

## Fall Harvest Dinner a Huge Success



The Annual Community Harvest Dinner held on October 20, 2020 was a huge success! The MBCHC staff was pleased to see so many individuals out this year, celebrating community. Two pigs, 15 trays of hashbrown casserole, 18 bags of vegetables, 10 pounds of coleslaw and 15 packages of dinner rolls later 😊. We are happy to say we were able to serve 261 people. The partnership with the Township of Ignace was appreciated with their contribution for a nice added bonus of pumpkins and treat bags this year.



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It has been three years since Dennis lost his battle as well as the Driftwood's last issue. Everyone who knew Dennis well knows that besides his family, Ignace and Driftwood were his true loves! He WAS Mr. Ignace! We all miss him more than words can ever say! However, I just wanted to let Petrina know that she has filled a big gap with the Bulletin! Great job Petrina! Thanks so much and thanks for including me in the process! Please keep up the great job you are doing

Jackie Smyk



## New Public Works Manager



Rene Nadeau is a long-time resident of Ignace. He has been self-employed since 2008. His passions are his family and the outdoors. He brings with him an education background in business. He has worked at sawmills, trucking, construction, and snow removal. He is currently the president of the Ignace otters snowmobile club. Welcome Rene.

Oops....I failed to mention and thank, in our last Bulletin, the support from Mary Berglund Community Health Centre Hub at our recent Ignace Area Youth Gathering. It was an oversight only. MBCHC is and always will be an important supporter and partner in many Ignace Township led events.

**Call the Ignace Nursery School at 807-934-6696 to purchase tickets.**

**50/50 Draw**  
**The Ignace Nursery School**  
**\$1.00 per ticket**  
**Proceeds to support Children's Programs**  
**Draw Date**  
**Wed. Dec. 15/21**  
**@ 7:00 pm**



# Ignace Fire Chief Recognized

Robert Berube celebrated 25 years with the Ignace Fire Department. A presentation ceremony was held at the Ignace Fire Hall where Robert was presented with a plaque from Mayor Penny Lucas and Council.

Robert was congratulated by his fire department peers for his 17 years of leadership skills, dedication and commitment of time spent as the Ignace Fire Department Chief as well as presented with a plaque & Fire Chief helmet.



## Township of Ignace Surplus Properties

\*Please note the requirements and applications are available on the Township of Ignace Website [www.ignace.ca](http://www.ignace.ca) or can be picked up at the Township Office during regular business hours of 9:00 am to 4:30 Monday to Friday and excluding weekends and Holidays.

### Residential Lot General Location:

#### Zone Mobile Home (MH)

97-99 Robinson Cres | 103-129 Robinson Cres | 122 Robinson Cres  
62-64-66-72 Boon St  
99-111-113-115-117-119-121-123-135 Tapsay St  
104-108-110-112-114-116-118-120-122 Tapsay St  
203-205-213-235 Wren St  
347-349 Tait St  
456-460 Burglund St

\*General Information Only  
Please Contact for up-to-date information,

Keith Roseborough  
Development Coordinator at the Township of Ignace

807-934-2202 ext 1034 or by email  
[projectcoordinator@ignace.ca](mailto:projectcoordinator@ignace.ca)

Yours truly,

KEITH ROSEBOROUGH  
DEVELOPMENT COORDINTOR

### Residential Lot General Location

#### Zone Low Density Residential (LDR)

300 East St  
303-309-311 Railway St (North of Tracks)

### Industrial Lot General Location

#### Zone Industrial (IND)

740-741-744-746-751-752-753-756-758 Cedar St  
100-102-104 Evergreen St

# What's New

## Physician and Nurse Practitioner Coverage

Due to medical reasons, we have been without consistent Nurse Practitioner and Physician coverage over the last couple of weeks and anticipate that this may continue for a short while. While we do our very best to schedule you in for urgent appointments, we understand that it can be frustrating. Our sincere apologies if you are one of the clients who have been affected by this. We thank you for your understanding and we are committed to working very hard to continue to recruit new part time, full time or occasional Physicians. We are fortunate to have Dr. Bradley two weeks each month, Dr. Merali one week per month and Dr. Rabbat via virtual visits twice weekly and occasional on site. Exciting news is that we have been successful in attracting two new Physicians who will be starting with us in December and are hopeful for a regular Locum commitment.

## Evening and Weekend Hours

We will once again be looking at scheduling occasional extended hours into the evening and on a Saturday. This will be done on a trial basis to evaluate the demand. It will also depend on Physician coverage. During the evening hour, we will also have the Social Worker available for a booked appointment. Dates will be posted as they arise.

## National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

We are pleased to announce the launch of MBCHC Hub's journey to support the advancement and evolution of Indigenous Primary Health Care provision to support the health and wellbeing of Indigenous peoples. Knowing we need to do better is one thing; figuring out how to do it – or even where to start – is quite another. We need to have the uncomfortable conversations and need to address our past in order to move forward. **The Mary Berglund Community Health Centre Hub is committed to taking the steps to DO BETTER.**



## What Does this Look Like? How will we do better?

Indigenous peoples are more likely to access care when they need it, if they feel safe and respected and the care they receive is in line with their beliefs, goals and needs. Mary Berglund CHC Hub recognizes the significant health gaps that continue to exist for Indigenous Peoples and the importance of providing culturally safe, responsive, high-quality care. We will do this by implementing equity-based policies, processes and procedures that support full inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in the health care system that is free of discrimination.

## As an organization, we endorse the following equity principles:

1. We recognize that racism and discrimination exist towards Indigenous Peoples in Canadian society, and the health care system which therefore affects MBCHCH.
2. We recognize and respect the unique identities and diversity of Indigenous Peoples and the need for a different approach.
3. We recognize our role in combatting Indigenous specific racism in the healthcare system.
4. We recognize the need for health care providers to reflect on their own biases and assumptions.
5. We assert our commitment to creating and implementing specific measures that effectively combat Indigenous specific racism and discrimination at all levels of our organization.
6. We strive to create an environment that supports the wellbeing of Indigenous clients, health care providers and learners.
7. We recognize and acknowledge that cultural service providers and traditional healing practices are legitimate methods of health service provision and are to be valued and treated commensurable to westernized medicine.
8. We recognize the importance of incorporating holistic care into the programs and services we deliver.
9. We recognize and acknowledge the importance of developing and maintain trusting, respectful, and purposeful relationships with Indigenous populations and communities.

**Continued on page 5**



**As an organization, MBCHCH will therefore:**

- Equip all staff and the Board of Directors with knowledge and skills to recognize racism and discrimination within our organization and the care and services we deliver.
- Provide Indigenous cultural safety training to all staff and Board of Director members.
- Develop and implement policies, procedures and structures that advance Indigenous client safety and satisfaction to ensure the best health care experience possible.
- Actively evaluate the success of our progress to ensure lessons learned are documented and promising practices are highlighted and shared.
- Foster respect daily, regardless of racial or ethnic background.



**Friday Play Groups  
At Ignace EarlyON**  
10-11:30 &  
1-2:30 pm  
Please Pre-Register



## IGNACE

### Infant Massage

Infant massage promotes bonding, a secure attachment between infant and their parents/caregivers, quality time and a sense of love and nurturing touch

Massage also:

- \* stimulates babies growth of mind & body
- \* Relief of gas, colic and constipation
- \* Teething discomfort
- \* Improves sleeping patterns
- \* Improves ability to calm
- \* Reduce stress
- \* Provides early involvement of Dads



This is a 5 session program.

Joanne is a Certified Infant Massage Instructor.

Call 934-6696 to Register

**Program will begin on Tues. Nov. 9/21 at 1:30 pm at the Ignace EarlyON Centre**



## IGNACE



# NOVEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Fire Trucks 	1 Playtime Schedule 6-7:30	2  Playtime Schedule 6-7:30	3 Play Pals 10 - 11 am Playtime Schedule 6-7:30	4 Playtime Schedules 1-2:30 & 3-4:30	5 <b>CLOSED</b> Staff Training	6 Play Time 10-11:30 12:30-2
Turkey Gobbler 	8 Playtime Schedule 6-7:30	9 Infant Massage @ 1:30 pm Playtime Schedule 3-4:30	10 Play Pals 10 - 11 am Playtime Schedule 6-7:30	11  Remembrance Day <b>CLOSED</b>	12 Friday Play Groups Schedules 10-11:30 & 1-2:30	13 Play Time 10-11:30 12:30-2
Children of the World 	15 Playtime Schedule 6-7:30	16 Infant Massage @ 1:30 pm Playtime Schedule 3-4:30	17 Play Pals 10 - 11 am Playtime Schedule 6-7:30	18 Playtime Schedules 1-2:30 & 3-4:30	19 Friday Play Groups Schedules 10-11:30 & 1-2:30	20 National Child Day Play Time 10-11:30 12:30-2
Geometric Scarecrow 	22 Playtime Schedule 6-7:30	23 Infant Massage @ 1:30 pm Playtime Schedule 3-4:30	24 Play Pals 10 - 11 am Playtime Schedule 6-7:30	25 Playtime Schedules 1-2:30 & 3-4:30	26 Friday Play Groups Schedules 10-11:30 & 1-2:30	27 Play Time 10-11:30 12:30-2
Snowflake Puppets 	29 Playtime Schedule 6-7:30	30 Infant Massage @ 1:30 pm Playtime Schedule 3-4:30				

#### WINTER HOURS

Mon. & Wed. 6 - 8:30 p.m.  
Tue. & Thurs. 1 - 5 p.m.  
Fri. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Sat. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.



P.O. Box 870  
312 Pine St.  
Ignace, ON  
POT 1T0  
(807) 934-6696  
Fax (807) 934-6124  
ignacenurseryschool@bellnet.ca

**Play Pals  
Wednesday's  
At Ignace EarlyON  
Centre**  
10 - 11 am  
Ages 0 - 3 yrs.  
Please Pre-Register



#### National Child Day.....November 20<sup>th</sup>

It's the time to listen to our children, to respect them and to marvel at all they have to offer. It's time to rejoice at the special meaning that children bring into our lives and the hope they inspire for the future. It calls on us to think of ways we can improve their well-being. We can do this in our homes, in our schools, in our childcare centres and in various other programs in our community.

By providing warm, loving and responsive environments for our children, we can create a better and more promising future for them ... and for society. That's why healthy child development is everyone's concern and everyone's responsibility.





# TEENS IN MOTION

## GAME ON!

TEENS IN  
MOTION  
IS BACK

THURSDAYS  
6-8 P.M.

AT THE IGNACE  
RECREATION  
CENTRE

FOLLOWING TOWNSHIP OF  
IGNACE COVID POLICIES

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CALL YVONNE AT 934-2209



I have been going to teens in motions ever since I have been old enough to go and I always have fun. I like to play basketball and volleyball with my friends. We usually have enough for 3 on 3, sometimes 4 on 4 and it never gets boring. There is normally around 15-20 people that go which is great because it brings our youth together. Another thing I love about teens in motion is when we play basketball and dodgeball against the police officers, firefighters, and ambulance. It has always been a fun time doing that and I really like having pizza afterwards as well, but most often it is healthier snacks. Most of my friends also like teens in motion because it gives them a reason to get out of their house and be healthy.



Submitted by Ryan McGrayne



The Public Works crew and co-op students attended training on changing/fixing broken manhole covers. Don Duhaime is the Territory Representative – Northern Ontario who represents many different companies, but was on hand to demonstrate how to do the dig, removal of the manhole, replacement of the manhole and filling it in properly. It looks like they did a good job at the manhole on McLeod Street.





## ADULT BADMINTON STARTS NOVEMBER 2

Tuesdays @ 6-7:30 pm  
Thursdays @ 10-11:30 am  
Sundays @ 3-4:30 pm

Cost is \$5 per use or  
\$50 for the season

### IGNACE RECREATION CENTRE

Following Township of Ignace  
COVID policies  
For more info please call,  
Yvonne at 934-2290

## Ignace Food Bank

If you have any questions or would like more  
information please call Yvonne Romas, Health  
Promoter at 934-2290

**Food Bank Days – Every Second Thursday**

**1:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

**November 11, 25**



**Mary Berglund**  
Community Health Centre Hub  
Centre de santé communautaire  
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*Your Centre for Health and Wellbeing*



### STUFF-A-CRUISER

#### Toy & Food Drive

Thursday, November 18, 2021  
9:00 - 11:30 am - Shoprite

1:00 - 4:30 pm - parked outside  
NWMO (Ignace Plaza)

Please bring your unwrapped gift  
or food item!



Seniors who want to learn how to better use their laptops,  
iPads, tablets and phones, can now sign up for training classes.  
The classes will be held at the Ignace Silver Tops Centre starting  
on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. There will be two classes a week:

Tuesday – 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Thursday – 1:30 – 3:30 pm

The classes are open to anyone 55 + years old, must be double  
vaccinated. Contact Chicki Pesola at 807-938-7534 to register.

The holiday season is a time for all of us to come  
together and experience the gift of giving. Putting a  
smile on the face of a child on Christmas morning is a  
piece of holiday magic that people should want to be  
a part of.

The toys and food collected by the OPP will be  
distributed this Christmas by the Xmas cheer  
committee.



Eric Melillo visited Mayor Penny Lucas at the Township office earlier this month. Melillo was re-elected to the House of Commons in September. Melillo's campaign was centered around post-pandemic economic recovery and his other priorities include investments in infrastructure, including rural broadband and ending boil water advisories in First nations, and an immediate implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action 71 to 76, which address missing children and unmarked burials connected to the residential school system.



# Flu Vaccine Schedule 2021

Northwestern Health Unit in Ignace is working in partnership with the Mary Berglund Community Health Centre to offer flu vaccinations.

**To book, call  
807-934-2251 or 807-934-2236  
or visit [www.nwhu.on.ca](http://www.nwhu.on.ca)**

Thursday, November 4 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, November 9 1:00 to 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, November 18 9:00 a.m. to noon  
Thursday, November 25 9:00 a.m. to noon

Schedule is subject to change.

Mary Berglund CHC will also be offering flu vaccine to individuals who have specific high-risk needs in October. To find out if you are eligible or to book, call 934-2251.

In partnership with:  
**Mary Berglund**  
Community Health Centre Hub  
Centre de santé communautaire  
CJ9-Δ66 L'PP-Δ66

  
**Northwestern  
Health Unit**  
[www.nwhu.on.ca](http://www.nwhu.on.ca)

## Ignace and NWMO strengthen relationship with MOU

The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) and the Township of Ignace are pleased to announce they have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The goal of the MOU is to strengthen the working relationship between Ignace and the NWMO.

"Signing this memorandum of understanding with Ignace is an important step forward as we move towards selecting a site in 2023. Collaborating with communities is a critical component of Canada's plan and to our success," said Laurie Swami, President and CEO of NWMO. "There is plenty of work yet to do, but this agreement shows that we have accomplished a great deal in our engagement with Mayor Penny Lucas and the Township Council and helps us solidify next steps."

The MOU focuses on the importance of creating a collaborative plan that would lead to the development of a potential hosting agreement should Ignace agree the project is a good fit for the community. Such an agreement would be implemented if Ignace and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation express their willingness and then are selected as hosts for a deep geological repository for the safe, long-term storage of Canada's used nuclear fuel.

Canada's plan will only proceed in an area with informed and willing hosts, where the municipality, First Nation and Métis communities, and others in the area are working together to implement it.

"The MOU is a huge step in moving both parties towards the drafting of a potential hosting agreement should Ignace and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation become the willing host communities selected to host the deep geological repository," says Ignace Mayor Penny Luca. "It has been quite a journey to get to this stage. And while we still have much work to do, I am looking forward to positive future engagements with President Laurie Swami and the entire NWMO team."

"We are appreciative of the time and continued commitment Ignace has put into the site selection process over the last ten years. This is a complex project that will bring with it many community benefits and it's exciting to see we are advancing together," said Ms. Swami.

Both Ignace and the NWMO acknowledged the importance of reflecting on community priorities and objectives including project safety, community understanding of the project, and to advance community well-being. While the MOU celebrates the successes this relationship has had to date, it is not intended to be legally binding and imposes no obligations upon either party.





The NWMO and University of Guelph research teams conducting eDNA sampling earlier in 2021 in the Ignace area.

The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) and the University of Guelph have partnered to launch a joint environmental DNA (eDNA) research program to further understand biodiversity conditions around potential repository sites in the Ignace area and South Bruce.

As part of this program, The University of Guelph's Hanner Lab, alongside the NWMO's environmental scientists, will be collecting and analyzing water samples to learn about aquatic species from surrounding areas. eDNA is a non-invasive technology to detect what species are present by looking at DNA that is naturally shed by animals. The data collected will inform the NWMO's ongoing environmental base line monitoring program and establish the baseline condition of the ecosystems.

"The data we collect through our partnership with the University of Guelph will build on all our existing knowledge of the current local environments in the Ignace area and South Bruce," says Melissa Mayhew, Senior Environmental Scientist at the NWMO. "Environment protection begins with collecting and interpreting data so we can understand what biodiversity is present at potential repository sites and the health of those species. Using eDNA technology will complement our traditional research programs and will help us identify species that are harder to detect."

To monitor for seasonal changes, eDNA sampling will take place at different times of the year when different species are most active. Work has started in the Ignace area and is expected to begin in South Bruce in 2022. This is the largest eDNA project to date for the University of Guelph's Hanner Lab.

"This is an exciting research partnership because it doesn't just benefit the NWMO or the University of Guelph – it will benefit the broader scientific community," says Dr. Robert Hanner, Professor of Integrative Biology at the University of Guelph. "The data we collect will be shared with global databases so that future projects can benefit from our learning. Environmental DNA is an emerging technology that has the potential to advance biodiversity surveys and contribute to the conservation of aquatic species."

The research program was co-designed with local communities, conservation authorities and experts through a series of workshops to ensure that the NWMO is monitoring what local residents consider important, and is consistent with best and emerging practices. Once data collection is completed, the results will be released to the respective communities to guide informed decision-making.

"We heard very clearly from communities that trustworthy and transparent data collection, interpretation and reporting were critical to the success of the NWMO's environmental baseline monitoring program," says Ms. Mayhew. "Establishing partnerships with respected institutions like the University of Guelph is one way we are delivering on this."

The environmental baseline monitoring program encompasses environmental features such as surface water, shallow groundwater, air, soil, farm products, plants and animals, and their habitats around the potential repository site and the surrounding region. This work will contribute to the organization's eventual impact assessment process, which we will enter once a single, preferred location for a deep geological repository is selected.

### About the University of Guelph's Hanner Lab

The Hanner Lab is located at the University of Guelph in the College of Biological Sciences, housed in the Department of Integrative Biology.

The University of Guelph is a research-intensive, learner-centered university. Its core value is the pursuit of truth. Its aim is to serve society and to enhance the quality of life through scholarship. Both in its research and in its teaching programs, the University is committed to a global perspective.



The Hanner Lab prides itself on its research, mentorship, and training of highly qualified personnel. Central to this work is the translation and transfer of scientific knowledge through partnerships across faculties, institutions, and among government, industry, and academia.

### About the NWMO

The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) is a not-for-profit organization tasked with the safe, long-term storage of Canada’s used nuclear fuel in a manner that protects people and the environment for generations to come.

We are implementing Canada’s plan to safely contain and isolate used nuclear fuel inside a deep geological repository. The plan is based on years of public input, Indigenous Knowledge, international scientific consensus, and best practices from around the world.

Canada’s plan will only proceed in an area with informed and willing hosts, where the municipality, First Nation and Metis Communities, and others in the area are working together to implement it. The NWMO plans to select a site in 2023, and two areas remain in our site selection process: the Ignace area and South Bruce, both in Ontario.

Transparent and accountable, the NWMO works in close co-operations with communities, all levels of government, national and international regulator, Indigenous peoples, industry, academia, and civil society organizations.



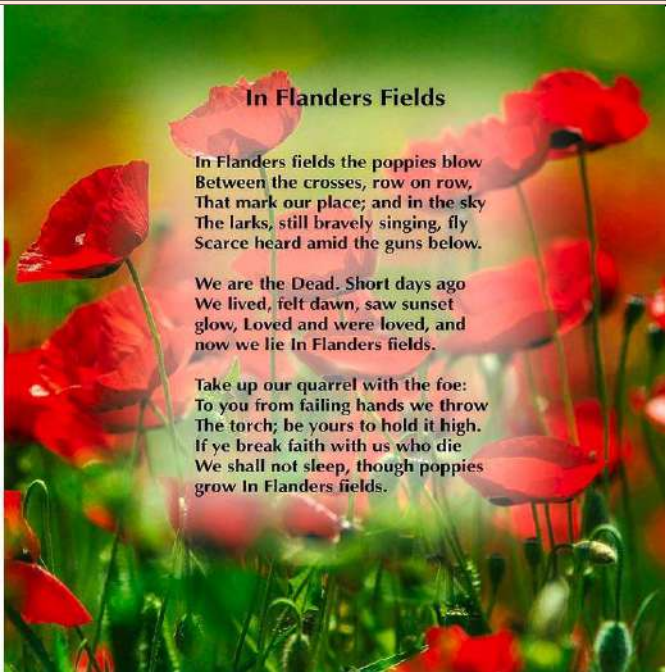
**Are you interested in digging deeper?**

Visit the **borehole** site near Ignace

This tour is a great opportunity to learn about the environmental, geoscience, and meteorological work being done in the area.

Upcoming Tour Dates:

Wednesday, November 3, 2021, from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm	Wednesday, November 10, 2021 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
Wednesday November 17, 2021 from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm	Wednesday, November 24, 2021, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
Space is limited, so book early.	
Call 807-323-3466 or email <a href="mailto:cgascon@nwmo.ca">cgascon@nwmo.ca</a> to register.	
Proof of double vaccination is required.	





# **Notice to Tender**

## **Snow Removal for 2021-22**

The Mary Berglund Community Health Centre Hub is interested in receiving tenders for Snow Removal services at **220 Lakeshore Drive, MBCHC Hub Pathway** (between Hwy 17 & MBCHC Hub Building), and **Helipad** at MBCHC.

Please include a quote for each Snow ploughing and snow shoveling service for each property listed above. Must provide own equipment.

**Note:** For Helipad only UREA is needed -The use of UREA is in line with Transport Canada requirements and is taken from the Canadian Aviation Regulations. UREA is used instead of salt/dirt due to a couple of reasons, but mainly due to the corrosivity of salt and its effects on the aluminum body of the aircraft. Another issue is the real possibility of the rotor downwash picking up the salt/dirt left on the helipad, creating unwanted projectiles.

Lowest bid not necessarily accepted

Please submit tenders by 1:00 pm on November 3, 2021 to:

Mary Berglund Community Health Centre Hub  
Heidi West  
Box 450  
Ignace, ON P0T 1T0  
hwest@bellnet.ca

Fax: 807-934-6552 Tel: 807-934-2674



# **OPP are Hiring**

Members with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Uniform Recruitment Unit will be at the Sioux Lookout Detachment for an information session on November 24, 2021 at 4:00pm. No registration required.

The OPP is actively recruiting qualified candidates for the full- time positions of Provincial Constable and the volunteer auxiliary positions.

Come and explore this exciting career and speak with Uniform Recruiters on site. This event is free and open to the public with physical distancing and Covid-19 restrictions in place.

Location : 62 Queen Street

Sioux Lookout, ON

Date : Wednesday November 24, 2021 - 4-7pm

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

**DID YOU KNOW...** Bylaws protect the interests and benefit those who reside within community and are meant to regulate, improve, beautify and to enhance the lives for all residents. The Township of Ignace various Bylaws clearly provides the Purpose, Definitions of a particular Bylaw and states the Applicability, Penalties and Enforcement.

Speaking of Bylaws, 'DID YOU KNOW' ... Bylaw 43.2021 for example, specifically regulates the 'Use of Motorized Snow Vehicles' within the Township of Ignace and outlines in the Bylaw the related Fees/ Fines and Charges, that may be imposed or levied. Section 4.1, of 43.2021 states that it is an offence to exceed 20 KMH within the Township of Ignace.



Section 6.0, states no person shall operate on private property without prior permission from the owner/ occupier. Failing to adhere could result in a \$150 fine.



Section 11.0, as it relates to modified/ altered exhaust carries a \$200 fine. Modified exhausts are against the Law!

Section 18 (1) of the Motorized Snow Vehicles Act says:

*No person shall drive a motorized snow vehicle unless it is equipped with a muffler in good working order and in constant operation and no person shall drive a motorized snow vehicle which has a muffler cut-out, straight exhaust, gutted muffler, hollywood muffler, by-pass or similar device upon the motorized snow vehicle. R.S.O. 1990, c. M.44, s. 18 (1).*

Section 15.0- Enforcement, states no person shall interfere with obstruct or impeded a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer who is in the process of enforcing the provisions of this Bylaw. Those found guilty of "Interference or Obstruction of a Bylaw Enforcement Officer when performing his/her duties" may be subjected to a \$200 Fine.

You are encouraged to contact the Township of Ignace Municipal Law Enforcement Officer (MLEO) for any bylaw needs and also to familiarize yourself with the various Township of Ignace Bylaws. They are easily accessible and may be found on the Township of Ignace, Civic Web; <https://ignace.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/347>



## LOOKING BACK THROUGH THE YEARS - The Smilsky History in Ignace.

Petrina, I have been reading your Ignace Bulletin and wanted to let you know how much I am enjoying it. In particular, your section, entitled "Looking Back through the years". Like many other folks, I miss the "Driftwood" and I am pleased to see you carrying the torch forward for Dennis and Jackie Smyk.

With their "Driftwood", Dennis and Jackie did an outstanding job of covering not only current events in Ignace over the years but also interesting historical articles that helped link Ignace and its citizens with people and events of it's past. There have been many people and families who have contributed and are currently contributing to the growth and development of the town of Ignace since its beginnings in 1908. I would like to draw your attention to one such family who did their part in the 1950s, 60s and 70s. Perhaps this might encourage other families to share their stories.

I've attached a word document where I have tried to summarize the efforts of Tony and Margaret Smilsky. I am a proud son-in-law.

I thought you might find it useful for your historical files.

Regards and have a great day!

Gary Babcock

In 1950, Tony and Margaret Smilsky with their three children moved to Ignace from Libau, Manitoba, where Tony worked for the Searle Grain Company. They went to Ignace to help Tony's brother Bill operate the Ignace Hotel which is now the Ignace Tavern.



Ignace Hotel 1950. Pictured with their daughters are owner Bill Smilsky (left), manager Tony Smilsky (center), brother-in-law Grant Aubrey (right)

Tony saw a need for electricity in Ignace to help with its development and he ran for municipal council. In 1952 as Reeve and with the support of councilors Bill Duncan, Harry Shankowsky and Johnny Stovel, Tony went door to door in the town of approximately 150 people to obtain signatures on a petition to get the Ontario Government and the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario to bring electricity to Ignace.

1955 their lobbying efforts resulted in the arrival of electricity in Ignace. Businesses could turn off their diesel generators and homeowners could mothball their coal oil lamps and enjoy living with electricity. It opened the door for more economic development.



Pictured left celebrating the arrival of electricity in Ignace are from left to right, Councilor Bill Duncan, Reeve Tony Smilsky, Councilor Harry Shankowsky and Councilor Johnny Stovel.

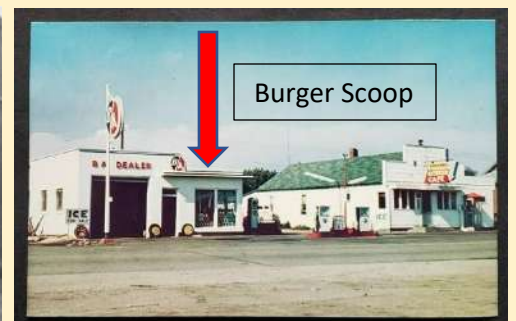
Pictured right celebrating the arrival of electricity in 1955 are Betty Wells (left), Nora Stovel holding the coal oil lamp, Margaret Smilsky holding the light bulb.



The family moved into the staff quarters at the Ignace Hotel. Tony managed the facility for his brother and Margaret prepared the meals for the hotel guests. It wasn't long before Tony's entrepreneurial spirit kicked in and in 1952, he purchased the Highway Service Lunch and gas station on Main Street (Hwy 17). Bill sold the Ignace Hotel at that time and moved with his family to Port Arthur. One of the first things that Tony did at the Highway Service was to modernize the restaurant and replace the wooden garage at the gas station with a new concrete block structure. That garage is now The Burger Scoop. Tony and Margaret ran this business until 1959.



(Tony and Margaret with son Dennis and daughter Brenda on the front steps of the Highway Service



This photo was taken while Tony and Margaret started to build the Hi-Way Motel in 1957. When the motel living quarters were completed the Highway Service Lunch and B/A garage were sold and the Smilsky family moved into the



Pictured above is a regular customer at the Highway Service Lunch. Einer Johnson was a stone cutter at the Butler Stone Quarry.



With the arrival of the Trans Canada Pipeline in 1957, Tony purchased land on Main Street (HWY 17) between Pine Street and East Street and built a 10-unit motel with living quarters and soon recognized the need for more pipeline housing. The Hi-Way Motel and Trailer Park included 40 trailer sites and was the first motel and trailer park in Ignace. The motel and living quarters were located to the west of the OPP station on the corner of Pine Street and HWY 17. At that time, the Shoprite and Westwood motel were vacant lots. In 1960, Tony built an additional 6 units on the west side of the living quarters.



He added a further 8 units in 1961 on the east end and another 8 on the west end of the property in 1963, making a total of 32 units.



Hi-Way Motel circa 1965



In 1968 Tony built the Agimac Lounge and Dining Room (now the current Silver Tops building) at the southeast end of the motel.

Agimac Lounge and Dining Room, now the Silver Tops

Former Ignace School prior to the 1972 fire



Hi Way Motel, Ignace, Ontario

Photo: H. R. Oakman



When mining exploration began in the late 1960's Tony was a member of council with Reeve Donald McNab and he and councilors Red Fox, Murray Humphry, Eugene Nauman worked very hard to have Ignace designated as the townsite for Mattabi and Lyon Lake mines.

Being the townsite resulted in a major housing development of 100 new homes for the influx of mining staff and their families. This is the current subdivision north of Davey Lake Road which included Balsam Avenue and all the other roads named after trees.



Photo from Driftwood



As the townsite, Ignace saw several other benefits such as the construction of The Bay, a new grocery store and hardware store at what is now the Ignace Plaza property and more employment opportunities. A lumber store was opened, and a new school was built which meant that students no longer had to be bused to Dryden for High School. The municipal trailer park was opened providing accommodation for 26 new families. The development of the municipal water and sewer system was initiated in 1973. The building of the Mary Berglund Community Health Center in 1975 that was funded by donations from the public and local businesses.



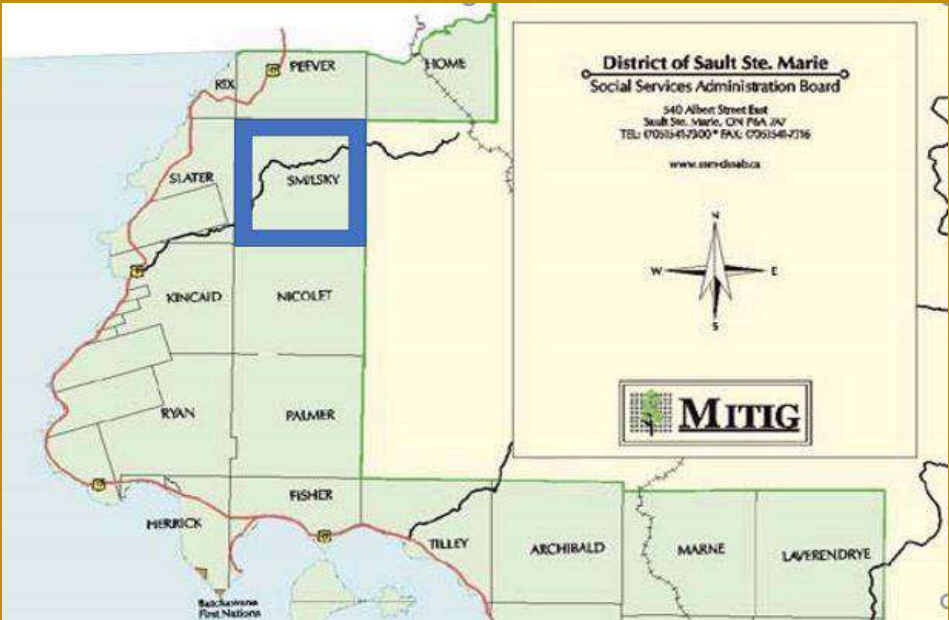
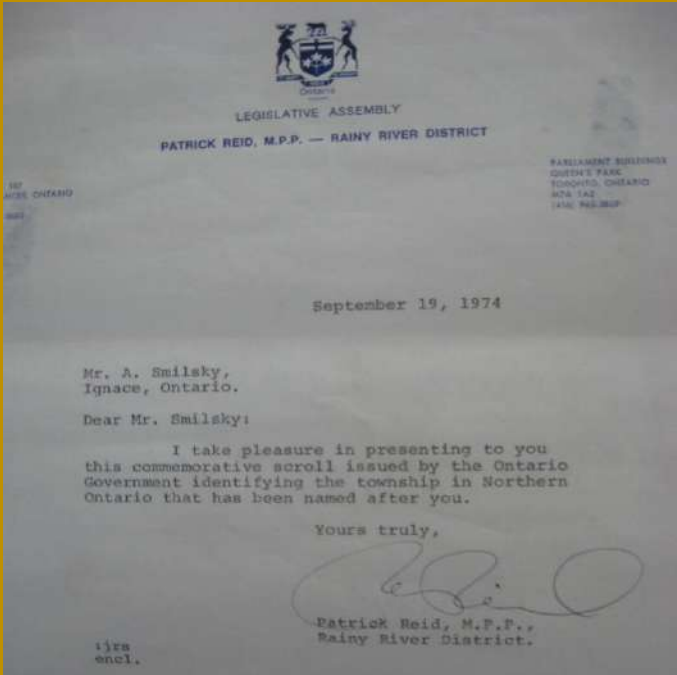
Present at Council's first meeting of '73 were, from left to right, standing: By-Law Enforcement Officer, Dan Maydaniuk; Road Superintendent & Town Foreman, "Red" Robinson; Councillor Glen Ritchie; seated, left to right: Councillor Wm. Wells; Town Clerk, Frank Wren; Reeve Tony Smilsky; Councillors Glen Maxwell and Dennis Smyk.

Photo from Driftwood

In the mid 1970's Tony's son Dennis built a laundromat adjacent to the Agimac Lounge and Dining room. This building is now the Redemption Baptist Church.



In recognition of Tony Smilsky's contributions to the development of Ignace, in 1974 the Ontario Government named a township after him. Smilsky Township is located north of Sault Ste. Marie near the hamlet of Montreal River Harbour on the east shore of Lake Superior. Travelling Hwy 17 from Thunder Bay to Sault Ste. Marie one will notice several large windmills east of the highway as you descend Montreal River Hill. Currently there are about 12 windmills in the township that feed into the Ontario electrical grid. Quite fitting that a man who started his political career in Ignace identifying the need for electricity 70 years ago has a Township bearing his name that is generating green electricity today. Tony would be quite pleased.



Windmills located in Smilsky Township generating green electricity to Ontario's electrical grid. Continued on Page 15



## Continued from Page 14 Smilsky History

Over the years, Tony and Margaret employed many people from Ignace to help with the operation of their properties including house keepers, cooks, waitresses, front desk clerks, bar tenders and waiters.

In 1980, Tony and Margaret sold the Hi-Way motel and Agimac Lounge to Mattabi Mines. It was Tony's hope that eventually the newer Agimac Lounge portion of the building would be turned over to the municipality for some future use.

They had planned to winterize their camp on Agimac Lake which they had been enjoying since 1952 and retire there after the sale of the motel. Unfortunately, Tony passed away before that could happen. Margaret then moved to a senior's building in Thunder Bay near her eldest daughter Dianne and family but always returned to the camp every year from May to October until her passing in 2000. Their camp is still being enjoyed in the summer months by family and now a 4th generation, the Smilsky's great grandchildren are experiencing the beauty of Ignace and Agimac Lake.



**GREG RICKFORD**  
MPP - Kenora-Rainy River

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# Do you want to **QUIT** SMOKING?



## Smoking Treatment for Ontario Patients

Our smoking cessation program offers counselling support and Nicotine Replacement Therapy\* (patch, gum, inhaler, lozenge) **at no cost** to patients/clients who want to quit smoking

Funded by the government of Ontario

**camh**  
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health  
Centre de toxicomanie et de santé mentale



\*not all types of NRT may be available at all times

**Please speak to clinic staff  
for more information**

This is a great program if you truly want to quit smoking. All of the items listed are expensive to buy and this program provides them free of charge for as long as you need them. Call Yvonne Romas, Health Promoter at 934-2290 for further information. You will start to feel the benefits of quitting smoking immediately. Call today!!



**If you or a loved one could use a little help  
this Christmas season please consider  
registering for a Christmas Hamper by  
November 12, 2021.**

Information required for application

Monthly household income

Number of Children living fulltime in the household

All registrations will be approved by the Committee.

Registration forms are available at the MBCHC, Ontario Works, Northwestern Health Unit, Dryden Regional Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Ignace Nursery School. If you do not meet the eligibility criteria you will be contacted by December 3.

**Please call Yvonne Romas, Health Promoter at 934-2290 for  
further information.**

Christmas Cheer provides approximately 60 food hampers and 75 toy hampers every year to residents in Ignace to make the holidays better and easier for some families that need help. Items that you can donate at the stuff-a-crusier event on November 18<sup>th</sup>, could include, pancake mix, syrup, cereal, juice, and canned cranberries. You can also donate anytime to the food bank and any items are accepted.

Last year, 56 toy hampers were delivered to children under the age of 16 which included age-appropriate toys, books, items of clothing and more. All of this made possible by donations from the Community and the Regional Food Distribution Association.

If you would like to donate monetarily you may do so through the Mary Berglund Community Health Centre. Receipts issued for donations of \$20 or more.



# Meet Ignace's Newest Falcon Staff!



Hi, I am Mr. Bechard. I grew up here in Ignace, Ontario and am excited to be back teaching! I currently live in Thunder Bay and have 2 kittens named Boots and Charlie. I am a huge sports fan; my favourite teams are the Toronto Maple Leafs, Toronto Blue Jays and Green Bay Packers. I spend my free time hanging out with my family at camp or you can find me golfing with my friends. I am someone who is always willing to help and who tried his best to see the positive in everything. I can't wait to see what the rest of this year brings!

Hi! My name is Jessica LeJeune and I am very happy to be back at Ignace School as the Elementary SERT this school year! I have worked at Ignace School over the years as a Teacher and EA previously as Ms. Widla. I enjoy going on adventures while spending time with my family and dog outdoors. Wishing everyone a wonderful school year?



My name is Breann Dawson! I am originally from Thunder Bay and moving to Ignace is an exciting new chapter for me. I love fishing and hiking and I am looking forward to exploring all that Ignace has to offer. This year I will be teaching a variety of subjects in the kindergarten, 1/2, 2/3, 4/5 classes. I am excited to be here and can not wait to grow and learn alongside all of my new friends at Ignace school!

"My name is Mr. ILKO. I am originally from Edmonton, Alberta and moved to Ontario in June of this year. I have been teaching for 10 years and my school passions are math and science, especially Biology. Outside of school I am an avid soccer fan, enjoy cooking and spending time with my 3 young daughters. My favourite thing to read is still Calvin and Hobbes comics and the one thing I am proud of is the collection of crazy suits that I hope to continue to add to. After all "if it is not fun, you are not doing it right" – Bob Basso



Hello, my name is Ms. Lindquist and I teach grade 2/3 at Ignace Public School. I am very excited to be here in Ignace. I have previously taught in Dryden, my home town. I love being a part of a team and working with young children! My favourite subjects to teach include: Language Arts, Visual Arts and Physical Education. I personally enjoy going for walks with my dog, cozying up and reading a book and watching movies while eating popcorn! I am looking forward to all of the adventures the 2021/2022 school year will bring!

Hello everyone! My name is Samantha Kosik and this will begin my 4<sup>th</sup> year of teaching. I taught in Dryden for 3 of those years, however this will be my first year in Ignace! I live in Dryden and will be doing the commute everyday with my teaching pal, Mr. Ilko. I have one fur baby named Lennon who is a rescue from Northern Critters in Need where I volunteer most of my time outside of school! I love spending time outdoors whether that is hiking, fishing, camping or reading a book in my hammock. I look forward to further exploring the town of Ignace and getting to know everyone!



My name is Kennedy Latimer. I'm the 5/6 teacher. I love being able to work and learn from my students every day. When I'm not at school, I love going on hikes and kayaks with my dog, Angus. I'm excited to be a part of Ignace School this year!