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BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

**OUTDOOR FUN:** With only a couple of weeks left in the season to enjoy the frozen surface of the lake at the Island Lake Conservation area, many local residents as well as people from other regions ventured out to enjoy some ice fishing, on Saturday, February 27. With temperatures starting to warm up, it won't be long until the ice will be unsafe and the winter time anglers will have to cast their lines from shore or trailer their boat to the lake.

## International Women's Day more important than ever before

Written By Paula Brown  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

It's a global day that celebrates the achievements of women, recognizes the state of gender equality, and calls on action for women's rights.

This year, International Women's Day (March 8), is more important than ever says Andrea Gunraj, Vice President of Public Engagement for the Canadian Women's Foundation (CWF).

While March marks Women History Month, it also marks the one-year anniversary of the COVID-19 pandemic hitting Canada and the first lockdown. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic early last year, Canada has seen decades of work and progress in gender equality set back, creating what Gunraj called a gendered pandemic.

"This virus impacts everybody, it's one of these things that we are all touched by in our lives whether directly or indirectly, so in that case it is a universal experience," said Gunraj. "In another sense, it is not a universal experience, we've seen that women have experienced many profound losses in the pandemic that have to do with gender."

The lockdowns in particular have caused greater harms for women who are victims of domestic violence, according to Family Transition Place executive director, Norah Kennedy.

"Many of the measures put in place to keep us all safe during the pandemic have had an inadvertent negative impact on those who are living with a violent or abusive partner or family member," she explained.

"While the messaging to 'stay home' effectively prevented most of us from contracting or spreading the Coronavirus, it made it impossible for some to escape or avoid abusive situations. In many cases, it made it significantly worse, and made reaching out for help even harder."

There's been an increase in the number of crisis calls to emergency shelters throughout Canada, while their capacity has declined due to physical distancing requirements.

"This means that fewer women who need safe space are able to access it," Kennedy noted.

Requests for counselling have risen significantly since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. These counselling appointments to support individuals experiencing trauma by their abuser have had to be conducted virtually or by phone, which is creating obstacles as well, according to Kennedy.

"Family Transition Place has not been able to offer the in-person appointment option for many months, depriving both client and counsellor of the comfort of human contact and the counsellor from potentially picking up on the nuances that may have given them a clearer understanding of the emotional and mental state of their client," she said.

The Canada Women's Foundation has narrowed down four areas of impact that have been gendered about the pandemic which includes gender-based violence, economic stress and instability, increased burden of caregiving and house work, and reduced access to support services.

"They're not the only, but they're really big because they have huge impact on people's

quality of life day-to-day, safety and wellbeing day-to-day, and their ability to be able to weather the storm to get out of the pandemic in a stronger position, is really impacted," explains Gunraj.

Women's participation in the labour force has seen a historical loss during the pandemic, with the number of women in the workforce the lowest it's been in 30 years.

According to a report from Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), in April of 2020 more than 30 per cent of Canadian workers had been laid off or had their hours reduced.

"Immediate employment impacts were most severe in female dominated industries such as food services, tourism, culture, recreation and retail. Schools and child care centres close, challenging education workers and parents alike," read the CUPE report. "As a result, more women than men were laid off or had to cut down on paid hours of work to care for loved ones."

Another report published in July of 2020 by the Royal Bank of Canada shows in the first two months of the pandemic 1.5 million Canadian women lost their jobs and says while they absorbed 51 per cent of job losses, they only account for 45 per cent of job gains in the economy recovery.

"I think that this is just a really strong indication that women's economic position, was never that strong to begin with before the pandemic, so when the economic system got shook up, that women were really highly impacted and weren't able to recover in the same way," said Gunraj.

Continued on Page 2

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**FEATURED ITEMS**

# Restaurants grapple with 10-person capacity under 'red' zone

Written By Jessica Laurenza

Last month, the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph region moved to the "red-control" zone meaning restaurants are able to open indoor dining with a maximum capacity of 10 people.

Dufferin entered the "lockdown" phase with the rest of Ontario on December 26 and was subject to the stay-at-home order implemented January 14. These measures severely impacted restaurants who had to shut down indoor service.

Local restaurant owners have mixed views on whether to provide indoor dining with the 10-patron limit.

Shannon's Tap and Grill in Shelburne has re-opened their indoor dining for the third time as of last March. Since COVID-19 first hit, they've implemented sophisticated cleaning protocols, they've installed plexiglass between all booths, and expanded their

patio to allow for more seating in the summer months.

Prior to COVID, the owner, Shannon Chal didn't have much of a takeout business as most people would eat and drink in-house. Now, she's says she's able to pump out double or triple the amount of food due to the community's "dedication and loyalty."

"People have been very understanding which I'm so appreciative of as a business owner," says Shannon.

Above all else, Shannon told the Free Press she's found a true "appreciation for life" during the pandemic. She says a lesson she's learned is to "maximize your time with the people you love the most because you don't know when you're going to see them again."

Shannon's Tap and Grill is open seven days a week from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for takeout or indoor dining. However, they are encouraging those wishing to dine indoors to make a reservation.

Conversely, Michelle and Rick Arsenault, owners of Orangeville's Bluebird Cafe & Grill have decided not to re-open their dining room to the public until they move to the orange zone.

They had difficulty in the early winter months asking people to leave when their time was up at their table or asking people to wait outside because of the ten-person capacity.

"We are huge believers in people over profit," says Michelle.

She added that every dollar is definitely worth it for the couple but they "want to make more important decisions and factor in everything before [they] open the doors."

Since COVID-19, Bluebird has opened a 22-person patio along Broadway, increased the number of people noticing their separate takeout service on Armstrong Street, and used the slower season to help kitchen staff bloom and build their confidence.

Michelle and Rick are pivoting their business to provide guests with takeout theme-

night dinner packages or paint nights. For Valentine's Day, they offered a three-course meal with two bottles of wine where you could do a virtual guided wine tasting with one of the restaurant's wine representatives.

"We keep moving the Bluebird forward... coming up with creative things to do with guests to keep our hospitality alive," explains Rick.

The couple wants to thank the community for their ongoing support. They said, "It means so much to us. It's the reason we keep going. We have the best community ever here."

The Bluebird Cafe is open Tuesday through Saturday from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for takeout orders.

Further restrictions for restaurants in the red-zone include: tables must be at least two-metres apart, masks are only to be removed when eating or drinking, no more than four people are able to sit together, and music may not be louder than a normal conversation.

## Headwaters Foundation generates over \$17,000 through 50/50 draw

Written By Sam Odrowski

The Headwaters Healthcare Foundation's 50/50 draw wrapped up on March 1 and generated over \$17,000.

The winner of the lottery was Lori S. of Mono, and when she got the call on Monday morning, it was exactly 12 years to the day since she received breast cancer surgery at Headwaters Hospital.

"When I called her in the morning, we both had a goosebumps moment that it all kind of came full circle for her," said Kendra Goss of HHCF, who helped organize the fundraiser.

"She's just really, really thrilled about being our first ever 50/50 winner."

The lottery is going to be held three more times this year and is a way of generating revenue for the HHFC, since they can't hold their usual in-person fundraisers.

"This one's new for us," said Goss. "Since COVID-19 hit, we've obviously had a huge fundraising gap because of all of the cancellation of our events and a lot of those events raise critical funds for Headwaters."

The over \$17,000 raised by HHCF helps to cover Headwaters Hospital's equipment needs, since those costs aren't fully covered by government funding.

Some of the type of equipment these funds will be used to purchase include ICU patient monitors, more hospital beds, a urology laser system, eye surgery stretchers and respiratory monitors in obstetrics.

HHCF also helps to cover the costs of any renovations or upgrades within the hospital, as well as Meditech Expanse, which is an electronic medical record system.

Overall, Goss said she's extremely grateful to the community for all the revenue generated by the 50/50.

"It was so successful, we were so thrilled with the amount of support that we got from our own Dufferin Caledon community," she enthused.

The next three 50/50 lotteries for HHCF are scheduled to take place in June, August and October.

Headwaters annual gala has been cancelled this year, but they're hoping to bring back some of their other fundraisers.

In mid-June, HHFC is also hoping to revive their golf tournament, which was cancelled last year. They're planning to bring back Tour de Headwaters in the fall as well, which wasn't able to run in 2020. All future fundraisers will have COVID-19 safety protocols and cancelled if the pandemic worsens.

Continued from FRONT

## International Women's Day more important than ever before this year

Part of their recognition of International Women's Day, the Canadian Women's Foundation is running initiatives calling for action to gender justice. The organization is asking people to go online and send letters to their local representatives asking for investments into gender justice, if they have the resources to donate, and to educate themselves on how they can advocate in their own lives and community.

"This pandemic is very much a gendered pandemic, and we have to take gendered action in order to address it."

While in just a year, the COVID-19 pandemic has shaken the foundations of 30 years of progress, Gunraj says recovering

from these impacts depends on what is done now.

"We've many times expected things to happen just by osmosis, or just by the passage of time, things like the gender wage gap... if we wait for that to happen naturally it will take hundreds of years," said Gunraj. "When we look at the broader issue of gender recovery, it's really hard to say, it's hard to predict the future, but we do know that it's not going to happen naturally on its own in any meaningful way."

To learn more about International Women's Day, or to donate go to [www.canadian-women.org](http://www.canadian-women.org).

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## Local marketing initiative #SupportTheBurne receives national recognition with award

Written By Jessica Laurenza

COVID-19 has hurt local small businesses most severely, but the Town of Shelburne did not let the pandemic drag them down; rather, they rallied together create a community marketing strategy to encourage support for local businesses.

The Economic Developers Association of Canada awarded Shelburne with a Marketing Canada Award for their marketing initiative #SupportTheBurne, which recognizes communities who are marketing their town to improve the overall economic well-being of Canadians.

Shelburne worked in conjunction with Tristan Barrocks of The Digital Storytellers creative agency to run unique short commercials which addressed the common concern, "how can we reach current and new clients?" The campaign consisted of a string of social media ads ranging from postings on the town website, local billboards, and airtime on the local Country105 FM.

This message was displayed on all digital platforms to communicate a clear and cohesive message – #SupportTheBurne.

Barrocks has been a Shelburne resident for the past 5 years and it was important to him to get involved in community initiatives, using the arts to connect with the people. This initiative was a 'rallying call' to help support local businesses.

He was very intentional in showing multiculturalism in the video to exemplify not only the changing demography in Shelburne, but in all of Canada. He was "trying to amalgamate the old generations with the



SUBMITTED PHOTO

new to show we're all in this together," he explains.

For Barrocks, it's important to support local because you're ultimately supporting yourself. "Where you live, where your kids go to school, and where you buy your groceries should be a positive and thriving place to be."

In order for that to happen, community members need to support local businesses. Barrocks references Shelburne's local pizza joint, Johnny's Pizza.

"Because I know the people [who own it] I want to support them because I like them. People buy from people they like," he noted.

Our communities are filled with kind people, people who care about each customer they have, people who care about making their local area a better place to live.

"As digital storytellers we strive to tell stories that are about people because their stories matter. Shelburne matters, the people that live here matter, and we are over the moon to have contributed in any small way to this community's success," said Barrocks.

## Nominate an Everyday Hero from UGDSB

The nomination period for the 2020-2021 Everyday Hero Awards is here. This year more than ever, we know that our school communities would not be the same without the amazing staff, students, volunteers and community members who help make the Upper Grand District School Board a great place to learn and work.

If you want to recognize a person who goes above and beyond in our school system, now is your chance to nominate them for an Everyday Hero Award. Eligible candidates for the Everyday Hero Awards include UGDSB employees, students, community members or volunteers. Nominations can be for an individual or for a group who has made a difference to our school system.

Criteria for the award includes the performance of duties at a high level at all times, a significant school or system-related achievement, a specific innovation or achievement of significant value or importance to the system, or a unique circumstance considered worthy of recognition by the board.

Nominations are open until March 26, 2021, and are being collected digitally.

Like many things, how we honour our winners this year has changed. Winners will be honoured during a virtual ceremony on May 10 at 7:00pm. More information about the virtual ceremony will be communicated by the board closer to the date.

For more information and to view nomination criteria visit [www.ugdsb.ca/heroes](http://www.ugdsb.ca/heroes)



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## Lanyards and clipboards

I was watching the most recent Mars landing a couple of weeks ago.

It was pretty impressive to see the lander falling through the Martian atmosphere in high definition while the parachute deployed and allowed for a soft landing.

Then there was the obligatory shot of mission control where everyone jumps up from their seats and starts clapping and hugging each other when it is announced "the Eagle has landed." (Or whatever name they gave to this particular lander).

It was indeed quite an accomplishment to land a craft on another planet.

The group in mission control looked pretty happy with their somewhat identical outfits, and matching ID tags hanging from lanyards around their neck.

It is the lanyard which has apparently become the symbol of importance. Without that lanyard around your neck, you wouldn't be allowed in mission control, or probably within a mile of the front door lest you be some kind of spy or worse yet, someone who isn't a rocket scientist.

I was watching another YouTube video of a technology conference. The speaker was someone important giving a lecture to similar minded techy type people.

The speaker told a joke and the camera cut to the audience roaring with laughter – and everyone was wearing a lanyard and ID badge. Every single one of them.

I wondered if anyone even looks at those badges?

I'm pretty sure the fact that it is visible is enough. I don't think anyone ever takes a close enough look to realize it's a photo of Homer Simpson along with a signature that says 'Roy Orbison' or 'Roy Rogers, King of the Cowboys.'

If you've got the lanyard, you're in. There are two simple things in industry that will open doors for you, or at least keep people off your back.

First of all, carry a clipboard and a pen. If you go into any factory or industrial complex, you will always see at least one guy walking around with a clipboard and a pen. For some reason, everyone assumes he is doing something important, because after all, not just anyone can use a clipboard.

You can't just carry the clipboard though. To add realism, you have to glance around a lot. Look up, look around corners, then occasionally jot something down on your piece of paper.

It could be a scribble or a little cartoon character – it doesn't matter because no one will ever

look at your clipboard to see what you are writing down.

If you really want to shake things up, watch a couple of guys working away for a moment, THEN make a squiggly mark on your clipboard paper. Of course you won't make any new friends by doing that, but you will certainly be the topic of conversation on the next coffee break.

The other thing you can do is find yourself a white hard hat. For some inexplicable reason, people of importance wear only white hard hats. No executive worth his salt would show up on a job site to inspect the troops and put a yellow hard hat on his noggin. And he certainly would never be caught dead wearing common blue headgear.

For realism, wear a necktie with your hard hat, with a button-down shirt – not a T-shirt. That combination will guarantee your authority even if people don't know who you are.

If someone does approach and asks if you need assistance, just point to your white hard hat with some authority. That person will nod knowingly and leave you alone.

Here's another trick I hadn't thought of.

I posed a question on an international forum about the use of lanyards.

One fellow from the U.S. responded with

another version of the clipboard gag.

He worked in some kind of government operation in the States.

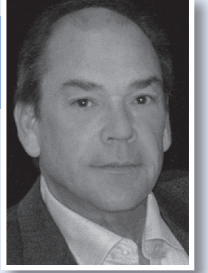
He claimed that whenever he was carrying a set of blueprints, they acted as a symbolic tool to get him in pretty much anywhere – even secure facilities where normally you require a security clearance.

Apparently if you are carrying blueprints, people, including security people assume you are 'part of the project' and gladly wave you through.

He took to carrying a set of blueprints with him everywhere on the job because it made his life a lot easier.

I'm thinking of trying an experiment. I'm going to locate a CSIS office in a big city and walk through the front doors carrying a clipboard and pen in one arm, a set of blueprints in the other, while wearing a suit and white hard hat and see if I can waltz past the front door security by saying "I'm here for the Kerpluknic project" and see how far I get.

I'm kidding CSIS, don't look me up!! Although I may still get a lanyard and Homer Simpson ID badge just to look important.



BRIAN LOCKHART  
FROM THE SECOND ROW

## Value and the Bitcoin Question

With the pandemic accelerating the adoption of digital payments and the growing movement towards open banking and decentralized finance (DeFi), with increasing demand for transparency and lower transaction costs, many financial institutions around the world, even central banks, are considering creating their own cryptocurrencies. A "digital loonie" issued by the Bank of Canada as a stablecoin alternative to cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, for example, would likely have a significant impact in payment processing and Canada's financial services industry as a whole, so it is not surprising that Bank of Canada Deputy Governor, Timothy Lane, recently dismissed interest in Bitcoin as a "speculative mania."

Maybe he is right, or maybe he is missing why the market values Bitcoin at all. Value is in the eye of the beholder. If beauty is subjective, then so is value. The nineteenth century Austrian economist Carl Menger, credited with the subjective theory of value, argued that both sides gain from exchange because each side values what they receive more than what they give up. Menger also reminded everyone that money is not an invention of the State.

I recall hearing the modified expression "value is in the eye of the beholder", for the first time, in graduate school. The course was Advanced Corporate Finance, and the lesson was delivered by way of a business valuation exercise that was specifically designed to show that the same business could be valued differently depending on who was looking to buy it. Since then, I have relied on the expression many times to explain why some people like yellow cars and other things I simply don't understand. I was

reminded of this lesson recently when I saw the news that Tesla had acquired \$1.5 billion in Bitcoin, propelling the cryptocurrency's price past US\$50,000 and arguably causing Tesla's stock to drop since the announcement.

But what is Bitcoin? How does anyone assign value to it? In its simplest expression, at least as I understand it not having a computer programming background, Bitcoin is a string of computer code that records all transactions in a public distributed ledger known as a blockchain. I like to think of it as a large public spreadsheet where all transactions are recorded and maintained by consensus. There is no central administrator or authority because the ledger is maintained by way of a set of coded governance rules that guarantee the integrity of the blocks in the chain and make the number of Bitcoin that can be "mined" finite.

It is important to note that it is this set of coded governance rules that have also opened the door to DeFi and concepts such as the decentralized autonomous organization where the process of decision-making that would involve the management of an organization is automated by the execution of smart contracts that govern the behaviour of all participants.

If you are wondering how a ledger of transactions has any value at all, then you are not alone. There is, of course, the "hype" influencing the price of Bitcoin, with many buyers choosing it over lottery tickets in what could rightfully be called a "speculative mania." If there is more to Bitcoin, my best guess is that its value is derived from its convenience and the perceived stability of the blockchain.

Bitcoin's convenience is simply the fact that you can transfer Bitcoin seamlessly, securely, without any third-party financial intermediaries, such as banks or other financial institutions, and at a very low cost. Where a wire transfer currently requires the involvement of numerous individuals to accept, process, and execute various debits and credits from multiple accounts, it is possible to transfer the same amount in Bitcoin within minutes and at a fraction of the cost.

Bitcoin can also be used in smart contracts for the automation of payments, and to protect personal financial information, such as credit card information shared with a services provider that may be subject to a cybersecurity breach.

Bitcoin's perceived stability comes from its popularity, which adds weight to the integrity of the Bitcoin blockchain. The more popular Bitcoin is, the more stable the consensus becomes, and the less vulnerable to attack by a controlling group within the blockchain. This does not say anything about the security afforded by any particular cryptocurrency exchange or wallet.

Of course, the value that the market assigns

to the convenience and perceived stability of the Bitcoin blockchain is simply the aggregation of each participant's subjective valuation, limited by the size of their pockets and their ability to influence the market, together with the finite number of Bitcoin that can be mined. After all, Bitcoin's convenience and perceived stability may be outweighed by the high volatility of its market price, which is not what most of us expect when setting aside funds for payments due in the short-term.

Although a digital loonie with a central authority in the Bank of Canada would certainly offer price stability and a level of convenience similar to that offered by cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin, central bankers may be missing the value assigned by the market to the perceived stability of a widely decentralized network like the Bitcoin blockchain that is subject to consensus and no central authority.

\*lchacin@carters.ca



LUIS R. CHACIN  
A LEGAL PERSPECTIVE

### Our Readers Write

#### Letter re: Mayor Bob Currie's 'All Lives Matter' comments

Yes, all lives matter. Who said no? Some lives matter in, well, real life, other lives only on paper or words. More than 400 years later grave pain and outcry from the same people. Who is inflicting the grievances?

Strong society like this and people have to choose their words, phrases and sentiments as if talking to babies, a suggestion that folks are so fragile they can't cope with harsh, blunt truths. Is this one reason why the problems persist? Whispering quietly at home? Then how will neighbours join the conversation and accept/offer solutions?

Some lives are coddled, crafted and celebrated in perpetuity, others used as cheap labour to facilitate that great life for the well-favoured people for whom the good things in life are never enough, nor good enough and never too much. The "lesser" ones must face permanent family separation, neglect, destruction, oppression; they must surrender homes, resources, countries, limbs, organs, lives; they must endure death, murder, slaughter, genocide over and over and over; they may speak quietly except when the privileged order them to "speak up" when they are deemed not up to par for being so meek-like,

if not "aggressive." A funny thing is the privileged, of any colour, often fail to notice that still waters run deep.

Do all lives matter equally? Some folks' sorrows come from having not had a hug since January (2021), while others have not had their basic human rights since time immemorial and are supposed to keep quiet about it for eternity so as not to inconvenience anyone.

That the simple term 'Black Lives Matter' can be looked upon as shutting out other races comes across as hurtful and cruel misrepresentation. What people on this earth are still suffering more than those who make up BIPOC (Maybe LGBTQ+ but that's another story)? 'Black Lives Matter' is justly a call for an end to their being killed mentally, emotionally, financially, physically and otherwise for no other reason than the skin shade they are born with.

It should not have to be necessary to tell the world that BIPOC lives matter, yet it is, and that in itself is now a battle even as 'superior' people and their pets are known to have been counted to have more value than them.

Gloria Ramnath  
Shelburne

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SURPLUS

# Dufferin-Caledon Green Party nominates candidate

Written By Sam Odrowski

Orangeville restaurant owner, Laura Campbell recently announced she will again be running for the Dufferin-Caledon seat under the Green Party in the 2022 provincial election, after first running in 2018.

Her core motivations to run are the same as when she first campaigned, to address environmental issues, create a green economy, and ensure all Ontarians are taken care of, especially the most vulnerable.

"The bigger picture remains that we have a climate crisis, we have also a biodiversity crisis, and we have a terrifying and continuing massive gap in wealth," Campbell told the Free Press.

She also noted that strengthening protections for wetlands and green spaces threatened by development is a key priority for her campaign.

"Living in Doug Ford's Ontario we can see the... brazen assault on our natural spaces, with the fast tracking of environmental assessments, to the copious use of Ministerial Zoning Orders (MZOs), just to get work done for developers without going through proper community consultation processes," said Campbell.

She added that the Province's "attack" on conservation authorities through the recent approval of Bill 229, which includes the controversial Schedule 6, is a cause for great concern. This decision allows the government to force conservation authorities to approve permits for development even when they go against their provincially mandated responsibility of protecting people, infrastructure, and the environment.

"I'm all about creating a prosperous economy, but if it's not green then then you're just shooting yourself in the foot as a society," Campbell explained. "It's absolutely possible to have jobs, and to have a safe, sustainable, strong, prosperous economy, that still puts the planet first."

As Ontario recovers from COVID-19, Campbell stressed the importance of making it a green recovery, rooted in sustainability, that will create well-paying jobs, well into the future.

Affordable housing and wealth inequality are two other key issue Campbell plans to address if elected. Since first running in 2018, she says these issues have grown worse and been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Housing prices have continued to go up, but people's wages aren't going up," said Campbell. "Young families, new Canadians, all kinds of folks cannot root themselves down in communities when they can't even afford rent."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

"I'm all about creating a prosperous economy, but if it's not green then then you're just shooting yourself in the foot as a society."

-Laura Campbell

holds the seat and the NDP came in second during the 2018 election.

Campbell said her goal is to convince as many Dufferin-Caledon residents as she can that it's time to change the way the government treats the environment and send a message to the major political parties that this change is needed now.

"We do our best to work across party lines and I think this is especially important in the context of Canadians and Ontarians feeling like, ultimately they only have a choice between the liberals and the conservatives, and possibly the NDP," she remarked.

"These are not your only choices... across the world, people are electing greens. There's really a green wave happening and what greens really have been showing their citizens is that we're really adaptable."

Any residents of the riding who would like to share their ideas, concerns, or offer a comment can reach Campbell through [laura-campbell@gpo.ca](mailto:laura-campbell@gpo.ca) for a timely response.

Providing better wages, paid sick days, and long-term high-quality benefits to essential workers is another area of focus for Campbell.

Intersectional environmentalism, which is the disproportionate ecological impact to ethnic communities, has been a topic made popular over the last year, said Campbell.

"In Canada and in Ontario, when we talk about that, we're talking a lot about indigenous communities and how they've been ignored by our governments for so long," she noted.

"We have a real responsibility in the path to reconciliation to address those inequities, and that's a huge thing that drives my work."

For Campbell's campaign, she says her focus will be to engage with constituents of the Dufferin-Caledon riding, listen to their ideas and advocate for positive change.

She landed third place in the 2018 elec-

tion when first running, beating out the liberal party in total votes by a narrow margin, gaining 12.53 per cent of the total vote. The Progressive Conservative Party currently



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- 7. Watercraft
- 8. Mad
- 9. Cross swords
- 10. Dress part
- 11. WWII agency
- 12. Do some Karaoke
- 13. \_\_\_\_ in a lifetime
- 14. Confront
- 17. Wall support
- 23. Scorn
- 25. St. Petersburg penny
- 27. Tropical bird
- 28. Put on
- 30. Old
- 33. Duo
- 34. Chinese money
- 36. Wayne/Day film
- 37. Swindle
- 38. Leer
- 39. Equivocator
- 41. Cook too much
- 43. Child's vehicle
- 46. Send packing
- 48. Rajah's mate
- 49. "Iron Chef" prop
- 50. Infection carrier
- 52. Obey
- 53. Disrespectful
- 55. Deck's cousin
- 57. Intense beam
- 61. Forbidden
- 62. One of seven
- 63. Cuddle
- 65. Boulevard
- 67. Soccer-team number
- 68. Corrida star
- 71. K-P connection
- 74. Lounging slipper
- 75. Black stone
- 76. Flaky, transparent mineral
- 78. Vatican figure
- 80. Particle
- 81. Refer to
- 83. Private eye
- 85. Edict
- 87. Before, to a bard
- 88. Bread or cereal grain

**ACROSS**

- 1. Greek vowel
- 6. Ardent
- 10. Chest
- 15. Nobleman
- 16. Category
- 18. Express an idea
- 19. \_\_\_\_ and beyond
- 20. Prospectus listing
- 21. Tango or waltz
- 22. Former GIs
- 24. Egyptian dog
- 26. "I \_\_\_\_ a Kick Out of You"
- 27. Citrus quencher
- 29. Hammerhead part
- 31. "What's up, \_\_\_\_?"
- 32. "Neither snow, \_\_\_\_ rain..."
- 33. Clothesline wheel
- 35. Brit's fuel

- 40. Kind of boat motor
- 42. Exploit
- 44. Hindu ascetic
- 45. Creeper
- 46. Storage framework
- 47. Cinema drink
- 48. Radio word
- 51. Horned mammal
- 53. Card game
- 54. Affirm confidently
- 55. Entreated
- 56. Surrogate butter
- 58. Robert Carradine role
- 59. Positive response
- 60. Taint
- 64. Farthest from the outside
- 66. Dislike intensely
- 69. Romanian coin
- 70. "Dusk \_\_\_\_ Dawn"
- 72. Mythology
- 73. Delay

- 74. Carol, to Marcia
- 77. Tot's garment
- 79. Marathon
- 82. Join forces
- 84. "Moby Dick," e.g.
- 86. Cartoon-character Hobbes, e.g.
- 89. French school
- 90. Puccini creation
- 91. Eared seal
- 92. Precise
- 93. Enough of yore
- 94. State of confusion

**DOWN**

- 1. Sleeveless garment
- 2. "Weird Science" area
- 3. Saying
- 4. Lifted with effort
- 5. Dill herb
- 6. Turkish official

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**BRAVING THE COLD:** Shelburne Coun. Kyle Fegan braved a dumping of cold water after spreading himself out on a thick layer of snow for the Shelburne Police Service's Annual Polar Plunge. Coun. Fegan teamed up with Const. Jeff McLean for this year's event and the pair generated \$5,420 for Special Olympics Ontario.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**FREEZIN' FOR A REASON:** Brad Brown (left) and his son Dylan (centre), who's an athlete in the Special Olympics shared a big smile and thumbs up alongside Duffy the Bear (right), who is Dufferin County's Special Olympics mascot. This year's event was held virtually and fundraised over \$11,000.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**BIG SPLASH:** Const. Jeff McLean of the Shelburne Police Service (SPS), which has now transitioned to the Dufferin OPP, braced himself as cold water was dumped on top of him after he carved out a snow angel in a blanket of snow. McLean helped to organize the event, which has been held by the SPS for several years. He says the tradition will be kept in the community and organized by the Dufferin OPP for the future.

## Shelburne Polar Plunge raises over \$11,000 for Special Olympics

Written By **Sam Odrowski**

The Shelburne Police Service (SPS) Polar Plunge generated over \$11,000 this year for Special Olympics Ontario, with the majority of the funds going to the Dufferin Chapter.

The event is held across Ontario and in total generated over \$350,000 for Special Olympics, which helps individuals with development disabilities or exceptionalities achieve their athletic goals and compete against fellow athletes.

This year's event was held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so it was harder to generate revenue than in the past, but over-

all, Shelburne Police Const. Jeff McLean who organized the event says he's happy with its success.

"It was definitely more challenging now, one of the biggest challenges I personally found was doing it virtual and not being able to have a community event," he noted. "During the pandemic, it's also a lot harder, personally and morally, almost, to ask people for donations."

Because small businesses are struggling due to the COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions, the SPS decided not to ask them for sponsorships for this year's Polar Plunge.

"I made sure that I kind of made a con-

scious effort of putting it out there, donate if you can, but well-knowing that the people that would normally donate don't have the means to do it at the current moment," McLean explained.

His team, which was made up of Shelburne Coun. Kyle Fegan and himself, set a goal of raising \$1,000 but far surpassed it. In total the team generated \$5,420.

McLean's team came in ninth place in all of Ontario for the amount of money they raised.

"I want to thank the community for once again, stepping up and assisting us in this great initiative. Obviously, times right now are tough with the ongoing pandemic lock-

downs, and so forth, so those who were able to participate or donate thank you for your support," said McLean.

While the SPS disbanded last month, the tradition of holding the annual Polar Plunge in Shelburne will continue under the Dufferin OPP. McLean says right now he's trying to get a committee together so they can focus on the communities within Dufferin to hold the event.

"We're all looking forward to the end of the pandemic to be able to go back and make this event bigger and better every year. And I'm looking forward to carrying it on into the Dufferin OPP as well," he remarked.

## Galt Family Foundation provides \$35,000 to Family Transition Place

Late last year, the Galt Family Foundation made a \$35,000 donation in support of the essential programs and services offered by FTP. This substantial contribution will provide a major boost to FTP's annual revenue, and will significantly help cover costs related to unexpected changes in FTP's program delivery. Like many other agencies serving vulnerable populations, FTP has had to adjust almost all aspects of its service delivery due to Covid-19.

John Galt, president and CEO of Husky Injection Molding Systems, founded the Galt Family Foundation with his family as a way to give back to the community. When asked

why this contribution in support of FTP's work was so important to him and his family, Mr. Galt replied, "The Galt Family Foundation invests in the communities we live in, with a special emphasis on supporting those who are vulnerable in our society. The last year has placed tremendous burdens on those at risk, affecting both their mental and physical health. FTP and the critical services it provides have never been more important. We are pleased to be able to play a small part in helping to deliver those much-needed services."

"The Galt Family Foundation provided this additional support at a critical time," remarks

FTP's Executive Director, Norah Kennedy. "Throughout the pandemic we have been directed to 'stay home' to protect ourselves and our community from the virus. However, for those living in abusive or violent relationships, home is often the most dangerous place of all. In order to help keep those members of our community safe during this time, FTP has had to adapt almost all of its critical programs and services. Donations like this incredibly generous one from the Galt Family have helped us do just that. We are immensely grateful."

Family Transition Place (FTP) provides a continuum of services to help women and

children escape violence and unhealthy relationships and to help them rebuild their lives. Inside our doors, we offer a warm and welcoming place where their safety and well-being is the most important thing in the world. Whether it's a safe place to live, or the services of a professional, skilled counselor to assist them on their journey, FTP is there to help. FTP relies on community support through donations and sponsorships to ensure its programs maintain their high standard of excellence, and that our Youth Education programs continue to be available to the youth and communities of Caledon and Dufferin.

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# Alethia O'Hara Stephenson creating a catalyst for change

Written By Jessica Laurenza

Local Shelburne resident and mother of three, Alethia O'Hara Stephenson understands the importance of community inclusion and diversity and has used her platform to create change. Last summer, she founded the Dufferin County Canadian Black Association (DCCBA) and the Shelburne Anti-Black Racism Task Force to advocate on behalf of minorities to ensure equal access to the community.

Following the murder of George Floyd, O'Hara Stephenson was forced to reflect on her actions or lack thereof in fighting for change in her community. She asked herself, "what kind of world will my children be growing up in? I don't want [my son] to fear he won't make it home simply because of the colour of his skin."

She shared these fears with Mayor Anderson, the Chief of Police and other community leaders and a motion was passed in June of 2020 that required the town's staff to analyze the feasibility of a committee which would fight for change and equality. Within a month, council confirmed they would establish a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee, unanimously appointing her as the Chair.

The DCCBA was also formed last June, comprised of 10 community members, two members from Dufferin County's Inclusion and Diversity staff, and three members from



SUBMITTED PHOTO

County Council. The association provides a platform for development and enhancement of the Black community through civic engagement, education and programs to advocate for equity.

"By tackling anti-black racism, you're creating that awareness of inclusion for everyone," she explains. "It's more than just words – you need action to affect change."

Ultimately, O'Hara Stephenson

“ We need people standing side by side, hands locked, marching for change, making things different for the greater good.

–Alethia O'Hara Stephenson  
Founder of the DCCBA

aims to create community awareness and put measures in place to establish an inclusive environment where everyone is on the same team.

"We need people standing side by side, hands locked, marching for change, making things different for the greater good," she said.

It's important to understand the inequities entrenched in our governing system in order to actively work towards awareness. There is often an angst that surrounds talking about race. "As a person of colour, it is uncomfortable to have the conversation [about race] because you don't want to make someone else feel bad," O'Hara Stephenson explains.

There is a common misconception that white people cannot advocate on behalf of people of colour because they don't have shared experiences of oppression or discrimination.

O'Hara Stephenson objects this claim; "it wasn't black people who designed the system we're in, it was white people. The people in power don't look like me so we don't have the opportunity to truly affect change. We rely on those in power to recognize the inequity...and do something about it."

As a mother, she feels as though she's robbed her children of their innocence. She always nags at them to make sure they have their wallets, they don't have their hood up on the streets, they don't go into a store in a big pack (especially if every kid is black).

The reality for parents of racialized children is that they need to have these harsh conversations about how to act in public for fear of unjustified violence.

"He should be able to live and enjoy his childhood, but as a mom, I fear for what can happen," she worries.

This is why she established the Anti-Black Racism Task Force and the DCCBA – to create a welcoming, inclusive environment for the community's children to grow up in.

Her message to youth or anyone struggling with racism or discrimination is "as hard as it is, speak up." You can't receive the support you need if nobody knows what is happening.

It starts with just one person coming forward. There's comfort and power in groups that support and uplift one another.

"It takes that one brave voice to come out and make a difference."

## Dufferin Middle school teacher launching children's book representing black men

Written By Fatima Baig

Adesewa Ona Laoye, a middle school teacher who lives in Dufferin County, recently authored a children's book called "Men Like My Father," representing Black men in the community.

Laoye likes to refer to her book as affirmations for sons and validations for fathers.

The picture book, "Men like My Father" highlights the role Black men have in society.

"In the media, we often [see a] misrepresentation of Black people in general and specifically Black men in our society, so my book highlights the impact of good men and the various roles they place within our society," said Laoye.

She told the Citizen she wants to change the narrative surrounding Black individuals as well as inspire and educate people about stereotypes. Laoye also wants the book to serve as a reminder of how valuable Black men and Black people are.

Laoye was inspired and motivated to write the book because of the world's current situation with racial injustice and the Black Lives Matter movement.

"I was inspired or motivated to write this book because of the event that happened in the world, especially with the whole Black Lives Matter movement and just due to racism as a whole," she said.

Laoye, who is Black, says she was also motivated to write the book because of her son and desire for him to be able to see more people who look like him.

"I do have a son, and he's young now, and I want him to grow up seeing people who look like him every day whether it's on T.V., at school, in the community or in children's literature. I want my son to know he can see himself in somebody else. I want him to know that there are people of color out there doing amazing things," said Laoye.

She wants Black children to be able to dream big, no matter their race and know they can accomplish their dreams.

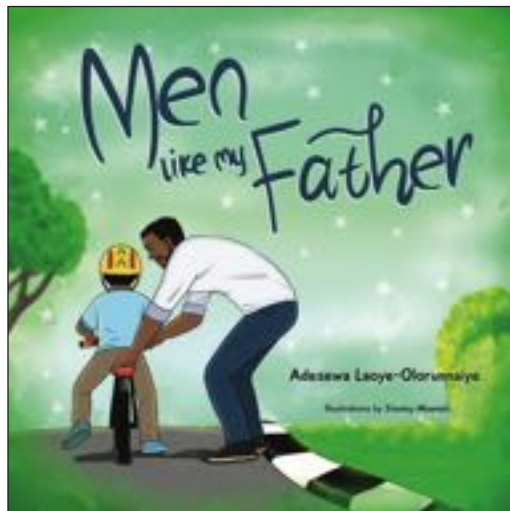
Laoye, in her five in half years of teaching and as a student, hasn't seen Black literature and believes it's essential to have representation.

"Representation is important for Black people of color. They need to know that despite what the media says about us, Black people contribute to society and do amazing things," said Laoye.

According to an article in the Toronto Star, publishers reported, in 2019, 419 books with a Canadian author or illustrator were published in Canada, featuring 525 main characters. Of those books, 37.5% feature main characters who are white, a decrease of 8.2% over 2018, while 29.3% have main characters who are Black, Indigenous, East Asian or South Asian, an increase of 4.9% over the previous year.

Laoye told the Citizen she believes the risk of lack of representation in literature impacts social and emotional learning and that people of color are being told to change themselves.

"The risk is that they never see themselves are worthy or good enough to be in the same spaces as their peers who are Caucasian or from other races. The risk is that they



SUBMITTED PHOTO

will never really truly believe that they can achieve anything despite the fact that they are Black," said Laoye.

She believes the book allows parents to raise Black allies and educate themselves about what Black people go through. She wants the book to enable parents to teach their children that what matters is individual characteristics, not their race.

The book, "Men Like My Father" is available on [www.menlikemyfather.com](http://www.menlikemyfather.com).

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Cease from anger and forsake wrath; do not fret - it leads only to evil-doing. – Psalm 37:8,12B-5

Please visit us at: [www.shelburnechristadelphians.ca](http://www.shelburnechristadelphians.ca)

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Sunday Morning Service at 10:00 am  
 Sunday School Available  
**Other Services**  
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## NFTC

North Frontenac Telephone Company (NFTC) provides telecommunications services throughout Ontario. We are currently accepting applications for Labourer and Landscaper positions for our 2021 Construction projects.

**General Labourer and Landscaper duties:**

- shoveling in/backfilling holes
- Must also be capable of routine maintenance of machinery
- Willing to work outdoors and in extreme weather conditions
- Promote safety awareness; follow company policies & procedures for health, safety and environment.

**Requirements:**

- Mechanically inclined, perform routine maintenance on equipment
- Valid Driver's License, with clean Driver's Abstract
- Willing to work out of town
- Flexibility to work overtime when required
- Capable of working independently when needed
- Ability to lift 50lbs or more

**What we offer:**

- Competitive wages
- Clean, safe and positive work environment
- Using new and well maintained equipment
- Benefits
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Please submit resumes to: [info@nftctelecom.com](mailto:info@nftctelecom.com) Only candidates selected for interviews will be contacted. No phone calls please.

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- Plan, Prepare and Execute Advertising and Marketing Material for the annual rental campaign.
- Complete all necessary paperwork involved in lease signing and payment collection for newly rented units.
- Work with all current tenants in completing necessary paperwork for renewal units

**EXPECTATIONS:**

- Have a positive attitude
- Willing to work hard and enjoy rewards in a team environment
- Willing to take chances and learn from your peers

**DESIRED SKILLS & EXPERIENCE:**

- Sales Driven
- Work well in results based environment
- Goal Oriented
- Great Personal Skills
- Some Sales Skills Preferred but would be willing to train the right candidate
- Marketing and/or Communication education would be a great fit

**COMPENSATION:**

Base + Commission

## Let's Talk.

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**London Property Corp.**



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**EARL BRUCE KEELING**

MAY 05, 1939 - JANUARY 26, 2021

Earl Bruce Keeling passed away peacefully at home in Shelburne Ontario on Tuesday January 26th, 2021 in his 81st year. He was predeceased by partner Linda Crowther (2020), sisters Leone Squirrell (Howard), Gloria Archibald (Ross), and parents Elwood and Gladys Keeling. He is survived by his son Bruce-Joseph (BJ), of Calgary Alberta, brother Jim (Shirley Archibald), and numerous nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews.



Earl spent most of his life farming on the 8th line of Amaranth north of Grand Valley, as well as driving school bus.

Cremation has taken place. For those wishing to express condolences, please donate to the Lung Association of Canada, or a charity of your choice. A Celebration of Earl's life will be held at a future time when it is safe to gather. Likewise, interment will take place in the Shelburne Cemetery when it is safe to gather.

**NEED TO Hire?**

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