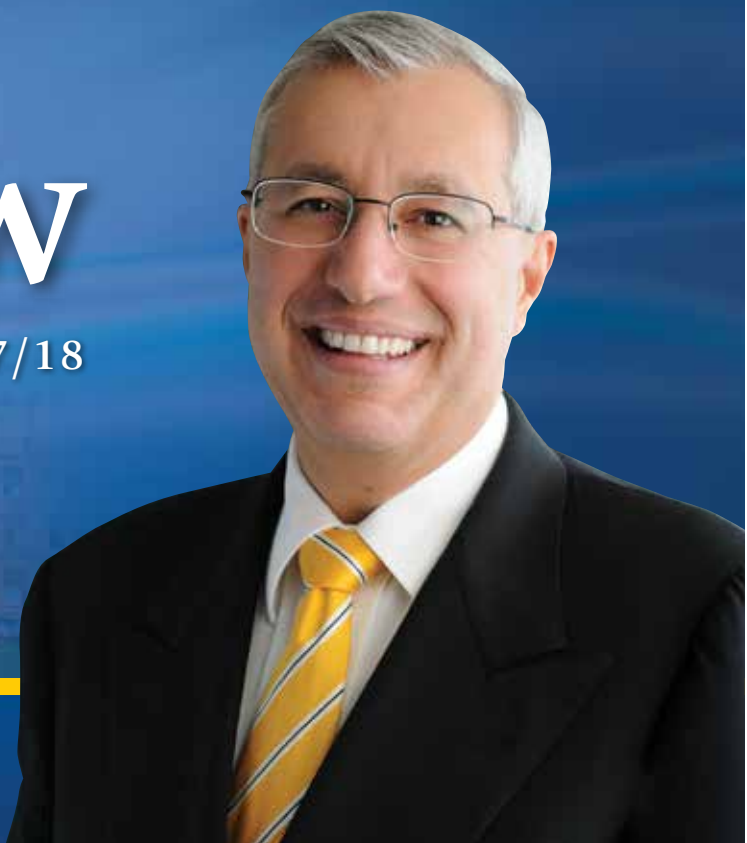


# Nipissing Point of View

WINTER 2017/18



**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!



### Christmas Train

Ontario Northland's Christmas Train travelled through the north, including this stop in North Bay. Family and friends came out to see the brightly decorated train, and Santa and his helpers met everyone who came to see him on the tour.

### Soups On!

The 3rd Annual Soup's On was a sold-out event, where chefs from North Bay and area created amazing soups. All proceeds from this fundraising event allow The Gathering Place to continue serving over 35,000 hot meals each year to our neighbors in need.



### 22 Wing Band

The 22 Wing Band held their annual Military Concert at the Capitol Centre. This group at CFB North Bay was formed in 1990, primarily to support military ceremonial functions. The band features a 16-piece stage ensemble, jazz quartet and brass quartet.



### Grape Stomping Festival

This annual Davedi Club feast starts with their famous buffet style dinner followed by a traditional Italian parade. Then the fun begins, as everyone is invited on stage to try stomping the grapes. Folks jump in barefoot and stomp away to Italian music.

## 14-STOREY WOOD BUILDINGS

A lot of innovation has happened in wood frame construction since I introduced my first Private Members' Bill in 2012 to allow for 6-Storey Wood Buildings in Ontario. Now that it is law in Ontario, why stop at just six storeys?

Early in 2017, I brought forward a 12-Storey Wood Bill, after learning that George Brown College was planning such a structure. Then I introduced a 14-Storey Wood Building Bill after word that the University of Toronto had such a project in the works!

Bill 169, the Ontario Forestry Revitalization Act (14-Storey Wood Frame Buildings), much like its predecessors, is a pan-Ontario solution. It helps meet urban density targets, reduce construction costs and carbon footprints in the south, while creating forestry jobs in the North, and machine shop jobs here in Nipissing. We need more solutions like these in Ontario, which lead to prosperity we can all share in.

My Private Members' Bill 169 is scheduled for debate in the Legislature this spring.



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## East West Showdown

Hundreds of intermediate and secondary school students, dressed in their school colours,

compete both on and off the ice in the annual East West competition at Memorial Gardens. Both the cheering portion and school hockey teams' 13-minute game are scored.

## Halyfest

This year saw the 31st Halyfest concert in memory of Doris and Art Haley. Art was the Chair of the Santa Fund for over 40 years. Families celebrate the holiday season by attending this joyous event, listening to the beautiful voices of local student and community choirs.



## Something Fishy

The West Ferris Legion Branch #599 and the North Bay Lion's Club joined together for a fabulous fish fry fundraiser to support the Nipissing Serenity Hospice. It's so wonderful to see so many community groups supporting this most important project.



## Saying Thanks!

Every year, the volunteers of the Heritage Railway & Carousel Company are invited for a Thank You dinner. They help 100,000+ visitors experience the magic of the lovingly-restored Heritage Carousel or a nostalgic tour on the Heritage Railway.



## Farmers' Market

The Powassan Farmers' Market has moved indoors for the winter. You can find wonderful vendors located at 250 Clark Street on the 2nd Saturday of every month, until April. Enjoy microgreens or Amish baking, and be sure to check out the Kids' Entrepreneur Club tables.

## Rapport Singers

This mixed volunteer group is comprised of youth and adults, promoting choral music including classical and popular, folk and jazz styles. Their 3-concert series, Life: It's Elementary, began in October, with their next performance in April. Check them out at [RapportSingers.ca](http://RapportSingers.ca)



## Talking Agriculture

The East Nipissing/ Parry Sound Ontario Federation of Agriculture held their annual meeting to a sold-out crowd, again this year! Apiarist Tim Greer gave a fascinating talk on bees, and how he transports them both south and to the east coast to make interesting types of flavoured honey.



## Tree Planting

Dozens of volunteers turned out to join the TD Friends of the Environment for another round of tree planting. This time the location was along the Kinsmen Trail at O'Brien and Hwys 11 & 17. The Trail follows Chippewa Creek as it meanders down the escarpment and empties into Lake Nipissing.



## Fighting Cancer

The CIBC Run for the Cure is one of the many events hosted by North Bay organizations in the fight against cancer. Congratulations to all the groups who sponsor run/walks for their various

causes; they are well-supported by the entire region.

## Christmas Crafts

It wouldn't be Christmas without all the craft sales events for two months leading up to the big day. Every hall in town, large or small, is packed with people looking for that special hand-made present. It's a tradition we hope never ends.



**Vic Fedeli MPP**

*Delivering for all of Nipissing*





## Arts groups share \$240,000

Several local arts groups shared more than \$240,000 awarded through the Ontario Arts Council. Operating grants include: \$26,154 for the Aboriginal Curatorial Collective, \$17,344 for the White

Water Gallery and \$16,961 for Near North Mobile Lab Collective. Project grants include: \$27,000 for Chiminiwim, \$24,062 for the Capitol Centre, \$18,000 for the North Bay Symphony Orchestra, \$15,000 for Woodland School, \$12,000 for On the Edge Fringe Festival, \$12,000 for Aanmitaagzi, \$10,000 for the Children's Aid Society, \$10,000 for the White Water Gallery, \$10,000 for CBACH, \$9,500 for Nipissing Region Curatorial Collective and \$1,500 for Zakide.

## A Christmas Miracle

The town of Angel Falls had lost its Christmas Spirit – and they came to North Bay to find it! Hiway Pictures continues to produce movies right here in our region, and the Hallmark production of Christmas in Angel Falls is a recent example. I couldn't get over how quickly the movie was on TV, from the time I visited their set in late September. It's always a great experience to be on set and see how movies are made – and to hang out with actors like Beau Bridges and Rachel Boston!



## Queen's Park Report – Casselholme

It's so rewarding to see that the long-awaited \$60 million redevelopment of Casselholme is finally going to move ahead!

More than seven years ago, the provincial government announced the redevelopment. However, financing of the project has been a longstanding issue. The burden is placed on the host municipalities to finance any redevelopment, and because the amount of money is so large, it handcuffs the municipalities' capacity to borrow for other purposes.

But this fall, through all-Party co-operation, we were able to overcome that hurdle and propose the changes necessary to proceed.

The government introduced Bill 160, the Strengthening Quality and Accountability for Patients Act, 2017. Although the Bill didn't address the funding of long-term care homes, we used this as an opportunity to do just that. Casselholme CEO Jamie Lowery, Don Gracey of the CG Group, and Councillors Chris Mayne and Mark King (shown in photo) presented a compelling case at the Committee Hearing in Queen's Park.

After detailed discussions with officials at Casselholme and the government, Committee amendments to the legislation were developed. This offered a change in the rules to allow flexibility on borrowing for long-term care projects. It's not often we can get all three Parties represented at the Legislature to agree, but in this case, I am very pleased to say we were successful.

Once we were successful at the Committee, the amended Bill 160 was presented in the Legislature. Again, it received all-Party approval before the end of the fall sitting, and the Regulations are being adopted to make this a permanent feature for District Homes.

It's my pledge to continue to monitor the process and ensure the Casselholme redevelopment becomes a reality, with shovels in the ground early in 2018.



## Rapport Queen's Park – Casselholme

C'est tellement gratifiant de voir que le 60 millions de dollars pour le redéveloppement tant attendu de Casselholme est finalement en marche!

Le gouvernement provincial a annoncé ce projet, il y a déjà 7 ans. Cependant, le financement du projet est un problème continu qui s'impose sur les municipalités hôtes pour financer tout le redéveloppement et, parce que le montant d'argent est si considérable, ceci limite la capacité des municipalités d'emprunter pour autres buts.

Nous avons pu surmonter cet obstacle grâce à la coopération de tous les Partis et, proposer les changements nécessaires pour avancer.

Le gouvernement a introduit le projet de loi 160, loi de 2017 renforçant la qualité et la responsabilité pour les patients. Bien que le projet de loi 160 n'a pas répondu aux financement des foyers de soins de longue durée, nous avons utilisé ceci comme une occasion pour le faire. Le chef de la direction de Casselholme, Jamie Lowery, Don Gracey du groupe CG, et les conseillers Chris Mayne et Mark King (illustrés sur la photo) ont présenté un argument convaincant lors de l'audience du Comité à Queen's Park.

Après des discussions approfondies avec des représentants de Casselholme et du gouvernement, des amendements du comité de la législation ont été développés. Cela a offert un changement dans les règles pour permettre une flexibilité sur les emprunts pour les projets de soins de longue durée. Ce n'est pas souvent que nous pouvons obtenir tous les trois Partis représentés à l'Assemblée législative qui soient en d'accord, mais dans ce cas, je suis très heureux de dire que nous avons réussi.

Une fois que nous avons eu du succès au Comité, le projet de loi 160 modifié a été présenté à l'Assemblée législative.

Encore, il a reçu l'approbation de tous les Partis avant la fin de la séance d'automne, et les règlements ont été adoptés pour en faire un élément permanent pour les foyers de district.

Je m'engage à continuer de surveiller le processus et assurer que le redéveloppement de Casselholme devienne une réalité, avec des pelles dans le sol, dès 2018.

## 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 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](mailto:page_program@ontla.ola.org)

*This fall, a bright young man from North Bay joined us at Queen's Park. Sheldon Kilroy who attends Ecole secondaire catholique Algonquin, spent three weeks in his role as a Page.*



## DEVENEZ PAGE DE L'ASSEMBLÉE LÉGISLATIVE DE L'ONTARIO

Si vous êtes un élève de 7e ou de 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 choisies 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](mailto:page_program@ontla.ola.org)

*Cet automne, un brillant jeune homme de North Bay s'est joint à nous à Queen's Park, Sheldon Kilroy qui fréquente l'École Secondaire Catholique Algonquin, a passé trois semaines dans son rôle de page.*





## Touring Bruce Power

As your Member of Provincial Parliament, it's important for me to fully understand all the things that can affect your life. Nothing has had more of an impact than skyrocketing hydro rates, and I continue to tour hydro generation facilities to better understand our system. One of the great success stories is Bruce Power, which began in Douglas Point in the 1960s. The eight units provide 30% of Ontario's power with over 4,000 full-time, direct jobs to highly-skilled employees, and thousands more indirect jobs. They inject billions of dollars into our economy, while producing safe energy that produces zero carbon emissions. I joined fellow MPPs Bill Walker, Julia Munro, Todd Smith, and Randy Petapiece.

## Carbon Monoxide Alarms

MPPs gathered on the grand staircase of Queen's Park to promote Carbon Monoxide Awareness



Week. It's been three years since the Legislature passed the Hawkins-Gignac Act, which made carbon monoxide alarms mandatory in Ontario homes. The regulation, which updates Ontario's Fire Code, requires detectors near all sleeping areas in homes with fuel-burning appliances, such as furnaces, stoves, or fireplaces. It also applies to all residences with attached garages. Over the past year, I teamed up with the Insurance Bureau of Canada to donate hundreds of CO detectors to the North Bay Fire and Emergency Services, and the Food Banks in Callander, Powassan, and Mattawa.

## Nipissing Serenity Hospice

The province has awarded \$1.2 million dollars for the construction of Nipissing Serenity Hospice. Once construction is complete, the province will provide \$630,000 in annual operating funding. The Nipissing Serenity Hospice will be a home away from home where people of all ages are invited to spend their life's final journey.

The objective of hospice care is to relieve suffering and improve the quality of life and dying for both the patient and their family. Congratulations goes out to Mathilde Bazinet, Chair of the Nipissing Serenity Hospice, all the members of the team, as well as all the many volunteers, donors, and supporters of this valuable project – it's you who are making this a reality.



## Powered by Hydrogen

Hydrogen-powered cars may not yet be a mainstream vehicle option, but automakers are still investing in the technology. Hydrogen-powered vehicles more closely resemble combustion engines when it comes to the user experience. On the other hand, batteries are expensive, take a long time to charge, and have limitations when it comes to driving range. I am a fan of hydrogen, as it can use the surplus electricity we make. Electrolysis is the process of using electricity to split water into hydrogen and oxygen. Electrolysis is a promising option for hydrogen production from renewable resources, which makes most of the surplus power in Ontario – the power we currently pay the U.S. and Quebec to take.

## 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: Clint Thomas (Executive Assistant, Queen's Park), Danica Gendron (Constituency Assistant), Vic Fedeli, Nipissing MPP, Gwen Millard (Constituency Assistant), Andrea Stoppa (Executive Assistant, North Bay).

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