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# THUNDER BAY BUSINESS

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Publication Mail Reg. # 40050324



# NOSM University Honours Excellence in Health Sciences Education

Exceptional health education begins with exceptional educators. As part of its commitment to strengthening the future health workforce across Northern Ontario, NOSM University celebrated the outstanding contributions of health sciences educators.

At the Health Sciences Preceptor Awards, held on Friday, June 12 in Sudbury, 17 registered dietitians, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, audiologists, and speech language pathologists were recognized for their excellence in educating the next gener-

ation of health sciences professionals.

Training health-care professionals in Northern Ontario is a proven recruitment strategy that enhances the health-care workforce. Learners completing NOSM University's Dietetic Practicum Placement, a required component on the pathway to becoming a Registered Dietitian, are more likely to remain in Northern Ontario, with 77% staying in the region after graduation. Visiting physiotherapy, occupational therapy, audiology, and speech language pathology learners complete placements in the North as part of degree programs at universities across Ontario, and many go on to join Northern Ontario's health-care workforce.

This education is made possible by more than 650 preceptors who dedicate their time—much of it on a volunteer basis.

“These preceptors live the values of NOSM University. They strengthen health education right here in the North, and they strive for excellence in teaching, research, and leadership. Their work makes a tangible difference in the health of Northern Ontarians. We are proud to celebrate them with these awards,” says Dr. Michael Green, President, Vice-Chancellor, Dean, and CEO of NOSM University.

Health Sciences preceptors were recognized across five award categories.

## Northern Ambassador

This uniquely Northern award celebrates preceptors who are strong ambassadors for their communities, and who create a welcoming environment for learners.

- Registered dietitian: Janet Drennan, Fort Frances
- Physiotherapist: Riley Waugh, West Nipissing
- Occupational therapist: Lauren McKinley and Lauren Rizzo, Sault Ste. Marie
- Speech language pathologist: Brenda Liddle, Huntsville

## Commitment to Clinical Education

These preceptors frequently and enthusiastically participate in and champion clinical education.

- Registered dietitian: Adriana Bressan, Sault Ste. Marie
- Physiotherapist: Justin Smal, M'Chigeeng First Nation
- Occupational therapist: Valérie Fecteau, Sudbury
- Audiologist: Manon Ethier, Timmins

## Interprofessional Collaborator

These preceptors demonstrate leadership in interprofessional learning and collaboration across health professions.

- Registered dietitian: Jennifer Santerre-Smith, Sudbury
- Physiotherapist: Cam Coulter, Sault Ste. Marie
- Occupational therapist: Carrie-Lynne Basto, Sudbury

## Innovative Preceptor Award

These preceptors embrace innovation in clinical learning. They are prepared to do things differently and innovate to support learners' needs.

- Registered dietitian: Erika Ouellette, Sudbury
- Physiotherapist: Aubrey Arnocky, North Bay
- Speech language pathologist: Carlee Juurakko, Thunder Bay

## Academic Excellence Award

These preceptors help drive scholarly activities, including research, mentorship, and academic instruction.

- Registered dietitian: Alice Haasdyk, Sudbury
- Occupational therapist: Monique Jardine, North Bay

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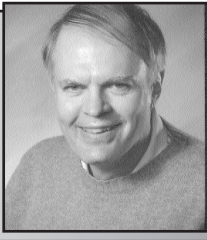
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Note  
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# Proud to be Canadian, Happy Canada Day!

Canada Day is a very important day! Our beautiful country is having a birthday and we should all celebrate!

Canada is an amazing country with very talented people and a strong G7 GDP economy of around \$2.5 CDN trillion. We have very good resources in Canada

water. Canada has a population of 41 million and is the second largest land mass in the world. That alone makes us an extremely unique place. I mean with 8 billion people in the world, you can really understand that we are very lucky to have so much land and clean water. Canada really is a leader in the world,

I was talking to someone recently at the gym and I said to him, Canada is the best country in the world. His immediate comment was yes and Thunder Bay is the best city in Canada. Yes, Thunder Bay is an amazing city and my response was we have Lake Superior, the largest

good goal. You have to be prepared to keep positive. That is definitely a great way of maintaining a good quality of life.

So let's all follow what's happening in the upcoming weeks and months ahead-with change possible, but keep a positive outlook because things will be good especially if we all work together!

**Happy Canada Day!**



ranging from minerals to forestry products to grain agricultural products to

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fresh water body in the world. We have such beauty here in the northwest with so much to offer. There are all the amenities that you would want to have but not live in a more congested large population center say like Toronto, Vancouver or Montreal.

So today I wanted to say Happy Birthday to Canada! Canada has an excellent future, and even though there is quite a bit of turmoil in the world at this particular point in time, I think as we go along things will stabilize, improve and we will thrive.

Politics comes and goes, but the land, the people remain the same. If you have people that care about other people in positions of leadership, they will take their job seriously, and ensure that they respect the feelings, wishes and legal rights of every human being. They will also respect the planet and our environment to try and maintain it for future generations.

One of the beautiful things about Canada is that there is an excellent safety net in place so that almost every human being can expect some quality of life. Yes I know it is not perfect everywhere, including in Thunder Bay, but at least there are people who are making an effort to try to improve things, not make it worse.

Perhaps one of the most important things for us living in this environment today is to maintain a positive attitude. There is so much negativity surrounding us with wall-to-wall coverage with traditional media and social media. Social media can have few guardrails. It can be hard to change the channel on this but it is a

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**AD DESIGNER**

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# HAPPY CANADA DAY

## Canada's Birthday Important Time of the Year!

by Sherry Aalto

### Well, let's start with how I got my name?

Between 1534 and 1542, Jacques Cartier made three voyages across the Atlantic, claiming the land for King Francis I of France. Cartier heard two guides speak the Iroquoian word Kanata, meaning "village." By the 1550's, the name of CANADA began appearing on maps. Then in 1867, The Beginnings of Democracy Democratic institutions developed gradually and peacefully. The first representative assembly was elected in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 1758. Prince Edward Island followed in 1773, New Brunswick in 1785. The Constitutional Act of 1791 divided the Province of Quebec into Upper Canada (later Ontario), which was mainly Loyalist, Protestant and English-speaking, and Lower Canada (later Quebec), heavily Catholic and French-speaking.

The Act also granted to the Canadas, for the first time, legislative assemblies elected by the people. The name Canada also became official at this time and has been used ever since. The Atlantic colonies and the two Canadas were known collectively as British North America.

Then there were a few wars, that were fought on my soil about me! One of the wars was over who was going to control the fur trade in Canada as the market for exporting beaver pelts to Europe was very lucrative business! Then later, there was the problem of which country was going to rule me? That was another issue entirely! I didn't know who was going to be in control of me? Was it going to be the France? Was it going to be Spain? Was it going to be the Americans or Great Britain? Or was it going to be the First Nations? No matter who was the successor, the only thing I could do was watch! And, not through any fault of my own, my winters

are so harsh up here in Canada that, a few poor souls succumb to the conditions of the elements!

Well, on to some good news...I'm proud to say a few important people have brought recognition to me (CANADA) for their contributions for great things! Like, during the war of 1812 when The Duke of Wellington sent some of his best soldiers to defend Canada in 1814. He then chose Bytown (Ottawa) as the endpoint of the Rideau Canal, part of the network of forts to prevent the U.S.A. from invading Canada again. Wellington, who defeated Napoleon in 1815, therefore played a direct role in founding the National Capital.

In 1813, Laura Secord, pioneer wife and mother of five children, made a dangerous, 19 miles, (30 KM), journey on foot to warn Lieutenant James FitzGibbon of a planned American attack. Her bravery

contributed to victory at the Battle of Beavers Dam. She is recognized as a heroine to this day.

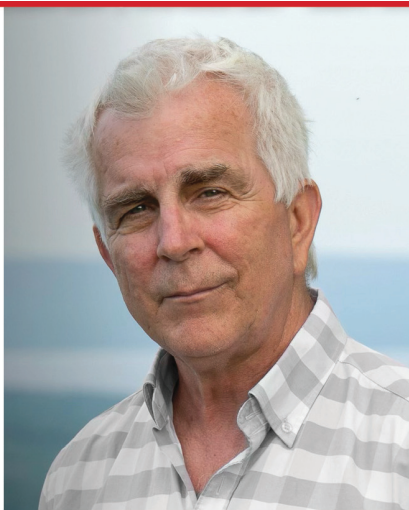
Believing it would be easy to conquer Canada, the United States launched an invasion in June of 1812. The Americans were mistaken! Canadian volunteers and First Nations, including Shawnee, led by Chief Tecumseh, supported the British Troops in Canada's defense. They defeated the American invasion in 1812-1814. Then there was the Rebellions of 1837-38...another episode of turmoil for me! In the 1800's, reformers of Upper and Lower Canada believed that progress towards full democracy was moving too slowly. Some believed that Canada should adopt the Republicans values and even join the United States. When the armed rebellions broke out in the area just outside Montreal and in Toronto, the rebels didn't have enough public support to succeed.

**Continued**



DR. **Marcus Powlowski**

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# HAPPY CANADA DAY

## Canada's Birthday Important Time of the Year!

**Continued**

They were defeated by the British Troops and Canadian Volunteers. Lord Durham, an English reformer sent to report on the rebellions, recommended that Upper and Lower Canada merge and be give "responsible government".

Some reformers, including Sir Etienne-Paschal Tache and Sir George Etienne-Cartier, later became Fathers of Confederation, as did a former member of the voluntary Militia in upper Canada, Sir John A, Macdonald.

Then finally...some great news!! Everyone has been fighting over me...I was really afraid what was going to happen to me!!

So! From 1864 to 1867, representative of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the Province of Canada, with British created two levels of government, Federal and Provincial.

The old Province of Canada was split into

two provinces...Ontario and Quebec, which, together with New Brunswick and Nova Scotia formed the new country called the Dominion of Canada. Each province would elect its' own legislature and have control over such areas as health and education.

The British Parliament passed the British North America Act in 1867. The Dominion of Canada was officially born on July 1, 1867. Until 1982, July 1, was celebrated as Dominion Day to commemorate the day that Canada became a self-governing Dominion. Today it is officially known as Canada Day.

At the time of Confederation, the vote was limited to property-owning adult white males. This was common in most democratic countries at the time. The effort by women to achieve the right to vote is known as the women's suffrage movement. Its founder in Canada was Dr. Emily Stowe, the first Canadian woman to practice medicine in Canada. In 1916, Manitoba became the first province to grant voting rights to women.

In 1917, thanks to the leadership of women such as Dr. Stowe and other suffragettes, the federal government of Sir Robert Borden gave women the right to vote in federal elections — first to nurses at the battle front, then to women who were related to men in active wartime service. In 1918, most Canadian female citizens aged 21 and over were granted the right to vote in federal elections. In 1921 Agnes Macphail, a farmer and teacher, became the first woman MP. Due to the work of Thérèse Casgrain

and others, Quebec granted women the vote in 1940.

Expansion of the Dominion  
 1867 — Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, 1870 — Manitoba, Northwest Territories (N.W.T.), 1871 — British Columbia, 1873 — Prince Edward Island, 1880 — Transfer of the Arctic Islands (to N.W.T.) 1898 — Yukon Territory, 1905 — Alberta, Saskatchewan, 1949 — Newfoundland and Labrador, 1999 — Nunavut



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# Filling the Holes: Clearing up misconceptions about the new Thunder Bay Art Gallery

Op-Ed

By Matthew R. Hills  
Thunder Bay, ON, 2026

As we prepare to transition to the future home of the Thunder Bay Art Gallery on the city's waterfront, we've been aware of a concern from residents: that this project is being fully funded by municipal taxpayers, or that the City of Thunder Bay is contributing upwards of \$80 million to its construc-

tion.

That simply isn't accurate. However, the perception is real, and it deserves a clear and respectful response.

When misunderstandings like this take hold, they don't just distort a single project; they can shape how people feel about their city's priorities, how public dollars are spent, and even how elected officials make decisions on behalf of the community. That's why the Thunder Bay Art Gallery believes it's

important to provide clear, accessible information and to do it in a way that invites conversation rather than conflict.

To help do that, we've launched a new public awareness campaign across the city using a familiar local reference point: potholes. It's a simple comparison, but an important one. Potholes are repaired using your municipal tax dollars. The new Thunder Bay Art Gallery is not.

The City of Thunder Bay has committed a total of \$7.5 million to the project, representing approximately 9.4 per cent of the overall \$75 million capital build. An initial \$5 million was approved in 2017 through the Renew Thunder Bay Infrastructure Fund, which is dedicated specifically to legacy capital projects that enhance the long-term quality of life for residents. The Waterfront Gallery fits squarely within that mandate. To date, \$5 million of the City's total commitment has been provided.

The remainder of the project is being funded through a combination of federal (45%) and provincial (6%) government contributions, as well as private donors and foundations from across Canada. We are currently in the final phase of a nation-wide fundraising and philanthropy strategy to complete the build.

We are deeply grateful for the City of Thunder Bay's continued support and partnership. At the same time, we recognize that confusion about the scale of municipal funding has created concern in the community, and in some cases, has contributed to misunderstandings about City budgeting priorities.

That is not a conversation we want to see based on incorrect information.

The reality is that the Waterfront Gallery is part of a much larger, collaborative investment in Thunder Bay's future. It is also a key piece of the City's broader Waterfront Master Plan, which envisions a vibrant, year-round destination that supports tourism, local business growth, and a vibrant public life along the shoreline.

Cultural infrastructure plays a unique role in that vision. It acts as a catalyst, drawing people to the waterfront, supporting surrounding businesses, and helping attract investment that would not otherwise come to the city. Operations of the new gallery have an economic benefit of \$4.5 million in

our city, and \$5.7 million in the broader province. In our case, our building has also helped unlock significant funding from other levels of government and private partners, bringing new dollars into Thunder Bay that extend far beyond the municipal contribution.

This is not a project that competes with core City services. It is one that complements them and helps to attract more municipal taxpayers to the city to live, work, and do business.

We also recognize that how we communicate matters just as much as what we build. That is why this campaign leans into humour and familiar local imagery. It is meant to be approachable, not promotional; informative, not defensive.

At its heart, this is about trust and transparency.

We want our community to feel confident in the work being done on the new gallery, to ensure that the conversation around municipal support is grounded in accurate information. When people have the facts, they are better able to engage in meaningful discussions about the kind of city they want to build together.

Connection and responsiveness to community is a hallmark of the ways in which we have succeeded over our 50-year history. We are proud of what is being created on the waterfront. More importantly, we are proud that it is being built in partnership with governments, with private supporters, and with the community itself.

Thunder Bay is investing in its future in many ways at once: through essential services, through infrastructure renewal, and through projects that help define who we are and how we are seen. The new Art Gallery is one part of that broader story.

And like any good public project, it should be understood clearly, supported honestly, and discussed openly.

## Editors Note

The Thunder Bay Art Gallery have recently announced a temporary 3 month pause on construction to conduct a comprehensive review of the projects scope, budget, schedule and delivery approach.



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# New Chippewa Park Pavilion Building for Carousel - July Feature



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## Chippewa Park Carousel Pavilion Nearing Completion

BY SCOTT A. SUMNER  
*Thunder Bay BUSINESS*

Chippewa Park has quite a history!

Chippewa Park officially opened July 15th 1921 and there was no road access at that time.

“The official party came by boat and the mayor of the day showed off how safe the swimming area was by walking out in the costumes of the day to show it was very shallow.” said Iain Angus of the Friends Of Chippewa organization.

The tourist camp then had 36 cabins, including 18 log cabins for 4 to 6 people and another 18 smaller cabins for couples.

“We added an RV park as well as rental cottages on the Chippewa Beach and those were a mixture of framed building and log framed canvas. Each summer you would have to come back and apply again to get it for the summer.” said Iain.

The formal park was expanded and these were removed and relocated. There were 88 lease holders who had cottages as well which were removed by city council back then. That meant many of those peoples children and grandchildren who used to use the services of Chippewas were gone according to Iain Angus..

The Friends of Chippewas organization has been around now for 25 years. Iain Angus and Larry Grace were the two founders. It was recommended to have a Friends organization for Chippewas by the Thunder Bay City Council then.



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# New Chippewa Park Pavilion Building for Carousel - July Feature



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## Chippewa Park Carousel Pavilion Nearing Completion



Continued

“ We pulled together as group, got charitable status and went to council to let them know we existed. That council then gave us \$100,000 and said go see what you can do with it. That forced us to go from being an advocacy group to a doing group, which we hadn’t planned for,” laughs Iain Angus. “ Over the years we have raised and invested over \$19 million dollars in this park. Most of it is Federal and Provincial. About 25% is Municipal, with some private sector and personal donations. The city put about \$ 3 million of the \$ 19 million, so got a good bargain from us.”



Congratulations, M Builds, on completion of the Chippewa Park Pavilion Carousel Building.

“ The historic carousel was always outdoors at Chippewa. The Parks then board bought the carousel in 1934, used from a company in Fort Erie, Ontario that went under. They got it for about \$1800 dollars and spent the winter refurbishing it. It was located down the hill from here for 1935 to 1967 and in it’s long term spot from 1968 forward until today.” said Iain.

“ The parks staff identified that the carousel needed major overhaul. Our consultant said the parks staff had did good work over the years to keep the horses salvageable until today. The Parks staff tried to get funding to send the horses away to get refurbished but they didn’t get any traction, there were too many other priorities with their system.”

Continued



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## New Chippewa Park Pavilion Building for Carousel - July Feature



# Chippewa Park Carousel Pavilion Nearing Completion

### Continued

“The Friends of Chippewa were able to get \$100,000 from the Canada 150 fund, so we hired consultant Lisa Parr who has done over a thousand similar restorations. She wrote a manual for us down to the smallest detail including a specific stripper to remove the paint. We put out tenders to do stripping and restoration and embarked on a fundraising campaign.” said Iain Angus.

The Thunder Bay Carvers, a group of about 25 people, wanted to get involved and have put in close to \$700,000 of their labour. They recarved all of the dragons and branches, flowers and rounding boards. They also built new chariots according to Iain Angus.

Superior Collegiate also came on board and painted the 16 iconic scenes on the rounder boards.

It really has been a community effort and we are also close to the end noted Iain.

“The new Carousel Building is climate controlled with fire suppression so it has protection from the environment. Expansion and contraction was always a problem and this will reduce the incidence of cracking etc. We can program it better and run it in the winter. Also we now have two washrooms, which are the first year round washrooms at Chippewa ever. We can have other events here.” said Angus. “I worked it out to 800 person hours twice a year to store and re-install the horses each season. Now this will allow the park staff to put to use that time elsewhere in the park.”

The original band organ had not worked in over 30 years so the Friends of

Chippewa found a company that did restorations in Southern Ontario.

“In the past some women who were connected to Chippewa would take home horses in the winter time and paint them. They would come out on Sunday, pick up a horse and put it in the back of their car, work on it for a few weeks and bring it back in 1945.” smiled Iain Angus.

**I asked Werner Schoor, Supervisor of Parks and Open Space Planning some questions on the project.**

“It is not necessarily a traditional Parks project, building an enclosure for a carousel, but it is quite interesting. The Friends of Chippewa had the financial resources, energy and where with all to restore the horses, so it was really important to protect them from the weather and not to have to set up and dismantle, then store them each year. That alone could cause damage so we thought having them protected all year round seemed like a good idea for the future.”

“We made the building climate controlled with a HVAC system that keeps

the pressure and humidity constant. That is why we opted not to have it more open.”

“We worked hard with contractor M Builds to try and maximize the funds we had creatively. For example we couldn't afford full panel windows, but the idea came from the architect to sort of stagger them to mirror the idea of the carousel going up and down which changes the character of the building.”

**Continued**

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# New Chippewa Park Pavilion Building for Carousel - July Feature



## Chippewa Park Carousel Pavilion Nearing Completion

Continued

“It is a fairly big project for us, something over \$2 million. Having the ability to have

the carousel looked at all year round is important. You can come to the park and see it through the windows with the light and pattern from the outside.”

“We want to make Chippewa more green- with less asphalt and gravel to vegetata- tion- to allow people to come and hang out.”

the winter. People will be able to look in and see the glazing.”

**When did the project start?**

“The project started in the fall of 2025 so they could work over the winter. M Builds have about another month of interior work and will then start bringing in the carousel. We are hoping for a September opening. It

**I asked Guy Walter who is the Supervisor of Landscape Architecture and Horticulture City of Thunder Bay**



**Iain Angus, Friends of Chippewa, Guy Walter Supervisor of Landscape Architecture and Horticulture City of Thunder Bay, Devon Ryan, Site Superintendent M Builds, Werner Schoor, Supervisor of Parks and Open Space Planning City of Thunder Bay**

**some questions on the carousel project.**

“It is going to give people access to the carousel all year round, not packed away and put in storage. We are looking at doing a fair bit of work around the enclosure to bring back the historic landscape we used to have around here. That will really help getting people closer to it.”

“The building seems to blend well with the cedar, the columns, the posts and the colour of the siding with some contrast with the black to give a bit more modern look. You will be able to see it visually with light coming out in the evening and in

has to be supervised and inspected and having the drawings renewed and certified. We are working with the contractor to get through that.”

“The project is going to be a success and is an asset. It will improve the persons experience when arriving at the Chippewa waterfront moving towards the beach and the water. The carousel will have a direct relationship. The infrastructure will allow us to create a more dynamic space with a lot more animation. We are also using all the materials obtained during the construction to be part of the landscape.”



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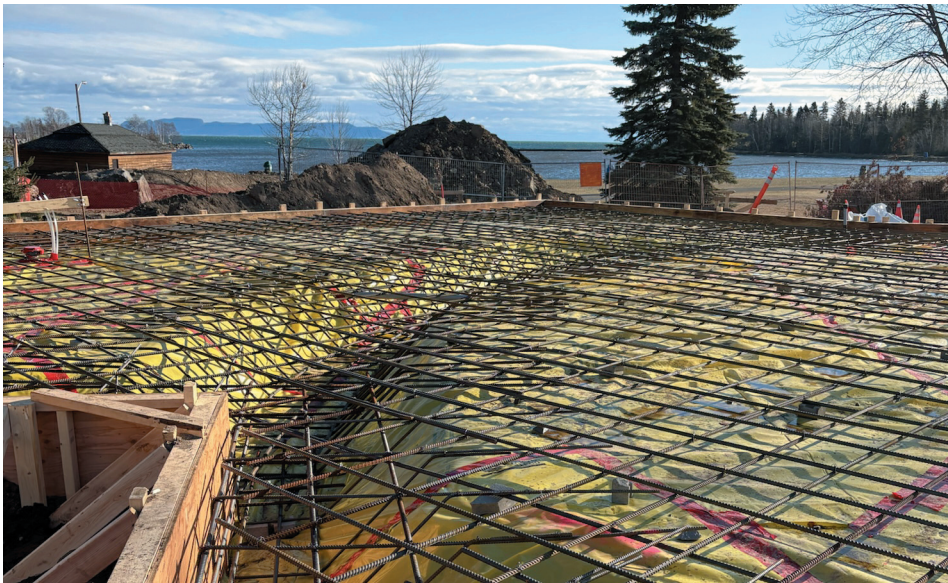
# New Chippewa Park Pavilion Building for Carousel - July Feature



## Chippewa Park Carousel Pavilion Construction

BY SCOTT A. SUMNER  
*Thunder Bay BUSINESS*

I asked Peter Belluz, Principal of contractor M Builds, some questions on the Chippewa project.



**1. This is a very interesting project with I am sure had some unique aspects to the work. How did your work begin and what were the steps in the process?**

“ M Builds involvement in the Chippewa Park Carousel Enclosure Building started last summer, when the City of Thunder Bay advertised a tender call for a Design Build contract for a design and construction team to provide an enclosure for the historic Carousel at Chippewa Park. This project immediately caught the attention of everyone in our M Builds office. The debate began about how best to pro-

vide a unique enclosure building, at a cost that the City of Thunder Bay could afford.”

“ Normally, design build contracts are used for simple projects that designers and contractors have repeated many

times before, for example like a warehouse and the designers use their skills to make the design as lean as possible. This project was different, and promised an opportunity for the M Builds designers to use their skills to create a one of a kind, unique structure.

“ The City mandated the building be very tall and asked for a 6 feet of clearance from the highest point of the peak of the Carousel. How best to accommodate the super tall building? Do we use high walls and a flat roof, or do we try to keep the walls shorter and provide some of the height with a sloping roof structure? M Builds drafted several options. We consulted with our Architect, Candace from f-Blok

Architecture. Preliminary structural modeling was done by Jesse at Unitized. Robert checked some calculations for the central core ring which is critical to the design. Anthony provided recommendations on the overall scale and aesthetics. The roof in the shape of a segmented cone was born!”

“ As a result of the call for proposals, the City representatives reviewed and liked our design. M Builds worked closely with the City Parks department, and fine tuned the building layout, design and the budget at the early stages of the project. There were many choices of where to actually locate the building at the Chippewa site, and M Builds worked with the City to locate the building where it best met the existing services and the current function the of the Park.”

**2. How did the sub trades perform on this project which may have had some unique aspects to it? Also was working through the winter a challenge?**

“All of the Subtrades were great to work with” says Morgan, Project Manager for M Builds. There was great cooperation and all the men on site respected the work that the other trades performed. However, the real tough part of the job was working continuously through the winter months. This had to be done so that the facility could open this Spring. “This is where Devin and the crew of M Builds carpenters really shined” Morgan.

**Continued**

**Congratulations, M Builds, on the completion  
of the Chippewa Carousel Building!**



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## New Chippewa Park Pavilion Building for Carousel - July Feature



# Chippewa Park Carousel Pavilion Construction

### Continued

“It was not a pleasant task to be working on that huge sloped roof during the winter months, but our guys did it through rain, snow and freezing cold temperatures made worse by a relentless wind coming in off Lake Superior. The progress was quite slower working the winter like that, but we got the job finished on time and with no safety issues, which is the most important aspect of the work”.

### 3. Overall how do you feel about the final project results to date?

“The final product is something that we can all be proud of. The spaciousness of the interior roof design and the viewing angles into the Carousel from the Workshop areas and out on to Lake Superior are second to none. The building is highly energy efficient with robust heating and cooling systems and a humidity control system to help protect the Carousel itself. The finishes and wood accents on the inte-

rior blend in with the Park surroundings. The design has provided comfortable washrooms right on site and the direct access to the main Pavilion Building provides good accessibility for all visitors to the park.

“In a typical design-build project, there is always give and take” comments Peter Belluz, Principal of M Builds. “Working with the City of Thunder Bay representatives Werner and Guy and Cory and Ian diligently at the out-

set of the project gave the project a sound start and helped to ensure the project was completed not only on time, but in accordance with everyone’s list of must haves which has made the project a great success”.

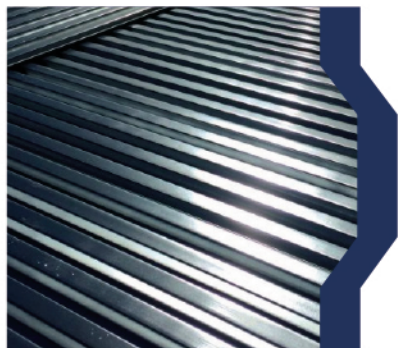


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## New Chippewa Park Pavilion Building for Carousel - July Feature



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# Chippewa Park History

### Location, Size and Use

Opened on July 15, 1921, Chippewa Park is a regional park located on City Road in Thunder Bay. It is approximately 270.1 acres large.

#### Major Features

- Deed signed between Indian Affairs and the City of Fort William, 1917
- Mission Site renamed "Chippewa Park," July 6, 1921
- The park opened with a picnic, July 15, 1921
- Bandstand constructed on the Chippewa Park waterfront, 1924
- Merry-Go-Round, the first of Chippewa Park's amusement rides, purchased 1926
- A 125-foot-long dock constructed, 1931
- First log cabin built, 1932
- Second (replacement) Merry-Go-Round, 1934
- Roller coaster, tilt-a-whirl, large cable ride, and bumper car arena, 1967

#### Land Acquisition

In 1922, the land for Chippewa Park (270.1 acres) was purchased from Indian Affairs for \$25,000.

#### Historical Highlights:

- On December 29, 1917, the Fort William Band of Indians signed a deed, giving 270.1 acres of land to the Crown, who in turn sold it to the City of Fort William. The City paid \$25,000 for the land.
- On July 6, 1921, the park was formally named "Chippewa Park." The name refers to the original

inhabitants and owners of that land.

- On July 15, 1921, a picnic, hosted by Mayor Dennis and his wife, celebrated the park's opening. Gay Page of the Times-Journal and Chairman W. A. Dowler of the Parks Board were also in attendance.
- Throughout 1920-1922, park land was cleared. Chippewa Park was bustling between 1921 and 1922: the Parks Board signed a 21-year lease with the Canadian National Railway for the use of the waterfront

land, playground equipment was updated, camping and tenting opportunities were made available to the public, and Chippewa Park's first superintendent, Mr. Merrifield, was instated.

- In 1923, the Chippewa Park Zoo was founded with a donation of two squirrels and one raccoon. By the end of the year, it had an owl, pheasants, another raccoon, and buffalo.
- Building continued at Chippewa Park, and by the end of

1924 it had: six cottages, a dining hall, a refreshment booth, a dance hall, a bath house, and a warehouse. A rooming house, called "The Lodge" was also constructed that year.

- A wooden bandstand was constructed on a small island in 1924. The resilient bandstand stood until 1954.

### Continued

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## Chippewa Park History

sContinued

• The City of Fort William began leasing lots for summer

cottages in 1925. Campers began building cottages on Sandy Beach in the late 1920s.

• In 1926, the Public Utilities Commission purchased a merry-go-round for Chippewa Park. The Parks Board began operating it the following year. Children lined up eager to pay their nickel for three rides.

• By 1932, Chippewa

good-natured brown bear, named Teddy, in 1931. Teddy had a flair for showmanship and a love of peanuts: "Teddy could catch and swallow the peanut and dispose of the shell in one single graceful movement."

• In 1945, the Fort

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Park had 18 furnished log cabins and 18 summer cottages that were available to the public.

• In 1931, a dock was built to promote fishing and boating on Lake Superior. It was so extensively used that in 1932 the Parks Board extended it a further 400 feet.

• The Winnipeg Assiniboine Zoo donated a large,

William Yacht Club built a clubhouse on park property. This building was later sold to the Parks Board to be used as a toboggan chalet, in 1963.

• The zoo welcomed new additions – a golden eagle, silver fox, black squirrels, and goldfish – in 1946.

Continued

# New Chippewa Park Pavilion Building for Carousel - July Feature



## Chippewa Park History

### Continued

The zoo underwent significant development in 1953, and de-accessioned large animals in favour of smaller animals native to Northern Ontario. This plan did not last long, and was scrapped completely when the Chippewa Zoo took in a polar bear cub named Snowball in 1956.

train.

In 1961, Chippewa Park began a five-year development program. Improvements included: the addition of drinking water, 4 wash-rooms, new picnic areas, facilities for campers, benches, and paved lots.

In 1967, Chippewa Park was the location of Fort William's first Day Camp.

In 1974, the 10,000 square foot Chippewa zoo was demolished, while a five-year plan to construct a 500,000 square foot animal sanctuary began.

As of 1982, Chippewa Park had 80 tent sites, 60 trailer sites, and 18 original log cabins available for rental.

Continued



In 1960, more rides were added to Chippewa Park. Fritz Altmann operated the Lakehead Express, a miniature train, which opened June 4, 1960. In 1967, the amusement park expanded again: bringing the total to a roller coaster, tilt-a-whirl, airplane rides, boats, tanks, bumping cars, a ferris wheel, boat swings, a merry-go-round, and the

On February 15, 1961, the Parks Board purchased 27.7 acres of waterfront land from the Canadian National Railway.

Chippewa Park was busy on Canada's centennial, July 1, 1967. The festivities included: a fish derby, races, dancing, singing, an Aboriginal performance, and fireworks display.



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## Chippewa Park History

Continued

- The Chippewa Zoo closed its doors as of May 1, 2017

with all animals being relocated to other institutions across the country

- As of 2017 a cam-

paign was launched to restore and protect the Chippewa Carousel

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## New Chippewa Park Pavilion Building for Carousel - July Feature



# Chippewa Park Campground Amenities

- 12 electrical-only RV sites are available at the campground with 15 & 30 amp (water is only available for filling tanks)

- 34 electrical and water RV sites are available with 15, 30, and 50-amp/240 volt electrical service (located along the shore of Whiskey Jack Creek; this area has its own central washroom and shower facilities)

- Tent sites - Approximately 16 tent sites are conveniently located in a wooded area near the main campground building and a large open playfield. Additional sites are situated on grassed areas adjacent to the treed areas. This un-serviced area is also available for group bookings for trailers and tents. This area will hold approximately 40-50 trailers.

- Washrooms and showers are located in central buildings

- Laundry facilities are next to the Community Kitchen

- Community Kitchen includes: picnic tables, two microwaves, two electric ranges and a fridge. There are also two double sinks with hot and cold running water for doing dishes. No cutlery, mugs, glasses or dishes are provided at the campground.

- Pump-out station

- Firewood and ice are available at the main campground office for purchase

- Dump station - The public dump station can be used free of charge by registered Chippewa campers. Non-registered trailers/RVs will be charged a fee.

- Access to Chippewa Beach & Sandy Beach

**Continued**

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## Chippewa Park Campground Amenities

Continued

- Access to Chippewa Park Amusement Rides (cost not included in campground fee) Learn more at [www.thunderbay.ca/parks](http://www.thunderbay.ca/parks) - includes a restored historic Carousel from 1915.
- Visitor Centre with concession and historical display
- Picnic areas & play fields
- Souvenirs for sale in park office



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Luna is looking forward to  
the opening of the Carousel!

## New Chippewa Park Pavilion Building for Carousel - July Feature



# City Launches New Online Option for Park Bookings

As part of the City of Thunder Bay's commitment to improving service delivery and enhancing the customer experience through digital tools, residents can now easily book park space online and avoid making multiple calls to inquire about park availability. This expansion into the portfolio of online City services is part of the City's Digital Strategy, which focuses on bringing more services online for citizens. The new online booking tool also supports the City's ongoing efforts to modernize service delivery, improve accessibility, and strengthen readiness for future growth. Available for bookings of fewer than 500 people, users must first register with PerfectMind, the City's online recreation management portal. Once registered, users can view park listings, read park descriptions, and check availability. Before submitting a booking request, users will be required to answer a few questions. Once a request is received, City staff will be notified and will follow up directly.

"Providing residents with more convenient and accessible ways to connect with City spaces is an important part of improving customer service," said Cory Halvorsen, Manager, Parks & Open Spaces. "This new online park booking option makes it easier for people to access and explore our many available park spaces."

At this time, payments will continue through the City's existing process, as online payment is not yet available through the system.

Residents can learn more and access the park booking tool at:  
[www.thunderbay.ca/parks](http://www.thunderbay.ca/parks)



**Congratulations, Chippewa Park Pavilion  
Carousel Building & M Builds!  
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# Workplace Safety North honours the ground for mine rescue training academy

Ceremony marks milestone in development of world-class training facility in Sudbury

Workplace Safety North (WSN) and Ontario Mine Rescue (OMR) gathered with partners, community leaders, and Indigenous representatives this week to honour the ground where the future Ontario Mine Rescue Training Academy will be built.

The ceremony marked the beginning of the next phase of the project, with site preparation and servicing work scheduled to begin

later this year. A smudging ceremony, led by Sue Roque, Cultural Coordinator with Wahnapiatae First Nation, recognized the significance of the land and the collaborative effort behind the project.

“The Ontario Mine Rescue Training Academy represents an important investment in the future of worker safety and emergency preparedness,” says Mike Parent, WSN President and CEO. “As we prepare this site for development, it is important that we also take time to recognize the land, the

communities connected to it, and the long-term impact this facility will have in strengthening emergency response training in Ontario.”

Expected to open in 2029, the Ontario Mine Rescue Training Academy will be the first of its kind in Canada, providing world-class mine rescue and high-hazard emergency response training. The 124-acre facility will offer specialized training in confined space rescue, live fire exercises, tower and water rescue, and other complex emergency

“Today’s ground honouring marks the transition from vision to reality for a project that will strengthen worker safety and further establish Greater Sudbury as a global leader in mining innovation and safety,” says Paul Lefebvre, Mayor of Sudbury. “This world-class facility will create new opportunities for training, collaboration, and economic growth while attracting talent and expertise from across Canada and around the world. As construction is set to begin, we honour the enduring relationship between Indigenous peoples and this land, acknowl-



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**From left: Mike Parent, Workplace Safety North President and CEO; Sue Roque, Wahnapiatae First Nation Cultural Coordinator; Mayor Paul Lefebvre; Jeff Lang, Workplace Safety and Insurance Board President and CEO; Jamie Roque, Wahnapiatae First Nation Councillor; and Shawn Rideout, Ontario Mine Rescue Chief Mine Rescue Officer.**

response scenarios. The facility will also serve as a key training destination for emergency preparedness and response training beyond the mining sector, supporting a range of emergency response needs across the province.

“This new facility will provide advanced, hands-on training right here in northern Ontario, ensuring mine rescue personnel have access to the specialized skills needed to respond effectively in emergency situations,” says Shawn Rideout, OMR Chief Mine Rescue Officer.

The facility is being supported through a \$125-million investment from the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB), along with the City of Greater Sudbury’s contribution of land for the future facility.

edging its history, its caretakers, and our shared responsibility to steward it with respect, purpose, and commitment for generations to come.”

“Honouring this ground means respecting the history of this place, being thoughtful stewards of the land, and ensuring that what we build here serves all our communities and future generations,” says Jeff Lang, WSIB President and CEO. “The Ontario Mine Rescue Training Academy will help us do that through access to continuous training environments that help people stay safe at work, while serving as an investment in our economy, the Sudbury community, and in the mining industry.”

Partners and community leaders gathered at the Lasalle Boulevard property to honour the ground before development begins later this year.

# Electricity Demand In Ontario is Increasing

Electricity demand in Ontario is increasing. To meet this need, Hydro One, working together with local First Nation partners, will invest in the proposed Greenstone Transmission Line, a 230-kilovolt transmission line that will connect into the existing East-West Tie near Nipigon Bay to a new switching station near Aroland First Nation. The line is expected to be in service by 2032. This investment will allow us to develop critical infrastructure that will create a strong, secure electricity system that will support growth for local businesses and industries while unlocking the potential for new electricity generation opportunities in northern Ontario.

Hydro One is working in collaboration with Waaskoneh Yaabik, a consortium of seven First Nation partners on the line, which include Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek (Lake

Nipigon First Nation), Aroland First Nation, Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek (Sand Point First Nation), Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek (Rocky Bay First Nation), Ginoogaming First Nation, Long Lake #58 First Nation and Red Rock Indian Band.

First Nation partners advocated for the Greenstone Transmission Line, and this milestone is reflective of years of collaboration with Hydro One, First Nation partners and the provincial government to develop a line that will deliver on local priorities, provide additional capacity to the region and improve reliability for northern communities.

Feedback and input help shape all our projects. We want to hear from Indigenous governments, community

members and interested parties to support the development of the project and maintain environmental and cultural integrity to the communities we serve. Hydro One were in Thunder Bay, Geraldton, Beardmore, Nakina and Nipigon to host open houses that allowed community members to learn more about the proposed routes and route alternatives, speak with the project team and share important details

about their community. For more details, visit

[HydroOne.com/Greenstone](http://HydroOne.com/Greenstone).

## THUNDER BAY BUSINESS

### 2026 DEADLINE / PRINTING / DISTRIBUTION DATES

Issue	Ad Copy Deadline 4PM Friday	Printing Deadline Friday	Distribution Date	Topic
February	January 23	January 27	February 1	Financial/Legal
March	February 20	February 24	March 1	Forestry/Mining
April	March 23	March 30	April 1	Transport
May	April 20	April 7	May 2	Construction
June	May 22	May 26	June 1	Report On Thunder Bay
July	June 23	June 27	July 2	Manufacturing
August	July 24	July 28	Aug 1	Environment
September	August 21	August 24	September 2	Education
October	September 21	September 8	October 1	Aboriginal
November	October 23	October 27	November 2	Health/Remembrance Day
December	November 20	November 23	December 2	Technology/Christmas
January	December 18	December 22	January 4	Fitness

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## Dirt Track Racers in Westfort Village!

BY SCOTT A. SUMNER

### Great Outdoors

Always fun meeting some enthusiastic stock car racers who were showing their

cars recently at the Westfort Village.

**Riley Matthews, No 9 A Mod driver and in the day is a heavy equipment mechanic.**

**What is the difference between the various classes of cars?**

“The A Mod has about 200 more HP than an B Mod and we run a 4 link rear suspension. The B mod has a 3 link so ours is a more aggressive rear suspension basically. The body rules are a little different as well. The Super Stock car has a different frame, wheel base, power and rear suspension.”



Riley Matthews, No 9 A Mod driver

**What motor do you use?**

“The motor is a Chevrolet 350 bought from the US which when new are about \$35,000 We also have a Longhorn chassis built in North Carolina.”

**How long have you been racing?**

“I have been racing for 18 years and last year ended up 4th in points at Thunder City. We also do some racing in Superior, Hibbing, Rice Lake, Ogilvie basically Northern Minnesota or Wisconsin. We shoot for 20 to 30 races a year.

**How is it financially racing and how do you enjoy the sport?**

“Heartbeat Hotsauce owns the race car and is our main sponsor. It would be impossible without the sponsors. I have been doing it for so long now and enjoy the rush you get, especially when you have a good run. It's the speed and the competitiveness. We travel in a motorhome and a 24 foot enclosed trailer.”

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## Dirt Track Racers in Westfort Village!

**Continued**  
Nathan Roy Superstock 22R from Gorham Township in Superstock and is a welder by trade.

How have you done in the sport?



Above: Nathan Roy Superstock 22R  
Below: Colby Reed, Midwest Mod number 89

brand new and motors are around \$20,000.”

Colby Reed, Midwest Mod number 89 who is a heavy equipment operator in the day.

How has it gone this year for you on track?

“ This year is number 5 racing for me. It is going well. We are always working to improve. More seat time helps as well. We are in the top 5 or 10. We went to practice in Ogilvie and then went to Superior and Rice Lake at the beginning of the season.”

Tell me about your car?

“ It is about 440 HP and from the US. The chassis is from Canadian Dirt Track here in Thunder Bay. The car can do about 70

“ Last year I got 5th overall and second last week. I love the sport and have a need for speed. The straight stretch at the track means you could be 80 to 90 MPH and you have to hope it hooks up in the corner and grab. The suspension makes a difference.”

Can it be an expensive sport?

“ The Superstock has an over 400 HP engine which comes from the states. A rolling chassis costs around \$20,000 for



to 80MPH on the straight.

How do you go fast around the track?

“ The cars are meant to turn left and it’s all about set up. You have to learn to read the race track.”

# Badanai

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# City of Thunder Bay Makes All Building Permits Available Online

All City of Thunder Bay building permits are now available online, marking a significant milestone in the City's efforts to enhance customer service through digitization.

After recent updates to the City's Property and Permitting Portal, all commercial, industrial, and institu-

tional building permits can now be processed online. The City previously made all residential building permits available online through the portal in 2024.

This latest expansion of online services is part of the City's Digital Strategy, bringing more services online to improve customer service

and streamline municipal processes. With this launch, users can take advantage of new features including 24/7 access to permit applications, online payment, improved email integration, and seamless digital plan submission.

Building Permits are required for virtually all construction activities in the City, including changes to

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

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