

#### **Neebing Recreation Committee**

The Neebing Recreation Committee has had several inquiries about a tailgate sale. Due to this, the Committee has decided to offer a Trash or Treasure sale to be held in conjunction with the Canada Day Celebration at the Neebing Municipal Office on July 1, 2023.

Limited spots will be available for \$15 for a 10' x 10' space. Please pay when booking to secure your spot. Cash or e-transfer to Katherine Hill at 807:631-1869. The deadline is June 29th, 2023. Set up time will start at 11 am on July 1. Please bring your own table if needed.





Deputy Mayor Brian Wright was honoured to celebrate Catherine Manelick's 100th birthday, who has been a Neebing resident for more than 75 years. Council and staff wish her a healthy and happy year!

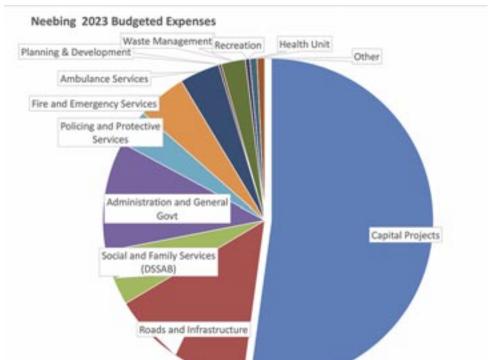


## Show Me the Money!

SO where do your tax dollars go? Every year Council passes a budget showing the expected expenditures for the year. This year the 2023 budget was passed by Council on the May 17th Council Meeting. Included in the Capital Projects are two bridge replacements – Farm Road Bridge and the bridge over Friendly Creek on Pardee Road. Neebing is paying for these two bridges using a combination of the Federal Canada Community Building Fund and funding from two grants supplied by the Province of Ontario. Signage acknowledging the grant contributions will be placed at these locations soon.

The table and chart show the other annual expenditures anticipated by the Municipality in 2023.

Council also passed the annual Financial Statements for 2022 at the May meeting. Both the Budget and the Financial Statements are on the Neebing Website, or you can get a print copy from Laura at the office.

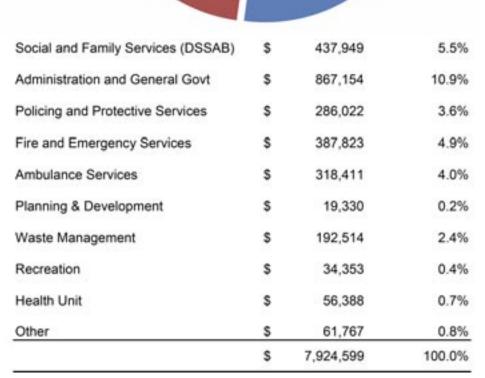


## **Cemetery Garden**

The Cemetery Committee is looking for donations of perennial plants for the circular flower garden at the Cemetery. The garden renewal will take place during the annual Cemetery Cleanup Day on June 10, 2023. If you would like to contribute anything to the perennial flower garden, you are welcome to bring your plants on June 10th at 10 AM. If you want to bring a shovel or a rake you are also welcome to participate in the Cemetery Clean-Up with the other great volunteers at Neebing.

Call Laura at the office for more information (807) 474-5331.





## **Neebing Recreation Committee**

The Neebing Recreation Committee wishes to send out a big thank you to all the Neebing residents that have come out to support the events at Blake Hall. Family Day, the Easter Egg Hunt and Mother's Day Tea have all been a great success because of YOU.

A heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who gave of their time and talents to help out at these events. These events only happen when residents come out to support the committee.

A special thank you to all the businesses and individuals who have donated draw prizes for these events.

> Thunder Bay Co-op Lotsa Dots by Lisa Yoga – Krista Bannan Pickled Pike Crafts Wildflower Hair Studio – Cassee Veurink Elaina Roberts Penny Shott Green Acres Variety William Shott

An extra special thank you to the volunteer fire fighters – Beverly, Steve, Chris and Kris for coming out in uniform to serve coffee and tea. This is going above and beyond their normal duties and everyone was extremely glad to see them. This is one volunteer group supporting another group of volunteers and it is deeply appreciated.

The recreation committee's next event will be hosting Canada Day celebrations.

This event will be held on Saturday July 1 at the Neebing Municipal Office grounds from noon to 3.

Opening remarks and welcoming ceremony will be conducted by members of Council and Cindy Crowe.

There will be a BBQ starting at noon. For \$5. you can get either a hamburger OR hot dog complete with chips and a beverage.Entertainment will begin at noon. Returning this year will be "Mink Mountain Revue".

Susan will be bringing her petting zoo and Kayla will be back with her bunnies.

A poster contest for the kids will be judged for prizes. Bring your finished poster or make one at the event. There will also be a scavenger hunt for the kids and guess the jelly beans contest. More prizes!

Attendance prizes and freezies for the kids will happen at 3 pm.

Best of all we will have a Canada Day cake for all to enjoy.

Come out and visit with your family, friends and neighbours and enjoy this special day.

#### October 7 – Harvest Dinner – more information to follow.

**December** Breakfast with Santa. Date to be determined and more information to follow.

## The Blake Hall will be 100 years old in August of 2024!!!

#### MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

- TOURISM-BASED BUSINESS

The Municipality of Neebing is looking to open up a conversation with current and potential business owners. To capitalize on existing tourism opportunities, Neebing is looking for new tourism-related businesses to set up shop!

Neebing is a rural community comprised of 5 townships: 8lake, Scoble, Crooks, Pearson, and Pardee. It spans 877 square kilometers of rolling hills, breath-taking lake shore, cliffs, and prime agricultural land.

The Municipality of Neebing is requesting EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO ESTABLISH A TOURISM-BASED BUSINESS WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY.

Examples of such businesses include, but are not limited to: a cafe or restaurant; a campground; outfitting or guiding services (i.e. lake tours); accommodations.

Current tourism assets include: Municipally-owned parks and boat launches along Lake Superior, Cloud Lake, Oliver Lake, Journey's Middle Park, and the Alf Olsen Center.

Other notable recreation opportunities include: Pigeon River Provincial Park Thompson Island Provincial Park James Duncan Nature Trail Pearson Wetland Trail Little Trout Bay Conservation Area As a potential Neebing business owner, you would be joining a community of other businesses making their mark on the Thunder Bay area, such as. Slate River Dairy The Bakeshop on Boundary Mink Mountain Resort Niibing Tribal Tours Thunder Oak Cheese Farm and more...

The municipality is prepared to offer assistance in site selection, permitting, and seeking funding opportunities.

Please send your proposal to: Municipality of Neebing 4766 Highway 61 Neebing, ON P7L 085 (807) 474-5331



neebing@neebing.org

## What's Been Happening at Council Meetings?

Since the May edition, there has been two regular meetings of Council on May 3 and 17, 2023. There was also one Special Council meeting on May 17, 2023. At the regular Council meeting on May 3rd the following matters were considered:

- Council reviewed the Master Service Agreement from Circular Materials Ontario relating to the transition of the Blue Box program to full producer responsibility.
- Council scheduled the summer meetings for July 19th and August 16th.
- Council directed staff to issue a tender for gravel crushing.
- Council passed a by-law amend the user fee by-law.

At the Special Council meeting on May 17th, Committee of the Whole reviewed an application for severance to create a new lot on Klages Road. The Committee recommended that Council approve the application. the Whole and approved the application to create a new lot on Klages Road.

- Council reviewed enforcement of the trailer by-law.
- Council passed a by-laws to set tax rates and to adopt the 2023 budget.

The next Council meetings will be held on June 7 and 21, 2023. Regular Council meetings are normally scheduled for the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.

This article contains only highlights from Council meetings – visit the website to see the approved minutes from each of the meetings. The minutes of each meeting are approved at the following meeting and are posted on the website once they have been approved and signed. If you don't have internet capabilities, you can always contact the office for copies of approved minutes.

Meeting agendas are always posted online on the Friday prior to the Wednesday meeting. Come out and see what your Council is doing on your behalf. Feel free to contact the Municipal Office for further information or with input into any of the items that Council is considering. The meetings are now being held at the Municipal Office, but there is the option to attend virtually as well. The links to login to the meetings are posted on our website in the calendar details.

The Neebing Recreation Committee will be holding a Community Meeting September 13, 2023 at 7 pm at the Blake Century Hall to plan for the 100th anniversary. Everyone is welcome. Please bring ideas and suggestions to celebrate this amazing event (no pictures or mementos at this time please).

At the regular Council meeting on May 17th, the following matters were considered:

- Council heard a deputation from the municipal auditors on the 2022 Financial Statements.
- Council heard a deputation regarding an unopened road allowance.
- Council accepted the recommendations from the Committee of

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Councillor for Blake Councillor for Crooks/Deputy Mayor Councillor for Pardee Councillor for Pearson Councillor for Scoble Councillor At-Large Mark Thibert Katherine Hill Brian Wright Curtis Coulson Gary Gardner Brian Kurikka Gordon Cuthbertson 474-1362 631-1869 964-2365 577-2475 577-1963 633-3735 708-7548 mayor@neebing.org blake@neebing.org crooks@neebing.org pardee@neebing.org pearson@neebing.org scoble@neebing.org coucilatlarge@neebing.org

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#### EMERGENCY TEXT ALERT SERVICE for Neebing Residents

Sign up for Neebing's Emergency Text Alert Service. This text alert service is used to notify our residents via text message of immediate dangers or emergencies occurring in our community such as evacuations, road closures, forest fires and other hazards.

Sign up is free but you must have a smartphone equipped to receive text messages to use this service as it does not work on land lines. Sign up at neebing.org/textalerts or send us your name, Neebing address, and your text-enabled cell phone number including area code to neebing@neebing.org or call us at 474-5331.

Your personal information is kept strictly confidential.



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## **2023 Neebing Burning Permits**

Fire Permits are required for all open air burning in Neebing from April 1st to October 31st. Permits are available 24 hours a day on our website: www.neebing.org/firepermits. Permits are also available at AJ's Trading Post and Green Acre Variety

## **Contact Us - Municipality of Neebing**

**Complaints, Concerns, or Questions:** Want action on a problem? Want answers to your Municipal questions? Get accurate information right from the source: www.neebing.org or call the office at 807-474-5331. Report your concern, voice your complaint, or get answers to your Municipal questions with the click of a mouse or a phone call.

**Emergency Road Condition Reporting:** If you encounter an emergency road condition such as a washout, a sinkhole, etc., please call the Municipal Office direct 474-5331 even if you are calling outside of regular office hours (Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm). Leave us a detailed voice message as the municipal voicemail is monitored to help us act quickly when such emergency issues occur.

Municipal complaints or concerns posted on social media forums or website pages not maintained by the Municipality are not monitored or recorded. Please, contact the Municipal Office direct - we are here to help!

# PLASTIC TYPE

#### Polyethylene terephthalate

Polyester fibres, thermoformed sheet, strapping, soft drink bottles, tote bags, furniture, carpet, paneling and (occasionally) new containers

#### High-density polyethylene

Bottles, grocery bags, milk jugs, recycling bins, agricultural pipe, base cups, car stops, playground equip ment, and plastic lumber

#### Polyvinyl chloride

Plastic bags, six pack rings, various containers, dispensing bottles, wash bottles, tubing, and various molded laboratory equipment

Low-density polyethylene

Polyester fibres, thermoformed sheet, strapping, soft drink bottles, tote bags, furniture, carpet, paneling and (occasionally) new containers



#### Polypropylene

Auto parts, industrial fibres, food containers, and dishware

#### Polystyrene

Desk accessories, cafeteria trays, plastic utensils, coffee cup lids, toys, video cassettes and cases, clamshell containers, packaging peanuts

#### Other plastics

Bottles, plastic lumber applications, headlight lenses and safety shields/glasses.

## Fireworks Safety Neebing Emergency Services by Dale Ashbee, Fire Chief, Neebing

In order to minimize the risk of fire occurrence and possible burn injuries, the Fire Service does not recommend family fireworks or informal neighbourhood displays. The Fire Service recommends instead that you attend public fireworks displays hosted by your municipality or other responsible organization.

If you still choose to have an evening of family fireworks, or an informal neighbourhood display, check with your local fire department about regulations regarding fireworks. Here are some important safety tips to be followed:

• Appoint a responsible person to be in charge. (Only adults who are aware of the hazards involved and the essential safety precautions that must be followed, should handle and discharge fireworks.)

- Carefully read and follow the directions as written on fireworks packaging labels.
- Always keep a water hose or pail of water close by when discharging fireworks.
- Discharge fireworks well away from combustible materials like buildings, trees and/or dry grass.
- Keep onlookers a safe distance away, upwind from the area where fireworks are being discharged. Discharge fireworks only if wind conditions do not create a fire safety hazard.
- Light only one firework at a time, and only when they are fixed on/into the ground. Never try to light a firework in your hand, or to re-light dud fireworks. For dud fireworks, it is best to wait 30 minutes, then soak them in a bucket of water. Finally, dispose of them in a metal container.
- Keep sparklers away from children. Sparklers burn extremely hot and can ignite clothing, cause blindness and result in severe burns. As the sparkler wire remains hot for some minutes after burnout, it should be immediately soaked in water to avoid any potential injury.
- If someone gets burned, run cool water over the wound for three to five minutes. If necessary, then take action to seek medical attention.

Source: Spring & Summer Fire Safety Tips | Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (oafc.on.ca)

#### The Rural Pharmacist: Need a Fix for all these Ticks! Pharmacist Prescribing Available for Tick Bites

By: Henry Tempelman, Pharmacist/Owner, Evergreen Pharmacy

In Canada, climate change has contributed to an increase in the number, types and range of ticks and, subsequently, tick related diseases. Warmer temperatures and milder winters lead to improved tick survival/reproduction and a longer season for tick exposure for humans and animals. Tick bites do not cause pain to the host at the time of the attachment, but may cause a skin reaction including swelling, itching and inflammation. Because there is no pain at the time of attachment it can be difficult to identify when you've been bit by a tick. It is important to do regular tick checks, especially in warmer areas of the body (armpit, groin, scalp). Once a tick is found it should be removed immediately with finetipped tweezers. The area should be washed with soap and water and then disinfected with rubbing alcohol or an iodine swab.

The most common disease transmitted by ticks in Canada is Lyme disease, which is increasing across Canada. Lyme disease symptoms present as a rash (typically a "bullseye" rash), fever, chills, headache, neck stiffness, decreased appetite, muscle and joint pain. Only blacklegged ticks (aka deer ticks) can transmit Lyme disease and the risk of Lyme disease increases when the tick is attached to the host for at at least 24-36 hours. However, since it can be difficult to realize when a tick has bit a host due to no pain at attachment, it may be required to assess the degree of engorgement of the attached tick; an engorged tick means that it has started to feed on the host and has likely been attached for >24 hours.

Prophylaxis treatment for Lyme disease must be started within 72 hours of tick removal in order to be clinically effective. It's important to seek medical opinion shortly after you discover your tick bite!

Pharmacists can now prescribe for tick bites as a means to prevent Lyme disease as part of the new Minor Ailment programs. Our pharmacists can perform these minor ailment assessments in-person or over the phone by asking a variety of questions to determine if the tick bite is required to be treated by antibiotic to prevent Lyme disease.

Preventing tick bites, along with other insect bites, is important as we enter the summer seasons. Health Canada provides the following guidelines for people entering a tick habitat:

- Wear light-coloured, long-sleeved shirts and pants to spot ticks easily
- Tuck your shirt into your pants, and your pants into your socks
- Wear closed-toe shoes
- Apply insect repellent containing DEET or Icaridin to clothing and exposed skin
- Wear permethrin-treated clothing
- putting clothes on high heat in a dryer for at least 10 minutes before

#### Notice of Public Meeting Ward Boundaries and Council Composition

#### THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING

## Wednesday, June 28, 2023 Blake Hall (71 Blake Hall Rd) 6:00 pm

All residents and property owners are invited to attend.

On November 3, 2021, Council passed a by-law to reduce the number of wards from 4 to 5, and to reduce the number on Council from 7 to 5.

Council will be revisiting the by-law at this meeting and welcomes comments from members of the public. Further information is available at www.neebing.org/notices.

You can submit comments by attending the public meeting or submitting your comments in writing to the Clerk-Treasurer at:

Municipality of Neebing 4766 Highway 61 Neebing, ON P7L 0B5 Phone: 807-474-5331 Fax: 807-474-5332 Email: clerk@neebing.org

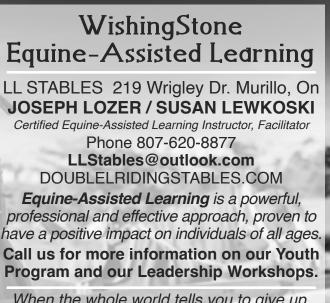
## **RURAL 60 PLUS IS OPEN!**

5 Pineview Road, Kakabeka Falls 475-5779, email rural60@tbaytel.net Website: www.rural60plus.ca

Tuesday - Weaving - 10 to 3

washing clothing after spending time outdoors





When the whole world tells you to give up, the horse will whisper, "Try it one more time".

- Knitting - 10 to 3

- Wednesday Beginner Carving 10 to 3 - Cribbage - 1 to 3 - Quilting - 10 to 3
- Thursday Weaving 10 to 3 - Knitting - 10 to 3 *Craft Room open Monday to Friday 10 to 3*

## Our Annual General Meeting is coming up on Friday June 16th at the Kakabeka Legion.

Tickets for dinner are available at the Centre and are \$25 each. If any members are interested in running for a seat on the board please put your name and phone number in an envelope and put it in the mail slot in the office door or you can email to us or if you want to nominate someone do the same with their name and phone number.

Starting in July we will be going to Summer Hours of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 to 3

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## Join Us in the Pleasure of a 'Fire-Safe' Summer!

Over the past few weeks, it has been interesting and pleasant to observe how quickly the appearance of the flora and fauna in our Neebing Neighbourhoods have transitioned – bunnies turned from white to brown, while tree tips and grasses took on a welcome green tinge.

Comments from community members changed from questioning as to whether or not our recent winter weather was ever going to end, to exclaiming over how hot the temperatures were suddenly getting. Although one would think that we would all be pretty familiar with the annual seasonal changes we experience each year in Neebing, somehow the variations in how the transitions actually unfold seem to generate their own surprises! In spring, we usually experience at least one last significant snowfall event, as well as a day or two of unusual, but most welcome extreme heat. While this recent spring weather 'teased' us a few times before it decided to settle in for the duration, it would appear that it is now here to stay. Everyone who is so inclined can get on with the pleasures of gardening, biking and readying boats of all types for fun days on the water. Not to be forgotten, there are also the tuning up of lawnmowers and yard tools so that summer maintenance chores can be addressed as well. Many residents commented that they had noticed that there did not seem to be a lot of winter frost still in the ground, and there was a general eagerness to get outside chores taken care of quickly, so that summer fun could begin.

In June, fire safety concerns are altered in order to meet the challenges of the change of season and the greater variety of outdoor activities we participate in. As always, fire prevention and fire safety are always 'top of mind'. Activities such as barbecuing, grass cutting, gardening, trail riding, boating and hiking – each and all have their own specific fire safety considerations during summer. A great online reference for summer fire safety tips is available on the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs website at: Spring & Summer Fire Safety Tips | Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (oafc.on.ca). These words of wisdom cover fire safety tips for a great number of common activities, from opening up your camp or getting your RV ready for summer use, to campfire and BBQ safety. While there is too much information to include in a print issue of Neebing News, the site is a readily available reference for fire-safe practises during summer activities. With the first of July celebrations coming shortly as well, an excerpt from the OAFC site on **Fireworks Safety** is posted in this **June 2023 Neebing News** edition. One thing we cannot neglect to mention is that in Neebing, during the Spring snow-free period, there exists the real danger of wildfire due to the very dry and combustible duff layer still on the surface of the ground before the new plant life has 'greened up" and is full of moisture. There is a true need to always be aware of conditions and actions that could cause wildfire, and what immediate actions that must be taken if a wildfire should occur.

Here are some steps we can all take to minimize the risk of wildfires in Neebing, including:

- Following Fire Smart Guidelines (Be FireSmart | ontario.ca) on our properties to minimize the accumulation of fuels available for fire spread
- Following Fire Safety Tips in all our activities we carry out, and never leaving a fire unattended.
- Being Aware of Fire Danger Levels in the area. See Forest fires | ontario.ca
- **Remaining Aware of weather forecasts** and potential impacts on fire danger levels. Environment Canada or other online weather forecast services have available relevant information.
- **Being Alert to changing Weather Conditions**, such as increasingly high winds or lightening activity, and being aware of the speed with which those changes can increase fire danger levels!
- Following Burning Regulations for all fires during the annual Fire Season (April 1 October 31).
- **Reporting Smoke Immediately!** If you see smoke in Neebing, especially in the daytime, you can report it by calling 911, and it will be checked out by fire team members. At times, there can be heavy smoke migration from large wildfires located hundreds of miles away from Neebing, which can settle in our area. An online map is available at: Home FireSmoke.ca that displays the movement of wildfire smoke across North America. It can provide a reference tool to aid in monitoring both wildfire activity and smoke movement affecting our area.

I was reminded very recently (while visiting family in B.C.) just how quickly fire risk can change with changes in weather, and how important a quick response is to the containment of a wildfire start. While watching - from our cocoon of cloudy, cool, wet weather - the news from Alberta, as they dealt with ever increasing wildfire starts and the disruption and loss they created. An abrupt change in our own local weather - to sunshine, high temps, low humidity and steady winds - provided a reality check as to how quickly fire danger risks can change with the weather. In barely 24 hours from the arrival of the sun and heat, we witnessed our first plume of smoke from a wildfire start just up the valley. Fortunately, the fire location was readily visible from a nearby highway and was reported quickly,



triggering fire suppression aircraft from a nearby airport to respond and drop fire retardant. These actions resulted in the slowing of the fire spread, enabling ground crews the needed time to get to the location to control and extinguish the fire.



LQS SE:	INICES
44 RUBIN DRIVE, MURILLO, ON, POT 2G0 RPRA and E-Tracks Compliant	
	As Compilant
Free Pick Up / Drop Off of your Scrap Tires	Appliance Pick Up Services
or your our ap mos	

Wishing everyone a wonderful Summer! Have Fun, Enjoy the fine weather, but always..... Stay Safe

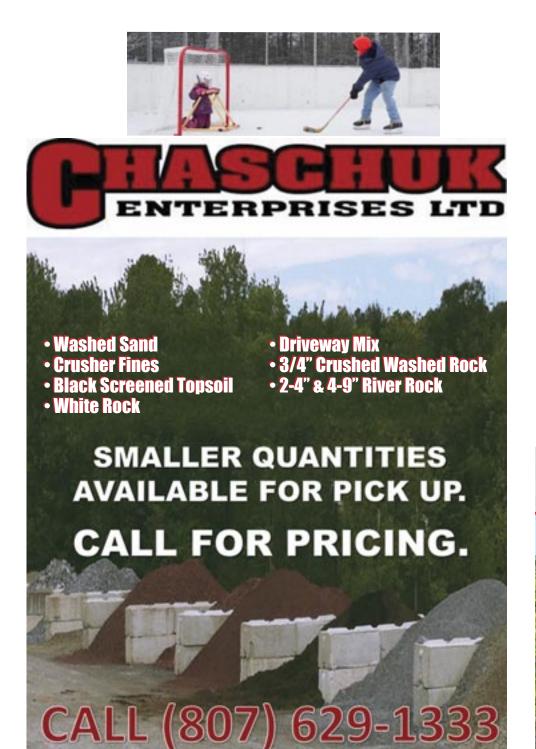


## **RURAL CUPBOARD FOOD BANK**

Neighbours Helping Neighbours Conmee Municipal Complex 19 Holland Rd, Kakabeka Falls P0T1W0 807-285-0836 We sincerely thank all those that continue to support us. Your donations enable the food bank to remain open Next Food Bank Wednesday June 21st Registration 9 am to 11 am Drive-Thru Pick-up



The Ultimate



**Open Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm** 

36 Barrie Drive, Slate River, ON (Just off Hwy 130)



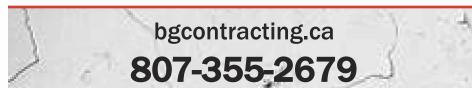
get a quote and enter to win two concert tickets and a \$150 gift card for dinner\*

Concert date and seats: October 24th, 2023, Row F





- BRUSHING, LOT CLEARING, CHIPPING & **STUMP GRINDING**
- EXCAVATION, TRENCHING & LANDSCAPING
- DRIVEWAY CONSTRUCTION, RENEWAL & RESURFACING
- CULVERT INSTALLATIONS
- DECKS, FENCES & RETAINING WALLS



## Offer: May 15 - Sep 30



807-333-0012

Tamara Buchanan Thunder Bay Agency tbuchanan@allstate.ca



no-obligation insurance quote. Evergreen PHARMACY

#### TWO CONVENIENT LOCATIONS:

Rosslyn 202 Highway 130 (807) 939-2007

Kakabeka Falls B-4785 Hwv 11/17 (807) 577-2435

Mon-Fri 9am-6pm Sat 10am-2pm

Mon-Fri 9am-6pm Sat 10am-4pm

**New Location in Kakabeka** NOW OPEN

evergreenrx.ca f 💿

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#### **NEED AN ATTACHMENT? ADD A:**



**ROTARY TILLER - 50"** 

RTR0550

\$66/MTH<sup>\*</sup>



**GRAPPLE - 54"** 

SCG0554

\$56/MTH<sup>.</sup>

MID-MOUNT MOWER - 54\*

RCK54-23BX

\$43/MTH<sup>\*</sup>



K54-22-06







**OR GET THIS ENTIRE BUNDLE FOR** 

\$635 /MONTH 72 MONTHS WITH \$5,499 DOWN PAYMENT 1.38% EFFECTIVE APR<sup>1</sup> Month For



# Thinking of buying or selling?

Message or call us today! SARAH KERTON Broker c. 807.632.3635 sarahkerton.com

Realty Thunder Bay Inc.

CHRIS HOULE Broker of Record c. 807.620.9057 chrishoule.com

# 900 B

neighbourly

Brokerage

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## Be 'Bear Wise' and Prevent Bear Encounters

#### Who to contact

Not every bear sighting is an emergency situation. Here is who to call if you encounter a bear.

#### **Emergency situations**

• Call 911 or your local police if a bear poses an immediate threat to personal safety and exhibits threatening or aggressive behavior, such as:

oenters a school yard when school is in session

ostalks people and lingers at the site

oenters or tries to enter a residence

owanders into a public gathering

okills livestock/pets and lingers at the site

• Police will respond first to an emergency situation, but may request assistance from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry during daylight hours.

#### **Non-emergency encounters**

• Call the toll-free Bear Wise reporting line at 1-866-514-2327 (TTY 705-945-7641 ) if a bear:

oroams around or checks garbage cans

obreaks into a shed where garbage or food is stored ois in a tree

opulls down a bird feeder or knocks over a barbecue

omoves through a backyard or field but does not linger

• This line operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, from April 1 to November 30.

#### If you encounter a black bear

When bears are caught off guard, they are stressed, and usually just want to flee. Stop. Do not panic. Remain calm. Generally, the noisier the bear is, the less dangerous it is, provided you do not approach. The noise is meant to "scare" you off and acts as a warning signal.

#### DO

• Slowly back away while keeping the bear in sight and wait for it to leave.

• If the bear does not leave, throw objects, wave your arms and make noise with a whistle or air horn.

- Prepare to use bear spray.
- If you are near a building or vehicle get inside as a precaution.
- Drop any food you may be carrying and slowly move away.
- If a bear is in a tree, leave it alone. Leave the area. The bear will come down when it feels safe.

#### DO NOT

- Run, climb a tree or swim.
- Kneel down.
- Make direct eye contact.
- Approach the bear to get a better look.
- Attempt to feed a bear.

#### **Bear warning signs**

Black bear attacks are extremely rare. A threatened or predatory black bear will give off warning signs to let you know you are too close. A black bear standing on its hind legs is not a sign of aggressive behavior. The bear is trying to get a better look at you or catch your scent.

#### A defensive bear

- A bear that feels threatened will:
- salivate excessively and exhale loudly
- make huffing, moaning, clacking and popping sounds with its mouth, teeth and jaws
- lower its head with its ears drawn back while facing you
- charge forward, and/or swat the ground with its paws (known as a 'bluff' charge) A predatory bear

The bear will approach silently, usually in rural or remote areas, and may continue to approach regardless of your attempts to deter them by yelling or throwing rocks. If the bear attacks:

- use bear spray
- fight back with everything you have

• do not play dead unless you are sure a mother bear is attacking in defense of her cubs

For more information on what to do about encountering bears, visit https://www.ontario.ca/page/prevent-bear-encounters-bear-wise



# Chix in the Stix A Bird in the Hand



Spring peepers. That's what does it for me. That's when I know spring is really here. I love leaving the windows open and falling asleep while they serenade. And there's so much more. The geese. The cranes. The first robin. Watching for the return of the hummingbirds. The farmer's fertilizing their fields. Things are richer, greener, fuller. It's like the world comes alive again. And it's hard

to get enough. And I know I will at some point complain about the black flies, or the ticks, or the too hot days. But I'll try not to and will instead focus on embracing the many blessings and the new seasonal routines. Like putting fresh bird seed out in the morning and sitting with my coffee by the window to enjoy the view. It has taken a long time but we are finally seeing more birds come around and they are a delight to watch. We have our devoted blue jays, but the chickadees and the juncos are my favourites right now, so tiny and sweet. They aren't quite used to me yet so they take off as soon as I open the door, but they're back pretty quick once the food is out and I'm back inside. They are my 'outside birds'. I have inside birds too. In a cage. Four zebra finch girls - a gift from my daughter. There are few things as lovely as sitting and watching them because in reality we rarely ever get to have that close a look at birds in action. They are simply adorable and caring for them is good for my heart and soul. I spoil 'my girls' rotten and would hate for anything to happen to them. And then this happened. I laid down for a late afternoon nap. It was a good one. The kind with drool on the pillow. I was far far away. Then my daughter came in and woke me up. She was a bit frantic. All I could determine was that it involved a bird that was 'out' or 'loose.' I wasn't really fully awake but enough to jump out of bed, a bit concerned that one of 'the girls' had gotten out. I wondered how it happened and if my daughter had maybe tried to feed them and one escaped. She said nope it wasn't her. Not a disaster really except now that the weather is warmer the front door is opened more and I was worried she would fly outside and I'd never be able to catch her. The loose bird was on top of the bookshelf by some plants, right beside the cage. Hubby came in and I shouted to close the door fast. The bird flew to the window near him. It was a close call. I handed him the table cloth we use to cover the bird cage at night and he climbed onto a chair and thankfully easily caught her, gently carried her over to the bird cage and put her back. Relief! Then we stood there and tried to figure out how the bird had gotten out. Daughter insisted she hadn't opened the cage. We were puzzled and started looking at the cage to see if a door had been loosened or lifted in some way. Which is when I finally woke up and realized there were 5 birds in the cage and not 4. "THAT'S NOT MY BIRD." Hubby acted quick, opened the cage and was able to grab the poor confused little thing and went right to the door and let her go and she flew off into the trees. Wow. Now that I was fully awake I probed for more info and our daughter explained that it had flown in when daddy went outside. Everything happened pretty fast and I'm sure she was pretty confused about why on earth we were putting this outside bird in with the finch. I guess she trusted that we knew what we were doing. (Good heavens never do that lol.) I'm sure if I had taken a minute and looked closer I would have realized it was not my bird. It was almost as tiny, but once they were side by side the difference was obvious. My own birds didn't seem to be phased by it all. I'm sure it could have been worse. Not sure what the moral of the story is. Don't nap in the afternoon? Nope that's not it. Put your glasses on! That could be it. Don't fly into a stranger's house or you might become their pet? That's good advice. Count your birds before you act? That works. Don't cage a wild bird! That works too. A bird in the hand is a good thing, but not if it isn't your bird. Perhaps. All I know is we have reenacted the event a few times already and are still having a good laugh over it - and that's a blessing any time of year. Happy June everyone!

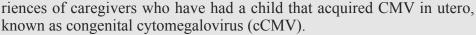
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The 2022 Lakehead Region Conser-

vation Authority Annual Report is

now available on our website

(www.lakeheadca.com/about/an-

nual-reports). Physical copies are

being distributed via the Chronicle

Journal and are also available at our

Administrative Office upon publica-

tion. We are proud of the work com-

pleted during 2022 and look forward

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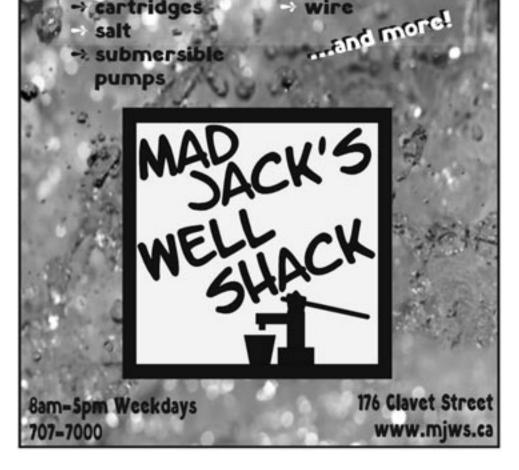


"Learning Through Play, Exploration & Inquiry" Connect with other Families! (for children 0-6 years)

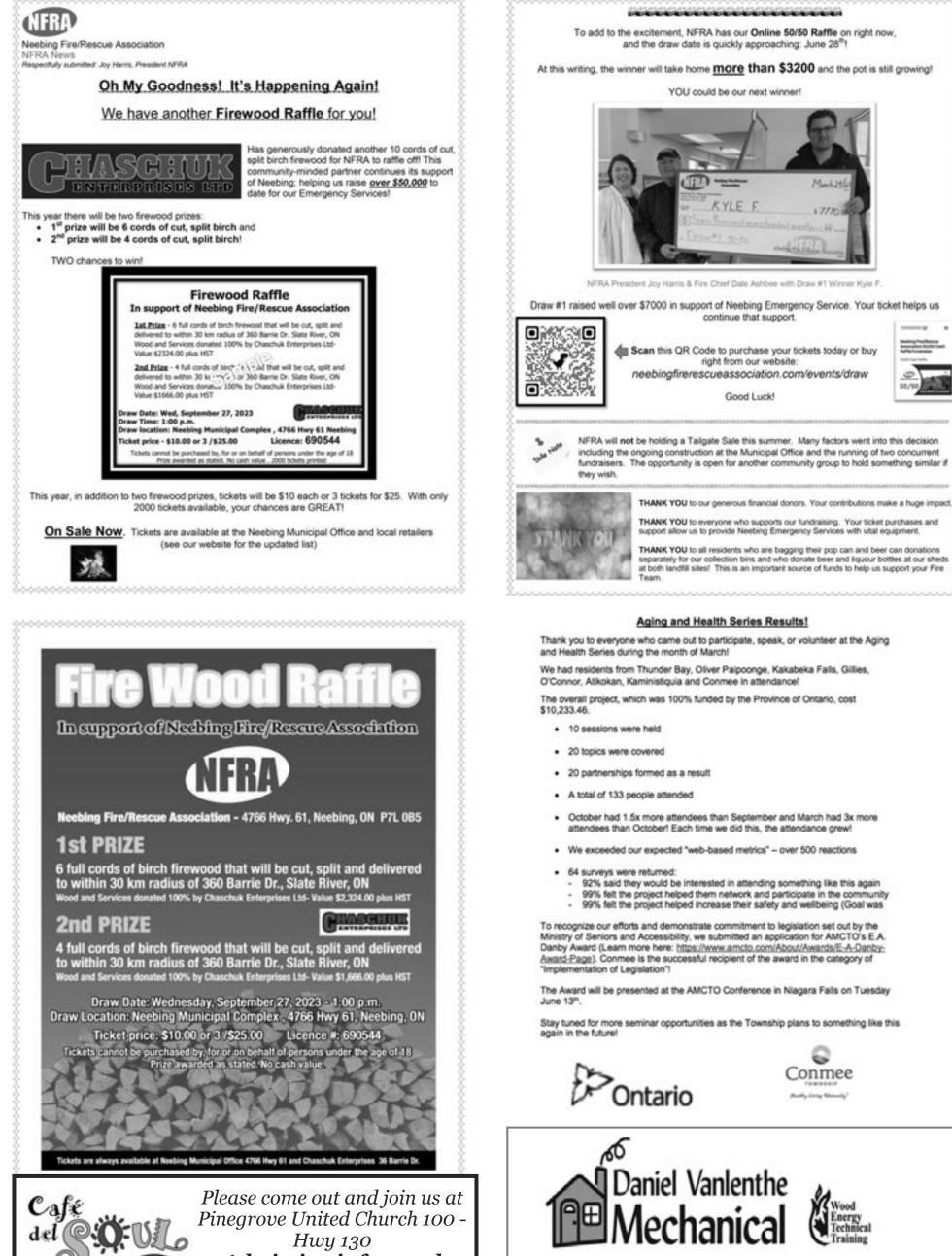
Centre Our Calendar of events can be viewed at: https://www.keyon.ca/en/Events/ViewEvents \* EarlyON Child and Family Centre -Murillo (Pre-registration on KeyON is required)

> For more info. please: Email: ruralfrc@tbaytel.net or Private FB message us or Call: 935-3009

Play, sing, laugh and we will SEE YOU SOON!



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Admission is free and all are welcome! June 1: Coffee and Persians 10 - 11:30 June 15: Indoor picnic and fellowship 11 - 1

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