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# The Highlander

Thursday **February 24, 2022** | Issue 529

**INSIDE: PROFILING COUNTY MUSICIANS PAGE 12**

**FREE**



Nick Folco had long dreamed of moving to the Highlands, and finally did in September 2020. He runs The Noble Barber in Haliburton village. *Photo by Sam Gillett.*

## County population up 13.9 per cent: 2021 census

**By Mike Baker**

Nick Folco is one of approximately 2,500 new Highlanders over the past five years, according to the recently-released 2021 census.

The County's new official population is 20,571 – up from 18,062 in 2016.

There's no doubt the pandemic of the last two years has led to a noticeable flow of new residents to the area.

Growing up in Burlington and later

moving to Peterborough, Folco said it had always been a dream of his to move to the County.

While the timing never seemed right, in September 2020, with life changing on a daily basis, Folco took the plunge. He and wife, Kirstley, had an offer on a home in downtown Minden accepted.

Almost 18 months on, the couple are loving life as full-time Highlanders.

"It's just the pace of life and the quality

of life. I find when you're in the city, you can kind of get lost in the motions. A lot of bigger places have this sort of rat race mentality, and I didn't want my girls growing up in a place like that. I want them to grow up around nature, and lakes and all the beauty that this place has to offer," Folco said.

"Even my drive in to work. I opened The Noble Barber in Haliburton village, and while it's technically a highway, driving in

on [County Road 21], you wouldn't know it. There's lakes and forests everywhere you look. It's just beautiful," he said.

Olya Ianovskaia is another to have traded the hustle and bustle of the big city for peace and tranquility in the Highlands. She moved on to a property just outside of Minden in July 2020 after several years in the GTA. Reflecting on the move, she

Continued 'County' on page 2

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# Highlander news

## County CAO surprised number isn't larger

Continued from page 1

said her only regret is that she waited so long to do it.

"I should have moved sooner. The primary thing I wanted was more space, more nature for my daughter and less concrete. It's been a wonderful decision. The people up here are super friendly, and our neighbours have been extremely helpful," Ianovskaia said.

She's been able to maintain her job working for an international tech company, and said she can see herself remaining in the Highlands for the rest of her life.

Haliburton County CAO Mike Rutter wasn't surprised to learn the Highlands' population had increased 13.9 per cent since 2016; in fact, the only thing that shocked him is the number isn't higher.

"Pretty well every indicator we keep has told us that this increase was coming. I mean, it's here already. We've seen it in the number of ambulance calls we've received, land severance applications. We're seeing record numbers across the board," Rutter said. "I actually thought the final number would be higher."

Dysart mayor Andrea Roberts said the increase could have been spotted a mile away. She suggested the "actual" rise could be higher, given that many seasonal residents who frequent the Highlands several months of the year likely don't list their cottage as a primary residence.

One thing that did surprise her is the total number of private dwellings in Haliburton

County had decreased, down from 21,113 in 2016 to 21,072 in 2021.

"I just don't see how that's possible. When you look across the whole County, each municipality is reporting record numbers in construction values, permits being issued. We know more dwellings have been built in Dysart," Roberts said. "Just looking at new builds such as the Gardens [of Haliburton] and the condos on Wallings Way. That's around 100 units right there that weren't here in 2016."

### How to pay for it?

Rutter said a concern facing all four lower-tier municipalities and the upper-tier County is how they go about financing the increased service costs brought on by having more people residing in the area full-time.

"Growth in Haliburton looks very different than growth in other communities. In Toronto, when they grow, you see new office buildings, and new condo towers. Here, it's often a transition of a building from seasonal use to permanent use. That doesn't come with any increase in taxation, but it certainly comes with increased service demand," Rutter said. "So, we have more people using our roads, recreation services, emergency services. Our costs are going up, but our revenues aren't."

Elected officials are considering the possibility of implementing development



Olya Ianovskaia, right, moved to Haliburton County in July 2020 with her daughter, Viliya and mother, Liliya. *Submitted.*

charges on new builds as a way of bringing much-needed funds through the door. A report came to County council Feb. 23 highlighting the potential benefits, and a consultant may be brought in to help direct a policy. The lower-tier townships must first sign off on it.

Rutter admitted there's a fear among some locals that Haliburton County is positioning itself, deliberately or not, to be "the next Muskoka".

While he doesn't hate the comparison, he feels the community is growing whether people like it or not and that instead of trying to become "the next somewhere", local leaders should be focusing on becoming "the first Haliburton County".

"I grew up in the Highlands. When I was growing up, we would have loved to have the types of challenges we're seeing today. We wanted people to come here. We knew Haliburton County was a gem, but we needed to find a way to get others to come and experience it," Rutter said. "Now we're there, I think we need to focus on improving our service levels, filling the gaps and making Haliburton County the best community it can be."

"I think it's inevitable that our community will change. It's our job to make sure the change is facilitated in a productive, appropriate way that makes for a good experience for both existing residents, and our newcomers," Rutter said.



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# Highlander news



The YWCA Peterborough Haliburton, received just over \$150,000 in new provincial funding this month. *Submitted.*

## Women's shelter at capacity in 'record year'

By Mike Baker

The YWCA Peterborough Haliburton is further away than it has ever been from achieving its goal of putting itself out of business.

Demand for services at the local women's shelter reached new, record-breaking highs in 2021 as dozens of women from across the Highlands sought support to escape abusive, often dangerous situations. Darlene Smith-Harrison, the organization's director of client services, said the increase falls in line with a concerning trend since the onset of the pandemic showing a drastic rise in domestic violence.

During the last calendar year, the YWCA provided counseling and transition support services to 167 women across the region. They housed a further eight women and eight children in its two temporary living

accommodations offered through the Haliburton Emergency Rural SafeSpace (HERS) initiative, which ran at 99.7 per cent occupancy in 2021.

"That is, by far, the highest number we've ever seen," Smith-Harrison said. "From the women we're serving, we're hearing the violence they're experiencing is worse, and that they're feeling more isolated. In speaking with other professionals in our community, they're describing situations they've seen and dealt with before progressing from a push or a shove, to, now, broken bones."

The YWCA received \$151,221 in additional funding through the provincial government Feb. 10. The bulk of that money, just under \$143,000, will support staffing at HERS, while the remaining \$8,000 will be used for training.

MPP Laurie Scott has been an advocate of

the local women's shelter for several years, and said the money would help the agency reach women with transportation barriers in rural and remote parts of the community.

Since assuming her role as executive director with YWCA Peterborough Haliburton in early 2020, Kim Dolan has had to learn the ropes in the midst of a global pandemic. That has presented its own challenges, but trying to find the money to support a substantial increase in demand for services has been equally laborious.

At present, the organization is on the hook for fundraising around 30 per cent of its annual budget. That's why funding announcements such as the one earlier this month are so important, Dolan noted.

"This money provides critical infrastructure for us that ensures our violence intervention programs are available

in Haliburton County, and specifically supports HERS ... The HERS program is operating at full capacity," Dolan said. "Our staff is working around the clock with women to develop safe planning strategies. We connect with police, lawyers, the family court system and other community services to help with next steps. Outside of our regular supports, we need to come up with ideas to support women in finding safe, affordable housing, jobs that provide a living wage.

"Gender-based violence continues to happen in our community. It's increased through these times of uncertainty. We still have a lot more work to do, and this funding ensures that we will continue to do the work in partnership with the government and local services," Dolan said.

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# Highlander news

## High rent puts pressure on tenants' finances

By Lisa Gervais

With 49.5 per cent of community members paying above the government threshold for rent in Haliburton County and the City of Kawartha Lakes, the new anti-poverty roundtable co-ordinator provided an update on the organization's work at the Feb. 9 County committee of the whole meeting.

Kelly Jones said nearly half of renters are putting more than 30 per cent of their income towards rent, which impacts their ability to pay for utilities, groceries, transportation and child care, among other things.

Jones said she was coming from lived experience. She resides in subsidized housing and pays market rent even though she works 40 hours a week. She said if she did not, she would be going into debt every month.

She told council the group has re-invigorated its goal to address the root cause of poverty in the region.

She provided statistics that state 18.4 per cent of community members between the ages of 18-64 are living in poverty. Another 12.8 per cent of seniors live in poverty. There are also 2,153 families and individuals on the housing wait list.

She said the pandemic has made the situation even more dire for many.

However, Jones said the roundtable is tackling a number of issues.

One is food security. They are advocating for the federal and provincial governments to develop policies and programs to help get at the root causes of poverty. They are also working on initiatives around food literacy and programming.

They are lobbying for safe and affordable housing, accessible quality child care and transportation. While the 10-year housing and homelessness strategy is a great start, she said, they are promoting things such as tax breaks to encourage landlords to offer affordable rentals.

Another key platform is education and employment, with systemic changes.

"Getting a job isn't the answer," Jones said. "It's supporting all resources in order for someone to succeed at getting a job or higher education. Things like a living wage, and promoting the benefits to assist a living wage mentality." She talked about pushing programs such as Circles, Make Your Way and Getting Ahead, with a focus on going back to school and getting jobs.

Another plank is children and youth. She said they are working to recruit early child educators and support \$10-day government-approved childcare for families, which Jones said "would alleviate a big portion of costs for hard-working families and single parents."

Jones added she would be happy to sit at the municipal council table for any talks.

"Having lived experience at the decision-making table ensures collaboration for a community," she said.

Dysart et al mayor Andrea Roberts commented that the roundtable was probably using outdated figures since the 2021 Census results are only now starting to come in and there's been a global pandemic.

"I have grave concerns that those numbers are not accurate for what the current situation is," she said. "We all buy



Kelly Jones is the new coordinator of the poverty reduction roundtable. *Submitted.*

groceries. We all eat. It's just shocking how quickly and how fast the price of food is going up. The housing stock is also diminishing quicker than ever because the price of real estate is off the charts. The

work you're doing is so important and much appreciated."

Jones said the roundtable will be tracking 2021 Census data as it is released.

## INFORMATION PAGE

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Voterlookup.ca is an online service used to collect and confirm information that will be used in the preparation of the final Voters' Lists across Ontario. You can also change your school support for electoral purposes and add names to your property address. If you do not have access to the internet, please visit the Administration Office, Clerks Department, 7 Milne St., Minden. If you need support, please call 1-866-296-6722.



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### Notice of Public Meeting

Please take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 24, 2022 during its Meeting of Council via web conference regarding proposed fee changes to its Fees and Charges By-law Cemetery Services Schedule G; and Community Services Programs & Facilities Schedule H; and the 2022 fees for the Haliburton Highlands Water Trails, Schedule B. More information can be found on the Township website at [www.mindenhills.ca/council/](http://www.mindenhills.ca/council/).

### (Virtual) Council Meetings

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference meetings, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

**February 24 – Regular Council Meeting**

**March 10 – Regular Council Meeting**

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at [www.mindenhills.ca/council/](http://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/](http://www.mindenhills.ca/council/).

Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.



# Highlander news



Tracie Bertrand is the County's new tourism manager. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

## New tourism manager hits the ground running

By Lisa Gervais

The County is betting Tracie Bertrand's experience working at the Ontario Gaming and Lottery Corporation will make her a winner as its new tourism manager.

Although she started in early January, Bertrand joked it had felt like a year on the job. She's been busy meeting face-to-face with tourism stakeholders and pouring over the destination management plan that was completed before she joined the County.

In her most previous job, she was director of tourism for Peterborough Economic Development but spent nearly 20 years with OLG.

She has seen firsthand the synergy between tourism and economic development and likes the direction the County is heading with a director of economic development and tourism and a tourism manager.

"I think COVID has definitely highlighted how important the tourism sector is to economic prosperity, whereas before, not too many took it seriously, that the visitor dollar actually lends itself to economic prosperity. We really are seeing it now. There were no visitors the first year of the pandemic and stores, businesses, and other operators that depend on the visitor economy really suffered. It really did highlight how many of those places rely on visitors as well as locals," she said.

Bertrand said COVID also brought droves of people to rural and regional Ontario, including Haliburton County, looking for wide open spaces and outdoor activities. It's a trend she knows will continue.

As a result, she said departments such as hers, in consultation with stakeholders, have to strike a balance to ensure the influx is sustainable.

"Creating a solid plan for Haliburton County to grow responsibly, really taking into consideration what stakeholders have to say and what they want." Toward that end, she said much of the work is done in the destination management plan.

Another plus, she added, is that stakeholders are very engaged in the Highlands, and willing to work together.

She said she is really looking through the eyes of a visitor since she is so new to the area. She's asking herself, "What's missing? What's here? What can I highlight? What do I see as opportunity? What do I see as potential challenges?"

Already, she said, like much of rural and regional Ontario, impediments include workforce, transportation, housing and broadband. However, she said the County's recently released RFP for an economic development strategy should tackle those issues.

For her part, the main document is the destination management plan and an operational plan to determine, "where we can take the strategy and put some actions behind it over the next five years?"

She said one key is to treat visitors well to ensure that they come back, but also educate them about local values, such as taking garbage out with them and parking responsibly.

She said another important aspect is dispersing visitors so that they are not all coming in the summer, but encouraging year-round tourism opportunities and getting travellers to visit all four townships in the County. Bertrand said she will be looking to "highlight some unique gems that are maybe not as popular or well-known."

She said that will lead to longer-term employment and less seasonal employment. Bertrand noted one in 10 jobs in Ontario was in the tourism sector prior to the pandemic.

She added one of her strengths is marketing and she already had solid contacts from her five-plus years in Peterborough working with industry partners, such as Destination Ontario, Destination Canada, the Tourism industry associations of Ontario (TIAO) and Canada (TIAC), large advocacy groups, chambers of commerce, culinary tourism and bicycling bodies, so it's a case of so far, so good.

"People have been absolutely incredible, the staff here at the County and stakeholders in the community."



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# Highlander news

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### COUNTY NEWS

#### 2022 budget passes

The County passed its 2022 budget Feb. 9 with a 3.22 per cent tax rate increase.

Director of corporate services Andrea Bull said staff were recommending against putting an estimated \$500,000 surplus from the 2021 budget towards offsetting the tax hike. She said their rationale was invoices are still coming in from 2021; a significant turnover of staff with new directors; new financial software still being rolled out and some unknowns may be uncovered during the auditing process; a concern about delaying achieving sustainability or higher tax rates increases in 2023. She also noted their reserves are considered low.

Instead, she said fourth draft changes resulted in a slight increase of about \$10,000 from the third draft.

However, she said they tried to mitigate the impact by phasing in new positions and up-staffing at the Tory Hill ambulance base; phased-in debt repayment for structures; and the removal of transfers to reserves for broadband (\$140,000) and the working reserve (\$100,000).

"This was not an easy report to write. Staff recognize the impact of a tax rate increase on our community especially during the continued pandemic," Bull said.

She added staff had compared the County tax rate to counterparts in eastern Ontario and "The County continues to have one of the lowest tax rates in the region."

#### EMS calls up

EMS chief Tim Waite told County councillors at their Feb. 9 meeting there was a significant call volume increase in 2021, compared to 2020.

Based on ambulance dispatch reporting system stats, Waite said the jump was seen in urgent and emergent calls as well as total calls, which include deferrable, booked transfer and stand-by.

"Although there was a slight decrease in call volumes for January and February [2021] there was a significant increase in call volumes for the remainder of the year resulting in a 14 per cent increase in patient carried calls," Waite said. He attributed it to the increased population in the area.

Coun. Andrea Roberts asked if they'd had to stand by at Haliburton County's two emergency rooms due to call volumes



The EMS station in Minden has been a busy place since COVID. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

during COVID-19. Waite said they had not locally had off-load delays. However, he said there have been long waits at regional hospitals, including the Peterborough Regional Hospital and Ross Memorial Hospital, especially around Christmas time. "It seems to have improved over the last few weeks."

#### Tourism plans

The County has agreed to hire Meltwater for marketing and communications monitoring at a cost of \$10,000.

Director of economic development and tourism Scott Ovell made the pitch to the Feb. 9 meeting.

"As the pandemic evolves and restrictions begin to be lifted again, staff feel it is important to be able to

track the effectiveness of marketing and communication efforts, it will be an extremely competitive tourism market in the coming months and years and the County will need to ensure it is maximizing its resources," Ovell said.

He said Meltwater monitors media, provides analytics and media contacts and do a branded newsletter.

Coun. Carol Moffatt said they'd used the service before and it "didn't quite pan out for us the last time it was used." She wondered if they'd changed their approach or methodology or staff felt the additional services they are offering would fill in the gap. She also wanted to know if it was possible to see other options before proceeding.

Ovell said they had upgraded their

services. He added it was just a one-year pilot so staff could evaluate. He said they could also explore other options.

Councillors weren't as keen to jump into endorsing a business voucher program.

Ovell provided an example of how it might work. Someone staying in a hotel or motel could be handed a \$25 voucher to use at a County participating business. He noted it was aimed at the shoulder season.

He further recommended \$25,000 be committed in principle, funded through Safe Restart Funds to support the creation of the program.

Councillors said Ovell could ask tourism stakeholders what they thought but they were not convinced. Ovell said he would come back with the feedback he receives.

(County news compiled by Lisa Gervais)



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# Highlander news

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## HEALTH NEWS



The HKPR District Health Unit continues to host weekly media information sessions. *File.*

### Mask and test amid 'optimistic' COVID outlook

Dr. Natalie Bocking said masking is still a key way to decrease COVID-19 spread as case counts and hospitalizations fall in the region.

"Don't throw out all the measures we know have helped us protect our loved ones," she said.

A declining rate of 91.2 cases per 100,000 people means Highlanders can be "cautiously optimistic" about the spring, she said.

Restaurants opened at full capacity Feb. 17. On March 1, indoor settings won't be obligated to check proof of vaccination.

"From everyone's perspective what I'm

hearing is everyone's done with COVID," Bocking said. "COVID-19 as a virus, it doesn't really care when we're done with it."

### Testing expands

The Ontario Ministry of Health has expanded COVID-19 testing eligibility. In a Feb. 16 press release, Haliburton Highlands Health Services advised anyone who is immunocompromised or unvaccinated and pregnant or unvaccinated and 50 or older can receive a test if they have COVID-19 symptoms.

The HHHS testing centre will indicate if someone qualifies for testing and referral to a treatment centre, where new COVID-19 treatments may be available soon.

### At-home tips

An influx of COVID-19 tests at drug stores and grocery stores means many are equipped to conduct rapid tests at home.

Dr. Bocking said she suggests using the tests to diagnose COVID-19 symptoms, rather than when no symptoms are present.

She said there's emerging evidence that swabbing the cheek and nostrils might provide more accurate tests results, but added that "we know the tests are not perfect."

Testing kits were available at Haliburton's Rexall, Shopper's Drug Mart and Todd's Independent Grocer, Highland Remedy Rx, and Minden Pharmacy in Minden, though availability varies. (*Health news compiled by Sam Gillett*).



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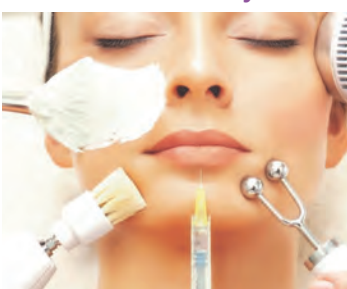
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# Editorial opinion

## TheHighlander

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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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## It's OK to grow

Haliburton County is officially the fastest growing geographical region in Ontario, beating out the likes of Muskoka, Simcoe and Waterloo for the proverbial gold medal.

With stats from the 2021 census rolling out, we learned the Highlands' population has increased by 13.9 per cent over the past five years. That's a whole 2.7 points higher than anywhere else in the province. In fact, Haliburton is fourth out of 294 upper-tier communities Canada-wide when comparing population percentage change since 2016, lagging behind only Squamish-Lillooet and Central Okanagan in B.C. and Mirabel in Quebec.

Hands up if you're honestly shocked by that revelation?

If you haven't noticed there's more people than ever before frequenting our downtown centres, lakes and walking trails then, simply put, you haven't been paying attention.

This is a trend that began long before the onset of the pandemic. COVID-19 just expedited the process. With borders locked down and international travel out of the equation, a significant portion of our province's 'haves' turned their gaze to Haliburton County as they sought a temporary refuge away from the city. Many of them never left.

That in itself has cultivated dozens of

challenges, some of them small, others not so small, that municipal leaders and local residents alike have had to contend with. The obvious one right off the bat is the dramatic increase we've seen in property values. Anyone that bought a home or a cottage, say five years ago, has likely seen their investment doubled, in some cases even more than that. It's safe to say the word is out about Haliburton County.

While each of the four lower-tier municipalities have reported record-breaking numbers in terms of building permits issued and new construction values, they really haven't been able to profit too much from development. Some will see this as a good thing, keeping some of their hard-earned dollars safe and secure in their back pockets. But the reality is, an increase in service level means increased costs. At the end of the day, somebody has to pay.

That's why I think talks of the County potentially introducing development charges for new builds is a good move. I was surprised to learn that such a bylaw didn't exist already.

In speaking with representatives from all four lower-tier municipalities and the upper-tier County recently, it was clear that all were excited by the news that Haliburton County is growing. That are certainly benefits to having more people with more

money in our community, but the onus is going to fall on our municipal leaders to ensure this growth is managed appropriately.

That all the things that make Haliburton County what it is are maintained. That things don't take a change for the worse.

I asked all that I interviewed what their thoughts were on Haliburton County being viewed as a mini-Muskoka. Some didn't mind the comparison, while others said that's something they would actively fight against. County CAO Mike Rutter had the best soundbite, saying he'd like to see us become the first Haliburton County, rather than replicating what already exists elsewhere.

What that truly means remains to be seen. What we do know is the Highlands is a beautiful place with a strong community. We should cherish and be prepared to fight for everything that makes it so. Our little corner of the world isn't much of a secret anymore, and that's OK. Just so long as our growth is handled with careful planning and respect.



By Mike Baker

## EleXion files

**Concerned Citizens of Haliburton County (CCHC)** is offering a series of articles entitled, *EleXion Files*, Feb. 24, to mid-May, 2022. Articles will focus on non-partisan information that we hope is of interest to readers in helping to cast their vote in the provincial election, June 2, 2022. Voting is a right, a privilege and an obligation that every citizen should exercise and not take for granted. The following topics will be covered: protecting natural species, education, health care, Hwy 413, electric vehicles, Minister's Zoning Orders, poverty/hunger, affordable housing, long-term care and why vote?

In January 2019, CCHC formed to bring together individuals of like mind and passion, who felt the need to express their concerns as a collective voice to make a positive impact in our community. The overall goals are to: identify and promote awareness about issues, undertake actions that are constructive and achievable, engage the public, businesses, municipalities and the media in open dialogue and collaborate with and support other organizations, to avoid duplication.

Our four concerns are:

- The environment – climate change inaction/mitigation
- Social justice – basic Income, poverty, fair wages, cuts to health care, long-term care
- Accountability of elected representatives
- Community engagement with young people

Despite the pandemic, we have continued to be active, following current health protocols. This is a brief overview of

our advocacy, collaboration and events throughout 2021.

### 1. Environment – climate change inaction/mitigation

In collaboration with Environment Haliburton (EH!) we organized: the FFF Global Day of Action March 9; 350.org Day of Action Sept. 8; UPRoot the System Climate Strike, Friday, Sept. 24, and COP 26 Day of Action at the Haliburton County administrative offices in Minden. That event was attended by Warden Liz Danielsen, County Climate Change Coordinator Corey McKay, CAO Mike Rutter and Dysart et al Councillor John Smith. Participants asked a variety of questions such as what the local plan was to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. McKay attended our meeting in November to explain her role and how citizens can be involved in the Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) and community consultations.

### 2. Accountability of our elected representatives

In non-COVID times, members have met in person with MPP Laurie Scott and MP Jamie Schmale regarding current issues and to emphasize that constituents need to know they are working on our behalf. We sent letters to the editor and government officials outlining concerns about the current use of the pandemic to push through many bills that are not in the public interest or deny those that are, such as Bill 253, 229 and 37. We organized a federal election campaign

asking each party candidate questions on issues such as basic income, child care, climate change, electoral reform, long-term care and tax reform.

### 3. Social justice

CCHC supports a livable wage, a basic income and non-privatization of health care and LTC. We participated in International Basic Income Awareness Week, Sept. 24, hosting an event outside the market in Haliburton. We provided information and asked the 40 plus who stopped by, "to be happy and healthy every person needs ...?" Of the 35 responses, the top concerns were: affordable housing, food, health care, well-being, family and community and a secure job. We reached out to local churches as well.

### 4. Engagement of young people

As issues affect young people in our community, we reached out to HHSS and the G7 Leader to attend our climate strike and were surprised to receive little support. We also reconnected with Fleming College and presented to Rotaract, 18-30-year-olds within Rotary.

• We hope you will find the next article, by Elizabeth Turner entitled, Natural Spaces Need Protection, informative.

**Bonnie Roe**  
**Concerned Citizens of Haliburton County**

Contact our Facebook page or  
[info@concernedcitizenshc.ca](mailto:info@concernedcitizenshc.ca)



# Editorial opinion

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Tammy Nash sent this photo of a bull moose in Algonquin Park.

## LETTERS

### Life too short for regrets

Dear editor,

A day hasn't gone by lately when someone I know hasn't mentioned that a friend or family member has stopped talking to them because they're on opposite sides of the vaccine mandate divide.

We are complex creatures as humans; we are mothers, fathers, grandparents, teachers, lawyers, grocery clerks and the list goes on. We come from many different cultural backgrounds and belief systems. Some of us are introverts, others extroverts and some a combination of both. You get my drift.

If we could only remember for a moment what we admire, love, and miss about the people we no longer agree with on this one issue, I'm sure most of us would realize that life is too fragile to miss out on their companionship for one more minute. I challenge you to put two columns on a piece of paper and on the left define all your roles, values and personality traits including your pro or anti mandate position. On the other side, do the same for the person you're estranged from. Now, join the things you have in common. See, I told you there's a lot more similarity than difference! Now, one more step, extend the olive branch, share your lists, because life

really is too short for regrets.

Cindy Thistle  
Minden Hills

### Big thanks to Canoe FM

Dear editor,

The Volunteer Dental Outreach for Haliburton County (VDO) would like to express deep gratitude to Canoe FM for once again selecting our charity (among several others) as a recipient of Radio Bingo. This popular fundraiser recently added \$5,000 to our bank account, making

it possible for us to continue to meet the dental needs of low-income residents. In 2019, we accepted a \$12,500 contribution from the same initiative. With the ongoing support of organizations like Canoe FM, our volunteer dental professionals have been able to provide \$3.4 million worth of dentistry over 10 years. It's truly been remarkable to see our community pull together amidst these challenging times in support of multiple worthy causes. Haliburton County is a better place because of your generosity. Sincerely,  
VDO board of directors

The Highlander welcomes all contributions, however we wish to remind readers of the following:

#### Letters to the editor policy

- Letters should be exclusive to *The Highlander*. We do not publish letters also addressed to other media outlets, open letters, letters to third parties, or cc'd letters.
- Letters must be signed with first and last name and home town. We also need an address and phone number for verification. The address and phone number won't be published. We do not run anonymous letters.
- Letters must be a maximum of 300 words. If submitted at greater length, they will be returned for editing.
- *The Highlander* may still edit for length and clarity. • *The Highlander* has the right not to publish letters.

#### Social media policy

*The Highlander* expects respectful debate in Facebook and Twitter comments. We reserve the right to hide or delete posts, and to block commenters, if necessary.



# Highlander business



Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce president Mark Bell said there was lots to dissect in the 2022 Ontario Economic Report. *Submitted.*

## Chamber: good signs but long road back

By Mike Baker

As he delved into the details of Ontario's latest economic outlook report, local Chamber president Mark Bell said while there are some encouraging signs pointing towards a return to normal, there are many in Haliburton County concerned about what a post-pandemic future looks like.

The report, released annually by the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, included feedback from 1,512 businesses provincially. Of those polled, only 29 per cent expressed confidence in Ontario's economic outlook, while 57 per cent said they felt assured of their own business's long-term future.

There were 158 respondents from the Muskoka-Kawartha region, which encompasses the Highlands. Bell said the local numbers for provincial and regional economic outlook were similar to the provincial averages, and that the most significant areas of concern for Highlanders surrounded labour shortages, access to high-speed internet and the rising cost of electricity.

"The labour shortage is something we've known about for a while, and, as the report outlined, isn't unique only to our area. Many regions across the province are experiencing the same pressures we are," Bell said.

Citing the internet issues, which 54 per

cent of local respondents noted was a concern, Bell said he has had conversations with MP Jamie Schmale and MPP Laurie Scott about investments coming down the pipeline in Haliburton County. Scott told *The Highlander* in 2021 that Ontario planned to invest nearly \$4 billion to ensure all areas of the province had reliable high-speed internet by 2025, while work on the \$1.6 billion Gig Project through the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) continues.

Bell remarked that these investments "are not moving fast enough for what our members need."

On the labour shortage front, Bell said there are several systemic barriers

preventing area businesses from attracting new workers to relocate to the Highlands.

"It's going to take some time to fix. It's such a complex problem. I'm confident that things will get better, but it's going to take a while," Bell said. "The cost of housing in our area makes it hard for people to move into the community. Child care is a real problem too. A lot of people aren't able to work because they don't have anywhere that can look after their children.

"I think as a community we need to do more ... Things will be a bit painful for a while until we get past these systemic issues," he added.



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# Highlander business

## Haliburton BIA finds success in adversity

By Sam Gillett

Last year was another difficult one for many Haliburton businesses.

The Haliburton BIA discussed 2021's successes and hopes for the village's future at a Feb. 17 annual general meeting.

"We know we are in an incredibly progressive, historic time in Haliburton," said chair Luke Schell, of Haliburton Framing and Photo.

He said that new condominiums planned around the town represent exciting opportunities for local businesses.

Mayor Andrea Roberts and Deputy Mayor Patrick Kennedy addressed the board, describing how the town is working towards meeting its housing needs.

For example, Roberts said residences at Haliburton School of Art + Design will break ground next fall, potentially freeing up rental space.

"That is a huge boon for the community," she said.

Aside from excitement over increased residents near the village's downtown, Schell described how COVID-19 didn't completely clear the BIA's calendar.

The Haliburton Santa Claus parade returned in 2021, which multiple board members described as a highlight of the year, thanking the Haliburton Lions Club and organizer Jim Frost.

"Our Lions club and Jim Frost worked really hard on that. It's a big impact on the village," Schell said.

The group also held a buy-in and win contest, the annual sculpture installations on the main street and a ladies shopping night, although Colourfest and Midnight Madness were canceled again.

These events aimed to draw traffic downtown, especially as three waves of COVID-19 meant restaurants offered takeout-only service and stores had limited capacity.

"I have seen the resilience that many of you have shown," Roberts said. "You keep going, despite adversity."

### Shuffling the board

Schell and 21-year BIA member Nelly Ashworth announced 2022 will be their last year on the BIA board.

"I've loved every moment of it," said Ashworth who plans to retire this summer. "It's time for me to bow out."

Schell said Ashworth's dedication and enthusiasm for the BIA is "phenomenal."

He plans to ease into retirement and said it was "fun and productive" to work with board members through the years.

Nicole Baumgartner and Vivian Collings joined the board for the 2022 year.



The BIA held its AGM Feb. 17. Photo by Sam Gillett.



## NOTICE

### 2022 SPRING LOAD RESTRICTIONS

Under the Highway Traffic Act and County By-Law #2216, the County of Haliburton enforces reduced load restrictions on trucks to protect the County roadways during spring thaw, when road damage is most likely to occur.

Restriction on permits issued under the Highway Traffic Act and County By-Law #2216:

As outlined in the Highway Traffic Act and County of Haliburton By-Law #2216, reduced loading may be in effect in the County of Haliburton as early as 12:01 a.m. on March 1, 2022.

The actual date of reduced load limit enforcement will be in effect when and where signs are posted. All annual and project permits for moving of heavy vehicle loads, objects or structures, in excess of limits set out in the Act and the By-Law, unless otherwise specified, are not valid on any County Roads during the Reduced Loads Period.

**Reduced load limits will be in effect where and when signs are posted.**

**WHEN SIGNS ARE POSTED, THE FOLLOWING ROADS WILL HAVE A REDUCED LOAD LIMIT FOR THEIR ENTIRE LENGTH:**

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On and after **March 1st**, check the County of Haliburton website [www.haliburtoncounty.ca](http://www.haliburtoncounty.ca) under "Notices" to see when reduced load limits are in effect and when they are lifted.

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# Highlander arts

This is the first in a series profiling the unique challenges and successes of Haliburton County musicians through COVID-19.

## Live concerts like home for Knights

By Sam Gillett

Jess Knights is a blues and rock singer whose voice has echoed across Calgary, around Canada, and recently on live streams in Haliburton County, as well as her home on Lake Kashagawigamog.

For Knights, getting back on stage in Calgary in 2020, after COVID-19 restrictions eased “was like being home again,” she said. “I remember having this moment of looking around at my band, looking at the crowd, thinking ‘I could cry right now’,” she said.

She said she “leaves it all on stage” at each show. “I always used to say my mouth is so wide my heart might pop out.”

In early 2020, concert venues were shuttered but Knights has a brand-new album to share.

Knights released *Best Kind of Light* via live stream. It wasn’t the launch she imagined, but she and a professional production team expanded Knights’ reach to a worldwide audience during the high definition, professionally-produced stream.

“I wanted the highest quality live stream I could present to the world,” she said.

Knights aims to create a rocking, intimate atmosphere with her music and shows.

“I think my purpose as a musician is to build connection, I like to connect with other humans,” she said.

She does that through blow-your-socks-

off vocals and powerful lyrics paired with snarling guitars and fast-paced drums. *Best Kind of Light* explores the ins and outs of a breakup.

While she spends much of her time performing in Calgary, Knights said she found solace in Haliburton County during the rollercoaster of COVID-19.

“I have so much family in the area. This landscape feels very much like home I would say,” Knights said.

She has started working on new songs that may form a follow-up to *Best Kind of Light* in the County.

“I am noticing other themes emerging,” she said. “There are really profound love songs, there are songs about mental health and depression and how that’s been brought to the forefront for a lot of people during this time of isolation, uncertainty and restrictions.”

She plans to continue open mic shows with the Haliburton County Folk Society, and getting to know other local musicians.

“I want to perform, and I think there’s going to be something quite magical about performing in the summer out here,” she said.

Knights will play with Cassidy Taylor in a Folk Society concert on March 19 at the Haliburton Legion.

*Know a musician with an interesting story to tell about their journey through COVID? Email sam@thehighlander.ca*



Singer Jess Knights splits her time between Haliburton and Calgary. Submitted.

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# Highlander arts



The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust will premiere a video about Barnum Creek Nature Reserve and the Dahl Forest March 3. *File.*

## HHLT turns lens on local nature reserves

By Sam Gillett

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) invites community members to a showcase of new videos and a refurbished website March 3 via Zoom.

With Ontario Trillium Foundation Resilient Communities Funding, the HHLT commissioned *Conservation in Action*, produced by Brad Brown. It explores the values and uses of Barnum Creek Nature Reserve and the Dahl Forest.

They'll also premiere *Wonder in the Woods*, a short film made by Sticks and Stones Productions and funded by TD Friends of The Environment.

Chair of the trust Shelley Hunt will host the

event, which will include question and answers periods with the filmmakers.

Founding member Sheila Ziman said County newcomers, or those unfamiliar with the Land Trust, are welcome.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for them to get to know the Land Trust, and also what volunteer opportunities we have available," she said.

The Trillium Foundation grant also funded a new website, which Ziman said is easier to navigate and includes new and updated information about HHLT initiatives. The website will be launched March 4.

For more information visit [haliburtonlandtrust.ca](http://haliburtonlandtrust.ca).

## Call for artists with passion

Sam Gillett

The Arts Council Haliburton Highlands (ACHH) is searching for artists of all kinds to facilitate workshops this spring.

From drawing and painting to knitting or even theatre, program coordinator Lesley English said the invitation is to anyone, "If you're passionate about your art, and you want to share your knowledge. We don't want to discourage anybody from applying to become a workshop facilitator," she said.

The arts council will offer up to 16 workshops in 2022, with four in-person workshops scheduled for this spring.

"We see this as a community project that brings people together to learn a new skill and enjoy the much-missed opportunity to be out with others," said committee member Chris Lynd.

ACHH added that all existing COVID protocols will be adhered to during workshops.

English said the workshops might be a great way for artists to transition back into learning, and teaching, in-person after years of Zoom events.

Sharing knowledge face-to-face can be a powerful experience, she said.

"To use a metaphor, it's a bit like the difference between listening to live music, and watching live music," she said.

Artists will be compensated for facilitating workshops, which will be located across the County.

The initiative is funded by the Haliburton Rotary Club, the Kennis Lake Art on the Dock project and ACHH.

Contact ACHH for more information: [haliburtonarts@haliburtonarts.ca](mailto:haliburtonarts@haliburtonarts.ca)



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# Highlander community

## Walkabout Farm needs Highlanders' help

By Mike Baker

Jennifer Semach says 2022 will be a “make it or break it” year for Walkabout Farm therapeutic riding program.

Launched in 2018 on Spring Valley Road in Minden, the farm provides services through an equine-assisted learning model. It helps around 800 people with varying levels of developmental and physical disabilities, mental health issues and other considerations, annually.

The idea, Semach said, is to boost participants' confidence, foster positive leadership qualities, enrich physical and mental health, and provide a safe space for personal growth.

Best of all, it's free.

“We want everybody to have access to our services. We don't want anybody to be left out,” Semach said. “My husband and I have put a lot of our own resources into making this happen.”

But there is a limit. With costs of \$65,000-a-year, the operation is in a hole. Despite donations totalling \$30,000 annually, Semach said she needs to secure additional funds to guarantee a long-term future.

Semach has applied for charitable status with the federal government. Due to the pandemic, what was a six-to-eight-month process no longer has a timeline. Semach applied in December 2020.

While she wouldn't disclose how long the farm could continue to operate under current conditions, Semach admitted it was tough to see a future beyond the end of this year unless it receives charitable status.

### In the meantime

Haliburton resident Jennifer Korpela will hold an online auction March 4 and 5 to raise money for the farm. This will be her second year doing so, having raised \$5,000

through a similar event in 2021. “I would love to surpass our \$7,000 goal this year,” Korpela said.

She discovered Walkabout in 2020, and said it's been a godsend for her 13-year-old daughter, Kendra.

“She was really struggling with the effects of being isolated from her peers. We were watching our happy, funny, energetic girl languish and I was searching for something to reignite her spark,” Korpela said. “Walkabout Farm was the perfect option for us. Jennifer's passion and energy is contagious ... Our daughter was immediately hooked and we were able to see the light come back into her eyes after just a few visits.”

To view the online auction, search ‘Walkabout Farm Therapeutic Riding Assoc. Spring FUNdraiser’ on Facebook.

### The ‘science’ behind it

Semach was working in a residential treatment facility for at-risk youth when the idea came to launch a therapeutic program based around animals.

The farm has nine horses that visitors can pet, ride and help take care of. Some clients prefer to walk around parts of the 100-plus acre property, while others like to get their hands dirty and help out with chores.

“Services are tailor-made to match each participant's interests. We're very individualized,” Semach said. “There is nothing else like this in Haliburton County.”

She has started working with organizations such as Community Living Trent Highlands, Point in Time, Trillium Lakelands District School Board and private doctors' clinics to spread the word, which has led to further growth.

“We've seen an increase [in numbers] tenfold during the pandemic ... Kids are struggling so badly with their mental health. There's been such a negative effect on kids



Jennifer Semach and Tathan McCutcheon are all smiles as they ride around Walkabout Farm, completing chores last week. *Submitted.*

being withheld from school, being isolated from friends, and from family members,” Semach said. “More kids, younger and younger, have had major anxiety issues that have surfaced, dealing with depression, self-harm. So mental health is at the forefront of what we do here. The farm acts as a release, and it's great to see someone coming out of their shell and blossoming after a few visits,” she added.

### A life-changing difference

Bethan McCutcheon has been sending her sons, 18-year-old Tecwyn and 16-year-old Tathan, for four years. The boys suffer from Angelman Syndrome, a complex disease that often renders patients non-verbal and can cause seizures, and both sensory and

mobility issues.

“Walkabout Farm has provided so much to our family ... When we started this, Tathan would get overwhelmed by the smells of the farm and the sight of the cows. He would be gagging and throwing up. Now, fast forward a few years, and he and Jennifer are two peas in a pod. My sons ask every day if it's Walkabout Farm day,” McCutcheon said.

Tecwyn and Tathan have both been able to earn high-school credits while volunteering at the farm, and have taken learned skills and applied them to their day-to-day life.

“If the farm were to close, my family would absolutely feel the loss. Walkabout Farm is our lifeline. There is no other space that would replace Walkabout Farm, where my teenagers can go and have all their needs met,” McCutcheon said. “My kids are thriving because of Walkabout Farm.”

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To speak with a Bahai in our area please call: Haliburton, Helen, 705-457-1999, Minden, George and Kathie 705-286- 3378, West Guilford/ Kennis, Pat and Peter 1-416-606-9657, Eagle Lake / Fort Irwin Gord and Kathryn 705-754-0939 or contact [www.bahai.org](http://www.bahai.org).

**PHOTO CONTEST**

The Highlander is looking for your best photos for inclusion in this year's The Highlander Handbook.

We are looking for pictures that show the best the Highlands has to offer in all of its seasons. The best submissions will be printed on this year's cover and others inside. We are looking for good quality, high resolution photos (JPEG, 300 dpi).

Please limit 3 entries per person. Deadline March 25, 2022 by 5 p.m. Please ensure the photographer's name and contact details are in the email. Send entries to [editor@thehighlander.ca](mailto:editor@thehighlander.ca)





# Highlander community

## Pack walks fun for pups and people

By Sam Gillett

Four times a week, dog owners and a pack of playful pups dash through the trails of Susan Peel's Gelert Road farm.

Peel hosts off-leash pack walks, group walks that help dogs learn social skills.

"It's been a great joy for humans and dogs," Peel said.

It's a popular program at Killara Station, Peel's farm, which is home to initiatives such as dog training, breeding, a kennel and community gardens in the summer. She began to host pack walks to help owners who may not need kennel services or one-on-one help.

"It's not a training session, but we do watch behaviour and correct it," Peel said.

"Sometimes if you go to a dog park, there aren't experts there to say 'hey that dog isn't doing what it should be doing.' Sometimes owners can't see that themselves."

During COVID-19, Peel said she's seen dogs' mental health and socialization skills take a hit.

"The anxiety in the humans, dogs are feeling it too," she said.

"Seeing people, seeing new dogs, even reading body language, it doesn't translate well for them."

The pack walk can help a pup get used to normal dog behaviour such as sniffing, playing, socializing and more.

For many attendees, it's been a special experience.

"It was delightful to find you could go for a walk in the woods off-leash," said Marta Hubbard, who moved to the County in 2021. For her two young labs, Murphy and Penny, pack walks have helped them learn how to make friends and play well with other pups.

"It is really important for them to have that balance in their life, to have that release of energy for socialization and for development," Hubbard said.

Hubbard said that the owners of each dog tend to look out for the whole pack, and having Peel or another Killara Station staff member leading the walk adds a layer of comfort too.

"You know your dogs are safe. Sue is a natural leader," Hubbard said.

She added that it's not only the dogs who make friends: she's gotten to know other regulars during pack walks and said she felt lucky to discover the opportunity.

"For us this was like a complete lottery," she said.

Pack walks begin Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, with routes on Peel's property picked depending on group size and capability. It costs \$5 per dog to attend. For more information visit [pawsatks.com](http://pawsatks.com)



Susan Peel with a playful pack of dogs. Photo by Sam Gillett.

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Left: Christian Cicigoi retains his focus during a Huskies penalty-kill. Right: Forward Kolby Poulin celebrates after netting the go-ahead goal during Monday's 5-3 victory over the Lindsay Muskies. *Photos by Mike Baker.*

## Win over Muskies sends fans home happy

By Mike Baker

The Haliburton County Huskies snapped a four-game losing skid on Family Day with a hard-fought 5-3 victory over bitter rival Lindsay Muskies.

A pair of goals from Patrick Saini and tallies from Payton Schaly, Kolby Poulin and Cameron Kosurko were enough to secure a much-needed win for the Dogs, lifting them back into 2nd place in the OJHL's East Division.

There was a jovial atmosphere in the stands pre-game, with the hometown crowd excited to catch some afternoon action.

That didn't quite resonate on the ice, however, with the two teams at each other's throat right from the first whistle. Muskies defenceman Gunnar Van Damme got things started 40 seconds in, taking a minor penalty for tripping. Saini capitalized on the opportunity, notching a powerplay marker at the 56 second mark after being found wide open by line mate Oliver Tarr.

Saini repeated the trick a minute later, adding his second at 1:56 to give the Huskies a 2-0 lead. Schaly bagged a third at 7:55, assisted by Lucas Stevenson and

Christian Stevens.

As good as the Huskies were in the opening period, some sloppy play in the second gave the away side a path back into the game. Muskies top-scorer Boyd Stahlbaum ripped one past a helpless Christian Cicigoi at 6:19, with defenceman Duncan Scullion notching a second at 11:52.

Nate Burelle completed the Muskies' comeback midway through the third period, scoring on a breakaway just seconds after coming out of the penalty box.

With the tide turning, the Huskies dug in. Head coach Ryan Ramsay sent out a forward line of Saini, Poulin and Schaly in an effort to wrestle back control of the game. The move worked, with the trio combining for the go-ahead goal, scored at 14:31 by Poulin. It was his first goal of the season.

"It was a fantastic feeling, honestly it was about time I got the first one," Poulin said. "Coach wanted us to make sure we were playing high, and working hard and we managed to force a turnover, Schaly walked out with the puck, fired a perfect pass over to me. I had the easy job of putting it in."

Kosurko made sure of the win with an empty-netter 15 seconds from time.

After a tough week, which had seen the Huskies lose four close one-goal games, including three in overtime, Ramsay was pleased to see his team get back to winning ways.

"We got the start we wanted tonight, let off a bit in the second period and took some bad penalties. But the response from the team in the third was great, they didn't get down about themselves, they worked and turned it back around," Ramsay said. "These guys are pretty relentless... You can conquer the world with confidence, and it was nice to see some of the guys holding their sticks a little tight and playing with some swagger."

### Three straight losses

The Huskies dropped three games to their closest divisional rivals last week, losing twice to the Wellington Dukes and once to the table-topping Trenton Golden Hawks.

A road game against Wellington Feb. 16 ended with a 2-1 defeat for the Huskies, who went 0-5 on the powerplay and outshot

their opponents 34-25, but couldn't make their dominance count. Stevens scored the team's only goal in the final minute of the second period.

Another road tussle, this time against the Golden Hawks Feb. 18, saw the Huskies fall to a 3-2 overtime defeat. The Dogs led twice, first through Schaly and then through Bryce Richardson, but couldn't hold on as the Golden Hawks tied the game in the final minute of the third period, and secured the points two minutes into the extra frame.

There was further heartache Feb. 19 as the Huskies again succumbed to a 3-2 overtime loss, this time at S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena. After the Dukes roared out to an early 2-0 lead, goals from Richardson and Oliver Tarr – scoring with one second left on the clock in the third period – gave the Dogs a chance to pull out the two points, but it wasn't to be. The Dukes would win it 90 seconds into the overtime period.

The team has a double homestand this weekend, welcoming the Toronto Patriots on Friday (7:30 p.m. puck drop) and the Golden Hawks on Saturday (4:30 p.m. puck drop).



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CENTURY 21



## ‘Never stop loving the game’ says Rose

By Mike Baker

When five-year OHL veteran Simon Rose decided to call time on his major junior career in order to chase a championship at the OJHL level he had his pick of teams to choose from, but it was the Haliburton County Huskies that succeeded in getting his signature.

Now nine games into his tenure with the Dogs, Rose has taken to his new surroundings like a fish to water. He is playing big minutes on the blueline, and has been given a key role on the team’s powerplay.

As one of the oldest and most experienced heads in the changing room, he’s also been tasked with taking on a leadership role with the organization, helping to guide some of the team’s brightest prospects. All in, he recently told *The Highlander* it’s been a first class experience thus far.

“Things weren’t really working out for me in North Bay anymore, so I was looking for a new challenge. I’ve only been here a few weeks, but I can definitely say I made the right choice coming to Haliburton,” Rose said.

A second-round draft pick in the 2017 OHL Priority Draft, Rose played in 185 games for North Bay at the OHL level. In 32 games with the organization this season, he put up two goals and eight assists.

As far as Huskies head coach Ryan Ramsay is concerned, the Battalion’s loss is

the Huskies’ gain.

“Simon is one of, if not the best defencemen in the league. He’s an exceptional talent who has great pedigree having played so long in the OHL,” he said. “For us to land him is huge.”

A native of Renfrew County, Rose said he’s been playing hockey for as long as he can remember. He received his first pair of skates when he was two, and often joined his dad, who spent years as an official in the OHL, on the ice for workouts. He played AAA with the Ottawa Valley Titans for the majority of his minor hockey career, before playing one season as an underaged player with the U18 Pembroke Lumber Kings.

He cracked the Battalion roster in his rookie year, playing against the likes of St. Louis Blues forwards Jordan Kyrou and Robert Thomas and Ottawa Senator’s rookie Alex Formenton.

Following this final year of junior hockey, Rose plans to use the scholarship he received upon signing his OHL contract and studying at a Canadian university.

While he’s here in the Highlands, he wants to lead by example and show the younger generation what they can achieve if they approach things in the right way.

“Never stop loving the game, that’s probably the best advice I could offer. Play with passion, play with commitment and good things are going to happen for you,” Rose said.



Defenceman Simon Rose signed with the Huskies in early January after five years of playing with the North Bay Battalion in the OHL. Photo by Amy Deroches.



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Hawksley Dobbins battles for the puck while down on the ice. *Submitted.*

## Storm U-11 dominate Manvers in rep play

On Saturday, Feb. 19, the U11 Storm Rep team played Manvers in Haliburton.

The Storm's Levi Rowe scored the only goal of the first period assisted by Hudson Meyer.

Manvers was able to tie the game 1-1 shortly into the second. The Storm was quick to respond with Travis Rowe scoring, assisted by Hawksley Dobbins. Nash Wilson popped in the third goal assisted by T. Rowe with Meyer finding the net shortly after, again assisted by T. Rowe.

Into the third, with a score of 4-1, the Storm wasn't letting up with Brycen Harrison scoring assisted by Meyer.

L. Rowe snagged his second goal of the game and completed the scoring for the Storm with a power play goal. Manvers was able to drum up one more goal with six minutes left making the final score 6-2.

This team has been on fire and the coaches are thrilled with their progression throughout the season.

The U11 Rep team faces off against South Muskoka in an exhibition game Friday, Feb. 25 in Bracebridge at 6:30 p.m. They're back on Minden home ice, Saturday, Feb. 26 taking on Mariposa at 1 p.m. and completing the regular season games on Sunday in Ennismore at 3:30 p.m. (*Submitted.*)


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Travis Rowe prepares to shoot on net. Submitted.



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|---------------------------|-------|
| U18 REP vs Muskies.....   | 5-5 T |
| FEBRUARY 16               |       |
| U9 REP vs Brock .....     | 5-3 W |
| FEBRUARY 18               |       |
| U15 REP vs Mariposa ..... | 5-3 L |
| FEBRUARY 19               |       |
| U11AE vs Muskies.....     | 6-1L  |
| U11 REP vs Mariposa ..... | 6-2W  |
| U9 REP vs Kawartha.....   | 7-4 L |
| U15 REP vs Norwood.....   | 7-0 L |
| FEBRUARY 20               |       |
| U9 LL vs almaguin.....    | 1-3 L |
| U11AE vs Durham.....      | 4-2 L |
| U9 REP vs Newcastle ..... | 7-2 L |
| U15 REP vs Sturgeon.....  | 6-3 L |
| U13 REP vs Brock.....     | 6-2 W |



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#### 1

Levi Rowe played his best game of the year, showing off his slick stick handling, scoring two goals and adding an assist.



#### 2

Hudson Meyer has been playing very good since returning from the past lockdown. Using his reach and size makes it hard for the opposing team to generate offence. Scored one goal and added two assists.



#### 3

Colten Simms has stepped up his game since returning to the ice in January. Ensuring he backs up his teammates in the net and making some big saves recently to keep our games on the winning side.



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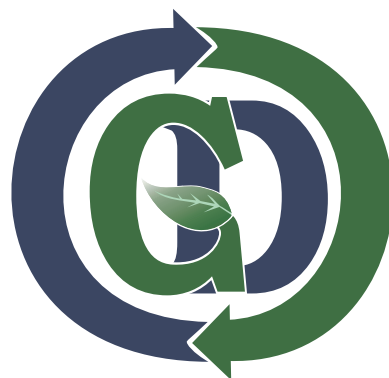
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# Highlander outdoors



## Sideways sliders share love of ice racing

Top left: The Minden fairgrounds was buzzing over the Family Day long weekend, as dozens of racers took part in the CASC Ice Racing Series. The event was enjoyed by many, with races taking place Feb. 19 and 20. "Taking a closer look at this crazy group of sideways sliding drivers, it was evident we had many wonderful families who all share the love of auto racing. They're doing whatever it takes to get on the track, have fun, and maybe hope to win a race," said Perry Mason, one of the racers. Top right: Minden's Jim Carrell raced in number 135, sponsored by Minden Collision. Bottom left: There was more hometown representation at the event, with Team Alton also racing out of Minden. Bottom middle: Minden's Team Last put on a good show for the crowd. Bottom right: Drivers rip around the corner of the track at the Minden fairgrounds. *Photos by Perry Mason. (Mike Baker).*

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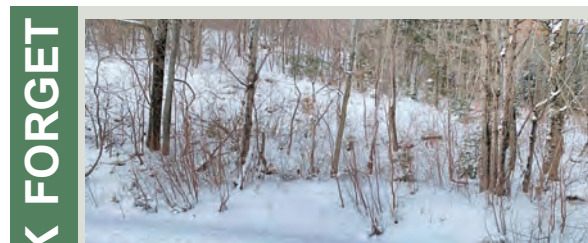
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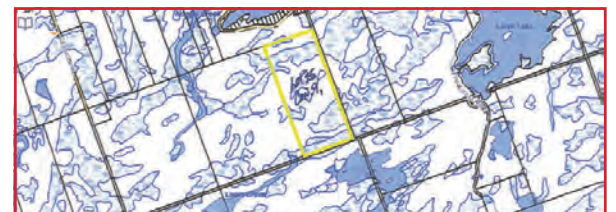
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# Highlander outdoors



The HCSA said it faces challenging grooming circumstances. Photo by Sam Gillett.

## HCSA pleading for riders to help preserve trails

The Haliburton County Snowmobile Association (HCSA) said it’s been a “mad scramble” to maintain snowmobile trails as temperatures and snow conditions fluctuate. “Any kind of traffic in these conditions will damage the trail surface and create ruts when the refreeze occurs. While the forecasted snow is encouraging, it will take several hours for the HCSA to assess when trail grooming can resume,” wrote the HCSA in a Feb. 16 press release. Conditions improved over Family Day weekend, with snow squalls covering the

County. Temperatures rose Feb. 21 and on Feb. 22 the County faced freezing rain. “We are asking (pleading) you not to ride during the second warm-up in as many weeks. If trail surfaces are undisturbed, when the refreeze hits we should stay reasonably level,” said the HCSA in a Feb. 22 Facebook post. Trail conditions are updated regularly on [hcsa.ca](http://hcsa.ca). As of Feb. 22, nearly all trails in Haliburton County were closed. (Sam Gillett).

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

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- File No. PLSRA2020045:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Gull Lake, lying in front of 1052 Beverley Lane located Lot 24, Concession 6, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
- File No. PLSRA2020061:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Horseshoe Lake, lying in front of 1074 McCrackens Lane located within Lot 11, Concession 7, Geographic Township of Minden
- File No. PLSRA2021005:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Gull Lake, lying in front of 1233 U of T Survey Camp Road located within Lot 10, Concession 13, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
- File No. PLSRA2021008:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Kashagawigamog Lake, lying in front of vacant lands having Roll Number 4616-031-000-43590-0000 on McMullen Lane located within Lot 29, Concession 6, Geographic Township of Minden
- File No. PLSRA2021009:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Kashagawigamog Lake, lying in front of vacant lands having Roll Number 4616-031-000-43560-0000 on McMullen Lane located within Lot 29, Concession 6, Geographic Township of Minden
- File No. PLSRA2021054:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Soyers Lake, lying in front of vacant lands having Roll Number 4616-032-000-45110-000 on Echo Lane within Lot 31, Concession 9, Geographic Township of Minden
- File No. PLSRA2021055:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Soyers Lake, lying in front of vacant lands having Roll Number 4616-032-000-45100-000 on Echo Lane within Lot 31, Concession 9, Geographic Township of Minden
- File No. PLSRA2021056:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Soyers Lake, lying in front of 1011 Echo Lane located within Lot 31, Concession 9, Geographic Township of Minden
- File No. PLSRA2021057:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of South Beaver Lake, lying in front of 1142 Triangle Trail located within Lot 21, Concession 3, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
- File No. PLSRA2021073:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Twelve Mile Lake, lying in front of 1534 Twelve Mile Lake Road located within Lot 8, Concession 10, Geographic Township of Minden
- File No. PLSRA2021074:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Little Canning Lake, lying in front of 1096 Wharf Lane located within Lot 7, Concession 14, Geographic Township of Snowdon

The above noted applications are available for inspection in the Building and Planning Department located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario by appointment only. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the undersigned or by visiting [www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom](http://www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom).

**AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE** any person who claims that their land will be prejudicially affected is asked to contact the undersigned at their earliest convenience. If deemed advisable, By-laws giving effect to the proposed closure and conveyance will be passed by the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills.

Amanda Dougherty, B.A. (Hons)  
Township Planning Consultant  
705-742-2297x278  
[adougherty@mindenhills.ca](mailto:adougherty@mindenhills.ca)



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## NOTICES

**Say No to Condos on  
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by Friends of Grass Lake

## SOLUTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 24

|    |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |    |
|----|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|
| 1  | E | D | I  | T  | H  | 6  | O  | B  | I  | T  | 10 | C  | E  | S | 13 |
| 14 | S | E | M  | I  | S  | 15 | N  | A  | S  | H  | 16 | O  | A  | T | Y  |
| 17 | A | L | I  | C  | E  | 18 | D  | E  | N  | T  | E  | 19 | M  | R | I  |
| 20 | O | S | A  | 21 | E  | L  | F  | 22 | A  | M  | A  | N  | 27 | S |    |
| 23 | J | U | S  | T  | 24 | I  | C  | E  | F  | O  | R  | K  | I  | C | K  |
| 28 | E | S | E  | 29 | N  | O  | G  | 30 | F  | E  | A  | T  | H  | E | R  |
| 31 | M | E | D  | 32 | I  | C  | 33 | L  | I  | D  | 34 | T  | E  | R | I  |
| 35 | D | A | 36 | D  | B  | O  | D  | I  | C  | E  | 38 |    |    |   |    |
| 39 | A | R | N  | O  | 42 | A  | O  | L  | 43 | L  | E  | T  | B  | E |    |
| 47 | D | E | A  | L  | 48 | S  | T  | O  | 49 | S  | E  | 50 | E  | D |    |
| 52 | N | O | T  | I  | C  | E  | M  | 53 | Y  | P  | R  | O  | B  | L | E  |
| 55 | R | A | Z  | R  | 56 | E  | A  | N  | 57 | U  | K  | R  |    |   |    |
| 58 | M | D | L  | I  | 59 | K  | I  | S  | S  | O  | 61 | F  | F  | I | C  |
| 63 | F | E | I  | N  | 64 | G  | L  | O  | M  | 65 | I  | F  | E  | A | R  |
| 66 | G | R | E  | G  | 67 | S  | L  | R  | S  | 68 | L  | Y  | N  | N | S  |

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**SILVERWOOD SERVICE** – Offering in home hair care & light housekeeping. Experienced Licensed Professional Stylist. Eye for detail cleaner. Follows all Provincial Covid guidelines, vaxed & masked. Call 705-455-7935

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**2007 FORD FUSION** – 6 cylinder, 4 door, 140,500 km. Certified Feb 3/22. Asking \$3,900. Call 705-854-9201

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## WANTED

**SCRAP VEHICLES** – Cars, trucks, farm equipment. Site cleanup. Contact DW text 705-457-0710

## MOVING SALE

**MOVING SALE** – Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. 1057 Colonial Road, Minden or by appointment. Call Joe 705-306-0979. Propane, Wood, Pellet stoves & chimney's, 39' House Trailer, Argo, Tractor, Cars & Trucks. Bldg materials & windows. Corner Bathtub, Tub, Generators, Recliner, furniture & a lot more. Come and look for yourself. Awesome deals - everything must go!

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## 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.

## OBITUARY



### In Loving Memory of Lawrence Wendell Anderson

Passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, February 17, 2022 with his family by his side, in his 74th year

Beloved husband of Marilyn for 55 years. Dear father of Larry and Tina (Jeff). Loving poppa to Crystal, Chris (Shannon), Katelyn, Danielle (Christian) and great poppa to Hailey, Monica, Jaxon, Daine, Thomas, Nathan, Bryce and Olivia. Dear brother of Marjorie (Ray) (both deceased), Nila (Elwood) (both deceased), Raymond (Gloria Jean-deceased), June (Randy-deceased), Gary (deceased) (Carol), Linda (Pete), Dayle (Brian-deceased), Gregory (deceased), Infant Lloyd (deceased). Son of the late Ernest and Vivian Anderson. Fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Lawrence had a love of old cars and could be found tinkering in his garage. But most of all he loved spending time with his family.

It was Lawrence's wish for cremation. A celebration of Lawrence's life will take place later in the summer.

Memorial Donations to the Minden Cat Angels, Snowflake Meadows Rescue (cheques only), or to a charity of your choice 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.



## HELP WANTED

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More info at:  
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# Highlander classifieds

## HELP WANTED



### Employment Opportunity Municipality of Dysart et al

#### Engineering Technician

Salary \$55,145 - \$64,512

Reporting to the Director of Public Works, the successful applicant will have sound knowledge of the methods, materials and equipment required for the production of engineered drawings, data collection and layout of municipal public work projects.

Primary duties will include, but are not limited to topographic survey data collection using robotic total station, creating base plans and civil designs using AutoCAD Civil 3D and collecting/updating municipal asset information for use in long term asset management.

Self-motivated applicants must be able to work outdoors in all weather conditions with minimal supervision. A valid Ontario Class 'G' licence is required along with an acceptable abstract.

Interested individuals are invited to email a detailed resume and cover letter in confidence to:

Laura Casey, Manager of Payroll and HR  
hr@dysartetal.ca

**No Later Than 12:00 pm Friday, March 4th, 2022**

We thank all those who apply, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Accommodations for applicants with disabilities will be provided upon request. The Municipality of Dysart et al is an equal opportunity employer. Personal information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used only for employment purposes.

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RPM Marinas is looking for a full-charge bookkeeper to join our fun, friendly team.

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You'll be an experienced self-starter who is happy multitasking, and you'll have first-class communication, organizational and customer service skills. You'll also be good at software such as Microsoft Excel, the Google platforms, and QuickBooks. Experience with CDK LightSpeed is an asset.

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- Analyzing balance sheet accounts on a regular basis
- Preparing government remittances for payroll, HST, EHT, WSIB, and subsidy.
- Payroll processing bi-weekly, including all remittances and reporting
- Preparing month and year-end working documentation
- Researching and reconciling discrepancies and ensuring that the accounting is in good order.
- Support team members with other duties and task as required such as answering phones etc.
- Occasional weekend, evenings are required, plus travel to other locations.

Job Type: Full-time 44 hours/week (contract with potential for extension)

Salary: based on experience

**TO APPLY, EMAIL CHERYL@HALIBURTONRPM.COM**



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The successful applicant should have a college diploma in Civil Engineering or Survey Technology and will have 2-3 years of municipal work experience. Must have a valid G drivers licence. The hourly rate for this unionized CUPE position is \$30.95.

### One (1) Seasonal Engineering Student (April - August)

The successful applicant must be currently attending a civil engineering program, familiar with Total Station Surveys, ArcGIS, AutoCAD and have a valid G drivers licence. The hourly rate for this unionized CUPE position is \$22.42.

Visit our website at [www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers](http://www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers) for a detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to [shume@haliburtoncounty.ca](mailto:shume@haliburtoncounty.ca) no later than March 2, 2022.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

*In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.*



# Highlander puzzles

## Some Like It Cold

by Barbara Olson

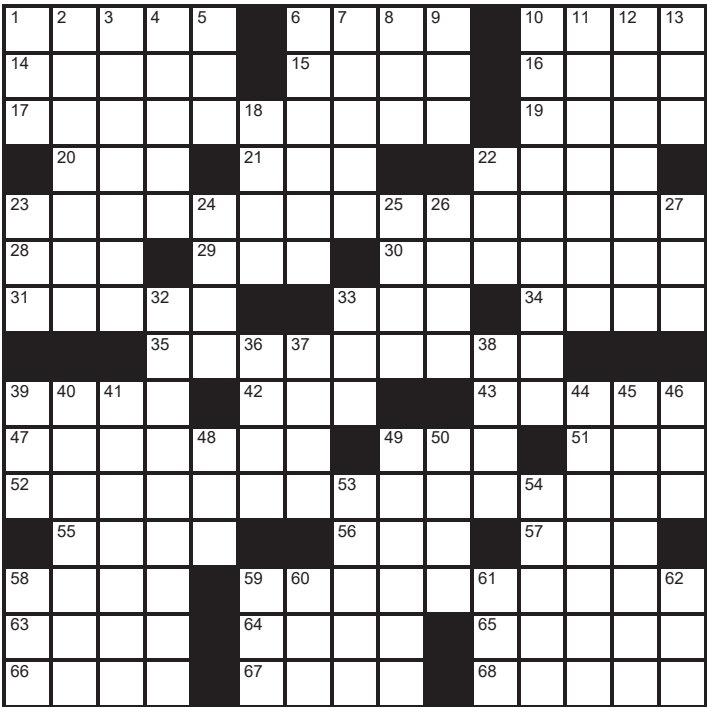
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

Across

- 1 Archie's "Dingbat"
- 6 Passing notice
- 10 Dirty pool?
- 14 Long-haul trucks
- 15 '80s CBC anchor Knowlton
- 16 Tasting like porridge
- 17 How rocker Cooper likes his pasta?
- 19 CT scan alternatives
- 20 Ursa equivalent, in Spain
- 21 Film with Ferrell clad in green
- 22 "What \_\_\_ Gotta Do" (Jonas Brothers)
- 23 Being awarded a black belt in karate?
- 28 Common language suffix
- 29 Egg buy at Christmas
- 30 Thing on the wing?
- 31 Field doctor
- 33 Hat, slangily
- 34 "Desperate Housewives" Hatcher
- 35 Vest Pops wears to cinch up his belly?
- 39 River seen from the Leaning Tower
- 42 "You've Got Mail" co.
- 43 Quit fussing over
- 47 Gives a hand in a casino
- 49 "Told you!"
- 51 U.K. writer's ref.
- 52 Request to a distracted therapist?
- 55 Motorola phone model
- 56 Suffix with Caesar
- 57 Pres. Zelensky's ctry.
- 58 Mid-16th century year
- 59 Where to conduct business "affairs"?
- 63 Sinn \_\_\_ (Gaelic "us alone")
- 64 Cling (onto)
- 65 Words of a phobic, maybe
- 66 Kinnear of "As Good as It Gets"
- 67 Some cameras, briefly
- 68 Redgrave and Collins

Down

- 1 Early Oiler Tikkanen
- 2 Remove a pet's peeves
- 3 Not-so-sharp shooter's admission
- 4 Hamilton CFLer, to fans
- 5 Residence: Abbr.
- 6 Pirate's unique feature?
- 7 Rockies resort town
- 8 It may follow a follower
- 9 Unlikely story-ending word
- 10 Group that's "struck"
- 11 Pain on a plane, for some
- 12 Bugs Bunny, as self-described
- 13 Part of "iOS": Abbr.
- 18 Bold retro design, for short
- 22 Second identity inits.
- 23 "To Kill a Mockingbird" brother
- 24 Early Andean
- 25 Comic strip "The Wizard \_\_\_"
- 26 "Insta" kin, in brands
- 27 \_\_\_ Lanka
- 32 Being an uber fan of
- 33 Twitter titter
- 36 Appointment card datum
- 37 Word before and after "chicka"
- 38 Goldfish in "Pinocchio"
- 39 "I'm waaaiting," in text lingo
- 40 Call for more stock
- 41 Cape Breton fiddler MacMaster
- 44 He wrote of Ents and Orcs
- 45 Flat item at a liquor store
- 46 The Elks, on a scoreboard
- 48 Computer monitor: Abbr.
- 49 Jerks seen by neurologists
- 50 Rubik of cube fame
- 53 ".... \_\_\_ no!" (Meatloaf song refrain)
- 54 Singer/activist Sainte-Marie
- 58 Factory activity: Abbr.
- 59 Mass measures: Abbr.
- 60 Off work, maybe
- 61 Chick-\_\_\_-A (food court eatery)
- 62 Med. soap settings, often



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

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

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

|    |   |    |    |    |   |   |    |   |    |    |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |   |    |    |    |   |   |   |
|----|---|----|----|----|---|---|----|---|----|----|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| 1  | B | A  | 3  | B  | A |   | 5  | C | 6  | S  | 7 | T |   | 8  | B  | 9  | O  | 10 | O | 11 | S  | 12 | T |   |   |
| 13 | A | P  | A  | R  | T | Y | T  | O |    |    |   |   |   | 15 | O  | F  | F  | E  | R |    |    |    |   |   |   |
| 16 | N | O  | S  | E  | O | N | Y  | O |    | 17 | U | R | F | A  | C  | E  |    |    |   |    |    |    |   |   |   |
| 18 | O | P  | E  | N  | E | D |    |   |    | 19 | G | R | I | T  |    |    | 20 | O  | A |    | 21 | R  |   |   |   |
|    |   |    | 22 | M  | A | D | I  |   | 23 | S  | O | N | C | O  |    | 24 | U  | N  | T | Y  |    |    |   |   |   |
| 25 | A | 26 | P  | E  | S |   |    |   | 27 | P  | O | S |   |    |    | 28 | M  | D  | S | E  |    |    |   |   |   |
| 29 | P | E  | N  |    |   |   | 30 | D | J  | E  | D |   |   |    | 32 | N  | A  | P  |   |    |    |    |   |   |   |
| 34 | T | I  | T  |    |   |   | 35 | A | N  | I  | C |   |   |    | 36 | P  | O  | P  | S |    | 37 | O  | N | G |   |
|    |   |    |    |    |   |   | 40 | W | A  | G  |   |   |   |    | 41 | B  | U  | M  | P |    | 42 | M  | O | M |   |
| 43 | A | 44 | M  | 45 | S | O |    |   |    |    |   |   |   | 46 | B  | E  | N  |    |   |    | 47 | A  | E | R | O |
| 48 | B | I  | L  | L  |   |   | 49 | I | 50 | A  | R | D | S | 51 | H  | 52 | A  | L  | L |    |    |    |   |   |   |
| 53 | S | K  | I  |    |   |   | 54 | N | I  | A  | S |   |   | 55 | A  | L  | L  | E  | G | 56 | E  |    |   |   |   |
|    |   |    |    |    |   |   | 58 | A | C  | O  | U | S | T | 60 | G  | U  | I  | T  | A | R  |    |    |   |   |   |
|    |   |    |    |    |   |   | 61 | D | E  | V  | I | L |   |    | 62 | D  | I  | A  | M | E  | T  | E  | R |   |   |
|    |   |    |    |    |   |   | 63 | O | R  | A  | T | E |   |    | 64 | E  | A  | R  |   |    | 65 | S  | E | L | S |



Don't keep  
me a secret!

Broker

M E R C E R

In the market to buy a home or  
cottage? Feel free to give me a call

705-457-0364 | lisa@lisamercer.ca







# THE PERFECT PROPERTY MAKES EVERY DAY FEEL LIKE FAMILY DAY.

## BEECH RIVER \$1,190,000



Enjoy the tranquility of Beech river for swimming, fishing, canoeing and kayaking. Or take a minute to boat ride into Big Boshkung Lake, a 3 lake chain comprised of Big Boshkung, Little Boshkung and Twelve Mile Lake in Algonquin Highlands. This is a beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath with rough in for 3rd bathroom in the basement. 2540 sq ft finished and 1425 sq ft partially finished walkout basement. Perfect to create your own "staycation". Take a stroll down to the waterfront where you will find a lovely sitting deck in the shade on the shoreline, or sit in the full sun on the dock.

## IRONDALE RIVER \$695,000



Indulge in peace and serenity with this stunning extensively renovated, open concept four season riverfront dream home or cottage getaway. Vaulted ceilings, windows with a view and white-washed pine walls, this welcoming space is filled with natural sunlight. Incredible sunset views lead to cozy evenings entertaining in the new gourmet kitchen or unwinding with a view in the soaker tub. There is plenty of room to accommodate guests with the den in use as a 3rd bedroom. Walkout to the deck and multiple seating areas will greet you with plenty of privacy and beautiful landscaping on this well treed lot.

## UNICORN ROAD \$549,000



Your opportunity for a secluded, peaceful off grid Haliburton retreat is here! This 237 acres is the perfect destination to enjoy nature's natural beauty. Fantastic trails throughout the property. Nestled amongst the trees with a tranquil view of one of the many ponds, is a cute 22 x 22 cabin. The wood finishings throughout creates a warm and cozy feeling. Settle in and warm up in front of the wood burning stove. 24 x 24 detached garage is the ideal building to store all of your year round toys. Quick access to amenities in Haliburton Village and cell service throughout the property keeps you in the loop while enjoying your escape from the hustle and bustle.

## KAWAGAMA LAKE \$279,000



Stunning south views across the lake. This property has a fantastic shoreline of mixed sand/gravel gradual entry to the water. Hydro is at the lot line and there is good cell service. This is easily accessible from either marina on the lake. Enjoy this affordable lot in the summer while you make your plans for your new cottage. Great fishing year-round and fantastic snowmobiling in the winter.



## NEW LISTING

## KUSHOG LAKE \$1,295,000

This fantastic waterfront home or cottage is waiting for the next chapter to be written. Lovingly owned and cared for by the original owners for the past 45 years. The property is situated on Kushog Lake, boasting over 100 feet of rock and sand shoreline. Enjoy your days by the water on the expansive lake side deck or on the dock.

This home features 3 bedrooms, 3 baths and a fully finished walk out basement. There is a large recroom downstairs, and if you're looking for a quiet place to relax, escape to the additional family room on the lower level. Ample storage in the double detached garage and the shed. Being sold furnished and move in ready – even including the pontoon boat!

3 X | 3 X | 100'+



Linda Baumgartner - Broker | Owner

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