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 NorthSuperiorPublishing

 @tbay25  @Scott Sumner

Publication Mail Reg. # 40050324



THUNDER BAY ART GALLERY ENTERS FINAL FUNDRAISING PHASE FOR WATERFRONT

The Thunder Bay Art Gallery is entering its final fundraising phase to raise the remaining \$24 million needed to complete its new waterfront home at Prince Arthur's Landing; a once-in-a-generation cultural legacy project for Northern Ontario. With more than \$51 million already secured through government funding and generous donors, the project is now in its critical

final phase. The Gallery hosted an announcement event today at its current Art Gallery location, followed by hard-hat tours of the construction site, to share updates on one of the region's most significant cultural infrastructure projects.

"This is more than a building; it's a gathering place that reflects who we are as a community," said Matthew R. Hills,



Executive Director of the Thunder Bay Art Gallery. "The new Gallery will be fully accessible, designed for all ages, and home to exhibitions and programs that celebrate Indigenous, regional, and national artists. It will be a space where everyone feels welcome."

City is proud to be a funding partner and to offer other forms of support to this exceptional project."

The new 37,500-square-foot Waterfront Gallery will feature large exhibition galleries, flexible event spaces, classrooms for creative learning, a dedicated children's studio, a café, gift shop, and climate-controlled storage to protect over 1,800 works of art held in trust for the country. Outdoor gathering areas and direct lakefront access will strengthen the Gallery's role as a vibrant cultural hub. New Co-Chairs Shelley Crawford and Dr. John Hodson stated: "The road ahead won't be navigated by small steps—it demands a bold leap from each of us." The Waterfront Gallery is expected to open in 2027 and generate millions in tourism, economic activity, and cultural vibrancy for the region.

ABOUT THE THUNDER BAY ART GALLERY

For nearly 50 years, the Thunder Bay Art Gallery has been Northern Ontario's leading public gallery, with a mandate to exhibit, collect, and support contemporary Indigenous artists and regional creators. The new Waterfront Gallery represents the most significant cultural infrastructure investment in the region in a generation, ensuring the Gallery can serve future audiences with expanded exhibitions, education, and community programming.



Bob Gravelle, Marketing and Matthew R. Hills, Executive Director, Thunder Bay Art

City Manager John Collin underscored the City's commitment, noting, "The new Art Gallery will be an iconic addition to our waterfront—It will be a gathering place to celebrate the arts, celebrate community, and celebrate a thriving waterfront. The

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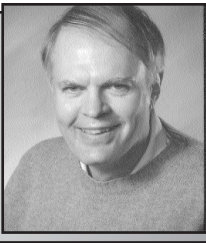
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Publisher's Note Scott Sumner



"Create An Exceptional Life: Mind, Body, Money"

I wanted to share a key takeaway. The book emphasizes the importance of balancing mental well-being, physical health, and financial stability to create a fulfilling life. It suggests:

- 1 **Mind:** Cultivate a positive mindset and visualize your goals.
- 2 **Body:** Follow a balanced diet, engage in regular exercise, and ensure proper rest.
- 3 **Money:** Plan and organize your finances to achieve long-term security.

"Create An Exceptional Life: Mind, Body, Money" is a comprehensive guide aimed at helping individuals improve various aspects of their lives, including mental well-being, physical health, and financial stability. The book provides practical advice, personal anecdotes, and structured plans to help readers achieve their goals and create a fulfilling life. It emphasizes the power of the mind, the importance of physical health, and the neces-

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Miranda van den Berg

Thunder Bay Business is published monthly by:

NORTH SUPERIOR PUBLISHING INC.

tel: (807) 623-2348 fax: (807) 623-7515

email: nspinc@tbaytel.net

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You Can Create an Exceptional Life!

sity of financial planning.

The book is well-organized, covering topics such as mindset, diet, exercise, financial planning, and goal setting. It also includes examples, charts, and forms to help readers track their progress and apply the concepts discussed.

Overall, if you are looking for a self-help book that addresses multiple facets of life improvement in a practical and accessible manner, this book seems to be a good choice.

"Create An Exceptional Life: Mind, Body, Money" suggests several ways to improve physical health, focusing on three main factors: diet, exercise, and rest. Here are the key points:

- 1 **Diet:**
Follow a well-researched food plan like Canada's Food Guide, which recommends:
5-12 servings of grain products per day (bread, cereal, pasta, rice, etc.)
5-10 servings of vegetables and fruits per day
2-4 servings of milk products per day (milk, cheese, yogurt)
2-3 servings of meat or alternatives per day (meat, poultry, fish, eggs, beans, tofu, peanut butter)
Drink 8-10 glasses of water daily to keep the body hydrated and functioning well.
Monitor portion sizes and calorie intake with the help of a dietician.
Keep a daily record of food intake to understand and adjust eating patterns.

- 2 **Exercise:**
Engage in regular cardiovascular exercise to improve heart and lung health. Aim for at least 20-30 minutes of activity, 3-4 times per week.

Include strength training exercises to develop major muscle groups (back, chest, legs, shoulders, arms).

Work with a personal trainer or physiotherapist to design a personalized fitness program.

Ensure exercises are done in the "training zone" by monitoring heart rate to achieve optimal cardiovascular bene-

fits.

- 3 **Rest:**
Establish a consistent

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EXCEPTIONAL
LIFE**
MIND • BODY • MONEY

Scott A. Sumner, M.B.A

sleep routine by going to bed at the same time each night. Create a relaxing pre-sleep routine, such as taking a hot bath, reading, or listening to music.

Avoid stimulants like caffeine, alcohol, and heavy meals before bedtime. Ensure the sleep environment is quiet and dark to promote better sleep quality. By focusing on these three areas, the book aims to help readers improve their physical health, which in turn can enhance their overall quality of life.

Mindset plays a crucial role in influencing personal success, as emphasized in "Create An Exceptional Life: Mind, Body, Money." Here are key points on how mindset can impact your success:

- 1 **Positive Thinking:** A positive mindset helps you approach challenges with optimism and resilience, making it easier to overcome obstacles.
- 2 **Self-Belief:** Believing in your abilities boosts confidence and encourages you to take on new opportunities and risks.
- 3 **Focus and Clarity:** A focused mindset helps you stay clear on your

goals and the steps needed to achieve them.

- 4 **Adaptability:** A growth mindset allows you to learn from failures and adapt to changing circumstances, leading to continuous improvement.

5 **Motivation:** A strong, positive mindset keeps you motivated and driven to pursue your goals, even when faced with setbacks.

6 **Stress Management:** A healthy mindset helps manage stress and maintain mental well-being, which is essential for sustained success. In summary, cultivating a positive and growth-oriented mindset is fundamental to achieving personal success and creating an exceptional life.

It's a great read for anyone looking to improve their overall quality of life!

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Grid Innovation Fund to Pilot New Heat Pump System at Confederation College

Ontario Leveraging New Technologies to Strengthen Electricity Grid in Thunder Bay

MPP Kevin Holland announced that the Independent Electricity System Operator is investing \$3.2 million through the Grid Innovation Fund (GIF) to install and pilot a large-scale electric heat pump and thermal

storage facility at Confederation College. The GIF is a key component of Ontario's Energy for Generations integrated energy plan, which outlines the province's comprehensive strategy to modernize the electricity system and drive economic growth.

"This investment is an important step in strengthening our energy system and ensuring Northwestern Ontario is ready for future



growth. Reliable and affordable electricity is essential for our manufacturing, mining, and forestry sectors to thrive and for new businesses to invest in our region. "said Kevin Holland, MPP for Thunder Bay – Atikokan "By supporting projects like this, our government is helping make Northwestern Ontario a leader in energy innovation and a driving force in Ontario's economy."

Over the next 25 years, Ontario's electricity demand is expected to grow significantly. At the same time, demand for fuels critical to transportation, heating, and industry remains strong. To address this, the province is investing record funds in energy infrastructure, supporting skilled workers and driving economic growth amid uncertainty. The latest funding targets electric transportation, heating, and cooling projects to help reduce costs and enhance grid performance as electric vehicle use and heating needs rise.

"Ontario is leading the way in modernizing our electricity system by investing in cutting-edge technologies that enhance grid reliability and lower energy costs for families and businesses," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines. "Thanks to the leadership of MPP Kevin Holland, this funding for Confederation College's electric heat pump and thermal storage project will reduce costs. This is all apart of Ontario's plan to keep energy affordable, which is why we launched the largest energy savings program in Ontario history."

The Grid Innovation Fund provides funding for innovative pilot projects that explore the potential integration of emerging technologies into Ontario's electricity system. Since 2005, the Grid Innovation Fund has advanced over 290 innovative pilot projects to identify opportunities to achieve electricity bill savings for Ontario ratepayers.

"This project is a powerful example of how collaboration within our community can drive real energy innovation. By working with Confederation College, Powerconsumer, and Blackstone Energy Services, we're building a smarter, more flexible grid that supports Thunder Bay's growth and sustainability goals. Through initiatives like this, Synergy North is helping to shape a cleaner and more resilient energy future for our customers and our community." - says Karla Bailey, Vice President, System Planning, Asset Management & Engineering at Synergy North Corporation

"This innovative project will offer real-time visibility into asset operations, winter peak demand and shaving opportunities, and IESO wholesale level tests for energy and capacity. The modular pilot system also allows for future capacity expansion. We are excited to work with this team of innovators to leverage our blackPAC distributed energy resource management platform, as it will enable a demonstration of what the future of Ontario's smart grid utility and client collaboration may look like."-Tim Schneider, President of Blackstone Energy Services Limited "This investment supports real progress toward a cleaner, more efficient energy future for Northwestern Ontario. Through collaboration with our partners, Confederation College is modernizing its campus systems in ways that will reduce emissions, improve energy efficiency, and deliver long-term cost savings. It's an important step that strengthens both our environmental and financial sustainability while creating hands-on learning opportunities for our students."- Michelle Salo, President, Confederation College

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Pays Plat First Nation and Hydro One Celebrate Launch of Three-Phase Line

New landmark agreements establish a 50-year framework for energy infrastructure and community development.

Following three years of negotiations, Pays Plat First Nation and Hydro One Networks Inc. (HONI) have finalized a series of new agreements covering transmission and distribution infrastructure on reserve and on proposed addition-to-reserve (ATR) lands as the community expands. These landmark agreements establish a framework for collaboration that will guide the relationship for the next 50 years.

For Pays Plat First Nation, the agreements represent years of dedicated work to ensure that energy infrastructure on its lands reflects the Nation's values and priorities. The negotiations were guided by the principle that

much needed electrical capacity to the community. This transformative upgrade will enable new housing developments, support critical infrastructure, create opportunities for small businesses and economic projects, and ensure reliable power for essential services such as healthcare, education, and community facilities.

"This investment in local infrastructure is not just about meeting today's needs; it positions Pays Plat First Nation for future growth and resilience. Reliable, modern energy capacity is a cornerstone of sustainable community development, ensuring that future generations benefit from this long-term partnership," said Chief Mushquash.

Hydro One teams worked closely with Pays Plat First Nation leadership, advisors, and

ship, and Hydro One representatives in attendance. The event marks not only the commencement of the three-phase infrastructure construction but also the start of a new era of collaboration between the partners.

Together, Pays Plat First Nation and Hydro One are demonstrating how respectful nego-

tiation and partnership can deliver tangible benefits for Indigenous communities, the energy sector, and the broader region for the long term.



infrastructure on its lands must not only serve the technical needs of the grid but also advance the social, cultural, and economic aspirations of the community.

"This agreement represents more than just hosting electricity infrastructure in our community," said Chief Mushquash. "It reflects our Nation's determination to ensure the benefits associated with hosting that infrastructure are fair, that future development is guided by our community values, grounded in our rights, and advanced through relationships built on respect. We are proud to begin this next chapter with Hydro One."

At the heart of the new agreement is Hydro One's commitment to expand three-phase power to Pays Plat First Nation and bring

community members throughout the process. The result is not only a series of agreements but also a strengthened relationship rooted in dialogue, respect, and the recognition of rights.

"Hydro One is proud to work alongside Pays Plat First Nation to build a future together rooted in mutual respect and trust," said Matthew Jackson, Vice President, Indigenous Partnerships and Business Development, Hydro One. "These new agreements came as a result of the hard work and guidance of Pays Plat First Nation leadership, and together we have built a stronger, more equitable relationship that will benefit the community for generations to come."

The project launch is being formally celebrated on October 1, 2025, in Pays Plat First Nation, with community members, leader-

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Lakehead University launches President's Public Lecture Series

Lakehead University thought leaders and changemakers are headlining a free public lecture series celebrating learning, discovery, and community.

Launching later this month in honour of Lakehead's 60th anniversary, the President's Public Lecture Series brings timely, thought-provoking conversations to the university's campuses and communities in northwestern and central Ontario, supporting access and encouraging broad participation.

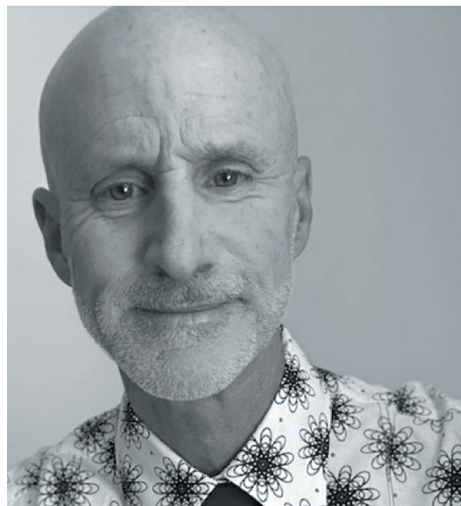
The series also invites community members to reconnect with Lakehead in person — to visit campus, engage with faculty and ideas, and celebrate the spirit of discovery that defines our university.

The six-part series will run from October through June and will feature world-renowned speakers, including Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux, Chair on Truth and Reconciliation, and Faculty of Education professors Dr. Gerald Walton and Dr. Sonia Mastrangelo, with more to be announced. Events will alternate between Lakehead's Thunder Bay and Orillia campuses, with all lectures available via live stream and posted online for on-demand viewing. Most lectures will be held outside of regular business hours to encourage broad community participation.

"We're marking our 60-year history in a way that centres and celebrates those who have supported us from the beginning—by

opening our doors, sharing ideas and knowledge, and most importantly, saying thank you to the communities who built us," stated Dr. Gillian Siddall, President and Vice-Chancellor. "Lakehead's story has always been one of partnership — of what's possible when people come together to imagine a brighter future. This series is an open invitation to the communities we serve to re-engage, reconnect, and imagine what's possible when knowledge is shared freely and widely."

Since 1965, Lakehead University has been deeply rooted in the belief that education



Dr. Gerald Walton

should uplift communities. Over the past six decades, Lakehead has grown into a university known for research excellence, student success, and meaningful engagement with the regions it serves.



Dr. Sonia Mastrangelo

While an estimated 95 per cent of Lakehead's domestic students face barriers to attending university, such as financial need, coming from a rural or remote community, or being the first in their family to pursue post-secondary education, Lakehead's strong graduation rate — the second highest among Ontario's primarily undergraduate universities — changes the life trajectory of its graduates.

"Last year, Lakehead was recognized by Maclean's as Ontario's top primarily undergraduate university — an honour that reflects the outstanding teaching and learning led by our dedicated and talented faculty," explained Dr. Siddall. "Through this lecture series, I'm delighted to introduce the public to some of those individuals. I'm confident you will enjoy these talks — may they spark new ideas, inspiration, and

conversation."

The President's Public Lecture Series is open to anyone interested in learning, challenging, and exploring. Attend in person or virtually.

Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux will host our inaugural lecture live from Lakehead Orillia on Friday, Oct. 24 at 10 a.m. Then, on Thursday, Nov. 20, Dr. Gerald Walton will untangle the roots of bullying and offer advice on addressing these behaviours live from The Agora at Lakehead



Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux

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For more information or to register, visit www.lakeheadu.ca/presidentslectureseries.

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REMEMBRANCE DAY

Special Feature

Thank you to those who fought, and still fight today.



THE COLOUR RED, WEAR IT PROUDLY!!

By Sherry Hanes

WAR!! ... Is never really over!! Is it?

Yes! It is nice to relax in our homes, watch T.V., read this paper or go to our jobs, or venture out over our country, take in the sites and special events and enjoy all that is ours, to embrace, to bask in! We can freely do this while, someone else Stands on Guard for Thee!

How many times a day...a week...or even in a year...do you think of and feel really grateful for your freedom? Do you ever think about how fortunate you are to be living in a country that is basically free from militant enforcement? Are you grateful you can raise your family in a land that prospers and affords education and equality? Do you ever think about how privileged we are to have the lives we do and that WE didn't have to lift a finger to get it

this way? Someone did! And those someones' are the men and women who fought the oppressors of the world! Who fought and continue to fight the bullies who live on our planet! The men and women who gave and give the ultimate gift of their own lives to free ours!!

Be charitable in your actions to express your gratitude. Don't be afraid to see everyone as equal. Don't practice 'contempt' prior to investigation! Don't wait to say 'thank you' to a soldier, man or woman, when you see them out and about! Practice peace. Eliminate disdain for others. Don't stereotype certain ethnic groups... 'individuals' do not represent an entire race or ethnicities, or their intentions! If we wish for peace throughout the world, we must practice principals of peace on our homeland, in our homes and in our communities and in our schools and places

of employment! We must teach our children well so that they will have peace in the land that they will inherit. WE are all soldiers in our homeland, when it comes right down to it and WE should be soldiers of peace or at least we should be practicing that each and every day and in every situation.

WE should be standing together as one, to dissolve all discrimination, all abuses and all acts of oppression! WE should not blame and point fingers, but should all come together and do what is right, not what is easiest! WE must, especially as individuals, take responsibility for our own sake and that of our future families!

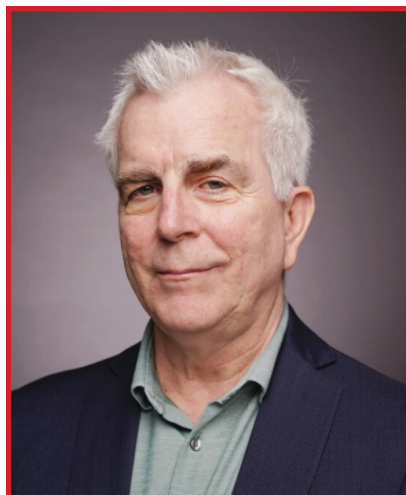
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Thank you to those who fought, and still fight today.



THE COLOUR RED, WEAR IT PROUDLY!!

Continued

The Colour Red. Red is the color of fire and blood, so it is associated with energy, war, danger, strength, power, determination as well as passion, desire, and love. The colour red is incorporated into our National Flag! The colour red is the primary colour of the famed Poppy flower, and is a symbol of Remembrance Day, as depicted in the poem, 'In Flanders Field', by John McCrea, May 1915, during the Great War of 1914-1918, (Belgium - Flanders Field American Cemetery and Memorial, a World War I cemetery on the southeast edge of the town of Waregem, Belgium. Poppy flowers began to grow after the burial of the fallen soldiers. In Flanders Fields, a famous poem about World War I written by Canadian Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae.) The colour red is what we wear to show our support, respect and gratitude to our soldiers here and now and those that have passed. Life is fragile at best! History presents a clear indicator of that! Wear your red as

often as you can! Express your respect! Your support! And your GRATITUDE! And then ... imagine if we hadn't won???? June 6th, 1944! Juno Beach and our Canadian Forces!

Juno or Juno Beach was one of five beaches of the Allied invasion of German-occupied France in the Normandy landings on 6 June 1944 during the Second World War. The beach spanned from Courseulles, a village just east of the British beach Gold, to Saint-Aubin-sur-Mer, just west of the British beach Sword. Taking Juno was the responsibility of the Canadian Army, with sea transport, mine sweeping, and a naval bombardment force provided by the Royal Canadian Navy and the British Royal Navy as well as elements from the Free French, Norwegian, and other Allied navies.

The objectives of the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division on D-Day were to cut the Caen-Bayeux road, seize the Carpiquet airport west of Caen, and form a link between the two British beaches of Gold and Sword on either

side of Juno Beach.

The beach was defended by two battalions of the German 716th Infantry Division, with elements of the 21st Panzer Division held in reserve near Caen.

The invasion plan called for two brigades of the 3rd Canadian Division to land on two beach sectors—Mike and Nan—focusing on Courseulles, Bernières and Saint-Aubin.[a] It was hoped that the preliminary naval and air bombardments would soften up the beach defences and destroy coastal strong points. Close support on the beaches was to be provided by amphibious tanks of the 2nd Canadian Armoured Brigade. Once the landing zones were secured, the plan called for the 9th Canadian Infantry Brigade to land reserve battalions and deploy inland, the Royal Marine commandos to establish contact with the British 3rd Infantry Division on Sword and the 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade to link up with the British 50th Infantry Division on Gold. The 3rd Canadian Division's D-Day objectives were to capture Carpiquet Airfield and reach the

Caen-Bayeux railway line by nightfall.

The landings initially encountered heavy resistance from the German 716th Division; the preliminary bombardment proved less effective than had been hoped, and rough weather forced the first wave to be delayed until 07:35. Several assault companies—notably those of the Royal Winnipeg Rifles and The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada—took heavy casualties in the opening minutes of the first wave. Strength of numbers, coordinated fire support from artillery and armoured squadrons, cleared most of the coastal defences within two hours of landing.

The reserves of the 7th and 8th brigades began deploying at 08:30 (along with the Royal Marines), while the 9th Brigade began its deployment at 11:40. The subsequent push inland towards Carpiquet and the Caen-Bayeux railway line achieved mixed results.

Continued



KEVIN HOLLAND
MPP – Thunder Bay-Atikokan



On this Remembrance Day, we stand together as a nation to remember and honour our Canadian heroes who served with unwavering courage.

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Thank you to those who fought, and still fight today.

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THE COLOUR RED, WEAR IT PROUDLY!!

Continued

The sheer numbers of men and vehicles on the beaches created lengthy delays between the landing of the 9th Brigade and the beginning of substantive attacks to the south. The 7th Brigade encountered heavy initial opposition before pushing south and making contact with the British 50th Division at Creully.

The 8th Brigade encountered heavy resistance from a battalion of the 716th at Tailleville, while the 9th Brigade deployed towards Carpiquet early in the evening. Resistance in Saint-Aubin prevented the Royal Marines from establishing contact with the British 3rd Division on Sword.

When all operations on the Anglo-

Canadian front were ordered to halt at 21:00, by which time The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada had reached its D-Day objective, and the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division had succeeded in pushing farther inland than any other landing force on D-Day.

All the wars, over all the years, have taken more lives than one could actually ever count. War robs us, everyone, all over the world, of a true, pure sense of freedom and security! The threat of war is always present! It can happen without notice! So, our armed forces, STAND ON GUARD FOR THEE! We cannot change the history of war but we can honour those who gave their lives and fought for freedom! And not only fought for we, here at home but also, for those who live and have lived in faraway countries, who could not defend for them-

selves.

Thank all those in the Armed Forces every day, who fought for, and continue

to fight for, what we have today!

FREEDOM!

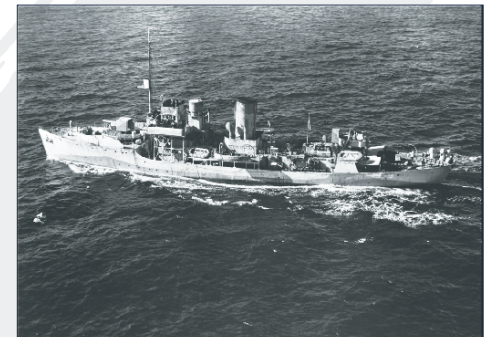


Built at Port Arthur Shipbuilding Company from 1940-1941, the HMCS Oakville was a "corvette" class warship built to act as an escort in the Second World War.

On August 27, 1942 an American Seaplane accompanying the Oakville and her convoy spotted German U-Boat 94 preparing to attack. The plane subsequently dropped many depth charges and a flare to mark the spot. The HMCS Oakville, acting quickly upon the identified ship, headed full speed towards U-94 dropping depth charges of her own along the way. Forced to surface, U-94 prepared to attack but the crew of the Oakville was quicker. The HMCS Oakville rammed the U-Boat 3 times.

Brave Canadian Naval Officers led a boarding party of 11 sailors onto the sinking ship. 26 members of U-94's crew were rescued by the Oakville that night, with the last officer of the Oakville jumping safely back on board just as the tip of U-94 plunged to the bottom of the ocean.

PORT OF THUNDER BAY
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MEN of VALOR
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Two-man boarding party from the Canadian corvette 'Oakville' subdues crew of German sub in Caribbean

Poster by: Hubert Rogers

To the naval officers and countless other Canadians whose bravery ensured our freedom...

We will remember you



Lest We Forget

On Remembrance Day and every day, we pause to honour the courage, service, and sacrifice of those who fought for our freedom.

Patty Hajdu

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PORT CARGO VOLUMES TRENDING AHEAD OF 2024

Grain shipments through the Port of Thunder Bay remained strong in September, with year-to-date volumes tracking approximately 11% higher than the same period in 2024 — an increase of roughly 500,000 metric tonnes.

Grain continues to lead Port activity, supported by global demand and carry-over from the 2024 Prairie harvest.

Overall cargo volumes are also trending ahead of last year, reflecting consistent movement across key sectors.

Port of Thunder Bay handled two breakbulk shipments during the month, receiving inbound steel rail and pipe from Europe for infrastructure projects in Western Canada.



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Thunder Bay Community Auditorium Kicks Off 40th

The Thunder Bay Community Auditorium (TBCA) is turning 40, and it's still our place to applaud. Today, the region's largest performing arts centre officially launched its 40th anniversary season, marking four decades of music, memories, and community. The celebration featured a live performance, the premiere of a new commemorative video, and the announcement of a historical display, all designed to honour the people and stories that have shaped this iconic cultural venue since its doors opened on October 16th, 1985.

"The Thunder Bay Community Auditorium is a cornerstone for arts and culture within our community," said Andrew Edwards, Acting General Manager of the TBCA. "For forty years, audiences from not only Thunder Bay but from across Northwestern Ontario have come together to experience countless live performances,



from concerts and comedy to dance, theatre, and everything in between. This season, we're celebrating it all, and everyone who's ever taken their seat in our beautiful theatre or stepped onto our stage." The launch event opened with a touching tribute to the TBCA's origins. Dancers from Fay Gleeson Dance Studio recreated the very first performance ever held on the TBCA stage: a mime dance choreographed and performed by Fay Gleeson herself at

the 1985 gala opening. The recreation not only honoured Gleeson's legacy, but also her dedication to support community arts in Thunder Bay.

The celebration also featured remarks from TBCA Board President Jason Perrier, and local dance instructor, Maeghan Tofinetti, whose personal connection to the venue spans nearly four decades. "I realized recently that since 1986, I've stepped onto this stage every single year of my life," said Tofinetti, now a dance educator, choreographer, and mother. "It's a special place, a second home for so many of us. My family has been part of the TBCA for generations, and it's a space where the community has always come together to celebrate, perform, and belong."

Guests in attendance also witnessed the raising of a 40th Anniversary flag, symbolizing both the milestone achievement and the continued growth of the TBCA as it enters a new era. The accompanying anniversary video, featured heartfelt interviews with longtime staff and community members including local musician Ted Vaillant, who performed O'Canada on the roof of the building during the Topping Off Ceremony, and Joe Szabo, a lighting technician who has worked at the TBCA since day one.

"The topping off ceremony is a traditional last beam on a building ceremony, and I got asked to put some brass players together. I always bragged that I was the first person to play at the auditorium, even if it was on the roof before they put the walls up. It was exciting—I knew that the significance of the building," explains Vaillant.

"This place defines who I am," said Szabo. "I've worked here for forty years, and when people see me, they say, 'That's Joe from the Auditorium.' It's not just a job, it's been my life. And every time the crowd rises in applause, I feel proud knowing this place belongs to all of us."

Since opening its doors, the TBCA has hosted millions of guests and thousands of



performances, including world-class artists, touring productions, and community traditions like The Nutcracker. It remains one of the finest acoustic halls in Canada, with 1,500 seats, state-of-the-art technical capabilities, and a reputation for excellence that has made it a destination for both artists and audiences.

In 2023, the TBCA transitioned to become a stand-alone non-profit organization, operating independently from the City of Thunder Bay. This shift allows the venue to forge new community partnerships, diversify funding, and ensure its continued sustainability for generations to come. "We're entering an exciting new chapter," added Edwards. "As a community-owned and operated venue, we're more focused than ever on connecting with the people we serve and ensuring that live performance remains accessible, inspiring, and alive in Thunder Bay." Over the coming year, the TBCA will host a full slate of anniversary programming to mark the milestone, including:

- **Community Showcase** – October 29, 2025: A free event to thank the community, featuring local performers Sara Kae, Lockyer Boys, Fay Gleeson Dance Studio, and All the Daze Productions.

- **TBCA Movie Nights** – Various dates: Classic family films shown on the big stage, starting tonight with Hocus Pocus, followed by Rocky IV and Home Alone.

- **Some Kind of Christmas Show** – December 21, 2025: The return of a local holiday tradition and community favourite that captures the spirit of the season with local performers and activities. Also a free event by donation.

- **Major artist announcements and surprises:** Expected throughout the year.

- **New historical lobby display:** To feature memorabilia, and tributes to the artists and audiences who have defined the TBCA's legacy. (Stay tuned for unveiling)

- **The TBCA 40th Anniversary Auction:** Own a piece of the performance, and take home TBCA history. This 40th anniversary fundraiser supports the future of live performance in Thunder Bay and keeps the lights shining bright. Bid on iconic memorabilia and artifacts from the artists and moments that made the TBCA a cultural landmark, with all proceeds supporting the next act. (Launching soon online!)

Community members are invited to join the celebration by attending anniversary events, sharing their personal #MyTBCA memories on social media, and visiting the venue throughout the season to experience the many performances planned in honour of this milestone year. Stay tuned for updates by following the TBCA's official social media pages on Facebook and Instagram.

Collaboration is Key

Mining Social and Economic Benefits in Northern Ontario

Northern Ontario is rich in resources and economic potential. Collaboration between Indigenous communities, corporations, governments, and unions is the key to realizing that potential in a way that benefits everyone.

At the Central Canada Mining Expo (CEN CAN), held in Thunder Bay in mid-September, collaboration to promote eco-

nomie growth, sustainable industry, and thriving communities was a key theme.

Mining companies and governments acknowledge that Indigenous communities must be involved in every step of the process of resource extraction—from planning to construction to operation.

Sharing Benefits, Building Communities

Revenue sharing is one way for companies to acknowledge Indigenous rights and leadership. Indigenous communities provide



valuable input in the environmental and feasibility studies in their lands and territories, giving insight to where trapping lines, sacred sites, and burial grounds are located.

Revenue sharing also contributes to self-determination. When Indigenous councils have the resources to invest in their communities, everyone—both now and in the future—benefits.

Building Careers, Building Futures

Beyond revenue sharing, communities must reap the long-term economic benefits that come from the jobs created by the construction and operation of these mines.

This is where CLAC—an all-Canadian union—can play an important role.

CLAC is committed to building lasting partnerships between mining companies, contractors, and Indigenous communities. When our signatory contractors enter Northern Ontario, we encourage them to look first to the local community for hiring.

At the same time, we recognize there can be barriers. Trade careers have not always been accessible for many Indigenous workers. We are working to change that. With the right training and mentorship, local residents can step into these roles and build rewarding careers—not just for one project, but for subsequent projects within the region and beyond, and within the commu-

nity itself.

The result is flourishing communities, strengthened by skills and self-reliance.

CLAC-Sponsored Trade and Training Programs

CLAC places a strong emphasis on advancing the skilled trades as a viable career option, particularly among Indigenous workers and women.

We partner with community organizations, employers, experienced workers, and apprentices to support successful careers.

CLAC Training offers a wide range of courses that support technical skill-building, leadership development, regulatory compliance, and job site safety.

CLAC Apprenticeship helps apprentices find sponsorship opportunities, aids with apprenticeship registration and progression, understands training requirements, and helps apprentices apply for financial incentives.

CLAC Jobs connects job seekers with opportunities in the construction sector through job-matching, training-to-employment programs, and community partnerships.

CLAC Supporting Women in Trades program provides free tools and services that help women explore and thrive in the skilled trades. These tools are available online and via phone—allowing women in remote areas to take advantage of them in a way that suits their values and lifestyle.

CLAC represents over 60,000 workers in almost every sector. Based on values of respect, dignity, and fairness, CLAC is committed to building better workplaces, better communities, and better lives.

Andrew Regnerus is CLAC's Ontario Construction Coordinator. To learn more about CLAC, check out clac.ca or contact the author at aregnerus@clac.ca.



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THUNDER BAY CHAMBER HOSTS INAUGURAL SMALL BUSINESS SOLUTIONS SUMMIT

The Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce held its inaugural Small Business Solutions Summit on Wednesday October 22, 2025 at the Superior Inn. A collaboration with seven partners: Thunder Bay CEDC, Thunder Bay Ventures, NOIC, Northern Ontario Angels, BDC, NADF and PARO this one-day conference, was designed to bring practical knowledge and expertise to small business owner and operators.

Panel discussions and presentations focused on marketing, human resources, entrepreneurial insights, AI and features luncheon keynote Cherry Rose Tan, author of Still Standing.

Attendees connected with 28 organizations at the trade show who offer services, supplies and expert solutions for small business.

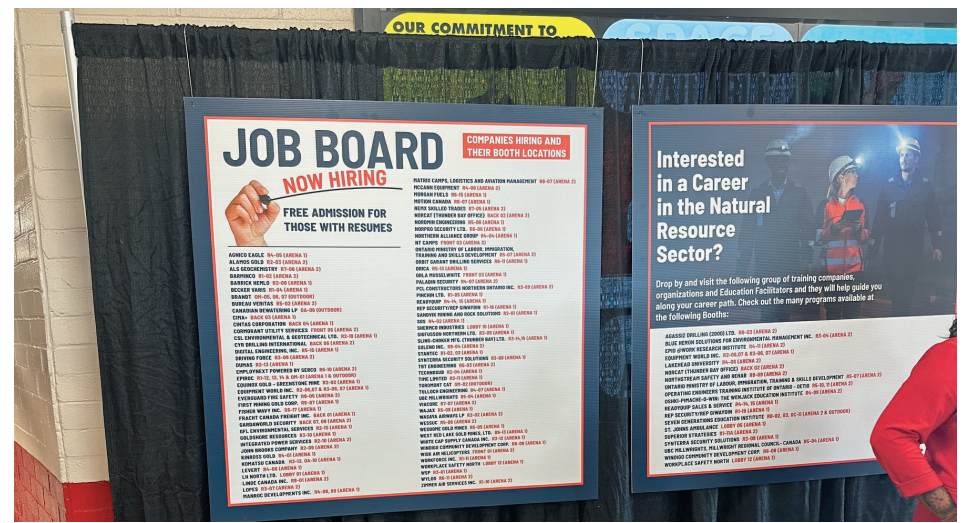
Cherry Rose Tan, Entrepreneur in Residence at Schulich School of Business at York University

"It has been incredible to be here and talk about the game of innovation. Entrepreneurs today are dealing with the amount of change we face and uncertainty. I talk about the three leadership skills- Mindset, Heartset and Skillset we can use to spark things."



"I am more optimistic about today's environment but there are two camps- some that feel overwhelmed say with AI, and the other camp feel it has never been easier to build and ship products or to get meetings with people for example. AI and technology have had a big impact and is a good opportunity for Canada to rally around innovation as we have top AI research in the country. The benefits of AI are about what you want to get from it. There are excellent groups out there to learn about AI together, say on Facebook or other mediums."

Mining Interest in Northwestern Ontario at a High Level!



City Launches New Neighbourhood Services Map

The City of Thunder Bay has launched a new Neighbourhood Services Map, an online interactive tool that helps residents, visitors, and businesses easily find City services, facilities, and community points of interest.

The map brings together a wide range of information into one easy-to-use platform. Users can search by address or zoom in on their neighbourhood to explore nearby amenities such as pools, splash pads, community centres, outdoor rinks, and off-leash dog parks.

“This project is part of our commitment to making City information more accessible, which is in line with our Corporate Digital Strategy,” said Jack Avella, Director of Corporate Information Technology. “By combining data from across the corporation into one interactive map, we’re helping people find what they need quickly and easily.”

The map also includes key public points of interest such as schools, libraries, the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences

Centre, Confederation College, Lakehead University, and the Thunder Bay International Airport.

The project’s goal is to make City information more user-friendly while providing a visual, location-based tool for residents and visitors alike.

Residents are also encouraged to be part of the map’s ongoing development. If users spot an error, missing information, or have a suggestion, they can submit feedback through an

online form.

“This is very much a living tool, and we’ll continue to refine and expand it based on community feedback,” said Shawna Fowlds, GIS & Data Coordinator. “It’s about helping people discover what’s around them and making it easier to connect with their neighbourhood.”

The Neighbourhood Services Map is available at www.thunderbay.ca/ServicesMap



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The 2025/ 2026 Snowmobile Season!

BY SCOTT A. SUMNER
Great Outdoors

As we are fast approaching November, many avid snowmobilers will start to think about the upcoming season. I remember some years ago the golf season would end at the end of October and one week later I would be out riding snowmobile's because we could have early snow in November that tended to stay for the season. The weather would remain consistently cool and snowfall was quite good.

Those days seem to have gone and last year was an exceptionally challenging year for snow here in the Thunder Bay - Northwestern Ontario area. Many snowmobilers that I talk to did not ride their sleds at all last year. The snowmobile trail system adjacent to Thunder Bay never opened throughout the whole season, which is

extremely unusual.

However, there was some snow that came shortly after New Year's, and was rideable for at least to early February. It was basically low snow conditions but for me rideable. Then there also was some snow that came in March with storms then, which if you had



the time to get out, you could ride for several days in a row and get on some kilometers. Last year I was able to get about 300 kms on my snowmobile, which in the old days would be more like 5000 km. We are not able to

predict the weather, but I am hoping that this year we will get a more consistent snow fall for Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario. Timing is extremely important for snow as I remember times last season when rain came as the temperature was just above zero. If it was below zero we would have had a ton of snow then.

I know the snowmobile dealers have a good inventory of sleds available to buy. If the snow comes fairly early and the weather remains cooler, I'm sure they'll sell their sleds very quickly. The low snowfall was really a phenomenon throughout North America as I know that most areas had a little snow except perhaps mountain terrain. I believe snowmobile manufacturers have drastically cut their production this year in order to allow dealers to clear out their current inventories.

Global warming probably had some effect

on this and it also could be a cyclical type thing. I guess only time will tell but I'm hoping for a great snow season as for me my two main sports are snowmobiling and golf and I hope to be able to do both in fairly rapid transition again this year.

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- » We connect job seekers with employers