporated milk that was usually in not quite the sour stage. For dessert we stuck with what could be boiled over the fire which was usually haystacks to which my mother referred to as "turds".

We had commandeered several orange crates from the farmhouse in which we stored our food. Of course when it rained, we were faced with a consideration that merited serious consequences, however which way a decision was made. Since it was a rather small tent, either the orange crates with the food got wet or we did. If we put the orange

crates up against one wall of the tent and as the tent veered inwards, that meant that water would pour in on the crates inevitably touching the wall of the tent and hence into our food. This arrangement allowed us some, if not adequate, sleeping arrangements. If, however, we moved the crates in towards the centre of the tent, they would remain dry but as we were squeezed together in the other half of the tent, it meant that we were usually touching the side of the tent and we would get wet!

For recreational purposes, my father built us a raft that would have done the Kon Tiki expedition proud. On it, he put an upturned bucket, on which one of us would sit. As there was enough water and a small current under the bridge about 400 feet from our camp, that was the place where she was launched. A rope was attached to one end of the raft, which the person on shore would let out as the raft traveled the 30 feet from just outside one end of the bridge to just outside the other end of the bridge. If there was danger of colliding with either the bank or the bridge, the navigator could push herself away from that obstacle by means of a short rail with which she was endowed. When the expeditionary force landed on the other side of the bridge, she would be towed back to the landing space on the other side of the bridge. This task necessitated a great deal of skill for if the raft was

towed at too great a speed, the front end would tip down into the water submerging half the raft. When the tower let up on the rope, the raft would tip back and could up-end the occupant on the pail. I was always very careful when I did the towing, but Susan just didn't have the requisite skills. That is what I surmised until I once caught her giggling behind her hand as I dipped and dived on the ocean wave. When the raft somehow gained the shore, we would exchange places and the routine would be re-enacted.

But we longed for more. We wanted to experience some high adventure. I had of late been reading a series of books by Arthur Ransome about two families of children, one consisting of two girls and the other of four children. They went camping together, separately or in varying groups, depending on how many could sneak away from their parent's watchful eye. They pretended they were pirates, they sailed the high seas of their little creek, dug for buried treasure, captured each other, then sent out rescue parties following clues till they reached their captive and set him free, and they made raids on each other. Now some of their antics were a bit far flung for the two of us, but we decided that the occasional raid might provide the necessary stimulus to an otherwise humdrum existence. I mean, how many ways can you heat up a can of beans or even roast a marsh-

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Inspired by Arthur Ransome's books, we longed for more adventure. But how could we arrange an exciting raid when we were always together?

mallow? How many times do radishes need to be either weeded, picked or eaten? And basically tooting up and down under a bridge on an albeit magnificently crafted vessel just didn't cut it all the time.

But since there were just the two of us and we slept together in the same tent the element of surprise, if any, would be rather hackneyed. We decided that we would have to enlist outside help. Now you just don't go around the neighborhood inviting people to come and raid your tent in the middle of the night. Everywhere around were hard working farmers. But we had to start somewhere, so we approached my trusty father, thinking that he might arrange something. He didn't think much of the idea, and basically I didn't think he had it in him to perform such a devious stunt. But as I said, one had to start somewhere, and we were only asking him to organize it.

Then Susan and I began to fantasize. My father certainly couldn't perform a raid on his own, if he were to be involved at all. He would have to enlist help from somewhere. We both agreed that from our point of view, the only choice he could possibly make would be Glen Phillips. Now Glen would have been about 25 years old at the time. Both he

and his older brother, Noble, were fine looking men, but Glen would definitely come under the category of handsome. He was always smiling at us and teasing us when we went to visit the Phillips' farm with my parents. We giggled, we blushed and we twittered whenever he looked our way. And - there was no charge for dreaming.

After we had made our wishes known to my father, we expected immediate results, but none were forthcoming. Days stretched into longer burnt days, with not even a shower to break the tedium. We had given up hope, as they say in the penny terribles.

On one night, we despondently crept into our hot and muggy tent. It was so hot that night, we just lay on our sleeping bags and tossed off to sleep. As my mother used to say, "It's not the heat, it's the stupidity!" A prod in my side, brought me half awake. "Susan, do you mind, I'm trying to sleep". Although she was at that juncture, my BFF, I was aware that she was not above pulling stunts on me. No answer. OK, pretend you're asleep! I gave her an almighty prod in her ribs with my elbow, just to let her know that two could play at that game. Susan came to with alacrity, yelled at me to leave her alone, then

turned over and yelled again, "Something is under my sleeping bag and it's moving." "Don't be stupid," I said and as there was no more movement, we both drifted off to sleep again.

The next time, I was awakened by a sharp prod, but it came from the outside wall of the tent, so it could not possibly have been Susan. At the same time, she screamed when she was prodded in the back from under the tent floor. The theory of twin boa constrictors was soon dispelled by the realization that our longed-for raid was finally in progress. We grabbed for our flashlights, but of course could not find them. More exciting yet. Glen just had to be out there, and with two ardent admirers close at hand. It being terribly dark outside, well just about anything could happen. We giggled, we blushed and we twittered as the attacks on the tent became more violent. Hands were lunged at the tent walls and into the front opening as we tried to get the zipper undone and escape the confines of the tent. I'm not sure if we actually mentioned Glen's name or not, but when we finally emerged and a lantern was lit, we hoped to heavens that we hadn't. Because, there, standing before us, laughing till they cried, were my father and Elgin Looby. Elgin was slapping his thigh and trying to get something out but was laughing so hard that it was mere gibberish.

Needless to say, Susan and I sobered up rather rapidly. I hoped that the two men did not sense our disappointment. To this day, I can't believe such antics from my father. Elgin yes, but he wasn't Glen. And if we had mentioned Glen's name during the course of the raid, what a handle Elgin would have had on us! After reviewing some of the high points of the raid, Elgin and my father headed off along the rail fence to the road, where Elgin had parked his truck. Susan and I dejectedly returned to our very disorganized tent, realizing that next time we put in a request, we would have to be more specific as to the details!



Antonia studied at The Royal Conservatory of Music and at York University. She taught in all levels in the public school system as well as giving private lessons in music. Her passion is the land. She loved her experiences growing up on the farm in Shelburne and twenty-two years of farming in Denbigh with her husband, Francis. She plays the piano at the services at the Vennachar Free Methodist Church, and lives on the homestead with her daughter Irene.



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Do you recognize this label?

By Susan Veale



Ana Bodnar, a psychologist and professor at the University of Toronto states,
“You can be aware of the rise and fall of angry feelings as they move through you, without losing control.”

Mindfulness can help make life more manageable and by understanding by explaining why living fully in both pleasant and unpleasant times can enrich your life.

It has been shown that people take better care of themselves after training in mindfulness.

The new buzz word, “Mindfulness”, appears in many circles these days; mindful eating, mindful exercise and there are books in print on mindful parenting, mindful gardening and mindful meditation.

Mindfulness could be defined as paying attention with care and discernment to what is occurring at any moment within one’s immediate experience. Living a rushed and demanding life can interfere with our ability to give devoted attention. But what if we could teach our brain to stay focused in times of stress and

anxiety? What if we could learn to approach difficult times in our lives with a mental calm? What if we could become skilled at resolving our tangled thoughts and frazzled feelings?

Mindful awareness is a state of being; being present with one’s body, one’s mind and one’s experiences, moment by moment or simply put, “bare attention.” When we allow our minds to react and judge our moments, suffering becomes our present. In that suffering, the body describes our reaction through sensations of pain

or discomfort or our mind describes our reaction through fear which can respond by anger, resentment or depression.

Global researchers have compiled evidence suggesting that mindful meditation can boost satisfaction, improve health and reduce burnout in fields ranging from business to social work to education. It can elevate compassion and joy in relationships. Regular practice of mindfulness meditation can result in increased immune response and brain activity as well as a general stress reduction.

Mindfulness meditation centers on the breath, emotions, sensations and thoughts. A typical human adult brain processes about 90,000 thoughts in a day. Over half of those are repetitive and twenty five percent of what is left is negative thoughts. This leaves a small amount of our thinking to be new and positive. Often negative and repetitive thoughts jump us onto trains and transport us to places we have little need to visit. Take for example, your cat goes out at night and does not come home in the morning as usual. What is the first train you jump on? He’s dead, hit by a car or killed by another animal, maybe someone picked him up and took him home, maybe he’s lost and can’t find his way back. Next train...what is he going to eat, how will he survive? By now, your heart rate, blood pressure and breathing rate have all increased. Maybe you develop a headache or you feel nauseous or you become scared or perhaps angry at yourself for leaving the cat out so late. See how quickly your body and emotions have responded to your created thought. Ironically, the cat arrives at your back door with a mouse in his mouth!

professor at the University of Toronto states, “You can be aware of the rise and fall of angry feelings as they move through you, without losing control.”

Many people who try to meditate by buying CD’s or reading books feel like they are failing because their minds wander. This is why it is important to spend time with a qualified teacher to interact and understand the practice. Life offers us many challenges as we travel our paths. Learning how to be mindful can help deal with chronic physical pain, sadness and anxiety. It can help people manage such conditions such as depression after a head injury, stress from looking after a sick loved one and illnesses such as diabetes. Mindfulness can help make life more manageable and by understanding by explaining why living fully in both pleasant and unpleasant times can enrich your life. It has been shown that people take better care of themselves after training in mindfulness.

I will be offering an eight week Mindfulness Meditation program this October in Calabogie. To sign up or for more information on this course please contact Susan Veale BSc. Kin, Mindfulness Teacher, at Wellness Natural Health Centre.



Susan Veale started on her path as a healer as a Kinesiologist, with a degree from the University of Waterloo. After years of managing a large chiropractic clinic, she pursued training as a Natural Health Practitioner with certifications in Reflexology and Pilates. Other accreditations include an EMF Practitioner and a Reiki Master. Susan is the owner of Wellness Natural Health Centre, a private clinic offering alternative health care to individuals and families throughout the Ottawa Valley and co-authored the book, “For Love of God - An Intimate Journey.” www.wellnessnaturalhealthcentre.com

Unlike many meditation practices, mindfulness meditation does not focus on emptying your thoughts. Instead it teaches how to sit and notice how your body is responding to your thoughts. The mind is made to think; it is impossible to stop that process. Mindfulness teaches meditators how to respond to one’s emotions by softening anger and aggression. It can help to develop the ability to decide what to do with these negative emotions. Ana Bodnar, a psychologist and

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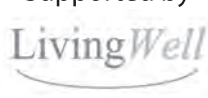
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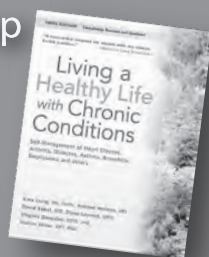


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St. Paul's Lutheran Church
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Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

The New Apostolic Church
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REGULAR EVENTS:

Calabogie
GM Library Pre-school Storytime
Thursdays 10:30 am to 11:30 am
at the Greater Madawaska Library.
It is aimed at children from 0 - 6.

Calabogie Seniors Dinner & Meeting
Last Thursday of the month - 5 pm Oct.
to April at the Community Hall
May to Sept. Barnet Park
All seniors 55+ welcome. 752-2853

Renfrew South Women's Institute
www.rsdwi.ca CalabogieWI@gmail.com
Branch meetings held at Calabogie
Community Hall
2nd Thursday of the month at 7:30
Contact: Marg MacKenzie, Pres.
613-432-3105 or Hennie Schaly Sec.
613-752-0180
Guests and new members welcome!

Calabogie Arts and Crafts
Every 2nd Monday
(If holiday, then 3rd Monday),
10:00 am – 1:00 pm, Community Hall,
prospective members most welcome
(\$15 per year), 752-1324

Lion's Club Bingo every Wednesday,
7:15 pm, Calabogie Community Hall,
752-0234.

The Calabogie and Area
Ministerial Food Bank
538 Mill Street,
2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month
9:00 am to 10:00 a.m.
For emergency situations, please call
752-2201

Denbigh-Griffith Lion's Club Hall 25991 Hwy 41 Regular Events:

Fellowship Lunch at Noon-Third
Wednesday of the month Contact Mary
McKinnon 613-333-2791

General Wellness Assessment by local
Paramedics available from 11:00am
until after lunch

Diabetes Outreach Program
every 3 months

North Lights Seniors
Third Wednesday of the month
at 1:15pm at the Lion's Hall after
Fellowship Lunch

Euchre First and Third Friday of each
month @7:00pm at the Lions Hall
Contact Sandy Sutcliffe 613-333-9564
or Sandy Downs 613-333-1931
The Pickled Chicken String Band
Mondays from 5 pm to 7 pm
At the Pine Valley Hwy 41, Griffith
Bert's Music Jam Every Thursday
5 to 7:30 p.m.

Denbigh Music in the Park/Hall
Every second Sunday of the month from
1 to 3 pm

Denbigh Diners
Full Course Meal \$7.00
Take out Irene and add Nancy Dafoe
613-333-5164

Denbigh Hall Exercise Group:
Monday classes at 10:00 am.
Thursday classes at 1:00 pm.

TOPS Tuesday at the Denbigh Hall
Basement @8:30am Contact Mary
McKinnon 613-333-2791

SPECIAL EVENTS:

GRIFFITH & MATAWATCHAN

**Also see GM News, Page 4 Check
regularly for updates at
www.matawatchan.ca/Events**

Wednesdays, 7 - 9 pm
Family Baseball, Matawatchan Hall

August 29 10am - 3pm Lions Hall,
Griffith. (Rain Date Aug 30)
Denbigh-Griffith Lions Club Show
and Shine Car Show. This is an
international antique and fancy car
Car Show, with music, refreshments,
licensed bar, BBQ, 50/50 draws.

August 29 10am to 4pm
Nu 2 U Shop Yard Sale right beside
the Lions Club Show & Shine
Hwy 41, Griffith
(Old Township Office)

Sept. 5, 9am - 1pm Community Flea
Market & Yard Sale, BBQ Lunch

DENBIGH, VENNACHAR, GRIFFITH, MATAWATCHAN

Land O'Lakes Community Services
Living Well with Diabetes FREE 6
week workshop.
SEE AD OPPOSITE PAGE
Thursdays 1 to 3:30 September 10 to
October 15 at the Denbigh Hall, 222
Highway 28
Learn new skills and strategies to
help you manage your diabetes, pre-
vent complications, and live better.
To register, call Land O'Lakes Com-
munity Services at 613-336-8934
x229 or toll free 1-877-679-6636

MILK BAG MATS



Drop off your large milk bags at the
new bin just outside the gate at the
Griffith dump on Finn's Rd & Hwy 41
The Vennachar Free Methodist
Church women will weave them into
sleeping mats for disadvantaged and
displaced people around the world-
Please help by dropping off milk
bags.

CALEB'S BOTTLE DRIVE FOR CHEO



Help 10 year old Caleb meet his goal
of raising \$1500 before the CHEO
telethon in late spring of 2016.
He is accepting donations, as well as
beer, liquor and wine bottles. For in-
formation, please contact Caleb or his
family at 613-333-5551
jenellejoey@hotmail.com. Caleb and
his little sister say thank you!

SEND US YOUR EVENTS:

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The Madawaska Highlander
3784 Matawatchan Rd.
Griffith, ON
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info@reelimpact.tv
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THE VIEW FROM HERE

Strange Mists on the Madawaska

By Ernie Jukes of Camp J

"They're makin' the drive!" was the springtime cry in olden days as the ice went out of the northern rivers. From the logging camps along the Madawaska River in Ontario, hardy rivermen floated their "sticks" of pine down to the mills on the mighty Ottawa. The axmen from our part of the country went to "shanty" along the early trails which were only passable by horse and sleigh. They cut all winter with axe and cross cut saw and then skidded the logs with horses to their local sawmills or to the frozen water's edge, to await the spring thaw.

The Madawaska today is quite a different valley. Not the pristine forests of yesterday but still fine scenery to be sure. Modern highways have made the clear lakes and blue ridges of this handsome valley fairly accessible, yet somehow it is holding on to its old way and quaint secrets surprisingly well. One secret, untold till now, has been known to only a few living people and a few... well, let's go back a few years.

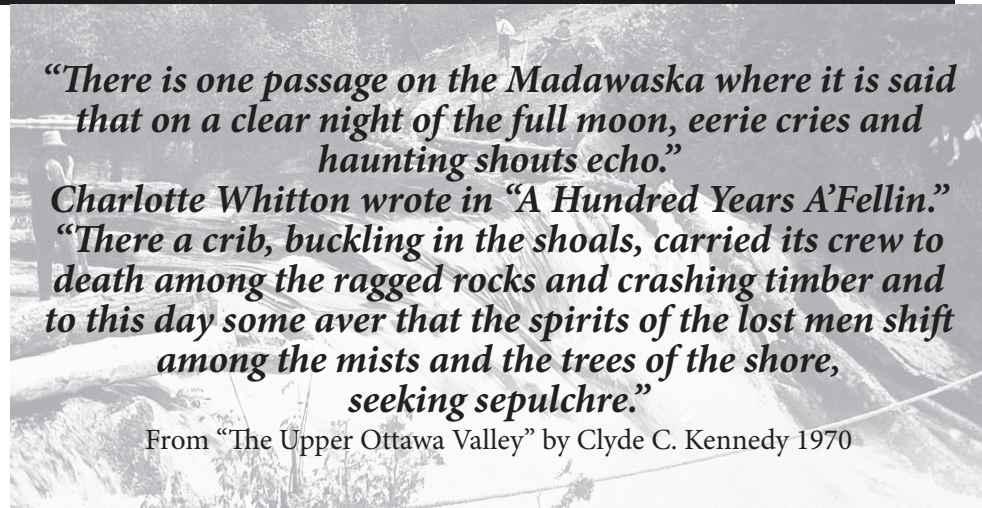
We three voyageurs had put our canoe into the downstream flow of the Madawaska River just below the falls at Palmer Rapids. Our plan was to leisurely trip south for a few days to a picturesque site at the very large Colton rapids located a few miles above Black Donald. By the way that interesting

old village was built around a graphite mine, and named after a dust covered miner. Due to the construction of a large electrical generating dam nearby, both the site of the town and the rapids are now drowned underwater. Gone forever.

The fishing was excellent along the way as we swam and drifted in the warm July sun. Another hit! A smallmouth black bass hurtled several feet out of the water, angrily shaking the worm baited hook in its mouth with all the fury of an enraged pit bull. Then its twisting, turning body splashed back into the depths of the river. My rod was bent almost double as the line zinged through the water. Again the fish erupted from the river like an exploding depth charge and tail danced across the surface.

The challenge continued as I played a very fine opponent, both of us tiring. At last the struggling four and a half pond smallmouth was finally brought alongside our sixteen foot fibreglass canoe and we scooped it out with a long handled landing net. It may go without saying we enjoyed a delicious fish fry when we camped that evening just above the notorious Snake Rapids.

On the water, bright and early the next morning, we negotiated the long series of raging rapids of this dangerous sec-



"There is one passage on the Madawaska where it is said that on a clear night of the full moon, eerie cries and haunting shouts echo."

Charlotte Whitton wrote in "A Hundred Years A'Fellin."

"There a crib, buckling in the shoals, carried its crew to death among the ragged rocks and crashing timber and to this day some aver that the spirits of the lost men shift among the mists and the trees of the shore, seeking sepulchre."

From "The Upper Ottawa Valley" by Clyde C. Kennedy 1970

tion of river by running from island to island. On one of them, just past Rifle chute, lay half of a Grumman aluminium canoe, torn in two from having its back broken when draped around a boulder. This is a rough, tough, sassy river. Unforgiving and deadly too, as evidenced by the French names of earlier departed souls carved into a large rock on the wooded portage near Slate Falls.

With all our gear tied into our craft, as usual, we shot the rest of the white water to Griffith Bridge at highway 41. Following a short portage there we sallied on down along the slow moving flats just above the old Camel chute saw mill. We were soon into more bass as well as some Northerns. "Here's another", Bill hooted as he tied into a really good sized bass. Algonquin natives of the area call the smallmouth Achigan "the one that fights". How right they are, inch for inch and pound for pound they are the gamest fish that swims. I believe the record for a smallmouth taken with rod and reel is an ounce shy of twelve pounds.

You can spend lifetime fishing for smallmouth and never land one more than six pounds – about the size where its largemouth brother starts to get interesting. The smallmouth is held in high regard for its sweet, delectable taste and considered by many as the perfect angling prize. Beginners may wonder just how do you get them to strike? A most enjoyable and perhaps productive method is with a "bug" It can be played from a boat or canoe but is equally effective offshore or wading. The smallmouth's voracious appetite includes crawfish, minnows, frogs, worms, leeches, small eels, mice, grasshoppers, crickets, beetles, grubs and much more. With such a broad menu, any reluctance to bite may apt to lie more in the presentation.

We gladly stopped for a well deserved lunch and stretch after running Camel Chute rapids. Here, again was an odd name, having evidently evolved from the valley vernacular of "Campbell's chute", a settler who had established Donald's sawmill there in the early 1800's.

From the small beach where we ate and rested, we could see that the long shore river road branched. One continued to Calabogie and the other left the river and went up over the steep hill to my village of Matawatchan. It was there,

years before, that I had chummed up with an older friend, Joe McLaren, a former logger, surveyor and riverman. We must have looked an odd couple as he was around 70 and I was almost 12. Joe taught me to read white water, a lot about the bush and life generally in his own quiet way. Continuing our journey, it was an easy run through the Wolf rapids, moving us ever closer to our destination – the mighty Colton's.

Again a fish smashed the surface, breaking the tranquillity and the steady four beat stroking of our paddles. This time, on Rob's line, he trolled a small leopard frog. Poppers and wobblers work but a frog is often dynamite. The whole strategy of employing a "bug" type critter is to make it act like the real thing. The closer the caster can make it appear natural, such as a frog jumping from the shore into the water, the better the chances of fooling a lurking fish. Normally when a frog hops in, it rests motionless on the surface often a minute or so before swimming off. So plopping the bait near a fallen tree, for example, and let it rest there briefly. If nothing happens, give the rod tip a few gentle twitches then after an interval, "swim" the lure slowly back to you, interrupted by an occasional jerk, before making another cast.

After going under an old iron bridge, the next half hour of paddling passed quickly. The roar of those grand Colton's – a broad rapids with river wide ripping chutes, dropping in series, perhaps thirty feet or more of rampaging waterfalls – could be heard just around the corner. We slowly stroked up to the rocky shore and landed cautiously at its height. There before us lay a compelling display of glistening rocks and thundering water plunging down, down, through the dazzling rainbow mists for the next hundred or more yards. A thrilling sight!

There were still signs of drill holes and iron stakes in the pink granite where river men had tied their booms and their large Pointer boats filled with supplies. Joe had told me of the many lives lost on these cataracts and about the long days and exhausting physical labour of the log drives. The camp cooks would go ahead of the drive and set up camp at designated locations such as this. In their boats they would carry stoves, tents, pots, pans, and lots of salt pork, beans and blackstrap molasses to feed the hungry crew.

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THE VIEW FROM HERE



Painting "Strange Mists on the Madawaska" by ER Jukes.
Art prints are still available at his log studio at Camp J in Matawatchan.

We pitched our tent on high ground overlooking the spectacular view and gathered firewood. Then we fried up a pan of flour dipped bass in bacon drippings and served them with potatoes and creamed corn to our own hungry crew. Life was good.

The white water, rocks and grassy bank were soon painted in a wash of amber as the red sun set behind the tall pines on the other shore. Another sailor's delight. When the cool of the evening dew settled over us and the embers glowed smaller and smaller we crawled into our three man "A" tent. The booming of the rapids became a lullaby, drifting us off to a sound slumber in our comfortable sleeping bags, cushioned by foam. Or so I thought.

With a sudden start, loud voices awakened me; not one, but a number of men bellowing! I muttered to myself, "dammit, its 3 am", as I threw open the tent flaps and looked out. Who and where were our annoying nocturnal visitors? I strained my eyes into the pitch darkness no lights, no boats but again I heard muffled shouts. Slipping into my moccasins I moved quietly out of the tent toward the shore. Maybe some damnfool fishermen drifted over the rapids in a boat? But at night?

Suddenly I saw them, through the rising mists, with moonlight on their backs! There were men on the river, in the rapids with peevies and pike poles yelling instructions to one another as they hopped about on the splashing surface. Then Bill soon came out of the

tent, enquiring "Hey, who's hollering?" Rubbing my eyes in disbelief, I looked again they were still there desperately shouting and jumping back and forth in the blackness on an invisible log jam!

Rob now poked his head out of the tent asking "What's all the noise out there?" and his older brother said "go back to bed." I blinked again and all was gone! It was now quiet, save for the thundering rapids. We soon returned to our warm bags. Turning and tossing and after a lot of wondering, I finally drifted back to sleep.

What happened there? Was it a peculiar environmental phenomena "photographing" a tragedy and exposing it at certain times under correct atmospheric conditions? Evidently aspects of the Battle of Hastings in early England and other authenticated sightings of tragic events are revealed to spectators again and again. Was the happening some trick of nature, the swirling mists, the moonlight, the noise of the rapids? Or did we somehow trick ourselves without any alcohol or pot to warp our wits. Had we just been over tired, or too much sun? Could be but all three of us? You go figure it out. We haven't, nor have we discussed it much between ourselves or anyone else. Who would believe it? It's another secret of the valley. The answer lies only within the strange mists of the Colton's, on the Madawaska.

REJ/Revised/2015

"STRANG MISTS"

Ernie Jukes – An artist, outdoorsman, writer and rover creates from his studio/gallery at his Camp J retreat in Matawatchan, between Bon Echo and Algonquin Provincial Parks. This article first appeared in "Ontario Out of Doors" many years ago. His illustration was used on T-shirts and large prints were sold by the Matawatchan Country Store. There are still several left, and prints of Donald's Mill are also available. He says he was requested to renew this mystery by various guys like Rich, Dave, Cliff, Jacques, Guy and a few gals. He hopes you enjoy it as well.



R. Ernest Jukes

For 65 years, Ernie has been an artist in residence in Matawatchan at Camp J, collecting a rucksack of tales and preserving stories of people and happenings in the Highlands through many publications including his books and for The Highlander since its inception. His donated paintings of our valley and records of our fire tower may be seen in "The Wall in the Hall Museum" in the Matawatchan Hall.

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Dangers in the Great Outdoors: Myths and Facts!

By David Arama

Increasingly, research studies are pointing to balancing our lives that are filled and consumed with technology, social media, and over structure, with basic experiences in nature. Hiking, fishing, camping, foraging for wild edibles, building forts in the woods (kids), canoeing....all necessary to reconnect with the natural world, thereby providing the essential balance we need in our lives! To enjoy these experiences, we also need to pay attention to safety and some of the common dangers in the wilds:



Hornets and wasps: wasps build paper-like nests in trees, in woodshed, under boats and canoes, and in any opening on cabin walls. One experience I had involved removing the propane tank's cover at my RV, only to find a very active wasp nest. I've stepped on ground wasp and hornet's nests, and stirred up honeybees in the raspberry patch. If being chased, run at least 100 meters to get into a competing nest's territory. Have some Calamine and Benadryl on hand.

Venemous Snakes: the only poisonous snake found in Ontario is the Massasauga Rattlesnake. Fewer than 3 people have died in Ontario from the rattler's bite, however, at last count, over 8 people have been bitten this year alone. The common Watersnake isn't poisonous, but they can jump onto your boat, they're feisty.



Deer ticks and Lyme disease: Deer Ticks are moving further north, and cases of Lyme disease are becoming more common. Avoidance and prevention are key! Wear long pants, high socks, and spray with a Deet insect repellent. Often a tick bite results in a telltale bullseye around the bite. Sometimes the tick looks like a mole when it's attached and feeding. Removal within the first few hours is crucial. When going for your doctor's checkups, notify the doc if you've had a tick bite.



Mice and Hanta Virus are a danger for RV and Cottage enthusiasts. Their dust-feces can contain Hanta-Virus. When sweeping floors, wear a surgical mask if mouse droppings are noticed. TSC Stores carry excellent mouse traps and bait.



Giant Hogweed and Cow Parsnip are flowering perennials that have umbrella clusters of flowers, resembling wild carrot and yarrow. Both can grow to several or more feet high, and they enjoy riverbank habitats. They can cause serious skin problems, blindness, and even death if ingested. The simple rule with all plants is the 100% rule....if you don't know what the plant is, avoid contact with it.



Bears: Black Bears number in population at over 250,000 in Ontario, and since the cancellation of the spring bear hunt, are increasingly pressed for new habitat and food. "You can't outrun a bear, so choose a partner that you can outrun"!



Aquatic Creatures eg Leeches, Snapping Turtles, and Algae Blooms can pose a threat. The Blue Algae Blooms increase due to eutrication, and can be toxic. Leeches should be carefully scraped, dont burn or pull off (can implode guts into your bloodstream). Snapping Turtles are self-explanatory.



Mosquitoes and West Nile Virus: wear plenty of insect repellent, long pants and long-sleeved shirts, loose fitting and light colored clothing, avoid heavy sweating, and avoid stagnant water locations, and get rid of stagnant water near the RV or Cabin if at all possible. Usually, mosquitoes go away when the temperature dips below 13 degrees celsius. Areas south of highway #7 are more likely to have West Nile occurrences. Like Lyme, notify your doc that it's a possibility if your an outdoor recreationist.

You cannot outrun, out-swim or out-climb a black bear. Bear banger flares, marine air horns, and fox-40 whistles usually scare them off. However, in Provincial and National Parks, Bears are acclimatized and unafraid of us humans. Keep a clean campsite, no food or toothpaste inside tents, keep RV and Cabin windows closed at night, and cleanup your bar-be-que! Usually, a nighttime prowling bear is safer than a daytime bear that approaches you. Most occurrences are known as sudden encounters eg. surprising a bear on a trail or in a canoe, or a feeding bear, or sow with cubs. Make lots of noise, and back away from these scenarios. Don't run, you could evoke a run and chase.




Spiders: Brown Recluse, Wolf Spider, Daddy Longlegs, all very different spiders! Daddy Longlegs has a poisonous bite, but thankfully cannot bite humans. The Wolf Spider is a large spider with a wolf-like fur coat. It's usually docile, however, if cornered, will attack and bite. It's normally found near water and on docks. The Brown Recluse is a small spider with a deadly bite, and is rarely encountered by humans.



Dangerous Molds found under cabins and rvs: this one isn't known well by many of us, however, when crawling under your cottage or rv, try not to disturb what could be a dangerous concoction of molds underneath.

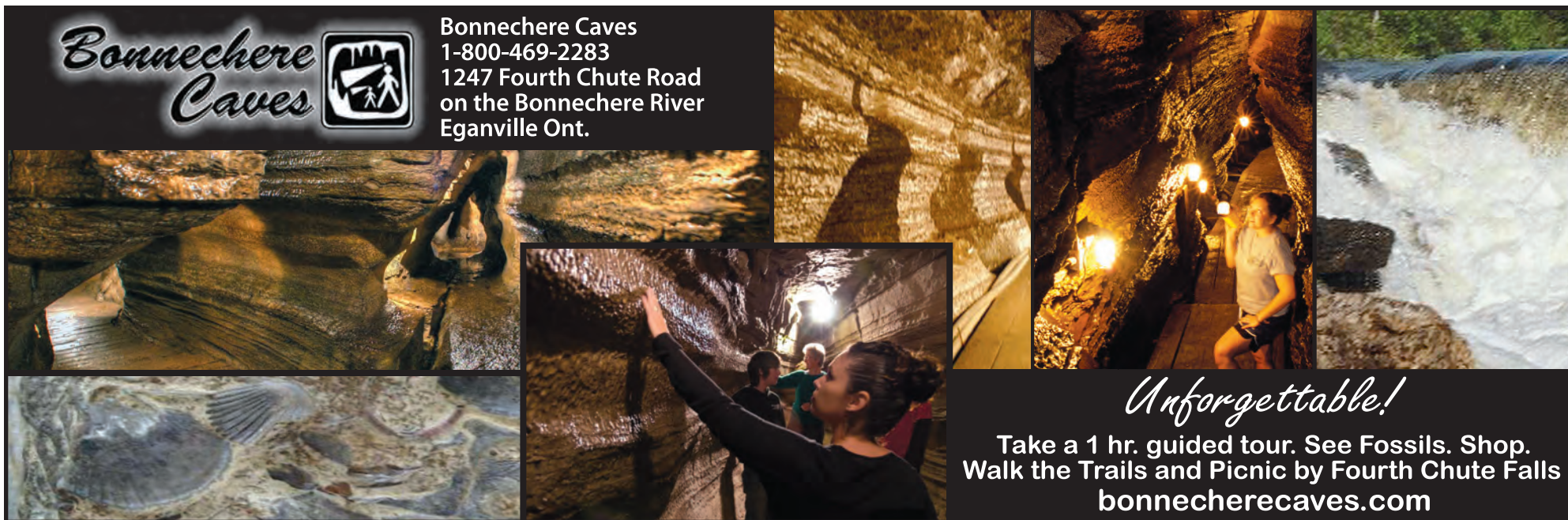
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Pigweed Soup

By Lois Thomson, with help from the Thomson "Girls" and Garry Ferguson

Roadside Dangers: you are at least 10 times more likely to hit a deer or moose, or swerve to miss a turtle or raccoon and end up in the ditch than you are to be attacked by a wild animal!

Keep to the posted speed limits or less on rural roads. Keep your vehicle tuned up, and have an auto club membership for emergencies. Carry a can of instant flat tire repair, have a filled up spare tire, and keep an extra set of keys. And I shouldn't have to remind folks to not drink or consume drugs before or when behind the wheel of an automobile, ATV, sled, boat (and canoe/kayak).

Extreme weather: with more and more extreme weather, it's important to check with Environment Canada, Weather Network, Marine Radio reports, and keep your eyes to the sky. Remember the 30/30 rule with lightning.....if the time between the flash and the thunder is less than 30 seconds, take cover. and wait at least 30 minutes after the last strike.

Now that we've increased the "Fear Factor" in you, realize that even dangers are found at home, work, and on highways traveled every day. Reconnect with nature carefully, don't become part of nature (you are biodegradable).



Pigweed (Lambsquarters), on the left, is tender and makes wonderful, nutritious Pigweed soup. Pigweed (Amaranthus), on the right, is also delicious and nutritious. It's a little tougher, which the pigs don't mind. They love them both.

It wasn't that long ago that almost every country home had lots of kids, a few chickens, pigs, a milk cow, perhaps beef cattle, and a huge vegetable garden. And in those gardens grew what was known as pigweed. I had a hard time sorting out just what pigweed is, but I think I have it now. There are two similar plants known by the same name.

Ubiquitous pigweed is wonderful cooked in soups and in any recipe that calls for cooked spinach, including quiche and lasagna. It's loaded with nutrition and tastes wonderful, too. Pigweed grew, as they do today, anywhere and everywhere in the garden to a height of 4 feet, if left alone.

Kids would usually have the task of pulling pigweed out of the garden and feeding it to the pigs, who went wild over it, which explains the name.

It comes in two varieties that are easily confused. The first one, *Chenopodium album* L., which most people know as lambsquarters, are also known as *chénopode blanc*, Fat-hen, Pigweed, White goosefoot, White pigweed, chou gras, poulette grasse, *ansérine blanche*. It is more delicate than its equally tasty cousin.

This variety does its best to further confuse people because it is variable in appearance with fuzzy or smooth leaves.

The other variety is a slightly tougher *Amaranthus retroflexus*, also known as redroot amaranth, careless weed, Pigweed, red-root amaranth, redroot pigweed, and rough pigweed.

Coming to a consensus about just which plant is true pigweed is impossible, but one thing everyone agrees on is they make wonderful soup.

I asked Garry Ferguson and Cheryl Thomson for old family recipes and was told there really isn't one or at least nothing worth writing down. But the two recipes result in quite different results.

Pick the tender top leaves, avoiding any with tough ribs in the leaves.

Here is the recipe:
Boil washed leaves in water with salt and pepper until tender.

Variation 1 - Cheryl Thomson:
Add dumplings (Bisquick is great) They thicken the soup and taste yummy. The result is a broth chock full of deep green leaves and dumplings.

Variation 2 - Garry Ferguson:
Add butter and milk for a creamy broth.

It took me a while to figure out which type of pigweed went into the soups, but after some confusion, I concluded that both used lambsquarters, leaving the tougher pigweed for the pigs.



David Arama
David is the owner of Marble Lake Lodge, and WSC Survival School Inc. David has appeared on numerous outdoor survival reality shows eg. Survive This YTV, Bad Trips Abroad T + E, and offers a variety of training courses and camps.

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Stewardship Youth Ranger Program
By Skippy Hale



L-R Youth Ranger Shelby Chaput, Stephane Lupien, Genevieve Lupien, and Angela Carmichael from Ottawa

I had the privilege of joining Margaret Legear, of Friends of Barnet Park, at the park on July 28. A crew of MNR Stewardship Youth Rangers and their Supervisor, Shandy Labine, provided an excellent workshop on the flora in the park. The Rangers identified the trees and then proceeded to name and describe the flora surrounding the shore. Many interesting facts about all of these plants were shared. I am an avid gardener and my crazy quilt of a garden hosts a mixture of wildflowers, perennials and bushes.

I believe in the survival of the fittest. Since it is an organic garden, over the years, the surviving generations have become hardy. One person's weed is another's wildflower. Thanks to the knowledge gleaned from these young people, I will be more judicious and cultivate some of what I have thought of as weeds and incorporate them into my landscaping. There is such a variety of plants and trees in our beautiful park. I encourage you to look closely at the beauty we sometimes take for granted. The Ministry



Rangers play "Ring around the bur oak"

of Natural Resources, the Township of Greater Madawaska, and the Barnet Park Committee, are working together to care or our park.

Some of the trees are: Butternut, Bur Oak, Black Walnut, Basswood, White Elm, White Birch, to name a few. Some of these species are endangered; some appear to be old growth. There are also a variety of pines and other fir trees. Next the young people pointed out, named and described the different wildflowers and bushes. Do you

realize how many species of flowers and bushes are along the shore and throughout the park? When you look closely, you can pick out individual plants with the variety of colours, types of stems and leaves.

Did you know that many varieties of mints have square stems? Some of the species are: St. John's Wort, Touch-Me-Not, Riverside Grape, Alternate Leaf Dogwood, Birds-foot Trefoil, Swamp Milkweed and many more. I suggest you bring the kids, an Ontar-

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'Bogie is a Happenin' Place! Chapter 3

By Skippy Hale



Michael Bourada with young Ben Brisebois, under "the roof" in Calabogie.



Volunteers working at St Gabriel's Church in Springtown



Wild parsnip is distinguished by its yellow flowers

io or Canadian Native plant book, or search the web for a list and see how many you can identify. Remember the rule when walking in nature: "Take only pictures; leave only footprints". Children may snip small samples of leaves and flowers to press. I asked Margaret if there was a plan to post signs about the park naming the varieties of flowers and trees. She replied that she hoped to do so at some time, but the committee is small and some volunteers under the direction of the committee could take on some of the tasks. They are fortunate to have an excellent summer student who has done some amazing work of weeding, clearing brush and other tasks.

This park was the summer cottage belonging to the Lumber Baron Barnet family. These generous philanthropists willed the park property to Calabogie to be used by and for the local population. Over the years, weddings, showers and family reunions have been held there. The gulls line up on the row of rocks off shore. The wee ducks swim after Momma and Poppa and learn to fly in the bay and at night, the loons perform a musical opera as the sun sets over the lake. This bequeathed land is sacred space, once a stopping place for the Algonquins as they migrated back and forth between their winter and summer camps. We must respect and protect this important part of their and our heritage. Let us be stewards, not abusers of the park. Become a Friend of Barnet Park.

I was very impressed with the young people's love and knowledge of the flora. The Youth Rangers were in Senior High School, College and University with books in hand to check if they needed to double check and Shandy, their supervisor, was there for back up. If you are interested in being part of the Stewardship Youth Ranger Program in 2016, apply through Ontario.ca/careers. Applications will be accepted from early March to late April. You must be born in 1999 and not turning 19 before December 31, 2016. Those who apply must have demonstrated an ability to be a team player; have leadership skills; have interest, experience and/or knowledge of natural resources. If accepted, you will be able to earn two high school co-op credits while earning minimum wage.

Well, as I said last issue, the 'Bogie is a Happenin' place, Chapter 3! The volunteer work crew at St. Gabriel's Church in Springtown have been busy at it again. The new circular and oval windows over the door are in place and they look beautiful! The door and frame looks so much better with its new coat. It is so nice to not have to look at the weathered plywood, which was necessary to keep out the elements and flying fauna. There is no stopping a dedicated crew of volunteers. One committee member cut, milled and carved a new sign for the cemetery and church. The sign was put securely in situ by the volunteers. Look for it when you drive by. Another member who lives close to the church said that traffic and visits to the site have increased since the installation.

The Magician Show and BB-Q evening, August 2 was a great night to be part of Calabogie. I had an opportunity to visit with friends 'under the roof'. Since I was away most of the winter, I had not been inside the rink to appreciate the immensity of the building. I cannot wait to don my skates and zoom around...well, skate at a slower pace than I used to...on the protected surface of the rink! The chicken burgers were excellent and judging by my friends' comments, so were the hamburgers and hot dogs. The magician, Michael Bourada, was very humorous and talented. He had the audience both in stitches and in awe with his prestidigitation. The kids who went up on the stage all had good stage presence as if they were his regular assistants. One adult got stuck in the guillotine, but Michael got him out before anything bad happened.

The Calabogie Brewing Company was at the show selling some of their new ales. I sampled two of their lighter ones, but being a fan of dark ales, I purchased the Black Donald which reminded me of a Scotch Ale with its hint of chocolate and coffee. The Redneck Café is still being renovated, but I look forward to sampling their menu soon.

On Saturday, August 8, my son's family visited. After supper, the kids were playing in the sandbox, while I did some pruning. A young woman on her bike came off the trestle bridge to tell me that she had just seen a bear cub coming up from the water's edge toward her. I asked if Momma Bear was close by. Needless-to-say, she did not hang around to find out! What is alarming is that the

kids and I had gone on a nature walk along the trail before supper. We ate dessert and stayed safely in for the rest of the evening. They rang a loud bell and used several flashlights going to their car. Life in the country is never dull. Seriously, be careful and be safe! Watch out for Giant Hogweed and Wild Parsnip. When I was preparing the story at Barnet Park, I came into contact with Wild Parsnip and developed an itchy, painful rash. The first symptom was a very itchy area on my right shin. Throughout the afternoon, I kept scratching and when I sat down to speak with Margaret Legear; my leg looked like raw meat and was painful. Sleeping was difficult that night in spite of two Benadryl. After work the next day, I went to Emergency at RVH and was given a prescription for a steroid ointment to apply for two weeks. I was told to keep out of the sun.

This is your column so contact me about events and activities in the village. I will even announce births, engagements and marriages if you like.

bogiebeat@gmail.com



Skippy Hale moved to Calabogie with her husband Richard Hale Christmas '99. She has been active in community and church activities. She loves children and brags about her three grandchildren, 'Preschool Storytime' and school visits when she was the GMPL CEO/Librarian, and weekly Sunday School classes at Most Precious Blood Church in Calabogie.

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Youth Soccer Interest in Calabogie Remains High
By M.J. (Mike) Pratt

Photos by: Amanda Epp and Yvonne Pennock. Also, Jeanine Mulvihill has posted photos from this season on Facebook.



Left - Calabogie Junior, U6 Soccer Team, Right - Calabogie U12 Soccer Team



For the second year in a row, youth in Calabogie gathered together on Thursday evenings at the Highlands Golf Resort to play Soccer. This year they played from: June 4th to August 6th.

There were two U6 teams (4-6 years old) and two U12 teams (6-12 years old). The players had fun, got plenty of exercise and learned a little more about the game of soccer. Being able to play organized sports locally is appreciated by most.

The Coaches and Parents involved in U6 and U12 Soccer would like to thank the Highlands Golf Resort for providing an appropriate and inviting location for the games again this year.

We would also like to thank the Sponsors of Soccer Nights in Calabogie 2015: The Calabogie Medical Clinic, Aucoin's Electric, Shooters Bar & Grill and Joe Ballas Bait, Tackle & Engine Service.

THE WILDWOOD CHRONICALS

Big Things in the Wind - Part 4

By George Ross

The beginning of efforts by Addington Highlands Township Council to support the installation of wind energy farms in the Township against the will of a majority of residents dates back to 22nd March 2015. Parts 1 - 3 of 'Big Things In The Wind' chronicle Council proceedings in this regard from 22nd March up to and including the Council meeting of 6th July 2015. These articles are on-line at www.madawaskahighlander.ca.

The next Addington Highlands Township Council meeting following 6th July was held on 20 July 2015 in Flinton before a full house of staunch anti wind farm protesters. Primary articles on the meeting agenda were two motions. (1) A motion proposed by Reeve Hogg to provide 'support in principle' for the NextEra and RES wind farm proposals subject to negotiated details of the Vibrancy Agreement, Road Use Agreement and other legal matters. (2) A motion from Councillor Fritsch proposing that decisions regarding 2015 wind farm proposals be postponed for up to one year in order for the Township to develop a renewable energy strategy and acquire further information so that Council will be in a position to better respond to any 2016 submissions.

Councillor Fritsch asked Council to reverse the order of the meeting agenda so that his motion be presented first. This was rejected by Councillors Yanch, Cox and Reeve Hogg.

Reeve Hogg read the motion to provide support "in principle". It was passed with Hogg, Yanch & Cox voting in favour and Fritsch, Thompson against. This effectively nullified Councillor Fritsch's motion which was not voted on. Those in attendance loudly voiced their disapproval. They knew that with this vote the stage was set for a final vote of support at a Council meeting scheduled for 4th of August. A vote of support is the same as stating that the Township is a "willing host". The gallery erupted with loud yelling, expressing frustration and anger. There had been some earlier talk that Hogg and Cox had contributed in some way to Councillor Fritsch's motion, giving faint hope to the possibility that

perhaps one of them would vote with Fritsch & Thompson. Now the word "betrayed" was in the air.

At some point near the end of the meeting or immediately after, a negotiating committee was formed. It consisted of Reeve Henry Hogg and Councillor Bill Cox, with Town Clerk Christine Reed. Apparently they were to represent residents of the township in talks concerning the community benefits agreement and road use agreement in consultation with the Township lawyer. Upon hearing this news most people expressed dismay. The feeling was that the Township would be ineffectively represented, in that whatever details were agreed upon, benefits to the Township would be far less than what could be gained by more competent, business-like negotiators.

The committee met on 21st July at Flinton. Attendance included Reeve Hogg, Councillor Cox, Clerk Christine Reed and Patricia Gray, Planning and Development Administrative Assistant. Reeve Hogg chaired the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to review the wind energy agreements with NextEra Energy and Renewable Energy Systems. The minutes are a public record should anyone wish further information.

A special Council meeting on 30th July was convened by Reeve Hogg for the purpose of reviewing the Township lawyer's updated draft of the Community Benefits Agreement (Vibrancy Fund) and Road Use Agreement, which included results of legal changes and changes introduced on 21st July. This was a necessary step leading to the upcoming Council meeting of 4th August.

Councillor Tony Fritsch addressed Council with the following remarks:

"The objective of a negotiating committee is to negotiate the very best possible outcome for the Township in terms of financial, legal issues and protection of its citizens.

I am absolutely stunned that the negotiating committee intentionally chose to not ask for more money from NextEra

and RES in this last round of negotiating. In fact it is stated in their committee meeting minutes and correspondence that 'It is determined that the Township has already negotiated when they asked for double the proposed per megawatt compensation and will not request more' and that 'Council does not wish to further negotiate the per megawatt compensation.'

Council gave their bargaining chips away when they rushed to approve supporting the projects on July 20, with the terms of the vibrancy agreements not final. You are not in much of a bargaining position once you say you are going to support it.

I am appalled at the behaviour and the lack of due diligence in properly looking after the best interests of the Township and its residents."

Councillor Fritsch later made a motion to request the payment per megawatt of nameplate capacity and per km of Transmission Line on township right of ways to be upped by 20%. This motion was defeated 3 to 2 (Fritsch & Thompson, Ward 1 in favour).

There followed a discussion about a bursary fund. Councillor Fritsch stated, "We are sitting here today debating over a small bursary fund issue and completely missing the bigger, more important issue of negotiating more money for the Township. Another 20% is another few million dollars for the Township."

Council met again August 4th 2015, at Denbigh. Matters for consideration related to the wind farms were: Community Benefits and Development Agreement for RES & NextEra, Municipal Resolution of Support for NextEra and RES, Resolution Regarding The Road Use Agreement with NextEra and RES. These six motions received majority Council support with Reeve Hogg, and Ward 2 Councillors Cox & Yanch in favour. Councillors Fritsch and Thompson, both from Ward 1 voted against.

The meeting was attended by 100 or so 'anti-turbine' protestors mostly from Ward 1. Immediately prior to the start of

voting everyone in the gallery, but for two people, stood up and turned their backs to Council. At the end of the voting process the protestors left the building while loudly shouting at Hogg, Yanch & Cox.

This meeting and its minutes will prove to be of historic interest some years from now. The minutes of the meeting are a public record. Pertinent segments of the meeting are featured on a Youtube video. It can be viewed by searching Youtube for 'Addington Highlands Wind Farms'.

Councillor Fritsch's (Ward 1) address to Council can be seen on the video. His remarks are included here:

"From early March this year, I have been pushing for the Council to take a Leadership role on the Wind Turbine issue, soliciting the input of all its residents, addressing fully all the issues surrounding Industrial Wind Turbines, negotiating the very best financial and legal terms in discussions with the developers, and taking its time to ensure we and our residents fully understand all the issues and then making a decision that the majority of our residents can support and respect.

From my perspective our Council has not done a proper job of dealing with these issues.

It is very clear that a significant majority of the Addington Highlands Ward 1 residents do not support Industrial Wind Turbines in our Township.

Therefore as an elected representative of Ward 1, respecting the interests of Ward 1 residents, I cannot support any of the currently proposed projects by NextEra and RES.

I strongly believe that Council should follow the direction outlined in a motion I 'tabled' at the July 20th meeting because Council stubbornly would not change the meeting agenda order into something logical."

The meeting of August 4th was the last opportunity for Council to vote against the wind farm proposals and state that

Continued on Page 20...

MISSISSIPPI MADAWASKA LAND TRUST

Rose Hill Nature Reserve, Denbigh Receives Heart-Warming Land Donation on August 8
 Edited from a July 24 news release from the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust admin@mmlt.ca



The rather curiously named "Fufflemucker Pond". There must be a story behind that name, at Rose Hill Nature Reserve, Denbigh. On Saturday, August 8th, the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust (MMLT) celebrated the acquisition of 258 acres of pristine wilderness immediately adjacent to Rose Hill Nature Reserve.

The amazing story of this land donation goes all the way back to August 1980 when donor Patricia Hatton made a formal promise to her late husband, Robert Brodey.

In 1979, when she and her husband Robert Brodey were returning from a camping trip at Rose Hill with friends Anna and John Hatton, the two couples were

involved in a serious car accident that took the lives of Robert Brodey and Anna Hatton.

On the first anniversary of his tragic death. She promised him that the land would always be kept as it was, so that others would learn to love and respect nature as he did. At that time a large bronze memorial plaque was mounted on the side of an enormous boulder committing the land for preservation. A little over a year after erecting the memorial plaque in their honour, Patricia married John Hatton.

The first 100 acre section of Rose Hill Nature Reserve was donated to MMLT in 2011 by the family of Charlie Armstrong through his daughters, Charlene and Bethany, descendants of the Fritsch family of Denbigh. On one of their first trips to the Reserve, MMLT board members discovered the mysterious memorial plaque which could be seen from the access trail and eventually contacted Patricia Hatton. They soon learned that she had always intended to bequeath the property to a Nature Conservancy. On discovering that a Nature Reserve already existed right next door to her property, she soon expressed her intentions to

donate the land outright to MMLT. Now this beautiful property has been merged into Rose Hill Nature Reserve and legally protected forever by the Land Trust.

Bethany Armstrong, now an MMLT board member, expresses the significance of the donation this way. "Because of the memorial plaque on the rock, my family had always known that our neighbours saw their property as a nature reserve, and that it was adjacent to our property. The fact that we donated our land to MMLT and now Pat ultimately decided to donate her land too is truly amazing."

To date, MMLT has secured over 2,400 acres of conservation lands within the Mississippi River and Lower Madawaska River watersheds. In addition, MMLT strives to provide the community with opportunities to enjoy the full educational, physical, mental and spiritual benefits of nature exploration on these wilderness properties.

The general public was invited to join the celebration on August 8th, followed with refreshments and a tour. Rose Hill Nature Preserve is just north of the junction of Hwy 41 and County Rd 28 (Denbigh exit), turn east on Rose Hill Rd. Follow Rose Hill Rd. for 3.4 km. The trail entrance is on the right side of the road, just before Rose Lake.



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Addington Highlands is not a 'willing host'. This effort was not successful. Addington Highlands is now on record as supporting and approving the placement of industrial wind turbines, construction of many kilometers of roads and clearing of forests for transmission line right of ways.

Exactly how a community wherein an overwhelming majority of residents are not in favour of the wind farm projects, can be said to be 'willing hosts', and how Council arrived at this decision, are matters of grave concern to most Addington Highlands, Ward 1 residents.

Looking back at events since 22nd March it now appears that Reeve Hogg, Councilors Yanch and Cox were steadfastly determined, over many months, to thwart the will of the majority of residents. The record will show that, but for cursory attempts; inquiries by Council into the proposed wind farm project's positive/negative impact on the Township, were light-weight, unsubstantive, frail efforts. There is also a pervading belief that the deal that was struck between the Township and the wind energy companies is inferior to what the Township could have achieved if there had been more time and a more experienced Township negotiating team.

All "due-diligence" work carried out by Township staff and Council members between 22nd March and 4th August should be compiled and fully accounted for and made a public record. It is expected that terms of agreements between Township and the wind energy companies will be carefully studied and any deficiencies will

be reported on. Township residents have a right to know if their paid representatives have competently represented the interests of the Township.

NextEra & RES will submit bids to the IESO by early September for contracts to supply wind energy electricity, to be generated in Ward 1 Addington Highlands, to the grid. The Independent Electricity System Operator is a Crown corporation responsible for operating the electricity market and directing the operation of the bulk electrical system in the province of Ontario. A decision by IESO is expected in December and will be subject to environment & regulatory approvals among other requirements.

wildwoodblog.ca



George and his wife Joan moved to Denbigh from Ireland in 2007. He is semi-retired and presently does work for the Township of Addington Highlands as well as volunteer work within the community. George & Joan own and operate the 'Wildwood B & B' in Denbigh. His interests include photography, writing, gardening and ocean sailing among others. George met Joan in Ireland after he departed Canada on an around the world solo sailing trip. He decided to postpone the rest of the voyage and has now set his anchor in Denbigh for the foreseeable future.

UP THE LINE TO THE FRONT LINE

The Box of Baby Pigs By Howard Popkie



When I was about twelve years old at Black Donald, our family lived on a little farm just a few miles out of town. I had two older brothers and a younger sister, but my mother always called on me to do the chores.

It was midnight in the winter and our old pig was due to have her babies. Mother called me to go out to the stable and see if the bigs had been born.

I was mad because I had to get out of bed and go into the cold.

When I went into the stable there were baby pigs all over the place.

I didn't say a word when I got home

and just got into bed to play a trick on Mom.

She said, "Well, did the pig have her babies?" I said, "Yes." Mom didn't believe me, but she couldn't sleep because she wasn't sure if I was telling the truth.

Mother got out of bed because she said the baby pigs would freeze and if there were no baby pigs, I was in for it.

She came home with a big cardboard box of baby pigs and put them beside the old box stove for the night.

All was well in the morning again. Babies have a way of doing that, even if they are pigs.

SENIORS HOUSING

Seniors Housing 1 Step Closer in Greater Madawaska

By Bill Beacham

Ontario Municipal Board zoning has now been approved for the proposed seniors housing apartments on Eastern Avenue in Griffith. The plan is to build 2 single storey 5 unit apartment buildings. Each building will have 3 one bedroom and 2 two bedroom apartments, as well as a large common area. At least one apartment in each building will be fully accessible. Each apartment will have a private patio.

The development in Griffith is referred to as Phase 1, with Phase II being the establishment of additional future units in Calabogie.

While we now have demonstrated the need, established waiting lists, properly zoned land, site plan, engineers reports and architects rendering we must turn to financing. Our hope was to access government funds as others have done successfully in the County of Renfrew. We informed the County in 2011, providing them with a detailed summary of our work, "that we intended to make application under the Affordable Housing Program assuming the program is renewed and there is opportunity to make such an application". Unfortunately there has been no opportunity since that time. If government funding is not attainable the seniors group is determined to find alternative means of financing the apartments. Perhaps the residents, community and private developers hold the key. We are looking at alternatives and will hold a public meeting in the coming months to inform, solicit support and gauge the interest of the community to assisting in

the financing of the apartments.

The Greater Madawaska Seniors Housing Corporation is grateful to the many volunteers that work towards keeping our communities intact and establishing seniors housing in the township. We must also thank Municipal Council and Staff – always supportive and instrumental in navigating the recent OMB zoning meeting. The township announced recently it will receive an Age Friendly Community Planning Grant of \$19,500, in partnership with Seniors Housing, to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment on the senior population within the municipality.

You will want to attend a huge yard sale at the NU 2 U shop to be held on August 29th at the same time as the Denbigh/Griffith Lions Club car show. The sale will be held from 10am to 4pm.

The not-for-profit corporation, overseen by a volunteer Board of Directors made up of township residents, was established in 2010 – the result of a steering committee established by the Municipality to study the housing needs of seniors in our township. The reality was then, as it is now, there are no seniors housing facilities in the Township.

The Mission of the Greater Madawaska Seniors Housing Corporation is: **To strive toward the well being of the senior citizens of the township of Greater Madawaska by providing accessible, safe and worry free housing.**

Watch for our Annual General Meeting this fall!



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Library Assistant, Part-time

Greater Madawaska Public Library is seeking applications for the position of part-time library assistant.

The position is 14 hours weekly and starting rate is \$16.08 per hour plus 6% vacation pay.

Days required to work are Tuesday 1 – 7 p.m., and Thursday and Saturday from 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Some flexibility is required occasionally.

Duties include opening and closing the library, serving patrons and visitors at the circulation desk, providing faxing and copying services, performing interlibrary loan duties, maintaining the lending Resource Pools, assisting patrons with materials selection, and various other library-related duties.

A desire to interact with children is very important as a major part of the position also involves planning and administering the weekly Children's Storytime program featuring stories, Early Literacy resources, crafts, and themed activities to preschool children.

Please submit your application either by email attachment to gmpl@bellnet.ca, in person at 4984 Calabogie Road, Calabogie, Ontario, or by mail to Greater Madawaska Public Library, Box 160, Calabogie, Ontario K0J 1H0, by Tuesday, September 8th.

Approximate start date is September 24th.

Please note, although we appreciate all interest, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

Memo regarding Wind Energy Projects Presented to Greater Madawaska Mayor and Council, August 11

Presented by Marko Cekic, MES (Planning)
Land Use Planner



As a result of the recent increase in discussions surrounding large wind energy projects, Township staff has been conducting research on the subject. To date, staff has been able to obtain the following information pertaining to large wind energy projects:

1. There have been no large wind energy applications in Greater Madawaska.
2. There are no available maps that show Crown Land set aside for wind energy projects. The Province, however, is entertaining proposals on all Crown Lands. The map located at <http://www.geologyontario.mndmf.gov.on.ca/website/claimapsiii/viewer.asp>, which Council may have seen in the past, illustrates Crown Land that may have been removed from staking 7-8 years ago by the Ministry of Northern Development and Mining (MNDM) as a result of the first round of similar large wind project applications and requests

from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF).

3. The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) has issued a request for wind energy proposals across Ontario. The IESO is a not-for-profit corporate entity established in 1998 by the Electricity Act of Ontario. The IESO and the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) merged on January 1, 2015. The IESO administers the Large Renewable Procurement (LRP), which is a competitive process for procuring large renewable energy projects generally larger than 500 kilowatts.

4. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is not currently speaking with proponents of wind energy with respect to the Township of Greater Madawaska.

Based on information provided by the Ontario Ministry of Energy, the typical steps in the development of a Large Renewable Energy Project are:

1. **Feasibility Analysis** - Project developer conducts preliminary investigation and multiple sites may be considered.
2. **Community Engagement** - Developer engages with the local community and may seek local participation in the proposed project.
3. **Application for Electricity Contract** - Application filed by developer for a contract to sell electricity to the grid. This is not a guarantee that the project will go forward.
4. **Environment and Regulatory Approvals** - Developer conducts environmental studies and consults with municipalities, Aboriginal communities and the public. The developer fulfills grid connection requirements, secures building and road permits.
5. **Construction** - Project must have all applicable approvals before construction starts. Project testing may take place before full operation.
6. **Operation** - Typical contract periods are 20 years for wind, though they may run longer. Equipment may be stopped when power is not required by the grid.
7. **Decommissioning** - Project developers are responsible for decommissioning. Many materials can be salvaged or reclaimed and land must be prepared for its expected future use - e.g., for projects on agricultural land, the property must be restored to the same or better agricultural capability it had before the project started.

Additional and more detailed information regarding the Large Renewable Procurement can be found in the information package for Municipalities, which was issued by the Ontario Ministry of Energy. Please find attached the information package.

Going forward staff will keep Council informed of any future developments of any wind projects.

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Excerpts from Township of North Frontenac Position Paper on Proposed Wind Turbines

Ronald J Higgins, Mayor North Frontenac Township



1. Introduction

In March of this year we were very surprised to learn that our Township was designated as a potential industrial wind turbine (IWT) farm site for one (1) project called Northpoint I, consisting of up to 50 turbines. Our neighbour, the Township of Addington Highlands had been approached regarding up to 100 turbines for Northpoint II. In June we learned that the project now would include a portion of Northpoint II. Northpoint II was revised and now has seven (7) turbines to be erected in North Frontenac as part of the Addington Highlands project. Unknown to us the proponent has been in the area for about two years conducting wind studies and securing land agreements. The deadline for an RFP proposal submission, as required by the IESO, is September 2015. The proponent gave us a deadline of July 18 to provide a letter of support, a resolution agreeing to the two projects and a signed road use agreement. Having only a few months to study this proposal and its implications it has put a great deal of pressure on us, when the Province and the Proponents have been working on this for two years or more. After reaching our decision to not support this project, and declare ourselves as unwilling hosts, I felt compelled to conduct more research on how this came about and to address our concerns. To that end I am providing this position paper in the hopes of entering into consultation with our Provincial government to have this whole issue addressed.

We need to make it clear that North Frontenac is not against renewable sources of energy. Smaller scale wind, or solar versus IWT's, or hydroelectric could be an option that fits into our strategic plans and economic vision. If we had been consulted by all parties before presentation of the industrial wind turbine projects this situation, that we are in today, could have been avoided.

2. Summary

My hope is to meet with the Ontario Premier and the Minister of Energy to discuss our options, and to determine what rights and input the tax payers and municipalities of Ontario indeed have. Over the past several years we have been working quite diligently developing a strategy and a vision for our municipality that will someday raise us up from the ashes of the devastating economic downturn that happened a few years ago. We have identified vision identifying the unique characteristics of our community that will help us do that.

We have been forced to absorb downloaded services from the Provincial government; the most recent, and not without significant cost, was regarding OPP services. Absorbing these costs has put a tremendous burden on rural municipalities from a financial perspective and straining our limited human resource

bandwidth, yet we have worked out a way to manage this issue while maintaining a high quality of service delivery for our residents.

(The Proponent has stated that they intend to move all Northpoint 2 back to Addington Highlands but as of the date of this report the project site map still shows 7 wind turbines for North Frontenac.)

Our geography and terrain is not farmland, which seems to be the most com-

“It is ironic that the Ontario government would consider destroying this environment as part of plan to save the environment. Places such as this cannot be replaced.”

- North Frontenac Taxpayer

mon location for installations such as these. We are rich with a unique, pristine natural beauty, mixed crown land and private forests and are proud to be included in the Land O'Lakes community. Our area might be large geographically but is small in population. With a year round population of approximately 2000, seasonal population bumps us up to approximately 8000. We need to, we must, continue to grow and nurture our tourist industry as well as our residential population. The focus of our Long Term Economic Development Plan is to enhance our services and expand our infrastructure to bring new tourists to our beautiful location. We have provided 921 building permits in the past 7 years, and hope our efforts increase that exponentially. The main focus of not supporting these projects is based on economic development that does not disrupt our unique and pristine landscape.

3. Industrial Wind Turbine Proposal

The following was presented to North Frontenac Council on June 6, 2015 by the Proponent.

Highlights of Potential Projects

- Northpoint I - North Frontenac, north of Plevna
 - Up to 50 turbines
 - Mostly Crown Land, entirely in North Frontenac
 - ~9 km Transmission Line
- Northpoint II - Addington Highlands and North Frontenac
 - Up to 100 turbines with 7 in North Frontenac
 - Split between private and Crown lands
 - ~23 km transmission line connecting to Northpoint I substation
 - ~48 km potential alternate transmission line

Potential Economic Benefits

- (Northpoint I)
- Municipal Property Assessment (MPAC)
 - Total Annual Property Taxation - estimate ~ \$146,000
 - Infrastructure Upgrades (typically covered in a Road Use Agreement prior to start of construction) - Roads, bridges,

culverts, etc. carried by the project

- Employment
 - 6 to 10 full-time permanent positions at the project site, hundreds of temporary construction jobs
- Operations & Maintenance Building
 - 5K sq. ft. minimum with associated taxes, etc. located within 20 min. drive of the site
- Proposed Community Benefits Agreement
 - North Frontenac Township Proposed
 - Funding for recreational / sustainability / community projects; based on installed project infrastructure in municipality

Requested Documents

They were asking Council to enter into three agreements regarding Northpoint I and II

- Municipal Support Resolution from Council
- Community Benefits Agreement
 - \$1,750 per installed MW of generating capacity (\$175,000/year for 100 MW)
 - \$1,750 per kilometer of transmission line installed in municipal rights of way
- Road Use Agreement
 - Outlines the project's responsibilities regarding road maintenance and upgrades

4. Our Evaluation

To evaluate this proposal we looked at the following;

1. Economic benefit
2. Road infrastructure
3. Deforestation
4. Scenic beauty
5. Wildlife
6. Potential for wind turbine fires
7. Devaluation of property (which has already started)
8. Decommissioning of turbines after life expectancy
9. Residential infighting
10. The wishes of all our residents
11. Our strategic vision or our direction/intent for economic development and resident attraction.
12. Impact to our Dark Sky Preserve
13. Does Ontario really need this type of power generation?

To evaluate this project properly we felt we needed to ensure all aspects were evaluated and the following is our results of that evaluation.

1. Economic Benefit - The projected tax revenues and the community vibrancy fund was a very tempting offer. However when you analyzed this in detail the Township would only receive \$42K in taxes and the rest would go to the County and education. The community vibrancy funds being offered would not all go to the activities listed and most would have to go to the residents and cottages that would have devaluation as a result of having the wind turbines in their backyards. In trying to determine facts on this the MPAC results showed no devaluation,

yet when you speak with those who have had properties next to wind turbines, or to real estate agents we found they could not sell, or those looking to buy would not come to an area with wind turbines. This raised a major concern for me. How can MPAC not show a decreased tax rate when there is clear evidence the properties have suffered devaluation? We already have a home owner who is trying to sell in that area and when this issue came about and all interest in the property disappeared. The only good thing we came up with in regards to the proposal was possible short term employment for local contractors to build roads and assist with ground preparation for the turbines.

2. Road Infrastructure - Our Township is set in gently rolling hills and thousands of lakes, streams and wetlands. In looking at the size of roads required this would have been very destructive to our ecosystem and natural beauty, the things we are trying to promote.

3. Deforestation - Besides the road systems we would also lose approximately 3 acres per wind turbine and a large amount of acreage for transmission lines. Trees are a valuable commodity for our landowners and visitors not to mention the disruption to wild life.

4. Scenic Beauty - This criterion would be totally devastating if wind turbines were erected in our Township. It is one of the basic criteria for our economic development activities. In addition turbines would destroy the scenic beauty for the residents and cottagers in the area of the projects.

5. Wildlife - We have an abundance of wildlife in our Township and have 30 species at risk included in our wildlife inventory. In addition we have had sightings of cougars in our Township and although not on the list of species at risk, we believe them to be endangered.

The evidence is documented about the destruction of birds and bats. We find this is totally unacceptable and the brown bats that are suffering decline due to white nose syndrome do not need another factor having a negative impact on their population.

6. Potential for Wind Turbine Fires - This was a concern for us based on the crown lands in the area and the fact that we do not have the equipment to perform high angle emergency rescue. Although the Proponent did indicate that they could be equipped to do this, we still have the concern of forest fires as a result, and the long-term impact of our scenic and pristine environment being destroyed by fires.

7. Devaluation of Property - Covered under economic development

8. Decommissioning of Towers - In our evaluation, we saw numbers from \$450K to \$1M to decommission and return the land back to its original state. We were quite concerned on this item and al-

though the Proponent stated they would cover that cost they indicated that they would not provide a security bond to cover the costs.

9. Residential Infighting – The projects have caused an upheaval in our peaceful community. The lure of having another source of income from a wind turbine(s) being erected on their property led many to sign agreements with the Proponent. We have heard that some did so without seeking legal opinion and as result have – best described as – significant liens on their properties. All in all, this has been disturbing to the residents and in some cases is causing rifts. We have also heard some instances of ‘buyer’s remorse’. We clarify that we have no issue or involvement with a resident’s personal decision. We also know that without doubt we do represent the majority on this issue.

10. Majority of Residents Opposed – The majority of the residents spoke out loud and clear about not having IWT’s in the Township. Not much was heard from those who signed leases as there was “apparently” a clause in the agreement that does not allow them to talk about it. Please see Appendix C for a sample of comments we have received in writing.

11. Our Strategic Vision – This type of industrial project does not fit into our strategic plan or economic development strategies for North Frontenac.

12. Dark Sky Preserve – We have the first, and only, municipal dark sky preserve in Canada as designated by the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, and are very proud of that distinction. It was put in place when we realized that one of our greatest environmental attributes was our dark skies. We have Astronomers, Astro Photographers and amateur astronomers come to our municipality for the opportunities we provide in this regard. Impact unknown at this time.

13. Is the Power Needed? – It has been documented that Ontario has a surplus of power and sells excess power to Quebec and to the U.S. The technology is not available to store excess power so existing power plants still need to be maintained. After evaluation of the above we determined that the negative and the unknowns far outweigh the benefits being offered, outright or inferred. Providing an agreement before knowing the following bullets did not make sense as it is not the way you go about approving a development project.

- Project Description Report including Description of Potential Environmental Effects
- Natural Heritage & Environmental Impact Study
- Assessment of Species at Risk
- Wetland Study
- Construction Plan
- Design & Operations Plan
- Decommissioning Plan

The taxation revenue that we might have benefited from was tempting to us as we are hard pressed to keep taxes in

line with overall rising costs in general. And with provincial downloading of services to our tier, we could face more burdens to absorb those additional costs – and who knows what we will be faced to take on next? For this current taxation year we have just incurred a \$139K2 due to downloading of Ontario Provincial Police costs for a total of \$814K by year 2019. To make sound decision based on the project alone, and exclude the financials, this project proposal does not make any sense whatsoever for our plans and vision for the community.

Our staff resources are already stretched to the maximum and we have had to look at sharing services with our neighboring municipalities and townships. We are more than comfortable that we looked past the dollar temptation and took the time to conduct full analyses; which ultimately lead to our decision to not support this project and as a Township to declare ourselves as Unwilling Hosts.

We also weighed this new revenue source (Community Vibrancy Fund) against the likelihood of property evaluations going down due to homes and cottages being in the sight lines of the turbines, and visible along our scenic routes and interior camping. It became clear that much of these funds would need to be applied to our budget lines to cover the loss in taxation for those properties where their property values declined. So basically there would be no gain whatsoever. In addition the Proponent stated the spending of the fund would require their approval for what projects the money could be spent on but were not forthcoming about the approval criteria.

The decision became easier the more we learned. This was a unanimous decision when the vote was put to Council by Resolution, and is recorded as such. Our tourism slogan is “Four Seasons, More Reasons” and we are working very hard to promote the tourism industry and Industrial Wind Turbines do not align with our vision and mandate.

But declaring that we are Unwilling Hosts it is simply a statement at this time and does not mean that the proposed project comes to an end. The Green Energy Act opens the doors to our resolution being discarded and the Proponent could still go ahead with this project if they were to win the contract. By declaring ourselves as Unwilling Hosts it only affects one segment of the weighting factors Independent Electricity System Operator will face when conducting due diligence on the proposal. We feel that the majority consensus of our residents should carry significant weight. We refused to be swayed by the offer for ‘gifting’ of additional funds coming into the coffers if we ‘played nice’. In fact, this ‘gifting’ not only annoyed us, but we learned that it was not as lucrative as suggested.

5. Background Analysis

A background analysis was required to understand what brought this issue to North Frontenac in the first place. This analysis started with the Proponent’s proposal and I followed the process through

to understand what the root cause of this issue really was. “Why did the Proponent come here and think they could install IWT’s in North Frontenac and our neighbouring municipality of Addington Highlands”? The answer turns out to be as a result of a request for proposal (RFP) from the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO). The RFP content did not tell us why they selected North Frontenac so we reviewed the IESO and Ontario Energy Board (OEB) websites.

We eventually determined that our areas were selected years ago to establish industrial wind farms in our part of Eastern Ontario and that Crown Lands were now selected as potential sites. This is a huge major concern based on the fact that we rely on Crown Lands in our municipality for our economy, as mentioned earlier in this report. As it turns out, the Proponent established wind monitoring stations here two years ago without informing the Township. In addition the IESO and the Ministry of Energy did not engage the municipality about their plans. As well, we are hearing stories from the residents that the Proponent was approaching landowners in the area to sign lease agreements for quite some time.

So now we understood why the Proponent came here, and now we needed to understand why the Proponent and IESO selected North Frontenac. We could not find any factual information in this regard other than learning that Crown lands are now being targeted. I can only assume that we are targeted due to the fact that we are a sparsely dispersed community with low residential voting power, with lots of available land and that we could probably use the economic stimulus as a boost to our local economy.

This led me to research the Government of Ontario website so that I could address my concerns. The following are some results of my research.

Editor’s note: Space does not allow us to print the full text of the argument Mayor Higgins puts forward. It is available on the Township website www.northfrontenac.com under News and Events, or you can do a Google search for “North Frontenac IWT Position Paper.”

In it, Mayor Higgins goes on to demonstrate how the Province is contravening many of it’s mandates and statements.

There are many reasons why this is happening but the key root cause in my mind is;

There is a lack of adequate and effective implementation, communication and transparency with provincial mandates and legislation.

1. There is the lack of teamwork and/or coordination between ministries and their implementation of their mandates.

2. There is a lack of open and transparent communication, consultation with the municipality.

3. Green Energy Act is flawed and/or not being implemented as intended.

Conclusion

After conducting this analysis and assessing the performance and management of the Ontario Provincial Ministries involved with this issue, I feel further action is required in order to put forth our concerns and ensure that IWT’s do not obtain approval for our municipality.

Actions

The following are the actions required to address this issue.

Communication

- Post this paper on our website;
- Send this paper to the Premier and the Minister of Energy and other applicable Provincial and Federal Ministries;
- Share this paper with IESO;
- Share this paper with neighbouring Townships and Counties;
- Share this paper with the Chief Doreen Davis;
- Share this paper with the media;
- Share this paper with our residents;
- Share this paper with special interest groups.

Vote on Proposal Support Resolution

Completed, as per resolution and that we do not support the Proponent’s proposal and have declared ourselves as unwilling hosts.

Meet with Provincial Government

This position paper indicates all the Provincial mandates and requirements for each applicable Provincial department and the Premier herself. These show that these are not being followed and these need to be addressed by setting up a meeting(s) to discuss and reach an agreement.

Send letter to IESO

We need to send a letter to the IESO to explain why the Proponent should not be allowed to win the request for proposal.

Implement an IWT Bylaw

Put in place an IWT specific bylaw. Strengthen our Economic Development Strategy

Strengthen our Economic Development Strategy

Have our economic development strategy and plans strengthened and endorsed by our MP and MPP.

Editor’s Note: The position paper continues with a number of Appendices with township Strategic Plan, which includes a Long Term Capital Plan, Economic Development Initiatives, and Public Education and Communication Plan.

It concludes by stressing the importance of the Crown Land Stewardship plan for economic development, which supports their stance against IWTs. This is followed by a sampling of residents’ comments.

Two Open Letters to the Board of Directors IESO

Timothy O'Neil-Chair
 Cynthia Chaplin-Director
 Murray Elston-Director
 Susanna Han-Director
 Ronald Jamieson-Director
 Margaret Kelch-director
 Bruce Laurie-Director
 William Muselor-Director
 Deborah S. Whale-Director
 Bruce B. Campbell-CEO

cc Premier Kathleen Wynne
 Robert Chiarrelli MPP
 Randy Hillier MPP
 John Yakabuski MPP
 Editor Madawaska Highlander
 Wildwood Blog
 Editor Frontenac News
 Editor Eganville Leader
 Editor Napanee Beaver
 Jim Merriam - Post Media

Alice Madigan, BEARAT
 Henry Hogg-Reeve
 Helen Yanch-Councillor
 William Cox-Councillor
 Tony Fritch-Councillor
 Kirby Thompson-Councillor

Open Letter To: Board of Directors IESO

Subject: On-Shore Wind Power Development Addington Highlands, Lennox and Addington County

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I don't know whether letters make any difference but after reading the open letter from Garnet Wilkes about what is happening in Addington Highlands Township with regard to wind turbine projects, I feel compelled to write.

It is well known that wind turbine projects divide communities and the Premier's goal of community consultation was supposed to have been satisfied with the rules for the LRP process now in progress. NIMBY, with regard to wind turbines, is no longer a dirty word and the requirement that 75% of abutting neighbours consent to an LRP project reflects this principle.

What could never have been imagined when the rules were written is a situation such as we have in Addington Highlands. It is proposed that the wind turbines will be located in the north where they will have an impact on the adjacent community. There is support from a majority on Addington Highlands Council who represent the southern part of the community, which will not be impacted, but see benefit from the contribution to taxes and Township funding.

The rules were well intentioned but flawed in the case of Addington Highlands. As Mr. Wilkes suggests there is no way when considering awarding points for community support that the proponents in Addington Highlands should get that credit when over 80% of the impacted community opposes the projects.

Note the word "local" in the Premier's throne speech. The rules fail to reflect the local aspect adequately casting too broad a net on what is considered community. Personally, I had no objection to the gas plants in Mississauga or Oakville. They did not affect me and technically they were probably good locations. But others held different views and those views were respected.

Locating wind turbines in an area of such natural beauty as the Addington Highlands (Land o' Lakes) is a senseless act of corporate greed, ignorance of the project lands and insensitivity to the impacted community. It is highly unlikely that any environmental impact assessment could adequately address the

issues affecting sensitive lakes and wildlife. No one has ever been irresponsible enough to build a wind farm, and especially one so large, in such an area so there is no experience.

Locating wind projects in areas more remote from human habitation may make sense but wind farms in cottage country are an ill-considered proposal.

I ask that when considering the award of community support points the IESO reflect on the spirit and context of the Premier's direction. Please respect the objections of the adjacent community that will be impacted by these projects. Do not award the community support points which come from those for whom there will be no impact.

Yours sincerely,
 David Wills

Denbigh ON
 And
 Kingston ON

Open Letter To: Board of Directors IESO

Subject: On -Shore Wind Power Development Addington Highlands, Lennox and Addington County

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am writing to you to solicit your support and action to ensure the Township of Addington Highlands is recognized as NOT A WILLING HOST of on- shore wind power development despite the fact that the Council of Addington Highlands has passed a support resolution by a very contentious vote of 3 to 2, clearly against the wishes of the people.

The proposed Mega Wind Power Development was sprung on the community after the last municipal election and the result being that the electorate had no opportunity to vote for a candidate who would represent their views in this regard as well as have the ability and background to deal with huge multinational corporations. This has resulted in a 5 member council, 2 from the northern Highlands in whose community the Industrial Wind Turbines (IWT's) are proposed to be located and 3, including the Reeve, from the southern Lowlands whose neighbourhoods are far from where the IWT's are to be located, with "no skin in the game" except to reap whatever financial rewards are forthcoming.

A statistically sound survey of Addington Highlands landowners, sanctioned and scrutinized by Council showed that an overwhelming 81% of respondents oppose Windpower development. Additionally, the northern Highland community, after extensive due diligence, has put forth well articulated rationale for the position of "not a willing host" and went further to propose significant realistic alternatives.

Despite having no election mandate from the people and a clear indication that 81% of the community do not want this Mega wind farm in their community for good and valid reasons, on July 20 the 3 Lowland Council members passed a resolution supporting this development. These 3 southern Lowland Council members have remained silent before the community and have never articulated their voting rationale to the community which has fostered much suspicion and animosity.

Further, Council has demonstrated that they may not be equipped to deal with Mega Multinational corporations. Red flags were first raised when the 3 southern Lowlands Council members attempted to accept a proponent's first offer at their first presentation and "NEGOTIATE LATER". At a subsequent meeting one Southern Lowlands Councillor even conjured up some bizarre

rationale to vote against a motion that would negotiate an increase in the proponent's contribution to the community vibrancy fund, with no stated reasoning. This and other examples has caused the community further concern whether the best possible deal for the community has been achieved and whether the affected communities' best interests will be protected in the future.

In her throne speech Premiere Wynne stated " Your government intends to work with municipalities on other issues too, because communities must be involved and connected to one another. They must have a say in their integrated regional development. So that local populations are involved from the very beginning if there is going to be a gas plant or a Casino or a wind plant or a quarry in their hometown because our economy can benefit from these things , but only if we have willing hosts."

In reality, what has occurred in Addington Highlands is that a triumvirate, 2 of whom are unelected/acclaimed, with "no skin in the game " has completely ignored the wishes of the overwhelming majority of the people and imposed their will upon them with no communication as to their rationale. Nothing but deafening silence. Democracy? Addington Highlands is not a willing host by any legitimate standard. No reasonable, clear thinking individual would rationally conclude that what is occurring in Addington Highlands reflects Premiere Wynn's intent in the her throne speech.

I implore you to recognize that the community of Addington Highlands is not a willing host for onshore wind power development and that any submissions pursuant section 3.3.1 (b)(i) (1) & (2) (Community Engagement) of the LRP I RFP do not legitimately reflect the expressed wishes of an overwhelming majority of the community of Addington Highlands.

Thank You, Garnet Wilkes, Griffith, ON


To the Editor:

I am writing to you to express my disappointment . I am a community supporter belonging to Denbigh/Griffith Lions Club, Northern Lights Seniors, Matawatchan Community Market, Can. Cancer canvasser for the Daffodil campaign, Can. Cancer driver and personal fund raising for CT Scan, Grimes Lodge and Kids to Camp. There is NO summer camp for the kids in Griffith, Matawatchan and area but in Calabogie. Are they going to put a bus on to take the kids there, the longest 65Km. in all of my driving. I think not!!! There is a swimming program offered by the township with the majority of the cost being covered by the Denbigh/Griffith Lions Club. Are they putting a bus on for this. They will be swimming at Snider's Campground and how many Kms. is this from Griffith???? 18 Kms. I sold some Crime Stopper Calendars which gives a rebate for Community involvement, but why bother if all children's special activities are so far away, that the families can't get the children there. I must say that Melissa Inwood and her group are doing a great job with what they have to work with. I guess I will do my next Fundraiser for the Stroke Clinic at the Pembroke General Hospital. Thank you for allowing me to vent!!!!!! Sandy Downs - Griffith

Glaeser's
 Country Store

See you in Downtown Denbigh!
 Owners, Karen & Peter Lips

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RE: Foreign Ownership of Proposed Industrial Wind Projects

Dear Editor,

I suppose you may not publish my letter, as I am not “politically correct”. We all know the history of the US invading any country they feel like, usually with long-lasting disastrous results.

This pushing of wind turbines onto our land is an invasion of our property; our way of life.

– It is a real slick war –

Al Gore came here to Canada several months ago and was tête-à-tête with the provincial government leaders. Now Wynne has a us Florida energy company here, overriding our outcry for peace, quiet and preservation of our property. In spite of our protests, they

push on, trampling on our land with wind turbines, invading our collective personal privacy.

I guess since the US recently did away with the Confederate flag, etc., it might not be “politically correct” to say what I need to say

And – “politically correct” – as we al-

– YANKEE CORPORATIONS GO HOME! –

ready have a hydro surplus, which we sell to the US for less than 1/3 of what I pay per kWh – what a profitable invasion it is. – a real WINDFALL for the US. (Pardon the Pun).

Sincerely

Laurabel Miller, RN (Retired)

An Open Letter to the Premier of Ontario**RE: PROPOSED WIND TURBINE PROJECTS FOR FRONTENAC & ADDINGTON HIGHLANDS TOWNSHIPS IN EASTERN ONTARIO**

cc: The Honourable Patrick Brown, Leader of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party

The Honourable Andrea Horwath, Leader of the Ontario NDP Party

The Honourable Deb Matthews MPP, London North

The Honourable Ed Holder, MP, London West

The Honourable Peggy Sattler, MPP, London West

Dear Premier Wynne,

I am a lawyer practicing in London, Ontario, a conservationist and primarily, a nature lover. I am writing to you to bring an important issue to your attention for your consideration. The Province of Ontario is committed to promoting, finding and providing greener renewable sources of energy to the people of Ontario with a view to protecting and preserving our important environment. For these efforts, I applaud you and your government.

BACKGROUND

Recently, Nextera, an American based company, and Res Canada, a subsidiary of an American company, have submitted proposals to erect large wind turbine farms in the Fontenac and Addington Highlands on the eastern side of the Province, not too far from Algonquin Provincial Park. The topography and the environment in that area is very similar to what one would see in Algonquin Provincial Park. Algonquin Provincial Park, of course, is considered the jewel on Ontario parkland. In June 2015, the town council in Frontenac in a preemptive vote, voted 100% against any proposed wind turbine project. Addington Highlands council voted under some considerable controversy on July 20, 2015 in favour, by a narrow vote of only 3 to 2.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL UNIQUENESS OF FRONTENAC & ADDINGTON IDG~ANDS AREA

The area in question is famous for its pristine lakes, waterways, rocky topography and unique ecosystems. The region north of Kingston also has a dark skies designation by astronomers and is a night sky viewing preserve. The area is one of only a handful left in Ontario and indeed, Canada for beautiful night sky

viewing. All of these features are threatened by the wind turbine farm proposals.

THE SACRED TRUST PLACED IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO IN REGARD TO BON ECHO PROVINCIAL PARK AND SURROUNDING AREA

Bon Echo Provincial Park and the surrounding area, historically has been of great interest and concern for conservationists for over 100 years. Bon Echo itself, was a meeting place for professional foresters, conservationists and other nature lovers for many years. One of the original owners of the area that now comprises the Bon Echo Provincial Park, Merrill Denison, had a passion for this unique Ontario landscape and surroundings. This is what he said about the land: “Bon Echo is one of the most spectacular natural beautiful spots in Ontario- a place to which people are drawn from near and far to feast their eyes in wonderment on its majestic mass and find spiritual refreshment in communion with nature.” In 1959, Merrill Denison transferred 1,200 acres of land as a gift to the Department of Lands and Forests for the Province of Ontario for the land to be preserved and protected and to be used for the enjoyment of the people of Ontario for decades and, hopefully, centuries to come.

During the opening ceremonies of Bon Echo Provincial Park in 1965, a historic plaque was unveiled in front of 500 people in attendance. The plaque reads: “Acquired by the people of Ontario through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Denison. Bon Echo Provincial Park dedicated to recreation, conservation, and education, in memory of Flora McDonald Denison and Muriel Goggin Denison.”

It is worth noting that this land was given to the Province of Ontario to preserve it and for the enjoyment of the people of Ontario for centuries to come. The idea of developing the area in any way was nothing less than a “national disgrace” according to Merrill Denison. It was for that reason that he transferred the lands to the Province and to the people of Ontario with a view to preserving its natural beauty.

Premier, we understand the need to develop alternative sources of energy and renewable energy and to promote and provide clean energy. As the Province moves forward. In this regard, the people of Ontario would ask that you consider the uniqueness of this special area of the province and the sacred trust that is placed upon you and the legislature to ensure the ongoing protection of this area for decades and centuries to come. The development of wind turbine farms in the area, will necessitate the destruction of a substantial part of this unique and precious environment and its habitat in various ways and will violate a sacred trust that the Ontario government holds in regard to the preservation of this wonderful area including Bon Echo Provincial Park.

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONCERNS AND THE ROSE HILL NATURE WILDLIFE PRESERVE

It is also very important to note that the area in question is home to numerous endangered species including pileated woodpeckers, blanding’s turtles, woodland turtles and elk which were recently reintroduced to the area by conservationists. There are also true wilderness species in the area including timber wolves, rap tors, fishers, cougars, moose, owls and said elk. An ungulate specialist addressed council noting that large ungulates (deer, moose, elk) will not live under wind turbines. In addition, the installation of wind turbines will necessitate the destruction of valuable precious

Below is a speech that Rosemary O’Connor gave to council while directing it at Henry Hogg...people stood and clapped their hands and praised Rosemary for a very lengthy time while yelling for Henry Hogg to resign. I can’t thank Rosemary enough for having the courage to do this!!!

“Reeve Hogg:

During the recess at the July 20’th council meeting, you and I had a conversation, with Councillor Yanch listening in. I had decided that it was finally time for me to express to you my utter disgust about the lack of democracy and disregard for the views of your constituents regarding the IWT project.

During that conversation and in a very condescending tone you said “Just name me a person who has ever earned a living in Ward One”. I was appalled and left almost speechless. However, I managed to respond with the name of the first party that came to mind. You immediately denigrated that party’s business practices. It was a petty and spiteful thing to say.

Editor’s note: This is a transcript from a video shot at the Addington Highlands Council meeting held August 4, 2015. It was submitted by Alice Madigan of BEARAT. You can see the video on YouTube. Search for Addington Highlands Wind Farm.

habitat for all of these species.

Finally, the Denbigh area has a 360 acres wildlife preserve called the Rose Hill Nature Reserve. It is owned by the Mississippi Madawaka Land Trust. It will be surrounded by wind turbines if the proposal goes through. Again, an important and valuable ecosystem is at risk if these projects are given approval to go ahead.

COMMUNITY OPPOSITION

Premier, you have stated that wind farms should only be located where there are willing hosts. While the Township narrowly approved the resolution in favour of the two wind projects, over 80% of those responding to a survey have said “no” to wind turbines. If these projects proceed, they will tear the community apart. The people in the area have registered their displeasure and disagreement with the proposed developments by way of a referendum, survey and petition where the overwhelming majority are opposed to the wind turbine development. We would ask that you please take all of this into consideration when the Ontario Energy Authority, IESO, and the Province make their decision about the future of wind turbines in this beautiful area. One further thing that I would ask is that you bring your granddaughter to the area some day so that you can better appreciate how special and unique this area of the province is. I am sure that both of you will enjoy it very much and it may even change your perspective on matters.

Thank you for taking the time to consider the opinions and feelings of the substantial majority of the residents in and around the areas affected by these proposals.

Yours very truly,

Daniel R. Mailer, LLB

200 Queens Avenue, Suite 514

London, Ontario N6A 113

Email: dmailer@cramassociates.com

Telephone (519) 673-1670

Fax (519) 439-5011

At the end of that conversation you inappropriately poked me in the shoulder and said “And if you are so concerned about your property value you can...”. Leaving the sentence unfinished, you turned on your heel and walked away.

I find this utter lack of respect for me personally and Ward 1 and its people totally reprehensible on the part of a Reeve whose duty it is to represent all of his constituents equally and fairly. You have lost your perspective. The Vibrancy fund has caused you to place money ahead of the people that you represent and the land that they wish to protect and preserve.

You should resign.”

Power to the People - Idle no More

What drives quiet country folk, farmers, cottagers, and normally obedient citizens to construct placards, shout at passersby, and angrily turn their backs on council? What has happened in our Highlands that is driving formerly hospitable neighbours against their neighbours, and causing families to turn against their own?

Yes, it is the issue of proposed Industrial Wind Turbines (IWTs), but it is much more than that. We have collectively lost control of the land we share. How did foreign corporations get permission to "farm" our lands against the will of the majority?

It's a long story.

Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose

2015 is just 400 years after the "Father of New France, Samuel de Champlain, established the fur trade. It has been 345 years since the Royal Charter which granted the lands of the Hudson Bay watershed to "the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson Bay. (HBC)". Both were foreign interests.

It's just 150 or so years since land in the Highlands was given away free to anyone who would clear enough acres and farm it, sending taxes to England. These were people who had been displaced from their homelands by war and famine - enticed by the prospect of owning their own land, often for the first time in generations.

It's just 95 years since the last log drives on the Madawaska and various other tributaries of the Ottawa and St. Lawrence employed native and settler alike, taking many lives and denuding

The more things change, the more they stay the same.

the countryside of old growth forests. It was all done for foreign interests to supply masts for British warships for the same wars that displaced our hardy settlers to Canada. These wars blocked access by England to its former source of timber from the Baltics. Settling the wilds of Canada made economic sense.

It has been about 7 years since IWT companies have been in the area, conducting tests, planning sites on Crown Land and obtaining leases on private land.

It has been 5 months since Addington Highlands and North Frontenac were notified about proposed IWT, facing the big conundrum - to accept or refuse IWT money, knowing The Green Energy ACT had stripped municipalities of land use jurisdiction for renewables.

It is just 2 years since Ontario, Canada and the Algonquins of Ontario came to an agreement in principle about how to share this land.

One has to wonder why Ontario and Canada suddenly, after 400 years, were interested in solving the Algonquin land use puzzle. Why not Quebec and Canada, too? Could it have been Ontario's need to finally draw lines on the Crown Lands map, making it clear where IWTs and other renewables can and cannot go? With those handy map lines, all remaining Crown Land in Ontario is now available for renewables developers, subject to review by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and only after securing an IESO contract.

It has been 188 years since the Office of the Surveyor-General of the Northern District of North America became the Commissioner of Crown Lands. All revenue from natural resources belonged to the British Monarchy. Today, all revenues belong to the people of Canada. Canada has a lot of Crown Land and the only way to see revenue out of it is to dig it, cut it, drill it, dam it for power and save

some areas for tourism. But Canada has a relatively small market for all of our "natural" resources. To generate revenue, resources have to be exported. Free trade agreements allow Canada unfettered access to foreign markets by removing protections on both sides.

In return, foreign corporations gain unrestricted access to opportunities in Canada. We have gone full circle.

"Since 2006, Canada has concluded free trade agreements with 38 countries, bringing the total to 43, making up more than half of the global economy and representing nearly one quarter of the world's countries."

- Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada

Same play Different actors

Free trade agreements usually restrict the ability of any local government or successive Federal governments to do anything that stands in the way of foreign investors' ability to make money. That happens here and in countries where Canadian companies are extracting resources. Free trade agreements don't allow for protectionism. This includes environmental laws. All of the resource exports require transportation or transmission systems that go across land and water. Environmental laws are an inconvenience to corporations.

It was because of NAFTA, the North American Free Trade Agreement that The World Trade Organization ruled against Ontario's original requirement that Feed-In Terrif proponents must have a large percentage of renewable components and manufacturing sourced in Canada. Because of the North American Free Trade Act, the one benefit industrial scale renewables might have had - the promotion of Ontario renewables manufacturing, was ruled illegal. Before the verdict, a few local and international businesses did set up manufacturing here. One of them set up IWT manufacturing in a former Magma autoparts facility after Magma moved its manufacturing to Mexico. We live in a global economy, ruled by global corporations.

Canada is currently negotiating free trade agreements in 8 new jurisdictions and revising one other. This includes the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Global corporations stand to gain power in negotiations held in complete secrecy. The TPP transnational legal regime would cover 12 countries initially and encompass 40 per cent of global GDP and one-third of world trade, but we won't know anything about it until after it's done, except for the occasional leak.

"Along with our successfully-concluded free trade agreement with Korea, our ongoing bilateral talks with Japan, and other ongoing initiatives, the TPP is a means to achieve our ambitious pro-trade, pro-export plan to create jobs and opportunities for hardworking Canadians."

- Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada

Wikileaks recently released findings from a TPP document ""indicates a

wide-ranging privatisation and globalisation strategy" whose main aim is to undermine state-owned enterprises (SOEs) - publicly owned corporations whose mandate is to deliver the public good with no or minimal commercial considerations. That will change under the TPP." This could be what the CBC and Canada Post are being prepared for. Can you imagine a foreign owned CBC or post office?

There was a time following WWII that Canada was finally moving away from being hewers of wood and drawers of water, but corporate interests were at odds with middle class aspirations.

First Nations didn't share in that prosperity. Rather, the young were rounded up and either adopted out to "white" families or sent to residential schools. They were an inconvenience, a similar kind of inconvenience municipal governments now pose to national and sub-national (provincial) goals for resource-based prosperity. Locals, wherever they originated, tend to get too attached to the land and understand "Natural" resources in a very different way than governments and people who don't live or even visit "Nature".

It's the same play, with a new assortment of people defending the land against foreign corporations who now want to bulldoze forests and "farm" the wind.

Was the Green Energy Act ever about creating green energy, or was it created to replace manufacturing in Ontario? A carbon credit system would mean Ontario's green energy will become a tradeable commodity. Does it matter how much of the wilderness and farm lands are torn up to provide that "green" carbon credit? Who is really looking out for their constituents, Liberals? Conservatives? Who? What can we do? I can only suggest...

1. PROTEST
When normal channels are barred, it's the only thing left for people. This is true all around the world.

Whether you are for or against IWTs, protest against municipal councils who don't represent the majority interest they were elected to uphold. Protest against provincial governments who create laws to silence municipal input. Protest about unfair procurement practices that pit us against each other for corporate gain. Protest about any company, Canadian or foreign-owned, that pays to silence local objectors. Protest against any government that favours global corporate interest over that of its own citizens.

Protest creatively, non-violently, and together. Be kind to your friends and neighbours. Be idle no more.

2. VOTE WISELY

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Wind companies promise to use old logging roads wherever possible. That is nice.



This is the same logging road after it was prepared for big trucks. Hardly recognizable.



Huge turbine parts can't do ups, downs, twists and turns, so they get levelled and smoothed.



Blasted rock used to level new roads can become barriers to trails and old roads.

Wind turbines look pretty from a distance and you might think they are just the thing to get us off fossil fuels and save the planet, but these giants bring with them a whole pile of disruption, both figuratively and literally.

Why would anyone who supports green energy be against Industrial Wind Turbines (IWTs)? The answer is in the name - Industrial. These are huge industrial installations. They need a lot of space, wide open spaces that can only be found in rural, wilderness and farm areas, which is precisely where they *don't* belong.

Whether or not they cause health problems or kill more birds than cats and tall buildings do, whether they look menacing or pretty (depending on your point of view), whether or not these towers create the most efficient renewable energy or a waste of taxpayer money, whether or not IWT installations ever replace the energy and CO2 emissions that took to build them... It is all incidental to the fact they are just too big.

They are too big. They require too many "natural" resources to build, transport and install. They are too big for our roads. The damage their installations cause will last way too long.

In the 20 years of provincial contracts and up to 50 years these behemoths will dominate the landscape, it is more than likely technology will change to provide more efficient, much smaller, home and neighborhood-scale wind installations with efficient energy storage devices. Huge scale storage is one of the major issues with mega-grid energy systems. If you can't store it, you have to dump it.

In 20 years, our 40's factory concepts of energy grids might even be replaced with



It takes a lot of gravel to make a road wide and strong enough for big turbine part trucking.

modular systems of power generation, delivery and ownership.

Think what has happened to computer technology in the last 50 years. Can you imagine what it would look like if a main frame computer the size of a city block had been built all over Ontario for every few homes to supply computing power? This is the equivalent.

Industrial Wind Turbines are not part of the solution. They are a transitional solution based on old industrial scale thinking. Most of this efficient smaller scale wind, solar and hydro generation and storage technology is available now and it is becoming more affordable than paying your hydro bill.

Don't let this happen, no matter how tempting the money is. At this point, it seems they can only be stopped if people don't sign contracts with wind developers. If they don't get a contract, they can't apply for Crown Lands.

It has taken 100 years for our forests to recover from industrial scale deforestation. When will they ever learn...

Most of the accompanying photos show roadwork for the Bow Lake/Nodin Kitigan IWT project north of Sault Ste. Marie. Is this what we want?



Every small intersection is too small.



Every inconvenience will be removed, as was done to an eagle's nest in Haldimand County.



Bulldozing for transmission lines leaves a mess of rotting vegetation, inviting soil erosion...



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