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this  
week



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community centre underway



Listuguj's chief councillor  
suspended



New sensory room at Gaspé  
Elementary School

# The Gaspé Spec

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Photo: T. Haroun

## Close to 80 illegal hunting camps burned

Thierry Haroun

**GASPÉ PENINSULA:** Québec Natural Resources has burned no less than 79 illegal hunting camps over the past two years on the Gaspé Peninsula.

During the past year, cases of illegal hunting camps were covered by the media in the region. They are considered illegal by law when they are permanent or when the owner has no permit.

Spec looked more closely into this issue and gathered numbers through the Access to Information Act and Québec Natural Resources (MERN). We also gathered information stemming from the Québec Environment Ministry (MENV).

We learned that the MENV granted a permit to the MERN which allowed

that Ministry to burn up to 70 illegal camps in 2017 located on crown land. The numbers we obtained show that the MERN burned 52 camps in 2017, proceeded to dismantle 3 and 189 illegal camp owners have dismantled their own camps following an eviction notice by the MERN. "In the latter case, the occupants have in other words taken all their objects, clothes and so forth themselves therefore respecting the deadline of eviction that our representatives posted on the notice," explains, Nicolas Bégin, spokesperson for the MERN.

### More numbers

In addition, we also learned that the MERN burned 27 illegal hunting camps in 2016 and 73 other

occupants decided to dismantle their site in respect to the eviction notice. Now, in terms of duty and responsibility that the MERN must respect once it has burned a site, it must "clean the site, residues and ashes alike and transport them to a waste site.

The Environment Ministry does not impose a deadline to do so. In the event that a citizen has witnessed residues left behind, they are asked to report it. Afterwards the Ministry will take measures to remedy the situation," the MENV told Spec in an email.

Finally, Nicolas Bégin was unable to tell us the number of sites that have been cleaned by his Ministry up until now, but he did confirm that the clean up of the burned sites is underway and it will continue until late December.

## PASPEBIAC CLSC: Doctor shortage

Gilles Gagné

**PASPEBIAC:** – The Paspebiac CLSC is experiencing a shortage of general practitioners, a situation that has left the CLSC emergency without a doctor for 28 shifts since June 1.

Three more shifts are left to fill in November and 20 more in December but Geneviève Cloutier, spokesperson for the Regional Health Agency, emphasizes that some of those unfilled shifts will be resolved.

"The team is always active and pursuing its search in order to reduce the number of unfilled shifts and therefore avoid gaps in the emergency service," says Ms. Cloutier.

Since June, the Regional Health Agency has had to fill 51 monthly shifts at the Paspebiac CLSC emergency. The pinch hit general practitioners usually come from outside the Gaspé Peninsula.

According to Geneviève Cloutier, the regular staff at that CLSC can usually count on seven general practitioners but two of them are currently on maternity leave and one more is absent due to an accident. In addition to the emergency shifts, those doctors must also take the time to see

patients in their clinic or at the hospital, she says.

Normally, a CLSC like Paspebiac's should be able to count on eight doctors to deal with the weekly emergency workload, adds Ms. Cloutier.

"A new general practitioner is expected to arrive over the spring and with the return of the (three) absentees, the situation should be corrected. One maternity leave will end on February 1, 2018 and one in September 2018. Some steps have also been taken to keep recruiting," explains Geneviève Cloutier.

A regular shift at the Paspebiac CLSC lasts eight hours. When there is no general practitioner, a nurse is available to take care of light cases.

Some people have spent significant periods of time in the waiting room in Paspebiac before being told that there was no doctor on duty for a certain number of hours.

"The Regional Health Agency informs the public of unfilled shifts through announcements made on the air of CHNC and CIEU (the two Bay of Chaleur radio stations). "We are trying to find a way to inform our Anglophone clientele," points out Geneviève Cloutier.



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# News briefs

## Culture summit a success

Thierry Haroun

L'ANSE-AU-GRIFFON: - The Côte-de-Gaspé Culture Summit was a success, confirms its coordinator, Julie Pineault. Close to 40 participants gathered (artists and other experts of the field) at the L'Anse-au-Griffon Cultural Center. The event, the sixth edition, was held on November 2. Seminars and conferences were on the program concerning different themes such as creativity, development, communication and citizen implication. "Over the years we realize the relevance of these events. We also realize that we don't know each other that well. Moreover, new players are added. So the forum is a unique opportunity to get to know each other better and build bridges. We're happy with the turn out," confirms Ms. Pineault.



Photo: T. Haroun

## A major benefit concert soon to be held in Chandler

Thierry Haroun

CHANDLER: - A benefit concert will take place at the Salle de Spectacles Thomas-Morissey in Chandler on December 15. The money raised will go to the Fondation Élie Gauthier-Naud. Élie, who studied at the Chandler Polyvalent, died in September 2016 of bone cancer at the age of 17. He was a musician and painter. His parents have decided to create a foundation in his memory which is devoted to financing art projects for those aged under 25 living in the Rocher-Percé MRC. Well known artist, Normand Brathwaite and his girlfriend are the honorary couple. Mr. Brathwaite will give a concert with his band that will be preceded by a signer, Miosa (who has a beautiful voice) and a Gaspésian rock band, The Gaspé Project. Two hundred tickets have already been sold of a possible 420. "For example, the foundation could finance music courses or buy concert tickets. The idea is to give access to the arts with a capital A", points out Jasmin Naud, the founder of the foundation and father of Élie. For further details and to buy tickets, visit the foundation's facebook page.



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## Cornélius-Brotherton Foundation rewards young Gaspésians and Magdalen Islanders who decided to pursue their studies in their region

Cornelius Brotherton Foundation, Cégep de la Gaspésie et des Îles

GASPÉ: - The Cégep de la Gaspésie et des Îles Foundation is carrying on its mission by attributing its entrance bursaries for a ninth consecutive year. In all, \$11,000 – 22 bursaries – were awarded to secondary school graduates newly admitted to their first year at one of the four Cégep de la Gaspésie et des Îles campuses.

Fate smiled on 19 students from throughout the territory whose names were drawn as recipients of \$500 welcome bursaries. Even though the fund attribution program provides one bursary for each high school or adult education centre from its territory, some schools or centres are not present on the recipients list due to a lack of applicants.

One \$500 French Immersion bursary was attributed to Louis Gabriel Sutton whereas the English Immersion bursary was handed out to Juliette Keith. Charlie Rioux, a student at the Carleton Campus, was rewarded for her leadership with a \$500 scholarship for her remarkable involvement in her community.

Entrance bursary program – Welcome: These bursaries are exclusively for graduates from each of the secondary schools or Adult Education Centres located on the Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine administrative region or from ESSB territory who choose to enrol in a training program at one of the four campuses of the Cégep de la Gaspésie et des Îles. One bursary is awarded following a random draw for eligible students in each of the high schools or Adult Ed. Centre. These \$500 bursaries encourage young people to remain in the region.

Entrance bursary program – Immersion: This bursary is for students who undertake their college studies in total or partial immersion at the Cégep de la Gaspésie et des Îles. It is valued as an incentive for students to become proficient in a second language.

Entrance bursary program – Leadership: This is the only component of the fund attribution program that is not awarded by means of a draw. It rewards a student for his or her exceptional involvement in extracurricular or community activities.

### Winners from Eastern Shores School Board:

Laura Leblanc-Poirier - New Richmond High School  
Brandon Lequesne - Gaspé Polyvalent School  
Élénne Langlois - New Carlisle High School  
Emily Laing – Métis Beach School  
Louis-Gabriel Sutton - Evergreen  
Jacob Cain-Ste-Croix - Evergreen (for l'ÉPAQ in Grand-River)

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# Gaétan Lelièvre calling for oil exploration in Haldimand to stop

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – Québec must stop oil exploration in the Haldimand area, says the Gaspé riding independant Member of the National Assembly, Gaétan Lelièvre. If the government has to compensate Pétrolia to reach that goal, he has no objections.

It's the toughest stand ever taken by Mr. Lelièvre in that file, even though he opposed the eventual use of hydraulic fracturing in September 2016.

Haldimand is located a few hundred metres from houses, three kilometres from downtown Gaspé and close to the bay of Gaspé, where there are fishing, aquaculture, whale sightseeing and international cruise ship activities, Mr. Lelièvre points out.

“Stop wasting energy on that aberrant project. The Gaspé Coast isn't so devitalized that we should have to make such a choice,” he states.

Pétrolia is considering using fracturing or associated processes, reminds the Member of the National Assembly (MNA), who fears for people's health and safety.

Mr. Lelièvre filed a joint motion with the Parti québécois and Québec solidaire on November 15 at the National Assembly, to ask to have put a stop on Haldimand oil exploration, but the Liberals refused to discuss the issue.

The Quebec government handed over \$20.5 million to Pétrolia in July to put an end to oil exploration on Anticosti Island. “I leave it to the government to examine the ways (to stop the Haldimand project). The compensation can be part of it. It might be the Anticosti model,” says Mr. Lelièvre.

Pétrolia drilled three wells in Haldimand, among them Haldimand 4, which produced 1,200 barrels of oil. The Quebec government authorized that drilling in June 2012, shortly before the electoral campaign began, “without a BAPE or real consultations with the pop-



Photo: G. Gélinas

*Haldimand No. 4 well was drilled “without a BAPE or real consultations,” states Gaétan Lelièvre.*

ulation,” Mr. Lelièvre criticizes.

## A need for information about Bourque and Galt

The MNA states that the meeting between about 30 municipal representatives and Energy and Natural Resources minister Pierre Moreau, on November 10, allowed him to “re-validate” the position of the mayors about hydrocarbons. Regarding Haldimand, he consulted the documentation from the last two years, he adds.

“I feel confident in saying that the Gaspé population doesn't want the Haldimand project with fracturing,” states Mr. Lelièvre. He thinks that this project has a “diversion effect” on other projects like gas exploration at Bourque, between Murdochville and Grande-Valée, or oil exploration at Galt, 20 kilometers west of Gaspé.

“I realize that there's a pretty large consensus about continuing exploration work in non-organized territories, outside villages and downtown areas,” the MNA adds.

However, the population and their representatives need more information about the Bourque Pétrolia project and the Junex Galt project, states Mr. Lelièvre. “The sooner we

close the Haldimand file, the sooner we'll concentrate our energy on those other areas, where there's a debate to hold. At this moment, some people want to consult us but the population and their representatives are not even correctly informed.”

The Quebec government must “appoint a team of competent and objective state employees to inform local leaders,” states Mr. Lelièvre.

## No more power for municipalities

Meanwhile, Mr. Lelièvre doesn't believe that Gaspesian municipal representatives will have the power to exclude territories from oil and gas exploration, like the Energy and Natural Resources Minister Pierre Moreau promised them.

The Gaspé Peninsula is already 80% covered by oil and gas exploration licenses. Article 141 of the Act on hydrocarbons, adopted in December 2016, stipulates that those permits will prevail over the MRC's urban development plans, if they were registered first, Mr. Lelièvre points out.

Minister Moreau didn't convince the Gaspé riding MNA that the article will be revised.

# Police report

On November 13, Sûreté du Québec officers carried out a drug bust on Route 198, in the Wakeham area. They found inside a vehicle, five kilograms of marijuana, 250 grams of hashish and some cash. Jean-Paul Bernier, 65, from the Cap-aux-Os sector of Gaspé, was arrested and interrogated by the police. The accused appeared before Quebec Court Judge Denis Paradis at the Percé courthouse on November 14 on four charges of drug trafficking and possession of drugs. He was released and will return to court on January 22.

The SQ investigation in that case is ongoing to determine if it is somehow linked to a November 9 arrest on Route 198 in Murdochville of two men from Gaspé for possession of drugs and drug trafficking.

Fredrick Stonepoint, 29, a member of the Anishnabe nation, will return to the Percé courthouse on February 22 for his preliminary hearing on charges laid in August 2017 following a break and enter that allegedly occurred on the Junex drilling site at Galt, approximately 20 kilometres west of Gaspé. A student at Carleton University in Ottawa, the accused is charged with break and enter, mischief and theft of more than \$5,000. The accused allegedly used Junex's heavy machinery to move trees and cement blocks. He and other demonstrators occupied public land used by Junex. They wanted to stop the company from drilling. Prior to the August demonstration, Junex had received \$5.5 million in compensation from the Quebec Government as a result of the decision to ban exploration on Anticosti Island.

The accused was arrested on August 14, was charged on August 15 and was released on bail on August 18 by Quebec Court Judge Denis Paradis conditional to an immediate deposit of \$1000 and an additional deposit of \$1000 at a later date. The accused was forbidden to be found on the Galt drilling site. Fredrick Stonepoint was the only person arrested following the August 14 demonstration.

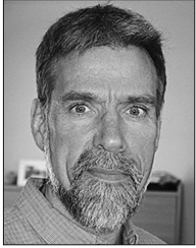
Two road accidents claimed three lives in 36 hours on the Gaspé Peninsula during the November 17 weekend. Slippery road conditions are believed to be the main factors that caused the two accidents. The first accident occurred on De l'Église St. in Saint-Godefroi at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, November 17 as the pickup truck driven by Gaston Larocque, 56 from the same village, veered off the road and rolled over in the ditch. The Sûreté du Québec officers and the paramedics were called to the scene. Mr. Larocque was in critical condition and was pronounced dead shortly after at the Paspebiac CLSC.

The second accident occurred at 1:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 19, on a hilly section of the Petite-Rivière-du-Loup Rd. in Pointe-à-la-Croix. The car in which Jennifer Ouellette and Jacqueline Richard were driving left the road and came to a halt in a dangerous position in the ditch. The car caught fire and the two women were trapped in the car. The two occupants sustained life-threatening injuries and were pronounced dead at the Campbellton Hospital.

The condition of the roads were treacherous that night because a mix of snow, rain and freezing rain was falling on some parts of the Gaspé Peninsula, including the Bay of Chaleur. “We are trying to clarify the cause of the deaths and the circumstances of the accident but it looks as if it was caused by poor road conditions,” said Sûreté du Québec spokesperson Sgt. Claude Doiron, a day after the accident. Jennifer Ouellette, 37 and Jacqueline Richard were both residents of Pointe-à-la-Croix.

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## Commentary

Gilles Gagné

### One-sided progress, still waiting for action from Québec government

Between December 20 and January 4, Gaspésians and their Christmas break visitors will take a bus in order to reach a Via Rail passenger train, or board the same bus when they get off the train in Campbellton, New Brunswick, because since the spring of 2014, no significant repairs have been carried out in order to bring back the service which was suspended in September 2013.

Over the next few days, trucks will be used to transport parts of the Gaspésie Railway Society Locomotive 1849. The engine was used in 2013 and 2014 to pull the Amiral tourist train. Since no significant repairs were carried out between 2014 and 2017 over the Caplan to Gaspé track. This section was put in a dormant state in March 2015 by one of the most incompetent ministers of Transport in Quebec's history, Robert Poëti.

The Gaspésie Railway Society management is looking at innovative ways to use the Caplan to Gaspé stretch or more precisely the New Richmond to Gaspé section. Over the summer the management submitted a proposal to Transport Québec to resume freight traffic as far as Gaspé and as soon as possible, suggesting to use trucks to pull flat cars loaded with windmill blades made by LM Wind Power. Trucks made by a company called Brandt are designed to pull railway cars. Since they weigh only one-third of the Gaspésie Railway Society's relatively light locomotives, freight traffic could and should resume way before the Caplan-Gaspé line is upgraded enough to ac-

commodate conventional trains.

So, due to the Quebec government's negligence, slowness, incompetence, carelessness and ignorance, the region's railway company is forced to find solutions that are not even seen in some Third World countries in order to increase transportation efficiency. The creativity of the company's management must also be geared towards gently putting some pressure on our Quebec decision-makers, instead of concentrating essentially on maximizing the opportunities offered by rail transportation.

When Premier Philippe Couillard visited on May 5 to announce that \$100 million had been earmarked for the Matapédia to Gaspé line, nobody really thought that things would happen quickly.

After all, the Premier's staff had removed the file from the ministry in charge of it, Quebec's department of Transport, and shoved down civil servants' throats a sum of money and a target they didn't want. Most of Transport Québec civil servants didn't want the east end of the track to be put back in service at all, and had a difficult time believing that more than \$50 million would come our way for the Matapédia-Caplan line.

The strength of the Gaspesian economy proved them wrong. The train is needed for LM Wind Power to efficiently transport, at the lowest cost possible, its windmill blades made at its Gaspé plant. McInnis Cement needs the railway more than expected to transport its cement from Port Daniel to several of its North American customers.

This shouldn't come as a surprise for the Quebec government and its ministries, as much of the funding necessary to build the Port Daniel cement plant came from public corporations like Investissement-Québec and the Caisse de dépôt et de placement. The announcements regarding the building of the cement plant were made on January 2014 by the former government of Pauline

Marois, and again in June of the same year by the new government of Philippe Couillard.

It is a typical case of the right hand not knowing what the left hand is doing. If a government encourages such a project, it should be normal to see the departments of that same government ensuring a means of transportation is able to run smoothly around it, right? Wrong in this case!

That government praises itself with its move of "saving" the Gaspé Peninsula railway in March 2015, considering that the former owner, the Gaspésie Railway Society, was experiencing financial difficulties.

The following moves of that government consisted in allotting modest amounts of money to ensure that the Gaspésie Railway Society would keep operating freight trains between Matapédia and Caplan and carry out maintenance duties.

It is true that a couple of decisions made by the Gaspésie Railway Society, mainly the use of a saline solution as a defoliant in 2013, didn't help. However, the management has since changed and the last three years have been successful. McInnis Cement didn't help either through by waiting until 2015 before admitting that rail transportation would be very useful to the cement plant.

More than six-and-a-half months after the \$100 million announcement made by Premier Couillard, not one penny of that amount has been spent or even earmarked for a specific project. Consequently, one more summer has been lost for the realization of repairs between Caplan and Gaspé, with no sign in sight of any breakthrough.

The office of Philippe Couillard should have known in May that political involvement was necessary to impose track repairs to a department of Transport lacking sufficient supervision capacity and frustrated by an imposed \$100 million investment. It is never too late to make it right. That government must accelerate upgrades to the Gaspé Peninsula railway and it must start now.

#### Letter to the Editor

**Re, the article in the Nov 1. edition of the Spec regarding Bill 62,** contrary to what the writer is trying to portray (that the Provincial Government is racist, and discriminating against women of the Muslim faith) is just not so...

The Bill 62 simply states to receive services, one must be able to identify the person who is in need of this service, the only method of identification, that is asked for, from the majority of Canadians, is their face, go to an airport, one must show picture ID. to any Hospital Emergency room, again picture ID. is required, I could go on forever, renew your Drivers license, again face recognition is asked for. In many places now in Canada, before one enters certain establishments, "face Imaging Signs" are posted. Has nothing to do with discrimination, but only a heightened level of security Governments and places of business now require.

Oh we get angry and want to jump on the "I am not a racist bandwagon" before even thinking it through, let's go another route, A journalist for the Toronto Sun, a Muslim woman, who writes about this issue quite often, is in favour of this law, and feels it will empower some of these women to remove their face coverings, which at the present time, they are terrified to do, due to pressure from the men in their families, and other influences. According to this young Journalist, face coverings is not a religious law, but only old archaic ideas, superstitions, and myths that have been passed down, over the years.

Growing up in the Gaspé region in the 40's and 50's we (I) can relate to this quite well, the only two religions I knew of at that time were either Anglican or Catholic, (both Christian) and a friend of mine who happened to attend the Catholic Church absolutely refused to eat meat on Friday, because she had been taught she would go straight to

hell!! Perhaps education, and common sense(??) should prevail, if Muslim women wear the veil, and understand why, fine, but they also must understand, certain laws of the country they want to live in, and all the protection this country provides for them.

Ms Dow states that their religion requires this face covering, and the Government should not dictate what someone wears, if this is the case, why is a Religion allowed to dictate what these women wear??, And why Women?? are they not men in this same Religion, different rules for them?

Every year in Canada, Religion is being used to try and override our laws, take for instance the case of Winston Blackmore in Bountiful, B.C. Bishop of a Sect. of the Mormon religion, who was convicted of having Multiple wives, and fathered 145 children, section 293 of Criminal code bans Bigamy in Canada, but he stated "I'm Guilty of Living my Religion". In Utah, USA. Warren Jeffs, another leader, raped his young nephew, Brent Jeffs when he was five years old, again he tried to use the Religion Card, but was convicted and is now serving prison time. By the way, he apparently had over 70 wives.. his excuse (he was -Doing God's Work)(Read the book "Lost Boys" by Brent Jeffs, I am sure you will find quite interesting.) Another case in Ontario, The Shafia case, 4 young women drowned by their Brother and Father, why? They disobeyed them.... You can read about all these cases on the internet. There is no end to these sad stories..

Another comment I think the "immoral majority" is a bit strong.. I imagine it will take years, this law will be fought in the courts, the sad part is, some of these women will simply be used as pawns, to obtain whatever end wins..

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# Construction of new community centre underway

## Canada 150 program contributes \$240,000 to the project

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND: – The construction of New Richmond's new Adrien-Gauvreau community centre is now underway, as the first steel beams were installed on November 13, close to where the previous building bearing the same vocation used to stand.

The construction started on November 13 and on the same day, Gaspésie-Magdalen Islands Member of Parliament, Diane Lebouthillier, who is Canada's National Revenue minister, announced that the Canada 150 infrastructure program, is contributing \$240,561 towards the project. She made the announcement on behalf of her colleague Navdeep Bains, minister responsible for Canada Economic Development.

The reconstruction of the Adrien-Gauvreau community centre requires an investment of \$2.7 million. The Town of New Richmond borrowed \$2 million for the project, while the recent contribution of



Photo: G. Gagné

Minister Diane Lebouthillier and Mayor Éric Dubé are glad to share good news with the public.

Canada Economic Development completed a previous grant of \$260,000 from the federal government, for a total contribution of \$500,000 from Ottawa.

The MRC of Bonaventure has committed \$30,000 while Caisses Desjardins is allotting \$75,000 to the project. The

Quebec government is not contributing to the project.

"It is often referred to as a project of \$2 million but there is a lot of equipment and furniture to go in there. That's why the total will reach \$2.7 million," points out New Richmond mayor Éric Dubé.

The contractor hired for the

community centre, Carleton-based Constructions scandinaves, should be able to enclose the building before Christmas and then finish the interior over the winter. The value of that contract stands at \$2,215,940.

Mayor Dubé emphasizes that 1,000 people use the com-

munity centre each week. The new building will include a large room with a capacity for 325 seated guests, and two smaller rooms, one for the 50-plus Club and the other for the Cercle des fermières. A modern kitchen is also part of the project.

Minister Lebouthillier states that the grant "reflects Canada's commitment to the community." Another grant of \$109,138 is being given to the New Richmond soccer club for the rebuilding of the field located next to the arena.

The work on that soccer field was carried out earlier this year. "Ideally, a revamped field like this has to sit for a year and we will do that. Games won't be played until 2019. We can do it because we have two pinch-hit fields, although they are not ideal for parents because they are located away from each other. Parents with kids of different ages find themselves running around a lot," explains François-Olivier Gagnon, president of the New Richmond soccer club.

## CORAL PROTECTION:

# Turbot and halibut fishing forbidden in 11 areas

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – Greenland turbot and Atlantic halibut fishermen are protesting the federal government's decision to forbid their fishing gear in 11 areas totalling 8,571 square kilometres to protect coral and sponges in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence and its estuary.

Five Gaspesian processing plants estimate that they could sustain additional costs of \$3 million. That doesn't include the losses for fishermen, who may have to travel further from their home port.

Sébastien Dunn fishes Greenland turbot four hours away from the Rivière-au-Renard wharf. His fishing grounds coincide with the areas where his fishing gear is now forbidden.

"We won't have any choice but to go further, but we don't have the proper boat to do it. It will be more expensive and more dangerous," he says.

Mr. Dunn fishes on a 44-foot long boat (13 meters) and does sea trips lasting a total of 24 hours. Reaching the waters north of Anticosti Island, his alternative area, takes 24 hours. It would cost \$1,600 in

fuel per trip rather than about \$175.

Greenland turbot is caught with gillnets, anchored at both ends. For Atlantic halibut, fishermen use a longline, that is to say a line with several hooks attached to it. Those nets have very little impact on the sea bottom, the fishermen argue.

"We've been fishing in these areas for about 40 years. The sea pens (a kind of coral) and sponges are still there. We probably don't destroy them too much!," says Jean-René Boucher, director of the *Regroupement des pêcheurs professionnels du nord de la Gaspésie*, who points out that he's in favour of protecting sea ground life.

"The longline is a line of hooks which sometimes touches the sea bottom, but that doesn't damage it. The gillnet touches the bottom, but it doesn't scrape it," he explains.

Approximately 100 crews catch turbot in Quebec and there are about 60 crews that fish Atlantic halibut. Those fishermen follow the fish, which can move from one year to the next. "If we pre-



Photo: Sylvain Roussy

There are about 100 crews fishing Greenland turbot in Quebec.

vent fishermen from fishing close to their home, a possible impact is an overconcentration of fishermen in other places," Mr. Boucher fears.

The fishing industry was consulted but not listened to, fishermen think. Fisheries and Oceans "arrived with sketches, and the final drawing was the same. It was a political show," says Pierre-Nicolas Tanguay-Lévesque, who fishes from Tourelle, near Sainte-Anne-des-Monts.

## Processing plants

If the fishermen move closer to the North Shore, five Gaspesian processing plants could have to take delivery of the catches in that region to maintain the processing jobs in the Gaspé Peninsula, which could cost a total of \$3 million annually.

"We would have to bring the fish back by truck, we'll need to use more ice," describes Olivier Dupuis, director of production at Rivière-au-Renard's Pêcheries

gaspésiennes plant.

The Government of Canada is acting in response to international commitments, says Maryse Lemire, regional director of Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Ottawa committed to increasing the protection of marine and coastal areas to 5% by the end of 2017 and to 10% by 2020. The newly designated areas bring Canada to 5.22%.

The number of marine areas of protection went from 20 to 11 following the consultations, Ms. Lemire says.

Corals and sponges are "organisms which don't move, grow slowly and have a long life. They're very sensitive. Every bottom-contact with fishing gear presents a risk," she adds.

The 11 refuges, or protected areas, provide landing revenues of \$253,000 per year, according to 2008 to 2015 data compiled by the ministry.

Fishermen contest those numbers. Rodrigue Langlois, a fisherman who catches turbot in one now protected area off Rivière-au-Renard, reports that he alone fished for \$220,000 of turbot last year in that zone.



# Reflections

by  
Diane Skinner Flowers



## What if Christmas doesn't come from a store?

*It came without ribbons. It came without tags.  
It came without packages, boxes, or bags. And he puzzled and puzzled  
Till his puzzler was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something  
He hadn't before. What if Christmas, he thought,  
Doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas, perhaps,  
Means a little bit more?*

The stores are full of shiny new toys and decorations. Shoppers are making their lists and racking their brains trying to think of the perfect gift for friends and family. Children are writing their wish lists for Santa. Many of us are wondering how to stick to a budget and, come January, not face huge credit card debt. Christmas is a mix of fun and exciting, with just a tad of anxiety.

We often hear people say that Christmas is too commercialized. It is. So much stuff. Too much stuff. And way too much pink plastic that gets thrown away come the springtime. Christmas is sometimes, disposable. But let us consider this year that Christmas can be a little bit more. We can make it so with a little bit of planning and looking at the world around us with empathy.

My five-year-old granddaughter just celebrated her birthday. My daughter had a discussion with her about birthdays and presents and maybe considering a different option for this birthday. My daughter and granddaughter had just watched a TV commercial about shelter dogs. That will tug at anybody's heartstrings. Together they made a decision. The friends who were invited to the birthday party were asked not to bring a gift, but instead bring dog or cat food to donate to the local animal shelter.

This was a giant success, for everybody. Children, parents and some shelter animals all benefitted. My daughter was overwhelmed by the amount of pet food that was given that day, as well as toys and collars and leashes! The family gathered all the kind gifts of pet food and delivered them to the local animal shelter. The staff was thrilled to hear about how this large donation of pet food was collected. The staff took a photo of my granddaughters and posted it on their website. The girls were overjoyed to bring the food for the animals.

This is an example of "Think globally, act locally." We know that there are hungry people and animals in the world and in every community. Rather than donate a cheque to the SPCA or Humane Society the girls did something concrete. So this Christmas "Think globally, but act locally." Make your donation benefit someone or some organization where the money or items stay right in your area.

Could we all make Christmas mean a little bit more? Look around. Perhaps donate to a food bank, a church that makes Christmas hampers, a local group such as Linda LeMore Brown Foundation, which provides assistance for cancer patients travelling out of the area, a not-for-profit organization, a friend who is down and out, or an animal shelter. Some agencies pair you with a family in need and you can anonymously buy gifts for each person in the family.

Let's all try to be a little kinder and in the process find the truer meaning of Christmas.

*And what happened then? Well, in W'boville they say  
That the Grinch's small heart grew three sizes that day!*



Photo: G. Gagné

Minister Diane Lebouthillier and Mayor Éric Dubé are glad to share good news with the public.

## Grand Cascapedia River bridge repairs are progressing well

Gilles Gagné

CASCAPEDIA-ST- JULES – Started on October 2 by Maria-based contractor Sani-Sable and its partner, Coffrages Bouchard, the repairs on the Highway 132 Grande Cascapedia River bridge are progressing well. A highly evident visual effect of the situation occurred between November 10 and November 12 as the two spans supported by pillar number 9 were taken down, and pillar 9 as well.

Pillar 9 moved on May 8 when the strength of the current, worsened by the presence of wooden debris, undermined it, forcing Transports Québec to close the bridge within minutes and use a detour through MacKay, Des Ponts Road and Route 299. The detour has been used since, and another alternate route, through Gallagher and Patrickton roads, has been improved and suggested to the drivers going west.

On the bridge itself and around, the Sani-Sable staff and subcontractors have so far cleared the debris leaning against the pillars, built an access road leading to the base of the bridge and laid a dyke allowing the circulation of heavy machinery around the pillars. They have also removed asbestos on the spans and pillar 9 before taking them down.

The next weeks will be devoted to the consolidation of two other pillars, the rebuilding of pillar 9 and the rebuilding of the two spans. The bridge is supposed to reopen for the beginning of June. People wanting to see more pictures of the November 11-12 demolition work should take a look at the photos taken by Gesgapegiag's Roger Lee Martin and posted on his Facebook page.



## Century Lodge Raises Five new Master Masons

GASPÉ: - Four months ago five gentlemen began a journey in Free Masonry that led them through their initiation in the first degree, passing to the second degree and finally a few weeks ago were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Now they are qualified to occupy any position in Century Lodge in Gaspé who has been active in the community for 96 years. from left to right: Br. Richard Jalbert, Br. Pierre Gabriel Laurendeau, Worshipful Br. Francis Minville, Very Worshipful Br. Boivin, Br. Dorima Dorion, Br. Dave Biard Ferguson, .... missing at the time of the photo Br. Peter Eden





Photo: G. Gagné

## Listuguj's chief councillor suspended due to controversy over cannabis production

Gilles Gagné

LISTUGUJ – Listuguj's chief councillor Cathy Martin is suspended for a period of three months following a November 7 meeting of the band council. She allegedly committed a breach in the code of conduct for posting on social media her personal opinion on the possibility that the Listuguj band administration could turn a \$3M loan, to marijuana production company Zenabis, into shares of the company.

Zenabis is based in Atholville, New Brunswick. Ms. Martin's position was that the community had to be consulted on such a point. The suspension notice was sent to her on November 13. She won't receive remuneration and travel reimbursement during her suspension. She was also notified to present apologies before her return to the band council. A number of emails were exchanged between Listuguj chief Darcy Gray and Cathy Martin between October 27 and the band council meeting of November 7. On facebook, Ms. Martin says that the position she defended meets the concerns of a high number of Listuguj citizens. She rules out initiating legal action against the band administration but considers legal action against certain individuals that are responsible of her suspension. She also intends to notify the department of Aboriginal Affairs of her situation. She claims that only that department and the minister can suspend a band councillor.

## Community looks forward to 30th annual Christmas concert

Elaine Sexton

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: - This year will mark our 30th anniversary for the Christmas concert at the 50+ Club.

This year's milestone will be on Friday, December 8 at 7 p.m. It is usually held on the first Friday of December, however, New Richmond will be having their Christmas parade once again, so we are working together, the two communities, to ensure everyone can enjoy both events.

Elaine Cochrane is the person that began this tradition and we hope she will be joining us for this special night.

If anyone would like to sing, say a poem, play the piano, by all means let me know and your name will be added to the program.

## Tree Lighting and Santa visit

Elaine Sexton

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: - Sunday, December 3, the annual tree lighting ceremony and visit by Santa will take place at the Community Center from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.: colouring, crafts (new crafts this year), cookies, etc. Come join us for these activities and have some fun! If you would like to bring your own decoration and put it on the tree, please do so. Santa will be there at 4, tree lighting immediately after.

Everyone is invited to stay after meeting Santa, to have the tree blessing inside, than on your way outside, you can join in the official tree lighting.

Being all together for those few minutes will be a great way to start your Christmas season. Santa hopes to see all the children and indeed the whole community there to greet him. If you would like any additional information, please call 418-759-5131. Please provide Santa's helpers with a small gift for your child.

# MOUNT BECHERVAISE SKI CENTRE: New chairlift to be ready by mid-December

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – The new quadruple chairlift at Gaspé's Mount Bechervaise ski centre will be completed by December 16. The board members expect the sales of season passes to increase by 15 to 20% because of the \$3.3 million improvement.

The work started in August and is proceeding on schedule. Most of the work has involved the pouring of the foundations for the 14 towers that will support the chairlift.

The new ski lift will have 132 chairs and a loading carpet. It will have the capacity to take 2,000 skiers per hour to the summit. The previous T-bar could lift 1,600 passengers per hour. "But we couldn't reach that number because some customers used to fall from the T-Bar and we had to stop it. (With the chairlift), it will be a continuous service," explains Gilles Pelletier, a board member of the ski centre corporation.

For the 2016-2017 winter, Mount Bechervaise sold 550 season passes. Other ski centres that acquired a chairlift experienced a 15 to 20% clientele increase the first year, and it was maintained the next year, reports Mr. Pelletier.

An increase like that at Mount Bechervaise would mean sales of 650 to 700 season passes this year. "For some people, the challenge was to go up, not to go down. We hope that we'll attract more young families and more young snowboarders. We'd also like to convince some people to resume skiing," Mr. Pelletier says.

Québec presented a \$1.6 million grant for the chairlift



Photo: G. Gélinas

Suzanne Plourde, president of the Mount Bechervaise ski centre, is expecting a 15 to 20% increase in the sales of season passes.

and the Town of Gaspé will pay \$1.4 million. The ski center is trying to accumulate \$320,000 through a fundraising campaign. About half of the objective has been achieved.

In the future, the ski centre would like to partner with mountain bikers so that they could use the chairlift. Cruise ship passengers could also enjoy the view from the top of Mount Bechervaise.

### 10% rate hike

The ski centre increased its season pass rates by 10%. "It's the first increase in five years. That's just right, especially as we're offering a new chairlift", says president Suzanne Plourde.

An adult who purchases his or her season pass no later than November 13 will pay \$255 and a couple with two children, \$615. After November 13, they will pay respectively \$320 and \$725.

The Town of Gaspé,

owner of the Mount Bechervaise infrastructure, bought a new run groomer. "The old one broke a few times last year. Very often, we were unsure whether we could get parts or not because it was manufactured in 1999," says Mr. Pelletier. The only thing missing is the snow to start the season on December 16.

The Mount Bechervaise ski centre manages a \$300,000 to \$350,000 annual budget. It hires about ten part-time seasonal employees. The organization will soon hire a full-time director general to be shared with Relance Fort-Prével, the golf course owner.

## The 17th Annual Fall Festival

Elaine Sexton

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: - The Fall Festival is happy to announce that the Festival has made a profit again this year. The profits have been given to the non-profit organizations in the community such as The Eagles Club, The Royal Canadian Legion Dart Club, the Fire Department, the 50+ Club and The Naval League of Canada-New Richmond Branch. Without the help of many volunteers, sponsors and donations the Fall Festival would not be such a success. Since 2005 the Fall Festival has been able to donate over \$122,000 to the local groups in the area.

The Cascapedia-St-Jules Fall Festival Committee is grateful to those who attended, participated, donated or volunteered at the 17th annual Fall Festival. Without the help of many people, none of this would be possible. The Festival is looking forward to seeing all of you in 2018, at the 18th Fall Festival.





# Gaspé Elementary School, in partnership with Vision Gaspé-Percé Now creates a sensory room

Jessica Synnott

GASPÉ: - School teams work diligently to provide the best learning environment for their students. In order to do this, we must attend to the academic, social and emotional needs of our students. We plan learning outcomes based on the curriculum established by our province and seek many opportunities for professional development that encompass the well-being of the whole child.

A more recent focus in education encourages teachers and support staff to understand how the sensory processing needs of our students may impact behaviour and attention in the classroom environment. What does this mean for learning? Well, we all rely on our senses to perform the tasks involved in daily life. We continuously process information about our world through our senses and our body responds to the various sources of input. People respond differently to these sources of input.

Some people are very sensitive to auditory input and therefore may have trouble concentrating with different levels of sound or background noises. Other people may have sensitivity to textures. Students with sensory processing issues often have trouble maintaining the proper level of alertness to complete the tasks involved in a regular school day. This can produce a great deal of anxiety and life at school can become overwhelming. As a consequence,



New sensory room at Gaspé Elementary.

Photo: J. Synnott

these students often do not comply with behaviour expectations and may be referred to the office. More research is surfacing that suggests that children and youth with sensory processing issues would benefit from minor variations within their school day in order to feel calm, alert and focused, in other words, to feel ready for learning.

As a result of a recent visit to a school in Montreal, Gaspé Elementary School, in partnership with Vision Gaspé-Percé Now, decided to use this new research to create a space that could benefit all students, particularly those with sensory processing needs. That space is called a sensory room. Our sensory room was designed with the guidance and expertise of Kayla Smith, an occupa-

tional therapist. She worked on a volunteer basis to help select the proper equipment for the room as well as to provide training on the best practices for using the room for the school staff of Gaspé Elementary School.

The room includes different types of equipment carefully chosen to address different levels of alertness. If students are hypersensitive in the areas of touch, visual, vestibular and auditory domains, they are getting too much stimulation and can use the space to calm and become soothed in order to return to the classroom ready to learn. Those students who are sensory-seeking would require more sensory input to feel ready to learn so the space caters to their needs with items

such as a trampoline and mini rocking bowl. Many of these items were purchased at reasonable costs. However, a partnership with the Ville de Gaspé made it possible to purchase a therapeutic swing which would not have been possible without their gener-

ous donation. Ultimately, these students have access to the space for short periods of time during the school day in the presence of an adult, either a teacher or special education technician, in order to address the processing issues that might be barriers to learning.

I am very proud that Gaspé Elementary School is on the cutting edge of this research and that with the help of our partners, Vision Gaspé-Percé Now, Ville de Gaspé and Kayla Smith, we are able to provide the sensory room as a prevention strategy for children. The intention is to offer time for children and youth to safely attend to their processing needs, in order to prevent or reduce the prevalence of our students acting out as a result of feeling overwhelmed or anxious in their environment. Ten to fifteen minutes of sensory room time can be that small variation in our school life routine that would allow a child to reach their full learning potential.

# NEW!

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# Seven schools take part in cross country event in Chandler

Jean-Michel Audet  
CHANDLER: - Evergreen High School hosted the second Eastern Shores School Board Cross Country Championships on Friday, October 27 in Chandler. This sports event allowed 64 athletes from seven schools of the school board to challenge themselves as they raced through the wooded trails of the Pabos Mills area, at Camp Bellefeuille.



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GROUNDWATER MONITORING:  
Pétrolia blamed  
by Environment ministry

Geneviève Gélinas

GASPÉ: – Pétrolia failed to analyze groundwater around its Haldimand No. 4 well in 2015, and received a non-compliance notice from the Environment Ministry. The firm doesn’t consider those tests mandatory and describes the situation as “an imbroglio.”

Pétrolia carried out those tests afterwards, in 2016 and 2017, but doesn’t want the results to be made public.

On July 23, 2014, Quebec Environment Minister, David Heurtel, came to Gaspé to announce his government’s Regulation on water withdrawal and its protection (RPEP). It was a reply to the concerns of Haldimand residents, where Pétrolia was to drill a horizontal well only 350 meters from houses and 800 meters from a drinking water well.

The regulation, which came into force on August 14, 2014, compels the firms to sample groundwater around oil and gas wells, every year, in order to detect possible contamination.

Between November 2014 and January 2015, Pétrolia was completing its Haldimand No. 4 drilling. Later in 2015, from November 18 to December 2015, the firm did cleanup operations in the well and injected 70,000 litres of hydrochloric

acid.

In 2015, Pétrolia didn’t sample groundwater. In October 2016, the Ministry sent a noncompliance notice to the firm. It pointed out that “no sampling was done according to the frequency specified (in the regulation, also designed by the acronym RPEP)” and warned that a \$2,500 penalty could be imposed.

After a request made by SPEC, Pétrolia, a firm now merged with Alberta-based Pieridae, argued that Haldimand No. 4 wasn’t subjected to the RPEP. The reason was that the drilling started in 2012, before it was adopted. “We obtained legal advice in that sense,” states Jean-François Belleau, spokesperson for Pétrolia.

In 2012, Pétrolia deforested the drilling site and installed the conductor casing. It suspended its work when the Town of Gaspé adopted a regulation to impose a two-kilometre distance between an oil well and a drinking water source. The municipality abandoned the battle against Pétrolia to defend its regulation in court because Quebec adopted the RPEP. Now, Pétrolia doesn’t want to be subjected to the RPEP either.

Mr. Belleau adds that the groundwater observation wells don’t belong to Pétrolia, but to the Environment Ministry. “There’s an imbroglio with the Environment Ministry,” he says.

Tests in  
2016 and 2017

In 2016 and 2017, Pétrolia sampled three observation wells around Haldimand No. 4, a situation confirmed by the Environment ministry. “We decided to do it to buy piece,” says Mr. Belleau. The analysis must measure substances such as benzene, petroleum hydrocarbons and methane.

SPEC asked Pétrolia for the results of those tests. “We sent the reports (to the Environment ministry), you can ask them, because once sent, they belong to the public domain,” Mr. Belleau replied.

SPEC filed a request for access to information to the ministry but didn’t get an answer yet.

An environmental group has already tried. In August, the committee Together for the sustainable future of Gaspé asked for “all sampling surveys, inspection reports and analysis reports made by Pétrolia at wells Haldimand 1, 2, 3 (sic: well 3 doesn’t exist) and 4 as well as on all conservation wells surroundings those drillings in Gaspé.”

The ministry asked for Pétrolia’s opinion, and then refused to send the documents to the committee. The remarks from the firm about confidentiality met the requirements of the Access to Information Act, wrote the ministry.



Photo: G. Gélinas

Amiral locomotive to be  
moved by truck trailer

Gilles Gagné

GASPÉ – During the last week of November, The Gaspésie Railway Society will move the Amiral tourist train’s locomotive in order to use it on its freight trains over the next months. There has been no repair work done between Caplan and Gaspé over the last three-and-a-half years, the locomotive has been stationed in Gaspé since the summer of 2014 and unable to move east due to a washout in Port Daniel. The Gaspésie Railway Society

management has decided to put the locomotive on a flat trailer, which will be pulled by a truck between Gaspé and New Richmond. Some weight was removed from the locomotive in order to respect some compulsory road weight limitations. The railway between Gaspé and Matapédia belongs to Quebec’s department of Transport. Despite the announcement of \$100 million for that railway on May 5, no work financed by that envelope has since been carried out.

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Public notice of the result of the election

POLL OF NOVEMBER 5, 2017

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given by

Gemma Vibert, returning officer,

that, after having examined the complet results of the election, the following persons were declared elected to the positions mentioned below:

Position	District	Name of the person declared elected
Mayor	-----	Cathy Poirier
Councillor	District no. 1	Doris Bourget
Councillor	District no. 2	Jerry Sheehan
Councillor	District no. 3	Magella Warren
Councillor	District no. 4	Allyson Cahill-Vibert
Councillor	District no. 5	Andréanne Trudel Vibert
Councillor	District no. 6	Doris Réhel
Councillor	District no. 7	Robert Daniel
Councillor	District no. 8	Nicolas Ste-Croix (candidate elected by acclamation)

Signature

Issued in Percé Municipality, on 2017 11 14

Returning officer

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The Québec public service has introduced a series of equal employment opportunity measures aimed at women, members of various cultural communities, indigenous peoples, Anglophones and disabled persons.





# Singing and dancing for a cause in Shigawake

Wendy Dawson

SHIGAWAKE – On the afternoon of November 12, the Community Centre in Shigawake was host to a variety show fundraiser organized by D n T Events to benefit the Malcolm Evans Emergency Pastoral Care Fund.

The Malcolm Evans Emergency Pastoral Care fund was set up in 2005 and its purpose is to honour the work of Archdeacon Malcolm Evans who served both the Anglican and United ministries in the Bay of Chaleur. The fund helps support persons from the area who are facing financial challenges that have arisen due to unforeseen circumstances.

The idea for the event took place over the dinner table when Dave Felker, the D in D n T Events, presented the idea behind his new partnership with Trevor Buttler to Patsy Hayes, Deacon of the Anglican Church in Shigawake.

Both Dave and Trevor, al-



Photo: D. Felker

Many young and old alike took part in a fundraiser for the Malcolm Evans Emergency Pastoral Care fund.

ready active members within the English community had observed a need for coordinated

fundraising events to help deal with “volunteer exhaustion” which often takes place within

small communities.

“The same people that are members of a board are also

the primary volunteers and more often than not sit on a number of different organizations. In some cases, the volunteers are getting on in age. It just leads to a sort of exhaustion and this new business venture can help with that,” explains Dave Felker.

Mrs. Hayes was sold and hired D n T for the Malcom Evans fundraiser. As Dave Felker explained, putting on this first event was less of a challenge than teaching his youngest daughter keyboard in less than a week or hosting dance rehearsals leading up to the big day.

Some 70 people came out for the show held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Supporters of the event were treated to a variety of musical presentations by young and old alike, dances, skits and even a segment dedicated to the creation of slime. The \$7 paid at the door allowed the event to raise approximately \$450 for the cause.

## Women’s Institute: School Fair Gardens

Gloria Hayes  
Agricultural Convenor of the Marcil W.I.

SHIGAWAKE: - The Marcil Branch of the Quebec Women’s Institute has sponsored the School Fair Gardens for many years. It is one of our most popular and worthwhile projects, but we have fewer children participating now.

There were eleven gardeners this year, aged from 7 to 12 years. The children were required to make their gardens 9’ x 12’ in size. They had to plant five different vegetables. They also had two contests, one to gather a bouquet of different wild flowers and the sec-

ond to paint a rock with a design of their choice.

The gardens were judged in early August. The vegetables were then exhibited at the Shigawake Agricultural Fair where they would be judged. The prize money is given to the children at their school at a later date.

Each year a « Best all around Gardener » is chosen. This year Matthew and Nathan Prince were chosen for the second consecutive year. The names of the students who participated in the vegetable garden project are: Matthew and Nathan Prince, Kaika Hottot, Jarad Flowers, Spirit Martin,

Alexia Cormier, Abigail Felker, Elizabeth Felker, Axl and Jaxson Major.

The children were thrilled to have their very own garden. The judges were amazed to see the creativity and the effort of the children.

All the gardens were different. They decided on the site and the designs they wanted. Some planted in long rows, others in short rows. They worked on preparing the soil. Good soil is the most important factor in growing a vegetable garden. Sunlight and water are also important factors.

It was interesting to see that the students placed white sticks

at the end of each row with the name of the vegetable. Some placed coloured rocks at the end of the rows. Some placed a little white picket fence at the corner of their garden. Very artistic!

I think it is a wonderful project.

The children know that vegetables are not grown at the supermarket.


We encourage parents to support the children’s gardens. It’s becoming a lost art in our community.

Congratulations to the young gardeners!



Photo: courtesy of Gloria Hayes

Matthew and Nathan Prince displaying their garden.



### PUBLIC NOTICE

The municipal authorities of "Ville de Gaspé" would like to advise the population that:

- according to By-Law 1190-12, motor vehicles are forbidden from parking on the streets of the town, from 0 h to 7 h, between November 1st, 2017, and April 30, 2018;

Motor vehicles are forbidden from parking on "rue de la Reine", from 3 h to 7 h, between November 1st, 2017, and April 30, 2018;

All motor vehicles parked in contravention with this By-Law will be towed at the owner's expense, and he or she will therefore be obliged to pay the fine and the costs described in this By-Law.

- according to By-Law 736-99, it is forbidden to make snow pile-ups or other pile-ups in the streets, alleys or public places;

Any person infringing this By-Law will be liable to a fine and the costs described in this By-Law.

Ville de Gaspé counts on the collaboration of its citizens regarding the respect of these provisions for security reasons and to make snow removal operations easier.

GIVEN at Gaspé, November 22, 2017.

Isabelle Vézina,  
The Director of legal services and town clerk



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## MONUMENTS P. FOURNIER

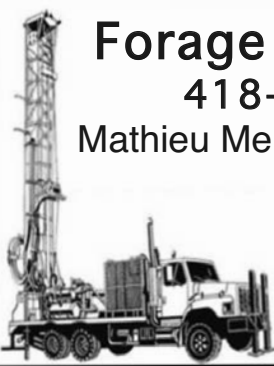


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# Announcements...



## In Memoriam

### HOTTON: Ralph

In loving memory of a dear husband, father and grandfather who passed away November 17, 2016.  
*Memories are cherished thoughts,  
Kept deep within our hearts,  
Memories are all that is left,  
When loved ones have to part.  
Memories can bring a smile,  
Laughter and a tear,  
That's why those precious moments,  
Will always keep him near.*  
Loved and fondly remembered, Melva, Ken, Diane, Jenna and Ryan.

### Thank You

The community of Cascapedia-St-Jules, would like to thank the head organizer, Janice Buttle-Bujold and her team, Jean MacWhirter- Bujold, Jimmy Bujold, Alexandra MacWhirter, Valerie Lebreque, Valerie Moreau and volunteer firemen and the group of volunteers who made the vision that Janice had to protect our youth this Halloween from all the traffic such a success.  
The whole community came together as well, and the 120 children and their families loved every minute of this special event.  
Thank you to Wendy Dawson for the wonderful article in the paper as well.  
*Elaine Sexton*

## Card of Thanks



The family of the late Edsel Langlais who passed away on October 17, 2107, would like to express sincere thanks to family and friends for the support and comfort they recieved.  
A special thanks to the personnel and the doctors of Dept. 200 Palliative Care of Mgr. Ross, Gaspé, Sister Angele, Beatrice Roberts, the Knights of Columbus, the choir, the Café de L'amitie and Harris Gleeton Funeral Home.  
Your kindness and thoughtfulness will always be remembered.  
*The Langlais Family*

**OUR RATES:** CARD OF THANKS, BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT, PRAYER, ENGAGEMENT, BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, MEMORIAL SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT: \$30 (\$35 with picture) *up to 20 lines*. IN MEMORIAM: \$30 (\$35 with picture) *up to 20 lines* - \$40 (\$45 with picture) *More than 20 lines* **OBITUARY OR WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT:** \$40.00 (\$45.00 with picture) (Max. 300 words) **Please send your announcement to: joan.spec@globetrotter.net**  
*Announcements for this page should be submitted typed or printed and paid in advance.*  
To have your photo returned, please send a stamped self-addressed envelope. **SUBMISSIONS FOR THIS PAGE MUST BE IN OUR OFFICE BY THURSDAY.**



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**Steven Imhoff - 418-752-6041**  
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**For Sale:** Horse driven sleigh, one ski-doo sleigh and one hand sleigh, all made by local blacksmith. Also chimney sweep equipment for sale including many brushes and a 2003 Ford Explorer XLT. For information call 392-4001. (N29)

## COAST ROUND-UP

### CAP-AUX-OS

#### Christmas Carol Service

Annual Christmas Carol Service will be held **Saturday, November 25**, at 7 p.m. in the United Church. Please come and join us in fellowship and singing of Christmas carols with hot chocolate and goodies following the service.

### POINTE-NAVARRÉ:

#### Thanksgiving Mass

**Sunday, November 26:** A thanksgiving mass will be celebrated here at the Sanctuary at 4 p.m. for Father Alain who celebrated his 100th birthday in August. We will have the opportunity to watch a short recorded message from Father Alain.

**Monday, November 27:** One hour of Taizé prayer will be held at 7 p.m. Music, silence, songs and prayer, will make you experience a time of relaxation and spiritual enrichment.

### PENINSULA:

#### Craft Sale

St. Matthew's Ladies Guild of Peninsula will be having a craft sale with the fermieres at St. Majorique Hall on **November 26, 2017** from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

### GASPÉ:

#### Christmas Supper and Dance

The York River Seniors Club will be holding its Annual Christmas Supper and dance on **Saturday December 2**, at the Gaspé Elementary School. Cocktails from 5-6 p.m., Supper at 6 p.m. with music and dance to follow. Tickets are \$20 per person with members of our York River Seniors Club receiving a refund of \$15 at the door. Tickets are available from either Tony C. Patterson or at Photo Cassidy. Alcohol will not be sold on the premises so it is BYOB. Tickets must be purchased no later than November 29.

### GASPÉ:

#### Fall and Christmas Sale

The Friends of St. Paul's Anglican Church - Gaspé Fall and Christmas Sale will be held on **Saturday, December 2**, starting at 9:30 a.m. The sale is held in the basement of St. Paul's Anglican Church and includes baked goods, new and nearly new items. Complimentary refreshments are provided. We look forward to seeing you there!

### GASPÉ:

#### Christmas Tea

The Gaspé Cancer Foundation will once again be holding their annual Christmas Tea on **Sunday, November 26**, at 1:30 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion in Gaspé. Musical entertainment will be provided during

the tea. Admission adults \$8 and children under 12, \$4. For more information contact Beatrice Coffin at 418-368-1566.

### DOUGLASTOWN:

#### Douglastown Community Centre Upcoming Events

**Friday November 24:** Happy Hour at 5 p.m. This is already the last happy hour until the New Year! Bring your refreshments and a dish to share; a voluntary contribution would be appreciated.

**December 10:** Sivananda yoga, open yoga class: Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. You can sign up for the entire 10-week session for \$90 or pay \$10 per course. Parent-child Yoga: Tuesdays from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. For adults (ages 14 and up), the cost is \$10/session. For children (ages 8 and up), the cost is 3\$/session. Cost: Adults \$90/10 weeks. To register or if you have any questions, please call 418-730-3280 or send an e-mail to yogagaspe@gmail.com. Please bring your yoga mat.

### BARACHOIS:

#### Legion Branch 261 Upcoming Events

**Every Monday:** The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 261, will be having a bingo at 7 p.m. at the Legion. We are collecting perishable and non-perishable food items for a complete Christmas dinner food basket. Your donation will be greatly accepted. Gift certificates welcome. All donations can be dropped off at the Legion or by contacting the Legion president, Lloyd Rousel. Tickets on the food basket are available at the Legion. All proceeds will be used to fund the Annual Children's Christmas Party which will be held on **Sunday, December 10**, at 1 p.m.

### BARACHOIS

#### Christmas Market

The Barachois Christmas Market will be held on **Saturday, November 25**, 9 a.m. to noon, at Belle Anse School. If you are interested in reserving a table, please contact Sandy Coombs at 418-645-2874 before November 22.

#### ST. SIMEON TO PORT DANIEL: Collection for Christmas

On **Sunday, December 3**, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., the entire territory of St-Simeon to Port-Daniel will be canvassed for money donations for Christmas baskets. These cash donations will be used to purchase gift certificates for food that will be donated to families for Christmas. There will be no collection of non-perishable products this year. Hundreds of volunteers (identified) from the social clubs of the territory in collaboration with the Sureté du Québec will be going door to door on Sunday, December 3. Please be generous! For information: 418-752-5577.

#### PORT DANIEL AND SHIGAWAKE:

##### Bible Study

Evening prayer and discussion will be held at Shigawake Town Hall every **Wednesday** (unless otherwise

noted) at 7 p.m. and at St. James, Port Daniel, every **Friday**. See you there!

### SHIGAWAKE:

#### Upcoming Events

The following events will be held at the Shigawake Community Center:

**Monday, December 6:** Christmas gift bingo beginning at 7 p.m. (storm date: December 8, 7 p.m.) Canteen service available

**Saturday, December 16:** Kids Christmas Bingo, 1-4 p.m., Free snacks, free bingo.

**Sunday December 31:** New Year's Eve dance beginning at 8 p.m. \$12. A light lunch will be served. For tickets contact Ann Benwell at 418-752-8361 or any member.

### HOPE TOWN:

#### Upcoming Events

**Saturday, December 2:** Christmas gift bingo at 7:30 p.m. Proceeds for the Sports and Recreation Club.

### HOPE TOWN:

#### Whist Party

A whist party will be held on **Saturday, December 9** at 8 p.m. at the Hope Town Community Centre. Come out and join us for a night of fun.

### HOPE TOWN:

#### Hope Baptist Church

Hope Baptist Church, 305 Route 132 West, invites you to come and worship with us. Sunday School for all ages at 9:45-10:45 a.m., Family Worship at 11 a.m., Wednesday Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m., Friday 3:30- 5 p.m. King's Kids (ages 5-12) and Young Peoples at 7 p.m. (Grades 7-11) All Sunday Messages can be heard on our Facebook page. Special Events: **Sunday, November 26** 11 a.m. Hymn Sing; **Sunday December 17**, 7 p.m. SS Christmas Concert (November 18 if storming); **Sunday December 24** 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service.

### NEW CARLISLE:

#### L.I.F.E. Association AGM

L.I.F.E. Association will hold its Annual General Meeting on **Tuesday, November 28**, at 4 p.m. at The Anchor. Come and learn what our association has been doing for mentally handicapped adults this past year and get a report on our financial situation. All are welcome.

### NEW CARLISLE:

#### Bazaar

On Sunday, December 3 there will be a bazaar at the Town hall organized by St. Andrew's Anglican Church from 10:30 to 4:30. To book a table (\$10) call Agnes Blais at 418-752-7192.

### NEW CARLISLE:

#### Golden Age Cards

Please note that you can purchase your 2018 membership cards at the municipal hall on **Sunday, November 26**, from 2 to 4 p.m. for \$25.

### NEW CARLISLE:

#### Kempffer Centre Upcoming Activities

**Thursday:** We will have card games from 1 to 4 p.m. at the New Carlisle Town Hall. Play what you wish and bring your partner. Refreshments will be served. \$5 entrance fee. Proceeds

go to Heritage New Carlisle Kempffer Centre.

### NEW CARLISLE:

#### Bible Chapel Services

Sunday: Breaking of Bread for Believers - 9:30 a.m.; Sunday night service - 7 p.m.; Wednesday: Bible study and prayer - 7 p.m. "You Must Be Born Again."

### NEW CARLISLE:

#### Monthly Breakfast

The New Carlisle 50+ Club will be holding its monthly breakfast at the Heritage Restaurant on **Wednesday, December 13**, at 9 a.m.

### NEW CARLISLE:

#### Calling all Girl Guides...

Were you ever a Spark, Brownie, Guide, Pathfinder, Guider or even a Commissioner? You may be interested in participating in a reunion which is just in the planning stages. To take place in the Summer of 2018. The Kempffer Interpretation Centre is planning to have a small section dedicated to Guiding along the Gaspé Coast. (Gaspé, New Carlisle, New Richmond, and Magdalen Islands). We would like to have your input. We will relive those special times. Have outdoor lunch and supper, play the old games and do a craft. Best of all, have a go at those delicious smores!!!! Close with the good old camp fire (imitation); sing those wonderful songs once again. Exchange some stories and experiences. If you would like to help with this or if you are interested in coming, please contact Betty Anne at bettyasmollett@gmail.com or call 418- 752-6181.

### NEW CARLISLE:

#### Upcoming Events at Legion

The following events will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion, branch 64. **December 2:** Christmas gift bingo, 7 p.m. \$10 a series or 3 series for \$20. **December 16:** Vern Huntington will be singing country Christmas carols starting at 8 p.m. \$5 entrance fee. **Sunday, December 10:** Breaking news boys and girls, SANTA is coming to the Royal Canadian Legion in New Carlisle from 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Stop by and visit the jolly big guy with your letters and get a treat bag and surprise.

### NEW RICHMOND:

#### Christmas Concert

St-Andrew's United Church will be holding their Christmas concert, **Friday December 15** at 7 p.m. with a freewill offering. Lunch will be served following the concert. All are welcome.

### NEW RICHMOND:

#### United Church Events

**Friday, December 15:** Christmas Concert

**Sunday, December 17:** There will be a special Advent Service at St. Andrew's United Church in New Richmond at 10 a.m. in memory of loved ones. Hand crafted angels will be sold for \$5 each and if desired placed on the Christmas Memorial Tree during the service. For more information or to reserve an angel, please contact Kathleen Paquet at 418-392-4896 or Alice Jane Paquet at 418-392-5391.

#### CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: 50+ Club Activities

**Every Thursday:** Dame de Pique at 1 p.m. \$5 per person.

**Every Tuesday Night:** Grocery Bingo at 7 p.m. (2 cards for \$5, each additional card \$1).

### CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

#### Upcoming Events

The following events are planned by the 50 Plus Club.

**November 24:** Music night, doors open at 7 p.m.

**December 8:** Christmas Concert at 7 p.m.

**December 9:** Craft Sale. please contact Linda Cahill at 418-392-6950. (\$10 per table rental.)

### CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

#### Book Room

Please note that the book room is now open **Wednesday** afternoon from 1 - 4 p.m. On other days, please contact Kathleen Paquet at 418-392-4896.

### GESGAPEGIAG:

#### N.A. Meetings

N.A. Meetings held every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Mawimi Treatment Centre, located at 85 School Street in Gesgapegiag. Everyone welcome! For more information call 418-759-3522. N.A. is a non-profit fellowship of men and women for whom drugs have become a major problem. We are recovering addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. This is a program of complete abstinence from all drugs. There is only one requirement for membership, the desire to stop using.

#### Rotary Calendar Winners

The winners for the week of November 12 are: Roland Leblanc, Marie Lagacé, Sylvain Babin, Émilien Babin, Vilmon Moreau, Claude Loubert, Valérie LeGurum.

## UNITED CHURCH

### Sunday, November 26

New Carlisle 2 p.m.

## ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

### Sunday, November 26

#### Hope Town

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

#### New Carlisle

10 a.m. Morning Prayer

#### Port Daniel

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

## PARISH OF ALL SAINTS BY THE SEA

St. Peter's Malbay

11 a.m. Service

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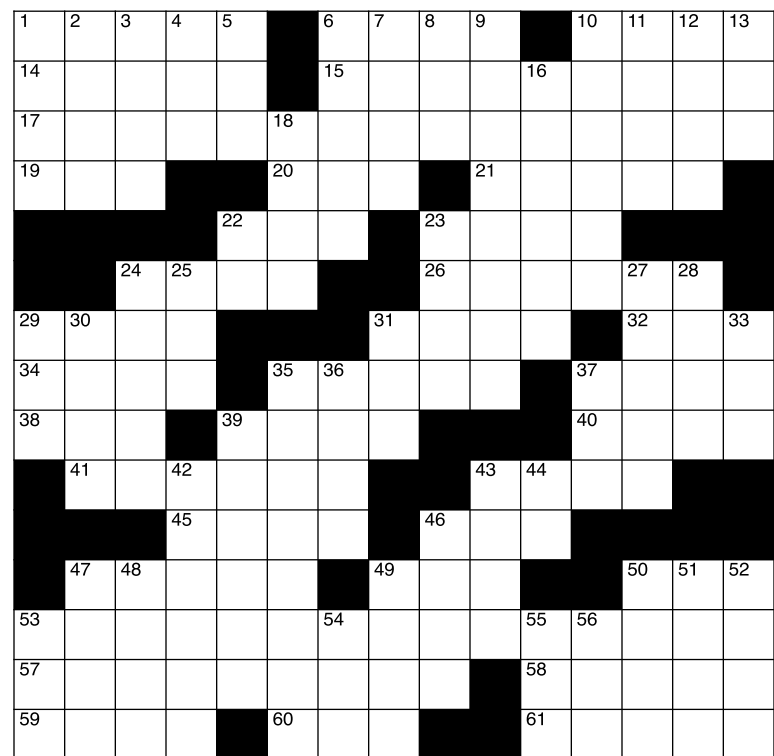
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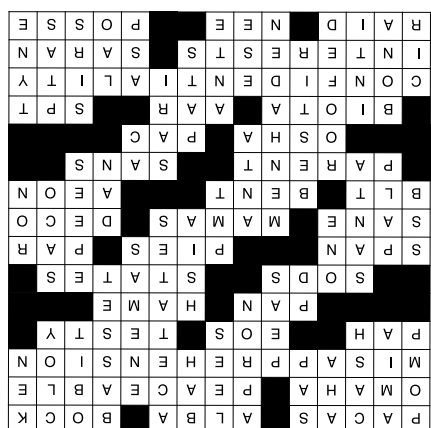


## CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Nocturnal rodents
- 6. "Sin City" actress Jessica
- 10. Strong dark beer
- 14. Nebraska city
- 15. Inclined to avoid conflict
- 17. Mistaken belief
- 19. Expresses disgust
- 20. Greek goddess of the dawn
- 21. Cranky
- 22. Boy who wouldn't grow up
- 23. Scots for "home"
- 24. Turfs
- 26. Countries
- 29. The duration of something
- 31. Pastries
- 32. Golf score
- 34. Reasonable
- 35. Female parents
- 37. Art \_\_, around 1920
- 38. Beloved sandwich
- 39. Damaged
- 40. Long time
- 41. One who rears
- 43. Without
- 45. Occupational safety and health act
- 46. Political action committee
- 47. Geological period
- 49. Swiss river
- 50. Type of mathematical graph
- 53. Doctors are sworn to it
- 57. One's concerns
- 58. Type of wrap
- 59. Foray
- 60. Born of
- 61. A temporary police force

## CLUES DOWN

- 1. \_\_ and circumstance
- 2. Bowfin fish
- 3. Ready money
- 4. Expression of satisfaction
- 5. A person who lacks good judgment
- 6. Cooks where one
- 7. Majors and Oswald
- 8. \_\_ humbug
- 9. Salts



# What's This Artifact?



Marshall Billingsley

What do you think it is? Can you help us solve this mystery?

It's all made of metal and has a knob that can be turned to adjust the space between the two metal hooks on the end.

The answer will be in next week's issue of The Gaspé Spec.



Thank you to Elaine Almond for sharing this artifact with our readers.

# Why do we say ...

By Gary Briand

I met a young man recently and said "Are you and Miss X still an item?" "No," he retorted, "she gave me the cold shoulder." Familiar with the phrase's meaning but not clear on its origins, I quickly added it to my to-do-list.

The first recorded use of the phrase occurred in Sir Walter Scott's novel (1816) The Antiquary. In the novel the character of Elspeth Cheyne reports to Lord William on the behavior of his mother, Countess Glenallen. In her Scottish tongue she says: "Ye may mind that the Countess's dislike did na gang farther at first than just shewing o' the cauld shouther - at least it wasna seen farther."

It is noteworthy that Scott's novel is one of the first to deal with illegitimacy of children and denial of paternity by haughty aristocracy.

We have to assume that the phrase was known in Scotland before 1816 but Scott's use of it came to be associated with aloof body language after a parting of lovers. It became wide in use in the writings of Dickens, the Bronte Sisters, Louise May Alcott and Mark Twain. It remains to this day but has taken on more metaphorical references, even to the point of applying it to a bank who gives a "cold shoulder" to a loan application.

## ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you may be tempted to tie up loose ends this week, but there is a lot to finish so expect things to take longer than you hoped. Focus only on one project at a time.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21  
Taurus, your words and actions may not be matching up right now. This may be confusing to others. It may be better to just lead by example.

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21  
Gemini, things have been moving along quite easily for you and you are enjoying the respite. Take all the deep breaths you can during this period of recovery.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22  
Time has been passing quite rapidly, Cancer. You may be feeling like you aren't quite catching up to the clock. As long as some work is getting finished, you are completely fine.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23  
Leo, you are anxious to go on an adventure, but you simply can't find time in your schedule. You may just have to make it happen by turning off your devices and heading out.



## VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, even if you are sure that your perspective will win over the crowd, you have to accept there will be some who don't agree with you. Be gracious and don't step on any toes.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23  
Libra, although you might not realize it, someone is making a concerted effort to get to know you this week. Be open to new relationships and you may make a lifelong friend.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22  
Scorpio, you have worked hard and are now beginning to enjoy the fruits of your labor. Treat yourself to whatever you would like. Be proud of your efforts.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21  
Conversations with others should be kept light and easy this week to avoid any drama, Sagittarius. Delving deeper into others' lives is the furthest thing from your mind.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20  
Capricorn, are your achieve-

ments isolating you from others? You may have to let someone else get some of the glory this week, if only to show your vulnerable and accommodating side.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18  
Do not avoid others to escape conflict, Aquarius; otherwise, you are only delaying the inevitable. Speak your mind and address the situation with tact and professionalism.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20  
Pisces, your self-esteem can soar this week if you surround yourself with the right people. Fill your days with fun and many activities.

## FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

- NOVEMBER 19  
Adam Driver, Actor (34)
- NOVEMBER 20  
Dierks Bentley, Singer (42)
- NOVEMBER 21  
Jenna Malone, Actress (33)
- NOVEMBER 22  
Auli'i Cravalho, Actress
- NOVEMBER 23  
Justin Turner, Athlete (33)
- NOVEMBER 24  
Katherine Heigl, Actress
- NOVEMBER 25  
Billy Burke, Actor (51)



# How to keep customers happy this season

NC) What does it take to keep customers happy today? This is a question business owners ask themselves on a regular basis, and for good reason. The truth is, businesses don't just compete on price, product or promotions anymore. These days, it's the customer experience that counts the most, especially during critical shopping seasons like the holidays.

Why? Because customers have more information than ever before, thanks to the smartphones they carry in their pockets. Today's shoppers are doing their homework well ahead of time, making them more knowledgeable and empowered. They can quickly search for product information like pricing and sizing before stepping inside a bricks-and-mortar store. They also expect any issues to be resolved via email or social media.

A business that can help customers save time and avoid



any frustration is already one step ahead of the competition. Not sure how your business can meet customer expectations? This is where technology tools can help.

According to a recent re-

port from Salesforce, more than half of Canadian SMBs say they spend up to 25 per cent of their workday inputting manual data. That's a waste of valuable time. Instead, think about using a cus-

tomers relationship management solution such as Salesforce, the global leader in CRM. It stores all customer information in one central place so you and your team can access this information

from anywhere, including your mobile devices, all in real time. Instead of relying on sticky notes or spreadsheets, CRM automates tasks while providing customer insights like purchase histories, product preferences and interactions on email and social media.

CRM is also valuable for customer service. Your team can use it to keep track of all your customers' interactions including your service department. And because everyone can access the information, account reps and every other relevant department will be fully aware of customers' issues, so everyone can be a service agent when you need them during busier times in the year.


Small business owners investing in the right tech tools will not only stay organized, but more importantly, will keep their customers happy when the shopping crunch really kicks in.



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