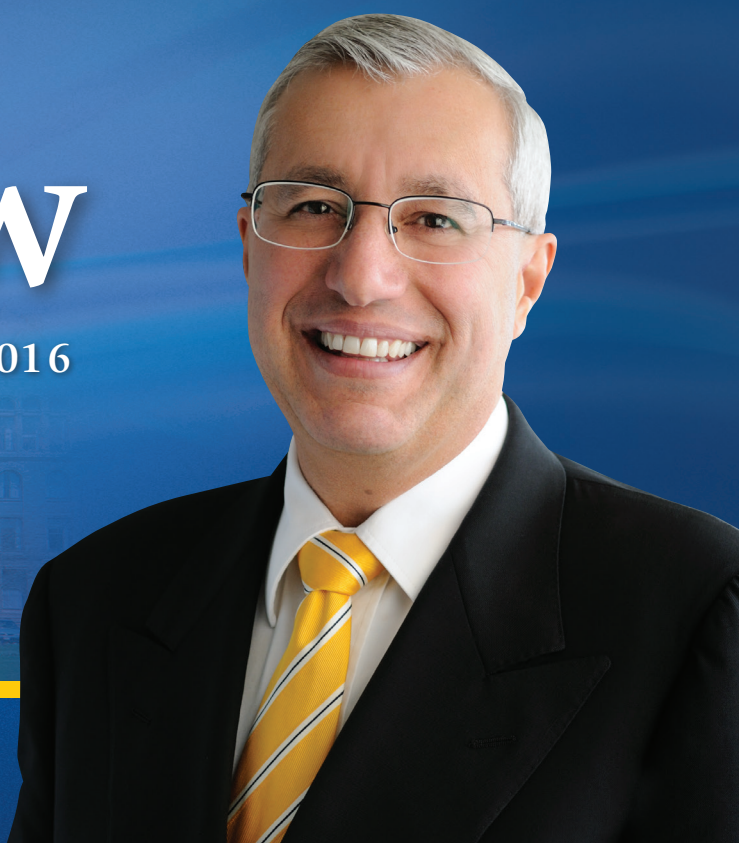


Nipissing Point of View

SUMMER/FALL/WINTER 2016



Vic Fedeli MPP



From My Point of View

It's been quite a while since the last newsletter, but I re-ignite my commitment to share stories from around Nipissing at least twice a year. And as always, I will be pointing my camera at you and presenting photos I hope will interest you.



Cranberry Day

Callander knows how to throw a community party! Cranberry Day started with wagon rides and a scenic walk down a spectacular trail to the cranberry bog. The day was filled with children's activities, cranberry tea for the folks, and other treats. It ended with a boot-scootin' dance at the Community Centre.

Smoke 'n' Spurs

Powassan was the place to dust off your cowboy hat, shine up your boots, and saddle up as the Rodeo came to town! Close to 10,000 people gathered for a fun-filled weekend of traditional rodeo events including bareback and saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, roping, barrel racing, and of course ... bull riding.



Hollywood North!

The film industry continues to see great value in working right here in Nipissing. Several firms are engaged in filming throughout the city, while one has opened their own studio in North Bay. It's getting to be commonplace to see Brooke Shields in a local coffee shop, or Beau Bridges walking down Main Street.



Above and Beyond

Canadore College's aviation program continues to soar. They took delivery of a Boeing 727 aircraft, donated by KF Aerospace. The plane's tremendous size and interior configuration allows for larger groups of students to practice simultaneously, and its fully-operational systems and avionics equipment are important to student learning.

HYDRO ONE OMBUDSMAN COMES TO NIPISSING

Without question, the number one issue in my office is hydro, hydro, hydro! And with the sale of Hydro One, the government has removed all oversight by the Legislative Officers. To assist MPPs in helping their customers, Hydro One has hired their own Ombudsman. Fionna Creen came to Mattawa and Callander to meet face-to-face with Hydro One customers.

Over 60 people attended in Mattawa, where Fionna listened to their issues and took their information for direct follow-up. Many were worried about the skyrocketing costs, and several were concerned with the level of service and charges they felt were in error.

In Callander, over 120 people crammed into the Community Centre. Most had questions about their Smart Meters or issues such as intermittent power service. Many complained about the effect the rising hydro costs are having on their households and businesses. Following the meeting, the Ombudsman invited people to address her one-on-one with their issue, where she promised to do everything to fix their problems or get answers for them.

I continue to bring the issue of hydro to the floor of the Legislature, almost every single day. There are several government programs available to help you with your electricity bill, and you can contact my office through the numbers found on the back page.



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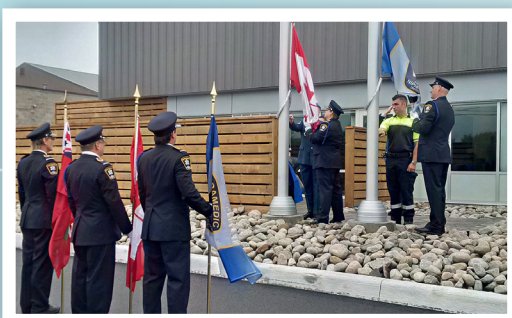
65 Years and Growing

To commemorate the 65th anniversary of CFB North Bay, the men, women, and families who continue to support the NORAD mission planted trees. It was such a treat to see the little kids participating in what turned out to be a real family affair.



Powassan Farmers' Market

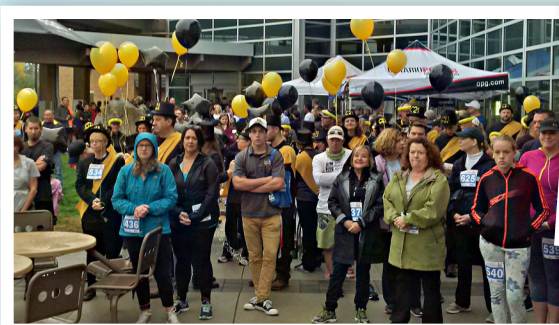
There are Farmers' Markets held all throughout Nipissing and they help stimulate the local economy, increase access to fresh nutritious food, create healthy communities, preserve farmland and rural livelihoods, and support local arts, music, and culture.



Paramedic Services Station

The new Paramedic Services Station is officially open. The ceremony was held exactly one year after the ground-breaking

took place. The Seymour Street location is centrally-located and consolidates two former locations. This was also a great opportunity to thank the men and women who serve us 24/7 during the most challenging times of our lives.



Walk, Bike, Run

Throughout the summer and fall there are dozens of what we used to call 'walk-a-thons'. Now they have become family events where participants can walk, ride their bicycle, or watch from the sidelines as many people partake in 5K or 10K runs. Here the crowd gathers in the fall rain for the 10th annual 'Our Hospital Walk/Run'.



Toonie Tea

One of my absolute favourite days is year is the Toonie Tea held at the Golden Age Centre in North Bay. Seniors from all across the city are invited for an afternoon of fun and frivolity, skits (they usually make me dress up), music and singing, snacks and treats. It really is a fun afternoon for everyone.

Welcome to Queen's Park

Each summer, several Nipissing schools head down to Toronto and take in a tour of Queen's Park. Chippewa Secondary School was the latest North Bay group. Visits can include a building tour, inside-out tour, art and architecture tour, Victorian tea tour, citizenship tour, and an ESL tour.



Happy Canada Day



There are Canada Day celebrations all throughout Nipissing, but none draw as large a crowd as the one at North Bay's Waterfront. Funny, there always seems to be umbrellas in the photos, year after year. Nonetheless, the cake is huge (and delicious), the crowd belts out a great Oh Canada, and people enjoy the day.

Ramadan Feast

Eid al-Fitr, the 'festival of breaking of the fast' is an important religious holiday celebrated by Muslims worldwide that marks the end of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of fasting. In North Bay, the families gather for a wonderful potluck feast, filled with various foods from around the globe.



Learning the Legislature

Several officials from Queen's Park toured Ontario and set up 'mock Legislatures' including this one in Mattawa. Students sit on opposing sides (like the real Legislature) and a student is selected as the Speaker. Debate on a current topic is selected, and the students make their cases. It's democracy in action!

Turkey Supper Time

An important part of my job as MPP is to attend social functions, and have an opportunity to speak directly to the folks I represent. Naturally, a big part of that is breaking bread together. The fall offers a particular bounty. This spread of deserts can be found at the annual Trout Creek turkey supper fundraiser.



Vic Fedeli MPP

Delivering for all of Nipissing

Métis AGA

The Métis Nation of Ontario held their 23rd Annual General Assembly in North Bay. Pictured is Margaret Froh, the new MNO President.

The weekend started Friday evening, as an excited crowd gathered along the banks of the Lavase River and cheered as a group of Métis leaders paddled traditional Voyageur canoes towards Lake Nipissing, at Champlain Park in North Bay. I was so pleased to share a space in that canoe, to help kick off this AGA.



Le Jour des Franco-Ontariens et des Franco-Ontariennes

Cette année marquait la septième année que l'on célèbre la levée du drapeau franco-ontarien à l'Hôtel de ville de North Bay. Cette belle journée remplie d'activités organisés conjointement par le Conseil scolaire catholique Franco-North et le Conseil scolaire public du Nord Est de l'Ontario, soulignait le 41ième anniversaire de la création du drapeau franco-ontarien. L'évènement fut un grand succès tel que le démontre les photos ci-jointes.

Franco-Ontarian Day

The Francophone community of North Bay gathered at City Hall to celebrate the 7th Franco-Ontarian Day. This year marked the 41st anniversary of the Franco-Ontarian flag. To make the event even more successful, the Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est de l'Ontario and Conseil scolaire catholique Franco-Nord developed a joint celebration, and the photo shows just what a success it was.

Seen Around the Riding

The famous Bonfield Sea Pie Picnic has been going strong since 1886 when it was introduced by the family of Jean-Baptiste Foisy as a fundraiser for the new church. Now, 130 years later, his descendents continue to be responsible for cooking the sea pie and the beans.

In the early years, wild meats and potatoes were used. Over the years, the recipe has evolved, but the exact ingredients remain a well-guarded secret. Basically, the cast-iron pots are filled with alternating layers of meat (beef, pork, and chicken) and pastry, along with salt, pepper, and onion. Chicken broth is added on top, just before the baking starts. The large outdoor brick ovens are prepared the night before, by burning mostly hardwood and building a coal bed. Twelve hours later, the 50 or so pots of sea pie and the 20 pots of beans are slid into the 750 degree ovens and the doors are closed for the next six hours.

In the afternoon, Saint Bernadette Parish is alive with the sights and smells of a rich history. The day comes together thanks to the 100 volunteers who serve 2,000 meals to guests who either sit-down for a family-style meal, or take their sea pie home to share. They volunteers work as a team, make new friends, and introduce newcomers with a warm welcome. If you haven't experienced this, make your way to Bonfield next summer. Long iron poles are used to extract the 70 pots of sea pies and beans. The 100 volunteers serve 2,000 servings to eat-in or take-out. Over 1,000 homemade fruit and sugar pies, as well as cinnamon buns are prepared!



Vu autour de la circonscription

Cela fait depuis plusieurs années que le Bonfield Cipaille Pique-Nique est populaire. Cet évènement annuel a commencé en 1886 pour prélever des fonds pour la nouvelle église. Du début le cipaille était le met favori et surtout la fameuse recette de la famille de Jean Baptiste Foisy. À ce jour ses descendants sont responsables de la cuisson des cipailles et des fèves au lard.

Dans les premières années on utilisait de la viande sauvage et des patates pour faire les cipailles. Au fils des années, la recette a été raffinée, mais elle demeure toujours un secret jalousement gardé. Essentiellement il s'agit d'un assemblage de couches de viandes (boeuf, porc et volaille), superposé de couches de pâtes et déposé dans une marmite en fonte avec couvercle. On y ajoute du sel, du poivre, des oignons et du bouillon de poulet.

Le soir avant le pique-nique, l'on chauffe des grands fours extérieurs situés à l'arrière de l'église Sainte-Bernadette. Sur un lit de braise de bois, chauffé à 750 degrés, l'on y dépose une cinquantaine marmites de cipaille et environ vingt chaudrons de fèves au lard.

Le jour du pique-nique, la Paroisse Sainte-Bernadette est animée par les bonnes odeurs et une ambiance conviviale. Au delà de 2,000 repas sont servis grâce à une centaine de bénévoles qui s'impliquent. Les invités peuvent soit manger sur place ou prendre leur cipaille et leur fèves et les apporter à la maison. C'est un travail d'équipe qui assure le succès de cette tradition communautaire. La joie de se rencontrer et de travailler ensemble est essentiel à son succès et elle permet aux nouveaux venus dans la communauté de s'introduire. N'hésitez pas à venir à Bonfield et participer à cet évènement communautaire inoubliable.

On utilise des longues tiges de fer pour retirer les marmites des fours. Une centaine de bénévoles servent plus de 2,000 repas pour consommation sur place ou pour emporter. Aussi plus de 1,000 tartes sont cuites pour le pique-nique en plus des fameux "pêtes de soeurs."

BECOME A LEGISLATIVE PAGE

If you're a Grade 7 or 8 student, the Ontario Legislative Page Program is a wonderful way to experience and be involved in our democratic system of government! Pages are selected from applicants across Ontario and serve as a messengers of the House at Queen's Park in Toronto. To receive an application package, phone (416) 325-7457 or email page_program@ontla.ola.org

DEVENEZ PAGE DE L'ASSEMBLÉE LÉGISLATIVE DE L'ONTARIO

Si vous êtes un élève de la 7e ou 8e année, le programme des pages législatives de l'Ontario est une merveilleuse façon de découvrir et de participer dans notre système démocratique du gouvernement! Les pages sont choisis parmi les candidats de l'Ontario et servent de messagers pour l'Assemblée législative de l'Ontario à Queen's Park à Toronto. Pour recevoir une trousse de demande, téléphonez au (416) 325-7457 ou communiquez par courriel à page_program@ontla.ola.org

PETITION THE LEGISLATURE

Do you want to register your voice on a specific issue with the Ontario Legislature? Consider starting a petition, or signing one that someone else has already started! Forms can be downloaded from www.fedeli.com or picked up at a my office front desk where many petitions have already been started!

PÉTITIONNEZ L'ASSEMBLÉE LÉGISLATIVE DE L'ONTARIO

Voulez-vous enregistrer votre opinion à propos un sujet spécifique avec l'Assemblée législative de l'Ontario? Envisager de lancer une pétition, ou de signer une que quelqu'un d'autre a déjà commencé ! Les formulaires peuvent être téléchargés de le site web www.fedeli.com ou vous pouvez ramasser un formulaire à mon bureau où de nombreuses pétitions ont déjà été commencé!



Looking for Business Overseas

This year I joined the Leader of Her Majesty's Official Opposition, Patrick Brown, on a Mission to India, where we met with their Prime Minister, Narendra Modi. This trip offered an opportunity to meet with the film industry where I pitched Nipissing as an excellent location for their next production. I also met with their aerospace sector and promoted Canadore College and North Bay's 10,000' runway for training opportunities. Incidentally, there was no taxpayer money spent on any portion of this trip.

Ring of Fire

Almost 10 years ago, chromite and nickel were discovered in Ontario's far North. I took my 5th trip to the Ring of Fire to assess the status. On my first trip, back in 2011, there were 250 men and women working at several company sites. This last trip was disappointing, as there were only a half-dozen people left, strictly as caretakers. I continue to stand in the Legislature to push for a plan to unlock the riches buried in the Ring of Fire. Here I am with Patrick Brown and Alan Coutts, President of Noront Resources.



Standing Up For Seniors

In the last provincial budget the government announced they would be doubling the cost of prescription drugs for seniors. The battle to have that reversed began right here in Nipissing. We held a 'Standing Up For Seniors' rally in my office and began a series of presentations in the Legislature. Thanks to the great support and voices of seniors all across Ontario, we were successful in getting this removed from the final budget Bill.



Lest We Forget

There's been no greater privilege than to stand in the Legislature as Hon. Colonel of the Algonquin Regiment, and talk about our veterans. The men and women who have served our country both past and present, should be recognized and honoured. I stood to read a Remembrance Day poem written by 91 year old Branch 23 Legion member Lionel Murphy. Sadly we lost Lionel this fall, before I stood to read his poem.

We're Here to Help!

My constituency office is open Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5 p.m. You can reach me or my staff with any issue you may have, as we are here to help you. We can help you with your health card, birth certificate, celebratory scrolls, social services, and a multitude of other issues.

Vic Fedeli, MPP, Nipissing

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Pictured from left to right: Rahul Bedi (Executive Assistant, Queen's Park), Andrea Stoppa (Executive Assistant, North Bay), Vic Fedeli, MPP Nipissing, Julie Kingsbury, Constituency Assistant, Gwen Millard (Constituency Assistant).

Delivering for all of Nipissing



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