

# Nipissing Point of View

WINTER/SPRING 2017



**Vic Fedeli MPP**



## From my Point of View

This newsletter is a great way to showcase what's been happening in the Nipissing region over the last little while. And for the most part, I will be pointing my camera at you and presenting photos that hopefully will capture your interest!



### World Women's Curling

It will be a world-class show and North Bay curling fans are already abuzz with excitement at the prospect of welcoming the world's best women's curling teams to the city, next March. Congratulations to the organizing team on a great job winning this prestigious event!

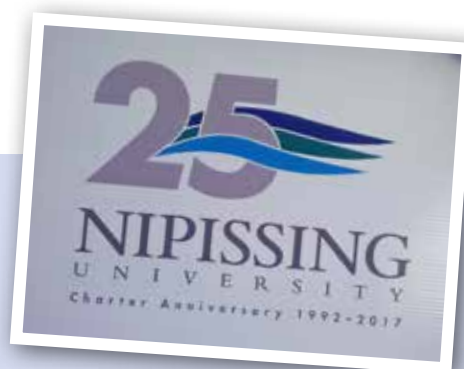
### Skiing Nipissing

We're blessed with two wonderful ski hills in our region. Laurentian is located minutes from downtown North Bay and offers a fun, exciting, and family-friendly atmosphere to strap on your skis or board. Mattawa's Antoine Mountain features a true vertical of 630 feet, 15 perfectly-groomed runs, and is home to the longest run in Ontario, at 2.9 km.



### Tree Tapping Time

Nipissing Township Mayor Tom Piper shows us how to tap trees in his community, while Dave Mathews of Mathews Maple Syrup is at the ready with the buckets. 'Sappy' the mascot was on hand to remind us of the Powassan Maple Syrup Festival on April 25.



### Year-long Celebration

It's been 25 years since Nipissing University received its charter, making it an independent degree granting institution. Over the course of the upcoming year, Nipissing plans to celebrate its silver anniversary with many events and initiatives, and is calling on anyone interested to get involved in planning, organizing, and running the celebrations.

## PROVINCIAL-WIDE PRE-BUDGET CONSULTATIONS

As a member of the Standing Committee on Finance, I travelled to dozens of cities this winter to hear the concerns and requests of families and businesses, with respect to the 2017 budget.

Here are some quotes the all-Party committee heard:

*"I think electricity is one of the many areas that makes Ontario investment less attractive than only a short while ago."* – Craig Wright, Chief Economist, RBC

*"... our electricity increased by 18% in 2016; it would have been a 65% saving on our electricity bill if we had operated in Manitoba instead of Ontario."* – Rory McAlpine, Maple Leaf Foods

*"... because of the high cost of electricity, companies are looking at other, more competitive jurisdictions, particularly with what's going on in the US."* – Gerry Macartney, London Chamber of Commerce

*"Most jurisdictions use energy costs to promote economic development, not to kill jobs, which is what we're doing in Ontario."* – Frank Dottori, White River Forest Products

*"We don't worry about our competition anymore. We fear the government. Better than giving us money, would be policies that aren't bankrupting us."* – Jocelyn Williams Bamford, Automatic Coating

The budget is expected to be released sometime before the end of April.



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## Mining for Business

Nipissing was well represented at the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada annual convention in Toronto.

North Bay has close to 70 mining and machinery companies, and most of the surrounding communities have shops with expertise that is exported, as well.

## Disney's Aladdin

Dreamcoat Fantasy Theatre's Aladdin certainly didn't disappoint anyone in the crowd. Students from Grades 3 to 8 rehearsed for almost four months, and 95 children participated in the production at the Capitol Centre. Congratulations to the entire cast and crew on another terrific show!



## CELEBRATE ONTARIO FUNDING Summer in the Park

Summer in the Park received \$52,162 to enhance their programs, activities, and services. This annual North Bay event serves up family fun all day, and concerts at night. Celebrate Ontario is an annual program that helps new and existing Ontario festivals and events.



## TRILLIUM GRANT Corbeil 4-Season's Club

Corbeil 4-Season's Club received \$54,300 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to help with much-needed facility upgrades and renovations. The Club is vital to East Ferris, and these renovations will ensure the Club provides tremendous recreational opportunities for many years.



## ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL Near North Mobile Media Lab

\$30,000 has been awarded to the Near North Mobile Media Lab Collective through the Compass program. This funding will go towards an arts management intern, necessary to continue a vibrant arts and culture community in our region.



## ONTARIO150 GRANT North Bay Museum Society

\$151,500 was awarded to the North Bay Museum Society, through the Ontario150 Community Capital Program. The grant will provide infrastructure improvements for the Discovery North Bay Museum, and reduced maintenance costs will allow for increased focus on exhibits and community programming.

## Hard Rock Medical

Filming of the 3rd Season of *Hard Rock Medical* took place at or near Canadore College. Students from the Television and Digital Cinema programs not only were paid, but they received hands-on education working on a television series. In addition, there were 45 local actors in continuing roles and the music, performed almost entirely by local artists, is by a North Bay composer.



## CTV's Cardinal

Location filming for the CTV's series *Cardinal* took place in North Bay over the winter. *Cardinal* is an adaptation of Giles Blunt's award-winning novel *Forty Words for Sorrow*, with John Cardinal investigating the murder of young girl in Algonquin Bay. Blunt grew up in North Bay and he uses city streets and references throughout the series.



## Kids' Activity Day

The Callander Community Centre comes alive most weekends, but none were as exciting as the Callander Library's 5th Annual Kids' Activity Day. There was fun for the whole family and great events for kids of all ages. All proceeds went to the Library Building Fund.



## Teen Lunch

Area youth head over to St. Brice Anglican's for their 'Teen Lunch' held every Friday. There are over 100 kids that line up for a delicious hot meal. It is lovingly prepared by volunteers from six different denominations, and provided through donations and goodies brought in by the volunteers themselves.



**Vic Fedeli MPP**

*Delivering for all of Nipissing*



# Hope Awaits

Hope Awaits Ministries is a Christian-run charity that is constructing a men’s homeless shelter in North Bay. Their goal is to offers skills programs to help individuals become self-sufficient and live a healthy, balanced lifestyle. Gene, Nicole, and Emily are staffing the clothing depot, while the renovations continue.



# Carnaval Les Compagnons

Winter wouldn’t be the same without le Carnaval Les Compagnons! The annual Franco-Ontarian celebration is now more than a half-century old, and is certainly reason to get up and dance. It was a pleasure to take in the song and dance performances from the local children at the opening ceremonies.

# Carnaval Les Compagnons

L’hiver ne serait pas la même sans le Carnaval Les Compagnons ! La célébration annuelle franco-ontarienne est maintenant plus vieux qu’un demi-siècle, et donne certainement raison pour se lever et danser. Ce fut un plaisir de voir et entendre les chansons et danses du spectacle des enfants de la région à la cérémonie d’ouverture.

# Seen around Nipissing

When you put your blue box out, you’ve done your job for the environment ... and it’s time for Luc Labonte, owner of RND Recycling to do his. Since 1999, Luc and his right-hand man Nick Nauta have been operating this licenced recycling facility.

Their area covers Mattawa to St. Charles and Englehart to South River, excluding North Bay and Callander. They offer curbside pick-up for municipalities, pick-up service for various business and landfill recyclables, or have contractors deliver recyclables directly to the warehouse.

The recyclables come in all mixed together – there’s one stream. From there, the magic of sorting begins. And I say magic because it usually takes a lot for me to get excited about something – but this was truly amazing.

A large conveyor belt takes all the products to a sort line, and various machines separate the material. Large rollers allow only the cardboard to move along to another conveyor, and the rest of the material advances. Blowing air then separates the newspaper onto another channel. The plastic and cans go into an optical sorter. The cans and aluminum fall through, and are further separated by various magnets. The plastics are blown forward and are further sorted by grade, in that optical sorter.

The whole process moves at lightning speed, and is nothing short of amazing! Each product is then baled for delivery to the various end users.

*Luc Labonte and his daughter Angele are turning one person’s trash into another’s treasure! They operate RND Recycling on Highway 17, west of North Bay.*



# Vu autour de Nipissing

Lorsque vous mettez votre boîte bleue dehors, vous avez faites votre contribution pour l’environnement ... et il est ensuite le temps que Luc Labonté, propriétaire de RND Recycling fait la sienne. Depuis 1999, Luc et son homme de droite Nick Nauta opèrent cette installation de recyclage autorisée.

Leur région couvre de Mattawa à St. Charles et de Englehart à South River, à l’exclusion de North Bay et Callander. Ils offrent des services de ramassage pour les municipalités, pour diverses entreprises, et pour les sites d’enfouissement. Ils ont également des entrepreneurs qui livrent des matières recyclables directement à l’entrepôt.

Les articles recyclables entrent dans l’entrepôt tout mélangé ensemble et sont placés sur un convoyeur à bande. De là, la magie de classement commence. Et je dis la magie parce que habituellement ça prend beaucoup pour m’impressionner – mais c’était vraiment extraordinaire!

Un grand convoyeur à bande prend tous les produits dans une ligne de triage et les diverses machines séparent les matériels. De grands rouleaux permettent seulement au carton d’avancer à un autre convoyeur à bande et le restant de la matière avance à la prochaine étape. Le soufflage de l’air sépare alors le papier sur un autre convoyeur à bande. Le plastique et les canettes vont dans un trieur optique. Les canettes et l’aluminium tombent et se font séparées par les diverses aimants. Les plastiques sont soufflées vers l’avant et sont triés encore par catégorie de plastique, par la trieuse optique.

Le processus entier déroule avec une vitesse rapide comme l’éclair et n’est rien que stupéfiant! Chaque produit est ensuite emballé pour livraison aux différents utilisateurs finaux.

*Luc Labonté et sa fille Angèle transforment les déchets d’une personne dans les trésors d’une autre! RND Recycling, et tous les processus qui déroulent là, est situé à Autoroute 17 à l’ouest de North Bay.*

# CAN THE OMBUDSMAN HELP YOU?

Ontario Ombudsman Paul Dubé helps Ontarians tackle their problems with the provincial government, as well as with municipalities, universities and school boards. As an independent, impartial body, the Ombudsman’s Office resolves individual public complaints and investigates major systemic problems affecting thousands, or even millions, of people. In the past year, the Office received more than 22,000 complaints about everything from birth certificates, Northern Health Travel Grants, and ODSP, to wide-ranging issues like services for adults with developmental disabilities in crisis and the use of segregation in Ontario jails.

If you have a complaint, call toll-free at 1-800-263-1830, fill out an online complaint form, or email [info@ombudsman.on.ca](mailto:info@ombudsman.on.ca). You can learn more about whether the Ombudsman can help you at [www.ombudsman.on.ca](http://www.ombudsman.on.ca)



# L'OMBUDSMAN PEUT-IL VOUS AIDER?

L’Ombudsman de l’Ontario a pour rôle de promouvoir la transparence et la responsabilisation du secteur public. L’Ombudsman Paul Dubé et son équipe aident les Ontariens à régler leurs problèmes avec le gouvernement provincial, les municipalités, les universités et les conseils scolaires. Indépendant et impartial, l’Ombudsman résout des plaintes individuelles et enquête sur des problèmes systémiques qui touchent des millions de personnes. L’an dernier, son Bureau a reçu plus de 22 000 plaintes sur maints sujets, allant des certificats de naissance aux subventions aux résidents du Nord de l’Ontario pour frais de transport à des fins médicales, jusqu’à des problèmes majeurs comme les services aux adultes ayant une déficience intellectuelle et l’isolement dans les prisons de l’Ontario.

Si vous avez une plainte, appelez sans frais le 1-800-263-1830, remplissez un formulaire en ligne, ou envoyez un courriel à [info@ombudsman.on.ca](mailto:info@ombudsman.on.ca). Pour en savoir plus sur l’aide de l’Ombudsman, [www.ombudsman.on.ca](http://www.ombudsman.on.ca)





## Nipissing First Nation

Patrick Brown checks out a Dreamcatcher along with Huron-Bruce MPP Lisa Thompson and me, at the 5th Annual Nipissing First Nation Artist Gathering & Show. It was a fun-filled day for viewing and purchasing authentic Anishinaabe art, and listening to a variety of musical entertainment. Held at Nipissing Secondary School, all proceeds went to Nipissing First Nation's 2017 Pow Wow.

## Columbia Forest Products

It was a welcome sight to see the boilers fired up again at Columbia Forest Products in Rutherglen! After being closed for more than 6 years, the veneer plant is back in operation. The return of their employees will bolster Columbia's position as the leading supplier of rotary-peeled birch, maple, and red oak hardwood veneer to the hardwood plywood stock panel business in North America.



## Safe Texting Zones Act

My Private Members' Bill, the Safe Texting Zone Act, received all-Party support at 2nd Reading, and now moves on to the committee stage. This Act would allow for signage to be placed in advance of the 185 existing rest stops, commuter parking lots, service areas, or other similar locations, and designate them as a 'texting zone' to encourage travellers not to text until they pull into a safe zone.



## Saving the Girl Next Door

In 2014 Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott (centre) spearheaded the creation of an all-Party committee on sexual violence and harassment. In North Bay, along with Simcoe-Grey MPP Jim Wilson and local champions, she presented her Private Members' Bill entitled Saving the Girl Next Door. The government now put it in their own legislation entitled the Anti-Human Trafficking Act.

## 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: Julie Kingsbury (Constituency Assistant), Greg Gordan (Executive Assistant, Queen's Park), Vic Fedeli, MPP Nipissing, Gwen Millard (Constituency Assistant) and Andrea Stoppa (Executive Assistant, North Bay).

*Delivering for all of Nipissing*