

The Expositor staff extends  
**Best Holiday Wishes**  
to all our readers

*Happy  
Thanksgiving!*

See our  
**Thanksgiving Weekend  
Section,**  
pages 3A - 5A

# The MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR



FISHING • YACHTING • CAMPING • HUNTING

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## Infrastructure funds flowing inconsistently to Manitoulin municipalities

by Lindsay Kelly

MANITOULIN—While the Grits and Tories argue over the progress being made on stimulus projects approved across Canada earlier this year, construction on Manitoulin is advancing at a moderate pace, with at least four communities benefiting from infrastructure outlays—albeit ones that mostly came through an earlier federal program.

Late last month, infrastructure critic Gerard Kennedy released a report critical of the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, suggesting that “just 12 percent of the flagship \$4 billion was supporting any construction as of the end of August, eight months after it was announced.”

In the Conservative camp, meanwhile, Transport and Infrastructure Minister John Baird proclaimed success, noting that of the 1,365 projects planned under the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund (ISF), more than 75 percent of them were under way as of September 1.

“Without the help of cities and towns in every corner of the country, getting contracts awarded, tenders issued, and projects under way, we wouldn’t be seeing the effects we are today,” the minister said in a press release. “They deserve an A+ for this tremendous effort. Together, we are helping Canada get through the tough economic times and emerge stronger than ever.”

On Manitoulin, monies from the ISF and other funding initiatives have been beneficial to some Island communities that are see-

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Wikwemikong women’s rights advocate Jeannette Corbiere-Lavell (left) poses with Governor General Michaëlle Jean after receiving the Governor General’s Award in Commemoration of the Persons Case at Rideau Hall last week.

photo by Sergeant Serge Gouin, Rideau Hall

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## Seniors to get flu shots ahead of H1N1 vaccine

MANITOULIN—The Island’s elders should prepare to roll up their sleeves later this month, as the Sudbury and District Health Unit (SDHU) travels to Manitoulin for its annual flu shot clinics.

Flu shot clinics—for people aged 65 and over—will be held on Manitoulin on the following

dates: Wednesday, October 14, from 3 pm to 7 pm at C.C. McLean Public School in Gore Bay; Thursday, October 22, from 3:30 pm to 7 pm at Little Current Public School in Little Current; and Wednesday, October 28, from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm at the Silver Water

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## Wind farm opponents confer with researchers studying health issues from turbine humming

*Sheg chief expresses reservations about McLean’s Mountain project*

by Lindsay Kelly

SHEGUIANDAH—A former pharmacist is bringing forward new research to demonstrate the negative health effects wind turbines have on people, following a series of independent surveys undertaken in southern Ontario.

Carmen Krogh, a retired pharmacist and the former director of pharmacy at Edmonton General Hospital, and her assistant Lorrie Gillis, were on Manitoulin last week to discuss with residents their consultations with southern Ontarians about health issues that have cropped up since wind turbines were installed near their

homes. The pair arrived at the request of an Island citizens’ group who has been lobbying for more studies about wind turbines before the Northland Power wind farm proposed for McLean’s Mountain is allowed to go forward.

During their time on Manitoulin, the pair heard from residents of Sheguiandah First Nation who say they remain undecided about their involvement with the Northland project following less-than-agreeable discussions with company representa-

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## Panthers to host district-wide peewee playdowns in March

by Jim Moodie

LITTLE CURRENT—A Northern Ontario Hockey Association (NOHA) tournament will be visiting Little Current this spring thanks to a convincing pitch by the Manitoulin Panthers organization.

On March 5-7, the Little Current-Howland Rec Centre will see up to eight NOHA teams, including a Panther’s entry, compete for the peewee B title of the Tournament of Champions. Gayle Payette, a member of the Panthers board, said Manitoulin has never hosted a championship for this division, and the last time an NOHA tournament touched down

here was in Wikwemikong in 1984.

“It’s a prestigious event and teams will be coming from across Northern Ontario,” she said. “It’s not a major fundraising event for us but it will boost the local economy.”

The Panthers were among five hockey associations that submitted a bid in June to host the 2010 tournament, with other applications coming from such communities as Kirkland Lake, Timmins and Cochrane. News that the NOHA selection committee had approved the Manitoulin pitch arrived in early September.

Ms. Payette credited Lori Green-Case of Little Current with

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## Thanksgiving a time to savour bounty of food grown on Manitoulin

by Nancy McDermid

MANITOULIN—The Thanksgiving holiday provides a wonderful opportunity to give thanks and feast with family and friends. It marks the peak of the fall season and many foods are being harvested at this time, making the ingredients for the meal plentiful and full of flavour.

Historically those who prepared a Thanksgiving meal on Manitoulin Island ate locally due to the fact that many foods were not readily available. Today many Islanders are eating local foods as a conscious choice.

Manitoulin Island farmers and market gardeners have a variety of foods available that



The fall harvest is abundantly displayed by Ice Lake market gardener Ken McCartney.

photo by Nancy McDermid

could be used in the preparation of a Thanksgiving meal. Various farmers markets across the Island are featuring fruit and vegetables that have been harvested recently and that are grown locally.

Maja Mielonen of Maja’s Bounty, and a member of the Manitoulin Farmers Markets Association, noted that “there are many foods being sold right now that could be used in a Thanksgiving meal such as root vegetables, squash, potatoes and onions. Gourds and pumpkins are ready as well as the tomatoes, which are finally ripe as they were quite late this year.”

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### Early Deadline

As usual, the Expositor office will be closed on Monday, October 12, for the Thanksgiving holiday, and the deadline for classified ads, social correspondence, letters to the editor and display advertising will be **noon this Friday, October 9.**

The staff at the Expositor would like to wish our family of readers a pleasant and relaxing Thanksgiving weekend.

# ...Wind farm opponents confer with health researchers

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tives.

While Northland claims to have undergone the appropriate consultation with the First Nation, Sheguiandah Chief Georgina Thompson says their first meeting "was not a consultation, it was an information-sharing meeting," and the chief is dismayed at Northland's approach.

"Certainly the UCCM (United Chiefs and Councils of Manitoulin) is not happy at all with the whole process," she said. "We haven't even got to the point of considering whether we would agree with those wind turbines or not."

Among her concerns are the health effects that would come to her community along with the structures.

"I think you're very wise to be concerned about your health," Ms. Gillis told Chief Thompson. "Because what we're seeing in Ontario are problems with every wind farm they've put in because they're putting them so closely and so densely to people's homes."

Working closely with those who have suffered adverse health effects following their contact with wind turbines, Ms. Krogh and Ms. Gillis embarked on their survey to determine patterns and provide anecdotal evidence of experiences of residences who suffer from headaches, sleep deprivation, dizziness, and other illnesses, which they believe have been caused by turbines.

Ms. Krogh was inspired to undertake the work based on her own experiences—she gets immediately dizzy and experiences headaches when near turbines—and she has since founded a victims' group to provide support for those who are affected.

"I'm affected even though I don't live with the turbines, so I know what it feels like," Ms. Krogh said. "When I'm away from them, I'm okay, but they do affect me. We started to hear of quite a lot of prob-



Carmen Krogh

lems in the areas where wind turbines were established, and that's why we started with the health survey. We've got a lot of information and evidence that there's enough of a problem there that we need to do some health studies that are studying people very closely."

The retired pharmacist said they've noticed how the symptoms mirror those that have been recorded in other parts of the world. She believes the province needs to do more studies before going ahead with turbine projects, and suggested there should be a mechanism by which residents can report illness to the province.

She disagrees with the province's practice of testing for the best case scenario, which doesn't take into account low-frequency noise—the issue that most people complain affects them the most. She also disagrees with setback measurements because there isn't a one-size-fits-all solution to the problem of travelling noise.

"Studies in New Zealand have shown if it's hilly the noise will bounce and travel—they call it the contour effect," Ms. Krogh said. "They experienced noise really, really far. Sometimes some people could hear it up to seven kilometres away depending on where they were situated in the valleys, and there was a court order issued in New Zealand that they had to revisit all their studies to ensure that people were protected there."

Ideally, in Canada, studies would be done utilizing the expertise of doctors, engineers and other experts to assess the setback requirement on an individual basis, depending on the kind of terrain on which the farm is situated, Ms. Krogh said.

What the studies have shown is that the biggest problem for people is sleep deprivation. Either they wake several times at night, or they can't get to sleep at all, Ms. Gillis said.

"Some people don't even realize how broken their sleep is but they wake up the next morning just exhausted and not feeling rested," she said. "This goes on night after night so that they start to become foggy. People are reporting headaches, they're reporting muscle and joint aches, and tinnitus; they're reporting palpitations, and some people are getting sores that won't heal."

To date, they've spoken with more than 100 people who have provided personal comments, but there are others who shy away from commenting publicly for fear of being ridiculed; neighbours will make fun of them, or don't believe them and dismiss their concerns, Ms. Gillis said.

The time it takes for people to be affected varies greatly as well. While some notice an immediate difference, others may wait months before feeling the effects of the turbines, but the symptoms tend to be more severe in people who spend more time in their homes, she reported. They believe that the experiences of wind turbine sickness are actually underreported.

Of particular concern to Ms. Krogh is the children living under the shadow of turbines. Children aren't influenced by the politics surrounding wind farms, and yet they have seen several children who are sick. She and Ms. Gillis are embarking on a study looking specifically at the illness in children, and continue to lobby for turbines

to be set back further from schools.

Research done by US-based turbine researcher Dr. Nina Pierpont suggests that children need a quiet environment to learn and that the noise levels set out in the Green Energy Act are too high to create an appropriate learning environment, Ms. Krogh noted.

She would like to see a more concerted effort of communication between provinces so that a comprehensive picture is created of the issues associated with turbine illness. The government also needs to take notice of the work that's being done and start listening to the people who are being affected by these projects, she added.

"No matter how hard and what evidence we have shown...it's ignored," she said. "So my sense is that there's a public policy there that's overriding health concerns and no matter what we do to prove it, we're being ignored."

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## Seasonal Flu Shot Clinics

-- for people 65 years of age and older --

If you are 65 years of age or older, here are your options to get your free seasonal flu shot:

- Go to one of the clinics listed below. You do not need an appointment.
- By appointment at the Health Unit's Manitoulin Island Branch Office:  
• 6163 Highway 542, Mindemoya – call 370-9200
- Go to your doctor's office, a walk-in clinic, or a community health centre (you may need an appointment).

**For people 64 years of age and younger, clinics will be scheduled following the H1N1 influenza vaccine clinics.**

### Sudbury & District Flu Shot Clinics – for people 65 years and older (no appointments needed)

C.C. McLean Public School	Wed., October 14	3 – 7 p.m.
Little Current Public School	Thurs., October 22	3:30 – 7 p.m.
Silver Water Community Centre	Wed., October 28	1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

**H1N1 influenza vaccine clinics:**

- Information about the dates, times, locations, and who will be eligible to receive the vaccine first will be available soon.

Call our Flu Facts Hotline or speak to your health care provider if you have questions.

**Flu Facts Hotline**  
**(705) 522-9200, ext. 301**  
**Toll-free: 1-866-522-9200**  
**www.sdhu.com**

# ...Seniors to get flu shots ahead of H1N1 vaccine

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Community Centre in Silver Water.

"We know that people 65 and over are most at risk for complications from seasonal flu, and less so from the H1N1 influenza virus," medical officer of health Dr. Penny Sutcliffe said in a press release. "That's why

we're recommending that seniors receive their seasonal flu shot in October."

Clinics for the H1N1 flu vaccine—formerly known as the swine flu—will be held in November, and clinics for the seasonal flu shot for those aged 64 and younger will be held following the H1N1 clinics.

The health unit will then

hold a second series of clinics for anyone who would like to receive their seasonal flu shot, likely in December or January.

Residents can also make an appointment at the Manitoulin health unit branch in Mindemoya by calling 377-9200, or by visiting their family physician.

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