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## United Food & Commercial Workers Canada Local 832 president Jeff Traeger blames Loblaw greed for closing

BY JOHN BARKER

EDITOR@THOMPSONCITIZEN.NET

Jeff Traeger, president of United Food & Commercial Workers Canada Local 832, which represents Extra Foods workers in Thompson, said April 28 "the concessions on wages, pensions and benefits that Extra Foods was asking for in order to keep the store open was far too great.

"Our members were being asked to give up most of their compensation package so that Extra Foods could make even more money. We are currently hoping to work with Canada Safeway to see if there is any opportunity for our Extra Foods members to work at their store in Thompson once the Extra Foods closes."

Craig Ware, director of corporate affairs in Western Canada for Loblaw in Calgary, said April 27 the reason Extra Foods in Thompson is closing June 23 is "that this location is no longer economically vi-



Jeff Traeger, president of United Food & Commercial Workers Canada Local 832

able to operate.

"I can assure you that the decision to close this store was not taken lightly," Ware said. "A wide variety of possible options were considered and discussions were held with the local union, unfortunately however an agreement was unable to be reached. While we are disappointed to be closing this store, the decision is not a reflection on the colleagues from that store. They have been commit-



Thompson Citizen photo by Matt Durnan

Remaining Thompson old-timers often still refer to the Extra Foods supermarket in Thompson Plaza as OK Economy or Shop Easy Foods, which were also banners Loblaw, an original anchor tenant of the plaza since November 1961, had operated under for many years. Extra Foods is closing June 23

ted to serving the people of Thompson for many years and we are working through a transition plan for them."

Extra Foods hourly rated employees are represented by United Food & Commercial Workers Can-

ada Local 832, which also represents non-management employees at Safeway here in a separate bargaining unit.

Extra Foods is joining the growing list of national retailers pulling out of Thompson since last Sep-

tember. The Thompson Plaza grocery store, the anchor tenant of Western Canada's oldest enclosed mall, will close its doors June 23.

It is the fourth national chain to exit Thompson since last Sep-

Continued on Page 2

## 4.75 % property tax hike: City presents 2012 financial plan

BY MATT DURNAN

NEWS@THOMPSONCITIZEN.NET

Get ready for a 4.75 per cent property tax hike.

City council presented their 2012 financial plan at a very sparsely, make that not at all, attended, public meeting on April 25.

Highlighted in the presentation is increased value in residential property, as assessed by the Province of Manitoba. The average assessed value of a residential property increased by 16 per cent.

To put a dollar figure to that percentage; a home assessed at \$200,000 in 2011 would now be valued at \$232,000.

The result is a decrease in the mill rate from 20.958 mills to 18.926 mills; or a decrease of 9.7 per cent.

This decrease however is merely a formality, as a 4.75 per cent tax increase will be incurred. Going back to the home assessed at \$200,000 last year, there would have been \$1,886 paid in taxes. The same home, under the latest assessment, will run you \$1,976 in property tax, or a \$90 increase.

The infrastructure reserve will provide funding for things like sander trucks, a semi-tractor, and a Zamboni. Funding for lighting in recreation

areas will be provided, and funding for the Downtown Strategy, which includes the contracting of Prairie Bylaw Enforcement (PBLE) will come from the public safety reserve. Our Home Kikinaw will see funding through the affordable housing reserve.

The capital projects the city will be taking on include, the rehabilitation of Thompson Drive South, valued at \$600,000, a sidewalk renewal program, and Burntwood Trailer Court renewal, all of which draw funding from gas tax revenue.

The completion of the Thompson Regional Community Centre (TRCC) is

valued at over \$4.5 million, with much of the funding coming through Build Canada, provincial grants and debentures.

The city has budgeted a total of \$13,008,850 for capital works projects. These capital projects will be funded by a combination of tax revenues, fund transfers and borrowing.

Utility rates have been approved by the Public Utilities Board (PUB) and were implemented Jan. 1 2012.

Water rates are set at 93 cents per cubic metre and sewer rates are set at 89 cents per cubic metre. The 2012 flat fee is \$78.03, which includes 15 cubic

metres of water and sewer.

This year's expenses for the city remained status quo with the 2011 actual reported, with only contractual increases. A 1.5 per cent decrease was made to non-contractual expenses, and debenture payments increased \$609,571.

New expense initiatives for 2012 include additional funding to the Downtown Strategy as well as the addition of information technology staff.

The complete Financial Plan is available to be viewed online at the City's website: [www.thompson.ca](http://www.thompson.ca)

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# Loblaw has had a grocery store in the Plaza since 1961

*Continued from Page 1*  
since last September.

Mayor Tim Johnston touched upon the subject very briefly at the end of his mayor's report to city council at their April 23 meeting, mentioning it for a total of 26 seconds – seven minutes and 16 seconds into his seven-minute and 42-second report. Johnston said he learned of the “potential” of Extra Foods closing late Monday afternoon, just hours before the council meeting.

“That did come as a surprise and I’m extremely concerned,” Johnston told council.

It will be the first time Loblaw Companies Ltd., the Brampton, Ont.-based corporate owner of Extra Foods and a subsidiary of

George Weston Limited of Toronto, hasn’t operated in Thompson since the opening of the Thompson Plaza on Nov. 2, 1961.

Loblaw closed its Extra Foods store in Flin Flon last Oct. 15 resulting in the loss of 45 jobs, including 17 full-time positions.

Ware said, “As Loblaw does not own the building site, I can’t comment on what the future plans for this building may be ... we still do operate a store in The Pas and currently there are no plans to make any changes in that market.”

For many years the Thompson Plaza grocery store operated as a Shop Easy Foods and OK Economy supermarket, two of Loblaw’s current and former regional and market

segment banners in different areas across the country. Other Loblaw banners besides Extra Foods and Shop Easy Foods include No Frills, Valu-Mart, Real Canadian Superstore, Provigo, SaveEasy, Fortinos, Zehrs Markets, Dominion, Red & White Food Stores, Atlantic Superstore, SuperValu, Lucky Dollar Foods, Freshmart, Maxi and Your Independent Grocer.

Loblaw, the largest food retailer in Canada, was started in Toronto in June 1919 by Toronto grocers Theodore Pringle Loblaw and J. Milton Cork. Bread salesman George Weston started George Weston Limited, also in Toronto, in 1882.

The very idea for Thompson Plaza, in fact, belonged to E.D. Cooper of Shop Easy Foods, who had discussed it with Capital Developments Ltd. Marlowe-Yeoman of Vancouver, a company co-founded in 1963 by John B. Lansdell, of Lacombe, Alta., that owns Thompson Plaza.

The first commercial tenants of Thompson Plaza included branches of the Bank of Montreal, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC), a T. Eaton Co. or Eaton’s outlet, Simpson-Sears, CESM-TV, CHTM-Radio, Cochrane-Dunlop Hardware, Bata Shoes, F. W. Woolworth Company or Woolworth’s, Shop Easy Foods, Plaza Pharmacy, owned by Florian Soble, and McKinnon Jewellers.

Thompson took a major hit on the retail front four months ago when Staples and Rogers Plus both closed their doors here last December.

Debra MacDonald, Staples’ Winnipeg-based regional vice-president for Central Canada, told the *Thompson Citizen*

last Sept. 16 Staples did not consider leasing at any another location in Thompson once its initial five-year lease expired. It opened its 15,000-sq.-ft.-plus store at 69 Thompson Dr. N. Jan. 27, 2007, replacing the vacant Surplus Army, Airforce, Navy (SAAN) store in the location. Staples itself, as a corporate entity, is financially quite healthy and profitable. Office supplies are seen as a solid indicator of underlying business trends, and Staple’s retail in North America is doing quite well in a competitive landscape.

The Rogers Plus corporate store in the Burntwood Plaza, across the street on Selkirk Avenue from where Blockbuster was in Thompson Plaza, was closed because the company faces tough challenges and lots of competition from multiple sources for consumers’ entertain-

ment dollars, and not just from Netflix, Leigh-Ann Popek senior manager for media relations for Rogers Communications Inc. in Toronto, said in an interview last Dec. 5.

Blockbuster’s store here had good enough revenues that when 146 stores, accounting for approximately 35 per cent of the company’s stores in Canada, were closed last June 18, Thompson wasn’t among them. But on Aug. 31, 2011 Blockbuster announced that no buyer could be found for the remaining 253 Canadian Blockbuster stores that were acceptable to the court-appointed bankruptcy receiver, and that it would wind down operations at the rest of the stores by last Dec. 31. The Thompson Blockbuster closed last September.

*- with a file from Matt Durnan*

## OBITUARY

### ERIC MARTINUSSEN

1938 – 2012

Dad passed away peacefully on April 24, 2012 in Swan Valley Health Centre surrounded by his loving family.

He is survived by his wife Helen and his children Kelly (Jackie), Karla (Allan), and Kirby (Sherri), grandchildren Ethan, Nika, Allison, Camryn, Bryson and Kendra, and brothers and sisters Harold (Shirley), Ruth, Vera, Karin , Ellen (Ken) and David (Vivian), sister-in-law Theresa, as well as many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents Carl and Margaret, in-laws Paul and Mary Hrechka, and brothers-in-law Stan, Ken, Leo, and Gene.



Eric was born on November 1, 1938 on the family farm northwest of Swan River. In 1962 he married Helen Hrechka and they settled first in Swan River and then in Birch River where Dad worked for the Co-op. They moved to Thompson in April, 1969 where he worked as a plumber eventually establishing a successful business called “Eric’s Plumbing”. As a plumber, Dad took his skills to various remote northern communities where he worked with many colorful characters and he always had interesting tales to tell when he came home. Dad loved fishing and spent many summers camping at Setting Lake with his family, becoming the unofficial “mayor” by acclamation. Many a night he could be found filleting fish by lantern fighting off mosquitoes. Later, Mom and Dad would spend part of their winter in Yuma, Arizona where they enjoyed golfing and happy hour with their friends. In 2005, Mom and Dad moved to Swan River where they were immediately welcomed with open arms. In his spare time, Dad continued helping others as much as possible, using his skills when needed.

Dad was a kind and generous man who valued life. He didn’t suffer fools and had no patience for wasted time. He was a wonderful role model to his children, teaching them the value of hard work and honesty.

Dad was proud of his Danish heritage and was very close to his brothers and sisters, visiting them as often as possible. He spoke fondly of growing up on the farm and shared wonderful memories of the good ole’ days.

Dad’s faith was important to him and for many years he was a member of the Advent Lutheran Church in Thompson serving in many capacities on council including property chair. Pastor Bob of Trinity Lutheran in Swan River was a favourite visitor of Dad’s. His presence was always comforting. Thank you, Pastor Bob.

Always a fighter, Dad worked hard to overcome the obstacles presented by the stroke he suffered in 2009. He never quit and loved playing cards with his friends or driving his scooter to the Timberland for coffee with the guys. It can honestly be said that Dad loved life to the fullest.

Dad never forgot a kindness and always remembered a friend. His sense of humour brightened our days and we always looked forward to the stories he would tell. The family would like to thank everyone who made Dad’s last years happy ones. We are especially grateful to his coffee buddies – Bruce Brandson, Allan Brandson, Wilbert Schoenrath, Ralph Martin, Zenon Caruk, Rev. Murray Wenstob, Glen Sorensen, Norm Neely, Walter Daviduik, Joe Carriere, Boyd Sweetser, Joe Willis, Ron Leslie, Elmer Formo, Bruce Ash, Nick Bobick and Jack Grieder. He looked forward to seeing you every day! We would also like to express our deep gratitude to the nurses of Swan Valley Health Centre, especially Carol, Blaine, Brandon, Bev and Lisa.

Evening prayers were held from the Chapel of Swan Valley Funeral Services Ltd. on Friday, April 27, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. A memorial service was held from the Trinity Lutheran Church in Swan River, Manitoba on Saturday, April 28, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. with Pastor Bob Lewis officiating. The urnbearer was Kirby Martinussen. Following the service Eric’s cremation urn was placed in the Columbarium at Birchwood Cemetery, Swan River, Manitoba.

Should friends so desire, donations in Eric’s memory may be made to the Trinity Lutheran Church Building Fund, c/o Box 884, Swan River, Manitoba R0L 1Z0.

Arrangements were entrusted to Swan Valley Funeral Services Ltd. 363 Kelsey Trail (Hwy 10 North) Swan River, Manitoba. 734-5775

## Saaaayyyyyy .... thanks for the money



Dr. Hussam Azzam presents a cheque for \$3,775.05 from the BRHA Northern Consultation Clinic Obstetrics Gynecology unit to the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic. The money will go towards the newly purchased Laryngoscope; the state of the art machine can be used as a teaching tool and is able to take still photos and videos of a patient's ear nose and throat. The photos and videos saved by the machine can be viewed by students, residents and the patients themselves. (L to R) Brenda Dawyduk, Anne Sweeny, Dr. Arjowan Mustafa, Dr. Lina Azzam, Dr. Gabriel Anid, Bernett Alexander, Dr. Hussam Azzam.

*Photo by Matt Durnan*



## Byron Watt

1934 – 2012

Husband • Father • Entrepreneur

Byron Watt was taken from us the morning of Wednesday April 25th, 2012 after losing a long standing battle with his lungs. He was 77. Born in 1934 in Saskatoon, Byron was raised in Winnipeg and spent the early part of his career in the tourist camp business. He was a keen hunting and fishing guide and always spoke fondly of his time in the camp business in northern Ontario.

By 1958 he was living in Thompson, Manitoba and was involved in 16 different businesses. He developed a motel with foodservice and owned an A&W franchise, a Gondola Pizza franchise, a real estate company, a travel business, an insurance firm, a home construction business and a GM dealership. In a book detailing the history of Thompson, Byron was recognized as one of the key builders of the city as a result of his work in business and residential development.

In 1970 at only 36 years of age Byron went in to semi-retirement. In 1974 he moved to Edmonton, Alberta where the entrepreneurial bug started biting again, and Byron went back to work. From Edmonton he started a home construction business, brought a chain of transmission shops to the city, opened a Century 21 real estate office and started a pizza restaurant chain with over 50 locations (BAACO Pizza), among many other business ventures.

What makes all of these business accomplishments even more impressive was his unwavering dedication to his family. Byron took his family camping for several weeks each summer, where he always made you bait your own hook and clean your catch. He was present at all school plays, children’s concerts, and drove many a child to a hockey or ringette game, even at 4 in the morning. He sponsored several community sports organizations every year, and still managed to ensure he was home for dinner with his family almost every single night.

In his later years, once again ‘semi-retired’, he travelled between Edmonton, Vancouver Island and Palm Springs where he enjoyed spending time with his many friends playing horseshoes, golf, bocce ball or shuffleboard, or just simply talking about the weather, or of course the women.

Byron leaves his companion of 11 years Shirley Nordal of Nanaimo; his children Brenda Roszmann (Allan Roszmann) of Vancouver, and her son Matthew Roszmann; Jason Watt of Edmonton, Cameron Watt (Marie-Claude Lachance) of Ottawa, and his sons Tristan Watt & Jeremy Watt; Julie Watt of Airdrie and her daughter Kaylin Matus and son Dustin Matus; Craig Watt (Lauren Andre) of Calgary and his son Alexander Watt and daughter Ella Watt.

He also leaves his brother Donald Watt (Jesse Watt) of Abbotsford, and is predeceased by his wife of 26 years Elaine Watt as well as his brother Robert Watt and his sister Norma Glover. At Byron’s request there will be no service. In lieu of flowers please make a donation in his honour to a charity close to your family’s hearts.

**Byron Watt, in short, was a great man. Someone to admire, remember and miss.**



News

USW Local 6166 marks 21st National Day of Mourning

Remembering T-3's

Greg Leason

**BY MATT DURNAN**  
NEWS@THOMPSONCITIZEN.NET

April 28 marked the 21st year that the United Steelworkers observed a National Day of Mourning.

The day was established to remember the victims of workplace accidents and disease, and to recognize the supreme sacrifice they have been forced to make in order to earn a living.

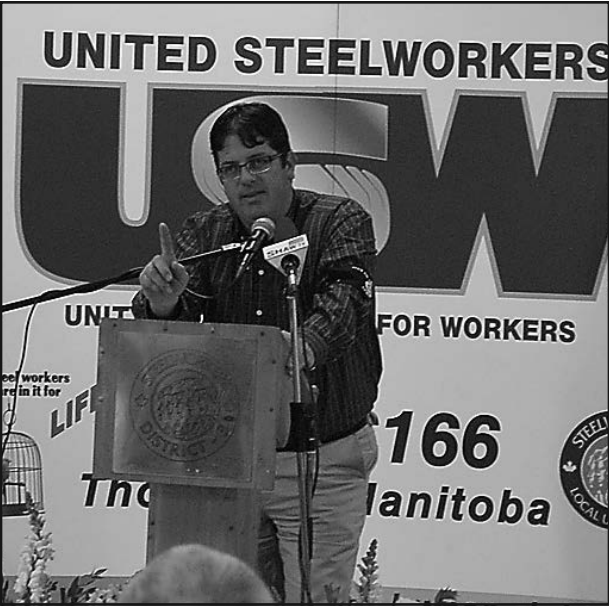
The day has special significance for Northern Manitoba. Former USW Local 6166 president Dick Martin was instrumental in the Canadian Labour Congress initiative to designate April 28 as the National Day of Mourning in the 1980s. In 1991, then Churchill riding NDP

MP Rod Murphy, a back-bencher in opposition, introduced a private member's bill that passed and led Parliament to officially recognize April 28 as a day of mourning.

Every year, more than 1,000 Canadian workers are killed on the job, and thousands more are permanently disabled.

Hundreds of thousands of more still are injured, and thousands die of cancer, lung disease and other ailments caused by exposure to toxic substances at their workplaces.

Last year in the United Steelworkers District 3, which spans from Manitoba to British Columbia, nine steelworkers were killed on the job.



Thompson Citizen photo by Matt Durnan

**USW Local 6166 President Murray Nychyporuk speaks at the National Day of Mourning ceremony held at the union hall.**

National Day of Mourning is also a day to re-dedicate to the goal of making Canada's workplaces safer,

"It's always the endless pursuit of safer workplaces," said Nychyporuk at an April 27 press conference.

Murray also made note of the long-term effects of things such as cancer developed due to workplace conditions, and the coincidence of the National Day of Mourning being on the same day as the Canadian Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

"We do participate in Relay for Life," said Nychyporuk, "we'll be there supporting and we will have our own table set up and be involved with the walk."

The day itself, Saturday April 28, was a sombre one, attended by family members of those who have perished in mining accidents. The names of those killed in District 3 in the past year were read, including that

of Thompson's own Greg Leason at Vale last October. Leason, a T-3 miner at Vale, was seriously injured in an accident at Vale's T-3 mine Oct. 7 and medevaced via Lifeflight Air Ambulance to the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg and succumbed to his injuries and died Oct. 19 – 12 days after the accident. Leason was operating a scooptram at the 3500 level of the T-3 mine. The accident remains under investigation.

Mayor Tim Johnston spoke, and Mennonite Pastor Ted Goossen of the Christian Fellowship Centre led prayers.

National Day of Mourning was officially recognized by the federal government in 1991, since then, close to 80 countries worldwide share in commemorating the day.

BY MATT DURNAN

Cantor's Meats

**BY MATT DURNAN**  
NEWS@THOMPSONCITIZEN.NET

With unseasonably warm temperatures, it's not far fetched to believe that barbecue season isn't a long way off.

The timing couldn't work out much better for barbecue enthusiasts and carnivores alike, with the arrival of Cantor's Quality Meats delivery service to Thompson.

The 68-year-old business started by Ed Cantor Sr. in 1944 has been operating in Winnipeg since the 1940s as a family run business, supplying quality meats and groceries to the community.

Cantor's meat manager Gilbert Kohlman had a big part in the addition of regular deliveries to Thompson.

Kohlman used to operate the Oakridge Meats store in Thompson and has a customer base that he had built while in town.

"I had a lot of customers coming down to Winnipeg that I used to have while I was at Oakridge," said Kohlman, "so I did a deal with Gardewine where I can deliver it up to Thompson

son and surrounding communities for cheaper than it is to fly it up there."

The Juniper Centre will act as the distribution centre for any purchases made from Cantor's whether via online order or over the telephone.

"Cantor's purchased a deep freezer and we put it right in the Juniper Centre," said Kohlman, "so what happens is Gardewine picks up the orders Monday afternoons, they drive over night and then it's at the Juniper Centre to be picked up on Tuesday morning."

Cantor's operates as a bulk dealer of meat, selling in quantities of 10 pounds for beef and pork products, and four kilograms for most chicken products. They also offer meat packages with a variety of different cuts and meats where upwards of 40 pounds of meat can be purchased for around \$120.

Kohlman had received numerous calls from former customers that meat prices in Thompson were outrageously high and that they were looking for alternatives.

"I was up in Thompson

around Christmas time and I was in Safeway," said Kohlman, and I saw that they had T-bone steaks for \$12 per pound, I'm bringing it in to Thompson at no extra charge for \$6.59 per pound."

While a delivery service may not have the same warmth and community feel as an in town butcher shop, Kohlman explained that it's much more feasible to operate this way.

"It's expensive to run a store, so moving to Cantor's and setting up this delivery service is a lot more feasible and makes more sense."

Deliveries will arrive in Thompson once weekly, and anyone who has placed an order can expect

their meat to arrive Tuesday morning for pick up.

Kohlman says that Cantor's may look in to supplying a full line of groceries for delivery in the future, depending on what the response is from the meat delivery service.

"We have a 13,000-square-foot store here in Winnipeg with a full complement of products," said Kohlman, "so since we have the refrigerator trucks, maybe one day down the road people can order their produce from us as well."

Cantor's Meats will be participating in a trade show in Thompson in the beginning of May and Kohlman will be in town, displaying some of the products that the company offers.

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**(winners to be announced on May 7<sup>th</sup>)**

**Dividend cheques available for pickup starting at 11 am, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012.**

**PRIZES!!**

**Thompson Minor Hockey Association**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

to take place

**May 31, 2012 at 7:00 pm at the St. Lawrence Hall.**

Any member wanting to submit changes to the Constitution and By-laws (available for viewing @ [www.thompsonminorhockey.ca](http://www.thompsonminorhockey.ca)) must submit them to Mike Vallance at [vallancemike@hotmail.com](mailto:vallancemike@hotmail.com) by April 30, 2012.

Any person interested in becoming a Board Member, the following positions are open for nominations at this time:

President, VP Tech, VP Admin, Secretary, Publicity Director, Ice Operations Director, Pre-novice Atom and Bantam Program Directors, Female Director, Tournament Director, Munn Cup Coordinator, On-Ice Officials Coordinator, Fundraising Coordinator and Equipment Manager.

Soundings

Whining Internet ‘trolls’

Keyboard warriors, armchair activists, trolls; whatever it is that you call them, they run rampant on the Internet.

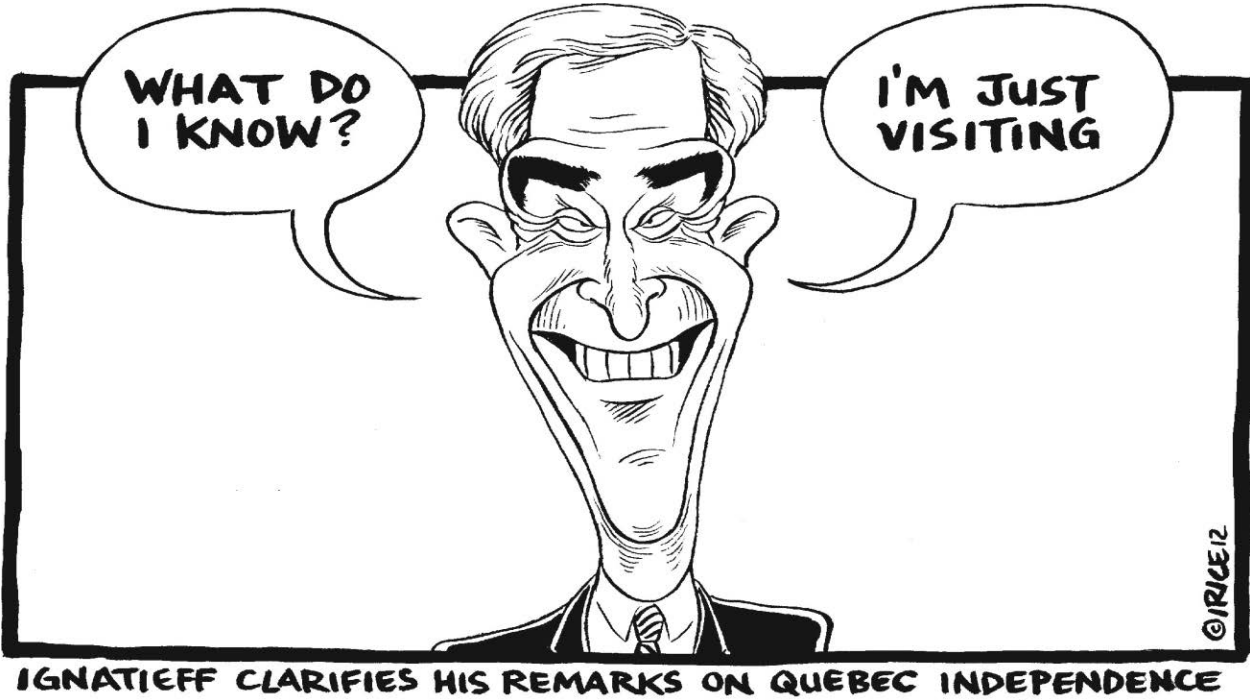
You all know the type I'm speaking of, and chances are some of you are even one of them yourself.

That person who just has to dump on most everything they read and or see online, mostly for the sake of argument alone.

I myself am guilty of this from time to time, as I'm somewhat of a curmudgeon and am also very opinionated, so when I read something I don't agree with (a lot of things) I like to throw in my two cents.



Matt Durnan



Editorial

Blaming the mayor for the loss of Extra Foods

Blaming Mayor Tim Johnston for the loss of Extra Foods – a popular position on our online story for the last week with many of our DISQUS commenters – is simply non-sense.

The closure of Extra Foods is a business decision. Extra Foods is part of Loblaw Companies Ltd., of Brampton, Ont., a publicly traded company on the Toronto Stock Exchange and a subsidiary of George Weston Limited of Toronto, a private company limited by shares on the same stock exchange. They exist for the purpose of maximizing profits to satisfy their shareholders; that's the *raison d'être* for both companies' existence.

The decision to close Extra Foods was also part of a power struggle, again based on economics, between Loblaw and United Food & Commercial Workers Canada Local 832, which represents hourly-rated workers at the Thompson Plaza grocery store. Now reasonable people may well disagree over whose position has more merit – the union's or the company's. But they'd be hard-pressed to disagree with the proposition that this is about economics and profit.

Craig Ware, director of corporate affairs in Western Canada for Loblaw in Calgary, said April 27 the reason Extra Foods in Thompson is closing June 23 is “that this location is no

longer economically viable to operate.

“I can assure you that the decision to close this store was not taken lightly,” Ware said. “A wide variety of possible options were considered and discussions were held with the local union, unfortunately however an agreement was unable to be reached.

Jeff Traeger, president of United Food & Commercial Workers Canada Local 832, responded the following day with “the concessions on wages, pensions and benefits that Extra Foods was asking for in order to keep the store open was far too great. Our members were being asked to give up most of their compensation package so that Extra Foods could make even more money. We are currently hoping to work with Canada Safeway to see if there is any opportunity for our Extra foods members to work at their store in Thompson once the Extra Foods closes.”

Do you hear any suggestion from either the company and union that Mayor Tim Johnston is a key player in all this? Of course not.

Likewise, there's no suggestion from the company or union that public loitering or crime or any other particular downtown issue is driving their decision to exit the Thompson market.

We too often simplify things we really know little or nothing about to make them seem comprehensible.

We too often simplify things we really know little or nothing about to make them seem comprehensible. The mayor is one voting member of a nine-member council that also includes deputy mayor Dennis Fenske and seven other at-large council seats held by fellow councillors Stella Locker, Judy Kolada, Charlene Lafreniere, Erin Hogan, Brad Evenson, Penny Byer and Luke Robinson.

But forget about council completely for a moment. The still lingering elephant in the room that some don't want to talk about (although some of our commenters have) – focusing instead on the aesthetics of downtown, bylaw enforcement or local taxes – was the announcement by Vale on Nov. 17, 2010 they are shutting down surface operations here in 2015 with a possible loss perhaps of 250 jobs (no one knows for sure yet), which would represent about \$32.5 million in annual payroll and 20 per cent of Vale's Thompson workforce in a worst case scenario.

In a better case scenario, whatever workforce reduction turns out to be the magic number in 2015 is accomplished mainly through normal attrition, retirements and transfers, with minimal layoffs, as outlined in a transition plan for employees hired prior to last Oct. 1, by Lovro Paulic, general manager responsible for the smelter and refinery, to the

Thompson Chamber of Commerce Feb. 29.

And in the best case scenario, new underground mining in Thompson will more than pick up any slack after 2015 if either or both the 1-D Project and Pipe-Kipper Project hit paydirt, as envisioned in 2010 by Tito Martins, former chief executive officer of Vale Canada in Toronto and executive director of base metals for the Brazilian parent company, who is back in Brazil after being promoted last November to chief financial officer in a top management shuffle.

The Vale situation in three years, of course, is hard to assess now with any certainty, given the paradox they are always chronically short-staffed 150 to 200 positions it seems, and frantically recruiting for skilled trades in particular, making any possible future job loss a few years from now difficult to contemplate for long when their help wanted signs are everywhere today.

We're hoping Tito Martins turns out to be right about Vale having a robust future in underground mining in Thompson in the post-refinery and smelter era after 2015. Let's hope too there are plenty of stores left to shop in if that comes to pass. The signs, however, on the retail front since Nov. 17, 2010 haven't been encouraging for the most part. But that's hardly the mayor's fault.

Your Thompson Citizen News Team



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Letters to the Editor

Individuals walk different paths toward same destination

To the Editor:

The month of April brings two anniversaries to our household: the passing of my father and the birthday of the great teacher Gautama Buddha. You might be asking what all these have to do with each other? The answer to that question is nothing ... and everything.

I felt compelled to write in response to the recent article promoting a speaking engagement to discuss whether science and the Bible conflict, but debate would be futile as religion is such a personal matter that input into the matter would only serve to further alienate me from my community. Instead, I will relate my personal view and hope that it can be met with tolerance and compassion.

My parents raised me as a Christian and a Lutheran Protestant at that. Yet among the many great things I inherited from my parents was a fiercely independent streak and a need to follow my own path. My father followed his own path, which frequently meant hours, even years of hard work. Sometimes this meant we were at odds with each other, but despite our differences, I respect my father for being the man he was.

My father walked the talk when it came to putting family first.

Religion was frequently discussed at our kitchen table and made for some heated arguments. No matter how much debate ensued, I could not make peace with the religion I grew up with. Christianity has much to offer, as do

most religions, but given the experiences my parents provided me it was impossible for me to stay a Christian.

There were many reasons for this, but among them was not being able to personally reconcile the conflict between science and religion. I finally found a faith that suited me, but it took me 20 years of soul-searching and research.

Becoming an adherent of Buddhism in Thompson presents some unique challenges. There is no temple here and as far as I know there are only lay practitioners in the city. Buddhism does not have or require the frequent gatherings and social bonding in the way one would see in the Church. Buddhism is mostly an introverted religion and that is unfortunate,

as it has suffered because of that. Our Christian brethren have much to teach in that regard.

Yet Buddhism has its strengths as well. Buddhism is exceptional in its embrace of science. The Buddha asked all his followers not to take his word as the truth, but to put the teachings into practice in order to come to their own conclusions.

In this way each adherent is responsible for their own actions and understanding. This makes Buddhism a philosophy that each person uses in his or her own way in order to determine what is the truth. This allows for the embracing of science and science is confirming many of the core teachings of the faith. As we dive into the science of the mind, Tibetan and

Zen Buddhist monks have provided science with interesting mediums with which to experiment and the results are amazing and confirming. Experiments in physics, such as the double slit experiment, have shown that reality is changeable, which in so many ways supports the core view of Buddhism that reality is not to be found using the five senses. Buddhism stresses interconnectedness and everything we are learning about the world confirms this.

Buddhism differs greatly from the other world religions in that the concept of an omnipotent god is entirely lacking from the faith. It focuses on concepts such as cause and effect (Karma), meditation and the search for truth through thought and

practice. Buddhism teaches that the problems in life are internal and not to be found in the world around us. Most importantly however, Buddhism teaches tolerance and compassion for all things in this world.

As April slowly melts away I am thankful for the opportunities provided me as a result of my father's hard work and sacrifice. I reflect on my time with him and am grateful. I am also thankful for the teachings of the Buddha as I now have some spiritual direction in my life that suits me. As spring approaches I am comforted in the thought that while individuals walk different paths, ultimately most of us have the same destination in mind.

Jeff Fountain  
Thompson

Women of Distinction: ‘We don’t do it to be honoured’

To the Editor:

I want to take the time to thank the YWCA of Thompson for sponsoring

the Women of Distinction Awards and my family for nominating me. I also want to thank all the people who wrote letters

of support.

I want to congratulate all the other nominees and all the volunteers who give countless hours of their

time to make Thompson the great place it is.

I believe I’m speaking for all of us when I say, “We don’t do it to be hon-

oured. We do it because it needs to be done and we enjoy it.”

We’re all winners as we all benefit from the efforts

of all volunteers. Thank you.

Grace Bindle  
Thompson

The View from London

Painting Calcutta blue: Why not?

I am not making this up. They’re going to paint Calcutta blue.

Some firm of public relations consultants has persuaded the West Bengal state government that all official buildings and assets in Calcutta, right down to the lane dividers on highways, should be painted light blue. Taxis and other public services that require licenses will also have get out the blue paint, and owners of private property will be asked to do the same, with tax cuts for those who comply.

It’s all about branding, really. West Bengal got a new government last year, after 34 years of Communist rule, and the state’s new rulers decided that the capital city, Calcutta, needs a new colour scheme. As Urban Development Minister Firhad Hakim told *The Indian Express* newspaper, “Our leader Mamata Banerjee has decided that the theme colour of the city will be sky blue because the motto of the new government is ‘the sky is the limit’.”

Well, why not? If the state of Rajasthan can have both a “pink city” (Jaipur) and a “blue city” (Jodhpur), why shouldn’t



Gwynne Dyer

Calcutta brand itself as “the other blue city”? However, Jaipur is naturally pink because of widespread use of terracotta, and in Jodhpur the residents got out their paintbrushes voluntarily, whereas the West Bengal state government is spending a reported 800 million rupees (\$16 million) on the blueing of Calcutta.

Calcutta’s leading newspaper, the *Telegraph* (in which this column has long had the honour of appearing), was so swept away by the wonderfulness of the concept that it wrote a fulsome editorial about it. “Finding the right colour combination is undoubtedly the crucial first step in making a city safer, healthier, cleaner and generally more user-friendly

for its inhabitants,” the newspaper wrote, tongue firmly in cheek.

“(Painting Calcutta blue) could, with as little doubt, sort out its core problems - chaotic health care, inability to implement pollution control norms, arsenic in the water, archaic sewers and garbage disposal, bad roads, killer buses for public transport, an airport falling apart and beyond dismal, priceless paintings rotting away in public art galleries, to name a few.” One wonders why more cities are not doing the same. Maybe they couldn’t afford the right consultants.

I yield to practically everybody in my esteem for the overpaid consultants who are employed by unimaginative governments to “improve their image.” There is a better way for Calcutta to overcome its reputation for chaos and decay. By all means spend most of the available money on sewers and garbage disposal, roads and buses, pollution control, art galleries and the airport – but also restore the city centre.

Calcutta was the capital of British-ruled India for

two centuries. For much of that time it was the second-largest city in the British Empire, only surpassed by London. So the centre of the city was full of Georgian and Regency buildings that reflected the city’s power and wealth at that time.

Most of them are still there. Calcutta was poor for a long time, so it hasn’t had the money to erase its past in the brutal way that is happening in most other Asian big cities. Almost all Chinese cities have already destroyed their architectural heritage, and beautiful cities like Hanoi are working at it full-time. But Calcutta’s wonderful buildings are in dreadful shape, and soon it will find enough money to start destroying them wholesale.

It doesn’t have to end like that. Fifteen years ago I was walking up Bentinck Street, surrounded by the chaos of cars and trams and the crumbling buildings festooned with washing lines and movie posters. I came round a slight bend in the road – and saw a miraculous sight.

It was a four-storey town house restored to all its former glory: the stuc-

co replaced, the balconies repaired, the whole thing repainted in the mustard-yellow colour that was fashionable in the late 18th century. It was in a row of other 18th-century houses that were still rotting, and suddenly I realized what central Calcutta used to look like. It made the hair rise on the back of my neck.

The same evening I went to a dinner party in south Calcutta, and found myself sitting next to the architect who had done the restoration. (Small world.) She explained that she had got municipal money to fix the house up, on condition that the existing residents (poor people, of course) would not be displaced by the high-rent crowd. The point, of course, was to inspire other property owners to do the same thing.

I don’t know if that particular house has fallen into disrepair again (Google Streetview has its limitations), but I do know that the example did not work. I also know that it could work.

It would cost more than a vat of blue paint, but labour isn’t that expensive

in the city, so it’s cheaper to restore than to destroy and rebuild. If Calcutta started now, it could have a city centre that is the envy of Asia in 10 years.

Alternatively, the West Bengal government could push the blue business a bit further. After all, nothing exceeds like excess. Why not paint all 14 million of Calcutta’s inhabitants blue, and declare that they are all avatars of Vishnu? That would get everybody’s attention.

*Gwynne Dyer is a historian and freelance writer based in London, England, who has commented on international affairs since 1973. He was born in St. John's and holds a B.A. in history from Memorial University, as well as a master's degree in military history from Rice University in Houston, Texas and a PhD in military and Middle Eastern history from King's College London. He was also the senior lecturer in War Studies at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. He was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada last year. More than 175 papers in some 45 countries publish his column on international affairs.*

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# Education and training baseline study

**BY MATT DURNAN**  
NEWS@THOMPSONCITIZEN.NET

The Thompson Economic Diversification Working Group (TEDWG) Education and Training sub-committee met for the fifth time on April 24.

Laura Mannell, a planner with rePlan, who works alongside TEDWG presented a baseline study to the School District of Mystery Lake board of trustees that the sub-committee conducted as a gauge to where education and training levels are in Thompson and the surrounding area.

“The baseline is really

meant to provide a concrete understanding of what the current reality is in terms of education and training today,” said Mannell, “by doing so it really gives us a foundation to think about how we move forward in education and training in to the future.”

The hope is that the study can also be used as a resource for local education and training organizations.

What was found in the study may be a bit unnerving to some, especially those on the board. Education levels are quite low in Manitoba, and

the numbers are even worse in the North and in Thompson.

Mannell says that a focus needs to be put on education, due to the unique situation in the North with a very young population.

“In terms of age distribution, Thompson and the region have a very young population,” said Mannell, “they have more people under the age of 25 than the rest of Manitoba and the rest of Canada.”

To go along with that, there is a very young aboriginal population, with over 50 per cent of aborig-

inal people in Thompson being under the age of 25.

“This tells us that there is a lot of potential for the region because there is a great deal of human resources,” said Mannell, “we need to plan for this with things like skill development and build on it for economic growth.”

The Northern region that TEDWG and rePlan looked at contains 23 public schools within three districts, as well as 23 First Nations Schools.

Mannell highlighted challenges faced in some of the schools in outlying communities, in that some of them are still without high speed Internet, limiting the access to educational resources a great deal.

In the region studied, 70 per cent of the people do not have a high school diploma, and in Thompson that number is 30 per cent.

“Those numbers are quite high,” said Mannell, “and the graduation rate of the high school (R.D. Parker Collegiate) is less than 50 per cent.”

The one area where Thompson is meeting standards is in the trades sector. Thompson is actually on par with the province and Canada when it comes to education levels in trades.

“It makes sense that with Vale in Thompson, there would be a number of people that have training in the trades, but Vale is actually still flying many people in to fill positions at the mine, and the attrition rate for those individuals is quite high and they lose about 75 per cent of that workforce over a five to 10 year period.”

Thompson’s unemployment rate is 6.9 percent, slightly higher than the provincial number of

5.5 per cent. The unemployment rate among aboriginal residents is much higher at 14.2 per cent, and the regional unemployment rate is a staggering 24 per cent.

“This high level of unemployment is directly connected to low levels of education,” said Mannell, “while unemployment is a reality, it doesn’t appear to be due to a lack of jobs, especially in the resource sector.”

The Northern Manitoba Sector Council has estimated that they will require people to fill at least 2,800 jobs in the mining, hydro and forestry industries over the next five years.

“This is where we see the need, that we need to connect education and training to these local jobs,” said Mannell, “and to make sure that people have the skills necessary to attain employment.”

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**Manitoba** 

## Jessica Mills: City’s new director of planning and community development

**BY MATT DURNAN**  
NEWS@THOMPSONCITIZEN.NET

The City of Thompson welcomed Jessica Mills, its new director of planning and community development, at a March 26 council meeting.

Mills, originally from Sydney, Nova Scotia has stepped in to be Gary Ceppetelli’s successor. She has experience working as a development officer in the non-profit sector and has also spent time working in land management in the private investment sector.

She has also worked for the federal government in policy and research as an intern. Mills holds a master of business administration (MBA) with a specialization in community economic development, and an undergraduate bachelor of arts in community studies from Cape Breton University.

Mills says Thompson

really fit the bill for what she was looking to do while she was on her job search.

“I was looking online for development job opportunities and I was looking to go to a smaller city,” said Mills, “because what I’ve been studying really goes hand-in-hand with smaller areas, so I can take my knowledge and contribute to that specific area, whether it’s community based or economic or business.”

There is a broad range of things that Mills will be taking on, including reporting to councillors and Mayor Tim Johnston, management duties and working with the development review committee.

“I have a great mentor in Gary Ceppetelli, and working with him has been a great experience so far and I know I’m going to learn a lot more because I get to work with

Jessica Mills

him,” said Mills.

She held her first meeting with the development review committee on April 13, and is excited about her new post.

“Everyone’s been very nice and welcoming,” said Mills, “I’m looking forward to starting a new life in Thompson and dedicating my time working for the city and contributing to its future development.”

The Lorimer Award

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The Lorimer Award is presented by the University College of the North in recognition of outstanding service to education in Northern Manitoba (North of 53rd parallel). The Lorimer Award is named in honour of Dr. W.C. Lorimer, a distinguished Manitoba educator who served as Deputy Minister of Education from 1967 to 1969.

Past recipients made outstanding contributions of a well-defined nature to education that was well beyond the call of duty, having had a major constructive impact. Their work involved a substantial and continued commitment to education in the North.

NOMINATIONS ARE DUE MAY 16, 2012 BY 4:00 P.M.


Nomination forms can be picked up and submitted at the Enrolment Services office at both campuses, or accessed from the UCN website within the “Bursary and Award Info.” link. They are also available from and should be submitted along with a detailed letter(s) of support by mail, fax, or in person to:

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E-mail: tcarriere@ucn.ca

The above award will be presented at convocation in June at either the Thompson or The Pas campus. A plaque of recognition will be on display at UCN.

We thank those that nominate in advance for the time you take to recognize someone deserving of this prestigious award.




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# Pat Comaskey, widow of former Thompson mayor, dies at the age of 68

BY IAN GRAHAM  
IAN@THOMPSONCITIZEN.NET

Pat Comaskey, the woman who stood behind the scenes in support of her husband and former Thompson mayor, the late Bill Comaskey, died April 5 after a brief illness, just over 10 months after the death of her husband.

Born Catherine Pat Sheerin in Archerstown, Westmeath, Ireland on Feb. 9, 1944, Pat Comaskey immigrated to Thompson in 1967, following Bill, who had come to the Nickel City a year before. They were married in Thompson

and raised two children – Brenda and David – in the city.

“I have heard people describe her as the ‘quiet support’ of my Dad and his political career and I think that is quite fitting,” Brenda wrote in an e-mail to the *Thompson Citizen*. “She didn’t like to be the centre of attention but she was right there beside him whenever the occasion warranted. She really enjoyed travelling with him across Canada when she was able to join him.”

Once her children were attending school, Pat

Comaskey returned to work, beginning a lengthy career at the Thompson General Hospital.

“She really enjoyed her time at medical records before retiring in 2003 and made very good friends there,” said her daughter. “They would continue to celebrate each other’s birthdays.”

Pat Comaskey was known for her love of golf, a passion she pursued both at the Thompson Golf Club during her time in the North and at the Southwood Golf & Country Club in Winnipeg after she and her husband moved there in 2006 to be closer to their children. She was also very dedicated to her family, both in Canada and in her native country.

“I would describe my mother as a very loving, supportive mother who made many sacrifices – along with my Dad – for David and I,” wrote Brenda. “No matter what was going on in their lives, family was a priority for her and she took advantage of every opportunity to spend time with us.”

Her relatives in Ireland included three sisters, nieces, nephews and extended family, along with her in-laws

“She made trips back to

Ireland many times over the years and family had also been over for visits,” says Brenda. “For both my parents – despite the distance, Ireland and her family there were always a big part of her life.”

Bill Comaskey died at the age of 65 last June, about five years after he stepped down as the longest-serving mayor of Thompson, a job he held for more than 15 years.

He and Pat still had extended family members living in Thompson and were fondly remembered by many current and former residents, as evidenced by messages of condolence posted in the guest book of Pat’s obituary on the *Winnipeg Free Press* Passages Website.

“Pat was a great support to Bill, attending many functions and it was good to have shared those times together,” read one such message from Valerie Wilson, a former school board trustee in Thompson and the widow of the late city councillor Brian Wilson, who served on council with Bill Comaskey, twice acting as deputy mayor. “As Bill would have said, ‘Rest in Peace,’ Pat. He was probably waiting for her with open arms and that big grin on his face.”



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The federal Tories are tinkering with  
a success story for no good reason

**50%**

Manitoba’s NDP government  
may not like it but immigration settlement  
services have traditionally been  
a federal responsibility. No foul here

**50%**

Total Votes: 96


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# Storybook start in WHL playoffs

**BY IAN GRAHAM**  
SPORTS@THOMPSONCITIZEN.NET

In a movie, Thompson goaltender Justin Paulic would have won his first playoff start for the Western Hockey League's Moose Jaw Warriors – who trailed 3-0 in the best of seven series beforehand – and then led them on a stunning four-game comeback to earn a berth in the league final.

In reality, he accomplished the first part, stopping 28 of 29 shots in only his second-ever WHL start, which was a dream come true in itself. Paulic didn't just win the game and help the Warriors avoid the sweep – he ended the Edmonton Oil Kings' 22-game winning streak, which was five shy of the overall league record and included 11 straight playoff wins, one short of the league record. Paulic dashed Edmonton's hopes of becoming the third team to sweep three consecutive playoff series in WHL history.

Two nights later, the Warriors' season ended in a 4-1 loss with Paulic



Thompson goaltender Justin Paulic stopped 28 shots to stave off elimination in his first-ever playoff start for the WHL's Moose Jaw Warriors on April 25.

stopping 20 of 24 shots.

Coming into a must-win game after not playing regularly in more than a month is tough, but Dustin Levesque, who's coached Paulic on the midget AAA Norman Northstars in Thompson for the past two seasons said he wasn't surprised by his netminder's success.

"As a goaltender, you need to have the mindset that you want to be in big games and pressure situations and come out on top," said Levesque. "Justin has that mindset, his strong performances against the [midget AAA Winnipeg] Thrashers and Wild, and clutch performances in shootouts this year are a reflection of that so I can't say that I'm surprised he played well, I wouldn't have expected anything less from him."

The Northstars' coach also figured the Warriors' coaching staff must have had faith in his potential as well.

"Being down 3-0 and having Justin practise with the team since the end of the regular season they must have felt confident enough in his abilities to give him a shot," said Levesque. "He was able to do what they needed and was humble in victory giving the majority of the credit to his team's defensive play."

Paulic's approach to every game enables him to have this success.

"Justin has always been very focused and has the ability to block out distractions," said Levesque. "I'm sure he was very nervous on the inside after finding out he was getting the start but his ability to re-focus on what he needs to do to play well must have taken over. He played well in his game with OCN [Blizzard] and in the final game of the regular season for Moose Jaw so looking back on those positive experiences probably helped calm him somewhat."

Photo courtesy of James Johnson, Brighter Image Studios

# Eight Trojans qualify for badminton provincials

**BY IAN GRAHAM**  
SPORTS@THOMPSONCITIZEN.NET

R.D. Parker Collegiate's badminton players captured seven titles, the AAA team banner and five provincials berths, including one wildcard at the Zone 11 badminton championships April 27-28 in

Thompson.

In total, the Trojans had 15 top three finishes, including a sweep of the junior varsity girls' doubles category.

Trojans representing the north at badminton provincials in Carman this weekend will include sen-

ior girls' singles champion Megan Thorne, senior boys' doubles champions Tevin Wong and Morgan Cordell and mixed doubles champions Lori Miscavish and Breyden Turner, along with Tara Miscavish and Jordan Lindsay, who were the mixed doubles runners-up, and Brianne Hanson, who finished third in senior girls' singles but was granted a wild card berth.

Other winners from Northern Manitoba include senior boys' singles champion Codi Broney from Duke of Marlborough School in Churchill and girls' doubles champions Trishten Turner and Shelby Beardy from Grand Rapids School. Provincial berths also went to Mikayla Gawiak of Hapnot Collegiate Institute in Flin Flon, who was second in senior girls' singles, Seth Fernandes of Hapnot, second in senior boys' singles, Alex Berg and Alexis Campbell of Duke of Marlborough School, the runners-up in senior girls' doubles, and Aaron Ogrodnick and Rhys Sheppard of Margaret Barbour Collegiate Institute (MBCI) in The Pas, who



Thompson Citizen photo by Ian Graham

Lori Miscavish, left, and Breyden Turner defeated fellow RDPC students Tara Miscavish and Jordan Lindsay to win the mixed doubles division at the Zone 11 badminton championships in Thompson April 27-28.

finished second in senior boys' doubles.

RDPC's junior varsity champions, who do not go on to provincials, included Krystin Williams (girls' singles), Trent Laycock (boys' singles), Kendra Hanson and Nicole Robson (girls' doubles) and Madison Murray and Norman Khawar (mixed doubles).

Trojans who finished second in their junior variety divisions included Mallory Hart (girls' singles) as well as Alex Correia and Teya Templeton (girls' doubles). Deandra Howard and Mackenzie Larway finished third in the junior varsity girls' doubles while Danielle Dnistranski and Jo-

nah Babulic were third in the junior varsity mixed doubles.

RDPC finished ahead of Hapnot and third-place MBCI for the AAA team banner, while the A/AA team title went to Duke of Marlborough School, with Mel Johnson School in Wabowden second and Grand Rapids School third.



**The Thompson Tumblers  
Gymnastics Club**  
Would like to send out a huge **Thank You** to  
**Tim Hortons, Pizza Hut, McDonald's and R.A Distributors** for their many years of support.



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# RDPC's Cordell named rural athlete of the week

R.D. Parker Collegiate badminton player Morgan Cordell was named the Manitoba High Schools Athletic Association Tri-Star rural high school athlete of the week April 24 after winning the doubles division in Flin Flon and placing second in Gimli the weekend before last.

Cordell, a 6'0" Grade 12 student, is a "sponge for information," said RDPC Trojans badminton coach Todd Harwood.

"He is one of those athletes that when given feedback he is able to incorporate it into his game almost immediately," Harwood says. "He is a really hard worker and that feeds the other athletes on the team to do the same."

Cordell maintains an 84 per cent average and was also a member of the Trojans volleyball team this school year.



Morgan Cordell

# Burntwood Curling Club champions crowned

BY IAN GRAHAM  
SPORTS@THOMPSONCITIZEN.NET

The teams skipped by Jennifer Rolles and are Hainstock are the Burntwood Curling Club's men's and ladies' club champions of 2012 after winning their final matches on April 11.

The Rolles team, which includes Lois Hainstock, Shannon Heis and Stacey Hainstock, defeated Lois Kinsman, Pam Antila, Shawna Neufeld and Krista Kristjanson in the ladies' final, while the team of Hainstock, Gerry Haight, Alex Sutherland, Al Meston and Claude Hykawy beat Farrol Asham, Jon Sawatzky, Grant Brown and Todd Gray for the men's title.

The Hainstock team battled through the B-side for a spot in the final, winning four straight games – against the teams of Shaun Kennedy, Sam Antila, Shaun Parsons and Jeff Ziemanski – after dropping their opening match to Wayne McLellan's squad. Asham had been undefeated until the final, winning games against the Gary Adams, Antila and Ziemanski teams.


The Rolles team won both their matches in the women's competition, beating the Kim Hicke team to qualify for the title game after receiving a first-round bye.

Kinsman's team avenged their loss to the Hicke team in the first match of the tournament by beating them to qualify for the final.

The Burntwood Curling Club's ladies league winners included the Rolles team, which won the Monday aggregate and Monday square, Charlene Norquay's team, winners of the Wednesday aggregate, Kinsman's team, which won the Wednesday A square, and Sheila Senter's team, the winners of the Wednesday B square.

In the men's league results, Asham's team was the champion of the Wednesday aggregate and Wednesday A square, as well as the Thursday aggregate and the Thursday A square. Hainstock's team captured the Tuesday aggregate, while Garfield Armstrong's squad won the Tuesday A square. Joel Brolund's team won the Wednesday B square. Ernie Lafreniere's and Kennedy's teams won the Thursday B and C squares, respectively.

RDPC *Pham Committee*  
wishes to invite the public to a viewing of  
*When in Rome...*  
on Friday, May 11th, 2012  
6:30 – 8:30 pm in the R. D. Parker gymnasium.  
Please come and enjoy this special event with our Grade 12 and mature students.  
Parents please note that Life Touch Photography will be available for photos.  
- RDPC *Pham Committee*



### Burntwood Curling Club

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

May 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.  
Location: BCC Lounge

ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

### Kiddies Northern Preschool

Will be accepting registrations for the  
2012/2013 SCHOOL YEAR  
Beginning April 30th

Limited spaces are available.

Call Lynn at 778-7739 for more information  
or to book your registration appointment.





### Thompson Community Foundation

Thompson Community Foundation is now accepting applications for Experienced Volunteer Board members who want to work in a good governance system. Come join our board members Brad Ritchie, Liz Sousa, Colin Bonnycastle, Alain Huberdeau, Lyle Miller, Susan Buckle, Murray Thompson, Lou Morissette and Lynn Nakonechny where you can make a difference in the Thompson community.

Contact Tammy at 677-1908, tcf@mts.net or go online and download the application at [www.thompsonfoundation.mb.ca](http://www.thompsonfoundation.mb.ca)

# A gym-dandy finish to Thompson Tumblers gymnastics season

The Thompson Tumblers gymnastics club held its annual mini-meet on April 14 at the Burntwood School gym. There were a total of 65 gymnasts competing in different age and skill levels on four apparatuses: vault, uneven bars, balance beam and floor. Congratulations to all the participants who ranged in age from three to 16. The mini-meet was our year-end finale to our season and is an exciting showcase of what the gymnasts have learned throughout the season.

The toddler group had their first year of participation and they were a welcome addition to the meet with their adorable performances. Each gymnast who participated received awards for their routines. We would like to thank the Flin Flon gymnasts for challenging our competitive girls in this meet. This was a friendly and fun competition for all. We hope the audience had as much fun as the gymnasts did.

Next season will be very exciting with our club moving into the new facility and our coaches working on developing an even better recreation and competitive program. We look forward to seeing new members join in on the tumbling good times.


The executive board members – president Dawn Lundrigan, vice-president Trish Griffin and fundraising co-ordinator Dori Woytkiw – would like to thank the parents and coaches who assisted them in making this year's mini-meet one of the most successful the club has had in many years. Without the dedicated board members and parents our club could not be as successful as it is.

### School District of Mystery Lake Change in Regular Board Meeting Location

The School District of Mystery Lake will be changing the location of the Regular Board meetings. Below are the dates, schools and location that the meetings will be held at.

| Date          | School                    | Location       |
|---------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| May 8, 2012   | Ecole Riverside School    | Library        |
| May 22, 2012  | Burntwood School          | Library        |
| June 12, 2012 | Deerwood School           | Library        |
| June 26, 2012 | Wapanohk Community School | Community Room |

All meetings start at 7:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend.



# Saunders misses medal round

BY IAN GRAHAM  
SPORTS@THOMPSONCITIZEN.NET

Thompson native Jen Saunders missed out on the medals in both the women's singles and women's doubles events at the 2012 Pan American Racquetball Championships in Temuco, Chile, held March 30 to April 7, losing in the quarterfinals in singles and the semifinals in the doubles event.

Saunders lost 5-15, 15-12, 6-11 to Carola Loma of Bolivia in the quarterfinals of the singles playoffs, after opening the elimination round with a 15-5, 15-0 defeat of Maria Cespedes of the



Jennifer Saunders

Dominican Republic. Saunders received a first-round bye in the playoffs after finishing first in Group C in the

preliminary round, beating Pamela Sierra of Honduras (15-6, 15-1), Mariana Paredes of Venezuela (15-5, 15-6) and Claudine Garcia of the Dominican Republic (15-7, 15-9).

Saunders and her partner Christine Richardson dropped a 12-15, 11-15 decision to Loma and Janny Daza of Bolivia in the women's doubles semifinal, having earlier beaten Paredes and Mariana Tobon of Venezuela 15-10, 15-14 in the quarterfinal after receiving a first-round bye. The Canadian pair finished at the top of Group B in

the doubles preliminary round, beating Veronique Gillemette and Natalia Corti of Argentina (15-2, 15-10), Carla Munoz and Maria Paz Riquelme of Chile (15-2, 15-7) and Garcia and Cespedes of the Dominican Republic (15-6, 15-11).

Saunders is the current Canadian women's racquetball champion in both the women's singles and doubles categories. She has won five national singles championships and seven national doubles championships. She was named Manitoba's 2009 female athlete of the year.

### Welcome to Kindergarten

Parents with children who will be attending kindergarten in September, 2012 are invited to participate in the Welcome to Kindergarten event at their catchment area school. Welcome to Kindergarten will give you and your child the chance to become more familiar with the school as you participate in fun filled activities with the kindergarten teacher and other school staff!

Events will be held:

May 2- Wapanohk Community School, 7:00 p.m.  
May 30-Ecole Riverside School, 7:00 p.m.  
June 5-Deerwood School, 6:30 p.m.  
June 6- Burntwood School, 6:30 p.m.  
June 6- Juniper School, 6:30 p.m.  
June 7- Westwood School, 6:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact your school principal.



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# Thompson Citizen

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104 • EVENTS

**SKATE THOMPSON AGM:** Monday, May 7 at 6:30 pm in the Nickel Room at Burntwood Hotel. 17-2-d

112 • CHURCH SERVICES

**LIVING WATER CHURCH**  
  
Pastor Archie McKay  
Ph: 677-2469  
Sunday services @ 7:00pm.  
Light of the North Church  
32 Nelson Road

**CHRISTIAN COUNCIL CHURCH DIRECTORY**  
  
**ST. JAMES ANGLICAN**  
Rev. Jean Arthursen-Ouskan  
10 Caribou Church 677-4652  
Home 778-6773 11 am  
**ST. JOSEPH UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC**  
340 Juniper Drive 778-7547  
**ST. JOHN'S UNITED**  
Rev. Leslie Elizabeth King  
52 Caribou Rd 677-4495 10:30 am  
**ST. LAWRENCE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH**  
Fr Prosper Lyimo 114 Cree R. 677-0160  
Sat. 6:30 pm & Sun. 10 am  
**SALVATION ARMY**  
Major Ronald & Linda Mailman  
305 Thompson Dr. 677-3658 11 am  
**THOMPSON PENTECOSTAL**  
Pastors Dan Murphy & Trent Kemsley  
126 Goldeye 677-3435  
Sunday School - 9:45  
Morning - 11 am Evening - 6 pm  
**ADVENT LUTHERAN**  
179 Thompson Drive N  
10:30 am Sunday 677-4495  
Rev Leslie Elizabeth King  
**ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN**  
132 Greenway Cres. 677-4151  
Sunday School (youth): 9:45 am  
(kindergarten and up): 11:30 am  
Regular Hours: 11 am Church Service  
**CHRISTIAN CENTRE FELLOWSHIP**  
Pastor Ted Goossen  
328 Thompson Dr. N. 677-4457  
Sun. School 9:45 am • Service 11 am  
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Ps Peter Elias 456 Westwood Dr. S.  
Ph. 778-8037 Service @ 11 am

201 • SERVICES

**STRUGGLING WITH DEBT? LET OUR FAMILY HELP YOUR FAMILY**  
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1-800-263-0070 46a-e-tfnb

301 • HELP WANTED

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Join our team of hospitality professionals. We seek exceptional candidates only.  
  
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hr@mysterylakehotel.ca  
Fax 778.4193. 13-tfn-nb

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Call 778-8880 or drop  
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- Proven organizational skills; able to cope with changing client needs and deliver successful results within agreed upon timeframes;
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To join our team, please send your resume and cover letter by May 7, 2012 at 5:00 PM to:  
**Keith Macdonald, Property Manager**  
City Centre Mall  
300 Mystery Lake Road  
Thompson, MB R8N 0M2  
Fax: (204) 677-4611  
kmacdonald@arcturusrealty.com  
  
We thank all candidates for their interest, but we can only contact those selected for an interview. Arcturus Realty Corporation is an equal opportunity employer.

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Looking for a full-time, mature, experienced individual for immediate employment.  
**Drop resume off in person at Kicks & Threads City Centre Mall**

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401 • VEHICLES FOR SALE

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403 • MOTORCYCLES FOR SALE

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407 • PETS

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408 • SNOWMOBILES & QUADS

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502 • APT/TOWN-HOUSE FOR RENT

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505 • HOUSES FOR SALE

  
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509 • SHARED ACCOMMODATIONS

**WANTED:** Non-smoking, non-drinking roommate for 3-bedroom townhouse. With a cat. 679-1099. 17-2-d

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THOMPSON

**CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH INFO SESSION:** Open to anyone in the community who vales French-Second-Language (FSL) education, including students, parents, teachers, administrators, trustees, daycare providers, parent councils, etc. This is a community info session to share info on the current state of FSL education in Thompson and the role of CPF to ensure young people have access to quality FSL learning opportunities. Monday, May 7, & - 8 pm at École Riverside School Library. Call 1-877-737-7036, email cpfmb@cpfmb.com

**LEGION LADIES AUXILIARY** Mother's Day Tea. Saturday, May 12, 1 - 3 pm at the Legion Centennial Hall. Everyone welcome. Bake, touch & take tables, silent auction, coffee, tea & lunch, door prizes, pie auction, fish pond for kids, plus rented tables. Adults \$3, kids (12 and under) \$1. Proceeds go toward buying equipment for Thompson General Hospital.

**THE MANITOBA DIVISION OF THE MS SOCIETY** of Canada presents: Pain Management in Multiple Sclerosis Tele-Health Session. Wednesday, May 9, 7:00 - 8:30 pm at Thompson General Hospital, Conference Room 201. Guest Speaker: Dr. Mike Namaka BSc Pharm; MSc Pharm; PhD Med; Associate Professor; Neuroscientist, MS Clinical Neuropharmacologist. Free of charge. Register by Tuesday, May 1 by calling (204) 988-0904 or 1-800-268-7582 or email: nadine.konyk@mssociety.ca

**DID YOU ATTEND HIGH SCHOOL IN THOMPSON?** The largest, most fun, memories-to-last-a-lifetime, bestest-ever party is coming this September 29 - October 1! And YOU want to be part of it! RDPC is 50 years old this year! It is holding a HUGE anniversary party and reunion. If you attended Thompson High School or RD Parker Collegiate you are welcome. Find your old schoolmates and bring them, or meet them in Thompson this fall for 3 days. Check out "Thompson High & RD Parker Collegiate 50th Anniversary & Reunion" on Facebook. A website for registration, travel arrangements, hotel info, itinerary and other details is under construction and will be up in May, 2012. See you soon in Thompson!

**THE ASSESSMENT CENTRE** at the YWCA can help if you want to go back to school, prepare for the GED exam, or make a career decision! This is free service open to all adults. For more information or an appointment call 778-1208.

**DID YOU KNOW?** If you're pregnant, you need to keep your energy up by eating regularly throughout the day! It's best not to skip meals, especially breakfast. The food you eat will give your baby the nutrition it needs to grow and be healthy. For more info about healthy eating during pregnancy or our prenatal groups, call Babies' Best Start at 677-4431 or drop by our office at the YWCA.

510 • RETAIL/OFFICE SPACE


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603 • TENDERS

**NOTICE OF TENDER**  
  
For other Manitoba government tenders, please visit [www.manitoba.ca](http://www.manitoba.ca)  
  
**TENDER WILL BE AVAILABLE ON April 25, 2012**  
**MANITOBA INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION**  
  
Separate sealed Tenders will be received by:  
**Infrastructure and Transportation - Region 5**  
11 Nelson Road  
Thompson, MB R8N 0B3  
(204) 677-6540

on the specified day up to 12:00 noon prevailing local time for the following work:  
  
**FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2012**  
**C.O. No. X05855**  
Loading, Hauling, Depositing Traffic Gravel in the vicinity of The Pas, Cranberry Portage & Snow Lake  
  
The work involves Loading from Stockpiles, haul and deposit traffic gravel on PR's 287, 384, 395, Sherridon Road and North Star Road.  
  
Tender forms may be obtained at the above address. The lowest or any tender may not necessarily be accepted.  
**Manitoba** 

**NOTICE OF TENDER**  
  
For other Manitoba government tenders, please visit [www.manitoba.ca](http://www.manitoba.ca)  
  
**TENDER WILL BE AVAILABLE ON April 27, 2012**  
**MANITOBA INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION**  
  
Separate sealed Tenders will be received by:  
**Infrastructure and Transportation - Region 5**  
11 Nelson Road  
Thompson, MB R8N 0B3  
(204) 677-6540  
  
on the specified day up to 12:00 noon prevailing local time for the following work:  
  
**THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2012**  
**C.O. No. X05866**  
Dragging on PR 391 & the Nelson House Access Road  
  
The work involves dragging on PR 391 for a total distance of 33 kms & the Nelson House Assess for a total distance of 10 kms.  
  
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University College of the North (UCN) is committed to building a workforce that is representative of the populations we serve. Applications are invited from individuals who have a demonstrated interest and ability to work with Aboriginal learners and mature students.

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES FACILITATOR

Classification: Educational Assistant 2

Part-Time Regular Position (Flexible shifts – evening)

The Pas, Manitoba

Competition No. 3237

Closing Date: May 18, 2012

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Wireless Solutions/MTS Connect Thompson

16-50 Selkirk Avenue,

Thompson, MB R8N0M7

Attention: Vincent W. Shumka

No phone calls please.

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LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES FACILITATOR

Classification: Educational Assistant 2

Full-Time Regular Position

Start Date: August, 2012

The Pas, Manitoba

Competition No. 3238

Closing Date: May 18, 2012

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REPRESENTATIVE WORKFORCE COORDINATOR

Classification: Administrative Officer 1

Full-Time Regular Position

The Pas, Manitoba

Competition No. 3239

Closing Date: May 18, 2012

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UCN

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University College of the North

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VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH

Five Year Term Position

The Pas, Manitoba

Competition No. 3227

Closing Date: May 25, 2012

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UCN

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University College of the North

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Inside Sales and Service Representative  
Thompson, MB

Acklands-Grainger Inc is committed to the principles and practices of employment equity. We invite all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, visible minorities, and Aboriginal Peoples to apply for our career opportunities

Job Code : MB-186

Job Type : Full Time

Division : Acklands-Grainger Inc.

Category : Sales/Retail/Business Development

For a full job description or to submit your resume for this job, please apply online @ [www.acklandsgrainger.com](http://www.acklandsgrainger.com) or in person to 41 Severn Cresent, Thompson, or email Matt at [BurikM@agi.ca](mailto:BurikM@agi.ca)

DOWNTOWN AMBASSADOR PROGRAM VACANCIES

The Thompson Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation, in partnership with the City of Thompson and the Manitoba Liquor Control Commission, is accepting applications for the following part-time positions:

- Lead Downtown Ambassador (1 position)
  - o Rate of pay \$16/hr.
- Downtown Ambassador (3 positions)
  - o Rate of pay \$15/hr.

"In cooperation with local agencies, endeavor to enhance the local downtown area by creating a safe and friendly environment"

Qualifications:

- Available evenings and weekends from May to September
- Physically fit: capable of walking or biking eight hours a day in all weather conditions (proper attire is provided)
- Demonstrated ability to work well with the general public
- Grade 12 education or equivalent
- Current criminal record and Provincial Child Abuse Registry checks
- Superior communication skills; both written and verbal
- The ability to speak Cree or Dene is considered an asset

Responsibilities

- Create a safe, friendly environment in the downtown area
- Be approachable and receptive to all inquiries made by citizens and visitors
- Be attentive to surroundings and deter any potential crime
- Be a positive example and influence
- Work in partnership with fellow team members, RCMP and Fire & Emergency Services

Interested candidates are asked to identify which of the two positions being applied for. Submit resumes to:

Downtown Ambassador Program

c/o Dawn Sands

101-55 Selkirk Ave, Thompson, Manitoba R8N 0M5

email: [dsands@tnrc.ca](mailto:dsands@tnrc.ca)

fax: (204) 677-0765

T.N.R.C

Babies' Best Start  
Prenatal/Postnatal Nutrition Program  
Funded by Health Canada  
&  
Healthy Child MB  
Sponsored by the YWCA of Thompson

Home Support Worker

Under the direction of the Program Coordinator- the Home Support Worker will support prenatal and postnatal participants who require nutrition and lifestyle information related to pregnancy & parenting/ breastfeeding infants.

- Provide nutrition teaching and practical and breastfeeding supports to program participants at hospital or at home
- Develop children's activities & provide child minding
- Act as a liaison and/or advocate for participants when dealing with agencies or organizations.
- Organize displays and resources, complete housekeeping duties and shopping duties as requested.
- Maintain required program files and records.

Is this you?

- Minimum Grade 12 education or equivalent.
- Education and/or experience in health, counseling would be an asset.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Knowledge of aboriginal culture, values and traditions.
- It would be an asset if you have children and have breastfed.
- Must possess valid driver's license and have a vehicle available for work.

Hours of work: 32.5 hours a week - Monday to Friday with occasional weekend and evening work that may be required. Wage rate will be dependent on experience and qualifications.

DON'T MISS OUT! Deadline to join the Fun is Friday May 4th, 2012.

Apply to:

Candace Bignell-Program Coordinator

Babies' Best Start

YWCA of Thompson

39 Nickel Road

Thompson, MB R8N 0Y5

Tel: 204-778-1209

Fax: 204-778-5308

Email: [babies@mts.net](mailto:babies@mts.net)



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



APPRENTICE MECHANICS WANTED!

**MacLean Engineering & Marketing Co. Limited** is a privately owned Canadian company that specializes in the design, manufacture and marketing of quality mechanized equipment serving customers worldwide in Underground Mining, Commercial and Municipal Sectors.

We offer competitive compensation, benefits, bonus, and retirement savings. We also support apprenticeship training, continuous learning and professional development.

We are actively recruiting **APPRENTICE MECHANICS** for the following locations:

**CREIGHTON, SK**  
**THOMPSON, MB**

Ideally, candidates will possess some education in a mechanical field coupled with 2+ years of experience commissioning, troubleshooting and repairing electrical, hydraulic and mechanical systems on equipment. Candidates must be either currently registered in an apprentice or be willing to start an apprenticeship with the Company. Candidates must be able to work independently with minimal supervision and must have a proven track record of providing “above and beyond” customer support. Previous experience in an underground mining environment is preferred. Bilingualism (French and English) is an asset.

*If you are interested in being part of an established and growing Canadian company we want to hear from you!*

*Please submit cover letter and resume to:*

MacLean Engineering & Marketing Co. Limited  
Attention: Human Resources  
1000 Raglan Street, R.R. #2  
Collingwood, ON L9Y 3Z1

Fax: (705) 445-3214

Email: [humanresources@macleanengineering.com](mailto:humanresources@macleanengineering.com)  
*Please be sure to indicate the position title and location you are interested in when applying.*

*For more information on our company, please visit our website [www.macleanengineering.com](http://www.macleanengineering.com).*



**Sling Choker Mfg (Thompson) Ltd**  
192 Hayes Road  
Thompson MB  
R8N 1M4  
Phone (204) 778-7123  
Fax (204) 778-7537  
[www.slingchoker.com](http://www.slingchoker.com),  
[www.slingchokersafety.com](http://www.slingchokersafety.com)

**Inside Sales and Service Representative**  
**Thompson MB**

Established in 1975, Sling Choker Manufacturing has grown to become a well established, strategically located Manufacturer/Supplier of a wide range of Industrial and MRO (Maintenance, Repair & Operating) products for the Mining, Forestry/Pulp and Paper, Construction and other Industrial sectors.

Sling Choker is also an original member of the procurement E-Commerce Group, Quadrem which is a buying consortium of the world's largest Mining companies.

Our Thompson Manitoba branch is growing and we are seeking an Inside Sales and Service Representative.

**KEY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Sell a diversified line of Safety and Rigging products by accepting incoming phone calls and conducting over-the-counter sales
- Process customer orders on computer system
- Provide pricing and inventory information to customers
- Maintain existing accounts and manage customer relationships
- Communicate with other branch staff to resolve customer issues; follow-up with customers in a timely manner
- Maintain a well-rounded knowledge of products sold
- Perform branch support duties as required

**REQUIRED EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Knowledge of Industrial and Safety products developed through formal education or prior work experience
- Proven customer service, communication skills and pleasant telephone manner
- Ability to work in a computerized environment
- Demonstrated ability to work cooperatively in a team setting as well as individually
- Proven skills in time management and the ability to prioritize tasks within a fastpaced environment

Sling Choker Mfg (Thompson) Ltd offers Health and Dental benefits as well as a comprehensive Pension Plan.

Wage to be determined upon experience.

If you feel you are the one for our team, please drop off a resume in person or e-mail resume to  
Steve Convery [sconvery@slingchoker.com](mailto:sconvery@slingchoker.com)



BRANCH COORDINATOR WANTED!

**MacLean Engineering & Marketing Co. Limited** is a privately owned Canadian company that specializes in the design, manufacture and marketing of quality mechanized equipment serving customers worldwide in Underground Mining, Commercial and Municipal Sectors.

We offer competitive compensation, benefits, bonus, and retirement savings. We also support apprenticeship training, continuous learning and professional development.

We are actively recruiting a **BRANCH COORDINATOR** for our **Thompson, MB**, location.

Reporting directly to the Service and Support Coordinator, the Branch Coordinator will be the direct supervision for the office and shop personnel and will be responsible for maintaining supplies for the office, shop and warehouse. The Branch Coordinator will also be responsible for expedite inventory for sales and work orders and following up with customers. Ideally, candidates will possess a minimum of two (2) years experience working in a customer service capacity in a fast paced office environment. Applicants must also possess excellent communication skills, both oral and written, and have exceptional knowledge working with MS Office programs.

*If you are interested in being part of an established and growing Canadian company we want to hear from you!*

*Please submit cover letter and resume to:*

MacLean Engineering & Marketing Co. Limited  
Attention: Human Resources  
1067 Kelly Lake Road  
Sudbury, ON P3E 5P5

Fax: (705) 670-8023

Email: [humanresources@macleanengineering.com](mailto:humanresources@macleanengineering.com)  
*Please be sure to indicate the position title and location you are interested in when applying.*

*We thank all applicants in advance however only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.*

*For more information on our company, please visit our website [www.macleanengineering.com](http://www.macleanengineering.com).*

**Manitoba Family Services and Labour**  
**Immediate Employment Opportunity**

Thompson Region is hiring casual and full time direct service workers for its Supportive Living Program. Workers will provide daily care for clients with physical and intellectual disabilities. Training will be provided to successful candidates.

**Successful candidates will:**

- be at least 18 years old
- have experience with individuals/families with special needs
- be available to work flexible hours
- have excellent interpersonal skills
- be able to work independently
- be physically able to lift clients
- complete criminal record and child abuse registry checks

**Duties include:**

- helping clients with daily living activities (ex: dressing, bathing, toileting, eating/feeding)
- following instructions to give clients medications
- monitoring medical conditions and documenting, as needed
- managing a household during a shift (ex: meal preparation, basic cleaning)
- helping clients engage in social and recreation activities
- keeping daily logs and documents

**Work shifts include:**  
**Casual**

- weekday mornings (7:00 to 9:00 a.m.)
- evenings (4:00 to 10:00 p.m. or 4:00 to 12:00 p.m.)

**Full time**

- steady evening or midnight shifts
- daytime shifts during holiday periods

Wages are based on qualifications set by the Manitoba Government Employees Union's Collective Agreement.

**Send resumes to:**  
Debbie Gourlay, Resource Co-ordinator

- email: [debbie.gourlay@gov.mb.ca](mailto:debbie.gourlay@gov.mb.ca)
- Fax: 1-204-687-1708
- Phone: 1-204-687-1719




Invites applications for a  
**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**  
\$35,992 – 41,136 AY3  
Thompson, Manitoba  
Competition Number: 2012-0423-RT

MCFS offers a supportive and progressive work environment, competitive salaries and training opportunities; please submit your cover letter, resume and include the competition number to:

**Director of Human Resources**  
Michif Child and Family Services  
Box 1288, 456 Fisher Avenue  
The Pas, MB R9A 1L2 or  
Email: [hr@michifcfs.com](mailto:hr@michifcfs.com)  
Applications will be accepted until: May 9, 2012 at 12:00 p.m.

We thank all who apply, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.  
Please refer to <http://www.michifcfs.com/careers.php> for complete job ad.



Your search is over.

The Manitoba government offers you opportunity, diversity and a rewarding career.

**Child Care Coordinator**  
Regular/Full Time,  
Manitoba Family Services and Labour, Thompson  
Advertisement Number: 25865  
Closing Date: May 11, 2012  
Salary Range: \$44,675 to \$58,820,  
plus remoteness allowance, if eligible

Preference will be given to Aboriginal people. Conditions of employment include: satisfactory Criminal Record Check/Child Abuse Registry Check; valid driver's licence; use of personal vehicle; ability to travel; ability to work occasional overtime.

**Qualifications:**

- Degree/Diploma in Early Childhood Education/ Developmental Studies
- Early Childhood Educator 3 certification.
- Experience as an Early Childhood Educator working in good standing in a licensed early learning and child care centre or licensed family child care home, with supervisory experience preferred. Other suitable combinations of education and experience may be considered.
- Basic understanding of the Manitoba Child Care Program
- Demonstrated ability to resolve conflict and maintain working relationships
- Demonstrated organizational and prioritization skills
- Demonstrated ability to interpret and apply legislation and policies.
- Experience with Microsoft Office
- Effective oral/written communication skills.

**Duties:**  
Please refer to our website: [www.manitoba.ca/govjobs](http://www.manitoba.ca/govjobs) for duties and additional information.

**Apply to:**  
Advertisement #25865  
Manitoba Family Services and Labour  
Human Resource Services  
4089 – 300 Carlton Street  
Winnipeg, MB R3B 3M9  
Fax: (204) 945-0601


Your cover letter and resumé must clearly indicate how you meet the qualifications.

We thank all who apply and advise that only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.

Employment Equity is a factor in selection. Applicants are requested to indicate in their covering letter or resumé if they are from any of the following groups: women, Aboriginal people, visible minorities and persons with a disability.

Find out about other current job opportunities — click on the **Jobs button at [manitoba.ca](http://manitoba.ca).**

People. Purpose. Progress.

**Manitoba** 

Please Recycle





Accountant

The Communities Economic Development Fund (CEDF) is a Provincial Crown Corporation responsible for economic development initiatives in Manitoba including a Small Business Loans Program in Northern Manitoba and a Fisheries Loan Program.

We are currently seeking a self-motivated person for the position of Accountant to work in our Thompson office. This is a full time, permanent position reporting to the Chief Financial Officer.

**Responsibilities:**

- maintenance of all accounting records on a timely and accurate basis;
- preparation of monthly management reports from the information systems;
- preparation of the year-end financial statements and working papers for the annual audit;
- design, creation, and production of reports under the Management Information System as may be requested from time to time.

**Skills, Knowledge, Qualifications, and Experience:**

Working knowledge and experience with Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, Outlook) is required. Experience with network and database administration, a working knowledge of QuickBooks program, as well as enrollment in an intermediate level of a recognized accounting program (CGA, CMA, CA), would be an asset.


This position has a salary range of \$43,141.72 to \$51,527.70 annually.

Please submit resume by May 11, 2012 to:

Oswald Sawh, CFO  
Communities Economic Development Fund  
15 Moak Crescent Thompson MB R8N 2B8

Phone: 204-778-4138 Ext. 239 or 1-800-561-4315 Ext. 239  
Fax: (204)778-4313 Email: admin@cedf.mb.ca

*We thank all applicants, however only those being considered for an interview will be contacted*



Our Vision: creating stronger communities through housing solutions

**CLERK 3**  
**REGULAR FULLTIME**  
**NORTHERN REGION, THOMPSON**  
**Competition Number: 813**  
**Classification:** Clerk 3 (HC3)  
**Salary Range:** \$33,003.00 - \$39,150.00 per annum (MGEU Collective Agreement)  
**Closing Date: May 15, 2012**

Candidates not meeting the essential criteria may be considered for an underfill developmental opportunity. An eligibility list may be established from this posting and will be maintained for a 12 month period.

Manitoba Housing and Community Development provides a continuum of affordable housing services including rental housing, renovation, and homeownership programs; promoting independence and self-sufficiency by providing adequate, safe, and secure housing to people in need. If you are looking for interesting and challenging work, this is a great opportunity to join our team.

**QUALIFICATIONS**  
Essential:

- Experience in front-line customer service and the ability to deal with a diverse clientele group.
- Demonstrated experience in a clerical, and reception role.
- Experience in processing applications against specific criteria to determine eligibility.
- Experience in accounts payable and receivable.
- Effective verbal communication skills.
- The ability to prioritize workloads with competing deadlines.
- Experience with Microsoft 2007 Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook, or an accepted equivalent.

Desired:

- Demonstrated experience with Manitoba Housing's Maintenance Management (MMS) & Tenant Management (TMS) computerized programs.

**DUTIES**  
This position reports to the District Manager and is responsible for performing various administrative and clerical tasks. This position also works as part of a team to ensure efficiency and effective delivery of services to applicants, tenants and other employees in accordance with internal policies and procedures established by Manitoba Housing and Community Development.

Manitoba Housing offers an attractive benefits package and pension plan.

**APPLY TO EITHER LOCATION:**  
**COMPETITION NUMBER: 813**


Manitoba Housing & Community Development  
Human Resource Services  
304-379 Broadway  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0T9  
Fax: (204) 948-2160 or E-mail: [mhcdhr@gov.mb.ca](mailto:mhcdhr@gov.mb.ca)

Manitoba Housing & Community Development  
Thompson District Office  
7B Gay Street  
Thompson, MB R8N 1N1  
Fax: (204)677-0639

Please ensure your cover letter and resume clearly indicate how you meet the qualifications.

We thank all who apply and advise that only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.

Employment Equity is a factor in selection. Applicants are requested to indicate in their covering letter or resumé if they are from any of the following groups: Aboriginal people, visible minorities and persons with disabilities.



Boys & Girls Club of Thompson

The Boys and Girls Club of Thompson invites applications for the position of Drop In Manager to commence ASAP.

**Duties:**


Plans, organizes, directs, controls and coordinates the activities of children and youth ages 6-18. Relevant experience may substitute for the formal qualification. You will be expected to lead, motivate and develop relationships with children and families. Monitor staff performance including performance reviews, proposal writing, and reviewing reports. Must have drivers licence, and willing and able to obtain Class 4.

Good communication, presentation and interpersonal skills are essential. If you have the appropriate skills and enthusiasm, and are ready for an exciting new challenge, please apply.

**Salary: Negotiable depending upon qualifications and experience.**

Please respond by May 9, 2012 with a cover letter, full resume and three references in person, fax or email to:

Atten: Staci  
Boys and Girls Club of Thompson  
PO Box 484, 365 Thompson Dr.  
Thompson MB R8N 1N2  
Email: [bgclub@mts.net](mailto:bgclub@mts.net)  
Fax: 778-1942



Your search is over.

The Manitoba government offers you opportunity, diversity and a rewarding career.

**Shop Clerk**  
Regular/Full Time,  
Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation, Vehicle and Equipment Management Agency, Thompson  
Advertisement Number: 25792  
Closing Date: May 16, 2012  
Salary Range: \$37,051 to \$42,498 per year, plus remoteness allowance

**Qualifications:**  
The successful candidate will have several years experience in secretarial and/or administrative support or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Financial experience with accounts payable, reconciliations and purchase order systems is essential. Must have timekeeping experience. Computer skills and proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook) is required. Strong organizational, planning and time management skills with strong attention to detail, thoroughness and accuracy are essential. Excellent written oral and interpersonal communication skills are required. Experience with SAP in a financial and timekeeping role is desired, as is the ability to work independently and as a team player.

**Conditions of Employment:**  
Must be able to work in an environment with exposure to fumes, odours and extreme loud noises and be able to wear safety boots when entering the shop area.

**Duties:**  
The position provides clerical, administrative and financial support for the Vehicle and Equipment Management Agency (VEMA). This position processes computerized records for requisitions, work orders, time sheets, payroll attendance records, and accident and safety reports. Additionally, this position will compile and code VEMA invoices for payment and processing.

Please insert the advertisement number and position applying for into the subject line of your e-mail.

**Apply to:**  
Competition #25792  
Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation  
Human Resource Services  
11 Nelson Road  
Thompson, MB R8N 0B3  
Phone: (204) 677-6534  
Fax: (204) 677-0659  
E-mail: [hrmitanathompsoncsc@gov.mb.ca](mailto:hrmitanathompsoncsc@gov.mb.ca)


Your cover letter and resumé must clearly indicate how you meet the qualifications.

We thank all who apply and advise that only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.

Employment Equity is a factor in selection. Applicants are requested to indicate in their covering letter or resumé if they are from any of the following groups: women, Aboriginal people, visible minorities and persons with a disability.

Find out about other current job opportunities — click on the **Jobs button at manitoba.ca.**

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Thompson Minor Hockey TD

is accepting applications for coaches for Atom A & AA, Pee wee A & AA, Bantam A & AA, Midget A & AA, Tiger Atom, Tiger Pee wee and Tiger Bantam.

**DEADLINE to apply is May 10, 2012.**  
Application forms can be found on-line at [www.thompsonminorhockey.ca](http://www.thompsonminorhockey.ca)


**Looking for Full Time Employment?**

Friuli Suite Rentals/Bianchini Warehousing is looking for a **Full-time Maintenance Person**.

Applicants must have a basic set of tools, basic knowledge of carpentry, electrical and plumbing work, have a valid driver's license as a company truck is provided, willing to be on call, bondable, reliable, and dependable. Wages will be negotiable depending on experience. This is an excellent career opportunity for the right person!

Please apply in person to :

**Carolyn Turpie, Property Manager**  
At 31 Oak Street, Office Entrance.  
Please bring resume or FAX to 204-677-3195  
Or EMAIL resume to [manager@friulirentals.com](mailto:manager@friulirentals.com)



Your search is over.

The Manitoba government offers you opportunity, diversity and a rewarding career.

**Clerk**  
Term - 20 weeks, Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, Regional Services and Parks, Northeast Region, Thompson  
Advertisement Number: 25797  
Closing Date: May 14, 2012  
Salary Range: \$1,168.70 to \$1,332.55 bi-weekly, plus remoteness allowance

The Regional Services and Parks Division of Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship is seeking a qualified individual to fill the position of clerk in Thompson, MB.

**Qualifications:**  
Essential qualifications include:

- Administrative and/or clerical experience including: data entry, typing, filing, photocopying and faxing.
- Experience working with Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, Outlook) or equivalent software applications.
- Demonstrated experience working with the public.
- Effective verbal communication skills.
- Demonstrated experience with collecting revenue, cash control, balancing and safe keeping.
- Demonstrated strong interpersonal skills with the ability to work within a team environment.
- Demonstrated ability to organize and prioritize work to meet deadlines.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently with minimal supervision.

Desired qualifications include:

- Demonstrated experience maintaining financial ledgers.
- Demonstrated experience operating a two-way radio.

**Conditions of Employment:**

- Must be willing and able to work extended hours on short notice.

Preference will be given to Aboriginal people, visible minorities and persons with a disability. Please declare your status in your covering letter or resume if applicable.

For more detailed information on qualifications and duties, please visit our website at: [www.manitoba.ca/govjobs](http://www.manitoba.ca/govjobs)

**Apply to:**  
Advertisement # 25797  
Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship  
Consolidated Human Resource Services  
360 - 1395 Ellice Ave  
Winnipeg, MB R3G 3P2  
Fax: (204) 948-2841  
Email: [consr@gov.mb.ca](mailto:consr@gov.mb.ca)  
Please insert the advertisement number and position title into the subject line of your e-mail.


Your cover letter and resumé must clearly indicate how you meet the qualifications.

We thank all who apply and advise that only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.

Employment Equity is a factor in selection. Applicants are requested to indicate in their covering letter or resumé if they are from any of the following groups: women, Aboriginal people, visible minorities and persons with a disability.

Find out about other current job opportunities — click on the **Jobs button at manitoba.ca.**

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NO COMPARISON.  
NO COMPROMISE.  
**F-SERIES.**

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YOU'VE TURNED TO  
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2012 **MOTOR TREND**  
TRUCK OF THE YEAR



**BEST SELLING LINE OF  
TRUCKS FOR 46 YEARS.\***



**•TOWING\*\*  
•PAYLOAD\*\*  
•FUEL ECONOMY  
& POWER\*\*\***

2012 F-150 XLT 4X4 SUPER CAB 3.7L

LEASE  
FOR  
ONLY

**\$298 @ 4.99%**

A MONTH FOR 36 MONTHS WITH \$3,800 DOWN OR EQUIVALENT TRADE. NO SECURITY DEPOSIT REQUIRED.

INCLUDES \$7,500  
IN MANUFACTURER REBATES  
BUT EXCLUDES FREIGHT AND AIR TAX.



ELECTRONIC  
STABILITY  
CONTROL



TRACTION  
CONTROL



AVAILABLE  
POWERSHIFT™  
6-SPEED



9.7L/100km 29MPG HWY\*\*  
13.4L/100km 21MPG CITY\*\*

DON'T COMPROMISE WITH COMPETITORS' 96 MONTH PURCHASE TERM WHEN YOU COULD  
ENJOY TWO NEW F-150s IN THE SAME AMOUNT OF TIME.

OR STEP UP TO A **SUPERCREW 5.0L**

FOR ONLY

**\$38**

MORE A  
MONTH



AND GET:

**V8 POWER | 360 HP | 380 LB.-FT. OF TORQUE**

IT'S BACK



ELIGIBLE COSTCO MEMBERS RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL **\$1000**\*\*\*

THERE'S NO COMPARISON OR COMPROMISE. ONLY AT YOUR PRAIRIE FORD STORE.



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**(SiriusXM)** Vehicle(s) may be shown with optional equipment. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offers. Offers may be cancelled at any time without notice. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. © 2012 Sirius Canada Inc. "SiriusXM", the SiriusXM logo, channel names and logos are trademarks of SiriusXM Radio Inc. and are used under licence. \*Purchase a new 2012 F-150 XLT Super Cab 4x4 for \$26,999 after Total Manufacturer Rebate of \$7,500 deducted. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price after Manufacturer Rebate has been deducted. Offers exclude freight and air tax (\$1,600), license, fuel fill charge, insurance, dealer PDI, registration, PPSA, administration fees, any environmental charges or fees, and all applicable taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Delivery Allowances can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford of Canada at either the time of factory order or delivery, but not both. Delivery Allowances are not combinable with any fleet consumer incentives. †Lease a new 2012 F-150 XLT Super Cab 4x4 3.7L/F-150 XLT Super Crew Cab 4x4 5.0L and get 4.99%/4.99% lease annual percentage rate (LAPR) financing for up to 36/36 months on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest LAPR payment. Lease a vehicle with a value of \$37,399/\$40,299 at 4.99%/4.99% LAPR for up to 36 months with \$3,800/\$3,800 down or equivalent trade in, monthly payment is \$298/\$336, total lease obligation is \$14,528/\$15,896 and optional buyout is \$15,334/\$17,329. Offer includes Manufacturer Rebate of \$7,500/\$8,000. Taxes payable on full amount of lease financing price after Manufacturer Rebate is deducted. Offer excludes freight and air tax of \$1,600/\$1,600, variable charges of license, fuel fill charge, insurance, registration, PPSA, administration fees and charges, any environmental charges or fees, and all applicable taxes. Additional payments required for PPSA, registration, security deposit, NSF fees (where applicable), excess wear and tear, and late fees. Some conditions and mileage restrictions of 60,000 km over 36 months apply. A charge of 16 cents per km over mileage restrictions applies, plus applicable taxes. Manufacturer Rebates can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford of Canada at either the time of factory order or delivery, but not both. Manufacturer Rebates are not combinable with any fleet consumer incentives. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Between April 3 and June 30, 2012, Security Deposit payment is waived (on approved credit from Ford Credit). Security Deposit may be required by Ford Credit based on customer credit terms and conditions. ††Offer only valid from April 3 2012 to May 31, 2012 (the "Offer Period") to resident Canadians with a Costco membership on or before March 31, 2012. Use this \$1,000CDN Costco member offer towards the purchase or lease of a new 2012/2013 Ford/Lincoln vehicle (excluding Fiesta, Focus, Raptor, GT500, Mustang Boss 302, Transit Connect EV & Medium Truck) (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). The Eligible Vehicle must be delivered and/or factory-ordered from your participating Ford/Lincoln dealer within the Offer Period. Offer is only valid at participating dealers, is subject to vehicle availability, and may be cancelled or changed at any time without notice. Only one (1) offer may be applied towards the purchase or lease of one (1) Eligible Vehicle, up to a maximum of two (2) separate Eligible Vehicle sales per Costco Membership Number. Offer is transferable to persons domiciled with an eligible Costco member. This offer can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford Motor Company of Canada at either the time of factory order (if ordered within the Offer Period) or delivery, but not both. Offer is not combinable with any CPA/GPC or Daily Rental incentives, the Commercial Uplift Program or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). Applicable taxes calculated before \$1,000CDN offer is deducted. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offer, see dealer for details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. \*\*\*Class is Full-Size Pickups under 8,500 lbs. GVWR, non-hybrid. Estimated fuel consumption ratings for the 2011 F-150 4X2 3.7L V6 SST: 12.8L/100km city and 8.9L/100km hwy based on Transport Canada approved test methods. Actual fuel consumption will vary based on road conditions, vehicle loading and driving habits. ††When properly equipped. Max. towing of 11,300 lbs with 3.5L EcoBoost and 6.2L 2 valve V8 engines. Max. payload of 3,060 lbs with 3.5L EcoBoost and 5.0L Ti-VCT V8 engines. Class is Full-Size Pickups under 8,500 lbs GVWR