

# THE EQUITY



## Mushing cultural connections

Timberland Tours hosted over 60 guests from the Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre on Saturday, where they took the dog sleds out for a spin, enjoyed a traditional Inuit meal, and participated in various fun and games. Pictured, Lara Purvis drives the sled carrying Jo Purvis through the track on Saturday morning. See page three for the story and more photos.

Donald Teuma-Castelletti, THE EQUITY



In February, 18-year-old Alexandra Paquette, of Quyon, won two gold medals in archery, at the Canada Games in Red Deer, Alta. Pictured: Paquette pulling back her bow as she aims an arrow at the target.

## Local archery prodigy takes gold at Canada Games

J.D. POTIÉ  
QUYON March 13, 2019

Quyon-raised archery phenomenon Alexandra Paquette is planning on propelling her sharp-shooting talents to the international stage.

After taking home the gold medal in two events at the Canada Games in Red Deer, Alta. this past February, Paquette has cemented herself as one of the best young archers in the country, putting her in a position to compete in global events in the near future.

Despite her many successes of the past and rack of hooks overflowing with medals in her room, she said that nothing in her career has made her happier than being crowned as champion at the Canada Games. She calls it a culmination of seven years of blood, sweat, and sacrifice, which she admits wasn't easy, especially on her parents.

"Getting this gold medal was more important than just winning the nationals," said Paquette. "Mostly because I've been trying to go for seven

years. I've worked so hard, for such a long time to get something and finally got it. Not only do I finally get it, but I got two golds on top of it. It represents seven years in the making."

Despite feeling jetlagged from the two-hour time difference in Alberta during the competition, Paquette said she was certain that nothing in the world could've distracted her from getting the job done.

"When I'm really concentrated, there could be a bomb that goes off beside me and I will not move," said Paquette. "I got that focus thing down pat. A lot of my competitors tell me that when I'm really focused I look intimidating. Well, I guess they mean it in a good way."

Paquette certainly believes it's a good thing. She said that being so focused on one thing keeps everything more lucid, thus allowing her to control the moment instead of letting the opposite manifest itself.

Please see GOLD page two

## Economic SWAT team head not sold on in-person meetings

CALEB NICKERSON  
PONTIAC March 13, 2019

The head of Pontiac's economic SWAT team is questioning the reason for increasing the frequency of meetings, despite a request from MRC Pontiac's council.

Jeffrey MacHan, a Director with the Ministère de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et des Exportations du Québec (MEIE), and chair of the Groupe tactique d'intervention (GTI) – as the SWAT team is officially known – said he would be speaking with MRC officials in the near future.

"I was informed that there was a resolution requesting another meeting but I'm not aware of the details," he said when contacted on March 6, referring to a resolution passed at last month's MRC council meeting, which requested regular, in-person meetings of the entire group.

The GTI was announced back in March 2017, and was the second group of its kind in the province, modelled after a similar group in MRC de Maria-Chapdelaine, a part of Philippe Couillard's former riding of Roberval.

MacHan explained that the group is divid-

ed into subcommittees who, up until December, met or teleconferenced once every two to three weeks. He said that having the entire group physically meet under the same roof would be an inefficient use of resources.

"The work is being accomplished at all times," he said. "There's not really much point in convening 30 people to discuss details that are of a private nature."

He said one of his next objectives is to have a meeting with the MRC's Economic Development Director, Danielle Newman, who started the job in December. He pointed out that there are a host of activities that the group is currently undertaking.

"Phase one was basically to examine all the local files and make sure that nothing has fallen between the cracks," he said. "We accomplished that. We also initiated work with Investment Quebec and the MRC concerning prospecting and that's an ongoing file that the MRC is responsible for."

MacHan was referring to the MRC's hiring of CAI Global, a company that is seeking out investors to invest in the region.

"We came up with about 17 projects, sever-

al were completed during that first two-year period with the support of the MRC or through SADC, but not necessarily through the taskforce," he continued. "The taskforce helped accelerate those projects because it became a priority for the different ministries and agencies that were involved."

He said that phase two would involve continued efforts by the MRC and partner agencies to attract investors and keep abreast of any potential developments.

"Phase two is the prospecting, the foreign direct investment initiatives," he said. "The MRC is working on updating their website and putting together an investor portfolio, which is something that's necessary moving forward."

There is no phase three, and MacHan said that phase two will continue in perpetuity, with the taskforce at the ready to expedite any files that the various partners bring to the table.

MacHan said that the provincial elections didn't affect the performance of the group, and said he has a "green light" from the CAQ to continue the group's mandate.

## Rollover results in minor injuries



CALEB NICKERSON  
CLARENDON March 9, 2019


Emergency crews responded to a vehicle rollover just outside Shawville on March 9 that sent two people to hospital with minor injuries.

According to Sûreté du Québec Sgt. Marc Tessier, the accident occurred around 5 p.m. on Saturday on Chemin de Calumet Est near the intersection with Chemin Draper.

Tessier said the two occupants, a man and a woman, were taken to hospital with minor injuries. He added that the crash occurred at a curve in the road and that speed likely contributed to the accident.

**A vehicle rollover on chemin de Calumet Est in Clarendon on March 9 sent two people to hospital with minor injuries.**

Dave Moore, THE EQUITY



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# PHS Students return from week-long European experience



The trip, organized by PHS had over 40 grade students participating from grades 10 and 11. Pictured: the group of students standing in front of the golden gates at Buckingham Palace.

J.D. POTIÉ  
**SHAWVILLE** March 2, 2019  
Students who participated in Pontiac High School's (PHS) annual trip to Europe are finally back in town, after a fun-filled week of travelling across the Atlantic, seeing many of the continent's historic cities and wonderful sights.  
The trip, which took place over March break, included 41 grade 10 and 11 PHS students as well as six adult chaperones.  
For PHS teacher Serena Menzies, one of the trip's

main organizers and chaperones, the most enjoyable part of the experience was seeing the students immerse themselves in the different environments and learning about foreign cultures and customs.  
"I love exposing the kids to different situations," said Menzies. "To know the different cities, to see them enjoying all the historical values, that they can come see different sights. It's really just a big eye-opener for some of them."  
Starting off in London with a guided tour of the city, vis-

iting sights like the famed London Eye, the group then headed to Paris via train, under the English Channel. In France, the students were fortunate to have the chance to tour the Louvre museum and the Palace of Versailles.  
The group then headed to Milan by overnight train and arrived in Rome, where they saw the Coliseum and other awe-inspiring architecture throughout old Rome, including the Sistine Chapel at the Vatican.  
For Jackson Alexander, a grade 10 student at PHS, the

trip provided him an opportunity to soak-in some long-awaited traveling experience, while gaining knowledge of foreign cultures all the cool things they have to offer.  
"It really opened my world as to what traveling to a foreign country can be like," said Alexander. "It kind of allowed me to get my feet wet, to step in the waters, in terms of being a traveler."  
He added that, while scary for some, the ability to travel is something he wishes everyone could have the opportunity to experience.

"I think the thought of going to a foreign country can be very daunting to some people," he said. "But, it lets you see just how different things are in other places in the world. Life is very different to how we live in Shawville."  
Admittedly enticed to take part in the trip as soon as he heard about the possibility at the beginning of the year, Alexander said the experience exceeded his expectations, and that it invigorated a newly found love for traveling he never thought he had.

The experience gave students a chance to make lasting memories and solidify friendships that will last a long time, according to Menzies. Having organized the trip for the last two years, she said that she's already preparing for the next one.  
"I think it opens their world view," said Menzies. "And I think it also gives them the opportunity to make friends and to meet different people. It's an amazing opportunity to broaden their intellectual and cultural horizons."

# GOLD: Paquette takes home a medal for archery

**Continued from page one**  
Competing in an economically taxing sport like archery, Paquette said she's grateful for the countless sacrifices her father and coach has made for her, over the years, adding that she gave him a very personal special thank you after officially winning the gold in Red Deer.  
"I had written on my card where my name-tag was on my target, I wrote we finally

did it daddy! All the years of work that you've helped me get here, all the years that you've helped me be able to participate in this tournament, it's finally paid off."  
Paquette largely credits her father for her success, as well as getting her into archery.  
After purchasing her first bow when she was six years old, Paquette said she begged him to let her shoot arrows, as soon as she could. Always

determined to participate in the sport, Paquette claims to have taken her first shot on her sixth birthday, which was on a cold, snowy January morning.  
Now 18 years old and seeing her medal count accumulate by the competition, she isn't planning on looking back anytime soon. Instead, she asks herself what's next and what's bigger?  
"Having the gold medal right now, it kind of closes

the door nationally," said Paquette. "But it kind of opens the door to more things. It was kind of that last step to actually move on."  
Paquette said her next step is to compete on the world stage. She's looking at the upcoming world championships and even the Olympics as goals in the making and feels confident about where the sport might take her.

Her only problem right now, is finding a place in her room to display all her medals.  
"I basically need another rack," said Paquette. "There are a lot of medals. I don't know. I've honestly lost count."  
Now, with no concrete roadmap detailing her trajectory, Paquette says she's trying her best to enjoy the journey for as long as it lasts, adding that she's not

intending on retiring any time soon despite the sacrifices she'll need to make.  
"It's something that changes from year to year. People have told me, if you're gonna retire, retire when you're up there," said Paquette. "But, I personally know that my journey is not done. I know that I won't be retiring anytime soon. But I have noticed that it will be a struggle, because I'm in nursing right now."

# Bringing farming to the people

CALEB NICKERSON  
**CAMPBELL'S BAY**  
March 7, 2019  
On March 7, the MRC Pontiac offices were filled with young entrepreneurs and agricultural experts for a seminar on agri-tourism.  
The bilingual session was hosted by Corine Jacob and Charles Séguin of the Table Agroalimentaire de l'Outaouais (TAO). The

evening served to inform local business owners (or potential business owners) what resources they have available to them, as well as offering input for the TAO's 2019-2022 action plan.  
The pair explained what the table has been working on so far, highlighting the Outaouais Gourmet Way, a Partnership with Tourism Outaouais that highlights

various farms and agri-tourism destinations across the region. Séguin noted that they produced a pocket tourist map to be distributed this year, but due to a printing error, the delivery will be delayed.  
Jacob said that they are also currently working on a mobile app that will act as a counterpart.  
"We really hope that it will

be finished for June so it can be used this summer," she said.  
Jacob explained that there is a vetting process for a business to appear on the app, to ensure that users have a pleasurable excursion.  
"It's really easy, we just want to make sure that it's organized and that people will be there," she said, not-

ing that they assess applicants for things like accessibility, on-site bathrooms and the like. "Some people want to jump in and they're not ready. We're here for that. We'll help them build something so that visitors can come and have a really good experience."  
TAO Director Vincent Philibert said that many entrepreneurs don't know that through the Réseau Agriconseils Outaouais, they offer a wide range of financial

aid to start or improve an agri-tourism business.  
"I think the program is not that well known in general," he said. "We want to promote it because there's financial aid that they can get. [It] can be used to for more technical needs, like better yields. Now there's grants for agri-tourism and marketing strategies and that."  
After a dinner break, the participants offered input on the TAO's 2019-2022 action plan.



Local officials, farmers and entrepreneurs gathered at the MRC offices in Campbell's Bay on March 7 for a seminar on agri-tourism. Led by Corine Jacob and Charles Séguin of the Table Agroalimentaire de l'Outaouais, participants learned about past and ongoing marketing strategies, financial aid, and other services available to them.

# Food bank volunteers seek donations for lost friend's funeral

J.D. POTIÉ  
**CAMPBELL'S BAY**  
March 6, 2019  
A group of volunteers at Bouffe Pontiac are calling on community residents to raise funds for the funeral of one of their longest-serving volunteers.  
Jacques Godin, who tragically passed away from a heart attack on Feb. 27, left his family and those at Bouffe Pontiac in utter shock and sadness after being found deceased in his apartment in Campbell's Bay.  
Having volunteered at the food bank for nearly eight years, Godin was a familiar face within the community and a pillar among Bouffe Pontiac's core of volunteers.  
"Everybody knew Jacques," said Vera Mayor, a volunteer at Bouffe Pontiac spearheading the initiative. "Everybody that we've mentioned this to, their hand is in their pocket."  
Lacking the necessary funds to pay for his funeral,

Godin's family members were unfortunately forced to take out a \$2,500 loan, to keep up with the costs of the funeral.  
Upon hearing the news of the situation, Mayor along with other volunteers at Bouffe Pontiac felt she had to do something. After reaching out to the Godin family to ensure that they were on board with the plan, she gathered fellow volunteers and discussed the matter, before coming to the conclusion that a fundraiser was the right thing to do.  
"When people don't have the money to pay, it's more than welcome for someone to step in and try to help," said Mayor. "We don't know if we're gonna raise the whole amount. But we're gonna do our very damn best to try."  
Helping the Godin family in their time of need was the least the community could do to soften the burden in the family's time of grief, Mayor said.

"At this time, they don't need a bunch of burdens on their hands," said Mayor. "If somebody else can step in and help, I think it's a good thing."  
Noella Demers, a volunteer at Bouffe Pontiac for the last two years, who was also Jacques' neighbour in Campbell's Bay, said she was surprised upon hearing about the passing of her friend and colleague. She added that his presence at the food bank won't be easy to replace, considering everything he's done for the charity organization.  
"He helped a lot," said Demers. "He was here every day for many years. He helped in the back, took out the garbage, he shoveled the snow if he had to. If there was something to fix, he'd fix it."  
Despite the tragedy that took place, Mayor believes it can give residents an opportunity to understand how important it is to support one another in the community and why they should contribute.

"In every community, everybody should help each other," said Mayor. "I was brought up that way. When somebody is hurting, you hurt. I just feel it's really important to do that. Not everybody can sit on their hands and do nothing."  
To give a donation, residents are advised to head directly to Bouffe Pontiac to pay in-person or to send money to the family's newly created GoFundMe page.  
According to Mayor, the main goal of the initiative is to pay back the debt and, if there's anything left over, she'll hopefully be able give back a little more to the family.  
"I would personally like to take a bit of that money that would be left over and do a meal or something for the family," said Mayor.  
According to Jacques' brother Jean-Claude Godin, a funeral service will take place on Grand Calumet Island, sometime in the spring.

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# Fostering connections



**The Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre brought over 60 guests to Timberland Tours on Saturday, for a day of dog sledding, traditional Inuit meals, crafts and activities. Pictured, Denise Prue, standing, and Andrew Atagootak rip through the course.**

DONALD TEUMA-CASTELLETTI  
BRISTOL March 9, 2019

Guests from the Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre (OICC) visited Bristol's Timberland Tours on Saturday, where they experienced dog sledding, traditional meals and more to help connect children with their culture.

Focusing on fostered and adopted Inuit children, the day allowed kids and their guardians to enjoy various activities of the Indigenous culture, as well as various educational opportunities.

Heather Murray, a systems navigator for the Tasingatigiit program at OICC, said the day was all about building kinship, whether it be for those adopting or fostering Inuit kids.

"We wanted to organize something special," said Murray. "It's a little bit of a different experience but I think it will be something special for everybody to participate in and just kind of have a nice, community get together."

After a brief safety lesson provided by the business owner Denis Rozon – stressing the importance of safe

braking and paying attention to the sled ahead – guardians hopped on the runners and tucked their young ones into the sleds as they took off on the trails.

Sure enough, the group were having a blast as the dogs pulled them through the track. While cheers encouraged from the sidelines, smiles plastered on the faces of those gliding past were undeniable proof of the fun had once the dogs took off.

Rozon said he was glad to host so many families at the event, especially as the Inuit culture is so tightly woven with the nature of the dog sledding sport. Though, he had to admit, he was a bit surprised to be teaching them about the ins and outs of sledding.

"They called me and I said, 'What is this? You invented the sled dogs,'" said Rozon, of speaking to an OICC organizer. "She said, 'No, no, no. Our parents had sled dogs, we now have snowmobiles.'"

Nonetheless, he was proud to provide the guests this opportunity and knew it'd be a memory they'll always hold on to.

But that wasn't the only

bit of tradition the group experienced that day, as there was much more to be had.

Murray said they enjoyed a variety of Inuit games and activities when done sledding was being fueled up on a lunch of caribou stew and country food, which is traditional Inuit meats. As well, elders were there to teach about making bannock, a donut-like treat, plus share stories.

"We're also going to be learning about Inuit snow goggles, the use for those, and we have a craft, too," she continued, saying they'd have the chance to make their own to use.

These masks were traditional protection for the Inuit people, protecting them from snow blindness. They're designed to reduce the harsh reflection of sunlight on snow, which can lead to various vision issues.

The OICC offers a wide range of services to Inuit people living in or visiting Ottawa, caring for every age group. With over 70 employees and various programming, their goal is to keep everyone connected and provide a community for any Inuit away from their home.



**Pictured, Denis Rozon gives important guidelines and safety procedures for the group, stressing the proper method of stopping the sled.**

## NB rink a community effort



**A large group of children gathered at the outdoor rink in Norway Bay on Friday for a last hurrah at the end of March break. Ice technician Tracey Moore said that the usage of the rink has increased this year as she has been posting surface conditions and receiving feedback online.**

CALEB NICKERSON  
NORWAY BAY March 8, 2019

With one season nearly under her belt, the new ice technician at the Norway Bay outdoor rink is proud of all the work she and her team of volunteers have put in over the past few months.

Tracey Moore said she put her name forward after she heard that no one was taking on the position, even though she had no experience maintaining a rink.

"I got the keys on Dec. 27 and we were open on the 29th," she said. "I have a lot of good helpers."

She said many of the youngsters and families that

use the ice help out in some way, though they required a little instruction.

"I had to give them the conversation that the hockey puck and the snow blower are not good friends," she said with a laugh. "They thought it would be funny, like the t-shirts at the games. I said, 'No, that's not how it works.'"

Every day, Moore said she or another volunteer scrape the surface with a shovel, heaving the snow over the boards. Sometimes a friend helps her with his four-wheeler.

"It's an hour and a half to scrape and clean it up and if

you have the weather to flood, you flood," she explained. "That's about three hours, three and a half."

On Friday afternoon, a gaggle of children were chasing a puck around at the rink, soaking up the last of their March break holidays.

Moore added that she's been posting the surface conditions online in an effort to boost usage, which she said has increased, as well as getting feedback from users.

"I'm, I think, the first rink attendant to use social media," she said. "We've been promoting it quite a bit."

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## 'Come into the arms of the good Sheppard' - Peggie Sheppard

Thinking of our dear departed friend who passed away too soon on March 14th, 2018. We will always remember, the fun and laughs that you always created. We miss you Peggie, and we think and speak of you often.

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Editorial

# Defending the indefensible

A couple of weeks ago, Pontiac MNA André Fortin rose in the Legislative Assembly to give an impassioned defence of recently fired CISSSO CEO Jean Hébert.

It was a puzzling choice by the opposition health critic to target one of the least popular bureaucrats in the region.

Keep in mind, Hébert was appointed by the Liberals in March 2015 and was tasked with implementing difficult cuts to the healthcare system in the region.

In 2014, with credit rating agencies ready to pounce and downgrade the province's financial rating, the Liberals decided that aggressive cuts would have to be made in order to present a balanced budget in 2015 and appease the ratings agencies.

Gaëtan Barrette, the minister of health at the time, was given the unenviable job of cutting entire levels of bureaucracy, among other things.

Those cuts had wide ranging effects, as many people in the Pontiac can attest.

Decision-making power was centralized in urban hubs, where the understanding of how a rural facility works might not be top of mind.

It didn't take long for the opposition to start.

Here in the Pontiac, the last straw came when CISSSO attempted to implement paid parking at the Shawville Hospital.

Residents quickly mobilized and a social media group dedicated to the region's healthcare popped up and quickly amassed more than 2,000 followers in a matter of weeks.

To Hébert's credit, CISSSO brass listened to residents and scrapped the plan for paid parking (although staff still have to pay).

But the unpopularity of both Hébert and Barrette go beyond angry taxpayers.

Former Ontario Deputy Health Minister, Paul Lamarche, criticized the reforms as "the most scatterbrained, and certainly the one it will take longest to recover from."

Several healthcare unions also targeted Barrette specifically – ambulance drivers and nurses mainly – for increasing their workload which eventually led to increased levels of employee burnout.

On top of that, Hébert was the object of scorn from the Warden of MRC Vallée-de-la-Gatineau, Chantal Lamarche, when she called for his resignation in December.

When elected officials are publicly musing about the need to fire a civil servant, there's something wrong.

Residents were told that the cuts were necessary for the long-term viability of the Quebec healthcare system. Four years later, CISSSO is facing a \$12.7 million budget deficit and residents are left wondering if consolidation actually saves money.

In response to those complaints, the newly elected CAQ government appointed Sylvain Gagnon to compile a report about the state of the Outaouais healthcare system.

One of the recommendations was to fire Hébert.

Which brings us back to Fortin's tone-deaf critique of the government's decision to relieve Hébert of his duties.

"I wrote homework longer than that," Fortin mused about the length of the 18-page report submitted by Gagnon.

This editorial is barely a page and it's covered many of the reasons why Hébert needed to go. Government decisions shouldn't be subject to a word count.

Not to mention the fact that Hébert is a Liberal appointee. Any time CISSSO appears in a negative news story – which isn't rare – Hébert serves as a constant reminder of the healthcare cuts to the region.

It's true that getting rid of one executive won't be the silver bullet that solves everything, but it makes perfect sense for a newly elected party to come in and appoint someone with a fresh perspective and far less baggage than Hébert.

Fortin would have been better served by thanking Hébert for his service under admittedly tough circumstances.

Instead, by rising in the legislature to defend your own appointee, despite nearly universal unpopularity, Fortin raises the question: who is he listening to?

Chris Lowrey



Dave Moore, THE EQUITY

## Zoom, zoom

### Food sovereignty by Chris Judd

"A country that cannot feed itself is a very weak country."

During World War II the thought was instilled in the mind of every European when their food supply was cut off by the enemy and any good food found was quickly channeled to the opposition's army.

After World War II was over, those countries swore that they would never starve again. Europe has never left themselves at the mercy of other countries to supply them with food since.

About 20 years ago, Quebec farmers started a campaign to sensitize the Quebec Government about the importance of food security. The Food Sovereignty Campaign soon spread to Ontario and Canada's other provinces.

A few years later, Quebec moved a motion at the Canadian Federation of Agriculture annual meeting that Canada adopt a strategic food policy. This motion was adopted unanimously by every province and everyone in the room. Since that time, we have witnessed many changes in our representatives at all levels of government.

When we make frequent visits to grocery stores with shelves loaded with every kind of food that we can dream of in both summer and winter, we can easily forget the importance of an abundant food supply. We forget that there is less than a week's supply of some foods in either the grocery stores or the warehouses that supply them.

We have recently noticed some of our Canadian food bargained off in trade negotiations for access to marketing of car parts, oil, intellectual property or some other inedible product. Since the FTA was penned by



### Outstanding in his field

Mulroney, our federal governments have traded away access to 20 per cent of Canada's dairy market.

In recent trade negotiations, our friendly leader south of the border has lost so much dairy market that US dairy farmers are quitting in droves and sending thousands of their hard working dairy cows to slaughter.

There are so many US dairy cows going to the abattoirs that the price of beef has tanked and in turn has lowered the price of beef in Canada to the same prices as when we had the mad cow problem 15 years ago. In March 2019, good cows were selling for \$50 and after the auctions were over small veal calves that were not sold were euthanized.

A few months ago when the US upset China, we witnessed China stopping soybean imports and hence causing soybean prices to drop drastically. This cost soybean producers billions of dollars.

The Canadian farmer's latest disaster was when our largest buyer of canola stopped purchases because they claim to have discovered a beetle in the canola grain. Coincidentally, this embargo on Canadian canola came a short time after Canada detained a Chinese cellphone manufacturing executive.

Half a century ago (in the 1960s) North America began to transfer its agricultural research and development from government and university control to private industry because it was more economical and private industry seemed to have more money to attract the best scientists. They had the most money because they only developed sprays, drugs, seeds and procedures that they could sell at a

healthy profit. As a result, China is now recognized as the world leader in basic agricultural research. US agricultural researchers conceded this fact themselves.

Trading agricultural grains, meats, dairy products and other foods has become one of the world's most lucrative businesses. This is a simple business. Farm products are purchased for a low price in one country and sold for a higher price in another. Sometimes these traders encourage governments to keep prices low so those products will be easier to sell in another country. Many grains and other foods are now produced and offered for sale at prices less than the cost to produce them.

Some countries compensate their farmers for producing at less than the C.O.P. The last US farm bill exceeded \$1.3 trillion US. It's the lowly taxpayer who has to cough up all that money.

Canadian wheat was for decades acknowledged as the best wheat in the world. Recently a prominent farm journal announced that now Canadian wheat had slipped to number four. More productive but lower quality wheat is now grown in Canada. For decades, Canadian wheat was dried naturally in the sun before harvest. Most Canadian wheat is now chemically desiccated before harvest. Some of our former wheat buyers are now exporting the same naturally dried wheat that Canada was famous for.

We will soon be bombarded with wannabe MPs promising God knows what. If you have a chance to encounter any of these future MPs ask them what their plan is for food sovereignty and maybe how much food is in storage?

Chris Judd is a farmer in Clarendon on land that has been in his family for generations. gladcrest@gmail.com

## Mar. 16, 1994 25 Years Ago

**Hydro Pontiac project at Chutes ahead of schedule, no accidents:** The Hydro Pontiac project at Coulonge Chutes is moving ahead quickly and safely.

Marco Del Cuchetto, project manager for Kiewit, the engineering firm that is building the generating plant for Hydro Pontiac, reports that construction is well ahead of schedule.

Kiewit now plans to take the turbines for their first test run on May 2. They plan to begin producing power on May 20, nearly two months ahead of schedule and only 13 months after work began.

On March 9, the 600 metre long tunnel was filled with water for the first time.

The tunnel, six metres in diameter, draws water from above the head of the falls and sends it to the powerhouse below.

**Bryson community fun day:** Oscar Torangeau and his seven-year-old Belgian mare took local children on sleigh rides March 12 as part of the fundraising day put on by the Bryson Lions and the local Fire Brigade.

A ski-a-thon, euchre tournament supper and dance rounded out the day's events with proceeds going to help buy equipment for the firefighters.

## THE WAY WE WERE

Compiled by  
Bonnie Chevrier

## Mar. 19, 1969 50 Years Ago

**County Council quarterly meeting approves Pontiac industrial survey:** Twenty two mayors and Art Labelle, secretary-treasurer met at the county building on March 12 for the regular quarterly session of the municipal council of the county of Pontiac.

The first item of business was the re-election of William Burke, Mayor of Quyon as warden of the county.

Father T.G. May spoke to council of the recent information of an Industrial Committee comprising himself, Lester McCann, Orla Young, the late Edgar Lance and Remi Fortin whose aim is to induce industry to locate in Pontiac. For the most appropriate motto, the county has put up a prize of \$25.

County council also decided to invite a specialist to a meeting in April with a view to a preliminary industrial survey of the county.

**Pentecostal Youth at Montreal Convention:** Last Friday, thirteen young people from Bethel Pentecostal Church in Shawville boarded a chartered bus for Montreal. Their destination was the annual Christ's Ambassadors Youth Convention of the Eastern Ontario and Quebec District of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. Stops were made at

Pembroke, Renfrew and Arnprior to fill the bus to capacity with young Ottawa Valley delegates.

The services were held in Evangel Pentecostal Church in the heart of Montreal with crowds ranging from 1,000 to 1,400 people in each service. One of the highlights was the Sunday afternoon Missionary Rally in which an offering was received in the amount of over \$5,100.

Our young people attending the convention were: Barbara Cone, Sandra Cone, Connie Crouse, Judy Hynes, Marilyn Lemay, Sharon Lemay, Margaret Marks, Sue Richardson, Shirley Sayle, Marilyn Sparling, Wendy Towell, Neil Tubman and Marilyn Wallace. Gains in depth of spiritual experience and the enjoyment of Christian fellowship will not soon be forgotten.

## Mar. 16, 1944 75 Years Ago

**Local news:** Wednesday night of last week was hockey night in Shawville in a big way when a double-header attraction was staged in the local arena.

The first game started at 7:30 and was between a young ladies' team and the married men "Old Glories" and some that never had much to do with the game. The second attraction was put on by a group of young bachelors and a group of benedicts, some still active in the sport and some now considered "has beens."

## Letters

### Proof is in the pudding

Dear Editor,

Regarding the article of March 6 on the community centre delays:

Pierre Tabet was given the contract to design, facilitate and oversee the project in its entirety as per Resolution 16-12-3003. In other words, he was the project manager.

Subsequently, LCC Construction Ltd. was given the contract for the demolition and erection of the rebuilt community centre as per Resolution 17-08-3223.

It was later identified that there were two issues:

1. Being the availability of the rafters.
2. Being a need for a greater quantity of cement due to the flooding conditions. Overall, there was a slight reduction in the costs. This was known before the contract was signed.

The building (demolition) commenced in October 2017 during which time there was an election forthcoming and the former council and mayor were removed from the responsibilities of the municipality. Therefore, the responsibility for this building fell to the director general.

As of Nov. 7, 2017 a new council was elected. It becomes incumbent on the new council to immerse themselves in all the ongoing issues of the previous council. Not until Feb. 11, 2018 did the Mayor create her committees. She placed herself and another councillor on the committee in charge of the community centre in Quyon (two new elected officials). What was happening on this issue in the three months prior to this date?

When I questioned at a town hall meeting on the completion date of the building, the mayor and director general denied that there was a completion date. Much to my surprise, much later on the mayor admitted that it was to be completed by February 2018.

At the March 2018 meeting of council another contract was given to Pierre Tabet for the interior layout of the community centre which included a preparatory study, presentation of the concept, management of the procurement process and the service during the construction as per Resolution 18-03-3372.

An invitation-only meeting was held in Quyon on April 10, 2018 during which the mayor chose a select group to preview the building. Immediately after meeting with them, on May 1, 2018 the first changes to the building were proposed, which in my opinion effectively cancelled the previous contract.

The last council did not fail to ensure there was a contract manager as this was assigned to Mr. Tabet in the resolution of December 2016.

There was a contingency budget as the building was to come in at what was quoted. There was also approximately \$200,000 gathered by the community to add all the extras and it would have, if not for all the changes that were brought forth by this council.

The idea that CIMA had any contract obligations is false. The company name of the contractor is LCC Construction Ltd. so of course, CIMA is not going to respond to THE EQUITY's calls.

Why was there no engineer to look after the building? It is a mystery to me as the municipality has a certified engineer on staff and the mayor indicated that she had the engineers with her at the review of the building in March 2019.

The mayor is now threatening legal proceedings and having a third party engineering report done. More legal costs when our legal expenses have doubled since this council came into office.

I question the value of this as both the architect and the construction company have legal liabilities to ensure quality construction.

If it is the mayor's idea that the management of a project is not a politician's, then why has she been interfering in the process and unilaterally tabled all the changes over the past months.

It is really shameful that this building is under legal consultation and that the keys have not been released to the municipality after more than one year.

Melvin Maxsom  
Pontiac, Que.

### Enough is enough

Dear Editor,

Previous Municipality of Pontiac Mayor Roger Larose is demanding an apology from Mayor Joanne Labadie.

For 17 months I have sat silently on many occasions, understanding that Madame Labadie, came into office without any municipal experience, even stating the fact herself at the all candidates debate that she had never attended a municipal council meeting.

She has publicly blamed past elected officials on alleged issues with respect to the newly built community centre in Quyon in the March 6, 2019 edition of THE EQUITY. This is definitely not how you get council to work with you.

She blamed CIMA for many problems and even has THE EQUITY trying to contact them when the contract was awarded to LCC Contracting as can be seen on the big sign at the end of Ferry Road. At the Feb. 27, 2019 special meeting she blamed architect Pierre Tabet for all the construction problems with the building. Another false statement was that there was no project manager assigned to the building. Please read the resolution 16-12-3003 which assigned a project manager. As far as an engineer, we have a qualified engineer at the municipality, what has he been doing?

She stated at the same meeting that even the MRC did not want Mr. Tabet for an extension on a police station and that is why the police station was stopped. Another false statement from Madame Labadie. She should inquire on her facts before giving false statements in public.

I was there, Madame Labadie and that is a false statement and Mr. Tabet was even recommended by the MRC and the resolution at the MRC, you can see that I was the one that proposed not building the police station.

I believe Madame Labadie, as mayor, you sit at the MRC level, you are supposed to represent us.

This is the same mayor who during campaigning, said she would bring businesses to our municipality ex. Microsoft even though we do not have high speed internet.

After 17 months in power she is trying to shut down the remaining businesses we have by increasing their taxes. She did not even know the ratio of businesses vs. homes in the municipality affected by the tax increase when asked at a public meeting. How can you propose a budget without inquiring on the impact this would have on your business taxpayers?

This is only the tip of the iceberg on her lack of knowledge of municipal politics, laws and regulations.

Wonder why so many employees are quitting?

Wonder why the community centre is not up and running yet?



Parents’ Voice

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

This type of parenting can prepare children for discussing social issues that friends often have to sort out. It helps children to focus more on finding a solution to a problem as a team rather than placing blame on one person which can be very useful in solving quarrels in the schoolyard.

3. Proper communication — It's important to teach children how to actively listen to others: Look them in the eye, wait until they are finished talking before you talk, position your body in the direction of the speaker, don't be a conversation hog; give them an opportunity to speak also and trade information back and forth.

This level of communication starts at home, trading stories at the dinner table about your day, telling the family a story, listening to a sibling's problem, discussing problems in the car. Of course modeling polite discussions is a great way for children to pick up this important skill.

4. Fostering empathy for others — This is an article in and of itself. Teaching our children to truly care about others is what will help us raise children who are kind to others and take active parts of their community. Teaching them to recognize people's feelings, help others, truly care about how their actions impact those around them will help them to be better people, a goal for all of us.

5. Help children read facial expressions — Although this may seem basic, children can benefit from practicing this important skill. It will help them gauge how a conversation or interaction is going without having to be told.

Discuss how to handle tricky social situations with your child. For example, we've run into children telling our daughter that she can't play with them. Together we go through the situation and help her be prepared for the next time it occurs.

In our discussion she would ask the children to be part of their play. If they say no she doesn't force the issue but finds someone else to play with. The next time she approaches the group she could ask what they are playing and see if she can add to the game. If they're playing restaurant she might offer to be a customer.

6. Monitor kids social lives — This doesn't mean to hover over every social interaction your children may have, it just means to be active in their socializing. Ask questions after they've played with a group of friends (did you have friends, what did you do, how do you feel when you play with these friends?) It's important to discuss and acknowledge how certain people make you feel after being with them.

We often discuss characteristics to look for in a friend; someone that makes you feel happy, someone that respects you and gives you a turn to choose the play and to talk, someone that is kind. Being involved may make it easier for children to talk to you when things aren't going well, which hopefully allows you to guide them and or intervene when needed.

7. Let them figure it out on their own — A friend once said, "Having children is like you're walking around with your heart on your sleeve – vulnerable to anything and everything it comes in contact with." There are no truer words. It kills us to watch them fail or flail in social situations but we are harming them by not allowing them to find their footing. Of course there are many situations where we are required to step in or guide in some way but we do also have to let them try.

8. Watch out for bullying — Letting them work it out does not account for bullying. Bullying is not something your child should ever have to tolerate. If your child is experiencing bullying it is up to adults to help get to the bottom of it.

So many things to consider when our kids start trying to navigate the social world on their own. Rest easy parents, we are doing our best. When in doubt do a search online for tips and tricks, there's bound to be something that can help us out!

The Way We Were

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

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The event was promoted especially for the benefit of the Red Cross parcels for Prisoners of War Fund which raised \$111.00 from the gate receipts.

Invasion of Europe from west impossible without air supremacy: A clearer perspective of the war, one which holds out high hopes for the future but also reveals how narrow a margin the Allies may have escaped catastrophe is provided by two reports just published, says the *New York Times*. One is the review presented to the House of Commons by Air Minister Sinclair in which he declares: "There lies before us now clearly attainable, the glittering prize of air supremacy, a talisman that can paralyze German industry and war transport."

It has become a military axiom that while the airplane can no more win wars than can any other single weapon, nevertheless, supremacy in the air is the first condition of victory and especially of a victory which depends on the success of amphibious operations of unprecedented dimensions.

The course of the war has shown that victory in Europe is impossible without a mass invasion from the west.

Ad: Get ready for spring with that new suit you have been planning to buy: shades and patterns to suit the most exacting taste. Blues, browns, greys in tweeds and worsteds and priced to suit your budget: \$22.50 to \$35.00. Morgan quality hats to top your wardrobe in the smartest styles and shades: \$3.95 and \$5.00.

Mar. 13, 1919

100 Years Ago

**Local news:** On Tuesday night, St. Paul's Church Choir and immediate relatives of the members to the number of about thirty foregathered at the rectory to participate in a banquet which was the fist of what in all probability will become an annual event, so successful and harmonious did everything pass off in connection with it.

Rev. Mr. Phillips made a short introductory speech and then proceeded to carry out a feature which did not appear on the program. This was the presentation to Dr. Powles of a handsome rocker in behalf of the choir members as a token of their appreciation of his painstaking services since he became choirmaster.

The Shawville employees, clerks and mechanics are agitating for 6 o'clock closing on Tuesdays and 5 o'clock on Saturdays.

The Shawville Milling Co., R.G. Hodgins' planing mill and the Brick Yard have been closing at that hour for the past

year or two.

What clerks are saying: "What about the Saturday afternoon holiday for June, July and August?" All railways and factories in Canada give their employees an 8-hour day. All miners and iron workers are agitating and striking for a six-hour day. Eatons close at 5 o'clock and give every Saturday to their clerks since Jan. 1. In a short time, other big stores will do likewise. If the clerks of Pontiac form a union, we can get anything we ask.

Notice re: cow testing: I have been authorized by the Department of Agriculture to do the work in connection with cow testing and keeping dairy records in this section. To those who have their outfits, this work is done free of charge. R.A. Dennis, Shawville Creamery.

Mar. 15, 1894

125 Years Ago

**Local News:** A hot sun and a strong wind from the southwest on Sunday last almost wound up the sleighing in this locality. Except here and there where drifts formed in the hollows or against the fences, the fields were entirely dismantled of their white covering before evening.

It is said the thaw necessitated the breaking up of Gillies Bros. shanties on the Coulonge.

At the meeting of the ratepayers of the upper end municipalities held at Chapeau on the 3rd inst., for the purpose of appointing a delegation to go to Ottawa to interview the Minister of Railways with regard to the completion of the Pontiac Pacific Junction Railway through the county, there was a large and representative attendance. About seventy-five gentlemen were named to go on the delegation to Ottawa. The delegation will go strongly armed with petitions from the people interested which set forth the importance of compelling the company to take up the work of completing the road without delay to carry it through the county at least as far as Ferguson's Point in Sheen township before crossing the Ottawa River.

Lumber and other materials are now on the ground for the erection of the Anglican Church which it is proposed to erect near Clarke's Station during the course of the present summer.

Mr. S.J. Armstrong, son of Mr. Robert Armstrong of Clarendon who has spent the winter months in this neighbourhood, left for Michigan on Wednesday to engage in some of the lumber mills in which he was previously employed. Despite the tough times on the other side, Sherwood has little doubt of securing employment. When Uncle Sam wants a good, honest day's work done, he knows that young Canada can fill the bill every time.

Letters

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE

Ask Madame Labadie, who decided to do some changes on the architectural plans after the proposed completion date of the contract. Example: to accommodate a certain group, by installing a window in the kitchen, installing another bar and that bar to be installed in a closet, etc, etc. Now we have two bars and probably more changes that we are unaware of.

Do not wonder any further, when you make structural changes with the architect, you change the price and of course, cause delays.

Another burden on the taxpayers is the price of Alary Road. Over \$600,000 to fix a side road, which is now 17 months and counting. This price is four times more than what was originally quoted.

Door to door composting, another burden she wants to impose on the taxpayers, ridiculous!

Meetings are not conducted according to municipal code. An example is a borrowing bylaw to purchase a ten wheeler truck in the amount of \$250,000 was voted on the same meeting as the notice of motion was tabled. This contravened article 445 of the municipal code. One councillor voted against this bylaw, but it was passed by the other four councillors in attendance. In order to act on this bylaw they would have to bring it back to the table and start the process over again. This is just one of many examples how procedures are not followed.

Please stop twisting the facts as a truth to the citizens of our municipality. I have done this in English as the article in THE EQUITY was published in English.  
ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

Past Mayor Roger Larose.  
Pontiac, Que.

How do we know?

Dear Editor,

Epistemology is the branch of philosophy which deals with asking how do we know what we know? It's one of those university courses easily dismissed by, 'When am I ever going to need this in real life?'

The coming of the Information Age brought astounding, sometimes overwhelming advances in data sharing, but with that came a flood of distracting data — more misinformation than enlightenment.

With the elections looming, this is a good time to hone our powers of

discernment. Politicians and commentators will be assaulting our senses with elaborate projections, involving incomprehensible sums of money. Here are a few points to remember, in parsing the real from the imaginary, and the imaginary from the outright bovine excrement.


Much of what passes for news these days, is secondhand opinion, with little or no basis in fact. Opinions are like elbows. Most of us have a couple, but who else needs to hear about them? Most of the news you read, watch or hear, is irrelevant to your life. True or not, does it really matter what the Kardashians are wearing this week? If you don't know the people involved, if you can't do anything to help or hinder, if you can't personally check out the facts, you might just as well ignore it.

Above the level of MRC, you probably don't know the candidates personally. The whole process is entangled in party politics, so the person you vote for or against is not in a position to make meaningful decisions.

Therefore, what the candidate says in campaigning is an empty promise, based upon what the central party committee has guessed you want to hear. Candidates who do not expect to win, can promise anything without consequences. Those who do win, can blame their failure to deliver on the other party that sometimes wins. The polls between elections are a waste of time and pixels. It's a small sampling of opinions, subject to change without reason.


No politician actually does anything. We elect them to direct funding towards those who do stuff. If you guess correctly and vote accordingly, those funds (your tax dollars) will be allocated to necessary and worthwhile projects. In order to comprehend the amounts involved, shave three to six zeroes off the end. Then, the hopeful candidate will be claiming to spend \$14.27 on a new bridge. Most of us can imagine what \$14.27 means, but what does \$1.4 billion mean to us? If you, at birth, were given a pile of loonies you couldn't count out a billion dollars in one lifetime. Remember that our one vote each is just that, one vote among many. We don't necessarily get the result we wanted, and neither does anyone else. You can complain about the outcome of the election, the hockey game or the weather, but the snow still falls and the wrong team wins 50 per cent of the time.

Robert Wills  
Thorne/Shawville, Que.



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# End of an era: long-time tavern owner announces retirement

After 36 years at Gavan's Hotel in Quyon, owner Nick Matechuk is stepping out from behind the bar to begin his retirement.

The iconic tavern located on rue Clarendon in the heart of the town was sold to Matechuk in 1983 by Lennox and Marguerite Gavan, who had purchased the hotel in 1947. After a large fire, Lennox rebuilt the hotel in the early 1950s and added what's now known as the Shamrock Lounge in 1961.

Matechuk said that he has worked to keep almost everything the same as it was when he purchased the building, right down to wooden panelling and quarts of Labatt 50 in the fridge.

"What you see is what you get, it's pretty well untouched," he said, noting that he had made some fixes to the roof and renovated to keep up with fire and building codes.

He said he kept the name because by the time he bought the business, it was a well known music venue in the Ottawa Valley.

"Everybody knows Gavan's before they know Quyon," he said. "It's just as simple as that."

Matechuk purchased the hotel in 1983 after a career with Algoma Central Rail as a machinist and union rep in his native Sault Ste. Marie. He said that with the recession, the job was getting too stressful and he was looking for a career change.

"I used to drink in them, that's all I knew about bars," he said with a laugh.

His wife, Laurena (née Robinson), was from Quyon and when Matechuk was down visiting the family, he found out the hotel was for sale. Lennox and Marguerite's daughter, Gail, recalled that her father put a lot of faith in Matechuk to keep the tavern close to its roots as a traditional music venue.

"When my dad put it for sale there were various people interested," she recalled. "One guy was going to turn it into a strip joint and my dad didn't want that ... [Lennox] was very proud of Nick because he had such a work ethic. My dad knew Nick would look after the business well."

Matechuk admitted that there was a steep learning curve when he first took over management.

"The first five years were tough here," he said. "I didn't know anyone here in Quyon."

One of the traditions that Lennox had established was a St. Patrick's Day party that featured plenty of authentic Irish music and dancing. According to Gail, he had grown up in Nichabau, Qc., the youngest of 13 children and was an avid singer and storyteller. Marguerite was no stranger to the hospitality industry either, as her brother, Fred Meilleur, owned the hotel in Chapeau.

"My dad loved music and he was so proud of his Irish heritage," she said, adding that he continued to attend the St. Paddy's party at Gavan's until he passed away in 1989. "We know we're a little wee town but we're proud of our roots in

BY: CALEB NICKERSON



Nick Matechuk, the owner of Gavan's Hotel Hotel in Quyon, is retiring after 36 years of running one of the most prolific watering holes in the region. Matechuk said he plans to spend more of his time in Sault Ste. Marie with his grandchildren.

the Pontiac."

Matechuk said that the annual bash is his biggest event in the calendar by far, and brings people from all over the country. Gail has upheld the family tradition by hosting the party, sharing the stage with local legends like Louis Schryer and others.

Gavan's was inducted into the Ottawa Valley Country Music Hall of Fame in 2013, a testament to the amount of talent that has graced the stage in the Shamrock Lounge.

Lennox had long promoted the local music scene, even going so far as to stock a guitar and fiddle behind the bar for impromptu jam sessions.

"It got to be known for that, people could just come and play on a Tuesday afternoon," Gail recalled. Back in those days, bars in Ontario were closed on Sundays, and many made the trek across the river to hear some authentic Valley voices.

"Sundays used to be our biggest day in Quyon for years," Gail said.

She recalled when famous Irish singer Liam Clancy of The Clancy Brothers came up to Quyon in the 1970s for a show, after playing the NAC.

"He wouldn't leave, he stayed for a week," she said with a laugh.

Local musician Mick Armitage recalled the Valley music scene back in those days.

"Not many places like [Gavan's] lasted very long," he said. "It was a unique place how it was situated right on the border."

Armitage attributed Gavan's success to its musical roots and to Matechuk's dedication as an owner.

"In that business you pretty well have to get everything written out, but with Nick, if he said it on the phone it was the deal, you know? He was good to people," Armitage said.

One of the fondest memories Matechuk had was back in the early 1990s when members of the Ottawa Roughriders football team came up to play in the snow against some of the local Quyon boys.

"Soupy Campbell was a friend of mine, he was a football player, so I said we should get a couple of lads [from the Roughriders] to come up and play," Armitage explained. "[Future Hall of Famer] Damon Allen, he was in there with his wife, some of the lads are up playing in the band with me, we're down at the fairgrounds playing football ... Imagine trying to do that today."

Matechuk is still looking for a buyer for the hotel, but said that if he doesn't find one, he will have to hire a manager. His heart is already back in Sault Ste. Marie with his family.

"My daughter and her husband and three grandchildren just moved there last August," he said. "My grandchildren are there, that's where I want to be."

Long-time Gavan's patrons can wish him well at this year's St. Patrick's party on Sunday, March 17, starting at 1:30 p.m.

## Midget Comets win big at home

J.D. POTIÉ  
FORT COULONGE  
March 7, 2019

On Thursday, the Fort-Coulonge Midget Comets defeated the Muskrat 2 Warriors by a commanding score of 7-3, picking up their second playoff win in six games and bringing their record to 2-4-0 with four points in total.

The next day, they traveled to Cobden to face-off with Muskrat 1 in their final game, before March break. The Warriors won by a score of 5-1.

With their starting goalie out of commission with an injury, the Comets head coach, Marc Duval knew Thursday's matchup wasn't going to be easy, so the team's mindset was to play clean and to have fun.

"The first message was to go out there and have fun," said Duval. "Play together as a team, penalties try to minimize that. Make everybody play equal, but my first message to the boys was have fun."

Coming into the game with only nine skaters and a replacement goalie, versus a full Muskrat squad, coach Duval was proud of his team's effort.

"The only thing that I can say about that game is that my players fought hard," said Duval. "They played a very good game, a passing game, they played together. It was one of our best team wins, especially with a goalie that never played before... I think he did a really good job."

From the first puckdrop, the Comets wasted no time marking their presence, sniping a goal just 30 seconds in with a slap-shot from defenseman Sebastien Duval making it 1-0. But the Warriors struck back less than half a minute later, tying it up at one.

From that point on, the Comets barely relented, notching three unanswered goals, before going into the mid-way portion of the second period, including one from their captain Maxime Asselin on a two-one-one wrist-shot that squeaked past the opposing net-minder.

The Warriors scored one on the powerplay with under five minutes to go in the second frame, making it 4-2 for Comets going into the third.

The final period provided much of the same, as Fort-Coulonge added three more, while shutting down Muskrat's offense, eventually ending the game with a final score of 7-3.

Asselin led the offense for the Comets, finishing the game with three points, including two goals and an assist.

"We wanted to get the second goal quick, so we could have a big advantage," said Asselin. "And put the other team down, and build on those goals to move forward and win."

Coming out of the game with the win and the game puck as his team's MVP, goaltender Martin Pilon admits he felt nervous before the game, however he noted that the play of his team restored his confidence quite a bit.

"My team passed very good," said Pilon. "We played very well as a team. I was kind of nervous before the game, because they have a pretty good team on the other side. So yeah, we did pretty good."

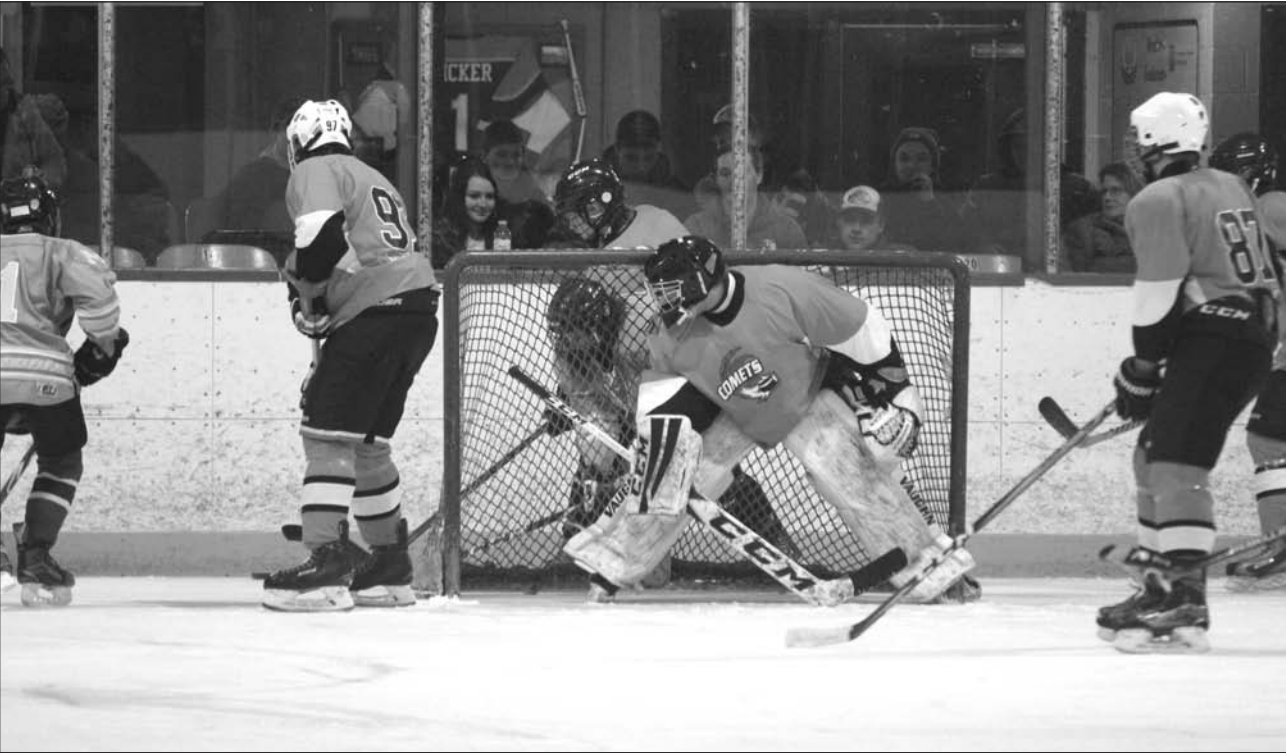
When asked about his favourite part of the experience was, his coach inter-

rupted and said "the final buzzer", to which Pilon smiled and nodded.

While Pilon exited the dressing room, coach Duval along with other players flooded him with cheers, as they shouted "Gunner, Gunner, Gunner, Gunner", showing appreciation for their goalie's outstanding performance.

Now sitting in fifth place in the A division, the Comets chances at making it to the elimination stage of the playoffs are quite low. However, that won't keep coach Duval's players from keeping the right mindset for the rest of the way.

"We're in a situation right now where I think it's gonna be hard to go to the finals in the playoffs," said Duval. "But the biggest thing about that win, I think is for the morale. It's good for the kid's intentions as well, probably for the future. But yeah, a morale win tonight, and it's good for the team."



The Comets picked up their second playoff win in six games, on Thursday by a score of 7-3. Pictured: Comets goalie Martin Pilon looks behind his net as both teams battle for puck possession.

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Félix Dubé fires a wrist shot through traffic, during the first period.

## MAGH 2 end of season celebration

An end of year party celebrated the development of new skills and new friendships. The group displays new practice jerseys, MAGH medallions and some radiant smiles.

We appreciate all the volunteers who commit to this group within SDMHA. Managers, Amanda Nugent and Heather Rusenstrom, Coaches, Shawn Findlay, Brandon Smith and Jr. Assistant, Michael Findlay.

Submitted by Donna Hickey



Pictured is the Shawville Lions MAGH team. They held their end of season celebration recently.



# Quyon Lions Club raises funds with pancake supper

J.D. POTIE  
QUYON March 4, 2019

On Monday, around 50 Pontiac residents from little children to grandparents gathered at the Quyon Legion, for the Quyon Lions Club's annual family pancake supper.

All around the large room, people sat down and chatted over delicious homemade pancakes, beans, ham and sausages, cooked by Lions Club members and their wives, as long-standing members served the plates. There were also salads and deserts available, along with coffee and an assortment of juices for the children.

Hosted by the Quyon Lions Club, the annual event was organized to provide local residents and families a tasty affordable meal, while contributing to the club by raising funds for the community.

Rolly Bernier, one of the event's main organizer's and the secretary of the Quyon Lions Club said he was pleased with the overall turnout and is happy with how the event consistently draws people from all ages,



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

**Every year, the Quyon Lions Club hosts a family pancake supper in an effort to raise money to help the community. Pictured: event organizer and Lions Club secretary Rolly Bernier serves a plate of homemade pancakes topped with butter.**

every single year.

"It brings everybody together," said Bernier. "The families are here. Just looking out in the crowd, I see mothers, fathers, grandpas, grandmas with their grandchildren. It's a really good array of people and it's a great way of get-

ting people back together."

For long-time Quyon resident Joan Desabrais, the event provided her exactly what she expected: a good time with great people and delicious food.

"The meal is very good and they're a very courteous crew," said Desabrais.

"They're quite willing to help and to serve us and we enjoy that."

Having grown-up and lived in the municipality for as long as she can remember, Desabrais believes volunteer work is key to keeping small towns like Quyon thriving and that it's always

important for people to pitch in on a special cause.

"I think it's vitally important for our community that each and every person puts in whatever they can, if ever they can to support," said Desabrais. "Especially the Lions Club, because they don't have a lot of new

members now."

For Susan Richardson, a resident of Shawville, the best part of the event was the chance to get together with friends, during a time of year where the weather doesn't exactly motivate one to spend the night out.

"Brings people out on a cold miserable night," said Richardson. "Nothing beats food, fun and fellowship. Good food, good company, what more could you ask for?"

Serving over 100 plates, the supper helped the Lions Club raise over \$500 for the community, which will be dedicated to bursaries for the Pontiac High School 2020 graduates from the area, according to Bernier.

"Once it's all said and done, the money goes right back into a community project," said Bernier.

Every year, the funds go to wherever the community needs it most. Last year, the money was used to pay for an examination table for the local CLSC, to help out three fire victims and the club also pledged \$1,000 to the St. Joseph's Home's rebuilding project, according to Bernier.

## Shrove Tuesday at St. Paul's Church

CALEB NICKERSON  
SHAWVILLE  
March 5, 2019

On March 5, members of the local community gathered at St. Paul's Anglican Church hall in Shawville for the annual observance of Shrove Tuesday or Mardi Gras.

Rev. Susan Lewis explained that the celebration marks the start of Lent, a period of 40 days leading up to Easter where Christians give up cer-

tain luxuries or commit acts of charity. It's a commemoration of the story in the Bible where Jesus spends 40 days fasting in the desert.

In several countries, the day is marked by the consumption of all the sugars and fats in the pantry by cooking pancakes.

Rev. Lewis said that she would be taking on different acts of generosity throughout the next 40 days.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

**Diners line up for pancakes at St. Paul's Anglican Church hall in Shawville on March 5, an annual feast to mark the beginning of Lent. Pancakes are a traditional staple, in order to use up sugar and fat in the pantry before the period of fasting.**

## Cooking up party time

DONALD  
TEUMA-CASTELLETTI  
GRAND CALUMET ISLAND  
March 9, 2019

There was plenty cooking in the kitchen on Grand Calumet Island, as a new event returned for its second iteration of Irish-tinged fun on Saturday.

Taking over the island's town hall, St. Ann's Parish's Catholic Women's League (CWL) brought their

Pre-St. Paddy's Kitchen Party Live Fundraiser back after it proved incredibly popular last year.

"At our first annual, walking out, people asked if we'd do it again," said Joan Derouin, CWL President.

When discussing and planning for 2019's fundraisers, the group couldn't deny the popularity of their first party and it became evident they had to

bring it back.

What makes it so popular? There's an Irish stew for supper plus homemade bread and poor man's pudding to wash it all down, live music that had the crowd singing and dancing, plus tons of prizes to be won.

With all that going on, they saw another great turnout, with tables packed all party long –

which in turn, means the group can be just as generous in their support of the community.

Derouin explained that money raised at this fundraiser helps support their ongoing initiatives for the youth and elderly.

For youth, this means donating to the local recreation association's children's Christmas party and to graduation trips for students in Fort Coulonge. Their senior projects include preparing Christmas packages for

elders stuck at home during the holidays.

"The only way we can do this is through these fundraisers, for which our parish supports us," she continued.

She also praised the support of their many volunteers, who range in age from elementary school and up.

These thanks were also extended to all of the performers that hit the stage at the party, as there was a rotating cast. Some, like George Lamothe and James

Azola, had signed up beforehand, but anyone with an instrument and a lick of talent were welcome to hit the stage.

Derouin said they were proud to continue organizing an event that the community enjoys so much, especially when it gets everyone involved.

"For all our hard work, [the support] is nice," she concluded.



Donald Teuma-Castelletti, THE EQUITY

**The return of the Pre-St. Paddy's party proved another success, helping support the CWL's various initiatives in the community. Pictured, members of St. Ann's CWL squeeze in tight during the party.**

Donald Teuma-Castelletti, THE EQUITY  
**From left: Some of the young volunteers included Antoine Lagarde, Pierre Jr. St-Amour, Lea Lasalle, Shelby Denis-Gauthier, Catherine Lasalle, and Sarah Berard.**



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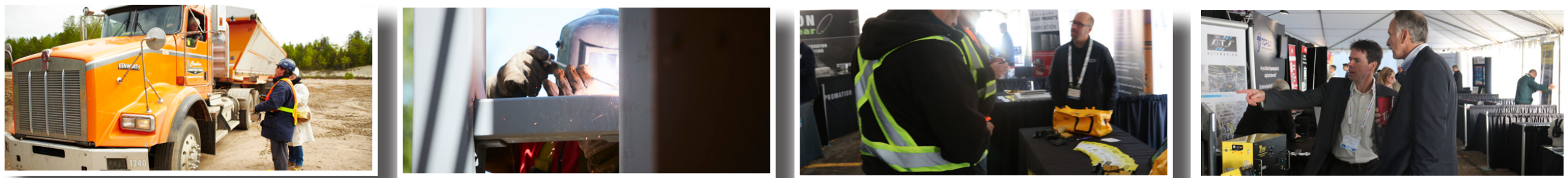
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# Church hall brings Ireland to Shawville with music, slideshow



Donald Teuma-Castelletti, THE EQUITY

**St. Paul's Anglican Church hall transported guests across the Atlantic Ocean on Saturday, when Jim Beatty's Virtual Tour of Ireland filled the hall. Pictured, Beatty runs the slideshow, sings, tells stories and plays a couple of instruments during the show.**

DONALD TEUMA-CASTELLETTI  
SHAWVILLE March 9, 2019

A group of Pontiac residents got a personal tour of Ireland on Saturday, taking in the nation's capital, the Giant's Causeway, plus more than a couple drinking establishments, all from the comfort of St. Paul's Anglican Church's hall.

That's because Jim Beatty's Virtual Tour of Ireland filled the hall that afternoon, where songs and stories accompanied by a slideshow transported guests across the Atlantic, all before they dug into a traditional Irish meal.

Beatty acts as a one-man orchestra of sorts, navigating the island starting right from the flight over. Once

on the ground, he narrates a tale where the crowd stops into tourist attractions and hidden gems, does some shopping and sightseeing, meet all kinds of locals, and learn all about the geography, history, and culture of the country.

To bring the adventure to life, he operates the slideshow, tells the stories and performs many songs as he sings, plays guitar and accordion, all the while encouraging the crowd to sing along to the songs they know. While his "choir," as Beatty referred to them, were slow to join him in singing, there was plenty of toe-tapping to help keep the beat.

The guests, numbering

about 100 people, were particularly impressed by sights of huge floral arrangements, which always garnered an audible gasp of awe.

They also enjoyed Beatty's dry humour punctuating tales and facts at certain locations throughout, as laughs seeped out of guests during these instances.

Chris Judd, a friend of Beatty's and one of the event's organizers, said he wanted Shawville to experience the show because it's a glimpse into real Irish culture. He said the show is always interesting with something new to pick up on each viewing.

But it's also a chance to hear traditional and real

Irish tunes, Judd said laughing, compared to the ones that have been Americanized and are popular in North America.

"For people that don't like to fly, they don't have to fly over," he said, with a smile.

Those that don't enjoy travelling by plane were especially lucky that afternoon, since the entire experience was grounded by the drifting scents of Irish cooking. In the church hall kitchen, stew and pie awaited for the meal and was the cause of at least a few rumbling stomachs.

The event was put on in support of St. Paul's Anglican Church, as they're seeking to raise \$18,500 for their heating and air conditioning.

## Legion Branch 162 hosts smoked meat supper



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

**The Campbell's Bay Legion was packed on Friday night, for a meal of smoked meat, sauerkraut and some good old country music. From left: Lorenzo Lagarde, Phyllis Dubeau, Oscar Tourangeau, Lorne Sparling, Dorcas Sparling, Margaret Lunan, Fernand Roy, Tom Renouf, Cecile Amyotte, Lorraine Gagné and Keith Sicard.**

# Crafting creativity with critters

DONALD TEUMA-CASTELLETTI  
LUSKVILLE March 9, 2019

Imaginations were let loose Saturday afternoon, when young artists descended upon the Luskville Community Centre for craft time with Get Art.

Organized by the Parents of the Municipality of Pontiac, Get Art's Tanya McCormick brought "Critter Creations" to the hall, allowing children to build whatever they could come up with out of simple materials.

McCormick explained that the craft session was meant to inspire the children's creativity as they had free rein on whatever they wanted to bring to life. She had brought along a selection of materials, from felt to pipe cleaners, but also household items, like paper cups, to use as their building blocks.

"They're going to see things in a different light as they let their imaginations run wild," said McCormick.

After the group ran off a bit of steam by socializing in the community centre, the kids got straight to



Donald Teuma-Castelletti, THE EQUITY

**The Parents of the Municipality of Pontiac brought in Get Art's Tanya McCormick for an afternoon of crafting critters on Saturday. From left: Eloïse Charlebois, Angela Bosa, Coralie Charlebois, and William Bosa make their own little creations.**

work. With nine registered that afternoon, and room for drop-ins to join, all manner of creation were possible.

On top of the inspiring their creative potentials for design, she hoped to

encourage their ability to see uses for everyday items in their artistic ventures. As such, the simple act of adding googly eyes to paper cups could lead to grander potential as they continue to grow older.

In line with this lifelong lesson, McCormick added that she'd be leading Get Art's adult workshop on March 31, creating interactive photo albums through 3D paper crafting and other materials.

# Support sessions for parents



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

**The Social Development Table of the Pontiac held their first parent support groups in late February, in Quyon and Fort Coulonge. Pictured, organizer Lisa Corrigan said the meetings were to let parents distress and grow.**

J.D. POTIÉ  
QUYON Feb. 28, 2019

The Social Development Table of the Pontiac (TDSP) hosted its first ever monthly support group sessions for parents with children from newborns through eight years old in late February.

The event, which took place on Feb. 26 and 28 in Fort-Coulonge and Quyon, respectively, was organized to give parents who feel overwhelmed with the stress of raising children the opportunity to get together and discuss with people who are going through similar

hardships.

Lisa Corrigan, who animated the event said that with the popularity of workshops for parents regarding the behaviour of young children, it was optimal to kick off an initiative that offers support for those in need, notably in small communities like in the Pontiac.

"I think it brings people together," said Corrigan. "In the past, in any other type of group similar to this that we've done, I've seen friendships be created between people, especially in a place like Luskville and Quyon.

It's not like there's a million places where parents can congregate."

She said that she hopes the event can provide the parents a feeling of belonging and sense that they are not alone and that they can ideally share tips with one another regarding how they deal with stress or how they've gotten through seemingly unbearable circumstances.

Though the attendance was underwhelming Corrigan was optimistic that the support group will grow in popularity as time goes

on.

"Once it catches on with word of mouth, hopefully people will bring their friends," said Corrigan.

She believes that it's not about the number of parents who seek help, adding that she's more than willing to offer her assistance, even if it's just one person who needs it.

According to Corrigan, the TDSP is planning on hosting parent's support groups, on the last Tuesday and Thursday of every month, for the foreseeable future.

## Sheenboro



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Congratulations go out to Sam Duff, grandson of Terry and Glenda Duff, who took first prize yesterday at the Devil's Glen Slalom race at Duntroon, Ont.

Congratulations also go out to Anna Gleason of Sheenboro who was accepted into the Bioresource Engineering program at McGill University.

Belated birthday greetings go out to Mariette Sallafranque Fleury who celebrated on March 7 and to her son Bradley who celebrates on March 12.

Birthday greeting and best wishes go out to Trudy Tallon on March 12, Mike Walker on March 13 and to Paige Morin on March 16, granddaughter of Donnie and Donna Gagnon.

Our St. Paddy's Day birthdays were increased by two members in 2018. Norma Ranger's great granddaughter, Hadley Reese of Barrie, Ont. and Leo Donato of Sheenboro celebrate birthday number one on March 17.

Also birthday greetings and best wishes go out to Jimmy Ryan, Patsy Carroll Marcotte, Colleen Morris Schilkie, Shannon Morris McDonald, Donna Tierney and Sharon Littlejohn Sullivan.

Top of the morning to all and an Irish Blessing: A best friend is like a four leaf clover, hard to find and lucky to have.

Happy St Patrick's Day.

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# Classifieds

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Every Friday** Join us in the Shawville Anglican Church Hall for an evening of music (Hooley in the Hall) from 7-9:30 p.m. Admission is free. 50/50 held. Everyone welcome. xtc

**Fri., March 15** – Shawville Shenanigans Playgroup at 586 Main Street, Shawville. Join us for socializing, play, snack and activities. 9:30-11:30, free. fm13

**March 16** – St. Patrick's Dance, Bryson Lions Club 8 p.m.- 12 a.m., light lunch served at 11 p.m., Entertainment by Dennis Harrington and Heritage Country. Cost \$10.00/person. For more information contact Betty Leach at 819-648-5424. bm13

**Sat., March 16** – Parents' Voice Story Time at The Shawville-Clarendon Library. Join Dale for storytime from 10:30-11:15, free! fm13

**Sat., March 16** – Irish Tea hosted by the Quyon Pastoral Charge 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Quyon United Church basement. \$7 each, children under 10 \$4. bm13

**March 15 & 16** – March 15 from 10-5 p.m. & March 16 from 10-4 p.m. Seren Tea and The Lighthouse Bookstore Pop Up Shop will be hosting SAINT PATRICK'S DAY TEA AND SHOP EVENT. Come in and sample wonderful teas to get your green on and enjoy a slice of traditional homemade soda bread. While there, shop at the Bookstore Pop Up Shop Big Sale where everything is on Sale and YOU get to choose what the discount will be! bm13

**Sat., March 16** – St. Patrick's Family Dance, 6 - 10 p.m. Shawville United Church Hall. Music by The Telegrams. Light lunch, prizes. \$10 adults. 12 and under free. 2bm13

**Mon., March 18** – Creative Movement for Caregivers & Tots. Join us for another 5 week session with the wonderful Marie-Josée Corriveau of the Corriveau School of Dance. Classes will be held at the Shawville Lions Hall from 10:30-11:15, 5 week session costs \$15 or drop in for \$5. Babies under 1 are free! fm13

## MISCELLANEOUS

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## DEATH



**Foran**, Dominic John – Though we can't know for sure when he sang his first song, we can say that he sang for many a year after and was still singing as he passed from this world into the next. Dominic set sail in his own birch bark canoe on March 10, 2019 in his 94th year. He leaves behind Bunny, his cherished wife (and soul mate) of 68 years. Dear brother of Loretta and Mae. Predeceased by brothers Donald, Vincent, Michael, Ambrose, Leo and Clement, and sisters Mildred and Gladys. Father to Tom Tracey (Linda), Grandpa to Ryan, Jenn and Giulia and Big Grandpa to Bella. Fondly remembered by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends, especially Urban.

Dominic had a passion for all things outdoors, and he had all the seasons covered. He spent many a day fishing on Vallilee's Lake with Ervin. Winter brought snowmobiling with Ervin and Stanley, then followed by spring when it was time to make maple syrup with Stanley and Michael. Summer he loved berry picking so Bunny could make one of her famous pies; and evenings and weekends were spent with Stanley and Clem cheering on the lads playing ball. Fall brought deer hunting with Stanley and Joe, and whoever else they could roundup. And we all knew that if the truck was not beside the garage, that he could be found at the camp.

Dominic loved his six hand euchre. He enjoyed many great games with his special cousins Margaret and Ethel; even better if he had bragging rights.

Music was perhaps his number one passion. He loved to hear a great song and loved to sing one. And he could listen to fiddle tunes all day long. He enjoyed many great sessions with Jim Pittman and there was nothing finer than listening to his nephews and nieces, Donald, Dave, Margie and Eleanor play.

Dominic and Bunny ran their small grocery store for over 25 years and it was a pit stop for many passing by to stop in for a chat. Their door was always open to anyone.

Thanks to the staff of both the Manoir Sacré-Coeur in Fort Coulonge and the Friends of St. Joseph's Manor in Campbell's Bay. Only in the Pontiac could we find such great people with the ability to provide over the top compassion and gentle care for their respective residents. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Friends of St. Joseph's Manor or St. Brigid's Cemetery would be greatly appreciated.

Friends may call at Hayes Funeral Home, 1040 Clarendon Street, Quyon, Quebec on Wednesday, March 13, 2019 from 3 to 7 p.m. and on Thursday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Funeral Mass will follow at 11 a.m. in St. Mary's Church, Quyon. Spring Interment St. Brigid's Cemetery, Wolfe Lake Road, Quyon.

It was a fine day in October and I wasn't very sober I was walking down the street all full of pride When my feet began to flutter and I fell down in the gutter and a pig came along and lay down by my side. Now it didn't hurt my pride as he lay there by my side But a lady passing by I heard her say

You can judge a man who boozes By the company he chooses So the pig got up and SLOWLY walked away. Dominic would say it was a 'great life altogether', and one that was 'pretty hard to beat'... www.hayesfuneralhome.ca

## IN MEMORY

**McGuire**, Ronald – Left us March 11, 2008. We think of you every day. "Sunshine passes, shadows fall Love's remembrance outlasts all." Thinking of you. Your family



**Sparling**, Elden – March 19, 2002 Thinking of you Dad But that is nothing new We thought about you yesterday, And the day before too. We think about you tomorrow, And as the years come and go We think about you forever, Because we loved you so. Love your family

## SERVICES

**Labombard** Electric Motors sales and service of electric motors, starters, alternators, power tools, welders, generators, pumps, etc., C54 Stoney Batter Rd., Shawville, QC. 819-647-2591. bm13



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## NOTICES

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**Most** Holy Apostle St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the Church honours you and invokes you universally as the patron of hopeless cases and things almost despaired of. Pray for me, I am so helpless and alone. Make use, I implore you, of that particular privilege given to you to bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired of. Come to my assistance in this great need that I may receive the consolation and help of Heaven in all my necessities, tribulations and suffering, particularly (here make your request) that I may praise God with you and all the elect forever. I promise, O blessed St. Jude to be ever mindful of this great favour, to always honour you as my special and powerful patron and gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen.

## GOUV. DU QUÉBEC

Communiqué  
**QUEBEC** Le 1 mars 2019

M. Mathieu Lacombe, ministre de la Famille et ministre responsable de la région de l'Outaouais, a procédé au nom du ministre des Transports et ministre responsable de la région de l'Estrie, M. François Bonnardel, à l'annonce d'une aide financière de 488 631 \$ à neuf clubs de motoneige et de VTT de la région de l'Outaouais afin de les soutenir dans leurs efforts pour assurer une pratique sécuritaire de ces loisirs.

L'aide financière permettra aux clubs d'entretenir de manière sécuritaire l'ensemble des sentiers sous leur responsabilité et ce, dans le respect de l'environnement.

« Les sentiers de VTT et de motoneige qui sillonnent tout le Québec sont un moteur de développement économique incontournable pour plusieurs régions. Ils sont entretenus et surveillés par des bénévoles exceptionnels qui travaillent sans relâche à la sécurité des adeptes et à la pérennité de cette industrie qu'ils ont à coeur. Je les remercie de cet engagement

sans borne et je me réjouis de pouvoir les soutenir dans leur travail. » François Bonnardel, ministre des Transports et ministre responsable de la région de l'Estrie.

« Des sentiers sécuritaires et de qualité, voilà ce qui nous permet de rendre la pratique du VTT et de la motoneige attrayante dans notre région et de faire en sorte de demeurer une destination touristique incontournable pour les adeptes. L'aide financière annoncée est un levier sans pareil pour y arriver. » Mathieu Lacombe ministre de la Famille et ministre responsable de la région de l'Outaouais.

### Faits saillants

L'aide financière versée aux 4 clubs de motoneigistes de la région par l'entremise du volet Entretien des sentiers du Programme d'aide financière aux clubs de motoneigistes du Québec est répartie de la façon suivante :

L'association des motoneigistes de Pontiac inc., 23 981 \$;

Association régionale de motoneigistes de la Haute-Gatineau, les ours blancs inc., 144 102 \$;

Club moto-neige pingouins

103 204 \$;

Association des motoneigistes de l'Outaouais 24 678 \$; Total 295 965 \$.

L'aide financière versée aux cinq clubs quads de la région par l'entremise du volet Entretien des sentiers du Programme d'aide financière aux véhicules tout-terrain du Québec est répartie de la façon suivante :

Club Quad Petite-Nation, 42 291 \$;

Club Quad (V.T.T.) de l'Outaouais, 24 351 \$;

Club Quad Vallée de la Gatineau Inc., 62 756 \$;

Club Quad du Pontiac, 45 819 \$;

Club Quad Papineau, 17 449 \$; Total, 192 666 \$.

Rappels que les montants accordés par l'entremise des programmes d'aide financière aux clubs de véhicules hors route (VHR) sont répartis selon deux volets :

Le volet Entretien des sentiers, qui vise l'entretien sécuritaire des sentiers reconnus par la Fédération des clubs de motoneigistes du Québec (FCMQ) ou la Fédération québécoise des clubs quads (FQCCQ), y compris l'achat d'équipement;

Lee volet Sécurité et environnement, qui a pour but notamment de favoriser une signalisation adéquate des sentiers agréés par la FCMQ ou la FQCCQ et d'améliorer la sécurité dans la pratique de ces loisirs. Les montants accordés sont remis directement aux fédérations.

L'aide financière totale accordée à la FCMQ et à ses clubs affiliés par l'entremise des deux volets du Programme d'aide financière aux véhicules tout-terrain du Québec est de 5 958 455 \$ pour l'année financière 2018-2019.

L'aide financière totale accordée à la FCMQ et à ses clubs affiliés par l'entremise des deux volets du Programme d'aide financière aux clubs de motoneigistes du Québec est de 6 984 300 \$ pour l'année financière 2018-2019.

Ces programmes d'aide financière aux clubs de VHR sont en vigueur jusqu'au 31 mars 2019.

Ils sont financés par une contribution sur l'immatriculation de chaque VHR. Les sommes sont alors transférées au Fonds des réseaux de transport terrestre (FORT).

# CISSSO: La ministre Danielle McCann désigne une accompagnatrice à la nouvelle

CISSSO - Communiqué

**QUEBEC** Le 20 fév. 2019

La ministre de la Santé et des Services sociaux, Danielle McCann, annonce la nomination de Martine Couture à titre d'accompagnatrice à la nouvelle présidente-directrice générale (PDG) par intérim du Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux de l'Outaouais (CISSS), Josée Filion. Rappels que cette dernière était jusqu'à maintenant présidente-directrice générale adjointe de l'établissement, et qu'elle devient PDG par intérim à la suite du départ du PDG, Jean Hébert.

Le mandat d'accompagnement confié à madame Couture commence dès maintenant et se prolongera jusqu'au 28 juin prochain. Il consistera principalement à mettre en oeuvre les recommandations du rapport du mandataire spécial, Sylvain

Gagnon, qui avait été nommé par la ministre, le 14 décembre dernier, afin de passer en revue et documenter certains enjeux soulevés par plusieurs partenaires. Ces enjeux concernaient notamment l'organisation des services, la disponibilité des ressources, la réponse aux besoins de la population, la gouvernance du CISSS et le déficit projeté pour l'année en cours.

Madame Couture possède une vaste expérience de gestion dans le réseau de la santé et des services sociaux. De 2015 à 2018, elle a occupé notamment le poste de PDG du Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean. Elle a été auparavant PDG de l'Agence de la santé et des services sociaux du Saguenay Lac-Saint-Jean de 2005 à 2015 et directrice générale du CH-CHSLD-CLSC Cléophas-

Claveau de 1998 à 2005.

« À la suite de l'analyse du rapport du mandataire spécial, nous avons décidé de prendre les mesures qui s'imposent afin de rectifier la situation et de soutenir l'équipe de direction du CISSS. Dans ce contexte, je suis persuadée qu'avec son expérience et son expertise, madame Couture saura contribuer à la mise en oeuvre des mesures de redressement nécessaires. Notre objectif à tous est d'apporter des correctifs efficaces et durables qui permettront d'offrir les meilleurs soins et services possible à la population. » Danielle McCann, ministre de la Santé et des Services sociaux.

### Faits saillants

Le rapport déposé par l'équipe de monsieur Gagnon contient les recommandations suivantes :

Établir des liens de com-

munication efficaces et soutenues avec les autorités régionales et les partenaires locaux;

Favoriser et soutenir la mise en place d'un comité consultatif;

Mieux coordonner les actions sur le territoire;

Assurer une représentation des milieux au sein du conseil d'administration de l'établissement;

Élaborer un plan de consolidation et de développement des services de proximité;

Soutenir la direction du CISSS dans l'élaboration du projet de développement d'un nouveau centre hospitalier.

Liens connexes : Pour prendre connaissance du contenu du rapport, il est possible de consulter la salle de presse du site Web du ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux au www.msss.gouv.qc.ca/presse

# Plus de 160 M\$ seront investis en Outaouais

## GOUV. DU QUÉBEC

Communiqué  
**GATINEAU** Le 11 mars 2019

Le gouvernement du Québec dévoile tous les projets routiers du ministère des Transports en Outaouais pour les années 2019-2021. Le ministre de la Famille et ministre responsable de la région de l'Outaouais, M. Mathieu Lacombe, en a fait l'annonce aujourd'hui au nom ministre des Transports et ministre responsable de la région de l'Estrie, M. François Bonnardel.

Ces projets, qui visent à agir concrètement sur l'état des infrastructures du Ministère, totalisent des investissements de 160 245 000 \$ dans la région de l'Outaouais. Contrairement aux années antérieures, le gouvernement du Québec opte pour la transparence en rendant public l'ensemble des projets pour lesquels :

Des travaux sont prévus en 2019-2020;

Des activités de préparation sont prévues en 2019-2020

dans l'objectif de démarrer des travaux en 2020-2021.

« En investissant massivement comme nous le faisons aujourd'hui dans le réseau routier, notre gouvernement contribue à améliorer et à maintenir nos infrastructures. Contrairement à la pratique des anciens gouvernements, nous misons désormais sur la transparence dans nos investissements. Cela permettra aux citoyens de l'Outaouais et de partout au Québec d'avoir un regard complet sur la totalité des projets pour lesquels des travaux sont prévus au cours des deux prochaines années et d'obtenir une reddition de comptes du Ministère. » François Bonnardel, ministre des Transports et ministre responsable de la région de l'Estrie.

« L'annonce d'aujourd'hui démontre l'importance qu'accorde le gouvernement du Québec au développement économique et à la vitalité de l'Outaouais. Avec ces investissements, nous offrons aux gens d'ici des infrastruc-

tures qui, par leur efficacité et leur sécurité, rehaussent leur qualité de vie dans leurs déplacements de tous les jours. Notre gouvernement entend aussi continuer à être attentif aux besoins des municipalités de la région. » Mathieu Lacombe, ministre de la Famille et ministre responsable de la région de l'Outaouais.

### Faits saillants

Pour la région de l'Outaouais :

79 541 000 \$ seront investis dans la réalisation de projets routiers visant à assurer des chaussées en bon état;

48 327 000 \$ seront investis dans la réalisation de projets routiers visant à assurer des structures en bon état;

31 264 000 \$ seront investis dans la réalisation de projets routiers visant à assurer un réseau efficace et sécuritaire.

Parmi les projets, mention-

Les : L'asphaltage et la réfection de pontceaux sur l'autoroute

50, entre le boulevard Lorrain et la montée Mineault. Il s'agit de travaux d'asphaltage dans les deux directions de l'autoroute 50 sur une distance de 13 kilomètres, et de la reconstruction et du remplacement de trois pontceaux;

La réfection de chaussées et de pontceaux du chemin Basketang à Grand Remous. Ce projet consiste à asphalter 16 km de route et à effectuer la réfection de 7 pontceaux;

L'asphaltage de la route 148, de la rue Alphé-Patry jusqu'à la limite municipale de Lochaber-Partie-Ouest. Ces travaux seront effectués sur 4,5 kilomètres.

1 113 000 \$ seront investis afin d'assurer le maintien en bon état de pontceaux et structures situés sur des emprises ferroviaires abandonnées.

Notons que 4 407 000 \$ du montant global investi en 2019-2021 dans la région proviennent des partenaires.

Liens connexes : La liste complète est disponible sur le site Web du ministère des Transports.

# La présence des femmes et des jeunes dans les lieux décisionnels et consultatifs de la région de l'Outaouais

## GOUV. DU QUÉBEC

Communiqué  
**QUEBEC** Le 11 mars 2019

Le Conseil du statut de la femme publie la mise à jour de sa compilation statistique qui met en valeur la représentation des femmes et des jeunes dans différents lieux décisionnels ou consultatifs de la région de l'Outaouais.

Depuis 2003, le Conseil du statut de la femme collige des données régionales sur la présence des femmes et des jeunes dans ces lieux, et ce, en partenariat avec Citoyenneté jeunesse. Ces données permettent de suivre l'évolution de la situation au fil des ans pour chaque région comme pour l'ensemble du Québec.

En 2018, dans la région de l'Outaouais, une progres-

sion de la représentation des femmes est constatée dans plusieurs secteurs d'activité. Bien que les femmes occupent au moins 40 % des sièges dans bon nombre d'instances, elles demeurent sous-représentées dans d'autres.

À la lumière des faits saillants régionaux, mentionnons que :

En 2018, la région de l'Outaouais tend à se distinguer de l'ensemble du Québec par des proportions plus élevées de femmes dans bon nombre de lieux décisionnels et consultatifs. La tendance inverse est toutefois observable dans six cas : à l'Assemblée nationale, parmi les cadres de la fonction publique québécoise, à la Table d'action en entrepreneuriat, au Conseil

régional de l'environnement, au Conseil régional de la culture et à l'Unité régionale de loisir et de sport.

Les femmes de l'Outaouais occupent, en 2018, au moins 40 per centage des sièges dans plusieurs lieux, notamment au Conseil régional des partenaires du marché du travail (40 per centage), aux conseils des commissaires (46 per centage), ainsi qu'aux conseils d'administration du Conseil régional de la culture (54 per centage), du Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux (47 per centage), de la Table de concertation des aînés (44 per centage), des cégeps (61 per centage), de l'université (56 per centage) et du Forum jeunesse (44 per centage).

La proportion de femmes

de la région se situe, en 2018, au-delà de la zone paritaire dans les MRC (75 per centage de préfètes) et au conseil d'administration de l'Association touristique régionale (64 per centage).

En 2018, la proportion de jeunes de 35 ans et moins est élevée à l'Assemblée nationale (40 per centage) et au conseil d'administration de l'Unité régionale de loisir et de sport (25 per centage). En revanche, les jeunes sont absents des instances recensées dans les domaines de l'environnement et de la santé.

Le Conseil du statut de la femme a pour mission de conseiller le gouvernement du Québec et d'informer la population sur les questions d'égalité entre les femmes et les hommes.



# THE EQUITY

Deadline Monday 12 noon:

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Quyon  
JILL YOUNG

819-918-0623 jillianyoung6@gmail.com

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Dominic Foran who passed away on March 10 at the age of 93. Deepest sympathy to his wife Bunny and all of his loved ones as they mourn the loss of a kind and caring man.

Congratulations to Amanda (Smith) and Ryan Tracy on the safe arrival of their baby boy Charlie on March 6. I hear both the new mom and baby are doing well. Wishing Amanda and Ryan all the best with their handsome little man.

The Quyon Lions Club hosted their annual pancake supper last Tuesday evening at the Quyon Legion and it was a delicious meal. There was a great crowd out to enjoy the dinner and it was nice to see so many friendly faces. Kudos to the Lions for serving up the traditional Pancake Tuesday meal that is such a sweet tradition in our community.

Happy first birthday to Maddox and Zayden Alexander as they celebrate on March 13. Birthday wishes are going out to Donna Provost also on March 13, to Ellard Kennedy on March 15, to Ryan Woermke on March 17 and to Michael McCann and Tayler Campbell both on March 19. Blessings to everyone celebrating this week.

St. Joseph's Manor in Campbell's Bay is home to many beloved family members and friends including several from the Quyon area. They are currently running a Facebook online auction to raise money.

There is an amazing selection of donated items and services up for bidding. Be sure to check it out and support the folks at St. Joseph's.

It's just about time to go green. St. Patrick's Day is right around the corner and Quyon is the place to be this weekend. The festivities begin on Saturday kicking off with the annual Irish Tea hosted by the young women of the Quyon Pastoral Charge. Join us for sandwiches, squares and tea all served on fancy china. We will also be raffling off a giant basket o' Irish fun just brimming with everything green. The tea will be held in the Quyon United Church basement from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and all are welcome.

That same afternoon, the Legion will be hosting their annual Irish Kitchen Party, which is always a great time. Bring your instruments and join in the fun.

Then on Sunday, head to Gavan's for the grand-daddy party of them all. This year's festivities will be hosted by Gail Gavan and Art Jamieson with a full slate of Irish entertainment on stage all day long. There have been rumours swirling about the future of the hotel but they have recently been put to rest. Gavan's is not closing, but Nick is retiring. So be sure to get out on Sunday and wish him well at this legendary party that he has been holding for many, many years.

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all.



Vinton

DIANE BOISVERT 819-921-5296

What a beautiful and crazy weekend we just had. Saturday was absolutely gorgeous and everything was melting and then Sunday it was a mixture of snow and heavy winds making it difficult to drive and the visibility very poor. You do know it's March and anything can happen.

I hope you all remembered to put your clocks ahead one hour. What a difference one hour makes, it's already getting me excited for spring.

I would like to wish the following people a very happy birthday. Norma Sparling on March 13, Brady McCrank on March 14, Connor Sloan on March 16, Raymond Shea, Travis

Corriveau on March 17, Tao Davidson, Raymond Pilon and Robert Larivière on March 18, Joey Pare, Tianna Bertrand, Lauren Kluge, and Ricky Crawford all on March 19.

I would also like to wish Amanda and Simon Baxter a happy anniversary on March 17.

I have been painting all winter so I'm planning to have an art show of my own this spring. So watch for ads in THE EQUITY for further information.

This week is March break for the Ontario school children. I'd like to go visit my grandchildren but it depends on the weather and March is so unpredictable.



Shawville

LYSE LACOURSE 819-647-5932

lyse38o@gmail.com

Allison Corrigan saw a groundhog on his laneway on Saturday morning at 10 a.m. Another proof that spring is on its way. Encouraging for all of us.

The following people are celebrating birthdays this week: Hannah Judd, Adele Lafleur, Evan Atkinson, Jennifer Judd, Randy Pitt, James Sally, Cathy MacFarlane, Madison Hodgins, Jim Gilmore, Cody Hodgins, Patrick Latreille, Wendy Taylor, Connie Walsh, Robin Durocher, Jessica Young, Robin Beattie, Benjamin Woodman, Courtney Elliott, Patsy Belsher, Cedric Judd,

Margaret Wall, Donna Young, Royce Hodgins, Bill Hobbs, Ayden Hodgins, Mary Lou Sly, Danny Stewart, Ronald Deering, Stephen Hamilton, Richard Alexander, Steve Forbes and Cayden Lemay.

William and Sally Keindel are celebrating their wedding anniversary on March 18.

Our sympathies to the Dean and McCallum families on the loss of Jean on March 3 in Shawville in her 88th year.

Our thoughts and prayers for the McDowell and Richardson families on the loss of Sheila on March 5.



Waltham

HELEN PERRY 819-689-2652

What a surprise it was to receive an unexpected phone call from a dear friend, Charlene Arcand of Brockville, Ont. the other day. Charlene and I grew up in Cornwall, Ont. It is so easy to get caught up in our lives and we sometimes tend to forget our friends. It was nice catching up on what is going on in each other's lives. We promised to keep in touch.

Get well wishes, thoughts and prayers are with our Parish Priest Fr. Réal Ouellette who is on a temporary leave.

Well on Sunday, Old Man Winter let us know that he was not going to give up too easily. He gave us another blast of snow mixed with freezing rain.

On Sunday afternoon, Celtic gospel group Rhythm and Grace, the Duketow family, from Lakefield, Ont. performed at Our Lady Of Perpetual Help Church. These talented musicians provided a wonderful afternoon of entertainment.

Sunday is St. Patrick's Day, so don't forget to wear your green and have a good week.



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2019 GMC SIERRA CREW CAB ELEVATION

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Total obligation is \$23,586. Freight (\$1,895) and air conditioning charge (\$100, if applicable) included. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by dealer and region) are extra. Option to purchase at lease end is \$34,545. See dealer for details. Credits vary by model. Dealer may sell for less. Factory order may be required. Limited time offer which may not be combined with certain other offers. Offers may not be redeemed for Cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer offers. \* Offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada for vehicles purchased and delivered between March 1 and April 1, 2019. Lease based on suggested retail price of \$38,285/\$44,195 including \$450/\$450 Cash Delivery Allowance (tax exclusive), \$1,932/\$0 Option Package Discount and \$1,500/\$1,500 Lease Cash (tax exclusive) towards the lease of an eligible 2019 Terrain SLE 2.0L All-Wheel Drive Black Edition/2019 Terrain Denali All-Wheel Drive model. Bi-weekly payment is \$191/\$229 for 48/48 months at 1.5%/1.5% lease rate (1.5%/1.5% APR) on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. The \$95/\$114 weekly payment is calculated by dividing the bi-weekly payments. Payments cannot be made on a weekly basis. Equivalent weekly payments are for informational purposes only. Annual kilometer limit of 20,000 km/20,000 km, \$0.16/\$0.16 per excess kilometer. \$0/\$0 down payment required. Payment may vary depending on down payment trade. Total obligation is \$19,830/\$23,783. Freight (\$1,895) and air conditioning charge (\$100, if applicable) included. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by dealer and region) are extra. Option to purchase at lease end is \$16,080/\$20,330. See dealer for details. Credits vary by model. Dealer may sell for less. Factory order may be required. Limited time offer which may not be combined with certain other offers. General Motors of Canada Company may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. 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The purchase or lease of a vehicle does not qualify for the calculation of the Costco Executive Membership 2% reward. Not compatible with some other GM Canada incentives. For full program details and for any applicable exclusions, see a participating dealer or costco.ca/gm. For Costco Cash Card terms and conditions, visit Costco.ca and search "Cash Card". The Winter Sales Event is subject to change without notice. Void where prohibited. Costco and its affiliates do not sell automobiles or negotiate individual transactions. ® Registered trademark of Price Costco International, Inc. used under license. Before you buy a vehicle or use it for trailing, carefully review the trailing section of the Owner's Manual. The weight of passengers, cargo and options or accessories may reduce the amount you can tow. \* Whenever comes first. Conditions and limitations apply. See your dealer for details. \* Visit onstar.ca for vehicle availability, coverage maps, details and system limitations. Services and connectivity vary by model and conditions as well as geographical and technical restrictions. 4G LTE service available in select markets. Requires active connected vehicle services and a data plan to access the vehicle's built-in Wi-Fi hotspot. Accessory Power must be active to use the Wi-Fi hotspot. Data plans provided by AT&T or its local service provider. Credit card is required for purchase. Comparison based on WardAuto.com 2018 Large Light-Duty Pickup segment and latest competitive information available at time of printing. Excludes other GM vehicles. Before you buy a vehicle or use it for trailing, carefully review the trailing section of the Owner's Manual. The weight of passengers, cargo and options or accessories may reduce the amount you can tow. Full functionality requires compatible Bluetooth and smartphone, and USB connectivity for some devices. Data plan rates may apply. \* At time of posting, detailed map coverage is available for most major urban areas of the United States and for certain metropolitan areas of Canada (Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Windsor, London, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec City and Halifax). Coverage is significantly limited outside these areas.