



Bridge building

Cobalt/ Coleman Larose Bridge to be reconstructed

Darlene Wroe
Speaker Reporter

COBALT/COLEMAN TOWNSHIP - The Larose Bridge connecting Cobalt and Coleman Township is scheduled for demolition and reconstruction.

The project has a price tag of \$4,987,712.87. Coleman has initiated the project and will contribute \$331,144.02, according to the township's chief administrative officer Patrick Cormier. Coleman's portion will be funded over ten years.

The majority of the funding is being provided through the federal and provincial Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program-Northern and Rural Stream.

Exp Services Inc. manager Nolan Dombroski and project manager Amy Kwaka outlined



MAKING SNOWFLAKES

There's always something creative and crafty taking place at Open Studio Libre in Haileybury. No two snowflakes are alike as Apple Gravel, 8, received tips on how to make her own version of a snowflake with popsicle sticks from instructor Jennifer Perreira on Tuesday, November 24, at Open Studio Libre in Haileybury. (Staff photo by Sue Nielsen)

the project for Cobalt council at their committee-of-the-whole meeting Tuesday, December 1.

The project will entail a road closure which will last most of 2021 and will require vehicles to detour around the area by using the exit off Highway 11B on the southwest corner of Cobalt, council was advised. The goal for project completion is November 30, 2021.

The bridge will be reconstructed as a two-lane bridge, and will be realigned so that the new bridge will be four to five metres further south, due to the fact that one of the bridge abutments is currently situated on private property, Kwaka explained.

The realignment will mean the bridge will be slightly closer to the St. Patrick School

property. Fencing and a guard-rail will be included in the project to enhance safety, she continued.

Miller Paving Northern Ltd. has been retained, along with exp Services Inc., for the design and construction of the replacement bridge.

Kwaka noted that an Ontario Northland railway line runs beneath the bridge, and Agnico

also is one of the owners of the property. Agreements have been reached with both those parties, Kwaka continued.

ALTERNATE ROUTES

The Northeastern Catholic District School Board, the Town of Cobalt, the Emergency Medical Services, and the fire departments have also been advised of the project so that

Continued on 3a

DID YOU GET The Speaker THIS WEEK?

Here are some of the stories in our December 2 edition...

- The Bikers Reunion committee has donated \$30,000 to the Temiskaming Hospital for the purchase of three smart beds.
- All Ontarians will have access to broadband internet connectivity if Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP John Vanthof has his way.
- A COVID-19 outbreak at the Young Davidson Mine in Matatchewan was declared November 4 but has since been resolved.
- Cobalt is naming a lane after former Mayor Tina Sartoretto to be called Tina's Trail.
- Merrill Bond, reeve of Charlton and Dack, has been recognized by the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities.
- Englehart has a new doctor, Dr. Salam Zayona.
- Brit Griffin launches her third book in the *Wintermen* trilogy, just in time for the gift-giving season.
- Twelve Day of Christmas is a campaign aimed at getting people to shop locally between December 1 and December 12 in New Liskeard.
- A new memorial park is being proposed for Temagami.
- The New Liskeard Cubs, with a little help from the New Liskeard Lions, will be back on the ice when the Great North U18 League begins a one-month trial run this weekend.
- The Temiskaming Nordic Ski Club needs volunteers and approval from the health unit before opening its chalet for the season.



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CLARIFICATION

A collision involving a car and a bus November 24 just south of the former Uniboard plant saw Lakeshore Road closed for a couple of hours to traffic. Members of the Temiskaming Shores Fire Department helped clean up the roadway and secure the scene. The Temiskaming Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police investigated the mishap in which a northbound bus and a southbound car collided. There were no passengers on the bus at the time of the mishap and the driver of the car was taken to hospital by ambulance. The roadway was reopened to traffic around 4 p.m. that afternoon. The bus driver expressed gratitude no one was injured because there were Hydro One workers nearby. (Staff photo by Sue Nielsen)

12 Days of Christmas
December 1st to 12th

GRAND PRIZE of \$1200 in Gift Certificates & TWELVE \$100 Gift Certificates!!!
Ballots located in participating stores. Enter for a chance to WIN!
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Day 1 Save Taxes, Excluding Commission Fees ARMSTRONG ON WHITEWOOD	Day 2 Mac & Cheese Day The Food Network	Day 3 Buy 40 Gourmets de Village Hot Chocolate single serve packets and get one FREE Ancher's
Day 4 25% OFF Party Supplies POP IT!	Day 5 Save Taxes, Excluding Blunderstones NORWEL	Day 6 80% OFF THE ENTIRE STORE SPEAKER
Day 7 50% OFF Maxi Jeans Sole on Regs, Cleaners & Home Decor	Day 8 40% OFF ALL Clothing and Footwear DETAILS	Day 9 Save Taxes Petals
Day 10 Draw for a hat and mitt combo ARMSTRONG ON WHITEWOOD	Day 11 25% OFF 1 Hour Massages The Spa Place	Day 12 Save Taxes GRAND OPENING

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College surveying workplace, job seeker needs

TIMMINS (Special/Staff) – Are you a Northeastern Ontario employer looking for workers? Are you unemployed or do you have a hard time keeping a job?

Northern College wants to hear from you.

It has launched two surveys to determine the region's labour needs and prepare programs to meet them.

"Our goal in developing these new training programs is to address labour force needs by helping to eliminate barriers to training and employment," said Christine Heavens, the college's executive director of community, business development and employment services, in a news

release.

One survey is open to employers. Respondents are asked about existing and anticipated vacancies in the coming two years, duties and educational requirements for the positions, and whether employee retention is a challenge.

They're also asked if they'd support a funding proposal by the college for programming to meet the need, and if they'd be willing to partner with the college.

A second survey is open to prospective workers.

It asks if they could see themselves working in mining, forestry, health care or another field.



Respondents are also asked about their willingness to take testing to determine their academic needs and to enrol in training programs.

The survey also asks what stands in the way of their working, such as transportation and child care needs, disability, education or finances.

"Northern College is looking to understand learners' barriers to education and training so that plans can be made to reduce these obstacles," said Northern College president and CEO Audrey Penner.

Health care, forestry, and mining "are areas of the Northeastern Ontario economy that are in demand based upon initial labour market analysis, and a talent pipeline will certainly be needed," said Penner in announcing the new study.

"Sometimes the question is just as important as the answer, and we are looking for specifics on how to best support and serve the workforce needs of the region through listening to their needs," she said.

The employer survey can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NTDIndustry2020>.

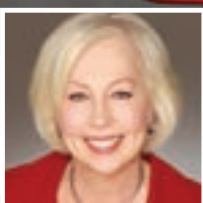
The worker survey is at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NTDProspectiveWorker2020>.

The surveys are to be completed by December 9.

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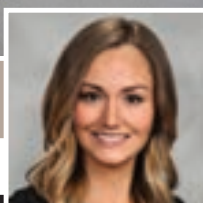
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Bridge building

Cobalt/Coleman Larose Bridge to be reconstructed

Continued from A Front they can plan alternate routes when required, Kwaka added.

The bridge has been traditionally shared as a responsibility between the two municipalities, but Coleman Township has put forward a query about whether the town would be interested in turning the bridge ownership over entirely to the township. Dombroski put the query forward to council during the presentation.

Council has asked for more information on this proposal, and a clearer picture of the losses and benefits to Cobalt if ownership was completely taken over by Coleman.

Councillor Matthew Johnson expressed concern that the bridge is listed as an asset to the town, and the transfer would therefore be an asset loss.

Cobalt clerk-treasurer John Hodgson said the bridge is also a liability to the town.

More information is being requested before a decision is made about Coleman's request.

One of the proposed changes to the site was the relocation of the historic Fred Larose Blacksmith Shop which is included on the Silver Heritage Trail. It is located near the northeast corner of the bridge.

However, council members did not support the suggestion, and Dombroski stated it was not necessary for the building to be moved.

Councillor Pat Anderson, who has actively participated in the preservation of Cobalt and Coleman Township area landmarks relating to the Cobalt Mining Camp, stated that it has been over 20 years since the shop was last stabilized. She expressed doubt the building would survive being picked up and moved.

Dombroski assured, "It does not need to be moved at all."

Anderson responded that "historically, it's on the right property."

Fred Larose was a prospector, as well as a blacksmith, at the



The Larose Bridge, which connects Cobalt and Coleman Township, will be torn down early this winter and a new replacement bridge will be constructed in its place over the course of 2021. (Staff photo by Darlene Wroe)

turn of the twentieth century, and is mainly credited with the discovery of silver in Cobalt.

Englehart Branch 104 Royal Canadian Legion would like to thank our generous donors to this year's Poppy Campaign.

All monies from our Poppy Account goes to assist veterans and their families in Englehart, Earleton and Tomstown Area, GarLin's Gift Gallery Plus, Don Church Family, Unifor Local 99P, Subway Restaurant, Tench-MacDiarmid Insurance, Kneading Freedom Len Farrow, Phil and Anita Tremblay, Kelly MacPherson, G. Hueston, A. Woods, Gayle Brownlee, Englehart Lodge No 534 Masons, Debbie Demers, Brownlee Equipment, Koch Farms, Green Tractors, Cote's Variety, Armstrong Township, Dionne Concrete, Earleton RV, Scotia Bank, Earleton Timbermart, Peter's Garage, W. LaFrance Logging, Homefront Discount Store, Aidie Creek Gardens, Road Legends Cruisers, Robertson Sales, JST Variety, Perfect Reflections, Marshall's Pharmasave, Studio 46, Northern Credit Union, LV Vickery Ltd, Ace Hardware, Kingston's Service Centre, Marshall's Auto, Town of Englehart Branch 104, Ladies Auxiliary Branch 104.

Temagami Family Health Team
Submitted by Ellen Ibey

COVID-19 symptoms in comparison to the flu and the common cold

Symptoms	Coronavirus Symptoms range from mild to severe	Cold Gradual onset of symptoms	Flu Abrupt onset of symptoms
Fever	Common	Rare	Common
Fatigue	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common
Cough	Common (usually dry)	Mild	Common (usually dry)
Sneezing	No	Common	No
Aches and pains	Sometimes	Common	Common
Runny or stuffy nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes
Sore throat	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
Diarrhea	Rare	No	Sometimes for Children
Headaches	Sometimes	Rare	Common
Shortness of breath	Sometimes	No	No

Sources: World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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SPEAKER WEEKENDER



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EDITORIAL

Cram-A-Cruiser

We often think of the generosity of Temiskaming residents towards community-based fundraising initiatives at this time of year.

But we may overlook the people behind the fundraisers, and certainly the Temiskaming Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police need to be commended for their successful Cram-A-Cruiser event November 27 benefitting local food banks and pet shelters in

our region.

The generosity of Temiskaming residents helped stuff four cruisers with non-perishable food items, cash and pet food.

While the OPP mourn a fellow fallen officer killed on November 19, Manitoulin-based Constable Marc Hovingh, who was gunned down in the line of duty, we see a very different world emerging for law enforcement.

Policing is by nature a high-

risk occupation, but no police officer envisions leaving their home for a day's work and not returning.

We are reminded that police officers are members of our community, they take an oath to serve and protect us and often times they go above and beyond risking their own safety in the line of duty.

Thank you to all the officers and donors of the 2020 Cram-A-Cruiser event.

Grinch lessons

The sun is low in the sky these days and rarely seen.

But when we do see it and feel its warmth on our faces it makes us grateful for all we have.

On a recent grey day, I was inside watching Dr. Seuss's *How The Grinch Stole Christmas*.

It was an annual tradition in our home to watch this movie all snuggled up together. Since I won't be with my daughter this Christmas, I felt a tinge of sadness escape out of the corners of my eyes.

Scotland is in complete lockdown but thank goodness for technology and Facetime.

If you are going to watch one movie together with loved ones this Christmas let it be *How The Grinch Stole Christmas*.

The movie is totally relatable to what we are experiencing this season with the pandemic.

I know many people are feeling down about not being able to visit with their relatives and friends because of pandemic guidelines.

Christmas is going to arrive regardless of the virus and we do have much to be thankful for despite 2020 being a year "from hell."

This delightful movie clearly takes a serious look at loneliness during the holiday season. As much as old garlic in his soul Grinch doesn't want to admit it, he is lonely and goes to Whoville to be around people.

"I could use a little social interaction," says the Grinch.

Remember, the Grinch was

bullied by the people of Whoville and perhaps there is a lesson or two in the movie about bullying we can all take note of.

"It's because I'm green isn't it," he said.

The Grinch notes how happy the Whos are without presents, the trees and the roast beast, and his heart grows three sizes.

Let's talk about the most important character of all, Cindy Lou Who, the little angel who loves the Grinch despite his awful ways.

Cindy Lou doesn't treat the Grinch as different, and perhaps the lesson is about differences and how we see people.

Deep down we all wish to be long.

"No one should be alone on Christmas," said Cindy Lou.



Sue Nielsen

The Grinch can't steal our Christmas spirit but maybe he can impart a laugh or two.

"You can't hurt Christmas, Mr. Mayor because it isn't about the gifts or the contests or the fancy lights," said Cindy Lou.

There are lessons in the movie about believing if you have more, bigger and better, the newest gadget or toy, the bigger of anything, this will make your life worthwhile.

It's a hoax.

The one thing we all need is an abundance of hope and Christmas gives us that.

And just like Cindy Lou Who, if you have the opportunity to make someone feel good about themselves- take it.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Five elements of road safety

To the editor,

Thank you for continuing to pay attention to the problem of dangerous traffic speeds in our community (Re: *Speeding along: Police ramping up traffic patrols*, October 23 Weekender).

It's important: high street traffic speed is a known barrier for residents of all ages and abilities to walk and cycle about in their community.

OPP enforcement is a key part of having safer roadways - it is one of the five essential elements of road safety, also known as the 5 "E"s. But, Enforcement is not enough on its own. The other "E"s are Education, Encouragement, Engineering and Evaluation. OPP are doing some of the others too, with signage, media promotion, and traffic analysis.

Road safety is a shared responsibility among those who use roads and those who design, oper-

ate and maintain them. Together, as community members, as road users, or as community decision-makers, we can strengthen all of the other "E"s.

We can redesign streets to encourage low speeds, add visual reminders to slow down and protect vulnerable road users, and put a monitoring system in place to learn about problem areas. Parents/caregivers can educate youth on why speed matters, road safety stakeholders can help with education. If we see this problem as belonging to all of us we will have greater success in addressing it - working together for communities where everyone can thrive.

Krystal Oviatt

On behalf of the Timiskaming District Road Safety Coalition

OMA on who should be first to receive vaccine

DISTRICT (Special) - Difficult decisions will have to be made about who gets the first COVID-19 vaccines which will likely be limited and staggered for several months after receiving Health Canada approval.

"When front-line health-care workers catch COVID, who will take care of everyone else?" asked Dr. Samantha Hill, president of the Ontario Medical Association (OMA).

Ontario's doctors recommend that those at highest risk of contracting COVID-19 should be vaccinated in the first phase, including physicians and other health-care workers, as well as older adults living in long-term care or retirement facilities.

Physicians and other health-care workers experience significantly higher than average exposure to COVID-19. As of November 26 there were 9,037

health sector workers who had contracted COVID-19, almost 10 per cent of the total number of confirmed cases in Ontario.

Health-care workers need to remain healthy both to care for COVID patients and to continue clearing the pandemic deficit of delayed and deferred health-care services.

"You don't send soldiers to war without defences. You don't send firefighters into a fire without all the protection you can muster," said Hill.

"When there was no vaccine, doctors did what we had to do so we could care for our patients, but many personal support workers, nurses, doctors and other front-line workers paid a high price. We must learn from the last year, and from the world. When health-care systems and workers are overwhelmed, the mortality from

COVID rises exponentially. We cannot allow that to happen."

Other groups of people who need to be prioritized for receiving the vaccine in subsequent phases include:

- Critical infrastructure workers at high risk of exposure (people who work in transit, grocery stores and food production)
- Teachers and school staff
- People living in shelters, group homes, prisons, or similar communal living facilities as well as their staff
- All older adults not included in Phase 1

The Ontario Medical Association represents Ontario's 43,000-plus physicians, medical students and retired physicians, advocating for and supporting doctors while strengthening the leadership role of doctors in caring for patients.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Council Meeting: The next Regular Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 7, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. The meetings are being held in the Community Complex Hall to allow for proper social distancing to take place. Prior to attending any meetings, please screen yourself in accordance with public health guidelines and if you feel unwell, please stay home. Changes to gathering restrictions due to COVID-19 may impact how meetings are conducted so if you wish to attend, please contact the Municipal Office in advance to find out how the meeting will be conducted and to register as a guest as there is limited capacity in the Complex Hall.

Municipal Waste Site: Hours of Operation Tuesday and Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed: Statutory Holidays All garbage deposited at the Municipal Waste Site is subject to applicable tipping fees.

Garbage: A maximum of three (3) regular sized garbage bags of household garbage will be picked-up weekly.

Recycling: Next collection date is Tuesday, December 15, 2020. Reminder to residents – All recyclable material must be bagged in clear bags (30"X 32"), with the exception of cardboard. All cardboard must be flattened for pick up. Please have recycling out before 9 am to ensure pick up.

Municipal Office: The municipal office is open to the public for in-person transactions. Physical distancing and mandatory face covering is in effect so upon arrival, review the signs and then ring the door bell for service. Before coming into the office, please screen yourself, by asking the following questions:

1. Do you have any of the following: fever; cough; difficulty breathing; sore throat, trouble swallowing; runny nose; loss of taste or smell; not feeling well; nausea, vomiting, diarrhea?
2. Have you been in close contact with someone who is sick or has confirmed COVID-19 in the past 14 days?
3. Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the past 14 days?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, delay your visit to the office, go home and self isolate right away. Call the Timiskaming Health Unit to find out if you need to be tested - 705-647-4305, Ext. 7 / 1-866-747-4305, Ext. 7, and follow the advice of your public health authority.

Please minimize non-essential in-person visits to the office. The Township continues to encourage the use of internet payments through your financial institution, or by mailing cheques to the Municipal office.

Building Permits are required for all construction in the Township of Coleman. Please allow sufficient processing time for your application.

By-law Enforcement: To report a property standards issue or if you want to report some illegal dumping, please contact Pete Gilboe at 705-648-3750.

Animal Control: For emergency animal control services, please contact the Animal Control Service Provider at 705-648-4583.

Holiday Hours:

1. The Municipal Office and Public Works Department will be closed from Thursday, December 24, 2020, beginning at 12:00 noon and will reopen with regular hours on Monday, January 4th, 2021;
2. The Municipal Waste site will be closed Saturday, December 26, 2020 and will then resume regular hours;
3. No Change to the Garbage or Recycling Collection Schedules.

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- Je veux que mon nom soit aussi inscrit sur le mur de reconnaissance des contributeurs.
- Je veux un reçu pour fins d'impôt.

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Here's an original way to contribute to the COEUR DU VILLAGE community center. For \$100 each, you can purchase and sign your name to one of the 2" X 6" wall studs. You will forever be a part of our wall structure!

I'm buying _____ wall studs @ \$100 = _____

- I agree to my name also being on the recognition wall of contributors.
- Please issue tax receipt.

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Adresse / Address: _____

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Poster à / Mail to: La Fondation Communautaire du Témiskaming, C.P. / Box 82, Earlton, ON POJ 1E0

Pour plus d'information / For further information :

- François Gauthier – (705) 622-0906 (Club Lions d'Earlton)
- Michel Léveillé – (705) 840-3714 (Fondation Communautaire du Témiskaming)
- Liliane Brazeau – (705) 563-2940 (Club de l'Âge d'Or)

Merci de votre contribution! Thank you for your generous donation!

Qu'est-ce que le Cœur du Village? Le Cœur Du Village est le regroupement de trois organismes à but non lucratif d'Earlton (Le Club Lions d'Earlton, la Fondation Communautaire du Témiskaming et le Club de l'Âge d'Or) qui ont fait l'achat de l'ancien Grocery King pour le convertir en centre communautaire.

Une fois terminé, le local comprendra un bureau pour le tirage annuel du Club Lions et de la Fondation Communautaire du Témiskaming, une salle pouvant accueillir environ 150 personnes pour toutes sortes d'événements, une cuisine toute équipée, un espace pour la vente au détail d'artisanat, et finalement, une autre salle pour les réunions des trois organismes et autres entreprises et artisans. Cette salle sera équipée d'un système électronique de communication à la fine pointe de la technologie et pourra être louée par des entreprises.

What is Coeur du Village? It is a group comprised of three separate organizations (Club Lions d'Earlton, la Fondation Communautaire du Témiskaming and Club de l'Âge d'Or – seniors' club) who decided to purchase the Grocery King and convert it into a community center that will help to revitalize the center of our community.

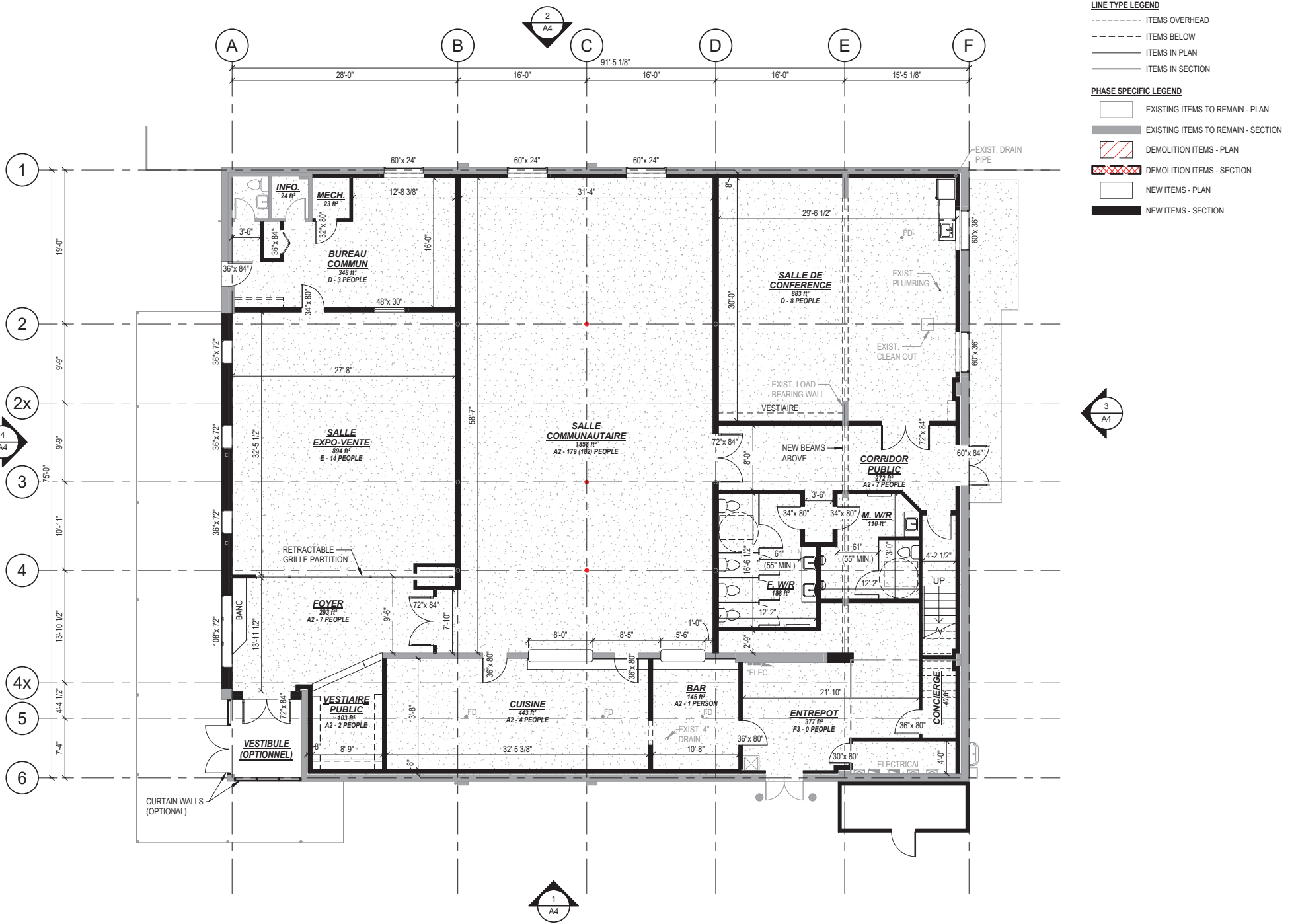
Once the renovations are complete it will be home to the three organizations involved in the purchase of the building. The building will have office space, a hall which will accommodate approximately 150 people, a fully equipped kitchen, a meeting room and a retail outlet for our local artists. The meeting room will be equipped with electronic equipment for the organizations and also available to other local organizations or business meetings.

DATE STAMP: 2020-09-10 7:26:21 AM FILE PATH: D:\Inventor\Projects\2018\Earlton_Coeur du Village_Building\DWG\Model\2018_CoeurDuVillage.dwg Model.rvt



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No.	RE
A1	3
A2	3
A3	3
A4	3
A5	3
A6	3



- LINE TYPE LEGEND**
- ITEMS OVERHEAD
 - - - ITEMS BELOW
 - ITEMS IN PLAN
 - ITEMS IN SECTION
- PHASE SPECIFIC LEGEND**
- EXISTING ITEMS TO REMAIN - PLAN
 - ▨ EXISTING ITEMS TO REMAIN - SECTION
 - ▧ DEMOLITION ITEMS - PLAN
 - ▩ DEMOLITION ITEMS - SECTION
 - NEW ITEMS - PLAN
 - ▬ NEW ITEMS - SECTION

1 GROUND FLOOR PLAN - NEW
A2 SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

<p>648.3155 rrvarc.ca</p>	<p>Plan Orientation</p>	<p>Rev. Description</p> <p>1 Issued for Client Review</p> <p>2 Issued for Client Review</p> <p>3 Issued for Client Review</p>	<p>Date</p> <p>20.08.28</p> <p>20.09.03</p> <p>20.09.10</p>	<p>Client</p> <p>PIERRE BELANGER</p>	<p>Drawing Title</p> <p>GROUND FLOOR PLAN</p>	<p>Professional Stamp</p> <p>PRELIMINARY</p>	<p>Scale As indicated</p> <p>Sheet Size 18 x 24"</p> <p>Revision 3</p> <p>Drawn By SWR</p>	<p>Project No. 20016</p> <p>Date 20.09.10</p> <p>Drawing No. A2</p>	
	<p>Project Title</p> <p>Coeur du village - Plans conceptuels</p> <p>18 10th St E, Earlton, ON</p>								

Coeur du village - Plans conceptuels

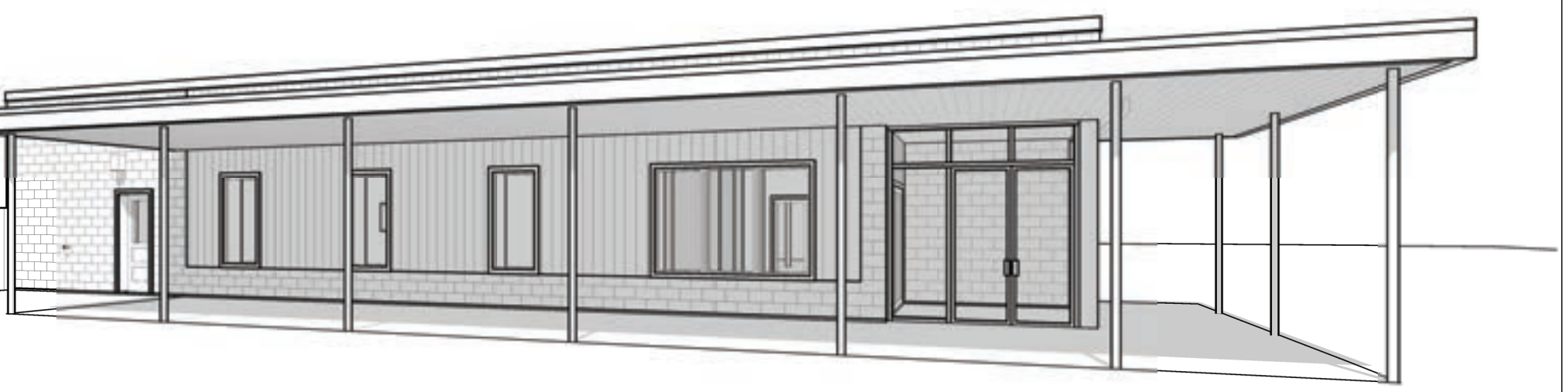
20016

18 10TH ST E, EARLTON, ON

V. 2 - ISSUED FOR CLIENT REVIEW



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- SITE PLAN
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Whiskeyjack wins big at Ontario Brewing Awards

Sue Nielsen
Speaker Reporter

TEMISKAMING SHORES — Winning two gold and a silver, Whiskeyjack Beer Company of Haileybury was a big winner at the 2020 Ontario Brewing Awards, announced recently.

The awards were held online November 14 with 36 different categories and over 400 submissions for the competition.

Whiskeyjack is owned and operated by Luc Johnson and Marc-Andre Therrien.

“Luc and I are happy with these awards. It certainly helps on the marketing side of things when you win awards like these,” said Therrien in a telephone interview.

Therrien noted he and Johnson have only been in the brewing business for three-and-a-half years and to be recognized for their products is encouraging.

To be eligible for the Ontario awards a company had to be a majority Canadian-owned brewery with head offices and main brewing facility in Ontario.

Traditionally, these tastings are done in person, but the COVID-19 pandemic forced the competition online where instead of judges being brought to the beers, the beers were brought to the judges.

Northern Ontario brewers, particularly those owned by Franco-phones, including Whiskeyjack, Stack and Full Beard, took home several awards each.

Whiskeyjack won gold in the Pale American Ale category for *A Reason to Live*, and gold for a Belgian beer called *Ta-Bear-Wit*.

They won a silver award in the Amber and Brown American Beer category called *Abitibi Amber*.

Whiskeyjack has set up a brewing location in downtown Haileybury at 485 Ferguson Avenue. They also have a full menu restaurant on the premises, abiding by all COVID-19 protocols.

Chef Serge Dubé of SJRN Kitchen Co-operative prepares the food.

FEEDBACK

But strutting out awards is only part of the benefits of winning awards for craft beers.

Cracking open the judges’ feedback from well-trained tasters is an award in itself.

What Therrien is looking forward to, besides the actual trophies, is receiving the written feedback from the judges about each beer, including the *Cold Front* cream ale, which didn’t win any awards but is proving to be a bestseller for Whiskeyjack.

“We were up against some heavy competition with our *Cold Front* beer but looking forward to the judges’ take on it so we can tweak our recipe and produce overall better beers,” said Therrien.

“This will help us do the things it takes to make better products. These awards are all for our flagship beers.”

Therrien said the judges for the Ontario Brewing Awards are extremely knowledgeable and must be certified in beer tasting.

“They can quickly tell the difference between a winning beer.”

Therrien acknowledged every craft brewery is experiencing challenging circumstances dealing with the pandemic.

Whiskeyjack is in the process of setting up a microbrewery at its Haileybury location.

“We hope to have everything ready by Christmas or the New Year. We will brew small batches of beer at our Haileybury location and continue to refine our beers. We will not have the brewing capacity to brew large amounts of beer and will continue to stay with our South River operation.”

Therrien is proud of the Whiskeyjack Beer Company’s lineup of craft beers, which are available in the LCBO outlets from North Bay to Timmins and as far north as Hearst.

An additional point of pride for the owners is they are a fully bilingual craft brewing company in Northern Ontario.

Plaques highlight Group of Seven presence in Cobalt

Darlene Wroe
Speaker Reporter

COBALT - Plaques have been erected in specific locations in Cobalt to indicate places where members of the Group of Seven painted.

The plaques tell visitors about the artist who painted there and depict the painting that emerged.

Benches are also being installed to allow visitors to sit in the approximate location where the artist sat to paint.

The plaques and benches are part of an area economic development project coordinated by the City of Temiskaming Shores and Destination Northern Ontario.

The goal of the project is to highlight the areas where members of the internationally renowned Group of Seven painted. Finlayson Point Provincial Park in Temagami is also another site where a plaque and bench are being set up.

The project was discussed at Cobalt council's committee-of-the-whole meeting November 3.

Three plaques have been set up so far. There is also a self-guided tour brochure available for visitors.

The Group of Seven's interest and visits to the town in the early part of the twentieth century led to developments in the art community in the region, including the establishment of the

annual Cobalt Artists Colony, noted Cobalt Councillor Pat Anderson.

She suggested the town could now promote the fact that members of the Group of Seven painted in Cobalt.

She noted there had been an initial complaint about the fact that there is a plaque located in the park named for Major Edward J. Holland who served in World War II, and later served the town as its postmaster. The park also houses the cenotaph.

The plaque depicts the spot A.Y. Jackson sat to paint a

scene.

However, Anderson noted that Jackson also was a war veteran.

Jackson served in World War I with the 60th Battalion Victoria Rifles of Canada. He was wounded in the Battle of Sanctuary Wood in 1916. During his recuperation, he practiced his art, which came to the attention of war commanders. After his recuperation, he was elevated to the rank of Sergeant and made a war artist, which he carried out for the remaining years of the war.

The site of the plaque in the park "is approximately where he sat to do that painting," said Anderson.

Regarding the complaint, Mayor George Othmer said there had been "no intention to dishonour anyone" with the erection of the plaque.

Councillor Doug Wilcox noted the park is also a central location in the town where displays, such as for Christmas, can be set up.

Anderson added that the plaque was erected at the site with council's previous approval.



MYSTERY PAINTING

There is a large 16-foot by six-foot painting at the Cobalt Community Hall. Its origins are unknown, and it does not depict a mine in the Cobalt Mining Camp. Yet it has spent many years, possibly decades, housed in Cobalt. Local artist Laura Landers, who has some knowledge of area mines, believes that this might be a painting of the Geraldton Hardrock Mine. The signature is that of C.F. Gough of Toronto. (Staff photo by Darlene Wroe)

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The search for the source of the Nipissing Diamond

Darlene Wroe
Speaker Reporter

LORRAIN TOWNSHIP - There is a treasure hunt taking place in Lorrain Township.

A small team of people is searching for the source of the legendary Nipissing Diamond.

In 1906, an 800-carat diamond was reported found near Paradis Pond. Father Charles Paradis, a priest, prospector and artist, sketched the diamond and showed it to Nipissing MP Adolphe Aubin. Aubin purchased the diamond and took it to Tiffany's and Company in New York to be cut.

Where did the diamond come from?

In 2014 prospector Tony Bishop decided to explore a theory that the small round lakes in the area could be the tops of kimberlite pipes.

Kimberlite pipes are similar to volcanic eruptions from deep within the earth, he explained. As the pressure of the eruption passes through the earth, it crushes the materials it passes and carries them to the surface. Those could possibly include diamonds.

Since 2014 Bishop and family members have been researching as well as prospecting for the source of the Nipissing Diamond.

In February 2019 RJK Explorations entered into a property option agreement with Bishop. Company president Glenn Kasner said in an interview he had taken a look at Bishop's work and found it very interesting.

Bishop, who was also present for the interview, said that up until ten years ago, it was thought that diamonds formed about 120 to 160 kilometres beneath the surface.

Recent studies have concluded there are bigger diamonds about 800 to 1,000 kilometres down.

NECESSARY FAULTS

Diamonds form as the result of pressures in the earth, and have always emerged from under a craton, such as the Can-

adian Shield, Bishop explained.

Faults, such as the Temiskaming Rift fault and the Cross Lake fault where the work is taking place, are also necessary. Faults create a weakness in the earth making it possible for kimberlites to erupt there.

"Not all kimberlites have diamonds, very few," Kasner noted.

Bishop commented, "There are only 30 or 40 diamond pipes in the world."

However in Canada one in 20 pipes have diamonds, he continued.

Glaciation, which ended about 10,000 years ago, adds to the puzzle. The glaciers were one or two miles thick.

Bishop explained that when a glacier hit a large rock system, the pressure would liquefy the ice, so that the glacier would split and roll around either side of the rock system.

The Tri-Town Ski and Snowboard Village hill is such a rock system, and the Nipissing Hill east of Cobalt is another one, he said.

Kimberlite material in the area of Paradis Pond is being found in a layer, like a gravel pit, 50 to 100 feet deep.

Kasner commented that project manager Peter Hubacheck has suggested the kimberlite pipe they are searching for could have erupted under the last ice sheet and been preserved by the ice above it.

Samples of 50 pounds and 350 pounds have been taken and analyzed for indicator minerals, such as garnets. The company has just received a permit allowing them to take four tons of material which they plan to send to Thunder Bay for analysis. The permit will allow them to do stripping, pitting, trenching and ground geophysics at the Paradis, Robin's Place, and Gleeson kimberlites, and also to take large tonnage samples. Micro-lithics Laboratories Inc. in Thunder Bay will process the sample. The results will be sent to CFM labs in Kelowna for probing and classification. A second sample



RJK Explorations president Glenn Kasner (left) and prospector Tony Bishop are moving forward on their search for the source of the legendary Nipissing Diamond. (Staff photo by Darlene Wroe)

of 160 kilograms (approximately 350 pounds) will be taken from the Kon kimberlite and will also be sent to Micro-lithics for processing.

Bishop thinks the Nipissing Diamond was found by a settler travelling along a road built in 1904 between Paradis Bay and Cobalt.

Bishop said his son Graeme found a map that showed the

road, and the road passed through the area where the diamond was said to be found. Bishop's son also found a 50-foot long granite trench dug in the area. The creek located there drains into Paradis Bay and on into Goodwin Lake, and cuts through the kimberlite area.

COLD TRAIL

Bishop said that after Aubin purchased the diamond and took

it to Tiffany's in New York to be cut, Tiffany's sent their own expert team to the area to search for the source of the Nipissing Diamond.

The wealthy New York Baruch brothers also travelled to Cobalt to search for the diamond's source, Bishop added.

The trail went cold, but over the years the Nipissing Diamond

Continued on 12a

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The search for the source of the Nipissing Diamond

Continued from 11a

was never completely forgotten.

Kasner noted that in recent years, De Beers has been conducting mapping flights over the area.

“They have been looking for a long time here, so there’s some active interest from them to find something new.”

Bishop said De Beers representatives also met with him one day to talk.

Kasner is a 1976 graduate of the Haileybury School of Mines and he said his geology professor, Dan Atchison, expressed the hope that someone from the school would find the source of the diamond.

Other Haileybury School of Mines graduates involved in the project are Robert Mackay (executive director); Peter Hubacheck (project manager); Al Kon (field technologist); Jim Mackay (advisor); and Gino Chitaroni (advisor).

Prior to Bishop’s work on the site, well-known geologist Keith Barron had been working on finding evidence about the Nipissing Diamond. Barron found kimberlite boulders at Sharp Lake west of Cobalt, and surmised they must have come from the north because the only known kimberlite pipes were located there, explained Bishop.



Cores from the holes drilled in the Paradis pond area revealed samples of the kimberlite material found in the area. (Supplied photo)

RJK Explorations joined the project in February 2019 and in March they started drilling in the area of Paradis Pond.

A sample was sent for testing and “it was kimberlite and it came back with a spectacular indicator of chemistry as well as 18 diamonds in a 50-pound sample, so then we knew we were on to something and we formulated the next campaign and started drilling and found

this huge two-kilometre long conductance anomaly,” said Kasner.

“It seemed like everywhere we drilled within this conductance anomaly we found kimberlite. We’ve got the size. We just have to determine the grade. The tonnage we’re getting into now becomes very interesting for mining companies.”

If they find the kimberlite pipe that delivered the Nipiss-

ing Diamond, it could result in a diamond mine with a 15- to 25-year life or more, he said.

“There’s other targets that need to be tested along the Cross Lake fault structure,” he continued, “but we have to raise funds to do this. I think we spent \$1.5 million on this campaign and we found four kimberlites already.”

The team is very enthusiastic. “We never dreamt of getting

anything like this,” said Kasner. “We thought maybe we might get a pipe or something but to find something of this magnitude....”

Bishop added, “We’re just getting started.”

They know they are in the right place.

“There is so much evidence there now that there’s nowhere else it could have come from,” Kasner commented.

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