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January 14, 2025 Issue #2 - Volume 29

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Five Local Municipalities Receive Funding Supports From Rural Affairs



By **Rosalind Russell** - The Minister of Rural Affairs' tour leaves the area with just around \$16 million for local municipalities. Minister Lisa Thompson visited Massey and Elliot Lake Tuesday, January 7th to provide more funding through the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund. She says the announcements demonstrates the government's

Continued on page two...

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Espanola Skating Carnival



...”It’s Time”.....time for what? Time is the interesting theme for this year’s Skating Carnival. Come on out and see this dedicated group of kids and volunteers, and maybe a few dads and hockey players, skate to the theme of ”It’s Time”. Guaranteed to be a timely performance! The approximately 70 skaters and their coaches are already practising their turns, spins etc. They started the first week of September and will continue to the end of

March. Kelly Paradis has her hands full, but has the help of Assistants and two Junior Coaches, Delayna Rantanen and Leah Emiry. Ages range from 3 yrs. to 15 yrs. This makes for a huge range of ability, but everyone gets ice time and coaching twice a week. Registration fees vary from \$300 to \$1,000, \$60 of which goes to the governing body, Skate Canada. The national organization covers insurance, program design,

and standards for coaching qualifications. The 10 members of the Skating Club Executive make sure the kids achieve their skating goals, but just as important produce well rounded individuals. The Espanola Lions is always pleased to support this group thanks to the support of our Catch the Ace program . On hand to receive the \$6,000 cheque are a group of keen skaters and their coaches. *Photo and article by Grant Lewis*

College Strike Averted In Ontario



By Rosalind Russell - A strike at Ontario’s 24 public colleges, including Cambrian, has been averted.

After more than six months of negotiations, the bargaining team representing over 15,000 college faculty across Ontario has signed a Memorandum of Agreement.

The Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) says there are significant benefit gains.

Officials say while the two sides otherwise remain at an impasse, the parties have agreed to send all outstanding items to mediation-arbitration.

The union says as a result, Ontario’s 24 public colleges will avoid a strike this term.

“Faculty working conditions are student learning conditions, and with a historic strike mandate and province-wide organizing, faculty sent the clear message that we’re ready to stand up to protect both,” says Ravi Ramkissoonsingh, chair of the faculty bargaining team.

OPSEU, and the College Employer Council (CEC), the bargaining agent for Ontario’s 24 public colleges, met in downtown Toronto over the course of January 6-7 in mediation.

“We are pleased to have averted an unnecessary strike at Ontario’s 24 public Colleges,” says Graham Lloyd, CEO, of CEC. “Our goal throughout negotiations has been to recognize the hard work of academic employees and to keep students in class.”

A new contract for college faculty will be ruled on at a further date by Arbitrator William Kaplan.

Photo provided by Cambrian College

NOTICE OF OPEN HOUSE

Public Health Sudbury & Districts is planning to increase fees related to the Ontario Building Code and land development. The increased fees address operational and delivery costs.

If you have comments or questions regarding this matter, an open house will be held:

WHEN: Wednesday, January 29, 2025

TIME: Between 1 to 4 p.m.

WHERE:

Public Health Sudbury & Districts
Ramsey Room, Main floor
1300 Paris Street, Sudbury ON

To attend this event virtually, or for more information about the fee increases, visit phsd.ca/fee-schedule.



Got a news story? Hosting an event? Give us a call at 705-869-NEWS (6397) ... we look forward to continuing to provide you with up-to-date news, weather, sports, and events in 2025. Want to text us? 705-869-6999? Or email? russell@moosefm.com ... Talk to you Soon!



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Continued from front page...

Five Local Municipalities Receive Funding Supports From Rural Affairs

commitment to rural and Northern municipalities recognizing municipalities need predictability so they can plan and deliver projects.

She announced \$8.68 million for the City of Elliot Lake while visiting the city.

She also made a stop in Massey to present the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers with its allocation of \$1.94 million.

Last Monday, she announced \$1.6 million for the Municipality of Central Manitoulin, \$1.94 million for Espanola

and \$2.3 million to the City of Greater Sudbury.

Thompson says all five announcements were an increase over last year ranging from six to 13 percent supporting areas with limited property assessment of investment in key local infrastructure.

She adds other municipalities will also be receiving similar supports through the program.

Photos provided – Espanola & Massey

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Water And Sewer Rate Hike Comes Into Effect In Espanola

By Rosalind Russell - Ratepayers in Espanola will see a slight increase in their water and sewer rates this year.

At its last meeting in December, Espanola council rescinded the previous bylaw and passed a new one to cover a shortfall reported back in the Spring of 2024.

In her report, department manager Julie Bouthillette stated water and sewer rates are failing to generate enough revenue to cover the increased of operating the town's water and sewer treatment

facilities.

She projected the water and sewer rates would leave a 20% shortfall, so council agreed to two increases, with a phased in water and sewer adjustment implemented last July for a monthly increase of \$10.19 per month.

The new bylaw allows for the second increase of \$10.19 per month effective January 2025.

It also includes a 10 percent increase to the commercial rates.

Public Health Continues To Monitor Fluoride Concentrations In Espanola

By Rosalind Russell - Fluoride concentrations in the Espanola water supply are currently below the therapeutic levels recommended according to Public Health Sudbury & Districts.

The agency says there are no immediate or short-term health risks to the public.

However, over the long-term, if fluoride levels are not kept at optimal levels, residents and especially children are at greater risk for tooth decay.

The health unit says the fluoridization process was halted from May through

September for repairs to be made, but due to ongoing technical problems, residents are not currently receiving optimal amounts of fluoride through their drinking water.

The agency continues to monitor the levels while repairs are underway and will update the public when the levels return to normal.

For more information about these services, please call 705.522.9200, ext. 236 (toll-free 1.866.522.9200).

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Thank You

It's always so heartwarming to see the community come together for the Christmas dinner at the legion. We served over 150 meals and 22 take outs. A huge thank you goes out to those who donated, volunteered and joined us Christmas Day. A special thank you to the Legion for donating their space again this year. Hope to see you next year.



Thank You

From the family of David Page

"Special" "Thank you" to all our friends and neighbours for your kindness and generosity. For the food, donations, flowers, cards, phone calls, masses, keepsakes, visits and most off all your support. As we mourn the passing of our Husband, Father, Pappie, Brother, Uncle and Special Friend to so many. Thankyou so Much. Love & Hope

Mary, Jonathan & Jessie.

Your absence has left a hole in our lives, but our hearts will forever be full because of "You" !!!

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OBITUARY



MCLEOD – Jeanne Marie - Passed away at the Espanola Regional Hospital on January 4th, 2025 at the age of 76. Dear daughter of the Late Angus & Annie McLeod. Beloved wife of the late John Gideon. Loving mother of James Nanibush of Sudbury, Gloria McLeod of North Bay and John Gideon of Brampton. Cherished by grandchildren Brook, Natasha, Laura, Kaylyn, Katrina, Cataleya & Vincent. Dear sister of Barbara Southwind (late David) of Sagamok, Audrey King (late Bill) of Thessalon & Leslie McLeod of Barrie,

predeceased by many other siblings. Also will be sadly missed by many friends and relatives. Visitation Tuesday, January 7th at 1:30 p.m. in the New Sagamok Community Centre. Funeral service Thursday, January 9th at 11:00 a.m. in the St-Raphael's with interment to follow in the New Sagamok Cemetery. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME, Ltd., Espanola.

COMMUNITY NOTES

Espanola Game and Fish Big Buck Night - DATE CHANGE, Big Buck Night will now be held on **Friday, January 17** at the Espanola Elks Hall, from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

North Shore Quilting & Stitchery Guild: Next meeting - Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Espanola Royal Canadian Legion. New members welcome.

Webbwood Eagles #4269 Spaghetti Dinner – Saturday, February 1. Eat in or Takeout 4:30-6:00 p.m. Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread & desert.

Free Espanola Community Luncheon - every second and fourth Tuesday of the month, at The Lighthouse, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

The Remnant Call Church – Services at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday. All are welcome. (Elks Hall, Espanola)

Overeaters Anonymous - Do you have an eating disorder? We can help. Tuesdays 7:00 p.m. The Anchor Inn, 1 Water St. E, Little Current, Downstairs.

North Shore Seventh-day-Adventist Church - Saturday (Sabbath) Song Service 9:45 a.m.. Sabbath School 10:00 a.m. Divine Service 11:00 a.m.

The Baytones - North Bay's women's acapella chorus are recruiting! If you love to sing, come join us! For details call Janet 705-662-2770

NAR-ANON – Are you affected by someone else's addiction? NAR-ANON offers hope. Every Thursday, 1:00 p.m. at the Noojmowin Teg Health Centre, 407 Centre St, Espanola.

Narcotics Anonymous Meetings – Tuesdays 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. and Saturdays 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. United church, downstairs. 137 Shepard St. Espanola

Al-Anon - Do you worry about how much someone drinks? Al-Anon can help. Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M., St. George's Anglican Church, Espanola. (basement).

Toasts & Roasts Speaking Club – 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at the Espanola Library. For more info, email toastandroastsspeakingclub@gmail.com

Paroisse St-Sébastien Parish Reminder – The Sunday (bilingual) Mass at St-Sebastien (Spanish) is held at 4:00 p.m.

St. Andrew's Church Massey - Services at 10:30 every Sunday. All are welcome.

Do you have a note for the community? We invite not-for-profit organizations to submit information on their upcoming events in writing no later than **Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m.** 25 word limit. E-mail: around@aroundandabout.ca