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February 25, 2025 Issue #8 - Volume 29

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Double Banner, Perfect Season For Not One, But Two Spartan Teams



By Rosalind Russell - The Espanola High School Spartans boys basketball teams came out on top at Nssa. Both Jr and Sr Boys teams did so with perfect NSSSA season records of 11-0 making it a perfect double banner/double perfect season for both. Both teams defeated Elliot Lake Secondary School in the league finals, the Seniors 53-24 and the Junior game 70-26. Screenshot by Rosalind Russell

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Nairn Councillor Resigns Following Failure To Have Reconsideration Of Ic Findings

By Rosalind Russell - A Nairn & Hyman Township councillor has resigned after failing to have a motion for reconsideration of the findings by the Integrity Commissioner to be delayed until May.

The motion was brought by Guy Despatie who had been reprimanded in the commissioner's report that was to be released publicly that evening.

The report looked at several councillors' behaviours from a Nov.18 meeting finding Despatie, Wayne Austin and Rod McDonald had breached sections of the council Code of Conduct.

Mayor Amy Macey says the motion recommended formal censure for all three with a recommendation they all lose remuneration for 30 days.

Despatie then interjected, stating he felt the

commissioner divulging his email to her was a breach and resigned his position as councillor.

Council has now declared the position vacant and a decision on filling the vacancy either by appointment or by-election will be made at the March meeting.

Council motions to impose remuneration penalties on both Austin and McDonald were defeated.

For a copy of the IC report and the meeting, visit:

The IC report and findings: <https://nairncentre.ca/integrity-commissioners-report-complaint-against-councillors-austin-despatie-and-macdonald-and-council-as-a-whole/>

The video: Recording of the February 10, 2025 Council Meeting – Township of Nairn & Hyman (the 1 hour mark)

COMMUNITY NOTES

North Shore Quilting & Stitchery Guild: Next meeting - Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Espanola Royal Canadian Legion. New members welcome.

Webbwood Eagles #4269 Spaghetti Dinner – Saturday, March 1. Eat in or Takeout 4:30-6:00 p.m. Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread & desert.

Annual Walford CWL Pancake Breakfast – Sunday, March 2, 8:30 a.m. – Noon at the Walford Community Centre. Bake Sale. Call 705-844-2887 for more information

Massey Annual Bean Supper - March 2, 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. at the Zion Lutheran Church , Imperial Street. Beans , ham , scalloped potatoes , salads , desserts

Pancake Dinner - Tuesday, March 4 at the United Church in Espanola, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Goodwill offering accepted. For more information call 705-869-1215

Joint Ash Wednesday Service - March 5, 9:30 a.m. at The United Church. Everyone is invited

Word Day of Prayer Service - Friday, March 7, 1:30 p.m. at the seniors centre in Espanola. Everyone is invited. Refreshments after the service. Contact Marg Bell for information 705-869-1342

Lee Valley Autumn Leaves - Hosting music jam at the Walford community center Saturday, March 8 at 1:00 p.m.

Women of Faith brunch – Saturday, March 8, 11:00 a.m. at the Seniors Drop in centre. For tickets contact Evelyn 705-869-3561 or Marilyn 705-849-5095.

The Promise and Promise of Easter - Women's Study, Monday, March 10, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. including lunch at the United Church. Donations will be accepted. To save a spot or for more information call Rev. Bev 705-919-6541

Soup & Sandwich - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month. 1st Tuesday at St. Georges, 3rd Tuesday at Espanola United - 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. All welcome.

Massey Area Museum AGM - The annual AGM will be held at the museum March 27, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Elections for Board Members and Directors to take place. The public is always invited.

Massey Seniors Fitness - Wednesday afternoons upstairs at Massey Arena. Low impact strength, balance & stretching 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. and Gentle Movement focusing on balance, functional movement & stretching from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Massey Seniors Social - Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. upstairs at Massey Arena. Come for a fun afternoon of socializing, games and snacks.

Voices of Spring - Rehearsals have begun for the 2025 season. If you like to sing, come to St. Andrew's United Church, Massey on Saturdays from 10:30-12:00.

Free Espanola Community Luncheon - every second and fourth Tuesday of the month, at The Lighthouse, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

The Remnant Call Church – Services at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday. All are welcome. (Elks Hall, Espanola)

North Shore Seventh-day-Adventist Church - Saturday (Sabbath) Song Service 9:45 a.m.. Sabbath School 10:00 a.m. Divine Service 11:00 a.m.

The Baytones - North Bay's women's acapella chorus are recruiting! If you love to sing, come join us! For details call Janet 705-662-2770

NAR-ANON – Are you affected by someone else's addiction? NAR-ANON offers hope. Every Thursday, 1:00 p.m. at the Noojmowin Teg Health Centre, 407 Centre St, Espanola.

Narcotics Anonymous Meetings – Tuesdays 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. and Saturdays 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. United church, downstairs. 137 Shepard St. Espanola

Al-Anon - Do you worry about how much someone drinks? Al-Anon can help. Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M., St. George's Anglican Church, Espanola. (basement).

St. Andrew's Church Massey - Services at 10:30 every Sunday. All are welcome.

Do you have a note for the community? We invite not-for-profit organizations to submit information on their upcoming events in writing no later than **Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m.** **25 word limit.**

E-mail: around@aroundandabout.ca

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Start2Finish Expands LIT Project To School And Daycare In Sagamok Anishnawbek FN



By Rosalind Russell - A new vending machine offering free, culturally relevant books to students at Sagamok Anishnabek First Nation's elementary school and daycare has been introduced to students. Officials say Start2Finish Canada is a national charity founded on the belief that every child deserves the tools to succeed, and its mission is to break the cycle of child poverty by providing educational support to at-risk children.

Start2Finish has expanded its Indigenous Literacy Enhancement Project and Sagamok Anishnabek is the first in the area to receive the vending machine with students receiving a token every month, then make their selection and receive their book.

The project was initiated by Colleen Toulouse, Sagamok Education's Student Support Program Coordinator who welcomed Brian Warren, the founder of Start2Finish to the launch last Friday.

He says since the pandemic, literacy gaps have widened even more for children from vulnerable communities, and community-led, culturally responsive interventions are needed to address the gaps and give children the tools they need to succeed.

He adds the school, and daycare will receive 2,000 titles per year over the next three years, all written and created by First Nations' voices.

Sagamok's lead on this project, Colleen Toulouse, shares, "I applied on behalf of Biidaaban Kinooaagegamik to Start2Finish in May 2024.

For me, reading has always been encouraged in my home by my parents.

I still to this day, remember reading The Unjust Society by Harold Cardinal when I was young.

He wrote about the realization of our full potential, and we must be who we are.



For me, reading and writing about ourselves is one way to keep us on the path of reaching our full potential."

The project is being implemented with the support of the Future Generations Foundation.

The expectation is that every student will go home with books or graphic novels of their choice, every month.

Vance McPherson, Director of Education for Sagamok Anishnawbek adds, "We are grateful for this initiative to put high quality literature by Indigenous authors in the hands of our students.

We all know that when we get kids excited about reading, we set them up for a bright future on whatever path they choose to follow.

I think that Start2Finish's approach to supporting literacy is innovative and exciting, and we're all looking forward to hearing from our students and families about the worlds they will visit through these books."

Photos provided

1. Becky Toulouse (Principal of Biidaaban Kinooaagegamik), Brian Warren (Founder of Start2Finish), 2 members of Biidaaban Student Leadership Council performing ribbon cutting ceremony at the launch of the new book vending machine.

2. Becky Toulouse (Principal of Biidaaban Kinooaagegamik), Allison Abitong (Manager of Special Education for Sagamok Education), Vance McPherson (Director of Education for Sagamok Education), Wayne Southwind (Cultural Resource Worker for Sagamok and Honoured Elder for this ceremony), Stephanie Sonnenburg (Literary Resource Teacher at Biidaaban). Missing from the photo but deserving of recognition for her contributions towards this initiative, is Colleen Toulouse.

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OBITUARY



I would like to thank so many people who were there for Bob, Miles & I during Bob's hospital stays and at home. First of all the doctors in Emerg in Espanola & Sudbury, the nurses in Sudbury and all the wonderful nurses in Emerg and acute care in Espanola. So many to thank, Bob & I had our favorites who went above and beyond to make him more comfortable. You know who you are. The dietary staff, the ones who tried to help make his meals extra special.

Cynthia & Jennifer for their care & compassion, Paula with help maneuvering getting him home. The complex palliative team. Erin & Chelsea for advice & special visits.

Dr. Ainsle for all you did for him, Dr. Addison for putting in a drain and all the doctors who drained his belly to make him comfortable.

Letitia & Staff at Bayshore- the PSWs who came daily to get him ready for his day and chatted with him and listened to his stories. The nurses that came 2-3 times a week to check on him etc. I could name so many of you, but I'd miss someone for sure. The Physio Dept.- Monique and Landon, who helped get him back on his feet so many times.

My girls Krissy, Lisa & Louise & families for their visits and daily texts checking in on us. Miles for being my rock. So kind & loving to Bob. Helping me get him up & to a different comfy spot, and helping him around the house inside & out.

All the people who helped me keep him at home where he wanted to be. Special friends who listened to me, popped in to see Bob, brought me special treats when he was in the hospital, helped me around the house, came over with food & had a drink with me.

Bob's family - Brian, Helen, Bev, who came to visit, Lisa, Matt & Jazmyn for your calls & texts.

Bill for visiting so many times, Bob cherished each & every one of you.

He fought so hard and everytime he got hit again, I'd think this is it, and then his will & spirit would show up and say no way, and he'd be back on his feet again.

I miss him every minute of every day.

Celebration of life to be held at the Elks, March 22/25, 2:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Please dress casual, maybe a golf shirt.

He was determined to get back on the Golf course for one more game.

Please honour him by wearing one if you can.

Thank you to anyone I might have missed.

Thank you for the beautiful cards & flowers.

Wendy, Miles, Krissy, Ray, Curt, Kaitlyn, Reilly, Lisa & fur babies, Louise, Evie & Lachlan. XXX



BEAUDRY, Helen - Of Espanola passed away at Extencicare York in Sudbury on Tuesday, February 11th, 2025 at the age of 71. Daughter of the late Alex & Jean (nee Van Alstine) Noble. Dear wife of the late Ronald Beaudry. Loving mother of Tammy Beaudry of Sudbury, Shelley Beaudry (Rick) of Sudbury, & Leanne (Barry) Beaudoin of Espanola. Cherished grandmother of Madison (Josh) Gagne, & Owen (Gracie). Great-grandma to Rylee. Sister to Billy Noble, Doug Noble, Richard Noble, Shirley H., Donnie, Renee, & the late Noah, Allan,

and Liz Legrow. Cremation with a Celebration of Life at a later date. Arrangements by **BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME, Ltd.**, Espanola.

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