

The Westend Weekly

Bringing Communities Together



Box 66, 303 Fifth St., Rainy River, ON P0W 1L0 Ph. 807-852-3815, Fax. 807-852-1863, Email. westendweekly@tbaytel.net Vol. 22, No. 19 Wednesday, September 3, 2014
Serving the Rainy River District for over 23 years! Read us on line at www.westendweekly.ca. Check out the pictures on line. They are so good!

New Gold expands office as team continues to grow



Kaylie Lundgren, Administrative Coordinator and Andrea Curtis, Accounts Payable Officer, welcome guests to the new reception area of the expanded office.



Debbie Zimmerman of Rainy River Meats was hired to cater the event with all local meat products including honey garlic sausages and hamburgers.



Lincoln Dunn, First Nations Engagement Specialist chats with James Comegan from Big Grassy First Nations and Jesse Tom, who is an Environmental Technician. He has been working on-site since January.



Ken Fisher, Councillor – Township of Emo; Ted Kaemingh, local business owner; and Brenda Cooke, CAO for the Township of Emo are “100% behind the project”.



Fort Frances Town Councillors, John Albanese and Ken Perry were there to show their support of the project.



Grant Goddard, General Manager (pictured far right), chatted with New Gold employees, Dale Faragher, Construction (4 years); Darrell Hyde, Geologist (1 ? years); Kelvin Caul, Construction Supervisor (4 years); and Kenny Roen, Construction/Core Cutting (4 years).



Norbert Dufresne, Councillor for Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls meets Daryl Ellis, Finance Director for New Gold since last October.



Gary Judson, Emo Town Councillor, bit into a cupcake quipping that New Gold is “sweet for Emo and the district”.



Bob Gallagher, President and CEO of New Gold (pictured centre holding scissors) invited district representatives to participate in the official ribbon cutting ceremony to open the expanded office in Emo. –Photo courtesy of Tom Foley

By: Teresa Hazel

Community members from across the district as well as business owners and municipal and first nations representatives stopped by the newly expanded New Gold office located at 5967 Highway 11/71 to tour the space and show their support for the mining company.

The expansion included additional offices as well as a

boardroom, meeting room, reception area and kitchen facilities. Select Construction of Emo were contracted to do the project.

Visitors also had an opportunity to meet newly appointed General Manager, Grant Goddard who will oversee the Rainy River Project.

Bob Gallagher, the President and CEO of New Gold, was there to participate in the ribbon cutting and invited district representatives to join him.

After the formalities, guests were treated to a BBQ with refreshments and cupcakes for dessert. As part of New Gold's emphasis on supporting local business, all local meat was used for the BBQ, supplied by Rainy River Meats.

The crowd assembled was visiting with New Gold staff

and asking questions about the project.

“We're thrilled”, said Brenda Cooke, CAO for the Township of Emo. “We're going to do everything possible to accommodate them and be smart developers for them. We're going to do what's right for our community”.

“It's super”, said Ken Fisher, who sits as a Councillor for Emo.

“100% behind the project”, added Ted Kaemingh, a local business owner.

Ken Perry and John Albanese, Councillors for the Town of Fort Frances were also there to show their support.

“We're going to think positive about the project”, said Albanese. “We wish them luck. It's a good thing for the district and good for Fort Frances. We look forward to supporting them the best we can”.

“They could become the major employer in the Rainy River district. You have to smile about that after everything that's happened”, enthused Perry.

Norbert Dufresne, a Councillor for the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls was on hand to show support from north of Emo.

“It's all great stuff”, he echoed the sentiments of others. “We're behind all economic development in the district”. Although Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls is part of the Lake of the Woods district, Dufresne adds, “We're next door neighbours. We're as

close (to the project site) as Emo”.

Brian Beers, who is the Account Representative from Wilson's Business Solutions was there with his co-worker Leanne Quesnel.

“It's great! They are an awesome company. Very supportive with the local businesses. We couldn't be any happier”, enthused Beers.

Currently, New Gold has about twenty staff employed on-site who range from construction workers and core cutters to geologists and supervisors.

The office in Emo currently has nine staff members:

Lincoln Dunn, First Nations Engagement Specialist; Kaylie Lundgren, Administrative Coordinator; Andrea Curtis, Accounts Payable Officer; Stacey Jack, Community Coordinator; Daryl Ellis, Director of Finance; Moiz Lakhani, Senior Accountant; Christine Ruppenstein, Human Resources Supervisor, Sarah Thompson, Materials Manager and Grant Goddard, General Manager.

Kyle Standfield is the Vice-President of Environment and Sustainability. His office is located in Thunder Bay along with two other staff members.

The New Gold head offices are in Oakville, Ontario and Vancouver, British Columbia where another twenty staff members are employed.

Christine Ruppenstein, Human Resources Supervisor is excited about the growth of the company. “We're going to be bringing in a lot of good and

new people to Town. We're going to be growing pretty steadily in the next couple of months”.

Senior managers are currently being recruited and that is where the expertise of General Manager Grant Goddard is needed to build a team.

Goddard joined New Gold on July 2, 2014 and has been in Emo for about three weeks.

“I am renting a house in Emo, in the new sub division”, he says. His wife will be joining him in the fall.

“My focus will be on creating and building a team”, explained Goddard, adding that there is already a great group of people to work with.

“I'm excited to be part of creating something like this. Everyone is supportive of it and they want to be a part of it”.

New Gold is currently awaiting approval of their Environmental Assessment from the Federal government.

“It's moving in the right direction and I am confident we'll have the EA approval by mid-December”, he said.

Once the Environmental Assessment is approved, New Gold must obtain a series of permits to proceed and this is planned for the first quarter of 2015. Pre-construction is planned in February/March where the pit will see six 240 ton trucks come in to start hauling materials from the ground.

The construction phase will see about four hundred workers and New Gold plans to have

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Photographers' showcase



The fog was so dense at the start of this past Rainy River Walleye Tournament, it was difficult for the photographer above and his assistant Jack to get any pictures. Let's hope this year's tourney, September 27 & 28 dawn to a bright sunny weekend. New this year, “Singing with the Fishes” contest. See details and entry info at rrwalleye.com.

Where have all the photographers gone? I'm out of pictures.

I did warn you about using my pet pictures if I ran out. I have thousands! Jacquie



Martin Dufresne
275-8916
852-4237



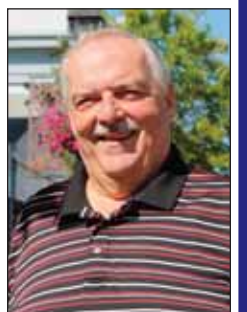
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New Gold continued from page 1

about six hundred employed in their operation of the mine. This will evolve over the next five years.

"We'll see about 125 people in pit operations next year", he said. New Gold will have an em-



Brian Beers, Account Representative and Leanne Quesnel, Sales Clerk at Wilson's Business Solutions are pleased with New Gold's support of local businesses



Christine Ruppenstein, Human Resources Supervisor enjoys her new office with a window!



Grant Goddard, General Manager is excited to expand the team for New Gold's Rainy River Project.

Pequana offers theater arts day of workshops

Four one-hour theater arts workshops will be offered Saturday, September 20, beginning at 9:00 am at Lake of the Woods School. Each workshop will be offered each hour, so participants may choose to take all four, if they wish. There will be a one-hour break at noon for lunch.

Workshop topics include: (1) Costuming and make-up, led by Maranda Stauffacher, professional costumer, formerly with Paul Bunyan Playhouse in Bemidji. (2) Choreography led by Suzy & Hondo of Suzy & Hondo's Dance Studio, Bemidji. (3) Dialogue coaching led by Laura Armistead of Rainy River, Ontario. And (4) Sound and Light tech.

The cost for the day of work-

shops is \$12 per person. Sponsor vouchers will be honored for this event. Each participant may choose to take any number, and any combination, of workshops for one low price. We recommend registering in advance to provide a better chance of getting the schedule you want. We will honor requests for specific time slots until they are full.

To sign up, you can log on to our website at pequana.org and register there, if you don't mind paying through PayPal. Or you can mail your payment to Pequana Playhouse at PO Box 903, Baudette MN 56623, with a note indicating which workshop or workshops you wish to take and, if you have a preference, which time slots

phases on developing locals for their operations. "We're going to be looking for people who have the skills, who want to work and want to be part of a family."

We'll be growing slowly throughout the end of this year, and will be adding managers and other staff. About a half a dozen plus", noted Goddard.

As a new employee of New Gold, Goddard is most impressed with their values and corporate philosophy. "Their focus is on doing what's right, being creative, delivering on what they say they're going to do, developing employees and teamwork". He also emphasized the importance of safety.

"We will work safely and be respectful of the environment, especially as leaders, we have to model this. We must lead by example".

Goddard admits that housing will be a challenge as the operations grow although he is optimistic that this will be overcome.

"There will be a series of solutions that make up the final solution", one being the commitment to hiring local workers and utilizing local services.

Goddard is pleased with the efforts of the team prior to his coming in establishing "good relationships" with First Nations communities.

"We are progressing well with Participation Agreements with six or seven of the First Nations communities", he said.

"We are committed to working together with all of the communities. Our goal is to be a sustainable, successful, reliable, with no surprises company, with its roots in the community", emphasized Goddard.

"It is firmly about people, having the right people. That's the fun of it...building all of that".

For those who would like to find out more about New Gold's Rainy River Project, check out their website at www.newgold.com. The office in Emo is open Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call the office at 807.482.2501.



Wow, here it is - September! Thanks to everyone that sent me a text and emailed me about the arrival of "Ms. September!" I hope many people are googling today, just to find out where Emo is! Unfortunately I have so much work ahead of me - that changing the calendar seems a bit stressful. I know everyone is in the same boat; lots of work and not enough hours. I keep thinking about making an official list of what I would like to complete this fall but that may just make me feel more overwhelmed. One thing that hasn't changed is the fact the lawn continues to grow and with this continued off and on rain it has been hard to tackle that job. I still have manure to haul and would like to get some 2nd cut baled but I am waiting until after the critical cutting date and I was hoping for some nice warm days yet.

A few of us met down at the Sales Barn last week and crossed a few jobs off that list. It is hard to get people out when many are spreading themselves so thin. RRCA

certainly appreciates the people that do show and we are proud that our community continues to support our barn. The first fall sale will take place this Saturday - September 6th beginning at 9:00 a.m. If you have any questions or cattle get in touch with our manager - James Gibson. RRCA is also very proud of the good job that James is doing in his first year in this position.

My boyfriend/partner and I ventured off into Winnipeg for a shopping trip and visit with our friend Laura. We ended up visiting Cabela's 3 times - so that's the kind of shopping trip it was! It was still nice to get away and visit with Laura. I am not much of a shopper but realize now it really is easier to shop alone. We did get a quick visit in with my vet cousin and her kids -- they are great little fun farm kids as well.

Maddie seems to be excited for school but Marlee isn't so. She said "when I am in school in fills up all of my time and it seems like summer is never

going to come!" We spent some time doing a "photo shoot" - since I have been making an annual calendar featuring the girls so we needed to be prepared for that. The girls (and Roxee) are getting pretty good at finding the right props and positions. We will do a few more sessions to be sure we can make an enjoyable calendar once again.

If you are interested in working at the Sales Barn this week or even just on Sale Day you should get in touch with James. (or myself.) Some of our key workers are off to school or unable to make it due to other commitments so we are looking for a few new people we can train.

I am hoping that my grain will be closer to combining this week and of course unfortunately my students are off to school. I am sure I will get approval to hire someone and things will fall into place but I tell you I am feeling a tad bit overwhelmed with my world right now! There is a big list to do at EARS!

Soldiers of Song set to perform here

By: Teresa Hazel

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch #29 and Auxiliary, in partnership with the Fort Frances Museum are pleased to announce that the world renowned singing group, Soldiers of Song will be performing in Fort Frances next Wednesday, September 10th at 7:30 p.m. at the Townshend Theatre.

Tickets are on sale now for \$20.00 each. For students, veterans and their spouses, the cost is \$15.00. They are available at Green's Brand Source, Fort Frances General Supply, Fort Frances Museum, Einar's Foods and West End Motors.

The stage show is being brought in to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of World War I and the 75th Anniversary of World War II.

Soldiers of Song features The Dumbells. Who are The Dumbells? They were a vaudeville act formed in 1917 near Vimy Ridge. They were a group of soldiers taken from active duty to entertain Canadian troops. They performed on the front lines to help bolster the soldiers' morale. They performed songs and sketches

about life on the trenches.

The Dumbells went on to earn world-wide recognition and acclaim. They were the first Canadian production to have a hit on Broadway and they are known as the pioneers of Canadian sketch comedy.

The Legion and Museum is excited to be bringing in this highly acclaimed show to Fort Frances

Alfreda Easton, who is the President of the Legion Branch #29 Auxiliary also noted that other activities are planned for this upcoming commemoration.

"There will be a Wine & Cheese event at the Fort Frances Museum on Thursday, September 18th from 4:30 - 8:00 p.m.", she said, adding that it would kick off the Museum's exhibit that will feature pictures, stories and memorabilia from these two signifi-

cant dates in our history.

"Everyone is welcome to come out to the museum", enthused Easton, who said they will be featuring the War Brides as well.

The Legion is also partnering with the Museum to host a Youth Writing Contest. The theme of the contest is "Remembering Those Who Went to War...".

There are three age categories: 9-11 (250-500 word essay); 12-14 (500 - 750 word essay); and 15-17 (750 - 1000 word essay). There are cash prizes for first and second place in each category.

Entries must be dropped off to the Fort Frances Museum by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 1st.

Easton is excited about the activities planned over the next month.

"It's busy", she laughed. "I'm looking forward to the celebration".

The family of
James Daw
invites you to join them
in Celebration of his
80th Birthday
Come & Go Tea
at
Emo Legion
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1 to 3pm
No gifts please, just well wishes.

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NCDS Northern Community Development Services

Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, September 9th at 6:30 p.m.
At NCDS (304 Scott Street)

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