

## A proud military tradition

Diane Skinner

The Gaspé has a proud military tradition. Many of us have ancestors who served in the two Great Wars and in Korea, but the service of Gaspésians does not end there. It is important to remember Canada's role as peacekeepers and assisting anywhere they are needed and are called to serve.

Here are four fine, young citizens from the Gaspé who chose to join Canada's military to proudly serve on behalf of Canada. On November 11, think also of them and what they have offered to this great country.

*Thank you for  
your service.*

### Cpl. Marshall Billingsley-Leblanc

Marshall Billingsley-Leblanc joined the military to honour his grandfather's service and his memory, as well as to help pay for his education at Bishop's University in Sherbrooke.

He was born and raised in New Carlisle and most of his family, including his mother, father, brother, aunt, uncles and cousins live on the Gaspé Coast.

In April 2019 Corporal Billingsley-Leblanc joined the Primary Reserves, specifically an Armoured Regiment known as the Sherbrooke Hussars located in Sherbrooke. He has continued to be part of this unit ever since.

He tells Spec that the best part about military life is the opportunity to travel and see various parts of Canada while working. He adds, "It is also the camaraderie I have with fellow soldiers and the feeling of brotherhood I have created with so many people throughout my career so far."

Marshall's trade is officially known as Armoured



Photo: Courtesy of M. Billingsley

*Cpl. Billingsley-Leblanc stands in front of a Leopard 1 monument in Kingston, Ontario.*

Crewman. He adopts a variety of distinct roles within this assignment: driver, gunner, observer, serving as a member of an armoured vehicle crew.

In this role, Marshall drives or maintains the functionality of armoured vehicles as well as their relevant weapon systems. He has received training on armoured vehicles, including the G-Wagon and TAPV platforms. At times he undertakes different tasks that may or may not be directly related to his trade as Armoured Crewman. Corporal Billingsley-Leblanc's future plans include - working full-time through the Primary Reserves with the goal of paying off his student loans and debt from his CEGEP and university studies. Eventually, he hopes to be promoted to a higher rank and continue to develop his skills as an Armoured Crewman.

(If you are interested in learning more about careers offered by the Sherbrooke Hussars or information about

recruiting, please call 819-564-4252.)



Photo: Courtesy Tiffany Huntington

*Corporal Tiffany Huntington is currently a Materials Management Technician for the Canadian Air Force.*

### Corporal Tiffany Huntington

Corporal Tiffany Huntington was always intrigued by the military since her older brother joined. A few years after her younger brother joined the military, Tiffany decided that it was time to take the leap. She enjoys the opportunities that being a member of the Canadian Air Forces offers her. She feels proud to make a difference in the world, even if it is a small way.

Cpl. Huntington was born and raised in New Carlisle and her parents still reside here and she visited in the summer of 2021.

She began the recruiting process in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Applying in October 2015, she was accepted in December 2015. Tiffany left for Basic Military Qualification in January 2016. After completing trades training (QL3) in Borden, Ontario, in 2016, she was posted

to CFB Gagetown where she currently resides. In 2017, she completed her trade qualification.

So far, Cpl. Huntington has trained in St. Jean-sur-Richelieu, Borden, Ontario, and Gagetown, New Brunswick.

Cpl. Huntington is a Material Management Technician, and she manages everyday supplies and functions within the Canadian Air Force. Her assignment includes account control and verification and ordering new items, such as clothing, weapons, vehicles and other supplies. These items may be for use either in Canada or abroad. A further part of her job is to assure quality control is maintained for all supplies.

The best part of military life Tiffany states, is "The everyday adventure. The stability. The structure. Each day is always something new."

When asked about her future goals, Tiffany states, "My goals are to learn as much as I can about my career, to move ahead and make a difference."

### Master Corporal Nick Bujold

Master Corporal (MCpl) Nick Bujold, who at 26 years of age, has been a member of the Canadian military for eight years. He was born and raised in Cascapedia-Saint-Jules. His family still lives there. He mentions his mother Diane Snow; father Yves Bujold; sister Erika Bujold and brother Kyle Bujold.

MCpl Bujold decided to join the military to serve his country and to see the world. He was sworn into the CAF (Canadian Armed Forces) in September 2013 at the recruiting centre in Rimouski, Quebec.

He tells Spec that he enjoys his role in the military for the travelling, and the different types of aircraft he

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# MAPAQ seizes 33 cats in abandoned Saint-Godefroi house

Gilles Gagné

CARLETON - The Quebec Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food intervened on October 29 in an abandoned house in Saint-Godefroi to seize 33 cats that lived there in difficult and unhealthy conditions.

The operation was carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPAQ) in collaboration with the *Société de protection des Animaux* of the Mauricie region. The animals were transported to a facility outside the region for examination and assessment by a team of veterinarians. It is possible that some cats were euthanized, which happens in some procedures of that type.

The seizure of the cats was carried out by the firefighters of the Municipality of Paspébiac, which provides services to some neighbouring towns under a collaboration agreement. They had to wear protective suits and masks to do so because of the smell of urine.

"MAPAQ asked us to intervene. We thought about it but given the scale of the task, because we were talking about 50 cats at the beginning, we told the ministry that we did not have the resources to do it. We are only volunteers. The operation would also have mobi-

lized the veterinary clinic in Caplan," says Mia Sainte-Marie, president of the Baies-des-Chaleurs Animal Protection Network.

"When the task is too big, the MAPAQ comes with a team from outside the region and that's what happened," notes Ms. Sainte-Marie.

She reports that the municipal administration of Saint-Godefroi "did exactly what was necessary under the circumstances, by contacting MAPAQ."

The director general of the Municipality of Saint-Godefroi, Lina Aubut, is not revealing the address where MAPAQ and the Society for the protection of animals intervened, because family members of the owner of the property were already experiencing problems in that file before the October 29 operation. There have been contacts between family members and the municipal administration since October 29.

"This is a house that was closed about three weeks ago, among other things due to unsanitary conditions. The owner has been forced to leave the house, due to an order that was executed by the Sûreté du Québec," explains Lina Aubut. She specifies that the municipal administration has few means to intervene in that kind of situation, less than social

services, for example. Those services may judge that the person living on the premises should be evicted for his own safety or well-being, she notes. "Firefighters may decide a house is a fire hazard, but people are at home anyway, afterwards. We have been following this issue for a long time," explains Lina Aubut.

The Paspébiac firefighters were unable to catch four of the cats. The Municipality of Saint-Godefroi remains in contact with members of the family for follow-ups on the issue.

This intervention was made necessary following an inspection by the MAPAQ. Upon arrival, the inspectors found that the animals were not kept in a suitable and sanitary place and that they were not receiving the care required.

In a press release, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food mentioned being "very sensitive to the situation of animals and works daily with its partners to ensure that their safety and well-being are not compromised."

Any unacceptable situation concerning the health or welfare of animals can be denounced by contacting the MAPAQ at 1 844-ANIMAUX (1 844-264-6289). More information on animal safety and welfare can be obtained at <http://www.mapaq.gouv.qc.ca/bienetreanimal>.

## Gaspé Cathedral: repairs reach \$2.5 million

Nelson Sergerie,  
LJI Journalist

GASPÉ - The cost of repairing the roof of the Cathedral of Christ the King in Gaspé is getting steeper. Initially, the replacement of siding and roof upgrades were expected to cost approximately \$1 million. Today, the amount is closer to \$2.5 million.

The Fabrique Saint-Alban says the increase in the cost of materials is the primary reason.

The work on the east side and the presbytery was estimated at \$850,000. The only bid received came out at \$1.4 million for this portion of the

site which should be completed within a few weeks.

A new phase will be launched for the replacement of the bell tower roof and the works have shown that the windows installed 52 years ago must be changed. These two items total nearly \$600,000.

The fabrique will launch a new fundraising campaign for \$170,000, for its 20% share of the cost of the bill, while Quebec is subsidizing 80% through the program for the protection of religious cultural heritage.

"We were not dissuaded from continuing. On the contrary, they are aware of

the whole file. There are no indications that the Ministry of Culture will interrupt or withdraw its financial support," explains the vice-president of the fabrique, Yvan Landry.

The entire work is ultimately expected to cost \$2.5 million. The Cathedral was opened in 1969. The building, clad in red cedar slats, consists of an assembly of volumes with modern lines and was recognized as a historic monument by the Quebec Ministry of Culture and Communication in 2001. The Cathedral is the only wooden cathedral in North America.

## Police report

The Sûreté du Québec police officers handed out 615 tickets in the Gaspé Peninsula, the Magdalen Islands and the Lower Saint Lawrence regions during what is called "the concerted national operation *Sharing the Road*," which took place from October 22 to 28. The statistics from the two regions are not broken down geographically as of now, except for a few numbers. The same reality prevails for the types of infractions, barring a few exceptions.

This year, no fatal car crash was reported in the two regions between October 22 and 28, the same as last year. The number of road accidents causing injuries amounted to 19 in 2021, compared to 13 a year ago. That is a 46% increase. The 615 fines represent a 10.2% increase compared to the 558 tickets of 2020. Thirteen people were arrested while driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, compared to seven in October 2020.

The number of speeding tickets amounted to 421 during this year's operation and 12 more drivers received a ticket because they hadn't fastened their seatbelt. Seven drivers were stopped while using their cellular phones at the wheel. The number of other infractions amounted to 174. One driver was stopped because he or she didn't respect the zero-alcohol consumption rule that applies to certain groups, such as youth and people who have recuperated their driving licence after an impaired driving offence. Eleven people were asked to pass the alcotest but did not fail it.

"The situation deteriorated between last year and this year. We are not quite sure why for now. We might need a bit of time to draw conclusions," says Sgt. Claude Doiron, spokesperson of the Sûreté du Québec. The pandemic's effects over the last week of October 2021 and the corresponding week of 2020 look relatively similar, although they were probably more serious in the Gaspé Peninsula a year ago.

The *Sharing the Road* campaign involves the Quebec police services, in collaboration with the Société de l'assurance-automobile du Québec, the SAAQ. Those joined forces hope to make users of the road network aware of the dangers associated with non-sharing of that road.

Throughout Quebec, police officers, numerous on the road network to ensure the safety of users of the road during that operation, carried out more than 10,200 operations.

The end of October operation aims to remind road users of the importance to respect not only the laws in force, but also to adopt behaviors promoting their own security. "It is essential to show patience, vigilance and courtesy towards other road users, regardless of their mode of transport. Indeed, taking the time to practice those behaviors can save lives," points out Sgt. Claude Doiron.

Numerous publications were also posted on the social media of the various police organizations and the SAAQ. This national operation was organized as part of a partnership between the Association of Quebec police directors, the Sûreté du Québec, the City Police Department of Montreal and the Société de l'assurance-automobile du Québec.



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# COVID-19 situation stabilizes after a peak at the end of October

Gilles Gagné

MARIA – The magnitude of the COVID-19 pandemic decreased during the last days of October and the first days of November in the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands, as the number of new cases went from 55 during the week of October 22 to 29 week and to 27 cases between October 30 and November 5.

The number of active cases followed the same curve, as it went from a summit of 57 on October 30 to 29 on November 5.

The Percé Rock MRC retained the unenviable lead in the new cases during the week with 21, compared to 3 cases for the Avignon MRC, 2 for the Haute-Gaspésie MRC and 1 for the Magdalen

Islands. In that latter case, the positive test was dating back to September, and it had been passed in another region.

The outbreaks identified on October 25 and 26 by the Centre de services scolaires René-Lévesque in the Bourg school in Carleton and Saint-Paul school in the Pabos area of Chandler were declared recovered by the Public Health Board of the region on November 5.

However, an outbreak of three cases at Chandler's Saint-Joseph school was reported on November.

The vaccination rate of the regional population continues to make progress, but as slowly as has been the case since the beginning of the fall. The first dose rate was standing as 82.6% on October

31, compared to 82.5% a week before. The booster shot has now been administered to 80.3% of the citizens, compared to 80.1% on October 24. The provincial rate was standing at 79.4% and 77.0% on October 31 for the first and second shots, compared to 79.2% and 76.7% a week before. The Avignon MRC rates still lag quite behind the regional numbers, with 74.9% and 72.2% for the first and second shots respectively.

Meanwhile, the regional director of the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands' Public Health Board, Dr. Yv Bonnier-Viger, was recognized on November 5 as one of the top five doctors of Quebec for his influence in the province and in the region. The award winner of the year was Dr. Caroline Quash.

## Editorial page

### Gilles Gagné Commentary



### Climate change: do we need more evidence?

As the COP26 meeting talks in Glasgow were still ongoing when the SPEC reached its deadline, conclusions were hard to draw but it was relatively easy to remark that the world leaders are still lagging behind what needs to be done to save great pain to human beings and an easier path. That easier path option will require more discipline in the short term though.

That short term is now. Depending on the source of documentation, we globally need between one planet and three-quarters and two planets to maintain our current consumption level. We can only count on one.

Despite the enthusiastic presence of Premier François Legault and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in Glasgow over the first week of the Glasgow conference, Quebec and Canada are very bad students in a classroom that regrouped close to 200 countries in the capital of Scotland.

Quebec and Canada have both failed miserably in their rather shy attempts to reduce their greenhouse effect gas emissions. Until recently, the Quebec government was hoping to land a huge plant to liquify natural gas in Saguenay and it derailed because the environmental record would have been disastrous and financial partners were pulling out.

Since the COP21 in Paris in December 2015, where Justin Trudeau looked like a new international star, his Liberal Party government has bought the Trans Mountain pipeline for \$4.5 billion and is currently investing \$12.6 billion to expand it and triple its capacity to 890,000 barrels per day. That is \$17.1 billion invested in the capacity to export one of the dirtiest fuels in the world, Alberta's tar sands oil. That bill of \$17.1 billion might rise again since the initial expansion cost of the pipeline was \$7.5 billion. It has risen by "only" \$5.2 billion since the project was launched in 2019.

Add to the equation a chunk of \$12.8 billion of federal government support to the oil industry only for 2020. In fact, that number amounts to \$18 billion, according to the Narwhal magazine's investigation in that file. That report indicates that the federal government handed out \$5.2 billion to the Trans Mountain for 2020,

hence the \$12.8 billion once the subtraction is done.

So how convincing Justin Trudeau can be when he says that Canada is moving towards improving its greenhouse-effect gas (GEG) emission record when those emission are still rising? Canada is the only country of the G7 that has not reduced those emissions in recent years.

François Legault's record is far from brighter at this point. Quebec sure boasts one of the highest rates of reliance on green energy in the industrialized world, because of the power dams and the development of wind energy. However, the CAQ government is still rooting heavily for the Third link between Lévis and Quebec City, a project that could have qualified 30 or 40 years ago, but that is far from acceptable 21 years into the 21st century. Premier Legault is taking people for fools when he says that it is a green project because electricity-powered buses will roll in it.

Other examples of climate hypocrisy are numerous in the world and that's why thousands of people demonstrated right from the first day of the COP26 Glasgow event. They notably denounced the "greenwashing" and, as Swedish environmentalist Greta Thunberg put it, the blah-blah-blah of the world leaders, who put emphasis on their own paltry measures to counter climate change instead of adopting common policies that will really limit GEG emissions.

The environment and the economy shouldn't be put in a relation stating that the improvement of the ecosystems will come at the expense of the latter. Developing renewable sources of energy coming from the sun and the wind will not lead to an economic downturn. Slowing down some new energy-burning construction projects and opting for the renovation of existing buildings in order to reduce their carbon footprint will not hamper the construction sector; it will just employ workers differently.

Planting trees to partially cover parking spaces and provide shade over the heat-generating concrete and asphalt giants that are visible in the cities and towns can only be beneficial, even if they cut a bit the number of spaces. Tests conducted in various cities have proven that a huge black asphalt parking lot adjacent to a shopping mall or an apartment building can generate a heat of 40 degrees above it, when real temperature in the shade is barely over 20 degrees.

Cycling trails are laid in many towns and cities of North America but, too many times, they are only built for leisure purposes instead of along the main streets, where they could facilitate active transport for work. That is not counting the emphasis that must be placed on commuter transport, everywhere, pandemic or not.

Globally, the world population must limit to 1.5 de-

grees the heat increase humanity will experience between now and the end of the century. If we maintain the current emphasis on consumption and fossil-fuel use, the rise might reach 4 degrees, maybe more. If 4 degrees sound like not much, we have to take into consideration that each increase of 0.1 degree has exponential effects on the gravity of storms, drought, sea level, ice-melting and the wildlife adaptation capacity to cope with a changing reality.

Experts repeat that it is important to act now because the climate is like an enormous ship. Even if we stop her engines right now, the ship will keep moving forward for quite a while, like the temperature rise.

The effects of global warming are already measurable and visible. Over the summer in British Columbia, close to 600 people died in an unprecedented heat dome. The town of Lytton was levelled by forest fire and most of the province was plagued by drought.

That said, we live in a country that can count on far more means to fight the consequences of global warming than some highly vulnerable parts of the world. We still struggle in doing so. We have not really adapted our construction standards to the global warming reality, among other lapses.

So, imagine now how people who have very little means to counter the effects of climate change will cope with the rising problems. Some of them have regrouped in a movement called the Future MAPA, for Most Affected People and Areas. Some of their representatives from Namibia, Uganda, Mexico and Bangladesh understandably held a demonstration in Glasgow at the beginning of the COP26 to advocate about their fate.

Standing still and delaying our actions regarding climate change will complicate significantly our future lives and the lives of our children. We must see immediate change in our consumption pattern like a stimulating challenge, not like a drag.

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Published every Wednesday by:  
Les Publications de la Côte Inc.  
(Sea-Coast Publications Inc.)

(Taxes included)  
1-year (paper or digital): \$46  
6-months (paper or digital): \$25  
Outside Canada:  
1-year paper \$165 digital: \$46

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We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.  
We acknowledge special funding from the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications.

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# A Gaspé first: All female mayor and council

Diane Skinner

**HOPE TOWN:** - History in the making! The Gaspé has just acclaimed its first all-female mayor and council in the municipality of Hope Town. This council will be serving their community from November 2021 until the next municipal election in November 2025.

Looking across the Gaspé, one would see many all-male municipal councils. As a society we have long accepted that men run for and hold political office. This new council is a sign that things are changing.

Though we have quite a way to go to reach equal representation in most communities, the Hope Town council is a strong and positive example for girls and young women. It is important that women in the community see “people like them” in positions of power.

The women in these high visibility roles not only provide examples of leadership to young girls but can also serve as mentors to young women who are continuing to break the glass ceilings in politics and traditionally male dominated roles. The council will be comprised of: Mayor Linda MacWhirter, incumbent mayor since 2013, and councillors Joanne Ross, Lida Francoeur, Shannon Major, Tracy Major,

Gisele Delarosbil and Elizabeth Theriault. The Director General and Secretary-Treasurer is Sylvie Francoeur. Two of the councillors are incumbent, one is returning to the role and three are new to municipal politics.

The new council is comprised of parents of young children, working women and retired women. Four are anglophones and three are francophones and all are bilingual. The group offers good representation of the community and can offer different perspectives.

Mayor MacWhirter informs us that the mayor’s role is to “preside over municipal council meetings, participate in decision making meetings, sign bylaws, resolutions and contracts, supervise the application of bylaws and communicate to the municipal council all information of public interest. The mayor exercises surveillance, investigation and control over business affairs and the employees as well as ensuring that the municipal funds are collected and spent according to the law. In case of an emergency endangering the lives or health of our citizens, the mayor can authorize expenses and award contracts deemed necessary to remedy the situation. The mayor represents the entire population and the mu-



Photo: courtesy of Linda MacWhirter  
 Front row: Shannon Major and Gisèle Delarosbil  
 Second row: G. Joanne Ross, Elizabeth Tardif Theriault and Tracy Major  
 Back row: Linda MacWhirter Mayor, Sylvie Francoeur Director General and Lida Francoeur.

nicipality at the MRC of Bonaventure.”

Further, councillors “attend council meetings and promote the interests of the community. The councillors participate in decision making. The councillors vote on all resolutions and by-laws unless it involves a conflict of interest.”

Mayor MacWhirter reflects that she was “surprised and pleased when I found out there would be an all-female council. Hope Town has had women councillors for a long time. We had our first female councillor in 1982, two female councillors in 1984 and three in 1985. Since then, our council has had representation by women councillors. In 1981 we had an all-

male council and in 2021 we have an all-female council!”

Councillor Shannon Major made the decision to be a councillor “to provide representation as an anglophone. I feel it’s important to have a voice in a bilingual community. My mom, Tanya Edwards, served as a councillor throughout the 90s. In the 80s, the council fought for bilingual status for Hope Town and won! Therefore, I would like to do my part and be a role model for my daughter.” She adds, “It will be exciting to see what we can accomplish during this term.”

Shannon mentions that she hopes to continue to organize Earth Day Clean Up that was initiated in May 2021 and make it an annual event.

Whether male or female, councillors work to serve their community. Shannon Major adds that one of her hopes is that this council inspires women to get involved in their municipal government. Congratulations to the new council and we can look forward to a future where all Gaspésians see themselves represented on their council and in all levels of government.

## Provincial Liberals promise dedicated fisheries minister

Nelson Sergerie,  
LJI Journalist

**MAGDALEN ISLANDS:** - The Liberals if elected on October 3, 2022, are proposing to appoint a full-time minister responsible for the fisheries sector.

Leader Dominique Anglade made this commitment on November 4 in the Magdalen Islands. She says that the minister would have full authority in the matter in a gesture which is part of her Charter for the regions, a concept put in place at the beginning of the year followed by a tour of Quebec’s regions. The party is advocating a decentralization approach.

The leader assures that a Minister of Fisheries would be accompanied by a transfer of decision-making to the Gaspé Peninsula Magdalen Islands region. “Absolutely, because it allows decisions to be made where they take place,” she said in an interview after her announcement in the Islands.

The Liberal leader also

mentioned the redfish situation. “We look in the other provinces and we see that they are getting organized. Processing plants are getting organized. However, if Quebec is not ready to face the music, we will certainly be at a disadvantage and for that, you have to have a focus on the fisheries sector,” says Ms. Anglade.

Ms. Anglade thinks that a minister responsible for the file would have been an asset in the Grande-Rivière gantry crane file, where the matter between Quebec and Ottawa still isn’t settled. According to her, this would, show the government’s concerns for this important sector in the east.

Ms. Anglade was to do a two-day tour November 3 in Gaspé and November 4 in New Richmond, to meet people, riding associations, chambers of commerce, entrepreneurs and the health community in order to have concrete proposals for the 2022 elections.

“There is no better way to play politics than to be on the ground and listen to people’s

concerns,” she said. Mrs. Anglade has the impression that the CAQ is not listening to the population.

The expulsion of Member of Parliament Marie Montpetit, who is defending herself against harassment allegations, kept her busy and forced her to cancel her visit.

“What is important to send as a message is that it is 2021, and we want to have a healthy work environment,” says the leader.

Ms. Anglade intends to return to the region soon.

Asked whether her party will present candidates of great value like that of Alexandre Boulay, the party’s economic star in 2018 in the riding of Gaspé, Ms. Anglade argues that it is too early.

“I can assure you that we will have some great candidates for the next election. We have nothing to announce at this time. It is still early! The elections are for October 2022, but I can assure you that they will be candidates of great value,” says Ms. Anglade.



### Job Opportunity Editor, Quebec Community Newspapers Association

Quebec Community Newspapers Association (QCNA), an association representing English-language community newspapers throughout Quebec, is seeking an experienced editor to implement and oversee a 20-week project.

Working under the direction of QCNA’s general manager, the successful candidate will have editorial experience at a management level in assigning, copyediting, and producing well-researched content for multiple newspapers and platforms on deadline.

#### Responsibilities include:

- Working with French-speaking colleagues at Réseau Presse on a Canada-wide digital aggregated news site, to include stories from QCNA member newspapers
- Sending weekly press briefings from around Quebec to member newspapers
- Preparing a weekly schedule of news stories available for sharing with member papers
- Working with member newspapers to prepare and disseminate stories for shared special sections in member papers
- Assigning and editing freelance stories of regional interest to be shared with QCNA members
- Working with university partners to recruit journalism students to write for community newspapers

Work on this project begins immediately, is results-based with a competitive salary, and can be carried out remotely over a 37.5 hour work week for 20 weeks.

Interested candidates should send a cover letter along with their resumé (demonstrating that they have the education and experience to make the project successful) to [info@qcna.qc.ca](mailto:info@qcna.qc.ca) before Nov. 1, 2021



# Health workers escape compulsory vaccination

Nelson **Sergerie**,  
LJI Journalist

GASPÉ - The 66 workers at the Gaspé Peninsula Integrated Health and Social Services Centre who are not adequately vaccinated are no longer obligated to do so.

Quebec announced on November 3 that the order was no longer valid. However, those who are not adequately vaccinated have to be tested three times a week for COVID-19, a measure in place since mid-October via a ministerial decree.

According to CISSS data, 32 employees are not vaccinated and 34 are partially vaccinated as of November 2.

Since the measure was imposed in mid-October, three workers have been suspended without pay for refusing mandatory testing.

The CISSS cannot say for

confidentiality reasons what their positions were.

## A welcome suspension

The suspension of the vaccination requirement is welcomed by the Union of Nurses, Auxiliary Nurses and Respiratory Therapists of Eastern Quebec. "To have 100% of people vaccinated was utopian. But at the same time, all the people who were vaccinated, we knew from the start that he (the Minister of Health, Christian Dubé) wanted to keep them in a context of shortage," launches the president, Pier-Luc Bujold.

The same goes for the CSN, which represents the beneficiary attendants and support staff in particular. "If we were to lose these people, it would have had a significant impact. We continue to say that vaccination is encour-

aged. We promote vaccination," insists the president, Pierre-Luc Boulay.

The Regional Director of Public Health, Dr. Yv Bonnier Viger, has always suggested convincing people rather than forcing them to get vaccinated.

## Cases in Rocher-Percé Schools

The situation continues to improve in the Centre de services scolaire René-Lévesque schools. In the height of the crisis, 35 cases were listed on November 1 and six classes had to be closed at the Saint-Paul de Pabos School. As of November 5, those cases were all considered to have recovered.

The Chandler St. Joseph's School reported an outbreak of three cases on November 5.



Photo: N. Sergerie

Minister Jean Boulet came to LM Wind Power to make the announcement.

# \$1.8 million for training at LM Wind Power

Nelson **Sergerie**,  
LJI Journalist

GASPÉ - The LM Wind Power blade plant in Gaspé received a grant from Quebec to improve the training of its employees.

The \$1.8 million assistance is helping to consolidate and create 575 jobs at the plant while work to expand the facility to manufacture 107-metre blades is underway.

The Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity, Jean Boulet, travelled to Gaspé on November 1 to make the announcement.

"It will allow the company to become more competitive, to have qualified workers. There is also the impact on productivity," the minister stated in his speech.

This is an important announcement for the development of workers. "We are on the verge of tackling some of the biggest technological challenges in the world and these sums will enable hundreds of new and existing workers to acquire new knowledge and be even more successful," says the plant manager, Jimmy Marti-cotte.

General Electric announced in July that it would invest at least \$170 million to double the size of the plant with the aim of creating 200 new jobs.

The 107-metre blades will be primarily intended for the North American market. The future blades will be at least twice as long as those currently manufactured by the 380 workers currently employed.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau travelled to Gaspé in July to make the announcement, what many political analysts called "a pre-election announcement."

# Several children victim of respiratory viruses

Nelson *Sergerie*

GASPÉ - Respiratory viruses are back with a vengeance and the Gaspé is no exception to this phenomenon.

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) or viral croup is being found in the region. Bronchitis and pneumonia have also developed in young children, especially in the Gaspé region where some had to be hospitalized last week.

In the Bay of Chaleurs, young children are also affected by the spread in day care centres.

However, it is difficult to get an exact picture of the situation at the Regional Public Health Board because it is not a notifiable disease.

"All the respiratory viruses seem to be coming back, which contrasts with what we saw in the past year. Over the past year, I think people were more observant of the rules for wearing masks and especially for washing their hands. It relaxed a bit. We see it. The other viruses simply benefit from it," says the regional director of public health, Dr. Yv Bonnier Viger.

# Childcare spaces still missing

Nelson *Sergerie*, LJI

BONAVENTURE - Despite the addition of new daycare spaces by Quebec, there will always be a shortage to meet all the needs in the Gaspé.

This is the conclusion of Julie Dalpé, President of the Eastern Quebec Early Childhood Services Network (RESPEQ) and Director of the Centre de la petite enfance (CPE) de la Baie.

As of November 1, Quebec announced 134 new places across the region. However, the distribution in the MRCs surprised the directors of the childcare centres. For example, Côte-de-Gaspé was allocated between 75 and 149 places, while Avignon, Bonaventure and Rocher-Percé had to be "content" with a ratio of between 1 and 24 places.

Quebec secretly revised its position on November 3. "We were all very quick to report it to the ministry. Our national association also lobbied. The figures have been corrected," explains Ms. Dalpé.

Thus, the new distribution is established as follows: a maximum of 74 in Rocher-Percé and 24 in Côte-de-Gaspé, Haute-Gaspésie and Avignon, figures closer to the reality on the ground.

In Bonaventure, Quebec, announces a maximum of 74 places, but the needs are estimated at 150 which does not include the babies of the 50 women who are currently pregnant. The CPE will submit a project of 80 places in Bonaventure, currently in preparation.

"I'm not stopping at the numbers the ministry gave me. It's my little rebellious side. If I can prove that there are needs and that the municipalities offer me opportunities, I will not miss it. I'm going to testify for sure," Ms. Dalpé says confidently.

These 134 new places are granted in the wake of the announcement of the "Grand Chantier" Site for families of the Legault government.

In an announcement made by a press release, Minister Mathieu Lacombe declared "to be proud to announce that every child of the Gaspé will have a place in the coming years." Obviously, the data for Quebec and the region are still not on the same wavelength.

Total requirements still hover around 500 for the region as a whole.

## Bad basis of calculation

Bonaventure Member of the National Assembly Sylvain Roy believes the department is not using the right data to do the calculations. The elected official says that Quebec is using figures on the decline from the 2019 Statistical Institute as the pandemic has shown an increase in newcomers to the region.

At the National Assembly on November 2, Minister Lacombe wanted to be reassuring.

"I am certainly not basing myself on the shrinking of a region to save places, to save on development. What we are proposing in the bill is that there no longer be a government that tries to evade this obligation to create the necessary places," replied the Minister to the Member for Bonaventure.



# New Carlisle High School to stay in New Carlisle

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE - The Eastern Shores School Board announced on November 2 that the search for land on which the school board will build the new school has resulted in the signing of a bilateral promise to sell and buy agreement for property in New Carlisle.

The initial search for land officially began in April 2021 with a notice of interest being published by the Société Québécoise de l'infrastructure. The early November announcement was made after a period of negotiations and the promise agreement was signed in order to secure land situated at 63 Dover Street.

At a special meeting of the council of commissioners held on November 2, the

board members authorized the director general, Hugh Wood, to proceed with the signature of the bilateral promise to sell and buy in order to secure the future school site.

The initial section of New Carlisle High School was built in 1914. During the fall of 2020, the building had to undergo some works in order to improve the ventilation system and remove mold in some sections of the school.

The official announcement of the replacement of New Carlisle High School was made on September 24 by the minister responsible for the Gaspé Peninsula, Jonatan Julien, but the exact location of the school was not made that day. It meant that Paspébiac was still consid-



Photo: G. Gagné

The first section of New Carlisle High School was built in 1914.



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The chairman of the Eastern Shores School Board, Wade Gifford, expressed satisfaction at the conclusion of the November 2 special meeting.

"We are very happy and excited that, finally, we have a location and our school will be staying in New Carlisle, which it is very appropriate, since the name is New Carlisle High School," reacted Mr. Gifford.

The announcement of the location came seven months after the Société Québécoise de l'infrastructure, the provincial body in charge of

finding premises for upcoming projects, publicly issued its intention to find a place for the new high school.

"Finding a location was fairly lengthy. We had a group at the Société Québécoise de l'infrastructure and they did have a fairly high number of pieces of land, high as in more than one or two. Paspébiac was also considered. There were some parcels of land that could have been appropriate in Paspébiac but the main goal was to stay in New Carlisle," adds Mr. Gifford.

The goal of the school board and Quebec's Ministry

of Education is to have the new school ready for the fall of 2024.

"There are many steps to deal with before that, like testing soil, engineers, architects and so on. I doubt we will be breaking land before the summer or fall of 2022. It is a \$32 million to \$35 million project. There will be real gymnasium in it. I am hoping that we will have some infrastructure that will be used by the population as well. It is a big step and now we know the direction we are heading in and that's wonderful," concludes Wade Gifford.

Novembre  
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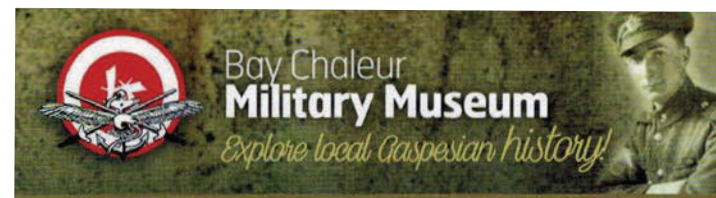
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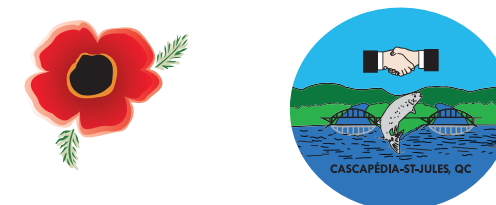
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**MILITARY:**

**▶ Cont'd from cover**



Photo: Courtesy Nick Bujold

*Nick Bujold, who was raised in Cascapedia-Saint-Jules, is pictured in 2016 when he held the rank of Aviator in front of a CF-188 Hornet, more commonly known as the CF-18.*

gets to see.

MCpl Bujold says, "I am an Aircraft Structure Technician on the CF-188 Hornet, and I've been all over Canada, including the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, the U.S. including Alaska and currently I am deployed overseas." He was promoted to the rank of Master Corporal in June 2021.

Since 2015, when in

Canada. MCpl Bujold is stationed in Cold Lake, Alberta.

**Master Corporal Gladys Main**

Gladys Main grew up in New Carlisle, and was raised by her grandparents, Arnold and Nellie Main. She last visited the Gaspé this past May to visit her grandmother who was ill.

When she was ten years

**Lest We Forget**

"Lest We Forget" as we stand this November 11 on the 11th hour to honour our heroes of yesterday and today.

Whether you attend a service at a cenotaph or engage in a moment of silence at home, it is important to remember the many men and women who sacrificed so much to give us the freedom we have today.

It may seem today that the "Heritage of Freedom" is gone, but don't let that hinder your respect for the soldiers who deserve our thanks. They served with passion, effort, willingness, and determination, and they are gone but not forgotten.

Let's us stay strong together with caring and unconditional love so their terrific inspiration can grow today.

Always remember, they left often without a goodbye but these soldiers will always have a place in our hearts in remembrance of yesterday, today, and tomorrow.



*Ken Ross, New Carlisle, Quebec*



*Master Corporal Gladys Main has traveled all over the world for military work including Afghanistan, Dubai, Scotland, Ireland, France, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium and Kuwait.*

old, while driving with her grandparents to visit her great Aunt Gladys in Montreal, they passed a convoy of military vehicles. Gladys tells Spec, "From the moment I first laid eyes on them I was immediately hooked. I told my grandmother 'Someday I will be riding in the back of one of those trucks' and now I teach troops how to drive them. I'm an MSE Op (mobile support equipment operator) and my rank is M.Cpl. (Master Corporal)."

Gladys joined the military in Bathurst, New Brunswick, the closest English Recruit-

ment Centre, on April 6, 2000.

She reflects that the best part of military life is the camaraderie between everyone. "There are so many people that you meet in your career from different backgrounds. You become very close very fast. We are all one big family."

Currently she is the Finance NCO and as part of her responsibilities she pays for the monthly fuel amounts used by her company.

She has travelled all over the world for work, including Afghanistan, Dubai, Scotland, Ireland, France, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium and

Kuwait.

Currently she is awaiting a medical release from the military. Her plans include retiring to her hometown of New Carlisle with her two children, Summer, 11 and Ethan, 13.

She concludes by stating, "I have had one amazing career, I wouldn't trade it for anything. Everything that I have ever dreamed of accomplishing within the army, I have. The experiences that I have had, I will never forget or regret. Joining the military was the best choice that I could have ever made for myself."



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# Announcements...



## Obituaries



**BILLINGSLEY: Constance (née Thompson)**

December 20, 1930 – June 11, 2021

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our mother, Mrs. Constance (Thompson) Billingsley. Constance was the daughter of the late John and Alberta Thompson.

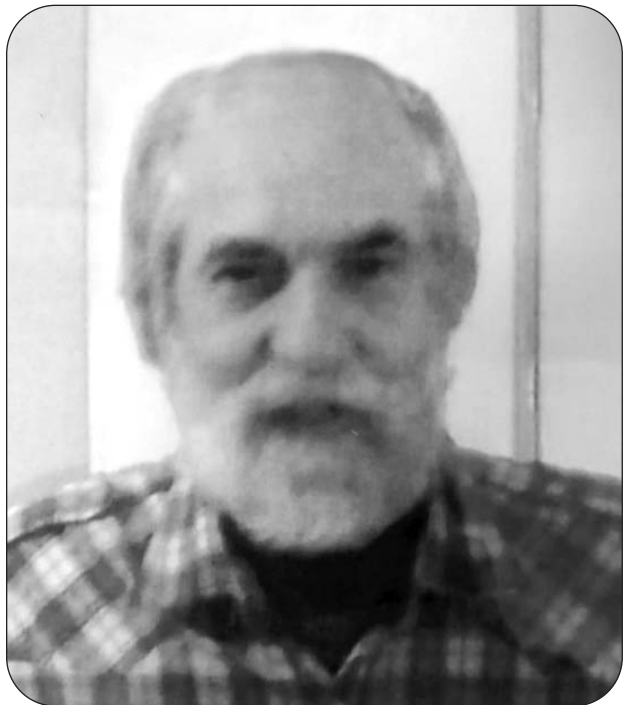
She was predeceased by her husband: Albert Billingsley (1981); daughter: Karen (1977); brother: George; sister: Sarah; and half siblings: Elmer, Smith, Nell and Jean Astles.

Constance was the beloved mother of George, Jack, Richard, Landis (Albert), Cindy, Jan, Todd; and grandmother of Kimberly, Hollie Ann, John, Vicki, Brandi, Rae-Ann, Clint, Clay, Shane, Brett, Marshall and Lauren. She also leaves to mourn her sisters-in-law: Gladys Thompson and Eleanor Huntington and many nephews and nieces.

Mom was always there to give a hand or listen to us. She loved everyone the same. She was a stay at home mom when we were all young but as we got older she did odd jobs to help out. In her last years she would call and talk to each of us. Her last call at night was to give Todd his goodnight kiss. I followed the wishes you gave me.

Being a widow for 40 years, she said no one could take her husband's place. She was laid to rest beside him at St. Andrew's Anglican Church Cemetery on June 15, 2021.

Life will never be the same. You were the glue to hold us together. Gone but never forgotten. Your loving family.



**BOURGAIZE: Weston**

April 16, 1938 - October 26, 2021

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Weston Bourgaize on October 26, 2021, at the age of 83.

He was the beloved husband of the late Betty, cherished father of Lori and the late John and devoted grandfather to Shane and Ingrid. He will be deeply missed by his brothers and sister as well as other relatives and friends.

Page 12, November 10, 2021 - Spec



**FREEMAN: David Hawten**

September 22, 1932 - October 24, 2021

Beloved husband of Betty Le Maistre, David was born in Cape Town, South Africa, to Leonard and Mary Freeman. He emigrated to London, England, in 1954, where he worked as an accountant for Covent Garden Opera Company, and where he met Betty. They arrived in Montreal in 1960 and David worked as an accountant for Canadian National Railways before joining the Queen Elizabeth Hospital as Financial Comptroller. After 21 years, he retired from The Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

David's encyclopedic knowledge included books, classical and light operatic music, and especially ships among his many interests. He will be sadly missed by the extended Le Maistre family, but most deeply by his beloved and loving Betty with whom he enjoyed many summers in the family home in New Carlisle.

Interment of the ashes is planned for the summer of 2022 in New Carlisle, Quebec, with details to be communicated at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in David's memory to the Montreal Neurological Institute or to a charity of your choice.



**SAMS: Lorraine (née Palmer)**

Dear family and friends. It is with great sadness that we announce the peaceful loss of our beloved mother, Lorraine Palmer Sams, at 5 a.m. at Gaspé Hotel Dieu on Friday, September 10, 2021, surrounded by her six loving children: Danny Sams (Bonita, John, Evelyne and Janna), Sherry Sams (Steve, Caitlin, Marcia and Steve and their families), Colleen Drohan (Pat Drohan, Kerrilee, Zak, Shaun, Mike, Julie, Kayla, Nicolas and Alexi), Peter Sams (Rachelle, Jordan and Sarah), Colin Sams (Cathy), Heather Sams (Kim Davis) and their families.

She was predeceased by first husband, Maurice Sams, and second husband William (Bill) Sams.

Support from her extended family include Lowell Sams (Shirley and family), Kim Sams (Colleen and family) and a new found brother Doug Pascoe (Kasidy and her family).

It has been a difficult year for Mom as she battled to live and be with us as her health deteriorated. We all recognized this past week that Mom is not invincible. You stand there and tell her you love her and you will somehow be ok. You stand by her side while

she takes her last breath, and then it hits you. You are not going to be okay.

We have lost the matriarch of our family, yet thankful we all have a strong bond amongst us due to her love, kindness, compassion and integrity. For anyone that has met her, no explanation is required: stoic, quiet, humble, generous and loving. Mom, you will be beautifully remembered and we will carry you in our hearts. In the days, weeks, and months that follow, your death will be a heartbreak like you cannot even imagine. We love you! Mom! XO

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Valère Fortin Funeral Home in Gaspé. Visiting hours were held on Wednesday, September 15, and Thursday, September 16, in the Valère Fortin Funeral Home in Gaspé, followed by the funeral service and burial at St. Andrew's Anglican Church. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Fondation Santé Côte-de-Gaspé in memory of Lorraine Palmer Sams.

XOXO. Our family loves you. Thank you for the excellent care provided by the staff at the Hotel Dieu Emergency and 7th floor.



## In Memory



**COULOMBE: Guy**


**COULOMBE: Dawn**

In memory of my father, Guy Coulombe, who passed away November 15, 2019, and Dawn, my sister, who passed away November 7, 2020.

*There will always be a heartache,  
And a silent tear,  
But always precious memories  
Of the days when you were here.  
We hold you close within our hearts,  
And there you will remain  
To walk with us throughout our life  
Until we meet again.*

Sadly missed and never forgotten by your family: Helen, Nancy, Robert, Mommy, grandkids and great-grandchildren. We love you guys.

**The New Carlisle  
Funeral Association**  
extends sympathy to the family of  
Kevin Lapointe







**LEGRAND: Evelyn**

November 7, 1932 - November 6, 2018

In loving memory of a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother.

*So dearly loved and never forgotten.*

Loved and remembered by the family.

**RENOUF: Ernest**

**RENOUF: Annie Sawyer**

In loving memory of a dear father, grandfather and great-grandfather who passed away May 28, 1991, and a dear mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, who passed away November 15, 2007.

*Their natures were loving and giving.*

*Their hearts were made of gold,*

*And to us who truly loved them*

*Their memory will never grow old.*

*We speak their names with love and pride.*

*We smile with tears we cannot hide.*

*We thank them for the years we shared,*

*The love they gave, the way they cared.*

Always remembered and sadly missed by daughter Pearl and granddaughters, Joan and Brenda and their families.

**Happy 95th Birthday**



**Neva Harbour Paul**

November 12, 1926

Congratulations to our amazing mother on her 95th birthday. This is another great milestone for you to be proud of. Enjoy your special day to the fullest.

From Robert (Bernadette), Merina (Wayne), Geraldine (Ron), Elizabeth (Dallas) and Gary (deceased), 15 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild and one on the way.

We are so lucky to have you in our lives. We hope next year brings you tons of laughter, good health and great memories.

*From your family who love you very much.*

**A prayer to St. Jude**

**to be said in cases despaired of**

St. Jude, glorious apostle, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the name of the traitor has caused you to be forgotten by many but the true church evokes you universally as the patron of the things despaired of. Pray for me who is so miserable, pray for me that finally I may receive the consolations and the succor of heaven in all my necessities, tribulations, sufferings, particularly (here make your request) and that I may bless God with the elect throughout eternity. Amen. St. Jude, apostle, martyr and relative of our Lord Jesus Christ of Mary and of Joseph intercede for us.

M.C.G



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**SUBMISSIONS FOR THIS PAGE MUST BE IN OUR OFFICE BY WEDNESDAY AT 4 P.M.**



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## COAST ROUND-UP

### GASPE:

#### Shoebboxes for Sailors

Please be advised that there will be no collection of shoeboxes for sailors for the 2021 season. However, donations would be greatly appreciated. All donations can be sent to: Quebec Seamen's Club, 150 Dalhousie, C.P. 80, Hauteville, Quebec, QC G1R 4M8.

### GASPE:

#### Gaspé Cancer Foundation AGM

**November 14:** The Annual General Meeting for the

Gaspé Cancer Foundation will be held at 1 p.m. at the Gaspé Legion, Branch 59. Protocols regarding Covid-19 will be respected. Thank you for your continued support.

### NEW CARLISLE: L.I.F.E

#### Association AGM

**November 23:** The L.I.F.E Association will hold its Annual General Meeting 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:

#### Christmas Bazaar

**December 4:** A Christmas Bazaar will be held at the Gilker Residence from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Covid restrictions are in effect. Have your vaccination passport on hand.

### CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: Fifty Plus Club

Bingo has resumed for the season. Card pricing is \$10

for 3 cards and \$1 for each extra card. All activities are scheduled to return depending on the Covid-19 situation. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## UNITED CHURCH

**Sunday, November 14**

10 a.m. Hope Town

## ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

**Sunday, November 14**

**New Carlisle**

10 a.m. Morning Prayer

**Hope Town**

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

**Port Daniel**

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

## PARISH OF GASPÉ

**Sunday, November 14**

St. Paul's - Gaspé

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

**DEADLINE FOR THIS PAGE:  
WEDNESDAY AT 4 P.M.**



**ARIES** – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, someone is appealing to your softer, more sensual side lately and you're not quite sure how you feel about it. Showing emotions is not a sign of weakness. Enjoy the attention.

**TAURUS** – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, if you've been tasked with motivating others and getting them on track, it may be a tough go of it. Despite your encouraging words, some don't want to budge.

**GEMINI** – May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, identify those people

who stick around even when the chips are down. These are the people you want in your corner to offer comfort and support.

**CANCER** – Jun 22/Jul 22

You are pushed up against a wall even though you are not up for any more pressure, Cancer. Find a physical activity to blow off steam and any pent up energy.

**LEO** – Jul 23/Aug 23

It may be difficult to avoid internalizing the opinions of others, Leo. However, that's just what you have to do this week. Brush off comments that get in the way of your productivity.

**VIRGO** – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, get in touch with a distant relative or old friend. This person may be in need of company and

a simple phone call or text could be just what the doctor ordered.

**LIBRA** – Sept 23/Oct 23

Don't be surprised if someone rubs you the wrong way this week, Libra. You don't have to feel compelled to like everyone, but you will have to get along.

**SCORPIO** – Oct 24/Nov 22

It's difficult not to take things personally when someone disagrees with you about something, Scorpio. Resist the urge to get into a heated debate. Focus your energy elsewhere.

**SAGITTARIUS** – Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, this is a time for plenty of communication between you and your loved ones or coworkers. Listen and contribute to discussions as much

as you can this week.

**CAPRICORN** – Dec 22/Jan 20  
Capricorn, your slow and steady nature will be appreciated and acknowledged by others, particularly those who have been paired with you on a project.

**AQUARIUS** – Jan 21/Feb 18  
Aquarius, you may find out something surprising about your family that you didn't know before. Even if it comes as a shock, delve deeper for the story behind the situation.

**PISCES** – Feb 19/Mar 20  
Emails are going back and forth. The phone is ringing off the hook and video conferences are booming. Try to find a quiet place to unwind, Pisces.

## FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

**NOVEMBER 7**

Lorde, Singer (25)

**NOVEMBER 8**

Gordon Ramsay, Chef (55)

**NOVEMBER 9**

Chris Jericho, Wrestler, (51)

**NOVEMBER 10**

Taron Egerton, Actor (32)

**NOVEMBER 11**

Calista Flockhart, Actress (57)

**NOVEMBER 12**

Russell Westbrook, Athlete (33)

**NOVEMBER 13**

Julia Michaels, Singer (28)

## PRICES IN EFFECT UNTIL NOVEMBER 30, 2021



### 21 VERSA



SMT

**\$199**  
MONTHLY

**64 mos.**  
LEASE  
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SAWD

**\$82**  
WEEKLY

**64 mos.**  
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### 21 SENTRA



SVCVT

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WEEKLY

**24 mos.**  
LEASE  
\$1,895 DOWN

### 21 MURANO



S FWD

**\$92**  
WEEKLY

**60 mos.**  
LEASE  
\$0 DOWN

### 21 KICKS



S

**\$55**  
WEEKLY

**24 mos.**  
LEASE  
\$1,495 DOWN

### 22 PATHFINDER



LEASE

from **3.90%**

FINANCE

from **2.90%**

### 21 QASHQAI



S AWD

**\$65**  
WEEKLY

**24 mos.**  
LEASE  
\$1,995 DOWN

### 21 ARMADA



SL

**\$393**  
BI-WEEKLY

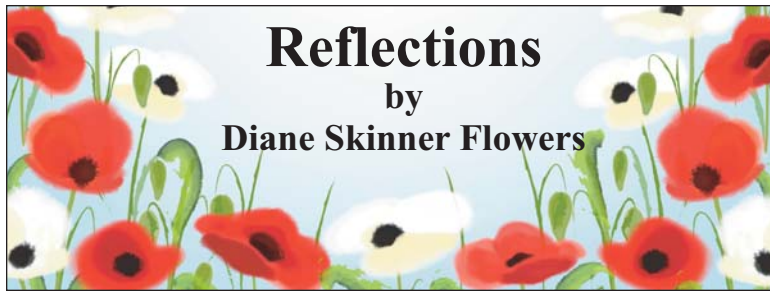
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LEASE  
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# Reflections

by  
Diane Skinner Flowers

## Let us never forget

*The living owes it to those who no longer can speak to tell their story for them. Our hopes are high. Our faith in the people is great. Our courage is strong. And our dreams for this beautiful country will never die.*

On November 11, we observe a moment of silence to honour the courage and sacrifices of all those who have served in Canada's military and think of those who are serving today. Remembrance Day was referred to as Armistice Day and is observed on the 11th day of the 11th month, November 11. This date and time mark the moment that World War I ended.

Remembrance Day is an opportunity to show gratitude and respect. Take a moment, whether by yourself, while watching a ceremony on television or gathering safely with others. During the pandemic it is still important to put health and safety of yourself and others, first.

Wear a poppy and be a bit more generous at the donation box. These donations will be used to benefit our veterans. Wear your poppy proudly in the days before November 11, but it is considered respectful to remove it after the Minute's Silence. The tradition of wearing a poppy goes back to the First World War. Many battles took place in areas where poppies grew. While serving in Ypres, France in 1915, Canadian doctor John McCrae authored his famous poem In Flanders Fields.

**Make peace cranes.** This activity comes from the book, Sadako and the 1,000 Paper Cranes. It recounts the story of a young girl, Sadako, who lived in Hiroshima and was affected by the "atom bomb disease." Sick with leukemia from the atomic blast during World War II, she remained brave and hopeful. She decides to fold paper cranes (origami) because she has heard an ancient Japanese legend that if you fold 1,000 paper cranes, the gods will grant you a wish to be well. It is based on a true story and Sadako is remembered for her bravery. This is a terrific activity for children to do in school or with their family.

**Observe the moment of silence** whether you are with others or alone at home. Honour our heroes, past and present. Pause for two minutes to think, honour and remember all our Canadian soldiers at 11:00 a.m. on November 11.

**Talk about and remember** the contributions of groups that may have been overlooked but who, nonetheless, contributed and those who continue to serve our country. This includes women, Aboriginal Canadians, Asian Canadians and Black Canadians.

Let us all remember on November 11.

*(This poem by Mona Gould pays tribute to a single fallen soldier, her own brother.)*

*This was my brother  
At Dieppe,  
Quietly a hero  
Who gave his life  
Like a gift,  
Withholding nothing.*

*His youth... his love...  
His enjoyment of being alive...  
His future, like a book  
With half the pages still uncut.*

*This was my brother  
At Dieppe—  
The one who built me a dollhouse  
When I was seven,  
Complete to the last small picture frame,  
Nothing forgotten.*

*He was awfully good at fixing things,  
At stepping into the breach when he was needed.  
That's what he did at Dieppe;  
He was needed.  
And even Death must have been a little shamed  
At his eagerness.*

# Royal Canadian Legion Show your support. Become a member.

Diane Skinner

The Royal Canadian Legion has a long history on the Gaspé. The stated mission of the Legion is to serve veterans, including serving military and RCMP members and their families, to promote remembrance and to serve their communities and their country. There are five Legions on the peninsula, but since COVID-19, they have been less active. Some will mark Remembrance Day, but with fewer people congregating at cenotaphs. Some Legions are asking that family support their military relatives by purchasing a "virtual" or symbolic wreath for \$25, while others plan to hold a much-scaled back event.

How can you support your Legion this year? Be a little more generous when purchasing a poppy. Become a member of your local Legion. To become a member, you do not have to be an active member of the military, a veteran or a family member of either group. You can support the Legion and its work by becoming a member.

Poppy chairperson Branch 64, Ross Smith has issued this statement to the community of New Carlisle, "The executive members of the Royal Canadian Legion (Branch 64) would like to inform the community that the Remembrance Day ceremonies will be cancelled this November 11. Due to provincial and Dominion Command restrictions, we feel the health of our veterans, seniors and the community are a priority. Large gatherings are discouraged. In lieu of the usual wreath laying ceremony, legion members will lay two wreaths: one representing the Silver Cross Mothers and one in memory of our veterans. Poppy trays will be at the usual places, and we encourage everyone to wear a poppy. This year is the 76th anniversary of the end of WWII. This decision was not an easy one, but we feel it is necessary."

The President of the Cascapedia Legion, Joanne Huntington, tells Spec that Branch 172 will be holding a smaller ceremony, but no parade, at the cenotaph in New Richmond. She states, "We will be having a simple ceremony. There will be no flags, but it will take

place no matter the weather. It will be held outside, and people will be wearing masks, be socially distanced and will lay their wreath when their name is called. There will not be a lunch this year." Those who attend will be people who have purchased a wreath made by A & R Decorations, Cascapedia. To purchase a wreath, contact Donna Fallow at 418-392-5509.

Do not forget about Remembrance Day, 2021. Legion President, New Carlisle, Laura Flowers, reminds everyone, "Please remember what this day is for. You can go to visit the cenotaph on any day, and we should remember all those who served and are serving not just on November 11. Be patient and we hope that next November 11 we can congregate at the cenotaph in New Carlisle."

Continue to support your Legion. You can also watch the ceremony from Ottawa on television. Please contact your local Legion for updated information and to ask about donating. We should not forget.

### History of The Royal Canadian Legion

When the First World War came to an end, numerous veterans groups and regimental associations representing former service members were created. Despite their shared goals, efforts were unsuccessful.

An appeal for unity led to the formation of the Dominion Veterans Alliance and, in Winnipeg in 1925, the Legion was founded as the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League." It was incorporated by a special Act of Parliament and the Charter was issued in July 1926. On December 19, 1960, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II gave her consent to use the prefix "Royal," and the organization became known as "The Royal Canadian Legion."

The Legion's main objective was to provide a strong voice for First World War



*On the formation of the Dominion Veterans Alliance and, in Winnipeg in 1925, the Legion was founded as the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League." It was incorporated by a special Act of Parliament and the Charter was issued in July 1926. On December 19, 1960, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II gave her consent to use the prefix "Royal," and the organization became known as "The Royal Canadian Legion."*

Photo: Diane Skinner

### Legions on the Coast

NEW CARLISLE  
Branch 64

President: Laura Flowers  
1 Mount-Sorrel  
New Carlisle, QC  
G0C 1Z0  
(418) 752-5495  
Founded July 1935

GASPÉ  
Branch 59

President: Alfred Matte  
197, rue Jacques-Cartier,  
Gaspé, QC,  
G4X 1N3  
(418) 368-2772  
Founded February 1935

BARACHOIS  
Branch 261

President: Lloyd Roussel  
1051, route 132 E.,  
Barachois de la Malbaie, QC,  
G0C 1A0  
(418) 645-3700  
Founded June 1974

CASCAPEDIA – ST. JULES  
Branch 172

President: Joanne Huntington  
55, route Gallagher,  
Cascapédia-St-Jules, QC,  
G0C 1T0  
(418) 392-6630  
Founded August 1946

CHANDLER  
Branch 203

President: Henri Vachon  
77, rue Monseigneur-Ross,  
Chandler, QC,  
G0C 1K0  
Founded June 1948

Veterans, however, the advent of the Second World War created a host of new demands. The Legion expanded to offer more dedicated support to veterans, as well as those serving abroad.

Today, the Legion continues to improve the lives of veterans, including serving Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP, and their families. This has been their principal objective since the beginning, and they will continue to work for it today, even through the challenges of COVID, and in the future.



Photo: Dorothy Campbell

*Remembrance Day wreaths, created by A & R Decorations, Cascapedia, will be laid at the cenotaph in New Richmond on November 11, rain or shine!*



# Diabetes Awareness Month

Diane Skinner

November is Diabetes Awareness Month, and it is important for everyone to know all about the signs and risks of this all too common disease. About ten percent of the population, has diabetes, but in the senior population, it jumps to over 25%! Stroke, heart disease and kidney failure can be secondary complications from having diabetes. It is estimated that approximately one and a half million Canadians who have diabetes are not aware of it.

## What is diabetes?

Diabetes is a chronic health condition that affects how your body turns food into energy.

Most of the food you eat is broken down into sugar (also called glucose) and released into your bloodstream. When your blood sugar goes up, it signals your pancreas to release insulin. For people with diabetes, this function does not work or does not work adequately.

## Types of diabetes

There are three types of diabetes: Type 1, Type 2 and gestational diabetes.

Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disease and is an insulin dependent diabetes. People who have Type 1 diabetes cannot produce their own insulin so cannot regulate their blood sugar. About 10% of peo-

ple with diabetes have Type 1. This type of diabetes usually develops in childhood or adolescence.

Having Type 2 diabetes means that you cannot effectively use the insulin made by your body or your body cannot produce enough insulin. About 90% of people with diabetes have Type 2. This is mostly developed in adulthood.

Gestational diabetes may occur during pregnancy. In fact, between 3 and 20% of pregnant women develop gestational diabetes. It is usually temporary.

## Symptoms

If you are experiencing any of the following (or more than

one), take note and discuss it with your doctor: blurred vision, frequent urination, excessive hunger and/or thirst, fatigue, weight gain or loss and poor healing of wounds.

## Risk factors

The risk factors include being over the age of 40, being overweight and having high blood pressure.

If you want to complete a questionnaire about your risk of diabetes, go to Diabetes Risk Questionnaire (CANRISK) at Health Canada website.

## Preventing Type 2 diabetes

Some basic improvements to your general health will

delay or prevent the rise in your blood sugar levels. Lose weight and do more physical activity! Also reduce your intake of processed foods and eat more fresh vegetables, fruits and foods that are high in fibre.

## Treating Type 2 diabetes

If diet and exercise are not helping sufficiently, you may need tablets or injectable insulin. Your doctor will determine this.



Photo: D. Skinner

# A Gaspesian whodunit: Final police report

Diane Skinner

Case: # 132

I received a call at the police station about an item that had been stolen from a barn on October 24, 2021. Mr. Lorney and Mrs. Haddie Skene (née Lupine) had been away for a week hunting deer and when they returned, they were shocked to find that an ancestral wood burning stove had been stolen from their barn.

I went to their home and after asking questions, I determined that the stove had been passed down through Haddie's family and was over 65 years old. I inquired if anybody had previously offered to buy the stove or if there was a family dispute over the stove's ownership. No other items were miss-

ing, even though the barn had been left unlocked, not unusual for the Gaspé.

I noticed that there were multiple footprints in the soft earth and large tire tracks outside of the barn.

I noted that it would certainly take at least two people to move the heavy wood burning stove. I knew it was possible for two strong individuals to move a stove using strong leather straps and ropes.

I visited the Skenes again the next day, October 25 to look around again and ask a few more questions. They shared that they had no suspicions about who the culprit might be. Was it a scrap dealer or a person hoping to sell the beautiful old stove? The couple

would not name anyone in specific, but could it have been a family member who felt that the stove rightfully belonged to them?

A few clues helped to solve this case. On the first day I noticed multiple footprints and tire tracks. I knew for certain more than one person was involved. The hairdresser noticed ashes on her floor after a ladies' group had visited to get their hair styled. I noted who owned straps and ropes, and a truck which would be needed to move the heavy stove. I eliminated Prudence Smith because she is a friend to all and would never steal. Looking over my master list of possible suspects, I could eliminate quite a few based on the clues.

My best clue came last. The culprit had the same last name as the "victim." That name is NOT Skene, but Haddie's birth name, Lupine since the stove had been passed down through her family.

I looked over my list of potential culprits and taking into consideration all these clues I determined that the person responsible was Hazel Lupine, Haddie's sister!

## Outcome:

This was a family matter and I hoped that rather than pressing charges, the family could come to a resolution about the theft that did not have to involve police and the court. Hazel did have the assistance of two men to move the stove,

but they were not accomplices, but helpers. They thought that Hazel was picking up the stove with Haddie's blessing. Hazel paid them for their help, but they were not criminals, just helping.

Haddie and Hazel discussed the stove and who should own it. After a chat, and a sisterly hug, Haddie decided that Hazel could keep the stove after all. Haddie did not know how important it was for Hazel to own the family stove. She placed it in her kitchen and happily connected the pipes. She had gone to extreme measures, and this showed Haddie how much it meant to her sister.

Case: #132 successfully closed.

Inspector Mary Ida McRae

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