





# TheHighlander

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**INSIDE: HOME IN THE HIGHLANDS** 

FREE



### Dysart supports Grass Lake housing project

By Mike Baker

In one of its final moves before the end of the current term, Dysart et al council expressed support for a proposed 88-unit housing development near Grass Lake.

Brought forward by developer Paul Wilson and his company, Harburn Holdings, the project is the most significant residential development to cross council's table this term. It would repurpose 2.5 hectares along Peninsula Road into four lots that would each house multi-storey apartment and condo buildings.

The proposal was discussed during a public meeting Sept. 29. There was a township presentation and residents for and against shared their thoughts. Harburn Holdings and a consultant representing the Friends of Grass Lake – a community group protesting the project – also spoke.

Dysart senior planner, Kris Orsan, said the development complied with the municipality's official plan. Environmental impact, wetland site assessment and hydrogeological studies have been submitted by Harburn Holdings and peer-reviewed by Dysart. The application called for council to support rezoning from rural type one and environmental protection to suburban residential.

The project will now go to the County for approval before coming back to Dysart for a final sign off.

#### **Consultant reports**

Anthony Usher, representing Harburn Holdings, said his client's proposal would fill a major need in the community.

Continued 'Wilson's' on page 2



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# Wilson's 'way of giving back to Haliburton'

Continued from page 1

"There is a serious housing shortage in Haliburton. Eighty-eight new units would represent 38 per cent of the municipality's target [for new housing developments] over the next number of years."

Wilson will donate one of the lots to non-profit Places for People, whose president, Jody Curry, told council they could create 15 affordable housing units.

Rather than develop himself, Wilson plans to sell to a builder. He said he'll be selective, telling *The Highlander* "I want to make sure whoever buys the property is going to do this right".

Marnie Saunders, a planner with Peterborough consulting firm D.M. Wills Associates, on behalf of the Friends of Grass Lake, identified several issues with the proposal.

"The delineation of an environmental protection zone we don't feel is consistent with Dysart's official plan policy," Saunders said. "The applicant has stated the property is located on Grass Lake, which is at-capacity."

The Friends feel the project will have a detrimental effect on water quality. They're also concerned about impact to several native species with habitats in the area, including birds, ducks, fish, deer and the endangered Blanding's turtle.

Usher said concessions had been made to ensure wetlands and any native species are unaffected. There will be a minimum 30 metre setback from the water, wetlands

and a manmade pond. Wilson has dropped plans to install a dock on Grass Lake and has committed to planting more than 200 trees.

#### Public feedback

Leora Berman, COO of The Land Between and Turtle Guardians charities, was one of 23 registered speakers. She said the project could have a "catastrophic" impact on fish population.

"Lake Kashagawigamog and Grass Lake represent the largest walleye fishery in Haliburton. The Grass Lake wetland is noted as a significant spawning area for this impressive fishery. We need housing for the working poor, but the only choice presented is one that may result in the unintended deterioration of a significant resource," Berman said.

Dr. Aimee Filion, owner of Haliburton Veterinary Services, is worried further development on Peninsula Road will negatively impact her well water. She claimed when crews were doing a hydrogeological study this year, testing saw water "coming out the tap with the consistency of mud" at her business. She said it happened for several days, but it cleared up once workers left.

"I respect people have a right to try and develop property, but I do not feel it should impact neighbours," Filion said. "I service thousands of animals every year. I cannot do that without running water."

Usher said he and Wilson are willing to meet with Filion to come up with a solution.



Neighbours Don Ross, Lynne Williams and Carolyn Langdon formed the Friends of Grass Lake in 2021, opposing the development of land along Peninsula Road. *File*.

#### 'Backroom deal' claim

Don Ross, of the Friends of Grass Lake, suggested council had already made up its mind, accusing some members, including mayor Andrea Roberts, of having concocted a "backroom deal" to push the development through.

Roberts said she was "speechless" at the insinuation. "Nothing in planning is a done deal. There is no such thing as a backroom deal. Not here in Dysart, not ever. Not under my watch. This isn't 'us against them'. We're not [a] council against the town. We all live here, we all care about our community and

want the best thing [for it]," Roberts said. Wilson said he had been subjected to "vicious" personal attacks over his plans. He said he has offered to sit down with the Friends to try to find common ground and compromise, but that hasn't happened.

"I've been called greedy, but that's so far from the truth. I like to think I'm a community-minded person. I've read all the stories in the paper about the problems our community is having with housing, the problem Places for People has been having. I thought this would be a great opportunity for me to contribute to my community. This isn't about the money. This is my way of giving back to Haliburton."





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# Dysart to take action at Wigamog property

#### By Mike Baker

Dysart et al bylaw officials have been directed to seek cost estimates to bring the Wigamog Inn property up to municipal standards after owners Aurora Group failed to meet an Oct. 3 deadline to present a demolition plan to the township.

During a sign and property standards committee meeting Oct. 3, the township's chief building official, Karl Korpela, said the Auroras have not followed through on their promise to provide work proposals for the

"The site needed to be brought up to compliance by Oct. 3. We haven't seen a demolition plan. Although [Aurora Group] have submitted applications for demolition, they haven't paid for the permits or given us timelines as to when they plan to demolish those buildings," he said, noting several attempts had been made to contact Aurora ownership. "They're not available, or part of this meeting today.'

Issues between the township and the Aurora Group stretch back years. Bylaw enforcement officer Rob Mascia said he has completed multiple inspections of the property since 2019. Following the most recent visit, in May, Mascia outlined 47 infractions of the township's property standards bylaw, with issues varying from downed power lines to smashed windows, damaged doors and collapsed decks. Mascia said there were several fallen trees that needed to be removed, and the property should be cleaned up for brush and weeds.

After delivering his verdict of noncompliance to the Auroras, the group signalled their plans to demolish the 37 buildings that make up the Wigamog site. Ownership sought a 60-day extension to give them time to find a contractor and apply for a demolition permit. The committee approved that extension Aug. 4.

"The order is now confirmed... and binding. The due date is gone. We don't have everything we needed, and we need to proceed further with this," Korpela said. "The municipality may now cause the property to be repaired or demolished. We have the authority to proceed with demolition.'

While the township has yet to secure a quote, Korpela said an unnamed developer had informed him it would cost "well over \$1 million" to demolish the Wigamog site.

Committee member Jerry Stokes asked if the Auroras would be able to come back and request another extension, delaying the project again.

"There's no relief now. Once the order is confirmed, it's confirmed. We will proceed with RFPs to bring this property into compliance. If that means demolition, that's what we're going to do," Mascia replied. "They've had their chance. You as a committee gave them extra time. In my opinion, 60 days is a lot of time."

Mayor Andrea Roberts noted the issue was also out of council's hands.

"This isn't going to become a political thing. Council cannot direct staff [how to do



Dysart et al will move forward with plans to bring the Wigamog Inn site up to municipal standards. Photo by Mike Baker.

their jobs]. Karl is under statute; he has his own code of conduct... A new council can't come in and say 'just leave it as it is'. This is an unsafe property, and we will be moving forward," she said.

The Auroras purchased the Wigamog property in 2015. They have previously outlined plans to revitalize the site and introduce a residential component, featuring more than 180 units. To date, Dysart has not received any applications for development.

Ravi Aurora, CEO of Aurora Group, did not respond by press time when asked for a comment.

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# Housing looms large in Minden election

#### By Sam Gillett

Facing a standing-room-only crowd of more than 150 people, eight Minden Hills candidates vying for election shared their visions and values during the Rotary Club of Minden's Oct. 3 all-candidates meeting.

Nearly all mentioned housing as a top priority as they introduced themselves and their platforms in the community centre before 10 members of the public asked questions. Topics ranged from lake sludge to the closure of the local chamber of commerce office; Minden Hills' inability to accept compost to candidates' ideas for softening the town's water supply.

The following are three paraphrased questions and candidates' responses.

#### What do you hope to accomplish on council a year from now?

Shirley Johannessen, a ward 1 candidate, said she'd focus on roads, poverty and housing. "I would like to build homes and find homes for these people, it's a spiralling thing that only gets worse for them."

Ward 2 councillor vying for re-election, Pam Sayne said she'd like to change Minden Hills' procurement bylaw to prioritize local bids, pass a "dark sky bylaw" and work on changing the provincial planning act to build attainable housing with a "rural lens."

Ward 2 candidate Stephen Hertel said he'd focus on helping local businesses grow through, "hiring people, getting things done, pushing planning approval on permits. because they're getting held up.' He also wants to improve emergency service delivery.

For councillor at large candidate, Trevor Chaulk, the question "boiled down to accountability." He said housing will boost the township's workforce and he'd pursue bylaw amendments to allow multi-residential builds in rural areas, as well as bringing planning and procurement back to local

Councillor at large candidate Tammy McKelvey said housing, "is affecting"

everybody." She said she'd like to see zoning amendments for secondary dwellings. She said Minden Hills should take advantage of planning amendments to change building

Ward 1 hopeful Richard Bradley said he'd like to see ground broken on new housing projects within a year. He said he'd want a roads plan which would see, "at the end of four years, everybody in this room could say 'at least my road is okay.'

Ivan Ingram, also of ward 1, said the first thing he'd do is, "check in to why 17 staff members have left in the last three years."

He said he'd also focus on housing, particularly small lots and builds such as the Hunter Creek Estates, and hiring a planner.

Ward 1 candidate Mike Grozelle said he agreed with the points of his running mates, and that housing and political accountability would be his focus in the first year.

#### What will you do to make Minden Hills a more desirable location for young people to want to come and begin families here?

Sayne said the township is working on changing the planning act to allow more housing. "And it has to happen sooner." She said Minden Hills' housing needs are similar to many communities across the province.

"This is going to be a long-term goal," said Hertel. He said better internet, education, job fairs and staff retention are key, since staff are leaving for higher-paid jobs elsewhere.

Chaulk said the township should look at the "fastest things we can do" to replace an aging workforce. "We're all competing for the same people in the province." He'd seek to enhance skills training for a "year-round" economy.

McKelvey said healthcare is the, "number one industry" in the Highlands, providing young people high-paying jobs. She added the township needs a living wage.

Bradley said, "this municipality is not paying the market wages for the jobs that



All eight councillors involved in election races answered questions. Photo by Sam Gillett.

they're asking to fill." He said this means young people will leave.

Ingram said small homes and partnerships with contractors to build them is the key. "Wages are top-heavy in the township," he

Candidate Mike Grozelle said, "we need to pay people what they're worth." He said the township needs to hire the right person for the job for smart use of tax dollars, and supported a pay equity review.

Johannessen said she would pass on the question but wanted to gain more knowledge on the issue. In response to previous questions she said she wants to be a voice and to listen to concerns of local residents.

#### How will you help Minden's downtown become more accessible?

McKelvey said accessibility is an issue and that will be tricky to fix in Minden where many businesses have stairways. She favoured reaching out to other communities for inspiration.

Chaulk said he doesn't want accessibility upgrades to be, "on the businesses backs."

He wants to find ways the township could partially cover costs.

Hertel said accessibility is needed as quickly as possible. "It's the cost of doing business, we have to do this for our community."

Sayne said towns across Canada have changed their downtowns to be accessible. "We need to get the grants to do it."

Johannessen passed on the question.

Grozelle said, "we'll do whatever we can to help businesses get the work done." He said sidewalks around town and pathways need work too.

Ingram said temporary ramps could be a fix, to help people navigate stairs. He said it was blocked by liability concerns. "Screw the liability, there is a liability in everything we

With multiple family members who have accessibility needs, Bradley said the township needs to increase accessibility.

Space does not allow The Highlander to print all answers to all questions. Read in-depth profiles and listen to full-length interviews on the highlander.ca.

# INFORMATION PAGE

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Vendors wanted for the Christmas in the Village outdoor Artisan's Market at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre, Saturday November 19 from 11 am – 3 pm. Call 705-286-1260 x 542 or culturalcentre@ mindenhills.ca for details

#### (Virtual) Council Meetings

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act, Members of the Public will participate electronically, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

#### October 13 - Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by ioining a live-stream link available on the township website at www. mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting, please download by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/. Please note the live stream file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting.

# Dysart revising policy on cell tower sites

the co-operators

By Mike Baker

Dysart et al staff will look to the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) for guidance as the township reconsiders its telecommunication tower policy.

Implemented in 2014, the policy outlines the conditions a developer must meet before they will be allowed to erect a new cell tower in the community. Those stipulations include ensuring any proposed tower be located a minimum of one kilometre from the nearest residence; that they be camouflaged or designed to blend in with natural surroundings, with the tree-like monopine structures preferred over traditional towers; the structures be set back a minimum of 60-metres from the nearest road and feature the minimum required lighting to meet Transport Canada safety standards.

At a meeting in July, when council originally turned down an application from Rogers to construct a new 90-metre cell tower on Minnicock Lake Road, Eric Belchamber, a spokesperson for the telecommunication giant, said the township's policy was excessive.

"Policy 38 is one of the most onerous policies I've come across. It was written with what seems to be a sentiment of not wanting cell towers [in Dysart]," Belchamber said.

Council reversed its decision in August, granting approval for Rogers to move ahead with the first of many new tower sites in Dysart under EORN's cell gap project. At that meeting, several councillors spoke of a

need to revise the township's policy.

Speaking on Sept. 27, mayor Andrea Roberts said she'd like to eliminate the stipulation that any new tower be located at least one kilometre from a residence. Deputy mayor Pat Kennedy agreed.

"Rogers said nowhere in Dysart would that one-kilometre distance work," he said. "I would also remove the 500-metre notification buffer [requiring the developer to reach out to nearby neighbours for feedback]. I'd go with the government requirement of three times the height of the tower."

Jeff Iles, Dysart's director of planning and land information, said council could opt to implement policies such as those in Algonquin Highlands and Highlands East. Those policies are more generic than Dysart's and aim to cover three basic concerns – creating a framework and language to use when reviewing and considering tower proposals; providing site preferences and proposed design guidelines; and ensuring a robust public consultation program to ensure that residents are appropriately consulted prior to any decision being made.

Coun. John Smith said the township needs to be clear with developers over what will be required before a project can be approved. He was dismayed when, during the original meeting in June and follow-up in August, Rogers failed to submit an analysis of other potential cell tower sites.

"Rogers didn't fulfill that requirement and council let them off the hook," Smith said. "We did a disservice to our community



Dysart et al council is revisiting the township's telecommunication tower policy. File.

doing it that way because we basically said we ignore our own rules. That's just not acceptable."

Iles said he would confer with EORN and

neighbours with existing policies before bringing a revised policy back to council to



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#### Hertel an 'issue focused' candidate

**By Lisa Gervais** 

#### **Qualifications**

"I come from a long history of public service and law enforcement. I think our primary purpose in law enforcement is to understand, respect and serve people in the best way. I've been in emergency management and the fire service (as a volunteer) for almost six years with the City of Kawartha Lakes. I've gotten to meet people and gotten to know them, not just the firefighters, but people around the area and understand what their concerns are and what their goals are."

#### **Amalgamation**

"I am not against amalgamation of some services, for example, landfills and transfer stations, roads and fire services. There are some efficiencies that can be found at the County level. But, I think it's important to maintain a Township of Minden Hills. People like to belong to something and we've been so disconnected for so long because of COVID. I think if we were to be absorbed into a full amalgamation, losing that is going to hurt."

#### Housing

"I think Minden Hills could relax some of the bylaws around building to increase our inventory of available housing. For example, letting people separate their properties to build more houses. The town could provide land for these projects to be built. There needs to be a buy-in from all levels of government."

#### Health

"We can lobby the provincial government to increase our health care funding. I think it's important that we have a CT scanner in one of our hospitals, if not both. The money exists. The ladies' auxiliary raises money." He said there are ways to have it staffed. He said it would help with current ambulance transfers of patients to Lindsay and Peterborough, thus taking them out of the County for hours at a time. He said it

is crucial as the County is gaining more people and call volumes are increasing. Hertel is a fan of the two community paramedic vehicles that do house calls. He would support keeping both hospital sites. He thinks the County could be doing more with physician recruitment and retention and staff housing.

#### **Poverty**

"I think there's a role for municipal council. We can bring these issues to the attention of provincial and federal partners." Asked for specifics, he said, 'affordable housing, more housing, back to work programs, student programs.' Asked how that could be done, he replied, "I don't think municipal government is doing the best they can to advertise what's available. There's a fantastic social network in Haliburton County that helps people with a handout, with job creation, job searches and education. But not everyone knows about them." Pressed for further examples, he said helping churches establish soup kitchens.

#### **Transportation**

"An accessible bus for safe transportation between our towns. I'm not saying a fleet of 100 buses, but a continuous rotation of buses that would service our area, including for seniors getting to grocery stores." Told the County has unsuccessfully tried to get a service for years, he was asked what his specific plan is. "I think a rideshare program is something we need to be looking at." Informed the County looked into rideshare and ruled it out, he was asked again for his plan. "I think we need to reopen the book, look at it again, from a different perspective. People need services. I don't always feel that we've worked hard enough for an answer. Not giving up." He said it isn't about money since all public transit loses money.

# Shoreline preservation bylaw

"It's a great idea ... it does protect

people's shorelines and the environment." He said some people have misunderstood it and feel it's overreaching. "I don't think it's as bad as everyone has felt about it. From its true sense, it's here to protect the animals, the plant life, the people who live here." However, he said the bylaw is open to interpretation and can be changed. He also thinks there could be better education and enforcement

#### Short-term rentals

"I am for short-term rentals because the practices that I've seen with my neighbours, they're responsible neighbours, they do a vetting process before they allow people to come onto the property and they communicate with us." He said that might not be the case with certain out-of-County rental agency sites. "I think there's a way the County could force them to register on the threestrike program, for example, like they've done in the Blue Mountains." He said when they are commercial, they should be licenced. He said he likes the County direction so far, with an open consultation with all stakeholders.

#### Vision for the future

"We're going to have a boom of people moving here to their residences to break away from the city. I think it's already happened. We need to be better prepared for those things. The housing, the service delivery; landfills, housing, etc., we need to get ahead of it." Hertel said he thinks there's room in the County for those who want a more secluded lifestyle and those who want more of "an urban setting and busy" community. He would like to see more community growth, with more things to get people out of the house. He personally likes the idea of more local businesses contributing to a robust downtown as opposed to larger commercial developments along Hwy. 35. Hertel said he met with the County to ensure the flying of the Pride flag this year. He would like a more inclusive community in future.



Stephen Hertel has been a full-time resident for six years. *Photo by Lisa Gervais*.

#### Minden Hills

"I see this town growing to not just be a stopover for people. I want it to be a destination." He'd like to see trail improvements, the boardwalk fixed and reopened, sidewalks improvements and better overall accessibility. He'd like road improvements, too. Looking at the 2022 budget, he said he would have liked more money for seniors and youth, housing, and mental health.

# Stephen Hertel the candidate

"I've been coming to Minden Hills for over 20 years. I was a seasonal renter, loving the area and appreciating what it's all about; the people, the lakes, the services, they were perfect for us. We moved here six years ago as permanent residents. Running for council has been a goal for awhile. I was already becoming involved with the community and getting some perspective on what people were looking for and what I'm looking for. I love Minden Hills and want to make everyone love it. I want everything to be better, for businesses, for tourists, residents, increasing services, health care, seniors care, youth programs. I want to increase the connection between the community and council, building the trust and the respect and accountability for what we do. I am not politically-based; I am issue focused.



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2022



# Sayne wants politicians to know their communities

**By Lisa Gervais** 

#### **Qualifications**

Pam Sayne is seeking a third term. She's been on the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) board. She has a community organization background, in the housing and poverty sectors. She recently retired her home inspection and energy audit business. She has continued her studies and is working on a book.

#### **Amalgamation**

With the service delivery review, Sayne said, "We're looking at efficiencies; how we maintain our roads; how we purchase products; how we enforce bylaws. It's silly to have one bylaw on one side of the lake and another bylaw on the other side of the lake. Those are things that really require some kind of amalgamation. My concern is how do we continue grassroots representation? How do we make it so politicians are still accessible on a one-toone level and hear what constituents have

#### Health

"I think Renfrew County has a very good approach. They have a system where you call one number, and they help assess where you should call next. That's been extremely successful. Bureaucracy is confusing, and it's really difficult for people to understand which department or organization will provide what they need."

#### Housing

"The first thing we need to do is make sure we have accessible washrooms for people. That's both for tourism as well as for people who have no home. There are organizations but we really need to link with what they're doing as a municipality and find mutual supports. We have to do it as a community together. Having said that, we are working on options, changing some provincial legislation, through ROMA that will make it easier for us to create housing locally. For example, we have the downtown area where we can

have intensification, but we can't put more Short-term rentals housing into rural areas because of our zoning. We need change that allows us to do more cluster housing, for example. Now, every single house needs a separate septic and water system. With clusters, neighbours could share a system that is maybe municipally-owned or run but is done for a rural environment.'

#### **Povertu**

"(Council is) missing a lot of the major issues that are coming forward." She has been asking for a report on local trends. Sayne said she was on the organization that brought the women's shelter to Minden. She noted the living wage is \$19.42 in the County. She thinks it is probably more post-COVID. She said minimum wage does not meet the need and also talked about the cancellation of the guaranteed income supplement program. She thinks we have to support those making a living from the arts. She said municipalities should supply basic needs. Asked how, Sayne said, "you have a place to live, can afford food on the table, can take some pride in getting ahead." Pressed on how to do that, she said encouraging more housing, which will create local jobs people may not need

#### **Shoreline** preservation bylaw

Sayne said, "it's needed so we have guidance. That's what's going on, on one side of the lake is happening on the other side of the lake, for example. I have seen situations where there's been over 100 feet or more of clear cutting and levelling where forest used to be. I've seen where people only have 60 feet of shoreline allowance, and that's their cottage and their land and everything. So, how is this going to affect them and the fear of that. I think the bylaw is a very good start. I think the problem is fear mongering about it." She said she can understand people worried about enforcement and the County will have to make it work. Savne said they also need to ensure groundwater

Sayne said the province should be helping municipalities because they are being forced to hire expensive consultants to deal with short-term rentals. She added STRs are being taxed the same as residential but they are a business and should be paying a commercial rate. "That's where the province has to step in. That's where money would come from to enforce bylaws." She added, "shortterm rentals have taken away much of our housing stock. They have increased the number of bylaw calls. We pay for the OPP so the more calls we're getting, the more increased that's going to be for the OPP." She said she also gets complaints from people living near short-term rentals.

#### **Transportation**

"We had some volunteers make recommendations to County council for transportation. Their recommendations were turned down in favour of putting \$50,000 aside every year towards transportation. That fund is growing each year. We need to do something sooner. We really need to put in electric vehicles. We could do that as a demonstration project. Looking for more money or demonstration projects to get off of fossil fuels is an option. It is not easy to cover our rural areas. There have been some really good examples of Uber being used. There are some options out there. We need to really act now and get something going and let the demand steer how those policies change what we are doing."

#### Vision for the future

"We'll understand each other better. better understand needs and wants and how we all can contribute to getting what we need out of this community." She said post-COVID, people are rethinking what's important in life. "We're beginning to realize that money is not the most important thing in life. We need to be happy ... focus on our neighbours and caring for each other and our environment.'



Pam Sayne is seeking re-election Photo by Lisa Gervais.

#### Minden Hills

She is running again because she feels there's unfinished business. "I was often the lone voter in this council the last four, and even eight, years. I want to get back to where I think business should be. We've done things, and put our resources into the arena, which I think really sapped the energy out of so many other basic issues that we aren't covering well enough. That includes the condition of our boardwalk, the epitaph and bricks are cracking, and making our downtown accessible for wheelchairs. Council did approve the CIP (community improvement plan) to help businesses but it hasn't been well-used and understood. We need to renovate the downtown and make it more attractive and start taking care of basic issues, such as roads.

#### Pam Sayne the candidate

"I have the know-how, skills and ability. I know how to get things done. I sit on the ROMA board, which influences the province. I'm very optimistic about the future and want to take all this energy and know- how and put it to use in my community. I think we need healthier leadership. We need to get our egos out of the work and understand our communities



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#### The **Highlander**

Published by The Highlander Newspaper Limited

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To tell the story of Haliburton County each week.

To be a source of information and inspiration through stories and ideas.

To report on issues, people and events important to the community.

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands.

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

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# Spinning ambulance funding

It is irksome when the Ontario government or any government for that matter – seemingly takes credit for spending money it has collected from taxpayers.

Case in point was Laurie Scott's Sept. 28 press release stating Ontario was investing nearly \$3 million for annual land ambulance services in Haliburton County.

Sure, Ontario may be diverting just over \$2.9 million to the Highlands' land ambulance service, but it's hardly the source of funding. That money has come from you and I, not Laurie Scott and the government of Ontario.

These announcements also appear to be misleading. It's splashy to say the province is pumping nearly \$764 million across the province into land ambulances. However, the Land Ambulance Service Grant or LASG came about after the province downloaded the very costly land ambulance service onto municipalities. The LASG funding amounts to a 50-50 cost share with the County of Haliburton, for instance. So, you've contributed to that part of the equation, too.

The press release does at least acknowledge it's annual funding.

The grant is based on the previous year's council-approved operating budgets.

The press release says the province's grant is to help with increased cost pressures in emergency departments. We're not sure how that translates here in the County. It appears a lack of health care professionals – not paramedics - is putting the squeeze on our

Scott's release goes on to say the money will support the hiring of additional paramedics, wage and cost of living adjustments, and general ambulance services operation to meet the needs of the local community.

The hyperbole also talks about the government's commitment to building a modern, sustainable, and connected emergency health system that supports every Ontarian on their health care journey. It goes on to tout how it supports the Plan to Stay Open: Health System Stability and Recovery, to ease pressure on our health care system, hire more health care workers and provide the right care in the right place to Ontarians. That's some spin.

Don't get us wrong. There's no doubt the

Haliburton County Paramedic Service welcomes the funding. Money last year did help them to staff the Tory Hill ambulance station 24 hours a day, seven days a week,



By Lisa Gervais

365 days of the year. Further, the Ontario government is using your tax dollars to continue to fund 100 per cent of costs for Central Ambulance Communications Centres to dispatch ambulances.

It's too bad a lot of our ambulance time is being taken up transferring patients to Lindsay and Peterborough for CT scan appointments, and then being diverted to outof-County calls. Maybe next year, along with the LASG money, the province can throw in a CT scanner for the Highlands.

So, lest one gets caught up in the spin; it's annual funding, it's nothing new. And it's about \$39,000 less than the local service budgeted for. They'll have to look to make up that shortfall in other areas of the service.

# What are we doing about transportation?

As touched on in previous columns, The Highlander is taking a deep dive into what we see as the top issues facing the community. I've already written about housing and poverty and this week I'll complete what I'm calling the unholy trinity by focusing on transportation.

Those three issues are so interconnected. It's almost like a domino effect.

Say we have someone who works a job in Haliburton village. They're just getting by making minimum wage while renting the same one-bedroom apartment they've lived in for years. Suddenly, it's 2022 and inflation kicks in, costs go up and that apartment is no longer affordable. Wanting to maintain their job and stay in the community, they find a place on a back road 20 minutes out of town. The issue? They don't have a car. Why? Well, they work minimum wage... once living expenses are factored in, there's not much left over.

So, what is our fictional friend to do? Outside of relying on family or friends for a ride, they wouldn't have many options. So, maybe they quit their job. Maybe they leave the community. It's a brutal cycle.

This is where Haliburton County needs to step in.

Public transportation has been an

afterthought for far too long. Seen as more of Belleville need a want than a need, I would say the opposite is now true. We need some form of public transit in the Highlands.

Now, that's going to look a little different than it would in, say, Toronto. Or places like Peterborough or Lindsay. A traditional system where a single bus drives the same route repeatedly several times a day isn't feasible here. So, we need to get a little creative.

When discussing this with County CAO Mike Rutter and Dysart et al mayor Andrea Roberts, they both indicated a call-forservice, ride share program may be the way to go. We've seen organizations like Point in Time, Fleming CREW and SIRCH Community Services successfully launch pilot projects that incorporate aspects of those kinds of service.

The County has been setting aside \$50,000 annually for its transportation fund. They now have around \$250,000 - but no concrete plans to spend it. Talks have stagnated at the council level, with no real movement on a County-wide strategy since 2019.

So, let's look at what's working elsewhere. Perhaps we could emulate what Hastings County is doing. Anyone wanting a ride from places like Madoc or Marmora into

only sign into an app on their smart phone and book it. There's a small cost, while monthly passes



By Mike Baker

are also available. The County could tap into provincial gas tax funding to buy a vehicle and then take on the running costs.

If the municipality doesn't want to get involved in running its own program, maybe it could empower residents to start something. There are communities across Ontario where ride shares are operated by regular people and incentivized by the local government. If there's someone driving from Cardiff into Minden every day, maybe they would be willing to have a few more people in their car if they knew the County would kick them a few bucks for fuel.

Providing public transit in a community roughly the size of PEI is a challenge. We accept that. But instead of shrugging our shoulders, we need to start coming up with solutions to help move people around the County. Our small businesses are crying out for workers. Maybe things would be better if would-be employees could get there.

Clarification: In the Sept. 29 Highlander, we referred to Dysart ward 1 candidate Rob McCaig as an active volunteer with CanoeFM. While he did volunteer with the station at one time, he's no longer an active volunteer.









#### 2022

#### **LETTERS**

#### Monumental crisis

#### Dear editor,

We have a medical crisis right across Canada. Responses like those from Sylvia Jones and Jean-Yves Duclos show that expecting politicians to come up with a solution is a fool's errand.

Previous task forces and reports show that convening another federal or provincial study is a waste of time and money.

What is needed is direction from a 'four-month duration think-tank' with representatives from the Canadian Medical Association, a provincial nurses' union, longterm care advocates, pharmacists, medical teaching institutes and concerned citizens (but no politicians) to come up with a viable

The plan should be made public and broadcast by print, radio and TV outlets, with analysis and comments from competent

If we truly live in a democracy, then the result should be enlightening and beneficial in so many ways.

Now who will fund and take part in this much needed task-force?

**Dennis Choptiany** Koshlong Lake

#### Our lakes are healthy

#### Dear editor,

In the Sept. 29, 2022 edition of The Highlander, reporter Sam Gillett referenced the 2019 Lake Health Report ("a lake assessment"), stating that "only 46-47 per cent of shorelines surveyed in Haliburton are

#### PHOTO OF THE WEEK



These Canada geese look like they might be discussing flight plans for later in the fall. Submitted.

That report surveyed 57 Haliburton lakes and provided shoreline assessments for 43 of those lakes, using four shoreline condition categories (natural, regenerative, ornamental and degraded) and providing, for each of those 43 lakes, the percentage of their shorelines which fall into each category. Note that those 43 lakes have a combined 750 kilometres of shorelines.

A statistical weighted analysis of those 43 lakes indicates that while 47.2 per cent of these shorelines are currently categorized as natural (as Mr. Gillett correctly states),

another 30 per cent are regenerative, which is defined in the report as "Natural vegetation has been removed in the past but is in the process of growing back towards a natural

In other words, 72.2 per cent of Haliburton lakes studied are either in a natural state or are growing back towards a natural state without the need of additional, expensive regulation such as the shoreline bylaw.

This is a key reason why this legislation is not necessary and why the hundreds of thousands of taxpayers' dollars which will be required to administer it should be put to better use in Haliburton County.

Our lakes are healthy and existing regulations (notably septic, tree and building rules) help to keep them that way. They do not experience toxic algae blooms as some would have you believe. I encourage you to visit our website below.

(I'd still like to know what those new shoreline bylaw inspectors will be doing during the winter months when our shorelines are buried under the snowfall.)

Dave Love Haliburton Lake and haliburtonwaterfrontowners.ca

#### **CLIMATE CORNER**

# Tipping points and extreme weather

'Today, the average global temperature for the whole planet is 1.35 degrees centigrade above the pre-industrial level. The chances of staying below 1.5 don't look at all good," says Sir David King, former chief scientific officer, UK, founder and chair of the Climate Crisis Advisory Board. He warns us further that the real issue is how to avoid the major tipping points and the fact that the Arctic Circle region has been heating at four times the rate of the rest of the planet, making the Arctic tipping point the first to succumb, with an anticipated domino effect of global change.

In 2008, research on climate tipping points identified nine components of the earth's climate balancing system that could destabilize weather patterns if they reached certain thresholds. Since then, advances in climate science - improved climate models and volumes of added observations and data - have identified at least 16 influential global interconnected parts.

Tipping points: people generally understand that melting glaciers means the loss of white, heat-reflective surfaces with resulting increase in dark, heat-absorbing earth surfaces. As this phenomenon continues, it

accelerates, with exponential capacity, like a teeter-totter that tips over with added weight on one side. Other examples of tipping points include Arctic winter sea ice collapse, Boreal Forest northern expansion, Boreal permafrost abrupt thaw, Labrador Sea/subpolar gyre collapse, Atlantic meridional overturning circulation collapse, Amazon rainforest dieback, West Antarctic ice sheet collapse, Sahel/West African monsoon greening, low latitude coral reefs die-off.

The message from climate scientists has been consistent: Exceeding 1.5 degrees Celsius global warming could trigger multiple tipping point (AKA teeter-totter) changes with consequences that will feed off each other and escalate global warming.

The most recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report says risk of climate tipping points starts at one-degree Celsius warming. With the extreme weather changes, we are seeing at our current 1.3 degrees of warming, imagine what the global weather patterns will be at 1.5, 2 and 3

Thousands of record-breaking heat days were reported in 2022 around the globe. Rainfall records, flooding, catastrophic winds, turbocharged storms because of

warmer oceans, droughts and forest fire records are being broken so commonly as to become commonplace. We are told the typhoons and hurricanes are less predictable now, accelerating and changing course so rapidly that preparation and evacuation is impossible.

#### **Solutions**

Burning of oil, gas and coal is the primary cause of climate change. Renewable energy options are growing rapidly: 98 per cent of Costa Rica's power comes from renewables; the trains in the Netherlands are 100 per cent wind powered; Germany, Netherlands and Denmark are building an island that will provide renewable energy to 80 million people; solar power reportedly saved Europeans \$29 billion this summer.

Activist and advocacy groups are rapidly joining scientists collaborating to phase out oil and gas production. BOGA (Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance) is an international alliance of governments and stakeholders that say the world needs a global energy system transformation unparalleled in speed and scope. This was reinforced by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres: "Investing in new fossil fuels infrastructure is moral and economic madness.

Preparedness and adaptability: the County of Haliburton corporate climate change adaptation plan includes extreme weather preparedness,

reinforced building designs, roads maintenance, power outage resiliency planning.

#### What you can do

- Adapting to climate change is key. Prepare for power outages, communication and transportation failures, supply chain limitations. Anticipate higher rain volumes, ice storms, extreme heat, drought.
- Write to your elected officials demanding action today to stop the fossil fuel industry.
- Be part of the change. Environment Haliburton (EH!); Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE); Nature Conservancy of Canada; Nature Canada; Environmental Defence Canada are a few examples.



By Dr. Nell Thomas

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The Lochlin community centre has been closed for more than two years. File.

# Lochlin centre faces an uncertain future

#### **Bv Sam Gillett**

Mold, shaky foundations and toxic chemicals have complicated efforts to reopen the Lochlin Community Centre.

Minden Hills councillors discussed remediation, renovations and even a full replacement of the building at a Sept. 29 council meeting.

Director of community services, Craig Belfry, presented a report on the community hall at the meeting.

He explained how planned roof fixes did not occur on schedule, due to COVID-19 and staffing changes.

"As a result of that inaction, when staff were not here, the roof continued to leak and that caused a mold outbreak in the washroom area of the facility.'

The facility has been closed since March

While the roof was fixed in 2021, staff discovered further mold in the kitchen and basement. They also noticed water seepage in the basement, as well as structural issues with the foundation.

Staff hired Pinchin Ltd. to assess the damage. They found the mold growth in the facility is impacting the air quality. As well, Belfry said they determined there was lead paint and asbestos in the facility.

"The presence of these hazardous materials makes the remediation process that much more difficult," Belfry said.

The company quoted \$12,625 plus HST to begin preliminary work on the remediation process. Full remediation is expected to cost much more and involve other companies.

Belfry said the township could look into further funding for the work in 2023.

Coun. Jean Neville, who represents the area, said the problems illustrate a, "lack of caring, this is going to be another example of what happened to Gelert community centre."

Coun. Pam Sayne added, "this is a longstanding issue... but it shows we need better maintenance of all of our buildings and monitoring.'

She pointed to a prior report that detailed the conditions of Minden facilities.

"It sounds like in the period of not being used we didn't go in and check things."

Coun. Bob Carter said, "we should look at what is the real need here, for that building... the fact of the matter is that a replacement building may be a better solution for what we've got. We should at least have that as one of the alternatives when we're looking forward.'

Neville said she's frustrated with the situation.

"The volunteers and the committee have worked hard to keep that building going, because we need outlying community centres. Not everybody wants to drive to Minden to do everything. They want their communities to still survive.'



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# Barry calls for County buy-in at Stanhope airport

By Mike Baker

#### **Qualifications**

Lisa Barry is seeking re-election following three successive terms on council. She is an artist, running Homestead Pottery studio alongside husband, Mike Mihlik. Reflecting on her skills, Barry said, "I'm inquisitive. I'm frugal — I personally live in a feast and famine lifestyle being an artist, so as a councillor I'm looking at the best way to spend money for the greater good of the community."

#### Algonquin Highlands

Barry is a proponent of Stanhope Municipal Airport and wants to see other municipalities chip in to ensure its long-term viability. "It's not just Algonquin Highlands residents using it... I think there's an opportunity for the rest of the County to be involved in helping to fund it. It is an asset, but just like recreation centres, they don't bring in revenue," she said.

#### **Amalgamation**

"We've already amalgamated a fair bit of Algonquin Highlands. There's a service delivery review ongoing at the County level – there's great work happening there, we should see where it goes." Barry believes there's an opportunity for the four lower-tier townships to work together on solutions for waste management, bylaw enforcement and road maintenance.

#### Health

Barry likes the current system HHHS has in place, operating two facilities in the Highlands. "I am in complete support of doing whatever is possible to have two hospitals in the County," she said. "My dad was in an accident and was taken to the hospital in Minden. Given where his accident was, if we had to wait 10 extra minutes for him to get to the hospital in Haliburton, I might not have a dad today."

#### Housing

"We need to have fewer restrictions for housing in Algonquin Highlands," Barry said. "There's been great gains in smaller houses in some communities. Also, having secondary suites, things like granny flats are becoming quite popular." Barry believes most discussions surrounding housing are happening at the County level but said there were some options Algonquin Highlands could explore. "We can change the footprint of properties now. The province is allowing people in rural situations to have two dwellings on one property. That can only be a good thing." Barry also said she was a "huge proponent" of tiny homes. The township recently approved legislation to reduce the minimum size of a new home to 600 sq. ft. She also believes in the idea of cohabiting of a property by friends or different generations of the same family.

#### **Poverty**

Barry believes Algonquin Highlands needs to improve its community programs to better support families living in poverty. "There's lots of programs than run from, say 10 a.m. until noon. Well, if you're working how do you actually access these things? I think there's lots that can be done, whether it be initiatives designed to get people back to work, food initiatives, support programs. Families just can't afford it right now, it's hard."

# Shoreline preservation bylaw

Barry believes County council has already spent enough time debating the shoreline preservation bylaw. "This has been going on for four or five years. As far as I'm concerned, [the process] was fully transparent. At the root of it, everyone wants to enjoy the water and if we don't protect the water, there's going to be problems down the road."

#### Short-term rentals

"There is an appetite for some sort of bylaw enforcement surrounding short-term rentals... I don't think it has to be an iron hammer, but something has to be done," Barry said. She doesn't have a problem with people renting out their cottage a couple times per year to help cover costs or fund a renovation project but believes people owning places and offering them up on sites such as Airbnb year-round should be licensed. "Blue Mountains or Collingwood have a demerit point system that is complaint driven. If you have five or six complaints, you lose your permit... These [short-term] rentals are dangerous for our lakes if not [handled correctly]."

#### **Transportation**

Barry believes the vast geographical landscape of Algonquin Highlands makes public transportation difficult. "I think having some services in Minden and Haliburton as a starting point would help move people around... But for us to get something that goes up to Oxtongue Lake and then down Hwy. 35 [to Carnarvon], that's going to be a challenge."

#### Vision for the future

"I like the idea of having a night sky policy in place where there's not a direct light beaming off of every place. I think there's a place for cell towers, but we don't need to have them everywhere," Barry said, discussing the need for service upgrades in the community. She'd like to see the township engage the community in developing a strategic plan that can be used to outline municipal goals now and in the future.

#### Focus for 2023 budget

"The big things we're hearing about are parking and waste management." Barry said she would be willing to reconsider Algonquin Highlands' previous decision to shutter the Hawk Lake transfer station. She also wants to discuss plans for the airport, looking into what council can do to attract more industry to the area.

# Lisa Barry the candidate

Barry grew up cottaging in Algonquin Highlands. She relocated to the community permanently in 2004 to be closer to her dad. "We decided this would be a good place to call home." She feels much of her third term on council has been spent reacting to the COVID-19 pandemic and filed her papers again in the hopes of tackling some long-standing issues. "We have a huge boom in the municipality. A lot of things are being talked about that will help to shape our community ... I want to be part of those discussions, helping to drive decisions."



Algonquin Highlands ward 2 candidate Lisa Barry is hoping to secure a fourth term on council. *Photo by Mike Baker*.



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# Meirik promises to be 'community voice' on council

**By Mike Baker** 

#### **Qualifications**

Amber Meirik has been an elementary school teacher for almost 30 years. "I've dedicated my life to helping others and finding solutions that optimize outcomes." She believes her greatest assets to be her communication and problem-solving skills. "I don't do anything without 200 per cent effort." Meirik is also a coach with the Minden Skating Club.

#### Algonquin Highlands

"There needs to be a focus on greater cooperation with other levels of government, to empower municipal governments and increase the participation of citizens," Meirik said. "We also need to restore and improve services for taxpayers. Waste management, roads, transportation, parks and rec, municipal infrastructure ... we need more careful examination of budgeted items ... and we need to commit to no further increases in property taxes."

#### Amalgamation

Meirik believes any decision over the potential amalgamation of the four lower-tier townships in Haliburton County should be decided by local residents. "That's a major, life-changing decision. We would need some type of a referendum vote," she said. "This issue has been spoken to many, many times, but I do feel there is a savings to be had in streamlining [municipal] administration... My opinion is it's something that should be looked at."

#### Health

"I would not be opposed to looking at streamlining the [two] health care centres we have in Haliburton County down to one, which can then be maintained with staffing, extra resources," Meirik said. She indicated she'd like to see the community vote on this issue too, should the amalgamation of Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) sites ever be brought forward.

#### Housing

"We need an expansion of available housing and incentives. If we can tackle the housing crisis, that may contribute to our ability to fill vacancies in our workforce, which is another critical thing crippling our community. Basement [apartments], bunkies – those types of things could be explored." She called on the provincial government to provide more funds for housing projects in Haliburton County. While Meirik considers herself pro-development, she is also mindful of protecting the environment. "We can't just build without consequence. We need to do what we can to get the housing that is needed here ... but also protect nature and all that makes Algonquin Highlands

#### **Poverty**

"There's got to be a lot more programs... there's got to be more money put into the budget. Food banks are alive and well, we need a lot more in that area, certainly for children. They need nutrition and after-school programs. We need drop-in centres; we have to expand on our library programs." Meirik said she'd like to see new businesses donate a percentage of their profits to the community to support poverty reduction strategies.

#### **Shoreline** preservation bylaw

Meirik isn't a fan of the County's new shoreline preservation bylaw. "The problem is that it's a complaint-based system. This kind of system is not only inefficient due to the onus being on the citizens, but it also does not effectively stop the offenders." She would have liked the County to hold an in-person open house, where people could attend and ask questions about the proposed bylaw, before council passed it. She also feels concerns over septic systems and the impact they can have on lake health was largely ignored. "I don't think this shoreline bylaw is going to make the difference it was intended to make."

#### Short-term rentals

"Multiple municipalities across Ontario are tackling this same issue ... There shouldn't be these overnight types of rentals, because those do not really do any long-term good." Meirik believes the township needs to refine its definition for short-term rentals, and work closely with people who have secondary properties in

the Highlands. "Instead of having to rent out your property for a week here and two weeks there, perhaps they could rent out to a worker who needs a home while they're here for the summer... That could be subsidized [by the municipality] in some way – everyone's happy.'

#### **Transportation**

Meirik believes the County and lower-tier townships should be exploring options for public transit. "You can operate a system in a geographically spread-out region that is on-demand. It may not be that you have a bus every hour like in the city, but there should be something available each day that you can call to get a ride."

#### Vision for the future

Meirik wants to bring all Algonquin Highlands residents together. "We need better cohesiveness between our full-time and seasonal residents. We've got to see a change in our poverty numbers. We can't have these things happening. It's an embarrassment and a shame that this is going on in 2022, so we've got to help, as a municipality, any way that we can. If that means propping up [some social programs], so be it... This is the most beautiful place in Ontario, and we have to do what we can to keep it that way."

#### Focus for 2023 budget

"I would commit to no more tax increases. We have a surplus; we need to look more carefully line by line at what's being



Algonquin Highlands ward 2 candidate Amber Meirik wants to bridge the divide between full-time and season residents. Submitted.

budgeted and maybe change our focus and priorities. One of the things I would want is more open communication, getting input from the community and then moving forward to know what their priorities are."

#### **Amber Meirik** the candidate

"One of the main reasons I've chosen to put my name forward is because I feel there is a little bit of accountability missing in the current council. I will strive to be an accountable voice in Algonquin Highlands, by listening to all taxpayers in the township." Meirik says she will confer with the community on all major decisions. Having been a seasonal resident for several years, she plans to move here permanently later this year.



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# Richards wants County to keep two hospital sites

By Mike Baker

#### **Qualifications**

Sabrina Richards has lived in Algonquin Highlands full-time since 2020. She owns and operates the Big Hawk Lake Marina. Prior to that, she worked as a consultant for big business, specializing in logistics. "I arranged international shipping, worked with various government bodies, from the federal government to customs to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, even down to the provincial level and the Ministry of Natural Resources."

#### **Algonquin Highlands**

Richards said public parking is a huge problem. During the marina's busiest days in the summer, she said it wasn't unusual for families to have to park up to three kilometres away. "Our parking situation is extreme, and it has been for a very long time. It goes back decades and has not been addressed," she said. "A lot of residents were upset too about the closure of the Hawk Lake [waste transfer station] ... The reality is, a lot of people feel they have to take their garbage home with them, because [other dump locations] are too far away."

#### Amalgamation

Richards is not in favour of amalgamation. "I think the four lower-tier townships have a lot in common, which allows us to collaborate well together. We have a lot of the same needs, but we also have some differences, and some of them are significant. So, maintaining our sovereignty without losing sight of the bigger picture of togetherness is important."

#### Health

Richards believes Haliburton County can maintain two hospital locations. "Even if you were to combine all HHHS operations into a single facility you're still not going to have enough staff if we don't start attracting more workers to come here. And part of the problem with attracting people

is where are they going to live? We have nowhere. It's a vicious cycle."

#### Housing

"We need to review some of our bylaws that are prohibitive to things like tiny homes – that could make a huge impact on getting more affordable housing into the market. To put up rows of townhouses, apartment buildings, takes two, three years. We're past waiting, we need immediate solutions." She believes the township needs to bring more second stage housing online. "There's no plan for people who are living in affordable housing units. There's no way for them to progress, so they just stay there. But because our inventory isn't growing, we run into issues like we're seeing now where there's just not enough [units] to go

#### **Poverty**

Richards said she lived in extreme poverty during her late teens, often struggling to make ends meet as a young, single parent. She doesn't know how she'd cope today if she had to do it all again. "There are so many gaps that people are falling through. There's not enough support given to help people who are headed towards a dire situation. Some of the things that helped me no longer exist for people ... we can't just sit here as a township and say, 'it's the province's responsibility'. We need to take action." She mentioned the possibility of hosting job skills courses, possibly partnering with organizations such as SIRCH

# Shoreline preservation bylaw

Richards was disappointed with where County council landed with its shoreline preservation bylaw. "For it to have taken that many years to come up with a document that doesn't protect our shorelines is very disappointing. Septics and fertilizers are the biggest predators to our lakes, but there's nothing about them in there. That would have been the first

place I started. What we're left with is, essentially, a building bylaw. Some will say that's better than nothing, but I would have preferred they finish ironing out the problems before moving forward." She wants to see the issue revisited by the next County council.

#### **Short-term rentals**

"Short-term rentals pose a great drain on our services. There are usually noise complaints, further bylaw issues... I would like to see a bylaw come in to address the concerns of neighbouring properties. There's a difference between renting your cottage out to pay your property taxes each year versus having a place listed on Airbnb every night of the year. We need to distinguish that... This issue is taking away from our resort businesses, it's taking away from our housing stock."

#### **Transportation**

"There could be a main line, say from Dorset to Dysart, but even that I think would be underutilized. Smaller vans may work, but again, it boils down to workers. We don't even have enough bus drivers to effectively run our school groups, so that's a problem. I think it's great that we have some volunteer supports, like the people who give their time to drive people to health appointments. I think we're going to need more of that, because I don't see [a transportation system] coming to fruition."

#### Vision for the future

"Algonquin Highlands needs to build community together. We have a lot of seasonal populations that greatly affects our permanent population. We want them here, but we don't have enough employees at our businesses to support increased population when it comes in. We don't have housing to put people in... We need to address these things if we want to continue to grow."



Algonquin Highlands ward 2 candidate Sabrina Richards believes parking, housing and garbage disposal are major issues heading into this month's election. *Photo by Mike Baker.* 

#### Focus for 2023 budget

"I'd like to see parking finally get addressed. People have waited an extremely long time and I think that needs to be a priority for the township this coming year."

# Sabrina Richards the candidate

"I definitely have a love for the area, that's why I'm running. Since moving here, I've noticed there's gaps in services and issues that aren't being addressed and I think I can step into a councillor role and help to move things forward," Richards said.





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# Simpson running to 'give back to the community'

**By Mike Baker** 

#### **Qualifications**

Napier Simpson is a retiree who spent the bulk of his working life running business development in the corporate world. He also spent some time working for the provincial government in the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport. "I've got very advanced critical thinking skills; I can cut to the chase on complex matters very quickly. I also consider myself a consensus builder, which is less about talking and all about listening. We need to find out what [our community] wants us to achieve."

#### Algonquin Highlands

"The biggest and most important issues relate to our biggest budget items. So, safety – running of the fire department, EMS, those sorts of things are very challenging these days. Volunteerism is falling. The environment is always a concern for me. As our population grows, we put extra pressures on our lakes and our lands, our roads and our services." Simpson wants to focus on maintaining roads across the township, and spoke of possibly revisiting the closure of the Hawk Lake waste transfer station.

#### Amalgamation

"As long as people continue to expect services that are similar to what's available in the city, then amalgamation, things are headed in that direction. I don't know whether that will be full amalgamation, or more municipal partnerships, but working together with neighbours is one way to solve some of the issues around fire, community safety and policing.'

#### Health

"Haliburton County is a big, big territory. While the hospitals may not seem far apart, the Haliburton site covers east heading to Bancroft, while Minden covers to the west and north. Can we afford not to have two hospitals? ... that wouldn't be a municipal decision. It would be a

massive transition to try and go to one hospital."

#### Housing

"A municipal council can support initiatives brought forward at the County level, but there is no real budget [for housing] in Algonquin Highlands. There is no authority to do anything about social housing at the municipal level," Simpson said. He noted a lack of municipal services, such as sewer and water, limits the township's options for development.

#### **Poverty**

Simpson believes attracting new businesses to Algonquin Highlands will help to bring jobs to the community. "Dimensions Health Centres, there's been some resistance against it, but it's created 23 new jobs, they've spent over \$20 million. That's good for lots of things in our community."

#### **Shoreline** preservation bylaw

After watching County council discuss its new shoreline preservation bylaw for several years, Simpson said he sees the benefit in having an overarching policy that promotes lake health. "It's a good start. Could it be made stronger? Undoubtedly. This is the first step of many iterations of this thing. It's been years in the making so let's work with it and modify it so it best suits the community and the environment."

#### Short-term rentals

"They're a double-edged sword. The short-term rental market allows people to come into the region, so that's the good side. The bad side is there are some bad apples that cause issues for everyone else." He said he's in favour of licensing short-term rentals in the County, with punishments doled out to owners who circumvent municipal rules. "Short-term rentals are here to stay, now it's about finding a way [to live with them]."

#### **Transportation**

"Public transit is a real challenge. A municipality has nowhere near the [financial] muscle to solve a problem like this. The County has a real challenge too. Simpson said it might take some outside the box thinking to come up with feasible solutions for the Highlands, such as one recently undertaken in Innisfil. "Rather than developing a new transit system, they entered into a public-private partnership with Uber that has worked well.

#### Vision for the future

"We want critical services supplied, and we want a happy, safe, comfortable community where we know the environment is protected and it's safe for our residents," Simpson said. "As we go forward, there's been discussion about a community safety and wellbeing plan, which wraps in policing and vulnerable people. So, taking more of an interventionist approach to help the community before things become a problem. I think that's important." He also sees potential in the township developing a watershed council, "to protect the environment more holistically", referencing a similar program operating in Muskoka. "That would help protect the thing that many people come up to see and play on, and that's our lakes."

#### Focus for 2023 budget

"The first budget will always be a learning curve... I'd like to go back to the basic needs and say 'what are the core things we're delivering?' and go back to each of those department heads and find out



Algonquin Highlands ward 2 candidate Napier Simpson believes his background in business development would bring a unique perspective to council. Submitted.

what the priorities are. Council has a tight budget. If we can make a few things a little more efficient, then maybe that opens up doors for us elsewhere," he said. "We want to make sure we've got a well-run township."

#### Napier Simpson the candidate

"We own an old farm around Stanhope that has been in the family since 1954, so I've got a fairly deep connection to the Highlands," said Simpson, noting he splits his time between Algonquin Highlands and Goderich. Asked how he would provide effective leadership as a part-time resident, Simpson said, "In terms of being at the council table, I'll be there. I looked at the meetings for 2022 and I was [in Algonquin Highlands] for all but one of those. Then, between telephone and email, people will find a way to communicate with me when they want to."



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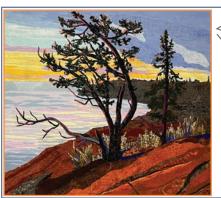
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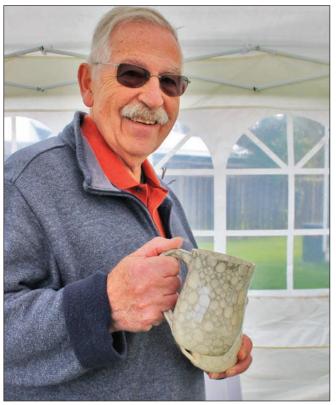












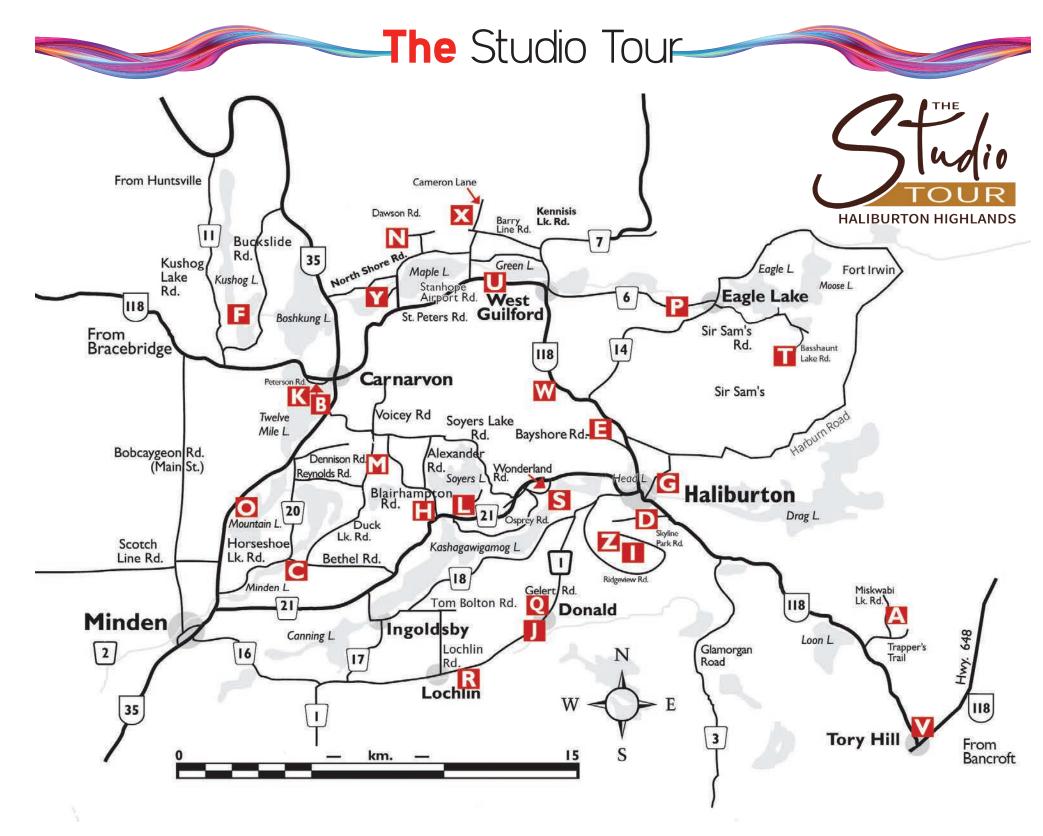




#### Fall palette backdrop to Studio Tour

Ideal fall weather saw locals and visitors flock to the Studio Tour Haliburton Highlands this past weekend. Sunshine and warm temperatures mixed with colourful autumn leaves enhanced visits to 26 studios, featuring 44 artists, Oct. 1-2. The studio tour continues this weekend, Oct. 8-9, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Top: Cathy Taylor of Mosaics & Clay Works. Middle left: Chuck O'Neil scoops up some ceramic mugs. Middle right: Paul Savage of Savage Knives does some leatherworking. Bottom: Peter Bowers with some of his photography. *Photos by Lisa Gervais.* 













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# Eagle View event centre opens

By Mike Baker

The view from atop the hill at Sir Sam's Ski/ Ride is about to get even better after Dysart et al council rubber stamped plans for a new 60-foot outlook tower at the site.

The structure will be the latest in a long line of investments at the facility, which has become a year-round operation after the Wilkinson family took ownership last winter. More than \$500,000 has been invested to transform the main chalet into a modernized event centre, fit to host weddings, business events and other celebrations

"When we took over, Sir Sam's was more of a 90-day business. We were very much focused on skiing and a little bit of hiking during the winter," said Doug Wilkinson. "We thought we could do more with it than just let it sit empty through the spring, summer and fall season. It just made sense to offer up this space and bring people here, such a beautiful part of the world, for their special days and celebrations."

That change in view necessitated a rebranding. Now operating hand-in-hand with Sir Sam's is the Eagle View Wedding and Event Centre.

Event planner and coordinator Kayla Gardiner is taking the lead on this latest endeavour. Welcoming select guests for a visit Sept. 23, Gardiner explained the changes that had been made to transform the chalet into a full-service facility.

"It really was just a facelift to what was already there. We've replaced the carpets, used a lot of paint and installed a whole new bar space. And we completely revamped the kitchen," Gardiner said. "We can do dining for 200 people now, where we provide a plated five-course meal. We've also added to our menu for the winter ski season.'

The space has been used for around 20 events since December, including the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School

The goal, Gardiner said, is to host an event every weekend during the off-season.

"This is a hidden gem. The response since we pivoted has been really good. We're getting more people out here and just appreciating what we have. The view from the top of the hill is the best in Ontario. We just installed a new viewing platform, which is a great addition," she said.

The new tower will only enhance the visitor experience, Wilkinson said.

"I like to say the tower is our 'and fries' – it complements everything that we're trying to do. For people who want to come here and walk to get a good view, they will get the best view from that platform. It will be





Top: Sir Sam's Ski/Ride owner Doug Wilkinson and Kayla Gardiner, event planner and coordinator, at the new lookout podium at the top of the ski hill. Bottom: Owen Duhaime, food and beverage director, Kayla Gardiner, event planner and coordinator, and owner Doug Wilkinson sit at the recently renovated bar at the rebranded Eagle View Event Centre. Photos by Mike Baker.

an ideal spot for a bride and groom looking for the perfect setting for their special day, Wilkinson said. "The whole idea is to bring more people to Haliburton County. Once

they come here, they keep coming back." Construction on the tower will begin immediately, with Wilkinson hoping to have it finished before the end of the year.





# Excitement as new dance studio opens

#### By Lisa Gervais

When Haliburton Dancy Academy closed its doors last June, Reese Wood was sad. But she was excited Oct. 1 as the new Skyline Dance Studio held its official grand opening.

Reese was one of a number of children who joined their parents in celebrating the ribboncutting this past Saturday.

"It's really important because I love dance, and I've grown up doing dance," Reese said.

A committee of eight women behind the studio: Allison Cox, Sarah Garbutt, Dawn Hurd, Courtney Bishop, Victoria Bullock, Stacey Parish, Stef Wood and Melissa Valentini were joined by Dysart et al Coun. Pat Kennedy for a ceremony at the 229 Highland St. location.

They only secured the building six weeks ago, and have put a lot of hard work into preparing three dance studios, a common room, bathrooms and change rooms. They have also secured teachers and been registering students. They have developed a website and Facebook page.

Hurd said, "there's been ups and downs and some struggles here and there but I think we, as a committee, have great skills and everyone brings something to the table and we had no doubt that we would get here."

Cox agreed, adding the community never doubted it could bring a dance studio back to the Highlands. She said there had been passionate support from so many sectors. "We knew the community would step up in ways that we could never imagine.'

Bishop said it had been an incredible amount of work to get the building, next to Castle Antiques, ready for the grand opening and for fall students.

She noted it was an older building that had not been designed as a dance studio. They needed workers and material. They called on family and friends. As just one example, they had to figure out how to build dance floors.

"Lots of blood, sweat and tears to get it done. Honestly, the fact we have accomplished this much in six weeks, amazes me," Bishop said.

It all started the night Cox found out her daughter's dance studio was closing. She told her husband, "I either need to buy a bus, or open a dance studio here in Haliburton County. Either way, these kids needed to stay together.'

Cox said she instinctively knew she could lead a project to create a new dance studio and was pretty sure there would be "immense" support to keep dance local.

Skyline Dance Studio is not affiliated with any dance studios but is an independent notfor-profit organization, "with a huge vision to create an inclusive safe space for all dancers in Haliburton County."

Cox said she worked closely with the Haliburton County Development Corporation to review the business options and ultimately decided on a not-for-profit for two reasons. "We want everything we pour into this studio to be reinvested in the studio and we want to be sure this is a legacy that can be carried on for years to come. It will evolve and grow as



Skyline Dance Studio committee members, dancers, and Dysart et al Coun. Pat Kennedy at the grand opening. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

the board of directors transitions throughout the years. It will truly be a community-run operation."

Some committee members own and run businesses, some work in non-profits, some are employed by local businesses, and many have experience sitting on other not-for-profit boards in the Highlands.

"It is a great blend of experience coming together with passion and dedication to accomplish this goal. Beyond this group,

we have dozens of community members, individuals, and businesses, that have offered support with time, money and materials.'

We are doing this for our community, and the families of Haliburton County. Dance is so important for kids, not only is it good for physical, emotional, and intellectual wellbeing, but it also creates amazing friendships and instills a sense of community that will last a lifetime."

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Colourfest returned to Head Lake Park in Haliburton Oct. 1. The event featured a classic car show, scarecrow building contest, RPM pontoon boat rides, a photo booth and face painting by Pockets the clown. It culminated in the Haliburton Rotary Club pumpkin rolling contest. Colourfest is hosted by Dysart et al and the Haliburton BIA every year.

Top: Dysart et al environmental manager, John Watson, dressed as a pirate for his recycling rally. Middle: Ellis Feyen tries out the axe throwing. Bottom: Donna and little Eva Gifford take a crack at archery. *Photos by Lisa Gervais*.

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Left: Ty Collins notched a hat-trick in a Sept. 28 win over Mississauga. He's had six goals in his last three games. *Photo by Shawn Muir/OJHL Images*. Top right: Josh Sordo carries the puck up ice at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena. Bottom: Goalie Tyler Hodges got all three starts. *Photos by Lisa Gervais*.

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Left: Patrick Saini celebrates a goal against the Wellington Dukes Oct. 1 in Minden. Right: Lucas Stevenson prepares for a face-off. Photos by Lisa Gervais.

# ogs maul their way to three-game win streak

#### By Lisa Gervais

The Haliburton County Huskies will take a three-game winstreak into Brantford Oct. 6.

The Dogs beat the North York Rangers 7-1 Oct. 2, the Wellington Dukes 4-2 Oct. 1 and the Mississauga Chargers 5-0 Sept. 28. The Huskies are 7-2-1 for the season.

Coach and general manager Ryan Ramsay said, "I think we're playing really good hockey.

He added, "If you look at the teams we've lost to, they're at the bottom of the league. It's nice we can compete with the big boys."

The Huskies are in second place in the South/East conference, trailing the Toronto Junior Canadiens. They're fourth overall in the league as of Oct. 5.

Ramsay said Ty Collins – who scored a hattrick Sept. 28 and six goals over the threegame stretch – is on "fire" on a line with Patrick Saini and Christian Stevens.

The GM said Collins had multiple offers so he's happy he chose the Huskies. "He's been great so far." He added the top line is, "working together as a unit."

Goalie Tyler Hodges got all three starts, including the shutout Sept. 28. "He's really calm ... I don't think nerves really get to him too much or big games, so he won the first game in Mississauga and looked great," Ramsay said. They gave him the start against the Dukes and he battled hard so earned the cage Oct. 2 as well.

#### Marshall back

Ramsay said they've acquired goalie Aidan Spooner, who had been playing for the OHLs Kingston Frontenacs.

Meanwhile, Lucas Marshall, who had knee surgery in the off-season, has been cleared to start skating in mid-October. Ramsay hopes to have him back in the line-up by mid-November. "He'll be a big piece for us ... he does all the small things that some players don't want to do."

#### Huskies 7 – North York 1

North York opened the scoring at 14:26 of the first period Oct. 2, but the Huskies stormed back with seven unanswered goals. Nicholas Dowling got the Dogs rolling

when he scored short-handed, unassisted, at 1:02 of the second. Just 21 seconds later,

Saini also had a short-handed tally, assisted by Sam Solarino, to give the Huskies the lead. Stevens then scored, from Saini and Collins at 9:58 to make it 3-1. And Collins was next up at 14:46 from Saini and Stevens.

The third was all Dogs: Will Gourgouvelis from Saini and Collins at 6:05; Dowling with his second from Jack Staniland and Alex Cunningham at 8:36 and Collins on the power play, from Saini and Myles Perry at 16:01 to close out the goal parade.

#### Huskies 4 - Wellington 2

In the closest game of the three, the Huskies held on against the Dukes to get the two points. After a scoreless first period, the Dogs got on the board first, with Saini scoring at 12:57, with helpers from Staniland and Stevens. Then, Josh Sordo fired one home on the power play, at 16:23, from Staniland and Cunningham to make it 2-0.

The Dukes answered back at 6:22 of the second on a power play but Collins answered right back at 8:56, from Stevens and Lucas Stevenson.

The see-saw battle saw Wellington score at 13:03 to make it a 3-2 Dogs' lead until

Stevens found the empty net at 18:42, from Isaac Sooklal and Saini.

#### Huskies 5 -Mississauga 0

On Sept. 28, a big third period push gave the Huskies an easy win over Mississauga. The Dogs lit the lamp four times in the frame, outshooting the Chargers 50-31 overall.

Collins helped the cause with a hat-trick. He scored a first period goal at the 55 second mark, unassisted. In the third, the Huskies netted four in a 12-minute flurry. Collins got his second at 3:20 from Sooklal and Saini. Perry notched one at 8:09 from Stevenson and Cunningham. Solarino tallied an unassisted marker at 9:20. And, then, Collins got his third, on the powerplay, at 14:55, with helpers from Sooklal and Stevenson.

#### Next up:

The Dogs are on the road in Brantford Oct. 6 and then host Trenton Oct. 8. Puck drop is 4 p.m. in Minden.





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# Former MP to give 'cheat sheet' on U.S. politics

#### By Sam Gillett

Next month, Canada's southern neighbour heads to the polls to choose new members of congress in its mid-term elections.

Barry Devolin, a former MP for the County, who studied and taught American politics, is presenting "For What it is Worth -Demystifying American Politics" Wednesday, Oct. 12.

Devolin will explain how the mid-term elections and various other American political mechanisms work.

He said he expects attendees, "are going to feel like I've given them some tools to engage in discussions about what's going on in the U.S. And I think it'll be more satisfying if they feel like they are using the right words, and have a better understanding of the machinery," he said.

"That will make those coffee or over beer conversations more fun and more rewarding for them."

He said while many Canadians may hear news about American politics daily, it can be difficult to understand the background or context surrounding the latest presidential, congressional or senatorial story. He compares it to watching a game of football or hockey.

"You can't really understand football if you don't know what a quarterback is, and you don't know what three or four downs are... it's kind of like a cheat sheet so that people can understand and watch it and kind of understand what people are saying."



Barry Devolin said his talk will likely help stimulate more informed political discussions at the bar or coffee shop. Submitted.

American politics have always stirred controversy, and with recent presidential votes, supreme court decisions and congressional scandals, many claim the country's political culture is more divided than ever.

But Devolin's talk isn't about any current

events or political discourse.

"If somebody was sitting in the back of the room who didn't know me, my goal would be that at the end of my presentation, they would have no idea whether I kind of leaned Republican or leaned Democrat," he said. "That would tell me that I've done a good

job in terms of a balanced explanation of the machinery."

Devolin's presentation is part of the Yours Outdoors Speaker Series, hosted at the Haliburton Fish Hatchery, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. Admission is \$15.



The Haliburton Highlands Performing Arts Society would like to thank our patrons for their cooperation over the past summer theatre performances.

We would also like to acknowledge the support we received from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. Their funding enabled us to employ a Covid Protocol Officer who kept our patrons, staff and performers safe throughout the season.

As we move forward, we would like to encourage our patrons and user groups of the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion to continue to use masks when attending performances at the theatre.

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#### OCTOBER EVENTS

#### Oct. 6, 13 and 20

Join Terry Moore, president of the Haliburton Highlands Green Burial Society, for information about why green burial passes on a more eco-friendly legacy than either cremation or conventional burial. There will be three sessions: the Dysart library Oct. 6, the Minden Hills library Oct. 13 and the Wilberforce library Oct. 20. All sessions will run from 2 to 3 p.m.

#### Oct. 7, 7:30 p.m.

Join JUNO award-winning band Big Little Lions at the Haliburton Legion for a night of musical entertainment. Tickets are \$25 if bought in advance and \$30 at the door. For more information, visit biglittlelions.com/

#### Oct. 11, 1 to 2 p.m.

Get started on holidays early this year by creating your own unique gift tags with old Christmas cards and the Cricut Cutter. Event taking place at the Dysart branch of the Haliburton County Public Library. Register for this free adult program at haliburtonlibrary.ca.

#### Oct. 12, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Join Kim from the Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre for a special storytime and opportunity to learn about the medicine wheel at the Minden Hills library. Children aged one to five are invited to attend from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. and children aged five and above are come between 3:30 and 4:30

#### Oct. 12, 7 to 9 p.m.

For many who watch the nightly news, the American political system and its elections can be very confusing. With the U.S. midterm elections coming up in November, former Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MP Barry Devolin, who has taught American politics and elections in Korea and the USA, will provide insight into how

things work south of the border. Event will take place at the Haliburton Fish Hatchery.

#### Oct. 15, 2 to 3 p.m.

Learn about common promotional materials, when and how to use them and then craft your own basic press release. This session is geared to organizers at nonprofits, businesses, service organizations and advocacy groups looking to gain more attention from their media materials. Event taking place at the Dysart library branch.

#### Oct. 15, 12 to 3 p.m.

It's almost time for the annual Fall Festival at Abbey Gardens. Bring your family to create fall memories. Decorate Halloween cookies, make pumpkin crafts, ride ponies, jump on the bouncy castle, search the gardens for scavenger hunt clues, savour fall treats and of course, pick the perfect pumpkin to take home. To ensure that we have enough craft materials, cookies, and prizes for everyone, please purchase a ticket for your child in advance at abbeygardens.

#### Oct. 15

Join the Haliburton Highlands Quilt Guild for their open house and sale. Free admission. Hand-crafted and guilted items. Wall hangings and quilts. Stanhope Community Centre, North Shore Road, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$5 for a hot drink and sweet snack.

Have a non-profit event you want included? email mike@thehighlander.ca.



#### **ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS**

#### **HALIBURTON BRANCH**

Mon: Bridge at 1 p.m. in the Schofield Room. • Tues: League darts starting at 7 p.m. Wed: Bid euchre 1 p.m. start, main hall & bingo, doors open at 6 p.m., bingo starts at 7 p.m. \$1000 Jackpot last Wednesday of the month. • Thurs: General meeting third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. & ladies auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m. • Fri: Meat draw, five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m., tickets \$2 per draw. Ed Pickard, MC. Friday fun darts 4:30 p.m. onwards. • Sat: 50/50 draw 4 p.m. Tickets \$1 each available in the Clubroom. • Clubroom hours: Mon 3-6 p.m., Tues 3-9 p.m., Wed/Thurs 3-6 p.m., Fri 3-7 p.m. & Sat 3-6 p.m.

Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, call the Legion at 705-457-2571, email rcl129@outlook.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129. Everyone is welcome.

#### **MINDEN BRANCH**

Monday - Thursday: Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with regular menu and daily special including Liver Lovers' Tuesday. • Friday: Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner 4-7 p.m. • Saturday: All day breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with meat draws at 11:30 a.m. Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541.

#### Weekly events

Mon: Rug Hookers every second week. • Tues: Euchre 1-3 p.m. • Thurs: Cribbage 1-3 p.m., Darts 7-9 p.m. and euchre 7-9 p.m. • Fri: Karaoke every second Friday.

#### **COBOCONK BRANCH**

Tues: Euchre 1 p.m. • Wed: First of the month Big Buck Bid Euchre 11 a.m. • Tues & Thurs: Sea cadets (12-18 yrs) 6:30 p.m. • Sat: Music and Meat Roll, music starts at 2 p.m., meat roll at 3 p.m.

#### **Upcoming events**

Loonie auction, Saturday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 28: lunch 11:30 a.m. -1 p.m. BBQ chicken or liver and onions. \$13. Followed by country music jam 1-4; open mic and local talent. Food Bank donations would be appreciated. For more information contact the Legion 705-454-8127.

#### WILBERFORCE BRANCH

Tues: Executive meeting 7 p.m. • Wed: Darts 2-6 p.m. • Thurs: Open 2-6 p.m. • Friday: Open: 2-9 p.m. Fish and chips, chicken fingers and fries (sometimes wing night and jam session). • Sat: Open 2-6 p.m. Meat draw 3-6 p.m.

If you are planning a function for social or other event providing our guidelines/conditions are met please feel free to contact us at 705-448-2221.





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#### **FALL HOURS**

WED - THUR: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. FRI: 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. SAT: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



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- A Dwaine Lloyd
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- kawarthamonuments.com
- 2520 Chemong Rd. Peterborough



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# Highlander classifieds 29

#### **OBITUARIES**



#### In Loving Memory of Wally Graham

(Retired Metro Police Officer)

Passed away peacefully after a short battle with cancer on Thursday, September 29, 2022.

Loving sister, aunt and dear friend to Jackie

A private family graveside service will take place in the spring.

Memorial Donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



#### **COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT**

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250 sf w/ windows \$650 +HST 250 sf w/ windows \$650 +HST (Connected and can be rented as one)

150 sf w/window & door \$550 +HST (Prime space - double space available)

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#### FOR SALE

HIGHLAND GARLIC – 1434 Kashagawigamog Lake Road, (2.2 km off County Rd 21) Call 705-286-1617 Ontario garlic, garlic powders, scapes, seed garlic, cheese spreads, pestos, Lebanese garlic sauce, jams, jellies & pickles.

CANOE FOR SALE - New 16 ft Sports Pal aluminum canoe with transom. \$1,400. Coboconk area. Call 416-705-6569

WINTER TIRES ON RIMS – 4 – 225/60R16 Hankook tires on 16" 5 X 115 Steel Rims. Used one season, like new. \$400. Call 705-455-2050

WINTER TIRES – 4 - 16" Hercules Avalanche snow tires on rims. 2 years old. \$45. each. Call 705-286-2552

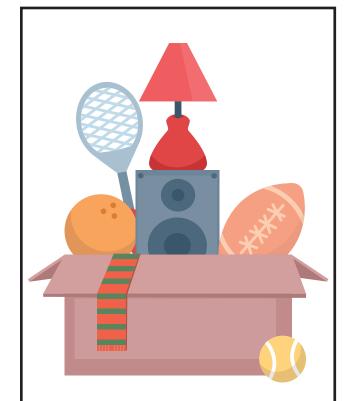
#### WANTED

 $SCRAP\ CARS - Will\ pay\ cash\ for\ any\ scrap\ cars.$ Call or text 705-457-8476

J & D TOWING & SERVICE STATION – will pay top dollar for scrap cars. We also provide towing services as well as flat bed. Call Jim 705-447-2113

#### **SERVICES**

HAPPY TRAILS SENIOR TRANSPORTATION Rides to medical appointments or shopping trips to Haliburton, Minden, Lindsay & Peterborough. Call Cindy 705-457-0850



#### **SOMETHING** TO SELL?

With over 8,000 copies printed and distributed and more than 7,000 sent by email, The Highlander is the #1 place to get your message noticed.

Place a classified ad by emailing admin@ thehighlander.ca or calling 705-457-2900. \$8 for 25 words.

**DEADLINE TUESDAYS AT 5PM** 

#### **NOTICES**

HAS ALCOHOL TAKEN CONTROL OF YOUR LIFE? Alcoholics Anonymous meets Sunday 10:30 a.m. at St Anthony's, 27 Victoria St. Haliburton, ON

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets Wednesday nights 7:00 p.m. at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle St., Minden – rear door. Thinking about alcohol. Thinking about stopping. We've been there. We can help!

AL ANON- WE CARE, are you troubled by someone's drinking? Meetings: Thursdays 7 p.m., St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton, and Mondays 7 p.m. at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle, Rear Entrance, Minden. 1-888-4AL-ANON (1-888-425-2666) al-anon.org All are welcome.

> TheHighlander It's what everyone's reading

# **SOLUTIONS FOR OCTOBER 6**

# R ʹĠ **WEEK'S SOLUTIONS**

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# 30 Highlander classifieds

#### **HELP WANTED**



#### THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION Minden Branch 636

Mabel D. Brannigan Branch 636 Minden is looking for a full time Assistant Cook.

Wages negotiable and a Food Handler Training Certificate is required.

Your resume may be left at the bar or mailed to The Royal Canadian Legion Minden Branch 636 PO Box 238, Minden ON K0M 2K0



#### Create your own job!

SIRCH Community Services is looking for 1-3 people to take on the following positions:

#### • Small Joyous Events Director

(to organize and facilitate wildly fun / informative / inspiring mini events on afternoons and evenings at the Bistro)

#### • Social Media Genius

(to keep the public abreast of the exciting things that happen daily at SIRCH, The Bistro/Bakery, at the Thrift Warehouses and in Training)

#### • A Powerhouse Marketing Strategist

(to develop innovative and authentic marketing and promotion campaigns)

Which of these would bring you joy? You must be a team player who looks for positivity in everything and everyone, and cares about doing an exemplary job.

Send a cover letter indicating which job(s) you are interested in, along with resume to: info@sirch.on.ca.

INDIVIDUAL REQUIRED to run a Wood Splitter. Call 705-935-0950

SERVERS / KITCHEN HELP REQUIRED – Full or Part Time. Students Welcome. Apply in person at Mark's Restaurant, Minden or call Wilson at 705-286-1818



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# Your Highlands, Your Future, Your Vote

The people you vote for will help determine the kind of County Haliburton becomes. At The Highlander, we want to help you make the best decision.

#### **Explore the issues**

Listen to our podcast where our editors unpack the biggest issues in the election. *Go to thehighlander.ca/podcast* 

Read The Highlander, where on page 8 we cover the most important election issues. *Go to thehighlander.ca/archives* 

#### **Explore the candidates**

Listen to our podcast for the entire, unedited conversations with the candidates. *Go to thehighlander.ca/podcast* 

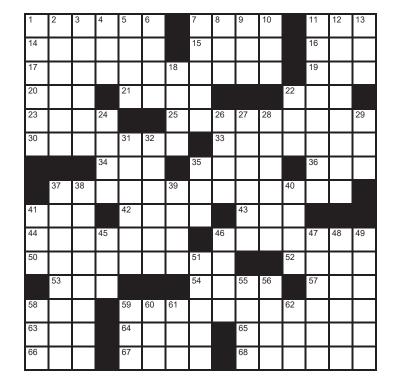
Read The Highlander, where each week we profile candidates for all the contested wards. *Go to thehighlander.ca/archives* 

#### By Cracky!

#### Across

- 1 Short form of Roberta
- 7 Pitched item with a fly
- **14** Without an intermission
- 15 Like two of four stove elements
- 17 Sport in which the term "Hail Mary pass" is meant literally?
- **19** Start to "2-3-4!"
- 20 Masculine article in Munich
- \_-Lite ("Groove is in the Heart" band)
- 22 Overalls part
- 23 Smokeless smoke, briefly
- 25 Guy cooking dinner for his wife?
- **30** Observes with a squint
- 33 Requiring tougher cleansers
- 34 Vienna's ctry.
- 35 Clearly needed winter tires
- 36 R.R. transports
- 37 Failed to identify a blue-footed
- 41 Dry, to a vintner
- 42 Sounds when the curtain rises
- **43** Second smallest cont.
- 44 "Oh, puhleez!"
- **46** Palatial properties
- **50** Enter kitty in the 100-metre dash?
- \_ an ear (listened)
- **53** Phone mode for the deaf
- **54** "Dies \_\_\_" (hymn title meaning "day of wrath")
- 57 Skinny Energizer
- **58** Feel unwell
- **59** Pokey's overweight, sunburnt
- 63 Home prov. of "Bud the Spud"
- 64 Be up against
- **65** Rapper behind the Fyre Festival
- 66 Take advantage of
- 67 Overdo the praise
- 68 Insulted snidely

by Barbara Olson © ClassiCanadian Crosswords



#### Down

- **1** Certain careless shepherdess
- 2 How chow mein may be served
- **3** Babies (stuffed toys)
- 4 Street in Toronto's financial
- 5 Bumped off, Mafia-style
- **6** To be, in Terrebonne
- **7** "\_\_\_ words were never spoken"
- 8 Medical head lines?
- 9 Collar or cuff
- **10** Blue Rodeo song that begins: "Don't tell me I'm wrong"
- **11** Second item shown to the jury
- **12** Sobbing and snivelly
- 13 Drill insert
- 18 Infantry unit: Abbr.
- 22 Mooch
- 24 Teen in a tux, maybe
- 26 Described as "no oil painting," perhaps
- **27** Palm-greasing deals
- 28 Lav low
- 29 What dates often end with: Abbr.
- 31 Tropical postcard scene

- 32 It can take your breath away
- **35** Carrier to Copenhagen
- 37 Sheriffs' assistants
- 38 Leadup to a blunt admission
- 39 Wooley who sang "The Purple People Eater"
- **40** Toothbrush maker \_\_\_-B
- 41 Old Rus. state
- 45 Word with X or UV
- 46 Fictional governess Jane
- 47 Work on the buddy system, say
- 48 Aid an addict in a bad way
- 49 Didn't say "hit me" in blackjack
- 51 What a doula attends
- 55 Noun modifiers: Abbr.
- **56** Singer Walter or writer Jennifer
- **58** Father of Anoop on "The Simpsons'
- 59 Golf caddie's burden
- 60 Meas, of beer tartness
- 61 "Gloomy" auv
- 62 Mysterious spoon-bender Geller



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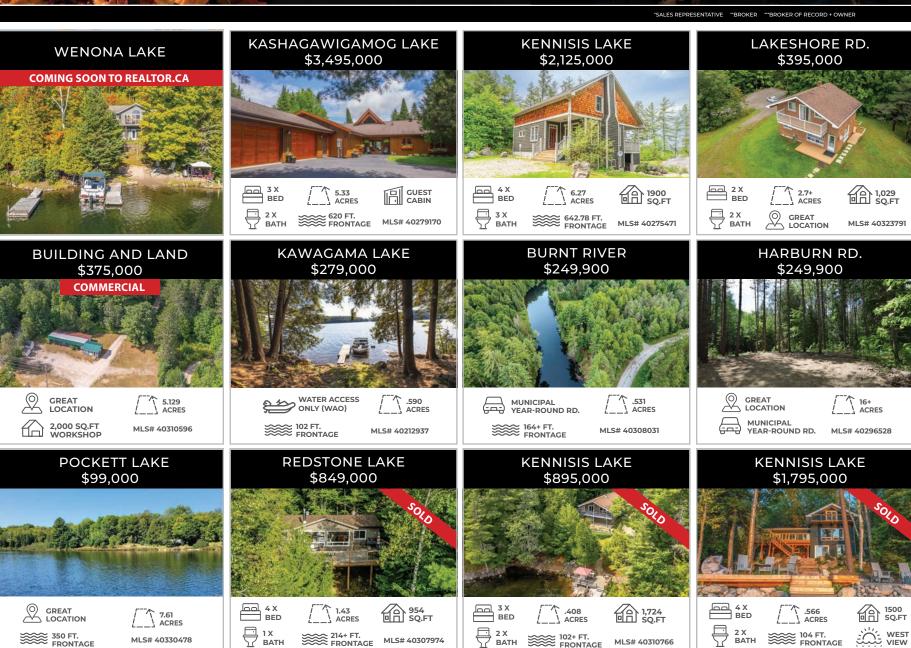
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#### Don't keep me a secret! RE/MAX $\mathbf{E}$ R In the market to buy a home or cottage? Feel free to give me a call 705-457-0364 | lisa@lisamercer.ca 😈 🔞

#### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

2	5	7	3	9	6	8	1	4
6	9	1	7	8	4	5	3	2
8	3	4	1	2	5	7	9	6
9	2	8	4	6	1	3	5	7
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4	7	5	2	3	9	1	6	8
3	8	6	9	5	7	2	4	1
5	4	9	8	1	2	6	7	3
7	1	2	6	4	3	9	8	5







We want to thank Linda and her team for the hard work they put forth to sell our cottage this August. We highly recommend, and, could not be happier with the results provided by BAUMGARTNER REALTY!

E. & J. Couch | Sept. 2022

Sold my property with Linda and her team. Her professionalism, honesty, and integrity are exceptional. I am so glad that I chose Linda to facilitate my property sale. I highly recommend Linda and her team, and will use them again.

G. Miller | Sept.2022

We found Linda and her group to be professional, committed to their clients and thoroughly effective in all aspects of the sale of our cottage. Highly recommended for your real estate needs - purchase or sale

M. Whittle | Aug.2022

#### Linda Baumgartner - Broker of Record | Owner

- (705) 457.3461
- @ contact@haliburtonrealestate.on.ca
- mww.haliburtonrealestate.on.ca

