



Photo by Annie Sakkab

Supervisors Nathan Beatty and Rob Garrard at the construction site of the new water treatment plant in Tyendingaga Mohawk Territory on Monday, Jan. 19, 2015. The plant is scheduled to start operating in 20 months.

New treatment plant will help with water issues

Water...

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Under the Canadian Economic Action Plan, Canada is investing over the course of two years \$323.4 million as of 2014, for the construction of water and sewer treatment systems for First

Nations, according to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada website.

Water contamination in Canada is not limited to native reserves only, particularly in limestone areas where it's more susceptible to pollution, according to Maracle.

"There was really a lack of environmental standards to regulate

business and commerce a number of years ago, so there weren't the environment standards that exist today, as a result, a lot of the populated areas of Canada became polluted right across the country. There are thousands of contaminated sites across Canada," said Maracle.

"I firmly believe that every individual has a human right to have safe

drinking water."

The chief said he hopes the new water treatment plant will open up the opportunity for additional housing to be built for community members to sub-divide their property and have greater density of housing.

Others in the community say the treatment plant does address the water issue.

"It's a start. Where it's located and where the water treatment is going to service, there's a lot of vacant land, so I think what we're going to see a lot of homes popping up along that route," said Curtis Maracle, a former co-chair for the environmental committee at the administration office and a member of Quinte Source Water Protection.

Food...

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This campaign has been a major success in the past and it helps us provide good nutritious food for students who may not otherwise be able to get that, we plan on continuing this program next

year and we hope the results are just as good if not better than last years campaign" Says Brace.

Brace said the foundation is still accepting donations and that anything

helps. Donations can be mailed or delivered to: Food for learning, 156 Ann Street, Belleville, ON K8N 3L3. Please make cheques payable to the Hastings and Prince Edward Learning Foundation.

Drag show comes to Belleville

By Bradley Ruskowski

Belleville's downtown Front Street will bare a little backside this Friday.

Headliners Lily and Dixie Landers will be inviting any salty dogs left out in the cold into the heat of an uncensored adult drag show at the Belle Pub.

Warming the hearts of Belleville's community along with the Landers' will be Kingston's Tyffanie Morgan. These international performers have been entertaining for more than 20 years touring venues in Canada, U.S.A. and Mexico.

"After years of skirting around the city we finally get to make a stop in a town that is calling our name," wrote drag queen Dixie Landers in an email.

"We're hoping for a fantastic, entertaining, silly, memorable evening...and maybe a kiss or two," wrote Landers.

Presented by the Hastings County Pride in the Park organization, this adult (19+) show will serve as a fundraiser in the organization's third official year.

A call for local talent has been issued so there may be some surprise performances.

"I am very, very excited to be able to perform in Belleville...with Lily heading the show and Tiffany, the most excellent comedienne that she is," said Dixie Landers, a representative of The AIDS Committee of Ottawa.

"I am just bacon and we all know, bacon makes everything better."

"Events such as these are crucial in raising awareness of HIV prevention and maintaining safe places for all persons in the community," said Sarah Michelle Ogden, the newly appointed Chair of the Hastings County Pride Committee.

"We want to make sure this is a safe event for all to attend. We will even drop the tickets off to you," said Ogden.

Ogden is also the acting health and wellness practitioner at Loyalist College, ensuring that the college and the community have open, free flowing forums for all members of the LGBTQ communities as well as all other communities present in this city.

Tickets can be purchased at the Loyalist College student success office and in town at Sweet Escapes or they can be dropped off at your preferred location by Pride in the Park committee members.

Tickets are available in advance for \$10 through: info@bellevillepride.ca. Student discounts are in effect with a valid student card or at the door for \$15.

Downtown businesses go to the 'dogs'

By Daniel Luk

As pets in the workplace rise in popularity with businesses, two stores located in downtown Belleville are setting the trend.

Along with the natural benefits of loving an animal, storeowners like Peter Reedyk and Mike Malachowski have taken advantage of the mystical powers of pets.

Reedyk's Shih Tzu, Oscar, has been accompanying him to work at Chumleighs, his video and music store for many years.

"He doesn't really have a role except to entertain. When kids want to pet him, he's accommodating."

"With the cranky kids that cry, we bring Oscar to them. Basically, he just creates a little bit more of a positive karma," says Reedyk

Reedyk says Oscar is generally a calming influence.

Oscar came to be with Reedyk after he found out his wife was allergic to cats. His daughter had also left for college and they were feeling the pains of empty nesters.

When an employee brought in Oscar's brother, Reedyk was immediately intrigued by the small hypoallergenic dog. He contacted the breeder and managed to get his hands on the last dog in the litter.

Reedyk says he enjoys the atmosphere created by Oscar. He adds that he finds it humorous when people walk into the store seeing the signs to beware of dogs and Oscar, the tiny dog, comes strolling down the aisle.

"Generally people think it's cute and a bit funny...they expect a scarier dog," says Reedyk

The owner of Funk and Gruven, Mike Malachowski also advocates the therapeutic affects of pets in the work place. Malachowski obtained Rosy when his mother was unable to take care of her. Rosy, a golden doodle, has been known to be nothing but friendly, greeting customers and ordering people around, says Malachowski.

"She likes to give the orders so she's our official greeter here in the store. She's well behaved but when she wants something, she lets everybody know it. She's a bit of a barker. It's a lot of fun to have a dog. People come in to meet her and some come in to take her for a walk," says Malachowski.

According to Healthline, an organization that works to disseminate health information, the stress relieving properties of being around pets work the same as being with another human being. Continuously showing affection like stroking, cuddling, and generally hanging out with them is proven to help alleviate the strains of loneliness and depression.

Malachowski spends almost every waking hour with Rosy. From walks to deliveries, the two are seen as inseparable.

"We get up in the morning and we got for a brisk walk, maybe to the dog park for half an hour to an hour. Over the course of the day, we go for walks around town to do banking and picking things up.



Photo by Daniel Luk

Peter Reedyk and his wife are the proud owners of Chumleighs and this beautiful dog, Oscar in Belleville. The couple obtained the dog in hopes it would help them cope with their daughter leaving for college.

She spends the day with me.

"She rides shotgun in my truck and when I go on my deliveries, she comes along. If we go past a creek or a place for her to swim, we stop and she goes

for a swim," says Malachowski.

With allergies being seen as an issue even animals such as goldfish and small animals have a place in helping as much as dogs and cats.