

Gesgapegiag honours the contribution of Native soldiers in both World Wars

Frank Narcisse Jerome remembered for his remarkable contribution

Gilles Gagné

GESGAPEGIAG – Remembrance Day in Gesgapegiag included something special this year. There was a presentation in the afternoon at the cenotaph honouring the contribution of Native soldiers in both World Wars. Emphasis was put on the remarkable contribution of Frank Narcisse Jerome.

Mr. Jerome signed up as a member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force in June, 1916, and he found himself in the trenches of Europe only a few months later, as a member of the 14th Battalion, the Royal Montreal Regiment.

The presentation was made at 2 p.m. by Tom Eden, from Gaspé Remembers, a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and awareness of regional military history. Dozens of Gesgapegiag people attended that ceremony and presentation.



Luc Martin, William Jerome and Tom Eden took part in the Remembrance Day service in Gesgapegiag.

After taking part in the fighting in such places as Vimy, Passchendaele and the Canal du Nord, Frank Narcisse Jerome not only survived but he emerged as “one of the most highly decorated soldiers on the Gaspé Coast, First Nations and Canadian military history,” says Mr. Eden.

Narcisse Jerome received his first Military Medal on April 26, 1918 but he is one of the rare soldiers who went on to receive the honour on three separate occasions.

“Winners of the Military Medal who performed subsequent acts of bravery were awarded a silver bar which was worn on the medal’s ribbon. 848 Canadians have won the Military with Bar. Only 38 Canadians have been awarded two bars to the Military Medal, the equivalent of having won the award three times. Narcisse Jerome was one of those 38 Canadians,” explains Mr. Eden.

That second bar for Frank Narcisse Jerome was approved by the King on July 23, 1919.

“He was a sergeant. We

have to realize that it was 100 years ago, in a regiment based in Westmount. It was uncommon (given the fact that he was a Native). He was a capable soldier, constantly brave. Some soldiers are brave on one occasion. In his case, it was constant,” insists Tom Eden.

He has been advocating for years for a better recognition of Frank Narcisse Jerome’s accomplishments. In Ontario, for example, Francis Pegahmagabow, a member of the Ojibway Wasauksing First Nations, who was the most decorated for bravery in Canadian military history, has been celebrated in books and songs, inducted into the Indian Hall of Fame and the Canadian Veterans Hall of Valour. He has a building named for him

on the Canadian Forces Base in Borden. Narcisse Jerome remains largely forgotten.

“Things are changing though, at least in Gesgapegiag. There is an awakening of the military heritage. There is a plan in Gesgapegiag for a heritage interpretation centre or museum about the contribution of people like Frank Narcisse Jerome, John Vicaire and Bernard “Barney” Condo,” says Tom Eden.

The project is progressing and will be located in the new building, adjacent to the church.

In the meantime, Tom Eden is still looking for pictures of Frank Narcisse Jerome. His efforts have not yielded results over the years. He only knows that he married Saint Jules’ Rose-Anna Vézina in 1926 and that he died in Gaspé in 1934. They had four kids but they were not living together when he passed away.

“The family was dispersed. My last track of the children is 1963,” he says, adding that anybody with additional information about Frank Narcisse Jerome, or pictures, or the whereabouts of his medals can communicate with him at gaspeww1project@gmail.com.

“It is a small world. We never know. (...) The courage he displayed, and the leadership he clearly possessed, should have left some form of legacy,” concludes Mr. Eden.



Gesgapegiag veteran William Jerome shows replicas of Frank Narcisse Jerome’s bravery medals, while holding a staff bearing different carvings honouring the Gesgapegiag veterans.

MILITARY MEDAL

For bravery and devotion to duty near Avion on the nights of November 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th, 1917, whilst a member of a Lewis gun crew. Badly shaken twice by explosion of shells, this man continued at duty, assisted in repulsing two enemy raids, and later voluntarily formed one of a patrol to obtain identifications. His coolness under fire was a brilliant incentive to all ranks.

A.F. W. 3121 d/- 5.12.19.



Tom Eden’s presentation was preceded by a traditional song.

Gaspé Peninsula businesses now have access to Eco-leader fund to improve environmental record and economic efficiency

Gilles Gagné

CARLETON: – Management of Gaspesian businesses who want to improve their environmental record and increase their economical viability now have access to a new fund, Eco-leader. It is financed by the Quebec government and it is endowed with an envelope of \$18.5 million for the whole province.

The fund can supply up to 50% of the expenses linked to the implementation of environmentally friendly practices and technologies.

The money must be used to hire experts since other funds can be solicited when the time comes to buy equipment or build new facilities.

A single company, whether it is a not-for-profit or a for-profit business, can obtain as much as \$30,000 for a project aimed at improving eco-responsible practices, and \$50,000 for a project aiming for the acquisition of clean technologies.

Companies can also regroup in order to submit a common project. In those cases, the maximum amount reaches \$300,000 for eco-responsible practice improvements and \$500,000 for the acquisition of clean technology knowledge.

“It is not only a fund, as it is a way to be accompanied in a process of acquiring knowledge, or information about one’s enterprise. For example, a company could use the money to carry out an energy audit if its management doesn’t know where its energy consumption stands,” explains Dominique Cyr, development agent for the Eco-leader fund in the Gaspé Peninsula.

Such an energy audit



Zaineb Oubaita, of the Centre québécois du développement durable; Amélie Saint-Laurent Samuel, of Fonds d’action québécois en développement durable; Caroline Duchesne of the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands Environment Regional Council; Dominique Cyr, of the Fonds Eco-leader; Sébastien Valade, of the Naufrageur micro-brewery; and Sébastien Pagé, of Quebec’s Department of Economy and Innovation, were on hand for the official launch of the regional division of Fonds Eco-leader.

could lead to reaching the dual benefits referred to by the people spearheading the fund, since a better knowledge of energy consumption and applying ways of reducing it will better the environment and improve the profitability of the company.

“That is why we say that the fund is used to acquire expertise. There are other funds for capital investments,” emphasizes Dominique Cyr.

The Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands divisions of the Eco-leader fund was chosen to house the two development agents. Consulting Dominique Cyr in order to progress in an eventual application for funding is free.

Amélie Saint-Laurent Samuel, director of communications and strategic development at the Fonds d’action Québécois pour le développement durable, thinks that the fund will make up for recurrent problems encountered by business owners and management.

“The obstacles are common; business people often experience a lack of time, a lack of expertise in environmental fields within their staff and a shortage of tools to

determine where they must start so to improve their record. Our goal is to reach 20% of Quebec’s enterprises,” she says.

The Fonds d’action Québécois pour le développement durable (Quebec’s Sustainable Development Action Fund), provides support to some of the projects submitted to the Eco-leader fund.

In the Gaspé Peninsula, the Eco-leader fund team would like to reach 500 enterprises over the next few years.

The number of potential initiatives that can qualify for funding is considerable, as it ranges from waste management to packaging reduction, and encompasses water management, sustainable development, circular economy and eco-conception. Circular economy reverts to the use for productive purposes by a company of things that are considered waste by another company.

Sébastien Valade, of the Naufrageur micro-brewery and Mie véritable bakery in Carleton, sends some of the brewery waste, full of proteins, to farmers who use those residues to feed their

animals. The Groin dans le foin, pig and chicken farm in Miguasha is one of those farms.

“We send our micro-brewery waste called drêche, which is full of proteins, to

Donald-Mathieu (Robichaud). He feeds his pigs and chickens with our waste and he sends his meat to the micro-brewery. We serve his meat at the brewery or at the bakery’s café. Everybody finds an advantage to it. We cut 70 tons on our amount of waste and he sells close to his farm, in a short-circuit mode that is good for the environment,” explains Mr. Valade.

The Naufrageur also sends some beer by-products to the Mie véritable bakery, a parent company located next door, and they are used to make beer bread. Tradition Bourdages, a Saint-Siméon food and alcohol producer, also sends some vat residues to the micro-brewery and they are used to make a strawberry beer instead of being trucked to the landfill.



Photo: N. Sergerie

Gas: Competition Bureau opens file

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ: - The Competition Bureau has opened a file on gas prices in the Gaspé Peninsula. The mayor of Gaspé, Daniel Côté, says he has received correspondence to this effect from the federal agency. The Town of Gaspé launched the regional movement by adopting a resolution in September calling for an investigation at the Régie de l’énergie and the Competition Bureau in the region.

Since then, Gaspé has received about fifteen resolutions in support of the process.

“That does not mean that it opens an investigation as such. On the other hand, it shows a certain interest in the file and that at the base, it was admissible for an analysis, says the mayor.

Since Gaspé launched the debate, the price of gasoline has remained in line with the Régie de l’énergie’s data, even sometimes being under the price suggested by the organization.

“This is a file that has received popular favor via social media. Certainly it puts pressure on someone, something or entity that controls the price of gas in the Gaspé.” says the mayor.

On November 22, gasoline sold for \$1.20 in Gaspé when it should be \$1.23, according to data from the Régie de l’énergie.

First winter storm hits hard

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ - The first storm of the season shattered a record of nearly 30 years. With 39 centimetres measured at the Gaspé airport on November 12, this mark easily beats the previous record of 9.4 centimetres recorded in 1991.

Despite the abundance of precipitation, it’s still not November’s largest record. “We have already experienced similar situations: in 2014. We received 34 centimetres on November 8 and 9. but we’ve experienced worse. In 2002 we received 60 centimetres in one day. This is something that is unusual. It’s not unheard of. We have a particular record here,” says Environment Canada meteorologist Simon Legault.

The trajectory of the depression that passed over the Gaspé has left a few millimetres of ice in the Bay of Chaleur and Rocher-Percé areas.

The Sûreté du Québec did not record any unfortunate events during this first storm, despite reduced visibility by blowing snow.

Route 132 was closed for a few hours in the afternoon because of the strong waves that projected rocks and pieces of wood on Route 132 between Gros Morne and Tourelle.

Even though this storm was “hasty”, the arrival of snow is three weeks behind 2018. Indeed, no less than 20 centimetres had fallen during the month of October last year. The average is four centimetres. The snow record is 113 centimetres for November, recorded in 2002.

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Photo: G. Gagné

Maude Blain, Gérard Boudreau, Mark Dimock and Leonard Leblanc discuss the New Richmond areas that should be protected, enhanced or abandoned because of coastal erosion.

Four municipalities unite to develop approach against coastal erosion

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND: – The municipalities of New Richmond, Maria, Carleton and Bonaventure are working on a joint project to develop an integrated plan to counter coastal erosion. The three-year project will identify an action plan adapted to the territory between the towns of Carleton and Bonaventure.

Climate change taking the form of global warming is accelerating coastal erosion. In order to face that reality, those municipalities have launched a project worth \$510,000 and they are receiving \$381,343 from Quebec government's *Fonds vert, Climat municipalités Phase 2*.

The goal is to develop measures adapted to climate change and create an action plan, a guide identifying good practices, informative tips and intervention ideas specific to the areas targeted for protection.

The Town of New Richmond is acting as the project coordinator. Its mayor, Éric Dubé, emphasizes that the project will enable the citizens and the elected officials to anticipate the repercussions of climate change and improve town planning.

"Nobody can ignore the impact of climate change in our daily life. Here, we make constant efforts to contribute to the planet's health with our means. This time around, thanks to the vision of the municipalities working together, we are investing a bit more than half-a-million dollars jointly," says Mayor Dubé.

"The municipalities are quite affected by climate change but they are also in a good position to move. They have an impact on many sectors characterized by high emissions of greenhouse gases and on local populations. They are well aware of their terri-

tory's stakes which allows them to implement different adaptation measures. The *Climat municipalités* program allows municipal organizations to apply inspired projects that can be duplicated, immediately reinforcing the communities and Quebec's transition towards a low carbon economy," written in a press release Environment Minister Benoit Charette.

Marie-Ève Proulx, the minister responsible for the Gaspé Peninsula, wrote in the same press release that "the impact of climate change is already heavy in consequences for the environment, on the economy, and on the health and safety of the Bay of Chaleur population. In that context of climate change, the adaptative management imposes itself to the coastal municipalities as an efficient approach to prioritize. In this project, the commitment of local players, their leadership and the quality of the proposed collaborative steps is a guarantee of success."

The municipalities are accompanied in that path by CIRADD, the *Centre d'initiation à la recherche et d'aide au développement durable* and the *Comité ZIP Gaspésie*.

The Town of New Richmond held a first consultation meeting for the population on November 5 and approximately 20 citizens attended the meeting. The climate change information was presented by Line Bourdages of CIRADD and Chantal Molloy of the Comité ZIP Gaspésie. ZIP stands for *Zone d'intervention prioritaire* and that organization is working on the identification of priority zones of intervention.

The public was asked to identify areas that must be protected. The downtown sector, the cemeteries, Taylor's Point, the Grand Cascapedia River bridge, the wharf, the New Richmond West houses,

Duthie's Point and the railroad were considered important to protect.

Concern was expressed for the future of the marina, Henderson Beach, the Rotary Club Beach, the H. Leblanc bridge and the fact that the rock approaches leading to it act as a dam when the Little Cascapedia River's water level increases.

One important aspect of the project is that the identification of those coastal areas will eventually lead to an application for the funding of protective works.

Jean-Sébastien Bourque, New Richmond's director of town planning, points out that the \$510,000 project will be very useful for the future.

"Where will we go if the government arrives tomorrow morning with a budget of \$20 million for Maria, Bonaventure, New Richmond and Carleton? We will be ready tomorrow if there is money available and as long as there will be money left. We will know where to go," he says.

Those attending the meeting were also asked to identify some sectors that should be further developed. They pinpointed the small island next to Taylor's Point, Duthie's Point, the access to Burton beach, the building of cottages east of that beach, the construction of small suspended bridges over the Little Cascapedia River to replace the ones that were removed just south of Highway 132 and Henderson beach as areas that deserve development.

When asked a question about population displacement by Chantal Molloy, New Richmond Mayor Éric Dubé responded: "In some sectors where the population is less densified, it could be the solution. We will have to follow the (new) rules. There will be some funding though. Ottawa announced a pot (for climate change adaptation) of \$2 billion."

Police report

Kayla Gideon, 28, Listuguj, charged with aggravated assault following a violent aggression that took place in Rimouski in July, has chosen to stand trial in front of a judge and jury. Two men are also charged in this case. Maxime Lévesque, aged 21, from MacLeod's Siding, in New Brunswick, will undergo his preliminary hearing in March 2020. Erik Pitre, 20, from Val d'Amour, New Brunswick, will undergo his preliminary hearing in February 2020 and he has also opted for a judge and jury trial. Both men are also charged with aggravated assault. The three accused have not been remanded in custody. The victim of the aggression was violently beaten and could have permanent damage as a result of the aggression.

The defence attorney of David Berthiaume, 44, from Saint-Germain-de-Grantham facing charges of assault and assault causing bodily harm, waived a November 20 Superior Court appearance at the Percé courthouse, which means that his client will not undergo a bail hearing before his January 16 trial. That court appearance was scheduled to respect a condition imposed by the Supreme Court of Canada in the Myers decision. Since David Berthiaume had been remanded in custody for more than 90 days, the Superior Court had to meet with him in order to check if he wanted a bail hearing before the trial.

The incident that led to the laying of charges against David Berthiaume took place on August 4 at the Pit Caribou Pub in Percé. Mylène Bossé-Moreau is the alleged victim. She suffered from injuries that required her hospitalization in Chandler. The 38-year-old woman, also from Saint-Germain-de-Grantham, near Drummondville, recently entered a plea of guilty on a charge of assault against a third person, Joanie Scraire. A love triangle appears to be the element that triggered the incident. Mylène Bossé-Moreau assaulted Joanie Scraire when she saw her with David Berthiaume in the bar. The incident took place at 3:45 a.m. David Berthiaume has a relatively heavy criminal record.






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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that at a special meeting that will be held at the Town Hall on Monday, December 16, 2019, at 7 p.m., the Town Council will adopt its 2020 budget and its triennial program of fixed assets.

All taxpayers are invited to attend and during this meeting, a question period will be held for the taxpayers present and will only concern the budget.

GIVEN at Gaspé, December 4, 2019.

Isabelle Vézina,
Director of legal services and town clerk



Commentary

Gilles Gagné

Justin Trudeau is trying to make up for bad decisions

The nomination of the new federal cabinet by Justin Trudeau and his political entourage is an admission that the prime minister was not properly connected to some of the country's realities during his first term in power. The realities of Quebec, Alberta and Saskatchewan come to mind in that regard.

That is an understatement in fact. When the Liberal Party won a landslide in 2015 election, most political analysts agreed that the Trudeau regime would be there for a long time, certainly two terms, without much of an effort to be re-elected this year.

Well, Justin Trudeau almost lost on October 21 because he failed to recognize the proper way to deal with certain situations. He failed in dealing with most Quebec issues because he was not well connected to that province's reality.

He is not the only person to have failed in assessing Quebec's needs but because he is prime minister, he must carry the responsibility of that failure. The fact is that Justin Trudeau's immediate entourage is manned by Ontario people and they obviously miss out acknowledging important Quebec issues.

It took the Liberal government a year before dealing with the Bombardier issue regarding the relevance, or not, of supporting the aircraft manufacturer in the development of the C-Series. That

issue is old news but it left a sour taste in the mouth's of Quebecers who rightfully feel that such an important case would have been analyzed much quicker for a company based in Ontario.

The Trudeau regime also erred in refusing to impose a tax on Netflix in 2017, while other television program producers have to pay taxes to the federal government. That decision had a greater impact in Quebec since Quebecers are more loyal to their shows than other Canadians. So any threat to their television consumption habits for the benefits of the Web giants is like scoring in its own goal for a political party in power.

Justin Trudeau's campaign also got off to a false start in Quebec when The Strumbellas' electoral song was ill-translated using Google. Such a thing would never have occurred had the Liberal Party submitted that song to anybody with a bit of connection to the Quebec reality, despite the fact the Strumbellas are a great band.

So those factors explain in part why Quebec has ten ministers now, and people with added responsibilities. After refusing to appoint a so-called Quebec lieutenant in 2015, Mr. Trudeau named Pablo Rodriguez to take care of Quebec issues this time around. Four years ago, the prime minister remarked that Quebec didn't need a lieutenant since they had a general, him.

Hopefully, Mr. Rodriguez will be able to influence Justin Trudeau regularly because the prime minister is still surrounded by a strong Ontarian contingent in his bunker. Mr. Rodriguez will also have to respond to the Bloc Québécois, rejuvenated no doubt by the Liberal Party's poor record in Quebec stakes over the last four years. He will be a busy man, considering a minority government is always in some kind of electoral mode.

The importance given to domestic issues is also quite visible in the fact that Justin Trudeau appointed Chrystia Freeland to run Intergovernmental Affairs. Ms. Freeland was the true star of the last term, constantly dealing with Donald Trump's team and sudden decision changes in

the United States. She accomplished that with efficiency, subtlety and calm.

Her next mission might not be easier, dealing with Albertan premier Jason Kenney and his Saskatchewan colleague Scott Moe.

It is clear that those two provinces will also be the focus of the new federal government, even if chances of landing any support represent a long shot, and will remain so for a long time, given the well-spread acrimony of the population towards Ottawa.

Jason Kenney might help the federal government against his will here. Lately, he has gone too far in denouncing the lack of support his province has received in landing more pipelines and in expanding the existing ones. If he keeps acting like that, he will only isolate Alberta more than it already is and he will lose some support accordingly.

Alberta will have to admit at one point, verbally or through moves, that part of their deficit problem was and still is caused by a failure to impose a provincial sales tax. There would be no deficit if such a tax existed. It would also leave less money for Alberta's contribution to equalization payments to some of Canada's other provinces, including Quebec.

Alberta has also failed over the last decades in diversifying its economy with the money made with oil and gas. The example of Norway stands out in that regard. Over the last decades, that Scandinavian country has accumulated \$1,400 billion dollars in a trust fund now used to diversify its economy, so that it doesn't depend so much on oil production from the North Sea. In Alberta, the trust fund is only endowed with \$18 billion and it cannot be blamed on equalization payments.

Since the federal election, even Ontario premier Doug Ford has talked about re-establishing links with the federal government, despite Justin Trudeau's stern position on maintaining a carbon tax. Mr. Ford's tone has changed significantly since the electoral campaign. He has understood that if he wants to stand a chance at re-election, he must adopt a moderate tone.

It will be Chrystia Freeland's mission to reconnect with Jason Kenney and Scott Moe. Her mission has now switched to strengthening Canadian unity. It will represent quite a challenge, given the conflicting interests found in such a large country. If Jason Kenney and Scott Moe keep unreasonable pressure on Ottawa though, it will have detrimental effects on their credibility and it might help Justin Trudeau in the long-term.

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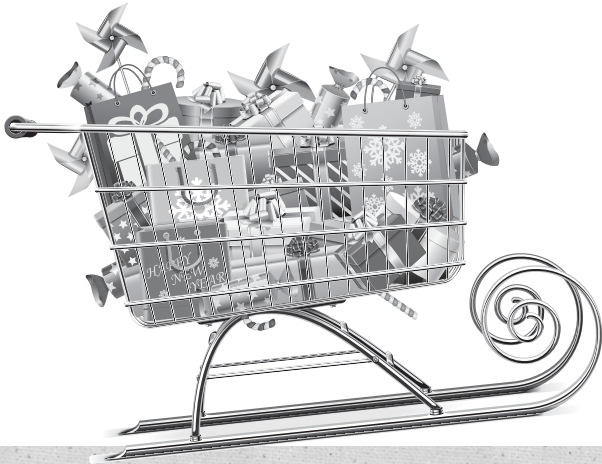
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Gaspe County Women's Institute celebrates 80 years

Rhonda Stewart

GASPÉ: - The Gaspe County Women's Institute Annual Fair was held on Saturday, September 7 at the York River Community Hall and was hosted by the York WI Branch.

This year there was once again a great display of talent by the WI members and the public exhibitors. While there were two fewer exhibitors this year, the total number of exhibits increased from 256 to 280 and every category on the fair program had at least one entry. The WI members have made several changes to the Fair Program in recent years in order to include more items that are popular with the exhibitors. The members are also very happy to see that the public exhibitors continue to be very active participants.



The Gaspe County WI also has an important reason to celebrate this year. In 2019, the Gaspe County WI and the York WI branch are celebrating their 80th Anniversary. The members celebrated with a cake at their 80th Annual Meeting that was held in March and they went out to supper in June. It is not everyday that a community organization gets to celebrate such a milestone. While the number of members have decreased in recent years, the organization remains active in the community. There are now only two remaining branches in the area (Dartmouth River and York) but both groups continue to do important work and make a difference in their community.



The WI is accepting new members, so if you are interested in joining an organization that has local, provincial, national and international connections, then the WI could be for you. The local branches which meet monthly would be more than happy to have you at their next meeting. For more information you can check the Gaspe County Facebook Page, the Quebec Women's Institute website (<https://sites.google.com/site/quebecwi/home>) or contact any local WI member.

The winners at this year's fair were:

Sewing & Embroidery

Elaine Patterson

Knitting & Crochet

Ruth Armstrong

Assorted

Wanda Stewart

Cooking

Wanda Stewart

Flowers

Bonita Annett

Literature

Darlene Williams

Vegetables

Doreen Saja

Wanda Stewart was also awarded the Certificate for the Most Entries with 39 and the Certificate for the Most Prizes with a total of 37. Elaine Scott was awarded the Girard Prize for the most first prizes with a total of 9. The York branch won the prizes for the Branch Effort, the branch with the most prizes and the branch with the highest average number of entries per member. After the prizes were awarded a delicious salad supper was served.

The Annual WI Fair is a highlight for the WI members and the public as well. The 2020 Fair program is now

available, and I am sure many have already started working on their exhibits for next year. There really is something for everyone on the program. Whether you like to cook, take photos, crochet, garden; you will find something for you. If you are interested in being a public exhibitor, you can check out the Gaspe County WI facebook page or contact Rhonda Stewart at rhondals@hotmail.com to obtain a copy of the 2020 fair program. The registration fee is \$15 and the 2020 fair will be held on September 12, 2020. It will be hosted by the Dartmouth River branch.



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Canada

CN strike affects freight traffic on the Gaspé line

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND: – The Canadian National Railway strike that was called during the wee hours of November 19 by the Teamsters Union has affected the traffic on the line operated by the Gaspésie Railway Society. The situation has worsened as days go by.

Initially traffic between Mont-Joli and Rivière-du-Loup wasn't affected much by the strike, however, because of the fact that most products transported by train on the Gaspesian line have to be delivered to Ontario and to the United States. Some operations are now being significantly affected.

"Here, only the woodchip traffic is not affected by the strike because the Mont-Joli workers are not part of the same union," points out Luc Lévesque, director general of the Gaspésie Railway Society. That woodchip traffic continues to be transported between the Temrex sawmill in Nouvelle and the White Birch newsprint mill in Rivière-du-Loup, however, the lumber cars loaded at Temrex are usually bound for Ontario and the United States and they are not going beyond Rivière-du-Loup because of the strike. For the first few days of the strike, they were kept in the Mont-Joli yard but on November 21, CN Rail was no longer accepting loaded cars, except woodchip cars.

The same practice was determined for the McInnis Cement traffic. The empty cars still available were loaded daily in New Richmond and Nouvelle and then delivered to Matapédia for further transporting by CN to Mont-Joli, however, the loaded cars were kept east of Matapédia, effective on November 21. By November 22, McInnis Cement loaded its last empty cars since additional cars were blocked west of Rivière-du-Loup.

The inbound empty windmill blade train scheduled to be loaded November 20 in New Richmond was refused entrance to Canada by CN at the United States interchange point.

"The only traffic that is maintained in the country (by CN) is the intermodal traffic," says Luc Lévesque.

The CN Rail strike was called by the Teamsters Canada Rail Conference because 3,200 members argue that their working conditions are affected by fatigue, ever-changing train



Traffic was reduced in the Gaspé Peninsula between Matapédia and New Richmond because of the CN strike.

Photo: G. Gagné

lineups, long hours, up to 12-hour days, and the unpredictability of when they are going to be called for service. It is essentially a safety matter, they say. The workers are not advocating for an increased pay. The union gave the 72-hour strike notice before the picket lines were put up.

The union and CN are still negotiating during the strike, which convinced Federal Minister of Transport Marc Garneau that a special bill was unnecessary for the moment. The strike nevertheless is causing near-crisis issues all across the country four days after its beginning.




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PEC named “Business of the Year” and PEC president named “Business Person of the Year”

Gilles Gagné

CARLETON: – Entreprises PEC, a general contracting firm based in Bonaventure, was named “Business of the Year” at the 11th gala of the Bay of Chaleur Chamber of Commerce, on November 23 at the Carleton Convention Centre. The company also won two other awards - “Expansion and Market Growth” and the “Desjardins Award for Social Responsibility.”

Entreprises PEC’s president, Guy Cayouette, also won the “Jacques-Saint-Onge Award for Business Personality of the Year.”

The president of the Bay of Chaleur Chamber of Commerce, Luc Leblanc, indicated that Guy Cayouette winning doesn’t come as a surprise. “He is recognized as an inspiring person.” He sits on many committees and is socially involved beyond the limits of the business sector, even helping individuals experiencing various problems.

Minutes earlier, Luc Leblanc and the former recipient of the “Business of the Year Award,” Guy Desroches, had mentioned that the current management of Entreprises PEC had been successful in perpetuating the values of the founder, Paul-Égide Cayouette.

Guy Cayouette simply summed up his own evolution in the company by saying that he started working when he was 12 and that at the end of his university studies in 1992, despite the fact that he was hired by Caisses Desjardins, he was carrying out bookkeeping duties for PEC. He joined his brother François on a full-time basis six years later, in 1998.

“Since, we make it grow but the company is not everything. There is also the community. We received a few days ago a letter from one of our employees, an anglophone hired two years ago. He says that we saved his life. (...) I feel a bit like an imposter here. I don’t think I deserve this award,” said Guy Cayouette.

The growth of Entreprises PEC was remarkable over the last years, especially since acquiring the large facility in New Richmond located on the former linerboard mill land. The company also acquired and integrated a road maintenance company based on Anticosti Island where 20 people work.

“We employ between 100 and 150 people. It is a little qui-



Upon receiving the award for the Business of the Year, long-time Entreprises PEC manager François Cayouette praised the work of his employees.

eter in the winter with 100 people and in the summer with more construction projects, we have 150 people working for us,” says Guy Cayouette.

Overall, 23 awards were presented during the gala.

Two young workers, Serena Aubut of Shigawake and Mathieu Ferguson Dufour of Pointe-à-la-Croix received prizes for the perseverance they showed during their studies. Serena’s efforts during her progression towards obtaining a work placement and then a job were recognized. Mathieu also showed determination in studying to become a nursing assistant.

The “Support for Academic Success” award was given to the IGA Arbour-Leblanc supermarket of Paspébiac. Owners Nancy Arbour and Steve Leblanc hired Serena Aubut at the end of her studies.

Meanwhile, the Chamber of Commerce jury awarded



PEC president Guy Cayouette pointed out that a company must also play a social role in the community.

“Young Personality of the Year” to Camille Joseph of Bonaventure. She is active in three companies: H. Grégoire, MD Distribution and EBG Incendie.

In the “Performance and Influence” category, the award went to FADIO (which stands for *Formation à distance inter-ordre*), a distance education organization of which the Gaspé

Peninsula and Magdalen Islands Cegep is a member. The Carleton Cegep campus is a leader in distance education. This was recently highlighted by the UNEVOC network of UNESCO. UNEVOC is the vocational education branch of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

In the “Tourism, Leisure and Culture” category, the award went to the Baie des Chaleurs International Car Rally, represented by president Mark Dimock and past president Donald Leblanc. Mr. Dimock praised the work of his board and the volunteers. “We have 50 volunteers and there would not be a rally without them.”

Other award winners include:

Retail Business: F.L. Bélanger & Moi. **CREGIM Award for Environment and Climate Change:** Gaspésie gourmande. **Human Resources Management:** Cime Aventures. **Young Company:** Fumoir artisanal Indian Bay. **Non-profit Organization:** ZEC de la rivière Nouvelle. **Priorité Gaspésie:** AnnieMalerie. **Small Business in the Service Category:** Étienne Arseneault, real estate agent. **Large Business in the Service Category:** Location Moreau. **Micro-business and Self-employment:** Production iMédias. **CHNC Award for Customer Service:** Les Menuiseries d’intérieur. **Créneau d’excellence Awards recently recognized at the Quebec level:** E. Gagnon et Fils (Raymond Sheehan), Conception navale FMP (Francis Parisé senior and Francis Parisé junior), and the Southern Gaspé Professional Fishermen Group (O’Neil Cloutier and Joël Berthelot). **Business Relief Award:** Atelier de débosselage Carleton.



Roxane Berger

was hired October 15th, 2019, as a Business Advisor. She has a Bachelor’s Degree in accounting. Miss Berger has six years experience in administration at Revenu Quebec and two years in the private sector. We are happy to welcome her as part of our team.

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Alexandre Lagacé

was hired October 15th, 2019, as a Business Advisor. He has a Bachelor’s Degree in accounting. Mr. Lagacé has seven years experience as a project manager, account director in the private sector and at Desjardins. We are happy to welcome him as part of our team.

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Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



Things you don't hear anymore

Like it or not, times change. Sometimes the change is for the better and sometimes it is not. It was a different world 50 years ago. Money was scarce and fun was home-made. Sliding down snow hills on a piece of cardboard, picking berries and a game of kick the can or baseball was so exciting. We were outside all day and arrived home just in time for meals. Teachers were revered, even feared. Our food had no added chemicals.

See how many of these statements were a part of your life as a child. Times have indeed changed. I can hear my grandmother's voice saying many of these.

Go out and pump a pail of water for the tank on the stove.

Do you have ten cents to make a call from the phone booth?

Don't cross your eyes. They will stick like that. Boil some water. I'm going to defrost the freezer.

Our phone rings: 1 long, 2 short.

The neighbour's is 2 long, 1 short.

Eat everything on your plate.

Hang up your clothes after Sunday School.

Pour the cream off the top of the milk bottle.

I will be there with bells on!

Take a nickel from my purse and buy yourself an ice cream.

Do not bring that dog in the house.

Dogs stay outside.

Speak like that and I'll wash your mouth out with soap.

If you get in trouble at school and I find out, you will get it twice as bad at home.

It's just rain! Go outside. You are not made of sugar.

Darn! The typewriter keys jammed again.

I forgot to wind my watch.

Take this roll of film to the store to get developed.

The photos should be back in a week.

Nice little girls don't do that.

Boys don't cry.

Do you think money grows on trees?

I'm as full as a tick.

Don't sit so close to the TV. You will ruin your eyes.

That woman was vaccinated with a phonograph needle.

Watch that you don't get your hands caught in the wringer washer.

Be grateful. There are children all over the world with less.

If he jumped off the roof, would you?

Don't let the screen door slam on the way out!

Eat your vegetables if you want to be big and strong.

It does not cost a cent to be kind.

Did you nod your head when recalling some of these? If you are a younger reader, ask your parents or grandparents about these statements. They will likely take a walk down memory lane with you and fill you in on more! Learn about the past while you can.



Return of passenger train reiterated by VIA Rail in annual meeting report

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE: – VIA Rail's management has repeatedly said over the last four years that the Gaspé Peninsula passenger train service will be restored once the line is safe for users. In a written document issued recently and presenting the questions asked by the public during the transporter's annual general meeting, VIA Rail reiterates the statements made since 2016 inclusively.

To the questions "when will services resume in the Gaspé?" and "will the Chaleur train resume services in Gaspésie in 2020, even partially?", an executive replied that "the tracks on which VIA Rail operates in the Gaspésie region are owned by the Quebec government.

Services in the Gaspé Peninsula have been suspended since September 2013 due to the state of the infrastructure, which was deemed unsafe for passenger transportation.

In April 2018, the government of Quebec announced the beginning of repairs on the segment between Matapédia and Caplan. Once the work is completed and the tracks are deemed safe for passenger transportation, VIA Rail intends to restore services in that area."

Moreover, in reference to



VIA Rail will come back with its passenger train once a date is set for the return to Gaspé.

the second question, the former president of VIA Rail, Yves Desjardins-Siciliano, had stated in October 2018 during a visit to Rail GD in New Richmond that the transporter was open to a "partial" return to the Gaspé Peninsula, namely to New Carlisle, as long as a date of return to Gaspé is determined by Transports Québec.

Mr. Desjardins-Sicilano stated that in addition to line safety and access to Gaspé (the largest market between Matapédia and the tip of the region) a decent travelling speed ranks among the conditions imposed by VIA Rail for the return between Matapédia and Gaspé.

The VIA Rail train service has been suspended between New Carlisle and Gaspé since

December 2011. It was replaced by a bus service. In fact, VIA Rail's service between Matapédia and New Carlisle was offered by bus from the beginning of August to the end of September 2013 because the former management of then line owner Gaspésie Railway Society had given the green light to the spreading of a saline solution as defoliant. That solution caused damage to certain grade crossing signals.



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Announcements...



Obituary

MILLER: Ivan Lawrence

Born January 30, 1926 in Sunny Bank, Gaspé, Quebec, and passed away September 23, 2019, in Sherwood Park, Alberta.

Ivan was the seventh child of ten born to Ernest Stillman Miller and Elma Phyllis Miller. Ivan and Virginia were married in Edmonton, Alberta, on June 30, 1970.

He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Virginia; in-laws Doreen Long (Hal Kitchen) and Norman (Helen) Blue; as well as many nieces; nephews; other relatives and friends.

Ivan enjoyed life - family and friends were very important. The places he loved most were the Gaspé and the Jasper mountain area. He was a longtime member of the Belvedere Golf and Country Club in Strathcona County and also the Royal Canadian Legion. His memorial service was held on October 19, 2019. Cremation has taken place and he will be interred in the Mausoleum at the Edmonton Cemetery.

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In Memory

REHEL: George - October 16, 1988

REHEL-LEMIEUX: Ernestine - November 18, 2017

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The love a heart holds dear.

Fond memories linger every day,

Remembrance keeps them near.

Forever in my heart and miss you every day. Your daughter, Helena.

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Thank You

We would like to thank our many friends and neighbours for their help following our car accident in July. Your visits and delicious food were much appreciated.

You are too numerous to mention individually but you know who you are and we thank you all sincerely for being there.

*Phyllis & Bert Holland
Douglastown, Quebec*

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COAST ROUND-UP

CAP-AUX-OS:
Carol Service

November 30: The annual Christmas carol service will be held in the little Cap-Aux-Os church at 7 p.m. Come and join us with Bible readings, stories and carol singing followed by hot chocolate and goodies.

GASPÉ:
St. Paul’s
Anglican Church

November 30: The friends of St. Paul’s Anglican Church will be hosting their annual Fall and Christmas Sale starting at 9 a.m. The sale will be held in the basement of St. Paul’s Church (the yellow church) at 216 Montée Wakeham. There is something for everyone including homemade baking, new and nearly new items, toys, games, etc. Free refreshments will be available.

GASPÉ:
Gaspé Cancer Foundation
Annual Christmas Tea

December 1: The Gaspé Cancer Foundation will once again be holding its annual Christmas Tea from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion in Gaspé. Musical entertainment with Christmas songs will be provided during the tea. Admission: Adults \$8 and children under 12, \$4. For more information, contact Beatrice Coffin at 418-368-1566.

YORK:
York River
Seniors’ Club

December 7: The York River FADOQ Seniors’ Club will be hosting their annual Christmas Supper and Dance. 5 p.m. for cocktails and supper at 6 p.m. Music to follow. \$20 per person with club members receiving a \$15 refund at the door. Deadline for purchase of tickets is December 3. Tickets are now available at Photo Cassidy or from Elaine Coull 418-368-3935, Tony Patterson 418-368-3276 or Ron Mundle 418-355-4732.

DOUGLASTOWN:
Community Centre

Tuesdays: Zumba from 7-8 p.m. \$10/class.
November 30: Come and enjoy a culinary experience from India with our guest chef Alex Pringle. Vegetarian three-course meal and alcohol sold on the premises. Tickets available online or in person. Two sittings: 5:30 p.m. or 8 p.m.

BARACHOIS:
Legion Branch 261

Every Monday: The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 261, will be having a money bingo at 7 p.m. at the Legion. 18+ only.
Every Thursday: Cards and games from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Free. For more information, contact Lloyd Roussel at 418-645-3700 or 418-645-2786.
December 7: Supper and Kitchen Party. Club sandwiches and Hot Chicken will be served. \$12 per adult and \$6 for children under 11 years old. Take outs from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sitings beginning at 5 p.m. Music with local talent will begin after the supper.

BARACHOIS:
BADC
Christmas Market

November 30: The BADC Christmas Market will be held at the Belle Anse School from 9 a.m. to noon. If you are interested in a table (\$10), please contact Sandy Coombs at 418-645-2874.

PORT DANIEL:
Three Star
Golden Age Club

Every Wednesday: Pétanque from 7 to 9 p.m. Cost \$3. Come and join the fun and learn a new game!
December 7: Members and guests Christmas party.

SHIGAWAKE:
Community Centre

December 2: Christmas gift bingo beginning at 7 p.m. Can-teen available.
December 31: New Year’s Ball beginning at 8 p.m. \$12 per person. Light lunch served, 18+, DJ (Mark Dea).

HOPE TOWN:
Hope Baptist
Church

Hope Baptist Church welcomes you. Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. and Corporate Worship at 11 a.m. on Sundays. Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. Young Peoples for grades 7-11 at 7 p.m. on Fridays. 305 Route 132 West, Hope Town, 418-752-5838.

HOPE TOWN:
Community Centre

December 14: Military Whist beginning at 8 p.m.

HOPETOWN:
Craft Sale

November 30: Craft sale at the Hope Town Community Centre from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

NEW CARLISLE:
Christmas Bazaar

December 8: Christmas Bazaar for St. Andrew’s Anglican Church from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the New Carlisle town hall. Anyone wanting a table, please contact Agnes at 418-752-7192.

NEW CARLISLE:
Gilker Residence
Christmas Bazaar

December 7: Christmas Bazaar at the Gilker Residence from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Support our local artisans as well as the Gilker Residence by attending this Christmas Bazaar.

NEW CARLISLE:
Royal Canadian Legion

December 7: Annual Christmas gift bingo beginning at 7 p.m.
December 14: Christmas dance featuring Tammy Adams beginning at 8 p.m. \$10 per person. Limited tickets available. Call 418-752-6799.
December 15: BREAKING NEWS: Santa will be at the New Carlisle Legion from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

NEW CARLISLE:
Bible Chapel Services

Sunday: Breaking of Bread for Believers - 9:30 a.m.; Night

service - 7 p.m.; **Wednesday:** Bible Study and Prayer - 7 p.m. “You Must Be Born Again.”

NEW RICHMOND:
Richmond Manor
Christmas Bake Sale

December 7: Richmond Manor will be having a bake sale from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 196 Blvd Perron O, New Richmond. Assorted baked goods for everyone to enjoy over the holidays.

NEW RICHMOND:
St. Andrew’s
United Church

November 30: You are invited to join us in celebrating the 180th anniversary of our church beginning at 7 p.m. We will be hosting a salute to our history which will include a presentation and fashion show featuring church fashions and wedding gowns through the years. The evening will conclude with cake, fruit, tea and coffee.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:
Royal Canadian Legion
Br. 172

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 172, meets monthly every third **Saturday** at the Legion located at 55 Gallagher St.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:
Book Room

Every Wednesday: The book room is now open from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, call Kathleen at 418-392-4896.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:
Fifty Plus

Every Tuesday: Grocery Bingo at 7 p.m.
Every Thursday: Dame de Piques at 1 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. Thank you for your support.
November 29: There will be a jam session open to all musicians and spectators at the club. Doors open at 7 p.m and entertainment begins at 7:30 p.m. Free admission and can-teen service on site.

GESGAPEGIAG:
N.A. Meetings

N.A. Meetings held every **Tuesday** at 7 p.m. at the Mawiomi

Treatment Centre located at 85 School Street in Gesgapegiag. Everyone welcome! For more information, call 418-759-3522.

GESGAPEGIAG:
Important Meeting

This is to inform the community members of Gesgapegiag and the surrounding area that Gesgapegiag Healing Lodge (NNADAP) hosts AA meetings and is open to everyone. If you are interested in a lifestyle free of alcohol and substance abuse and have the desire to change, you are invited to attend meetings every **Monday** at 7 p.m.

ROTARY CLUB WINNERS
The winners for the week of

November 10 are: Jean-Pierre Landry, Albertine Audet, Geneviève Dupuis, Louise Dimock, France Savoie, Denise Cyr, and Carol Henry.

The winners for the week of

November 17 are: Olivier Thibodeau, Carol Fugère, Ida Fallow, Anik Lamirande, Jocelyne Ferguson, Diane Bourdages and Josette Martin.

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Sunday, December 1
2 p.m. Hope Town

ANGLICAN
CHURCH
OF CANADA

Sunday, December 1
New Carlisle

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Hope Town
10 a.m. Morning Prayer
Shigawake
9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

PARISH OF GASPÉ

Sunday, December 1
St. Paul’s - Gaspé
9 a.m. Morning Prayer

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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

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- ANDROID
- APP
- APPLE
- AREA CODE
- BANDWIDTH
- BASE
- BATTERY
- BITS
- BLUETOOTH
- BROWSER
- CALLBACK
- CAMERA
- CELL
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- MEMORY
- RANGE
- SIGNAL
- SMART
- SYNCHRONIZE
- TOWER

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change it up and make something new...

Before



After



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CANADA'S TOP FOOD EXPORTS INCLUDE
WHEAT, CANOLA SEEDS,
SOYBEANS, CANOLA OIL,
AND LIVE CATTLE. ITS
MAIN IMPORTS INCLUDE
WINE AND FOOD PREP
ITEMS.



CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to dieting.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 16 = I)

- A. 2 16 13 21
Clue: Weight loss plan
- B. 1 5 4 19 18 16 13 6
Clue: Food energy
- C. 1 19 15 10 21 16 10 3
Clue: Keeping track
- D. 20 19 18 21 16 19 10
Clue: Part of

Answers: A. diet B. calories C. counting D. portion

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, even though you're not typically wild and crazy by nature, a more risk-taking, playful side comes out this week. Your significant other or friends may be caught off guard.
TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, even if you are confronted by bad news this week, do not let it sideline you for too long. You are resilient and can bounce back quickly.
GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21
You may decide to reveal a secret side of yourself, Gemini. There is a part of you that is looking for a deeper level of intimacy, and you are ready to take the next step.
CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, this is a good time to rest and relax. Although you might have many chores to tackle and bills to pay, do what you can to disconnect from work and worries.
LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Home and technology figure largely this week. You may spend time rewiring a home or changing internet providers, Leo. Get the job finished promptly so you can relax.

HOROSCOPES

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, you may have heard about being in the right place at the right time. This is especially true when trying to make a romantic match, which could be a possibility soon.
LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
A jolt of physical energy this week could be the push you need to get some hard work done, Libra. Home improvements or a project at work can be the focus.
SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
You may have too much to do around the house and no idea where to start, Scorpio. Do not throw up your hands in frustration. Work on one thing at a time.
SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Be a cheerleader this week for others who may need a boost of positivity, Sagittarius. You are generally great at encouraging others to put their best selves forward.
CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, your discipline in how you approach your goals impresses others. As a result, you

may soon be called on to help others with their own work.
AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, if you have been running yourself ragged, you need to pull back and look at the bigger picture. Being down for the count for pushing yourself too much can be detrimental.
PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, all it takes is a few tweaks and you will have the answer that you have been seeking. Be patient and stay the course.

- FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS
- NOVEMBER 24
Sarah Hyland, Actress (29)
- NOVEMBER 25
Bruno Tonioli, Dancer (64)
- NOVEMBER 26
Rita Ora, Singer (29)
- NOVEMBER 27
Bill Nye, TV Host (64)
- NOVEMBER 28
Trey Songz, Singer (35)
- NOVEMBER 29
Chadwick Boseman, Actor (42)
- NOVEMBER 30
Billy Idol, Singer (64)

Go ahead...play with your food



Black Ash

“Mythology deems the ash tree an emblem of magical potency, health and prosperity.”

Diane **Skinner**

This article does not have a “happily ever after” ending. At one time the black ash was abundant in our area, however, that was until the arrival of the emerald ash borer. This invasive species was first discovered in North America in 2002. Since that year the emerald ash borer has spread to all areas where the black ash tree grows. One conservationist predicts that 99% of the black ash trees and also green, blue and white ash trees will die.

Black ash trees are native to the northeastern area of the United States and Canada. They grow in wetlands and wooded swamps. They grow slowly and become tall and slender trees. A fully-grown tree is about 15 – 20 metres tall with a trunk diameter of 60 cm. The bark has an unusual appearance being grey in colour and seeming thick and even scaly. It has an unusual texture, feeling spongy. The leaves are feathery in appearance. Each leaf has about seven to eleven leaflets on it. Black ash trees grow in cold climates. They grow in areas termed zones two through five. These trees also thrive in a humid climate where the soil around them remains moist.

The black ash which is also referred to as basket ash,



Stephen Jerome instructs Mary James on how to make traditional Mi'gmaq baskets from black ash.

swamp ash and hoop ash has been used extensively in the making of baskets by indigenous people. It is a unique tree because it does not have fibers which connect the growth rings together. This is a plus for basket makers. By pounding on the wood with a mallet the wood can then be peeled into long strips. The strips are

further prepared by being trimmed and cleaned. The strips may be used to weave chair seats. The wood may also be used to make interior finishes for furniture items such as cabinets. Ash wood is particularly popular for making electric guitars and basses. This is because it provides good reso-

nance.

Ash trees are a critically important food source for frogs and the leaves that fall are a food for tadpoles. The frogs have switched to using maples as a food source but sadly they are not ideal so the survival rate for frogs is declining. All of nature is a giant web and the disappearance of one species of tree can make a huge impact on other living things. Other species which have traditionally used the ash tree as a source of food include beetles, birds and even mammals. Butterflies also are losing an important food.

The emerald ash borer was brought to North America from Asia. It has no natural predators so has spread very

rapidly. The larvae of the beetle bores holes in the tree and feeds on the inner bark. This eventually kills the entire tree. It is estimated that the emerald ash borer has killed hundreds of millions of ash trees in the United States and Canada.

History tells us that once an invasive species, such as the emerald ash borer arrives, it is just about impossible to get rid of it. The future for the black ash is bleak. The impact has, and will have, a ripple effect on a number of living things.

The future of basket making is not clear. To lose this indigenous legacy would be tragic and not a happy ending for the black ash.

Photo: Sandi Beebe

Teachers' Guide

Comprehension:

1. Describe the appearance of the black ash.
2. What are some uses for the black ash? (for humans)
3. What animals are reliant on the black ash?
4. How does the emerald ash borer destroy the tree?
5. How are basket weaving strips made?

Vocabulary:

Define the following: invasive, potency, predator, legacy

Extras:

Stephen Jerome, local Mi'gmaq basket maker, carries on the tradition which he learned from his father. He is profiled in the award-winning documentary film “My Father’s Tools.” Search the film online. After watching it, write your reflections on this historical indigenous skill.

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