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# The Highlander

Thursday **February 2 2023** | Issue 575

**INSIDE: ICE RACING RETURNS PAGE 13**

**FREE**



## ON FROZEN POND

Luke, Vienna and Nadia Boyko try out the Dawson Hamilton Outdoor Memorial Rink in Minden Jan. 28. Outdoor rinks across the Highlands are open.  
*Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

## County economy needs 'new directions'

**By Lisa Gervais**

The consultant working on the County's economic development strategy said the community is telling them there is too much talk about a lack of worker housing, but not enough action.

Tonya Kraan of Bridgenorth-based Stexer Harrop Consulting Group (SHCG) told

council at its Jan. 25 meeting they want specific performance benchmarks in their final report, expected in the spring.

Kraan added, "while the County has had tremendous success developing and marketing tourism, the challenging realities of today's economy call for new directions, ideas and approaches to enhance economic

growth, attract investment and ensure that opportunity continues to be a significant part of the County's quality of life."

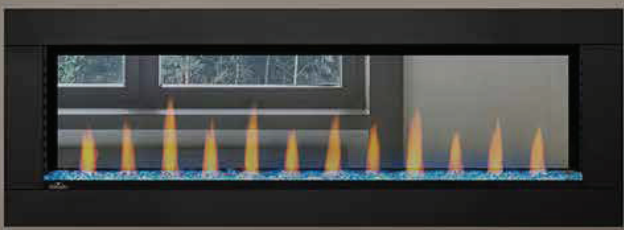
Their work will create a vision for economic development and set priorities and a five-year action plan.

To date, the consultant said they had looked into employment via a public and business

survey, as well as stakeholder interviews. They are in the midst of community consultations and hope to come back to council Feb. 22. They would like to deliver their final economic development strategy report in April.

Continued 'Transport' on page 2

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# Transport, daycare, health workers needed

Continued from page 1

Some of their findings so far are that Haliburton County residents make below the average median income when compared to the District of Muskoka, City of Kawartha Lakes, Prince Edward County, Peterborough County and Hastings County. Median employment income here is \$38,000 and household income \$73,500, last among the six regions.

They've used provincial statistics to say there are 2,039 registered businesses in the County. Of those, 450 have one to four employees; 144 have five to nine employees; 73 have 10-19; 43 have 20-49; 14 have 50-99 and only six have 100-plus. A full 1,309 had an unknown number of workers.

The biggest wage earners were those working for utilities, bringing in an average wage of \$78,134. At the other end of the spectrum, those in accommodation and food services were at \$14,138.

Construction wages, health care, and social assistance reflected average wages when compared to tourism, necessitating the need for year-round wages, and good paying jobs, they said.

Many business owners spoke to the staffing crisis, with one saying "it's not a challenge; it's not possible. The labour force is just not here and nobody can relocate here because of housing shortages."

Survey respondents told the consultants the number one priority was housing, including the need for apartments.

"So, what's happening is, there's a recent grad and there's a job posting in Haliburton County and Peterborough County, and they go on their interviews, love the job in Haliburton County, 'but I can't find an apartment to live in. Guess what? I can find an apartment in Peterborough.' That's what's happening," Kraan said.

Other things mentioned were the need for things for families to do.

## Families want a swimming pool

"Young families want activities for young families. Things like a swimming pool, Kraan said. "I know that's a hot topic for any municipality but not every young family wants their children to play hockey. But every young family does want their children to learn how to swim and, right now, they have to drive an hour, or an hour-and-half, to find a pool to teach their children how to swim."

Businesses told her there are too many hurdles and red tape in local government, with a desire for upper and lower-tiers to work better together. Some spoke of the need for progress and innovation, bridging the divide between those doing well and those struggling, as well as retaining youth.

One positive highlight was 28 businesses indicating they want to build and expand. Kraan said they just want "a bit of help" from economic development and planning departments. Only one to two indicated they



Downtown Minden on Jan. 27. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

wanted to close or downsize, while there is a lot of succession planning underway.

Other challenges include transportation, a lack of daycare, and the need for more healthcare workers.

Coun. Jennifer Dailloux commented, "I'm not sure how many more ways we can hear the need for housing. We really are hearing that from every angle and so it's great to hear that we have our very own study confirming the dire need for housing."

She added her takeaway from the recent ROMA conference is that everyone is struggling but, "there's a lot of innovation out there." She said some information is on

township websites and County councillors and Kraan took contact details for others.

"My hope is that somehow we can attach into this final report some of those doors into the innovation that other counties and townships are looking for because they are there. I think we've got to start really putting them into our stride and learning from them."

Coun. Walt McKechnie repeated a long-standing call for Sir Sandford Fleming College to add trades classes to its Haliburton campus. He said he didn't understand when, "so many families here have a family tradition of doing construction and trades, why they're not exploring that more for us."




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# Minden council says 'no' to arena snack bar

By Lisa Gervais

Users of the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena and Community Centre in Minden won't be getting a fully-stocked concession stand. Council made the decision at its Jan. 26 meeting.

Director of community services, Craig Belfry, said the township received only one bid on the project and it was over budget.

He said MVW Construction and Engineering quoted \$423,544.51, whereas council had set a budget of \$360,000.

Belfry was seeking approval to have further discussions with MVW, to reduce some of the components of the snack bar. He said \$125,000 worth of equipment was being suggested, for example, two ventless fryers worth \$40,000 each. A further \$60,000 worth of electrical is needed, he said, because, "sufficient power load sourcing was not installed for this area during the initial construction." Belfry said there was a possibility that cost could also be lowered.

However, a majority of councillors said "no."

"I'm not happy," mayor Bob Carter said. He said it was unfortunate the arena design was done in the way it was. He said had they done it then, they would have incurred more cost, but doing it now in isolation has resulted in insufficient power, and ceilings being too low. He said he did not want to give up and was prepared for Belfry to go back to the bidder.

Deputy mayor Lisa Schell said they had planned to spend \$300,000 and, "hated to throw the baby out with the bath water. I

don't want to spend any more money on this but we can't have an arena without a snack bar either, or some kind of option for food. I hear this all the time."

Mulligan's has been supplying some food at the arena. They are usually upstairs Friday afternoons and Saturdays and during Haliburton County Huskies games. The Huskies also manage vending machines.

Coun. Pam Sayne also thinks they need a snack bar but felt it was a lot of money. "It shouldn't cost \$300,000 to serve a hot dog." She thought they could look at healthy food options, and eliminate fryers to save \$80,000.

## Ripping the Band-Aid off

However, Coun. Tammy McKelvey said even if they got the figure down to \$300,000, an outside operator would run the snack bar and receive the proceeds. She added there was talk of borrowing money for the project.

"I'm prepared to rip the Band-Aid off here. We cannot afford a snack bar in an arena that's already put us in a very difficult financial position. I don't want to spend any more staff time."

Some councillors suggested vending machines run by the township.

Coun. Ivan Ingram was prepared to leave it for a year, saying, "that's a huge number to look at, considering all the other things we've put off the past few years. We've got way bigger fish to fry than feeding the snack bar people."

Coun. Bob Sisson said better heating was more important than a concession stand. McKelvey said the sound system is



Paula Sylvester at Mulligan's concession stand at the arena Jan. 27. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

also inadequate. McKelvey said \$60,000 in deferred revenue, already set aside by council, could be used for upstairs improvements.

Coun. Shirley Johannessen commented they could get a fully-equipped food truck for

\$78,000 and also use it for Canada Day and other events, even rent it out.

"I like the idea of the food truck," Ingram said. "You can move it to the back in summer for baseball. I don't support spending that kind of money on the arena for a snack bar."

## MINDEN HILLS NEWS

### FoodCycler pilot update

An estimated 15.5 tonnes of food waste could be diverted from the Scotch Line landfill annually with the use of FoodCyclers, Minden Hills council was told at its Jan. 26 meeting.

Director of public works, Mike Timmins, said 100 households were involved in a 12-week pilot project last year.

He said on average, households did 3.9 cycles a week. In other words, they put their

food waste in the electronic machine the size of a bread maker to have it reduced to organic mulch.

The reduction was equivalent to 202 kilograms of food waste per year per household. "This is equivalent to preventing approximately 40.5 tonnes of CO2e (carbon dioxide equivalent)," Timmins added.

Other findings included 75 per cent of participants were motivated to waste less food. Timmins said 50 per cent of garbage at Scotch Line is food waste, with half being avoidable, such as expired meats,

bread and thrown away leftovers.

Further, he said 44 per cent of participants reduced their monthly garbage by one bag, 27 per cent by two bags and 12 per cent by three or more bags. Seventeen per cent had no bag reduction.

"Overall, this means reduced waste entering the landfill, and potentially reduced visits to the landfill sites," Timmins said.

He concluded, "over 85 per cent of participants thought that their fellow community members would participate in a future FoodCycler program if the units were

provided at no or low cost, and over 86 per cent of the participants would recommend the FoodCycler to others."

Mayor Bob Carter noted that the County of Haliburton, at its Jan. 26 meeting, had signed off on a program to subsidize another 500 units across the Highlands. He said they would more than make up that investment (\$90,000) through lower costs at landfills, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. (Minden Hills news compiled by Lisa Gervais).



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# New summer hours at AH landfills

By Mike Baker

Algonquin Highlands has rubber stamped a new summer schedule for its landfill sites at Oxtongue Lake, Dorset, Maple Lake, and Pine Springs.

Addressing council Jan. 19, environmental manager Melissa Murray said vehicle counts and general usage across the township’s four landfill sites had changed drastically in recent years. She said this was likely due to changing demographics and shifts in property usage, with a large influx of people transitioning from seasonal to permanent residents of the community during the pandemic.

“The traditional weekend cottager arriving Friday evening and departing Sunday evening is becoming less common. Site usage is being spread more evenly throughout the week now,” Murray stated.

Landfill hours have remained steady across the township since 2015, when operating hours in Dorset were adjusted. Murray noted staff had been tracking traffic patterns over the past two years while developing the new schedule.

The most underutilized hours appeared to be early mornings and evenings, Murray said.

She felt there was a benefit to creating a more consistent schedule across all sites.

“The greatest challenge we run into is people having difficulty knowing what the hours are. We’ve received a number of complaints in the past from people that have

## Proposed Hours – Start May 1, 2023

	Maple	Pine Springs	Dorset	Oxtongue
Saturday	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday	10 a.m. – 6 p.m.	10 a.m. – 6 p.m.	10 a.m. – 6 p.m.	10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Monday	10 a.m. – 6 p.m.	closed	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	closed
Tuesday	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.	closed	12 p.m. – 6 p.m.	closed
Wednesday	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	closed	closed	12 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Thursday	closed	1 p.m. – 6 p.m.	12 p.m. – 5 p.m.	closed
Friday	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.	closed	12 p.m. – 5 p.m.	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Note: Holiday Mondays are same hours as Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. all sites.

Algonquin Highlands has updated its landfill hours for this coming summer. *Algonquin Highlands.*

arrived at one of our dumps and found the gates closed,” Murray said. “We will never have hours that will please everyone, but we have to weigh [what people want] against what we can reasonably offer.”

There was some discussion surrounding the Oxtongue Lake site. Murray had initially proposed the landfill be closed on Mondays, citing poor traffic counts, but deputy mayor

Jennifer Dailloux felt this would have a big impact on many residents. A compromise was reached to keep the site open for four hours on Mondays, down from the previous five.

Dailloux wondered if the township should consult with the public before moving ahead with changes, but CAO Angie Bird noted there was a bit of a “time crunch”. She said landfill cards are being renewed this year

and will be mailed out with residents’ interim tax bills later this month. The landfill cards usually contain the hours of the township’s dump sites.

“I think we’ve looked at all the possible ways of balancing this... let’s treat this as a one-year trial period, observe over the summer, and then we can revisit next year if we have to,” said mayor Liz Danielsen.

# INFORMATION PAGE

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- Building Inspector
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Stay informed of current job postings by visiting our website at [mindenhills.ca/en/local-government/careers](http://mindenhills.ca/en/local-government/careers) for a list of available employment opportunities.

**FOOD WASTE REDUCTION**

According to a report completed by the National Zero Waste Council in 2022, 63% of the food Canadians throw away, could have been eaten. For the average Canadian, that can be up to \$1300 worth of food wasted every year! Try meal planning, preparing smaller portions and consuming leftovers as ways to reduce your food waste in your home.

**SUMMER STUDENTS WANTED!**

Do you know a student who is looking for a great summer job? We are currently accepting resumes for Summer Students for our Community Services Department in Parks and for the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. Positions are for a 16-week period from May to August. Rate of pay is \$15.50/hour. Please visit our website at [www.mindenhills.ca/careers](http://www.mindenhills.ca/careers) for more information and how to apply.

**CULTURAL CENTRE UP COMING EVENTS**

Valentine's Candle-Making Workshop in partnership with Snuff Candle Co. at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Saturday, February 11 from 1-3 pm. All supplies included. Price is \$45 per person; pre-registration is required.

Visit the Agnes Jamieson Gallery this winter to view a selection of artwork from our permanent collection featuring renowned artist André Lapine. The Gallery is currently open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Admission is by donation.

For more information or to register please call 705-286-3763 x 542 or email [culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca](mailto:culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca). The Minden Hills Cultural Centre is located at 176 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden.

**2023 DRAFT BUDGET NOTICE – 2023 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS**

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will commence its 2023 Budget deliberations during its Special Council Meeting scheduled on February 2, 2023. The meeting will commence at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING DRAFT 2023 BUDGET**

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, February 16, 2023, during its Special Council Meeting regarding the Draft 2023 Budget. The meeting will commence at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON.

Greg Bedard, Director of Finance/Treasurer • 705-286-1260 ext. 504 • [gbedard@mindenhills.ca](mailto:gbedard@mindenhills.ca)

**(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:

**February 2** – Special Council Meeting – 2023 Budget  
**February 9** – Regular Council Meeting  
**February 16** – Special Council Meeting/Public Meeting – 2023 Budget

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

**TAX INFORMATION**

Request for Tax Statements for Income Tax purposes can be mailed or placed in the drop box. Requests should include your name, roll number, mailing address, email address and a phone number. Requests must be accompanied by a cheque for the applicable fee of \$10.00, for each property roll. Please allow a minimum of one week to process this request following receipt of payment.



# HE begins budget talks at two per cent hike

By Lisa Gervais

Highlands East began budget talks Jan. 31 with a first draft 2.05 per cent municipal tax rate increase.

Deputy CAO and treasurer, Brittany McCaw said it represented an overall increase from the 2022 budget of \$183,932. The difference would be \$10.54 per \$100,000 of assessment.

"We knew this was going to be a difficult budget year just with rising costs, things that are out of our control, but I would like to say that staff have done an excellent job of looking at their accounts and looking at where they could trim but without cutting services," McCaw said.

She added the township was on target to come in on budget for 2022.

Across the board, they are looking at a salary increase of 1.75 per cent, a group benefit jump of 6.1 per cent and a general insurance hike of 17.19 per cent. There's more IT, cyber security and video surveillance costs.

Deputy mayor Cec Ryall said, "I'm unbelievably shocked at the fact we could get it (the levy increase) down to two per cent. You guys did an awesome job doing that. But with that in mind I want to make sure we're covering off some of the things you're going to do. I just want to make sure, at the end of the day, that our two per cent is a good number and where it needs to be."

In presenting the budget, McCaw said they got \$25,000 less in OMPF funding. She

noted increased user fees and charges in 2023 should generate more revenue. Former gas tax funding, now called the Canada Community-Building Fund, is bringing in \$110,633. They've also got some money in reserves from projects not done in 2023. This includes \$25,000 for an architect for the municipal office design and build.

"A business case has been prepared and provided to council for consideration regarding the new municipal office build, as opposed to operating three, separate municipal offices," McCaw said.

Some other big-ticket items are \$100,000 for the design build for the municipal office; \$50,000 for a corporate strategic plan; \$25,000 for records management and \$25,000 for climate change initiatives.

Policing costs are down 3.27 per cent, although Highlands East will still pay OPP \$1,144,948 in 2023.

McCaw said they have not budgeted for the two summer students for the septic inspection program this year. She said it's because their department is short-staffed and it would be unfair to expect two students to work without guidance. The department will instead deal with outstanding files to bring properties into compliance.

Ryall asked about vacancies of a building inspector and chief building official, as Laurie Devolin has left the township. McCaw said they had a plan they would share with council at a future date.

In public works, Abby Armstrong said roads, bridges and culverts to be worked on



Highlands East held a special budget meeting Jan. 31. *File.*

include: Inlet Bay Road, Gem Road, Upper Paudash Road, the Earles Road culvert, the Gooderham dam bridge, Hadlington bridge and Donroy culverts, McColls bridge, Buxton Road and Pioneer Road.

Water and wastewater users will face a four per cent user fee increase. More money is needed for recycling and household hazardous waste days. There's \$20,000 towards the service connections in Wilberforce.

Parks and recreation capital projects for 2023 include the Cardiff Pool change house, arena upgrades, Herlihey Park, Essonville Church repairs, and the trails master plan.

Economic development would see money for a part-time coordinator, one summer student for the information centre, and new units for geocaching.

Budget talks will continue.

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**DYSART ET AL NEWS**

**New cell  
towers approved**

Dysart et al council issued their support for four new cell tower projects Jan. 24, the latest offerings through the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) cell gap project.

Jeff Iles, Dysart's director of planning and land information, told council each application had gone through the necessary public consultation process and most of the feedback had been positive.

He noted all four projects were being led by Rogers. They will see an 85-metre tower constructed on Havelock Lane to service properties surrounding Little Kennis Lake, a 45-metre monopole tower on Wilkinson Road to service Kennis Lake, a 90-metre tower on Bryson Trail to service Percy Lake, and a 90-metre tower on Haliburton Lake Road to service North Lake.

"Some of the comments in support of the tower included economic and social reasons, such as improving connectivity for working from home. There were also several safety factors... it was noted most residents on Percy Lake need to drive to Eagle Lake now to use a cell phone, which could lead to problems," Iles said.

Each project will now go to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada for final approval.

**A successful transition**

After Dysart opted to handle its septic maintenance inspection program in-house

last year, rather than contract it out, program supervisor Bri Quinn told council the transition has been successful.

Delivering her year-end report on 2022 inspections, Quinn said staff found several efficiencies in their process, making it "our most successful year to date." The program has been running since 2017.

Inspections were carried out on 511 properties surrounding Haliburton, Percy, Oblong, Eagle, Moose, West, Glen, Basshaunt and Bushwolf lakes. Approximately 49 per cent of all properties were found to be low-risk, meaning no compliance concerns; 39 per cent were medium-risk, which led to some properties being issued with pump out requests and other remedial measures with septic structures, compromised or missing lids, baffles and sewage beds; and 12 per cent high-risk, which includes failing systems, septic not operating in accordance with their approved use permits, or greywater discharging to the ground.

She said all the systems tested were class two, more commonly known as a greywater system; class four, comprised of a septic tank and leaching bed; and class five, made up of a holding tank.

Quinn noted there were roughly 150 remedial letters issued to properties found to have too many bedrooms for existing sewage capacity.

Inspection fees will be going up \$17 in 2023, to \$197. This is to cover added costs from the finance department associated with invoicing and licensing for new software that will be used starting next year.



Dysart fire chief Dan Chumbley. *File.*

**New fire chief**

Dan Chumbley was installed as Dysart et al's new permanent fire chief, following the passing of former chief Mike Iles late last year. Chumbley had been serving as interim chief since spring 2022.

He first joined the department as a

volunteer firefighter in 2000, being promoted to deputy chief in 2016.

The department will have two deputy chiefs moving forward after Chris Iles – Mike's son – and Stacey Parish were officially promoted to the position last week. (*Dysart et al briefs compiled by Mike Baker*).

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The County of Haliburton offices on Jan. 27. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

# Short-term rentals headed to special council meeting

By Lisa Gervais

The new County of Haliburton council did not pass a short-term rental bylaw at its Jan. 26 meeting, but did indicate they would like to find some consistent rules and regulations at the County level, and then have the municipalities take over running the program.

Director of planning, Steve Stone, reminded councillors of the work that had been done to date.

He said the project was initiated in the summer of 2022 when consultants, J.L. Richards and Associates talked to community members and looked at what other townships are doing. They then presented two final draft bylaws to council. The first dealt with registering short-term rentals, “a fact-finding mission to see how many business operators wanted to register their short-term rental businesses with the County,” Stone said. He

added while the consultant recommended three to four months for registration, a year made more sense for all-season rentals. The County would then transition to a licensing bylaw.

“If you have a short-term rental bylaw system, you’ll certainly have to have a lot of consistency with the area municipalities,” he added.

Coun. Murray Fearrey, speaking for the first time on his views of the bylaws, said, “I can definitely see the advantage of us as a County council developing a common theme that we bring back to the municipalities.

“But as far as how we’re going to implement the bylaw...municipalities are already doing this. Why in the world would we want to do it from the County when we’ve got our feet on the ground right in the municipalities. We’re checking the number of bedrooms, we’re checking the sewage

system, the building inspectors are in the area.” He added, “let’s keep it as simple and enforceable as we can.”

Coun. Bob Carter agreed with Fearrey that the, “ideal situation would be for us to agree to a set of rules, regulations, and then we adopt them in each one of our municipalities.”

Stone said they could look at a high-level licensing bylaw application administered by the County, but with the onus on short-term rental operators to supply proof of compliance with things such as a certificate to say their rental complies with the building code, meets fire department requirements, and a letter from a septic hauler about regular pump-outs, for example. He added there could be a fee for service.

After a lengthy discussion, council opted to hold a special meeting on Feb. 27 to continue working on the file.

## COUNTY OF HALIBURTON NEWS

### Growth and development charges review

Watson and Associates Economists Ltd. updated council on plans for a review of the Highlands’ long-term population, housing and employment growth, to 2051.

“Since the release of the County’s 2017 official plan, the County of Haliburton has been experiencing significantly stronger growth pressure than previously anticipated, which has been further exacerbated in recent years due to the impacts of COVID-19,” the consultants said.

They added their review will result in a document to help with the County’s

development charges background study, and to update the official plan. They said they’ll begin in February and hope to table a final report in June or July.

As for the development charges study, they are looking into the impacts of the More Homes Built Faster Act, Bill 23.

Director of planning, Steve Stone, in a separate report to council, said the consultants, “are concerned that, as a result of this accelerated growth rate, public infrastructure like roads and sewers required to support the anticipated community growth will not be adequately accounted for.”

CAO Mike Rutter said 14 per cent growth since the last Census was putting pressure

on services. “Without a development charge, it’s left to the existing taxpayer to pay for those costs as opposed to the developers paying for those costs.”

Coun. Bob Carter was concerned about the accuracy of the projections. “We have all these things that don’t allow normal types of projections. I don’t want to have something that is two times an estimate multiplied by a guess.”

But Rutter replied, “if we have any hope of getting a reliable estimate, then it will come from them (Watson and Associates). The money is coming from Safe Restart funding. (County of Haliburton news compiled by Lisa Gervais).



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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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Lakes the losers

County council's special meeting Monday on the shoreline preservation bylaw was disappointing on a number of fronts.

Dysart mayor Murray Fearrey and deputy mayor Walt McKechnie reiterated their intention to withdraw their township's support of the bylaw. The previous council had already refused to delegate authority to the County.

A majority of Dysart council would have to officially endorse that plan of action. Pat Casey, Nancy Wood-Roberts, Tammy Donaldson, Carm Sawyer and Barry Boice could still have an impact on the outcome of Dysart's buy-in, but we doubt they'll disagree with Fearrey or McKechnie.

It's disheartening because it would have been nice to have countywide consensus, regardless if it's the County or lower-tier townships who put the boots to the ground on this bylaw. With Dysart having the most shoreline properties in the County, the teeth have been blunted somewhat.

Fearrey and McKechnie have their reasons. Fearrey told the Jan. 30 meeting the bylaw does nothing to address historic, damaging activities on our shorelines, such as lawns to the water. He's worried people doing basic things such as weeding on shoreline road allowances will, by bylaw, need permission. He'd prefer more public education, enhanced septic inspection programs, and real fines for violators, not the \$930 wealthy landowners are now laughing at as they decimate natural flora and fauna. He thinks it's too complicated and expensive and feels building and bylaw departments at the townships can take care of the problem.

Fearrey suggested policing could happen at the building permit stage. But, can it? Shoreline naturalization has never been the purview of building departments. And, with all due respect, surely all of those historic attacks on Dysart's naturalized shorelines happened during the 40 years that Fearrey was the head of council. What will change now? He and McKechnie alluded to some plans they may have, but didn't share them with their County colleagues, a bit like school kids covering their homework.

Don't take it personal, Fearrey said. We love and want to protect our lakes. We're just speaking up for the people of Dysart, McKechnie chimed in.

And, perhaps, that is part of the age-old problem. Mayors and deputy mayors of



By Lisa Gervais

Algonquin Highlands, Highlands East, and Minden Hills are ready to move the needle. Now, they're a bit scared it's going to cost them more if Dysart opts out. Despite a services delivery review, I sniff some silos building back up. And that is a shame.

Coun. Jennifer Dailloux said the bylaw is very much a regulatory piece, and council can use a raft of other measures to address Fearrey and McKechnie's concerns. She had hope.

Coun. Bob Carter publicly expressed the same disappointment as w.

After five years, countless hours of staff time, and a great deal of money, County councillors are now going to have to repeal the bylaw, and go back to their own councils to see if they remain onboard. Chances of a bylaw being online for the start of this building season seem slim. And, so, the bad apples will continue to flaunt the unwritten rules and regulations. The real losers from Monday's meeting are our 600-plus lakes.

ZOOMED OUT

Repairing our stories of happiness

Who would have thought the revolution would begin on Maple Avenue in Haliburton village?

Hats off to SIRCH, whose repair café is shining a light on consumption run amok and providing a counterpoint that's 100 per cent in tune with who we are as Highlanders.

Back after a pandemic-enforced break, the repair café is an opportunity for people to get their broken stuff fixed; volunteers skilled with screwdrivers and Super Glue will resuscitate our dead consumer goods.

Big business won't be happy. Over the decades, manufacturers have baked in obsolescence with products that are hard to fix.

The results, as we reported last week, are showing up in our landfills. The amount of construction and demolition waste in Dysart, for example, has gone up 38 per cent in a year, helping to double our costs to haul it away to the lucky place, out of sight and mind, with a big enough hole to put it in.

Meanwhile, we run down to Costco or log in to Amazon and get the shiny new thing. Perhaps we like it that way. Buying new makes us smile; ripping out and building back bigger makes us feel we've accomplished something.

But what if we know deep down it doesn't work like that, and so we have a sensation in our stomachs that something's amiss?

The "right to repair" movement is gaining traction. Legislators in the United States have passed laws requiring manufacturers to make things fixable. Attempts at similar laws have been proposed at provincial and federal levels in Canada, but nothing significant has passed yet.

The movement is having an impact, however. The latest incarnation, for example, of Microsoft's Surface Pro computer allows you to replace the battery – that's one less laptop in the electronics bin and more money left in our pockets. Last month, John Deere relented to allow farmers in the U.S. to fix their own tractors.

The repair café is part of this movement. But this is more than just a bunch of folks pushing a rock up the vertical mountain of materialism. Instead, it's reframing what a good life means. It's telling us a new story about what makes us happy.

And that's where the Highlands can be a



By Simon Payn

seed of revolution.

Haliburton County is a place where what we do for the community counts for more than the size of our house, where GoFundMe requests get met within days, where saying hello to friends on main street is more valuable than the latest iPhone.

Our future will be secured only when we realize a thriving community and environment is what makes us happy. That hanging out for 30 minutes while we learn to fix our broken reading glasses is more fun than adding a new pair to our shopping cart.

The Highlands gets it right. We can be a beacon for how a community could be. And we can begin to repair our broken world.

*The SIRCH repair café is on Sunday, Feb. 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 49 Maple Ave., Haliburton.*

*Zoomed Out is a new column that looks at the big picture – the stories behind the stories.*

Correction: In the story 'CanoeFM co-founder lives on through station airwaves' that appeared on page 13 in the Jan. 26 Highlander, we incorrectly identified one of the men in the photo as Jack Hewitt. The man pictured was actually Jack Lowe, the long-time 'technology guru' for the station. The Highlander regrets this error.

HAVE AN OPINION?  
Send your letters to editor@thehighlander.ca  
(300 words max)



PHOTOS OF THE WEEK



Top: Sunset on Head Lake by Adam Frisk. Bottom: Sharon Kowaluk took this photo on Jan. 25 just outside Haliburton Village.

LETTERS

Province must pay healthcare workers more

Dear editor,

I am a RPN at our small hospital in Haliburton. I have been nursing since 1985. A lot has changed in the RPN role since then. Our skills and scope of practice has increased significantly. We work alongside the RNs and doctors and we deserve our wages to mirror this.

Like many other hospitals in Ontario right now, we are seeing nurses leave the profession due to burn out, loss of respect, and frustration within the workplace. We were portrayed as heroes during the pandemic, but quickly forgotten once the storm had settled.

Currently, our hospital has at least 10-15 agency nursing RNs in our acute/ER department at both Haliburton and Minden sites earning \$60-100/hour. There are also agency staff (RNs and RPNs) at both LTC homes.

Agency nursing is paying RPNs \$35-\$60/hr. Where is this money coming from? How long is this sustainable for and at what cost to the taxpayer? Who pay these costs? Are the taxpayers of Haliburton County aware of this and the cost it is incurring?

Why can't the government increase our wages like we are asking? We need to retain the nurses who have committed to our hospital and recruit new ones for the future of our community.

Our small rural hospitals have welcomed little ones into the world, saved patients' lives from dying from trauma, heart attack/stroke etc. and offering palliative care to our loved ones.

The people of our community have donated money, volunteered, donated time etc. and pay taxes to have the two beautiful sites we have. I'm sure they don't want to lose, or see one close due to mismanagement of the taxpayers' money.

We nurses have the right to fair bargaining, please advocate for us. Revoke Bill 124.

No nurses equal no hospitals or long-term care homes. Scary thought.

The taxpayers of this County deserve both.

Diane Stamp  
Haliburton

Bob Lake proposal rejected four years ago

Dear editor,

I read the article in the Jan. 26 issue of *The Highlander*: 'Bob Lake Association back with another boat launch pitch'.

The Bob Lake Association (BLA) has indicated there was a boat launch in this area until the 1970s. This is not true. There was no boat launch anywhere near the proposed Claude Brown site. We have owned adjacent land since the early 1960s, and there was definitely no boat launch at this site. We have photos to prove this. An examination of the site will confirm that there is no remnant of any boat access ramp.

Boats were launched from the Deep Bay Road access until 2016, when access was blocked by the landowner.

The association seems to think by taking on the construction costs, maintenance and insurance the town would be exempt of all responsibility. Even if this is so, the impacts to the adjacent residents and environmental problems will still exist. Who will be responsible when erosion affects the roadway?

The BLA has turned a blind eye to the concerns of both the adjacent residents and the town council: Claude Brown Road would cut through the boat launch area, creating traffic congestion and safety and enforcement issues; the site is partially on private land so may require buying property; there are worries about noise and lights affecting nearby properties; vegetation would have to be cut, including mature trees; the actual ramp would have to be wider than what was proposed; liability for adjacent landowners is not being considered; this is the sole access road for many cottages. Access by emergency vehicles would be hindered by users of the ramp; and erosion may damage the roadway.

Several cottages close to the site are regularly used by families with small children. This boat ramp would be a safety issue for them.

This proposal was examined and rejected four years ago.

David Mullins  
Minden Hills

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Send your photos of Haliburton County to [editor@thehighlander.ca](mailto:editor@thehighlander.ca)

Top: Sunset on Head Lake by Adam Frisk. Bottom: Sharon Kowaluk took this photo on Jan. 25 just outside Haliburton Village.



**HHHS NEWS**

**‘Significant’  
deficit expected**

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) board chair of finance, Irene Odell, told the Jan. 26 meeting “we will definitely end the year (2022) with a significant deficit.”

She added, “It’s been a tough one. The board is aware and supporting our hospital leadership as they go through this very difficult time.

“The leadership and the staff continue to define and carry out both short and long-term mitigation strategies, but given provincial, and Canadian-wide shortages of professional staff, and the impact of COVID,” a deficit was unavoidable, she said.

In her CEO report, Carolyn Plummer added staffing pressures mean they are still using agency nurses resulting in added costs, both at the hospitals and LTC facilities.

“HHHS has reviewed alternate care models to reduce this cost pressure in the next few months,” she added.

Plummer said HHHS is experiencing cash flow challenges as it waits for funds to flow from the Ministry of Health. “HHHS is aware funds will continue to flow in January, which will provide needed cash to meet our current obligations. HHHS will continue to access its line of credit, scrutinize its payment terms to maximize its cash flow position, and communicate its ongoing deficit position and operating pressures to Ontario Health East.”



The Minden Hospital on Jan. 27. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

**Foundation supports  
CT scan machine**

HHHS Foundation executive-director Melanie Klodt Wong said the foundation was committed to raising funds for a CT scanner for the Highlands.

“We know how much the community wants this and needs this,” Klodt Wong added.

She said it would take the entire community to rise to the challenge but, “we can do this and we can do this together.”

As previously reported in *The Highlander*, HHHS has begun to explore whether a CT

scan machine can be brought to the County. It’s doing a feasibility study to determine if it is possible to proceed now, rather than wait for the master planning process to be completed. If the study demonstrates that a CT scan machine is feasible for HHHS, a full application to the Ministry of Health will be required.

**Staff changes in LTC**

There have been some staffing changes at the two LTC homes, with Tina Amodeo accepting the permanent assistant director of care position for Highland Wood. Recruitment continues for a director of care/

administrator for the home. At Hyland Crest, Tracy Salvatori has accepted the assistant director of care position.

Additionally, HHHS thanked Dr. Tina Stephenson “for her incredible work” at Highland Wood over the past 22 years. Dr. Stephenson will be retiring as the medical director of the home in April. Dr. Michael Armstrong will be taking over as the interim medical director while a permanent replacement is recruited. Dr. Armstrong has been working with HHHS for more than 20 years and is also the medical director for Hyland Crest.

(HHHS news compiled by Lisa Gervais).

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# Aquatic therapist says belief and persistence makes it all possible

By Lisa Gervais

Aquatic therapist Audrey Collins stands in a swimming pool, helping Juston Hutchinson into the salt water. He has left his wheelchair poolside and is getting out of a lift that has lowered him into the 92F water.

“Alright, are you ready Freddie?” Collins asks, with a French-Canadian accent.

She begins their 30-minute therapy session by warming up Hutchinson’s legs with gentle stretches. As the treatment continues, she loosens the muscles that his muscular dystrophy has tightened.

Near the end, she holds onto Hutchinson as he stands in the water. “Oh, you’re stepping out of your comfort zone,” she comments as the seconds tick on the clock on the wall.

“When’s the last time you stood that long?” she asks, and Hutchinson smiles. Finally, the strain gets to him and he has to lower but the accomplishment is not lost on the therapist or client.

“Wow, that was amazing. I’m going to say you stood for a whole minute. That was a super good session,” Collins comments.

The two met when Collins needed signage for Audrey’s Aquatic Therapy and Rehabilitation. Hutchinson runs Joe’s Custom Signs. She found out about his muscular dystrophy and despite him having a fear of water, encouraged him to try a free session. He’s been coming since.

Hutchinson said he was looking for more mobility, and finds his body is looser as a result of the sessions. There is obvious trust between the two. “She’s got a nice way about her, and always has a smile on her face, offering encouragement. She’s lovely and nice to work with,” he says while towelling off.

Collins said because she is in a swimming pool and at eye level with her clients, it is a great equalizer.

After some “hiccups” – including COVID-19, a car accident which left her concussed, and the death of her mom – the business is fully up and running, with the therapist pretty much maxed out with clients.

The pool is on her and husband, John Collins’, expansive property just outside of

Gelert. They met when Collins was working summers at Kilcoo camp and bought the property 11 years ago. They have three young children.

However, in all that time, Collins commuted to Lindsay and Peterborough to ply her speciality trade. She started working with motor vehicle accident victims in Lindsay, loved the modality, but realized she needed to learn more. She first went to the Canadian Aquafitness Leader Alliance, then Canadian Aquatic Rehab Instructors (CARI). She said CARI founder, Alison Bonnyman, told her she thought she was a “gem” and encouraged her to do the same training she had done at the Valence clinic in Switzerland. So, she did.

When she came back, she taught for CARI across Canada, did therapy in Lindsay and Peterborough, and made house calls. But COVID hit, shutting down the public pools where she practiced her trade.

“So, that’s when I said, ‘okay, it’s time now or never to put this together. And, so, I did it.”

She elaborates about the “hiccups.” COVID supply chain issues wreaked havoc with getting the materials she needed to build the pool and the building that houses it. The delays required, “patience, perseverance and persistence,” she says.

Then she suffered the concussion when she was rear-ended in her vehicle. She took about four months off of work. She came back and started seeing clients the first week of February 2022.

Through it all, she never let go of a dream. “I always wanted a pool for my kids and we don’t live on the lake. Swimming is very fun and I’m a water baby myself. And so, I just thought, why not do it here? I felt I could see more people, cater more to the local people ... because I told myself, I live here, I play here, I would love to work here.”

She visited other pools in her practise, so she knew what she wanted and did not want. She was the general contractor, with help from her husband and a team they assembled. They received the custom building in pieces and had to figure out the jigsaw puzzle.

As for clients, Collins said up to starting her



Audrey Collins helps Juston Hutchinson stand in the water. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

own business, she worked mainly with motor vehicle accident victims. It’s shifted to more stroke victims.

She said the challenges, particularly her concussion, have given her a better understanding when working with clients who have had traumatic brain injuries.

“I want people to see that it’s still possible.

If you believe. If you persist. It will happen. Right?

“It was a very long journey but I’m happy that I went through this journey because I grew a lot from that. And I’ve learned a lot from it. So, there’s a lot of positives coming out of it.”

Contact her at 705-457-6323.

## Is your financial plan and portfolio ready for 2023?

If market volatility has been on your mind it might be time for a second opinion.



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## Regehr wants to give voice to County's issues

By Mike Baker

Tom Regehr is living proof that, with a little bit of self-love and outside care, anyone can turn their life around.

Recently hired by a small working group in Haliburton County committed to addressing issues surrounding homelessness, mental health, and substance abuse, Regehr has the kind of lived experience that enables him to connect with some of society's most disenfranchised citizens. For 25 years, he has travelled across Ontario, positioning himself as a voice for the voiceless when it comes to understanding issues stemming from deep-rooted trauma.

"I've had success because I've been in the exact same position," Regehr told *The Highlander* in a recent interview. "A lot of times, people like me feel like they've been failed by the system. Left behind, with nowhere to turn... now I spend a lot of my time showing 'us' that there is a way back."

After being exposed to multiple traumas during his childhood, Regehr turned to drugs and alcohol during his early adult life, seeking an escape from the memories that he said poisoned his mind. Based in Brampton, it wasn't long before he found himself on the streets, where he lived for over six years.

"I was lost, but I didn't know it at the time. I was so messed up, I went two years being completely street entrenched, meaning I didn't see the inside of a building," he said.

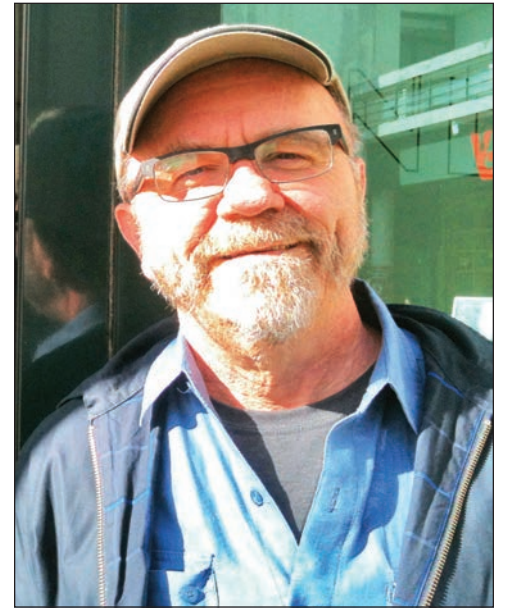
His salvation came in 1994 in the form of a stranger he struck up a random conversation with. He opened up about his struggles and was offered a place to stay for three months. It took some getting used to, and there were several setbacks, but Regehr eventually found his path to sobriety. He has been clean since 1995.

While adjusting to his new life, Regehr decided it wasn't enough for him to simply find a job that helped him pay his way. He wanted to make a difference. In 1999, he was hired by a regional health organization serving Peel and Halton regions to run focus groups designed to "get the voice of the street" and help direct those with troubles towards supports.

While he's honed his craft over the past two decades, the basis of Regehr's work remains. He's been working closely with people like Marg Cox in the Highlands to provide respite to some of the community's most vulnerable people. That collaboration has led to the formation of Voice Haliburton, a new countywide support group designed to bring people of all backgrounds together in a supportive, non-judgmental setting to share their personal stories.

Voice will hold its inaugural meetings next week, Feb. 8 in Haliburton and Feb. 9 in Minden.

"When I was in early recovery, I had an opportunity like this to be with people who are also struggling and I think that experience has been one of the biggest factors in my success," Regehr said. "Just being with other people, not being judged, not with huge, elaborate goals presented from the get-go. Usually there's food available.



Tom Regehr wants to inspire change in Haliburton County. *Submitted.*

"The biggest thing is just showing people that, no matter what, they are not alone. They can find a sense of belonging," he added.

He's spent weeks in the community trying to connect with people, and tell them about Voice, but found Haliburton County is different from other communities he's used to working with in the GTA.

### Drug use rampant

"Drug use is rampant in the County. Class A substances, fentanyl and other opioids, they're everywhere. The one thing that is unique in the County is the lack of a condensed geographical spot for the disenfranchised to gather, which can then give the impression that [homelessness and drug use] isn't really a problem," Regehr said.

He's trying to gently push those that he has encountered towards his sessions and said others can do so by being realistic about what people should expect.

"One thing you don't do is scare them with the idea of an easy, positive future, because there's no such thing for people like me. Saying things like 'just do this, you'll be fine' doesn't work for us. It just alienates us further," he said. "What you try to do is talk very broadly about what they want, what they're working on... most people want to find that path back, sometimes they just don't know it. They almost always have no idea how to do it."

Following these introductory sessions, Regehr said he's planning to run bi-weekly meetings in both of the County's main urban areas. He wants to inspire change one person at a time.

The meeting in Haliburton is Feb. 8 at SIRCH from 6:30 to 9 p.m. and in Minden at the Lions Club from noon until 2:30. A virtual session has also been scheduled Feb. 13 via Zoom from 7 to 9 p.m. To learn more, visit [voicehaliburton.weebly.com](http://voicehaliburton.weebly.com), or email [voice@thecastprojects.ca](mailto:voice@thecastprojects.ca).



# 'High probability' ice racing is back on

By Lisa Gervais

Canadian Automobile Sport Club Ice Racing (CASC) director Brad Elkins jokes that when it comes to the weather, "my crystal ball is malfunctioning." However, he hopes the annual event at the fairgrounds can launch its 2023 season this coming weekend.

They had hoped to kick things off Jan. 21-22, but Elkins said a lack of snow meant the snow banks that line the track are not high enough.

"We are still hoping to race Saturday and Sunday for the next five weekends," he added, which would take the season to March 4-5.

The races were staged last winter - following a two-year pandemic hiatus - although there were still COVID-19 restrictions and competitors and fans had to social-distance.

"People were still nervous," Elkins said. However, "this year, we are allowing passengers in the cars again. We are hoping for more entries. People are travelling more."

The racing director added they are looking forward to the spectators returning too, to watch and enjoy what has become a winter tradition. "Hopefully, we will get a few who are interested enough to give it a try."

Elkins said it's not only important to have a good season for racers and fans, but the local economy as well, as, "I think this series has an economic impact on the area."

He also gave a shout out to the Minden Kin Club for its involvement, saying that without them the races would not happen. "They play a huge part in the races."

Personally, he said he is "looking forward to getting back out there soon."

During the ice races, competitors drive cars outfitted with snow tires or spiked tires around a closed circuit. It requires precise handling and speed control.

Elkins has raced on ice on and off since 1978. He said he enjoys the camaraderie



between competitors. "It's a chance to get outside and do stuff in the winter time," he added.

Andy Rickard, president of the Kin Club of Minden, said racers are "extremely keen to go racing."

Rickard and other Kin Club members create the racetrack. It's built on layers of ice lined by tall snowbanks, twisting and turning much like an asphalt race track.

Rickard agreed the return to racing also means a tourism boost for Minden. Drivers often eat at local restaurants and some stay overnight. "It brings a lot of money into the community," he said.

Organizers hope ice racing can return to Minden on the Feb. 4-5 weekend. *File.*



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**NOTICE**

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS**  
**2023 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS**

**TAKE NOTICE** that Council will begin its 2023 budget deliberations during a **Special Meeting on Wednesday, February 15, 2023** commencing at 9:00 a.m. conducted electronically via web conference.

Council will continue its 2023 Budget Deliberations during its Regular Council Meeting being held on Thursday, February 16, 2023.


**If required**, Council will continue its 2023 budget deliberations during a **Special Meeting on Thursday, February 23, 2023** commencing at 9:00 a.m. conducted electronically via web conference.

**Please Note:** Public participation in meetings of Council, remains virtual at this time. Members of the Public are invited to observe the Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link which can be found on the published Council Meeting Agenda on the Township's website at [www.algonquinhighlands.ca](http://www.algonquinhighlands.ca)


Dated this 1st day of February, 2023.

**Dawn Newhook, Municipal Clerk**  
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## STARS OF THE WEEK



Linus Gervais' strong skating and great perception of the ice motivated him to make some great passes to the neutral zone.



Austin Cunningham won many battles along the boards and in the corners, creating chances in the offensive zone. Photos by Tim Tofflemire.



Jaxon Hurd's hard work in his own zone, clearing the puck to his offensive partners, paid off with many opportunities.



Jaxon Hurd chases down the puck. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

## Sturgeon defeat Storm 4-1

On Saturday, Jan. 28, the Highland Storm U11 Rep Curry Motors team were seeking revenge against Sturgeon Lake.

Sturgeon came out strong again, however, scoring the first goal at the nine-minute mark of the first period.

The Storm's Grayson Park quickly retaliated with an unassisted goal.

The Storm battled hard in the second, but couldn't prevent Sturgeon from scoring two more goals.

The Storm kept playing hard throughout the third period, only allowing one goal on Kolby Hogg.

The final score was 4-1 for Sturgeon. (Submitted).



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Top: Goalie Kolby Hogg eyes up the puck and play. Bottom: Kelson Bagshaw competes hard for the puck.  
Photos by Lisa Gervais.

## SCOREBOARD

<b>Jan. 24</b> U13 Walker's Heating & Cooling Vs Kawartha 5-2 W	U11 Car Quest Vs Huntsville 6-3 W
<b>Jan. 26</b> U11 Curry Chevrolet Vs Sturgeon 2-7 L	U15 Haliburton Timber Mart Vs Durham 0-3 L
U13 Cheryl Smith RE/MAX vs Minden Pharmasave 3-2 W	<b>Jan. 29</b> U9 Cottage Country Building Supplies Vs Almaguin 6-7 L
<b>Jan. 27</b> U15 Haliburton TimberMart Vs Durham 1-2 L	U15 Sharp Electric Vs Parry Sound 4-3 W
U13 Minden Pharmasave Vs Almaguin 7-2 W	U18 Tom Prentice & Sons Vs Brock 2-4 L
<b>Jan. 28</b> U11 Curry Chevrolet Vs Sturgeon 1-4 L	U13 Walker's Heating & Cooling took home A championship at Millbrook Winter Classic Tournament.
U13 Cheryl Smith RE/MAX vs Almaguin 8-1 W	U15 Peppermill Steak & Pasta House took home silver at the Norwood Tournament.
U13 Minden Pharmasave Vs Almaguin 4-0 W	U11 Up Right Roofing were A Finalists at the Lake Simcoe Cup Tournament this past weekend.
U9 Cottage Country Building Supplies Vs Huntsville 7-1 W	

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# ‘Diamond in the rough’ Currie big find for Huskies

By Mike Baker

One of the biggest fish available in the lead-up to the OJHL trade deadline, 20-year-old power forward Josh Currie, said it was an easy decision to move north for a chance to win with the Haliburton County Huskies. Acquired Jan. 8 from the OHL’s Kingston Frontenacs, Currie adds another dimension to an already stacked Huskies roster. After playing three seasons of major junior, the big-bodied winger brings a wealth of experience to the hometown team’s forward line.

Currie has made a blistering start, registering nine points in seven games – including a pair of assists in his first start Jan. 9, a 3-2 road win over bitter rivals the Cobourg Cougars.

“His hockey IQ is off the charts. He hadn’t even practiced with the team before that game against Cobourg, but he was finding guys all over the ice,” Ramsay told *The Highlander* following Currie’s debut. “He’s a big, big addition for our team.”

Born and raised in Pickering, Currie grew up playing minor hockey with his hometown Panthers. He was always one of the biggest and most skilled players in his age group, and so, once he turned 13 and was allowed to hit, he transferred to the Toronto Red Wings of the Greater Toronto Hockey League.

Currie stood out playing in the city, catching the eye of scouts looking for the next big thing.

He took inspiration from the likes of Detroit Red Wings legend Pavel Datsyuk and

Washington Capitals sniper Alex Ovechkin, although his favourite player during his formative years might surprise a few people. “I loved watching Wade Belak. He was always fighting and was the first to stand up for his teammates. That really stuck with me,” Currie said.

In 2015, he was a part of the Toronto Nationals team that won the Telus Cup – Canada’s premiere midget AAA championship.

Currie was a sixth-round selection of the North Bay Battalion in the 2018 OHL Priority Selection, playing 84 games with the team across two seasons. After being traded to the Windsor Spitfires during the 2021/22 season, he came within a whisker of having his name etched onto the Ross Robertson Cup, awarded to the OHL champions. The Spitfires lost the championship series 4-3 to the Hamilton Bulldogs.

Currie played 19 games with the Frontenacs this season before joining the Huskies.

“I knew guys like Christian Stevens, Ty Collins, Isaac Sooklal and Zack Terry quite well, so that’s helped with the transition,” Currie said. “I love, too, that we run a major junior schedule up here. It’s just like what I was used to playing in the OHL. We’re at the rink everyday practicing, working out, watching tape.

“This is a close group, and it helps that we’re all focused on the same goal. We want to win a championship this year. We want to go to the Centennial Cup. Can we do it? I think so,” Currie said.



Josh Currie takes a shot during his Huskies debut Jan. 9 against the Cobourg Cougars. OJHL Images.

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# Huskies split weekend games at home

By Lisa Gervais

The Haliburton County Huskies weathered a late Wellington Dukes storm Jan. 28, nipping their South/East Conference rivals 3-2 – to keep them three points ahead of the southern squad in the OJHL standings.

The Huskies got off to a flying start in the home ice tilt. They produced the icebreaker at 13:07 of the first when Marco Iozzo buried his third goal of the season, assisted by Lucas Marshall and Nicholas Dowling.

The hometown team maintained their lead until the midway point of the second, when Wellington's Luke Strickland got one past a stingy Tyler Hodges, with assists from Lucas LaPalm and Ryan Cutler.

But the Dogs were having none of it. Just a little over two minutes later, they converted on a powerplay, with Alex Cunningham firing the puck passed Ethan Morrow for this 14th of the season. Sam Solarino and Iozzo drew the assists.

Then, Hodges came up with his best save of the night, turning away a short-handed breakaway to inspire the local squad and crowd at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena.

After that, it was Leo Serlin's turn, as he buried a shot at 16:18 from Josh Sordo, for his eighth goal of the season, to send the Dogs into the dressing room with a 3-1 lead.

The Dukes showed plenty of pushback in the third. They were rewarded with their second tally at 4:15 from Corbin Roach, assisted by Ryan Smith and Jaxen Boyer.

It was a fast-paced period as the Dukes pushed for the equalizer. During the waning stages of the game, they pulled the goalie and crashed the net but were unable to break Hodges or his defence, who stood firm to give the Dogs their 31st win of the season.

Head coach Ryan Ramsay said it was a big game for second place in the conference.

"We responded well. We showed up for the most part. A big second period. I thought we played a sound game. We had a game plan and they stuck to it. They really bought in to what we were trying to execute for that game and it worked out for us, so that was good."

The coach said Hodges played a solid game Saturday, "made his saves when he needed to, made a couple of big saves for us and was really good."

Goalie Aidan Spooner is still sitting out after receiving a four-game suspension from a Jan. 22 game against the Toronto Junior Canadiens.

## Haliburton vs Burlington

The Huskies were back at it Jan. 28, this time hosting Burlington for a 3 p.m. tilt at the Minden arena.



The Dogs went down 6-3.

They led 3-2 going into the third period on goals by Iozzo (Christian Stevens and Boyd Stahlbaum); Patrick Saini (Ty Collins and Josh Currie) and Saini (Stahlbaum, Stevens).

Burlington tied it at three just 2:26 into the third. The visiting team then blitzed the Huskies, scoring three goals in a 39 second span late in the final frame, including an empty-netter.

Ramsay said the scoreline didn't tell the story of the game, and they played well enough to win.

"It was 3-3 with a minute, 20 seconds left... we played pretty good for the most part." Having said that, the Huskies only recorded six shots in the first period. "Second period, we dominated and played really well. Third period was not bad for the most part. We outshot them, we outplayed them. They had a two-on-one, which was one of our forward's fault for not picking up the two-on-one ... and then another breakdown 20-30 seconds after that and then an empty net goal. Hodges would like to have one or two of those back."

Next up for the Huskies: Feb. 3 versus Wellington on the road; Feb. 4 at home against Caledon (4 p.m.) and Feb. 7 at home against Markham (7:30 p.m.)



Top: Another celly for the Huskies. Bottom: This young Husky, and Isaac Sooklall fan, watches the action rink side. Photos by Lisa Gervais.

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# Dysart kicks off February 28 Days of Fun

By Mike Baker

Dysart et al is kicking off a new month-long celebration through February.

The 28 Days of Fun event is designed to bring families together for a collection of free and inexpensive activities this month. Replacing the popular Frost Festival, which last ran in 2019, it is a chance for people across the municipality to try different activities at their own pace for an opportunity to win some prizes, says Andrea Mueller, the township's recreation coordinator.

"We were looking at ways to get people out and exploring the municipality during the winter. The Frost Festival was a great event; however, we felt it was time for a change," Mueller said. "At first, we discussed promoting a few key events, but then one of our staff suggested 28 activities – one for each day in February, so we ran with the idea."

Passports outlining the various tasks can be picked up at town hall, the Dysart branch of the Haliburton County Public Library, the Haliburton Welcome Centre, and Haliburton Highlands Museum.

Mueller said staff had some fun developing the various activities, which feature several local landmarks. Among those are snowshoeing at Glebe Park, taking a winter picture at the Haliburton Sculpture Forest, visiting the Haliburton fish hatchery, stopping by a local art gallery or studio, and attending the grand opening of the Harcourt outdoor rink – Feb. 5 at 1 p.m.

There's also a slew of features people can complete at home, such as cooking, trying out a winter sport, building a snowman, trying a new craft, and helping a neighbour shovel snow.

Most activities require a stamp, which can be collected by staffers at the various sites, or by taking and submitting a photo.

Activities do not have to be completed in any order. For every four stamps collected or photos submitted, people will earn an entry into the grand prize draw. People can earn a



Andrea Mueller said passports for the 28 Days of Fun can be picked up at Dysart town hall, the library, the Haliburton Welcome Centre, and Haliburton Highlands Museum. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

maximum of seven entries into the draw.

Prizes include a guided adventure from Winterdance Dogsled Tours, a pony ride at South Algonquin Trails and a \$100 gift certificate to a local business of participants' choosing. The contest will run from Feb. 1 to 28, with entries to be received no later than 4 p.m. March 3. Stamped passports can be dropped off at town hall or Haliburton Welcome Centre, while photos can be emailed to [recreation@dysartetal.ca](mailto:recreation@dysartetal.ca), including your name, phone number, date, and activity number.

The draw will take place March 6 live on Facebook.

"Age and ability do not matter, anyone and everyone is welcome to participate," Mueller said. "The more activities you complete, the more you increase your chances to win. We hope that people will embrace this winter

activity, as it is something we would like to offer each year, with a twist on the activities and prizes."

## Coming up

- Razzamataz presents Jam Side Up with the Kif-Kif Sisters Feb. 4 at 10 a.m. The show features flying bunnies and speeding French fries. "These identical twins fight giant pink monsters and practice the art of snacking. The Kif-Kif Sisters mix surprising comedy and audience interaction with enough happiness to make vegetables explode." Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion, Haliburton.

- Hike Haliburton winter edition Feb. 4-5. "The festival is more than just traditional snowshoeing/hiking; heavily integrating the arts, culture, heritage and foodie experiences

to truly showcase the area." See [winter.hikehaliburton.com](http://winter.hikehaliburton.com) for more information.

- Rails End Gallery presents its annual members salon exhibition Feb. 4 to April 1. This year's theme is intersection. Curator Laurie Jones said, "Intersection is a word that brings to mind a crossing, a chance meeting, or perhaps a Venn diagram? Any convergence could be interpreted as a form of "intersection" but it can also refer to a severing of into distinct parts."

- The massacre of most of the Donnelly family, the "Black Donnellys" as they were known, by an angry mob on a cold night in February, 1880 in Lucan, Ontario was a huge story at the time. The Yours Outdoors Speakers Series presents Keith Ross Leckie, author of the book, *Cursed! Blood of the Donnellys*, Feb. 8 at 7 p.m. at the Fish Hatchery on County Road 1.

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FEBRUARY EVENTS

**Feb. 2, 6:30 p.m.**  
Feeling intimidated about learning to use your ukulele? Beginners Ukulele Group is hosting an instrument introduction event at the Minden Hills branch of the Haliburton County Public Library. Bring your ukulele, meet some new people and have fun.

**Feb. 3**  
The Haliburton County Public Library is hosting events at each of its locations for PA Day Fun. There will be drop-in crafts at the Minden Hills branch from 1 to 3:30 p.m., the Dysart branch at 11 a.m. or 2:30 p.m., and the Wilberforce branch at 2:30 p.m.

**Feb. 8, noon to 3 p.m.**  
Back by popular demand, the Haliburton County Public Library is running part two of its jigsaw puzzle swap event at its Stanhope branch. Bring in your gently used puzzles and swap them for a new-to-you puzzle.

**Feb. 10**  
Get crafty at the Wilberforce branch of the Haliburton County Public Library. Adults and seniors are invited to attend a drop-in craft event at 11 a.m., with after-school crafts for children scheduled between 3 and 4 p.m.

**Feb. 11, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Minden Hills Cultural Centre is hosting a Valentine's Day candle making workshop

in partnership with Snuff Candle Co. The workshop is open to all ages. Anyone 15 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Participants are encouraged to wear old clothes, avoid loose sleeves and tie back long hair. Registration is \$45 plus HST per person. For more information, call 705-286-3763 ext. 542, or email [culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca](mailto:culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca).

**Feb. 11**  
Children are invited to drop by their local library branch to create a heart frog craft in celebration of Valentine's Day. Dysart event is scheduled for noon to 4 p.m.; Highland Grove from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Minden Hills from 10 a.m. to noon; and Wilberforce from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Feb. 11, 3 to 5 p.m.**  
Matinee performance by the Nick Russell Standards Trio at Rails End Gallery. Enjoy an afternoon of delight at Haliburton's art-full small hall. Tickets \$35. Call 705-457-2330, or email [info@railsendgallery.com](mailto:info@railsendgallery.com).

**Feb. 14, 2 to 3 p.m.**  
Do you have questions about internet safety? Join Mona Lam-Deslippe at the Dysart branch of the Haliburton County Public Library for a tech help session focusing on passwords. Bring your own device to get help tailored to you.

**Have a non-profit event you want included? email [mike@thehighlander.ca](mailto: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. \$1,000 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.

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**MINDEN BRANCH**  
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**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. Open darts 7 p.m. • **Wed:** First of the month Big Buck Bid Euchre 10 a.m. \$15.00 p.p. • **Sat:** Music and Meat Roll, music starts at 2 p.m., meat roll at 3 p.m.

**WILBERFORCE BRANCH**  
**Feb. 3:** open 2 to 9 p.m. Pool at 2 p.m. Fish and chips, chicken fingers and fries 5 to 8 p.m. **Feb. 4:** open 2 to 6 p.m. Meat draw at 3 p.m. **Feb. 5 and 6:** closed **Feb. 7:** closed. Executive meeting at 7 p.m. **Feb. 8:** open 2 to 6 p.m. Darts at 2 p.m. **Feb. 9:** open 2 to 6 p.m. HHHS social rec from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Friday dinners are in jeopardy due to lack of volunteers. Please reach out as soon as possible to help. Young people come out and show the elders how it's done!

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Are you or your loved one navigating the end of life care journey?

Could you benefit from practical daily assistance or emotional, mental, social or spiritual support?

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inceptionalsoul.com



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Certified Personal Support Worker

705-854-2222  
brendabryant131@outlook.com  
@heart.to.heart.home.care

*"Compassion is at the heart of my care."*

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fax: 705.457.1462  
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2nd Floor - Box 648,  
Haliburton ON K0M1S0  
cmillslawyer@hotmail.com  
www.coulsonmills.com

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OBITUARIES



*In Loving Memory of*  
**Janet McGrath**  
*(Resident of West Guilford, Ontario)*

Peacefully at the residence on Monday morning, January 30, 2023, in her 89th year. Janet was the only child of Jessie and Harry Carbray, both born in Scotland, emigrated in 1926. Beloved wife of the late Ed McGrath (2009). Dear mother of Kim and Ian Wilson, Beth and Tony Frith, Cathy and Philip Sally, Scott Murray, Ron Murray, and the late Tom McGrath (2015). Caring Grandmother to Ken, Jan, Steve, Doug, Madison, Sylvain, Jenny, Celeste and Trevor, Hugh, Michael, Richard, John, much missed Benjamin Frith (2005) and unlamented Les Wilson (2011). Proud Great-Grandma or GG to Mark, Ben, Roni, Ian, Liam, Jonathan, Madison, Kaylin, Jayse, Kamryn, Electra, Bodhi, Maeve, Nicholas, Tristan, Jayda, and Keira. Predeceased by sister-in-law Margaret McGrath (S.S.J.). Missed by Gary and Margaret McGrath and family cousin, Marie Marozzo and her family. Cousins in Scotland, the Miles family in England, Janet McCabe, and the Harris family of Glasgow, Scotland. The family wishes to say a huge thank you to all of the Nurses, Personal Support Workers, and Doctors for the wonderful care and kindness shown to Mum during her stay in Haliburton Hospital. And a special thank you to April down in Lindsay and Beth, Cheryl, Nicole and Andrea.

**Private Graveside Service**

At Mum's request, no funeral or viewing will take place. After cremation, her ashes will go with Ed's in a place of the family's choosing. In lieu of flowers, please donate to a children's charity, if you wish to remember her. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy.#118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.


*"When I come to the end of the road and the sun has set for me, I want no rites in a gloom filled room. Why cry for a body set free. Miss me a little but not for long. Remember the love we shared. Miss me and let me go and I will finally be able to let Ed go." As Dr. Seuss said, "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."*



SERVICES

DESIGN & INSTALL Septic Systems, site preparations, removal of danger trees. Have skid steer dozer, excavator. Don't wait until spring! For every Septic System completed, will donate \$500. to YWCA & Haliburton Food Bank. Text DW at 705-457-0710

HELP WANTED



## URGENT: WE'RE HIRING – NOW!

### ACCOUNT SUCCESS MANAGER

Patient NEWS is one of the leading dental marketing agencies in North America – located right here in Haliburton! We've been awarded Top 100 Employer status 4 times – it's a great place to work!

Our Account Managers are skilled, have at least 4 years experience, and manage strategic digital, website, and direct mail campaigns for our exclusive, dentist-only, clients.

Candidate will be systems savvy with experience in marketing, business intelligence, various software platforms and have the ability to discuss key performance metrics and ROI with business owners. Marketing agency or dental industry experience a bonus.

Position can be remote, hybrid or in-office.

Send resume and cover letter to VP Service, [jwebster@patientnews.com](mailto:jwebster@patientnews.com).

# HALIBURTON BUS LINES



## CURRENTLY HIRING SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS IN YOUR AREA.

School bus drivers earn a steady and rewarding part-time income. We provide friendly, professional training. This is a perfect opportunity for retirees, at-home parents and for persons with flexible hours who are looking to supplement their income. All school bus drivers must be available from Monday to Friday between approximately 7:00AM to 9:00AM and 3:00PM to 5:00PM, (September to June) on school days only. Year Round Work is available! We have local and long distance charter work during July and August.



Applicants must have a clean driving record (abstract) and be willing to complete a Vulnerable Sector Search (during application). Signing bonus for drivers with a Class B licence.

*If you are interested in becoming a school bus driver please email [dfreeman@haliburtonbuslines.ca](mailto:dfreeman@haliburtonbuslines.ca) or call our office 705-457-8882.*

**Hyland Taxi DRIVERS - part time or full time - needed for Hyland Taxi. G License for taxi is required. B, C or F License required for 11 passenger van and bus. Call 705-457-9898**

LOOKING FOR WORK

CONSTRUCTION WORKER looking for work. Familiar with all aspects of construction. Mason by trade. Available 7 days a week. Call Shannon 306-317-7073

HELP WANTED

Are you a reporter and photographer - not just somebody who likes to write and got A's in English class for years?

The Highlander is always looking for people who are trained, and have experience in, journalism. That means writing and photographing for newspapers, perhaps some radio journalism experience or even TV.

Ideally, we'd like to find someone who lives in the Highlands and knows a little bit about it. We have a pretty good team already but we know things can change. We like the security of knowing there are some helpers out there if we ever need them.

If that sounds like something you could do, drop a line to publisher Heather Kennedy at [heather@thehighlander.ca](mailto:heather@thehighlander.ca).

Maybe share a published article and a photo, not your favourite high school English paper.

TheHighlander

SOLUTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 2

1	L	E	A	F	S		6	A	S	D	O		10	C	H	U	M		
14	T	O	X	I	C		15	B	L	O	C		16	L	O	R	E		
17	S	N	E	E	R		18	C	O	W	A		19	B	U	N	G	A	
					20	R	E		21	E	S	E	S	N	I	E	C	E	S
22	L	A	W	Y	E	R			25	E	A	N		26	H	O	L		
27	O	S	H		28	C	A	P	P		31	D	E	B	O	N	E		
33	D	A	U	G	H	T	E	R		35	G	A	T	E					
36	E	S	P	O			37	N	A	Y			38	A	M	M	O		
					42	G	R	A	N	D	M		45	A	Q	U	E	E	N
47	W	I	G	O	U	T		50	A	S	O	U		51	G	M	O		
52	R	N	R		53	L	E	A			55	K	A	I	S	E	R		
57	A	D	I	M	E	A	C	O	U	S	I	N							
61	C	O	N	A	R	T	I	S	T			62	L	U	C	R	E		
66	K	O	A	N			67	O	D	I	N		68	E	S	S	E	X	
69	S	R	T	A			70	N	Y	S	E		71	D	E	A	N	S	

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

1	M	I	C	A	S		6	D	R	U	B		10	C	A	M	P				
14	E	N	U	R	E		15	E	U	R	O		16	O	M	I	T				
17	M	U	S	I	C		18	A	L	D	U	O		19	M	O	N	A			
20	O	T	H	E		21	C	H	E		22	K	A	P	U	T					
24	P	E	I		25	P	A	I	R		26	O	F	P	A	N	T	27	S		
28	A	R	O		29	U	N	D		30	L	A	E	R	T	E	S				
31	D	O	N	N	E		32	P	O	L	I		34	I	S	A	W				
					35	D	U	A	L	C	A	R	37	B	S						
38	C	A	S	E		41	V	A	T	S		42	I	O		43	N	I	45	C	
46	O	N	E	F		47	O	O	T		48	E	L	N	I	N	O				
49	P	O	W	E	R	C	O	U	P	L	E		52	A	J	S					
					53	M	E	N	S	A		54	T	A	U		55	E	G	O	S
56	M	A	D	D		57	D	O	U	B	L		59	E	T	A	K	E			
60	S	L	U	E		61	O	R	R	S		62	C	A	R	E	T				
63	N	Y	P	D		64	S	E	N	T		65	G	L	A	S	S				



HELP WANTED



**The Corporation of the County of Haliburton  
Requires a  
Permanent Truck Driver/Equipment Operator**

Truck Driver/Equipment Operators are responsible for the safe operation of heavy equipment such as trucks, backhoes, loaders, and wing plows. This position is responsible for maintaining roads, ditching, excavating culverts, and brushing.

Successful applicants will possess an AZ licence and have experience operating heavy equipment. This position requires an ability to work on call hours and respond to short notice call ins, and good judgment and communication skills. The hourly rate for this unionized CUPE position is \$26.23. This position includes participation in the OMERS defined benefit pension program and employer paid extended health benefits.

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

Please forward your resume to [shume@haliburtoncounty.ca](mailto:shume@haliburtoncounty.ca) no later than February 20th, 2023, at 4:30pm.

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.



**DYSART ET AL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY  
Finance Assistant – Maternity Leave Replacement**

The Municipality of Dysart et al is seeking an energetic individual to join our finance team in the role of Finance Assistant – Maternity Leave Replacement. A detailed job description is available at <https://www.dysartetal.ca/en/municipal-government/careers.aspx> for your review.

Interested applicants may submit their resume and cover letter to Laura Casey at [lcasey@dysartetal.ca](mailto:lcasey@dysartetal.ca), and indicate **Finance Assistant – Maternity Leave** as the subject. Applications must be submitted via email and may be accepted until 4:30 pm on Friday February 10, 2023.

We thank all of 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.

**FOR RENT**

**HALL FOR RENT** – Nice clean, bright space available for training, meetings, and family gatherings. Tables, chairs, and kitchen available. 1/2 day \$75, full day \$125, licensed event \$200. All events are subject to Covid protocols. Call 705-457-9664, or email [hhoa@bellnet.ca](mailto:hhoa@bellnet.ca) Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association, 6712 Gelert Rd, Haliburton

**SELF-CONTAINED STORAGE UNITS** for rent - Industrial Park Road, Various Sizes. Call (705) 457-1224

**4 BEDROOMS FOR RENT** – shared living accommodations. House in the Village of Haliburton. Utilities & internet included. Students welcome. No parking available. References required. Call 705-457-9898

**1 BEDROOM FOR RENT** – includes large living room, shared kitchen, shared bathroom, couch, chair, 60" TV, table & chairs, large fridge. Heat, Hydro & Internet included. Own entrance, parking space, access to Lake Kashagawigamog. Text DW at 705-457-0710

**WANTED**

**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



**SENIOR FINANCIAL  
ANALYST**

As innovative leaders in rural health care delivery, Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) offers the spectrum of services with the goal of achieving improved local access to health services and quality of care for patients, residents and clients. HHHS promotes wellness and provides high quality health services including Primary Care, Hospital Care (Acute In-patient and Emergency Care), Long-term Care, End-of-Life Care, Mental Health and Addictions Care, and an array of Community Support Services on two sites. New investments in community programs, including a Geriatric Assessment and Intervention Network (GAIN) Team, a Palliative Care Community Team, Assisted Living Services for High-Risk Seniors and a Community Physiotherapy Clinic are all focused on supporting the residents of the Haliburton Highlands to stay healthy in their homes for as long as possible.

**POSITION DESCRIPTION:**

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) has an exciting opportunity for a highly motivated, self-starting individual with strong accounting and organizational skills to join the team as our Senior Financial Analyst. Reporting to the Manager, Finance, the Senior Financial Analyst will have responsibility for providing services in relation to accounting, business analysis and management decision support for the overall organization. This includes: general accounting; monthly and quarterly management reporting; meaningful results analysis; government reporting; and annual audits for the organization. They will also play a role in business analysis and management decision support by: creating and maintaining detailed budget models; designing and providing valuable management reports and metrics; working with managers to provide thorough analyses of results against budget and forecast.

**POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Prepares monthly journal entries and analyses
- Prepares consolidated financial statements for various stakeholders
- Prepares quarterly variance reports for stakeholders to facilitate decision making
- Responsible for maintenance of chart of accounts and compliance with financial reporting guidelines
- Involved in budgeting process and support to management
- Provide sound and timely financial and business information to the Finance Manager, CFO, executive leadership team, and clinical programs
- Performs detailed reconciliations
- Monitor, analyze and reconcile variances from approved plan, consolidating remedial action plans to attain budgeted targets and mitigate run rates
- Assist in the preparation of cash flow, working capital and total margin projections and analysis
- Assists in year-end audit • Assists as required in adhoc/ specialized assignments including change management
- Prepare and evaluate key statistical and financial performance indicators

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

To achieve this, the successful candidate must possess:

- Post-secondary degree in a relevant field (e.g. Accounting/Business Administration and/or relevant field)
- Professional Accounting Designation is preferred
- Previous experience in preparing budgets, analyzing financial and related statistical data to identify trends, relationships, and opportunities
- Ontario Health Reporting Standards (OHRS) knowledge and exposure to DADS and NACRS is an asset
- Strong aptitude for analysis, interpretation, and presentation of financial and statistical data
- Ability to take initiative, communicate and embrace challenges
- Sound professional judgment, initiative, and the ability to multi-task and meet tight deadlines
- Experience or knowledge of in-house payroll
- Advanced computer and information systems skills including Excel, Word
- Excellent organization, communication, and interpersonal skills

**SUBMIT RESUME TO: Human Resources  
Haliburton Highlands Health Services  
Box 115, Haliburton, ON, K0M 1S0  
E-mail: [hr@hhhs.ca](mailto:hr@hhhs.ca)  
Fax: 705-457-4609**

**PLEASE QUOTE JOB NUMBER: 2023-10  
DEADLINE TO APPLY: February 15, 2023 @ 1600 Hours**



At the Family Reunion

by Barbara Olson  
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

- Across**
- 1 Ungrammatical NHL team name, for short
  - 6 "\_\_\_ I" ("Me too")
  - 10 Friendly-sounding salmon
  - 14 Like an abusive workplace
  - 15 \_\_\_ Québécois (Blanchet's party)
  - 16 Traditional tales
  - 17 Trademark Elvis expression
  - 18 Ninja Turtle or Bart Simpson cry
  - 20 Some attendees at the Witherspoon family reunion?
  - 22 Mason, Matlock or McBeal
  - 25 Ending with Ecuador or Caesar
  - 26 Stat. day
  - 27 \_\_\_ Kosh, Wisconsin
  - 28 L'il Abner cartoonist Al
  - 31 Use a fillet knife on
  - 33 Scandal at the family reunion?
  - 36 Bruins great Phil, to fans
  - 37 Anti in the House
  - 38 Heat supply?
  - 42 An attendee at the royal family reunion?
  - 47 Totally lose it
  - 50 Without \_\_\_ (penniless)
  - 51 So-called "frankenfood": Abbr.
  - 52 Vacay "activity"
  - 53 "Glee" star \_\_\_ Michele
  - 55 Crusty roll choice
  - 57 Entry fee for some at the family reunion?
  - 61 Subject on the podcast "Swindled"
  - 62 "Filthy" riches
  - 66 Zen riddle on which to meditate
  - 67 Top Viking god
  - 68 British-sounding Lake Erie county
  - 69 Sra., before the wedding
  - 70 Wall St. trading centre
  - 71 Top campus faculty

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
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47	48	49					50					51		
52				53		54			55		56			
57			58				59	60						
61										62		63	64	65
66						67					68			
69						70					71			

- Down**
- 1 Some capts.-to-be
  - 2 At least two geological eras
  - 3 Harpoonist & the \_\_\_ Murderer (B.C. blues/rock duo)
  - 4 Hellish, in a way?
  - 5 Newfoundland \_\_\_ (rum brand)
  - 6 "Sesame Street" topic
  - 7 Gin fizz grape type
  - 8 Seek water with a rod
  - 9 Our country air?
  - 10 Game with Peacock and Plum
  - 11 Word from the Japanese for "group leader"
  - 12 Say "Yes, do it!", say
  - 13 Spot of rubella
  - 19 I.Q. test pioneer Alfred
  - 21 Quod-demonstrandum link
  - 22 Rich ore body
  - 23 Aspirin pills, chemically: Abbr.
  - 24 Tan a hide but good
  - 29 "Milk" man?
  - 30 Pricey brand in a Streep film title
  - 32 Suitor, from the French
  - 34 "Wake Me Up Before You \_\_\_"
  - 35 Spin class settings
  - 39 Memory stick units, for short
  - 40 Web clip gone viral
  - 41 \_\_\_ off (light options)
  - 43 Straight-edge desk item
  - 44 Had fourths, say
  - 45 "No probs" signals
  - 46 Shrunk in fear
  - 47 Smashes (up), as a vehicle
  - 48 Like winter soccer, likely
  - 49 Be visibly amused by
  - 54 Sour or sharp-tasting
  - 56 Not vacant
  - 58 "... \_\_\_ plan, ..." (Panama palindrome)
  - 59 Medical dictionary suffix
  - 60 \_\_\_ Reader (New Age-y zine)
  - 63 Product safety org.
  - 64 Stimp's pooch pal
  - 65 Strait's "All My \_\_\_ Live in Texas"

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stevekerr.denturist@gmail.com  
stevekerrdentureclinic.com

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS								
4	1	6	7	2	8	3	5	9
8	5	2	1	9	3	7	4	6
7	3	9	6	5	4	8	1	2
6	4	5	9	8	7	2	3	1
9	2	7	3	1	6	5	8	4
1	8	3	5	4	2	9	6	7
2	9	8	4	3	1	6	7	5
5	7	4	8	6	9	1	2	3
3	6	1	2	7	5	4	9	8

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they work on  
the sudoku!  
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1 X BATH  
95 FT. FRONTAGE  
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SKYLINE ROAD  
\$299,000



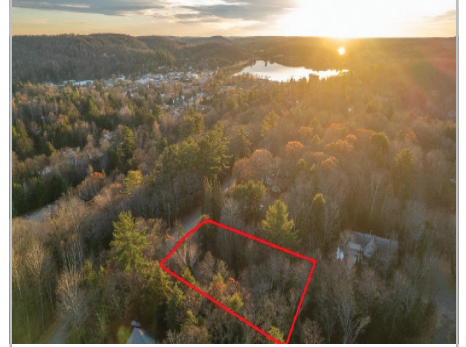
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2 X BATH  
850 SQ.FT  
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\$249,000



GREAT LOCATION  
250+ FT. FRONTAGE  
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5.129 ACRES  
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KC DAM ROAD  
\$650,000



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3 X BATH  
INGROUND POOL  
2321 SQ.FT  
6.4 ACRES  
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Rosemarie was a pleasure to work with. It was clear that she was not interested in finding us \*a\* place, but rather \*the\* place. She went out of her way (quite literally!) to understand our hopes and dreams, and helped us to understand many specifics of cottages and the cottage market that we wouldn't have thought to consider on our own. We couldn't be happier with the place that we've found.

~ G. Schmidt

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